From the Desk of the Athletic Director Fall Sport Wrap Up 2019

The CK athletic department welcomes the entire Cranbrook community back to campus for the 2019-20 school year and hopes that everyone had a fantastic summer! We also want to thank our fall athletes and coaches for reporting in early August to ready themselves for success in the fall sport season. The unseasonably mild weather was sure in our favor as the teams trained in two-a-days, tryouts and scrimmages with 314 students (135 girls and 169 boys) making up the CK fall team rosters.

Cranbrook is proud to have been recognized by MLive this past June as the 9th most successful athletic program in the State of Michigan for the 2018-19 school year. Cranbrook earned the title of Ultimate State Champions by MLive for our success in the post season in 2014-15, finished 4th in 2015-16, 3rd in 2016-17, and 2nd in 2017-18. Congratulations to you all.

Here is the wrap up to the fall varsity sport season.

Head Coach Greg Miller (24th season) and the Girls and Boys Cross Country Team showed improvement over last season. The Boys Team was led by senior captain Peter Papapolymerou and the Girls Team was led by senior captains Olivia Bowden, Eleanor Kwartowitz and Mia Inakage.
At the Catholic League Championships, The Girls Team finished in 7th place and the Boys in 9th. Individually, Olivia Bowden led the Girls finishing in 15th and Peter Papapolymerou led the Boys Team placing 12th.

At the MHSAA Regional Championships hosted in Linden, the Cranes had a perfect fall day to compete. Olivia Bowden finished 12th to lead the Girls Team and Peter Papapolymerou placed 9th to lead the Boys Team, qualifying them both for States.

At the MHSAA State Championships hosted at Michigan International Speedway, Papapolymerou had one of his best career runs placing 60th and Bowden came in at 139th.

Olivia Bowden and Peter Papapolymerou earned All-Region and All-Catholic League honors. Eleanor Kwartowitz earned Academic All-Catholic League honors.

Head Coach Zubair Ahmed (5th season) and the Girls Varsity Field Hockey Team returned 12 letter winners from the 2018 roster and were led by senior Emily Langdon and juniors Lilli Sherman and Olivia DeMuth. The Cranes finished 4th overall in the Central Division of the Catholic League.

In the first round of the Catholic League Championships, the Cranes faced the rival Mustangs of Marian. CK played a great match but fell to the Mustangs 1-0.
With the newly realigned Division II East of the Michigan High School Field Hockey Association, the Cranes opened the State Playoffs facing the Falcons of Farmington High School. Freshman Emma Brandimarte scored the lone goal with a great shot in the second half and the Cranes held the game at 1-0 to advance to the second round. In the second round, the Cranes had to go on the road to play the Marlins of Mercy. With some great defense and another great goal from Brandimarte in the second half, the Cranes once again held on to a 1-0 lead to defeat the Marlins and advance to the State semifinal!

In the MHSFH State Semifinal, CK faced the Bulldogs of Chelsea High. The Bulldogs scored first midway through the first half and again in the second half. Olivia DeMuth answered with a goal on a penalty shot to put the Cranes in position to tie the game, but the Bulldogs defense tightened up to defeat CK 2-1.

Olivia DeMuth earned All-State and All-Catholic League honors and Lilli Sherman earned All-State and All-League recognition. Emily Langdon earned Academic All-State and All-Catholic League recognition.

Football Coach Ben Jones (1st season) and the CK Football Team finished 4th in the AA Division of the Catholic League and a 5-3 regular season record. The Cranes were led by a large senior class in captains Jack Fairman, Tariq Muhammad, Will Kerr and Ahmad Masood, and fellow seniors Gabe Peterson, Alex Eikenberry, Jacob Peruski, Jung Won Lee, Nathan Frankel, Will Mirza, Anthony Vespa, Xavier Harrison, Alex Liu and Malik Harris. The Cranes also looked to juniors Chase Paulus, Bryce Hall, Eli Asmar and Max Spradlin and sophomores Travis Ilitch and Shane Wittenberg to make major contributions.

The Cranes earned a berth in the MHSAA State Playoffs for a school record 6th straight season! In the first round of District play, the Cranes hosted the Pioneers of Harper Woods. The Pioneers took an early lead, but the Cranes held strong down 6-0 at the half. CK gave up a couple big plays in the 3rd period but the Cranes battled back with a
58 yard TD from Tariq Muhammad and a 39 yard field goal from Chase Paulus. Unfortunately, it would not be enough, and the Pioneers ended the season for the Cranes 27-10.

