

NEWS RELEASE FROM THE CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD OF EASTERN ONTARIO

Date: December 5, 2006

Subject: St. Michael CHS Wins OFSAA Title

From: Bob Perreault, Communications Officer

bob.perreault@cdsbeo.on.ca

CATHOLIC DISTRICT
SCHOOL BOARD OF
EASTERN ONTARIO



Box 2222, 2755 Highway 43, Kemptville, ON K0G 1J0
613-258-7757 or 1-800-443-4562 ext 206

St. Michael CHS Wins OFSAA Senior Girls Title

Kemptville, On – St. Michael Catholic High School is celebrating its first ever Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations (OFSAA) single A division, Senior Girls Basketball title. The tournament was held in Dresden, Ontario from November 30, to December 2.

The school won a very close game against Ottawa's Ashbury College by a score of 37-31 to earn the gold medal. Ashbury had led the game for the first three quarters. Genevieve Arnaud had 13 points in the gold medal game for the champions, while Brittany Lattanzio added 8 points.

Coach Chris Finner is very proud of the teamwork and dedication shown by his team. "We've had a five-year plan with this team that started when they were in Grade 8. It's amazing to see this kind of outcome after that many years of commitment. Many other teams at the tournament had the same plan, that's why the pressure was so high. I am so proud that our team more than stood up to the challenge."

Coach Finner said that Alex Bradburn was a defensive star in the championship game. "Alex shut down Ashbury's top player in the fourth quarter. That's when we took the lead and won the game."

The team made it to the gold medal game after defeating Niagara District Secondary School by a score of 43-37. Genevieve Arnaud contributed 16 points in that victory, while Chelsey MacMartin contributed 12 points. Coach Finner praised the defensive effort of Alysha Bonnicks, who shut down Niagara's top player. "Her success led to our success," said Coach Finner. Alysha is also a National level soccer player. Coach Finner said that familiarity to pressure helped her greatly in this situation.

Mr. Finner's team was ranked number 2 entering the tournament that they started by defeating Marymount Academy 52-40.

St. Michael's Principal Mark Musca said, "I am very proud of the efforts of our athletes and the work that Coach Finner has done in moulding this team. Throughout the season, the girls always displayed perseverance, dedication, and sportsmanship. They should be very proud of this accomplishment."

Superintendent of Education Bill Gartland stated, "A very heartfelt congratulations goes to Coach Finner, his team and the St. Michael Catholic High School Community. Attaining a championship at this level demonstrates a prime example of sportsmanship and teamwork."

St. Michael's entered the tournament with a record of 33-9 against opponents from divisions ranging from single A to AAAA. "The losses that we had this year came against high quality teams. That experience certainly paid off when we got to the tournament," added Coach Finner.

St. Michael Catholic High School is located at 2755 Highway 43 in Kemptville, Ontario. The school offers elementary programs to Grade 7 and 8 students, and secondary programs to Grades 9-12 in both English and French. Principal Mark Musca and Vice-Principal Donna Koekkoek report an enrolment of 774 students.

For more information, please contact CDSBEO Communications Officer Bob Perreault at (613) 258-7757 ext. 206 or (613) 859-0678 (mobile).

The Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario operates 40 elementary and 10 secondary schools across 8 counties. The CDSBEO offers excellence in Catholic education through provincial-leading programs to approximately 15,000 students.