

CLASS AA

CRETIN-DH RAIDERS

Program info

Conference: Suburban East
 Section: 3AA
 Record: 20-7-1
 State trips: 1988, 2006 Champs, 09
 Coach: Jim O'Neill
 Assistants: Charlie Basco, Mark Rancone

Top players

Scorers	G	A	Pts
Jesse Perron	18	25	43
Tony Barbato	11	25	36
Ben McClellan	18	14	32
Bob Kinne	15	12	27
Mychal Bangs	14	10	24

Goalies	W-L-T	GA	SV
Ben Walsh	19-7-1	2.32	.880

Full roster

#	Name	Gr	Pos
2	Mark Alt	11	D
5	Tyller Robert	10	D
6	Peter Janke	10	F
7	Ben Ryan	11	F
9	Mychal Bangs	12	F
10	Gage Miller	12	F
11	Andy Read	11	F
12	Gino Pitera	11	F
14	Ben McClellan	12	F
15	Jesse Perron	11	F
16	Bob Kinne	10	F
17	Tony Barbato	10	F
21	Rudy Pitera	12	D
22	Riley Dombek	11	F
24	Vince Lulic	12	F
27	Tommy Zimmerman	12	F
28	Neil Bartholomay	11	D
29	Neil Horan	11	G
33	Ben Walsh	12	G
35	Chase Finnegan	11	G

Road to the X

Section 3AA quarterfinals, 2/26 Cretin-DH 7 Park 3

Robert 2 goals
 Perron 1 goals, 2 assists

Section 3AA semifinals, 2/28 Cretin-DH 6, Eagan 0

Kinne 2 goals, 1 assist
 Walsh 23 saves

Section 3AA finals, 3/5 Cretin-DH 2, Apple Valley 1 OT

McClellan 1 goal, 1 assist
 Walsh 25 saves

The Cretin Derham-Hall Raiders return to the state tournament and evoke recent memories of the 2006 title squad. This marks their third state tournament trip in school history with their first coming in 1988. This year's team is a skilled group that has put together a steady run to the state tournament.

The Raiders finished up the regular season as the second place team in the Suburban East Conference behind Woodbury, but when push came to shove in the

Section 3AA tournament, it was Cretin that earned the state bid. Woodbury was upset in the semifinals by Apple Valley, whom the Raiders edged 2-1 in overtime on Ben McClellan's winner. Ben Walsh played a huge tournament in nets, allowing just four goals with a .931 save percentage. He was even better in the final two games, giving up just a single goal.

Cretin isn't an offensive juggernaut, as no player has broken the 20-goal plateau. But they make up for that with depth of scoring. Jesse Perron, Tony Barbato, McClellan, Bob Kinne and Mychal Bangs all scored in double-figures and a dozen players have double-digit points.

Kinne and Barbato are just sophomores, while top defenseman Mark Alt is just a junior.

He's the son of John Alt, a former offensive lineman for the NFL's Kansas City Chiefs and that athleticism is evident in Alt's play.



Bangs



Zimmerman



Photo by Tim Kolehmainen

Junior Mark Alt (2) is a big factor on the blue line for the Raiders and has already committed to the U.

He's already committed to play at the University of Minnesota for Don Lucia and was the quarterback for the Raiders' football team in the fall. Cretin coach Jim O'Neill compared Alt to a Brett Burns-type



Alt

Also on the blue line, Neil Bartholomay has good size and skills, while Rudy Pitera is a tough, physical player.

The Raiders also have plenty of experience on the bench, as O'Neill has been in charge for 28 years. He's also the varsity baseball coach at

Cretin and has had plenty of top athletes under his charge. ■



Photo by Tim Kolehmainen

Rudy Pitera (21) brings the puck up ice in a Schwan Cup Silver game against Benilde-St. Margaret's.

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