Linebacker Jack Fairman earned AP 1st Team All-State, Detroit News Honorable Mention All-North Team and All-Catholic League. Kicker Chase Paulus earned AP 2nd Team All-State, 2nd Team Detroit News All North and All-Catholic League honors. Running back Tariq Muhammad made MHSFCA Honorable Mention All-State, Detroit News Honorable Mention All-North Team and All-Catholic League recognition. Lineman Will Kerr, Defensive Back Jacob Peruski and defensive end Bryce Hall earned Detroit News Honorable Mention All-North Team and All-League honors. Receiver/defensive back Anthony Vespa earned Academic All-Catholic League honors.

Head Coach John Minnich (2nd season) and the Girls Varsity Golf Team returned 5 players from the 2018 squad that played their way to a 5th place finish in the MHSAA State Finals.

The Cranes were led by captains Julia Frykman and Sydney Greenlee and returning Honorable Mention All-County and All-State sophomore Natasha Samsonov and fellow sophs Ashley Cong and Katherine Li.

At the Oakland County Championships, the Cranes finished 2nd. Sophomore Natasha Samsonov shot an 84 and finished 9th overall earning a spot on the All-Tournament Team! Fellow sophomore Ashley Cong shot 89 for a top twenty finish.

At the Catholic League Championships, the Cranes finished 2nd in the Bishop Division and 3rd overall! The team shot 337 with Ashley Cong leading the way with a 76. Natasha Samsonov shot 84, Julia Frykman shot 85, and Sydney Greenlee shot a 92.

Cranbrook hosted the MHSAA Regional #18 Championships at Fieldstone CC. The Cranes had a great day shooting 361 (3 shots back from Marysville) to finish as Regional Runner-Up to qualify for the State Championships. Individually, Ashley Cong finished as Regional Runner-Up shooting a 77! Katherine Li placed 6th (90), Natasha Samsonov placed 9th (94), Julia Frykman placed 18th (100), and Sydney Greenlee placed 20th (102).
At the MHSAA State Championships hosted at Grand Valley State University, the Cranes positioned themselves in the upper tier shooting 366 to enter day two of the finals in 5th place. Day two proved to be a tougher day with the Cranes shooting 375 on the day finishing in 8th position overall. Individually, Ashley Cong led the team shooting 177 and placing 23rd. Julia Frykman shot 189, Katherine Li shot 192 and Sydney Greenlee shot 203.

Ashley Cong and Natasha Samsonov earned Honorable Mention All-State, 1st Team All-County and All-Catholic League honors. Julia Frykman earned All-League and Sydney Greenlee earned Academic All-Catholic League honors.

Head Coach Chad O’Kulich (21st season) and the Boys Varsity Soccer Team were led by seniors Charlie Hefter, Cole Mali, Wesley Reed and Kipp Schaub. The Cranes returned seven varsity players from last year’s unit which finished 17-1-1 and lost in the State Semi Final in overtime.

The Cranes finished the CHSL regular season as AA Division Champions qualifying them for the Catholic League Championship Match for the 4th straight year and finished with an 8-2-4 record. The Cranes faced the Central Division Cubs of U of D Jesuit for the CHSL Championship. The Cranes gave great effort, but the Cubs depth and talent proved too much as they defeated CK 3-0.

In the first round of the MHSAA District Championships, the Cranes hosted the Yellow Jackets of Avondale High School. Avondale took an early lead and held on to the 1-0 score for the duration of the match to end a great CK soccer season.

Charlie Hefter and sophomore Zach Wittenberg earned Honorable Mention All-State, All-Region and All-District recognition. Fellow senior Wesley Reed was joined by sophomore Garrett Gantz on the All-District and All-Catholic League Teams. Seniors Cole Mali and Kipp Schaub were joined by junior Sam Morawski and freshman Nathan Hooker on the All-League Team. Wesley Reed also earned Academic All-Catholic League honors.
Head Coach Chris Bagley (7th season) and the Girls Varsity Swim and Dive Team came into the 2019 season with high expectations after finishing as State Runner-Up in 2018. The Aardvarks were led by senior captains Jordan Murrell and Hannah Momblanco, and fellow seniors Emma Austin, Allison Brook, and Lily Gardella. The Cranes also relied heavily on a strong group of underclassmen in juniors Gwen Woodbury, Serena Hao and Hale’ Oal, Charlotte DeSantos, Charlotte Trunsky and Justine Murdock, sophomores Carolyn Farner and Sarah Weissman, and freshman Sophia Pedersoli.

