

SportsFolio

SHS Boys Varsity Reaches Championship Game of Keene State Holiday Basketball Tournament

Drops Final To Milford

KEENE – The Souhegan High School boys varsity basketball team performed well at the Cheshire Tire Holiday Basketball Tournament held on the campus of Keene State College Dec. 26-29. In the opening round the Sabers handled Mascenic HS 74-32. Senior Mike Bolton had 13 points, 5 rebounds and 5 steals to lead the way for SHS. Other leading scorers were DJ Petropulos with 12, Joe Elich with 10, Jake Gaffney with 9, and Matt Laneve with 8. Petropulos was the Saber’s leading rebounder with 9, and Sam Laforet contributed 3 assists.

The semifinals matched Souhegan with Stevens HS and their 6’ 10” center Kaleb Tarczewski. Tarczewski lived up to advanced billing with 16 points on 7 of 8 shooting and 8 rebounds, but the balanced team effort of the Sabers was too much for Stevens as SHS prevailed 59-53. Senior captain Joe Elich scored 20 points and grabbed 8 rebounds, while Ryan Redmond had 9 rebounds and 2 steals in only 12 minutes of play. The Saber defense forced 27 turnovers with a pressing attack which proved to be enough

for the win. Senior Mike Dwinell added 13 points with two of his baskets coming at critical moments late in the game to seal it for Souhegan.

The championship game had rival Milford, who defeated Con-val to reach the final, against Souhegan. Souhegan built a 36-30 lead at one point in the 3rd quarter, but Milford went on a 27-10 run to close the game and win the tourney championship by the score of 57-46. Milford was led by tournament MVP Jasmin Handanovic with 24 points and 16 rebounds. Joe Elich led the Saber scoring with 11 points on 5 of 10 from the field, and also added 5 rebounds. Elich and Mike Dwinell were named to the all tournament team for their strong play throughout the event.

The Varsity SHS boys team square off next against Milford at SHS on Monday, January 5 with a start time of 6:30PM. The remaining week’s schedule for the Sabers is at Coe Brown on Tuesday, January 6, and then back home at SHS for a match-up with John Stark on Friday, January 9.



Milford’s strong defense overpowered the Sabers in the final game.



Strong rebounding by the Sabers was not enough to overcome Portsmouth’s victory at Souhegan’s home opener.

SHS Boys Varsity Basketball Drops Home Opener To Portsmouth

The Souhegan boys varsity lost their season opener to Portsmouth on December 22 by the score of 72-54. Senior Joe Elich led the way for the Sabers with 25 points, and senior Jeremy McGuire made a strong contribution off the bench with 7 points. Senior Jake Gaffney was the leading rebounder with 8, and junior captain Stephen Daigneau contributed from the point guard position with 4 assists.

Portsmouth, picked by many to be one of the teams in Class I that could contend for a state title, had their hands full with the Sabers as the game went into the fourth quarter tied at 50. But a 22-4 final stanza run sealed the win for Portsmouth, who were led by 27 points from all-state senior John Mulvey.

Nordic Skiing

Souhegan Boys Tie for First at Bedford Relays



Murphy and Clemence win event

Competing in their first race of the season, the Souhegan Boy’s Nordic Ski team turned in a strong effort to tie Keene for first place in the Boy’s A Race at Legacy Park on December 22. Souhegan and Keene both scored 194 points, while Concord took third with 192 points.

The Sabers were led by the relay team of Nick Murphy and Ben Clemence, who won the race in 13:27. Russ Contino and Tyler Hal-

lenbeck of Bedford were 2nd (13:39); Corey Hill and Nico Alosa-Harper of Keene were 3rd (13:50).

Also racing well for the Sabers were Sam Lowell and Anthony Caruso (7th) and Alex Rodd and Matt Benoit (11th).

The Saber Boy’s B team also skied well, with Brant Mullens and Jack Chapman finishing 3rd, and Keller Nunely and Cooper Flanders finishing (10th).

SHARON FLANDERS PHOTO
Nick Murphy rounds a corner

The photo of Christina Clemence on the front cover was submitted by Colleen Lynch.



Nicole Lamana, Christina Clemence, Marissa Ashcraft, Coach Ruddock, Rachel Springman, Haley Humphreys, Jordan Springman, and Megan Lynch

SaberScoreboard

Track Teams Finish 4th in Ten Team Meet

DURHAM – The Souhegan Sabers track and field teams each finished fourth in a ten-team meet at UNH on Saturday, January 3. In the girls’ meet the top scores were Portsmouth 72, Milford 48, St. Thomas Aquinas 45.5, Souhegan 42, and Merrimack Valley 37. In the boys’ meet Milford was first with 75 points followed by Portsmouth 57.75, Merrimack Valley 43.5, Souhegan 36.75, and Bishop Brady 20.

Shotputters Chandler Wallisch and Isabella Stuopis led the way for the Saber girls with a one, two finish in the shot with personal bests of 33’ 1/2” and 32’. Kelsey Knight not only finished third in the hurdles, but her time of 9.7 qualifies her for the Class I Meet. Laura Tebbetts again placed in the dash (4th-7.9), and the 4 by one lap relay team of Laura, Kelsey, Alexis Keable, and Meghan Farley raced to second place(1:34.6). Meghan also sprinted to fifth in the 300 meters(48.9), and Alexis hurdled to sixth place(10.4). Other point winners were Molly Mirhashem in the 600 meters, fifth place(1:54.3), and Leah Demarest, sixth(5:21.9), in the 1500 meters. The 4 by 400 relay team of Molly, Leah, Hillary Wilson, and Jil Sanchez ran their best time of the season and were third(4:57.5).

