

Christian Central Academy

Soccer teams make family connections

High school soccer has become an increasingly popular sport among youth in the United States and over the past 10 years, its popularity has grown at Christian Central Academy.

As a result, many family members play on the three CCA teams. On the boys' and girls' varsity as well as the modified team, there are 13 families represented which have two to three brothers and or sisters. Four families have three family members and nine families have two players.

There are three sets of twins - Rachel and Sarah Caputi, Jesse and Nathan Mroz and Kristen and Jim McLaughlin, three sets of sisters on the girls' team - the Caputis, Jess and Kristen Ganze, and Jenni and Laura Albrecht, and three brothers on the boys' varsity team - Josiah, Joshua and Russell Blueye. Other three-player families are Ashley, Cameron and Austin Tom, Meredith, Jim and Krissy McLaughlin, and Joanna, Jesse and Nathan Mroz. Two-player families include Rebecca and David DeRose, Tim



Christian Central Academy's soccer program has several family connections. Pictured left photo, from left, are the girls - Meredith McLaughlin, Krissy McLaughlin, Ashley Tom, Rachel and Sarah Caputi, Rebecca DeRose, Tayler Hobba, Jordan Hobba, Alaina Pariso and Amie Stuitje; missing from left photo - Jessica and Kristin Gauze, Jenni and Laura Albrecht, Joanna

and Katie McAllister, Peter and Steven Puskas, Tayler and Jordan Hobba, Carman and Alaina Pariso and Amie and Kevin Stuitje.

"Having so many family members play at a small school really

helps teams because the brothers and sisters support and teach others," said CCA boys coach Alan Wandowski.

Modified coach Leslie Cook agrees.



Mroz; pictured right photo, left, are the boys - David DeRose, Cameron Tom, Peter Puskas, Russell Blueye, Josiah Blueye, Kevin Stuitje, Jessica Mroz, Joshua Blueye, Austin Tom, Jim McLaughlin, Carmen Pariso; missing from right photo - Steve Puskas and Nathan Mroz.

"We have a lot of team spirit because of all the family spirit and enthusiasm given by the players and the parents."

Varsity girls coach Joe Karnath commented that "the family con-

nection of having quite a few brothers and sisters playing school sports really is a positive factor in helping the team and coach bond and also in player development."

Sports briefs

Annie Pyrak of Christ The King School and Checker's Athletic Club finished sixth in 16:54 at the USATF Jr. Olympic Region 2 regional championship Sunday at Cooper's Lake Camp Ground in Slippery Rock, Pa. Her finish qualified her for nationals Dec. 9 in Spokane, Wash.

Williamsville East graduate Meghan Himelein was named to the all-tournament team for Erie Community College's women's basketball team at the third annual Lady Kats Invitational held Nov. 4-5. Himelein averaged 19

points and 15 rebounds in a pair of games.

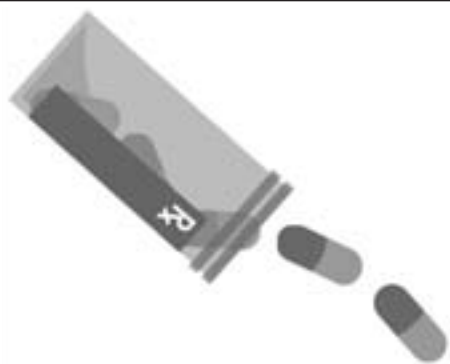
The University at Buffalo baseball team will host winter clinics for children ages 7-12 from 9 a.m. to noon on Thursday, Dec. 28 and Friday, Dec. 29 and for ages 13 to 17 from 2 to 4 p.m. the same days. The second clinic is scheduled from 2 to 4 p.m. Dec. 28-29 for ages 13-17. The cost for each clinic is \$60. Additionally, a prospect camp for high school juniors and seniors will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 30. The cost is \$80. For more informa-

tion, contact coach Ron Torgalski at 645-6834 or e-mail rjt4@buffalo.edu or assistant coach Jim Koerner at 645-6192 or koerner@buffalo.edu.

University at Albany sophomore cross country student-athletes Jessica Ortman and Jenna Ortman were named to the America East Conference's All-Academic Team on Tuesday, Nov. 7. Student-athletes selected for the award have a minimum cumulative grade-point average of 3.00 entering the season and were among the top-10 finishers at the America East

Cross Country Championship meet.

Both Ortman finished in the top 15 in all five of the team's races this season, with Jenna Ortman winning the Monmouth Kick-Off Classic on Sept. 2 and the Fordham Invitational on Sept. 9. Most recently, Jessica Ortman, who has a 3.78 GPA in communication finished sixth and Jenna Ortman, who owns a 3.90 GPA in communication, came in eighth at the America East Cross Country Championships in Orono, Maine, on Oct. 28.



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