At the Oakland County Championships, Cranbrook placed 5th overall. Justine Murdock was Oakland County Champion in the 100 back stroke and took 3rd in the 200IM. Gwen Woodbury finished as County Runner-Up in the 200 free and placed 3rd in the 100 free. In the relay events, the team of Jordan Murrell, Sophia Pedersoli, Charlotte Trunsky and Woodbury took 3rd in the 200 free relay. The team of Justine Murdock, Murrell, Pedersoli, and Woodbury took 5th in the 400 free relay, and the team of Serena Hao, Hale Oal, Murdock and Trunsky took 7th in the medley relay.

At the Catholic League Diving Championships hosted at Livonia Recreation Center, the CK Divers had a great night with junior Elizabeth Hamel taking 3rd and sophomore Rachel Thav placed 5th.

At the Catholic League Swim Championships, the Aardvarks swam well to finish 3rd overall.

Individually, CK started out hot with the 200 medley relay team of Murdock, Hao, Oal and Woodbury winning the CHSL Championship. In the 2nd event, Murdock came back to be the CHSL Runner-Up in the 200 free and later the Runner-Up in the 100 free. Woodbury was CHSL Runner-Up in the 50 free and 3rd in the 100 butterfly. Hao finished 3rd in the 500 free. The 200 free relay team of Murrell, Pedersoli, Trunsky and Oal placed 3rd. Murrell placed 5th in the 200 IM, O’Donnell placed 5th in the 500 free, and DeSantos placed 5th in the 100 backstroke. DeSantos placed 6th in the 50 free and Hao placed 6th in the 100 butterfly. Murrell placed 7th in the 100 butterfly. Pedersoli place 7th in the 100 free and 8th in the 200 free. Oal placed 8th in the 200 IM. To end the day, the 400 free relay team of Murrell, Pedersoli, Murdock and Woodbury won the CHSL Championship.

Other notable swims at the Catholic League Championships were: O’Donnell placed 10th in the 50 free, Oal 10th in the 500 free, and Austin 10th in the 100 breaststroke. Shannon placed 11th.
in the 500 free and Vondell 11th in the 100 backstroke. Momblanco placed 11th in the 100 free and 13th in the 50 free. Foxx placed 12th in the 100 breaststroke. Zhang finished 13th in the 200 free and 100 backstroke, Trunsky 13th in the 200 IM and 100 breaststroke, and Vondell 13th in the 100 free. Austin placed 14th in the 200 IM, Foxx 14th in the 100 butterfly, and Stojanov 14th in the 100 breastroke. Also in the relays, the 200 medley team of Vondell, Watson, Foxx and Anderson placed 10th. The 200 free relay team of O’Donnell, Brook, Gardella and Stojanov placed 10th and the 400 relay team of Strain, Norton, Park and Weissman also placed 10th.

Cranbrook hosted the Regional 7 Diving Championships at Williams Natatorium. Twenty-one divers had 11 dives to compete for 12 State Championship qualifying positions. Sarah Weissman finished the evening as the Regional Runner-Up scoring 328.6 points and Elizabeth Hamel placed 6th scoring 271.25 points qualifying them both for the State Championships. Rachel Thav also had a great competition advancing to the finals of the regional competition to finish 16th scoring 212.7 points.

Fourteen members of the CK Swim and Dive Team qualified for the MHSAA State Championships. The following secured qualifying times throughout the competitive season: Hannah Momblanco in the 200IM and 100 breaststroke, Jordan Murrell in the 100 and 200 free, Gwen Woodbury in the 100 and 200 free, Justine Murdock in the 100 backstroke and 200 IM, Serena Hao in the 100 breaststroke and 200 IM, Hale Oal in the 100 fly and 100 breaststroke, Charlotte DeSantos in the 100 free and 200 IM, Charlotte Trunsky in the 50 and 500 free, Allison O’Donnell in the 100 backstroke and Lizzie Hamel diving, Carolyn Farner 100 fly and 100 backstroke, Emily Zhang 500 free, Sarah Weismann diving, and Sophia Pedersoli in the 50 free and 100 backstroke.