Mike Peret again led the way for the boys’ team. Mike was first in the high jump(5’ 10”) and ran a leg on the winning 4 by one lap relay. Parker Hall, Matt Schechter, Ben Stallman, and Mike ran 1:18.6 - setting a new Souhegan High School record. Chris Merra recorded the other first place for the Sabers with a personal record of 4:24.4 in the 1500 meters. Others scoring points were Chris Chininis third in the long jump(18’ 6 1/2”); Chris also placed sixth in the 300 meters(41.2). Matt Schechter was sixth in the hurdles(8.8), and Matt Philbrick tied for sixth in the high jump(5’ 3”). The 4 by 400 relay team of Matt Chareth, Ryan Stickler, Aaron Prescott, and Paul Thibodeau ran to fourth place(4:04.6).

Twelve Teams Compete in Meet at UNH

DURHAM – Souhegan High School’s track and field teams both competed at UNH on Sunday, December 28. Competing with approximately 12 teams from across the state, both boys’ and girls’ teams finished fourth. Top team scores in the boys’ meet were Nashua South 76.5, Milford 61.5, Alvirne 43, Souhegan 30.5, and Hollis/Brookline 22. The top five girls’ teams were Alvirne 88, Milford 41, Nashua South 34, Souhegan 31, and Campbell 23.

The Souhegan boys were led by Mike Peret who leaped 6’ in the high jump - good not only for a tie for second place but also a new Souhegan indoor track record. Mike also teamed up with Parker Hall, Matt Schechter, and Ben Stallman for a first place finish in the 4 by 160 meter relay. Other place-winners for Souhegan were Matt Schechter 6th in the hurdles(8.8), Dennis Elverson 5th in the 300(41.7), Ryan Sickler 5th in the 600(1:38), and Chris Merra 4th in the 3000(10:10). The 4 by 400 relay team of Chris, Ryan, Aaron Prescott, and Paul Thibodeau also ran to a fourth place finish(4:02.9).

The girls’ team was led by veteran Laura Tebbetts who finished 2nd in the 55 meter dash(7.8) and also anchored the 4 by 160 relay team - with teammates Kelsey Knight, Alexis Keable, and Meghan Farley- to a 3rd place finish(1:35.4). Other point-scorers for the Saber girls were Molly Mirhashem 3rd in the 600(1:52.7), Isabella Stuopis 3rd in the shot(29’ 11 1/2”), Hillary Wilson 6th in the 1000 meters(3:39), Leah Demarest 4th in the 1500(5:33.7), and the 4 by 400 relay team of Molly, Hillary, Leah, and Jil Sanchez ran 4:57.6 to finish fourth.

The teams will both return next weekend to UNH for their second meet of the season.

Souhegan Girls Tie for Fifth at Bedford Relays

The Souhegan Girl’s Nordic Ski team opened their season with a fifth place finish in the Girl’s A Race at Legacy Park on December 22. Concord won the race with 197 points, followed by Keene (193 pts) and Manchester Central (190 pts).

Central’s team of Anna Breu and Rebekah Kelley won the race in 15:04. Concord’s Emilie Muller and Celia Honigberg took second in 15:30, while Rebecca Sharpe and Melyssa Rowell, also from Concord, placed third in 16:40.

Skiing for the Sabers, Marissa Ashcraft and Nicole Lamana finished 11th, and Christina Clemence and Jordan Springman finished 14th.

In the Girl’s B Race, the Sabers were represented by Rachel Springman, who placed 3rd.

Girls Alpine Team Finishes First

AMHERST - The Souhegan High alpine ski team competed in a four-team meet at Crochet Mountain on Thursday, January 8. The girls team finished first with 394 points ahead of Bedford (374 points), Conval (94 points) and Milford (93 points). The Saber girls took the top eight spots, led by Alex Griffith, who was first overall, followed by teammates Evelyn French and Lisa Kelldorfer. The Souhegan boys team tied for second with Conval, both racking up 374 points, 12 points behind the first place team from Bedford. The top finishers for the Saber boys were freshman Scott Doyle, coming in fifth overall, followed by Tucker Brown (7th place) and Matt Comstock (8th place).

31 Teams from NH Compete

Sabers Take Fifth Place in Nordic Meet

The Souhegan Boys Nordic Ski team had an impressive fifth place finish at the New Hampshire Coaches Series 5K Freestyle Race held on Saturday, 1/10/09, in Whitefield. The race included 31 teams from throughout New Hampshire and was won by perennial powerhouse Hanover.

Nick Murphy was the top local finisher in the Boys A race, finishing a strong 13th (15:47) out of 137 racers to pace the Sabers. Ben Clemence, 25th (16:46), and Anthony Caruso, 35th (17:23), also had excellent races for the Sabers. Sam Lowell, 68th (19:15), Alex Rodd, 70th (19:20), Brant Mullens, 91st (20:35), and Matt Benoit, 115th (22:20) also competed well.

The Boys B team also had an excellent day. Jack Chapman finished 12th (20:05), followed by Sean Lynch, 23rd (22:28), Cooper Flanders 36th (24:54), and Keller Nunley 44th (25:54) in the Boys B race.

The Souhegan Girls also traveled to Whitefield for the Coaches Series 5K Freestyle Race Saturday. The girls only entered two racers in Girls A race, with Marissa Ashcraft finishing 50th (22:02) and Nicole Lamana 122nd (30:11).

The Girls B team had a strong showing in the Girls B race, with Christina Clemence 26th (26:54), Jordan Springman 30th (27:18) and Rachel Springman 47th (28:46). Skiing in their first race for the Sabers, Megan Lynch (68th) and Haley Humphreys (92nd) also did well.

The Boys B team also had an excellent day. Jack Chapman finished 12th (20:05), followed by Sean Lynch, 23rd (22:28), Cooper Flanders 36th (24:54), and Keller Nunley 44th (25:54) in the Boys B race.