At the MHSAA State Championships hosted at Oakland University, the Aardvarks came ready to compete at the Friday preliminaries. With many outstanding performances, CK positioned themselves for an exciting Saturday Finals meet. The Aardvarks finished day two 11 points behind a deep EGR team to finish as the State Runner-Up!

Individually, Justine Murdock broke two school records and won the State Championship in the 200 IM then broke her own State Record in the 100 backstroke to win her 2nd individual State Championship. Gwen Woodbury also broke two school records on her way to winning the State Championship in the 200 free and as State Runner-Up in the 100 butterfly. Charlotte Trunsky was State Runner-Up in the 50 free. Serena Hao placed 6th in the 200 IM and the 100 breaststroke. Jordan
Murrell placed 7th in the 200 free, Hale Oal placed 7th in the 100 butterfly and 8th in the 100 breaststroke, Sarah Weissman placed 10th in Diving, Charlotte Trunsky placed 10th in the 500 free, Jordan Murrell placed 11th in the 100 butterfly, Sophia Pedersoli placed 10th in the 100 backstroke and 11th in the 50 free, Charlotte DeSantos placed 12th in the 200 IM and 18th in the 100 free.

In the relay events, the 200 free team of Jordan Murrell, Charlotte Trunsky, Hale Oal and Gwen Woodbury set a new school record to win the State Championship. Our 400 relay team of Jordan Murrell, Charlotte Trunsky, Justine Murdock and Gwen Woodbury ended the day’s great event breaking another school record while winning the State Championship. CK’s 200 medley relay team of Justine Murdock, Serena Hao, Hale Oal and Sophia Pedersoli were State Runner-Up.

Other notable finishes were Emily Zhang placed 20th in the 500 free, Carolyn Farner placed 21st in the 100 butterfly and 27th in the 100 backstroke, Hannah Momblanco placed 22nd in the 100 breaststroke and 26th in the 200 IM, Elizabeth Hamel placed 24th in Diving, Allison O’Donnell placed 29th in the 500 free and 36th in the 100 backstroke.

Justine Murdock was named the Division 3 Swimmer of the State Championships and earned 4 All-State, All-County, and 4 All-Catholic League honors. Gwen Woodbury earned 4 All-State, All-County and 4 All-catholic League honors. Charlotte Trunsky earned 3 All-State, 1 Honorable Mention All-State, All-County and All-Catholic League honors. Jordan Murrell earned 2 All-State, 1 Honorable Mention All-State, All-County, 2 All-Catholic League and 2 All-League honors. Sophia Pedersoli earned 2 All-State, 2 Honorable Mention All-State, All-County, 2 All-Catholic League and 2 All-League honors. Serena Hao earned 2 All-State, 2 All-Catholic and 1 All-League honors. Hale Oal earned 2 All-State, 2 All-Catholic League, and 1 All-League honors. Charlotte DeSantos earned Honorable Mention All-State and 2 All-League honors, Sarah Weissman earned Honorable Mention All-State and All-Region honors. Elizabeth Hamel earned All-Region and All-Catholic League honors, and Allison O’Donnell and Rachel Thav earned All-League recognition.

Head Coach Steve Herdoiza (3rd season) and the four-time Defending State Champion Boys Varsity Tennis Team returned one of the deepest teams in the state, featuring 16 highly skilled players, anchored by senior captain Sohum Acharya and fellow seniors Hayes Bradley, David Hermelin, Nolan Sherwood, Calvi Teste, and Ben Conti.
At the Catholic League Championships, the Cranes finished Runner-Up behind a strong Greenhills team. Our CK #3 doubles team of junior Enzo Martella and sophomore Sebs Taubman were Catholic League Champions. Cranbrook’s #4 doubles team of Calvi Teste and Ben Conti were CHSL Runner-Up. Individually, #4 singles sophomore Patrick Tiwari was also CHSL Runner-Up.

At the MHSAA Regional Championships, the Cranes took the next step to defending their State Championship by winning the Region 21 Championship! Individually, Nolan Sherwood won the Regional Championship at #2 singles. Freshman Owen DeMuth #1 singles, junior Geoffrey Qin #3 singles and Patrick Tiwari were Regional Finalists. In doubles competition, Sohum Acharya and sophomore Isaiah Croskey #1 doubles, Hayes Bradley and David Hermelin #2 doubles, Enzo Martella and Sebastian Taubman #3 doubles, and Calvi Teste and Ben Conti #4 doubles were Regional Champions!

At the MHSAA State Championships hosted at Hope College, it was a great competition between the top 5 schools, but the Cranes battled hard to finish as State Runner-Up. Hayes Bradley and David Hermelin were State Runner-Up at #2 doubles, and Calvi Teste and Ben Conti were State Runner-Up at #4 doubles. Nolan Sherwood #2 singles, Patrick Tiwari #4 singles, Sohum Acharya and Isaiah Croskey #1 doubles, and Enzo Martella and Sebastian Taubman #3 doubles advanced to the semifinals.

The CK Team earned Academic All-State honors for the collective excellence in the classroom. Nolan Sherwood, Isaiah Croskey and Sohum Acharya earned 1st Team All-State and All-Region honors. Owen DeMuth also earned 1st Team All-State and Honorable Mention All-Region. Hayes Bradley and David Hermelin earned Honorable Mention All-State and All-Region. Enzo Martella, Sebastian Taubman, Calvi Teste and Ben Conti earned All-Region Honors. Patrick Tiwari and Geoffrey Qin earned Honorable Mention All-Region. Enzo Martella and Sebs Taubman also earned All-Catholic League honors and Tiwari, Teste and Conti earned All-League recognition.
Head Coach Brianna Andrews (2nd season) and the Girls Varsity Volleyball Team returned 6 varsity letter winners and added 7 new faces to the team in 2019. The Cranes were led by senior captains Daphne Donigan and Bodie Collins.

In MHSAA District play, The Cranes drew a first-round bye, then had to face perennial volleyball powerhouse Notre Dame Prep in their gym. Although CK improved a great deal throughout the season, the Irish defeated the Cranes in 3 sets (25-13, 25-17, 25-12) to end our season.

Daphne Donigan earned Academic All-State, All-Catholic League and Academic All-Catholic League honors for her excellence on the court and in the classroom. Brianna Regula earned Academic All-State. Sophie Lanzon earned All-League and Reilly Hourigan earned Academic All-Catholic League honors.

**Homecoming: Powderpuff Football Game, Friday Night Lights**

Spirit week culminated with parent visiting day, the Annual Powderpuff Football Classic and our Friday Night Lights Homecoming football game. The Powderpuff Game pitted two tough and talented teams in both the senior and junior classes. There were outstanding runs with some super pass and catch combinations. The seniors had a 14-6 lead as time was winding down but a late score by the juniors put them in position to tie the game. After the missed 2-point conversion, the **seniors prevailed 14-12**.

To culminate the perfect fall day, the Cranes Football Team faced a much improved Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard team. CK jumped on the Irish early and never let up. **With another great Cranbrook Schools Community crowd, Cranbrook secured a Homecoming victory 35-12 and earned a berth in the MHSAA Playoffs.**
**College Commitments**

Cranbrook hosted an NCAA Signing ceremony in the Cranbrook Library Reading Room for seniors James Feord and Adam Vlasic. Family, coaches, teammates and friends gathered to celebrate the college commitments with James committing to Florida Southern to play lacrosse and Adam committing to Duke to swim.

**Thompson Oval Press Box Ribbon Cutting**

Cranbrook’s Homecoming Pre-Game included a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony to celebrate the completion of our new Press Box at the Thompson Oval. The Giampetroni Family, CK Booster Club past presidents Jeanne Woodbury and Ken Kernen with current Presidents Christine Stephens and Howard Brophy, were joined by members of the Cranbrook Administrative Team to share in CK’s appreciation for the generosity of the Giampetroni’s and Boosters and show our excitement over this new beautiful facility.
The Cranbrook Athletics Booster Club hosted our 26th Annual Golf Outing Fundraiser at Oakland Hills Country Club. We couldn’t have planned a more perfect fall day for golf!

At the evening dinner and auction, Senior athletes Eleanor Kwartowitz and Charlie Hefter spoke of their experience as CK student athletes and thanked those in attendance for their support of the Cranbrook athletic program and Boys Middle School Coach Jonathan Clauss addressed the audience about how important their giving has been for our coaching staff through the professional development funds provided to coaches by the Booster Club.