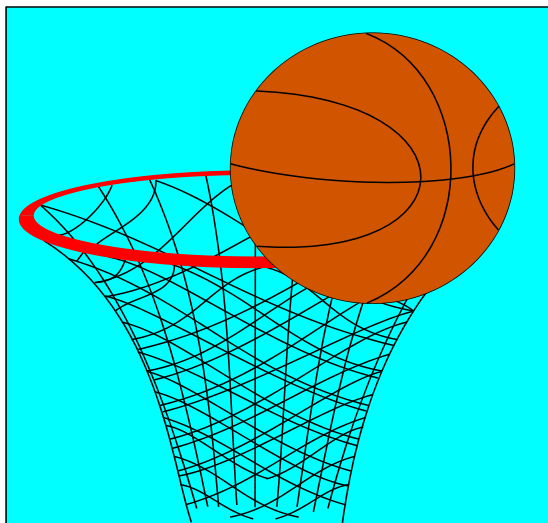


BERGEN COUNTY GIRLS BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT 1975 - 2009

A COMPLETE STATISTICAL REVIEW OF THE TOURNAMENT
COMPILED BY JIM McCONVILLE, NORTH JERSEY MEDIA GROUP



**BERGEN COUNTY WOMEN
COACHES ASSOCIATION**

TRACKING THE TOP SEEDS - In the 35 years of tournament play, this is a summary of the performances of the top four seeds.

<u>FINISH</u>	<u>FIRST SEED</u>	<u>SECOND SEED</u>	<u>THIRD SEED</u>	<u>FOURTH SEED</u>
Champion	19	8	1	1
Runner-up -	4	9	7	4
Semi-finalist -	4	7	11	8
Quarterfinalist-	6	8	15	15
First Round -	2	3	1	7
Preliminary -				

*****Until 1995, no team other than the first or second seed emerged as champion. That string was broken by Holy Angels as the 11th seed in 1995, the first year that none of the top four seeds reached the final four (it happened again in 2006). At least two of the top four seeds reached the final four in every other year except 1981, 1999, 2001 & 2003, when only one played through to the semis.

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FINAL FOUR SEEDINGS - A year-by-year look at the seedings for the final four teams.

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>CHAMPION</u>	<u>RUNNER-UP</u>	<u>SEMIFINALIST</u>	<u>SEMIFINALIST</u>
1975-	1	2	4	6
1976-	1	3	5	7
1977-	1	2	3	5
1978-	2	1	4	6
1979-	1	6	2	4
1980-	1	2	3	5
1981-	1	6	10	13
1982-	1	3	5	15
1983-	1	2	6	20
1984-	1	6	4	7
1985-	2	1	5	6
1986-	2	1	3	5
1987-	1	2	3	5
1988-	1	18	3	4
1989-	1	3	2	5
1990-	1	3	2	12
1991-	1	3	5	7
1992-	1	2	5	6
1993-	2	4	3	8
1994-	1	2	3	4
1995-	11	8	5	7
1996-	3	4	1	2
1997-	1	6	2	4
1998-	4	2	2	11

1999-	5	2	8	11
2000-	9	3	2	5
2001-	2	12	6	16
2002-	2	4	1	11
2003-	5	10	3	8
2004-	2	1	3	4
2005-	1	3	2	12
2006-	7	13	6	8
2007-	2	13	4	8
2008-	1	3	5	7
2009-	6	4	1	7

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IT'S GOOD TO BE THE KING - Being the number one seed has been a sure-fire entry into the semi-finals, as only eight teams in 35 years have not reached the final four. However, there was a string of three straight seasons the number one seed did not reach the final four - Ridgewood was eliminated by Cresskill in the first round in 1999, Immaculate Heart fell to Holy Angels in the quarterfinals 2000 and River Dell was ousted by Bergenfield in the 2001 first round. Old Tappan lost to Ramsey in 1993 in the quarterfinals, River Dell was ousted by Pascack Valley in the 1995 quarterfinals, Pascack Valley fell to Tenafly in the 2003 quarterfinals and Teaneck lost to Immaculate Heart in the 2006 and 2007 quarterfinals in the other five occurrences of an early exit for the top seed.

#1 vs. #2 - Eleven times in tournament history, the number one and two seeds have met for the championship, with the top seed holding a 7-4 advantage. Here is a look at the ten games.

- 1975 - #1 Paramus Catholic defeated #2 Bergenfield, 65-44
- 1977 - #1 Paramus Catholic defeated #2 Pascack Hills, 59-46
- 1978 - #2 Paramus Catholic defeated #1 Ramapo, 62-45
- 1980 - #1 Pascack Valley defeated #2 Englewood, 48-42
- 1983 - #1 Paramus Catholic defeated #2 Pascack Valley, 74-42
- 1985 - #2 Ridgewood defeated #1 Teaneck, 57-44
- 1986 - #2 Teaneck defeated #1 Paramus Catholic, 45-39
- 1987 - #1 Teaneck defeated #2 Northern Highlands, 40-31
- 1992 - #1 Pascack Valley defeated #2 Old Tappan, 50-45
- 1994 - #1 Ridgewood defeated #2 Pascack Valley, 49-44
- 2004 - #2 Immaculate Heart defeated #1 Pascack Valley, 44-39

ALL-TIME UPSETS - The following 30 games represent the biggest upsets in tournament history according to the seedings.

- 1999 - #17 Cresskill defeated #1 Ridgewood, 56-46, first round
- 2001 - #16 Bergenfield defeated #1 River Dell, 69-55, first round
- 1988 - #18 Pascack Hills defeated #2 Paramus Catholic, 67-62, first round
- 1981 - #15 Queen of Peace defeated #2 Emerson, 62-41, first round
- 1982 - #15 Pascack Hills defeated #2 Waldwick, 39-33, first round
- 2003 - #10 Paramus Catholic defeated #2 River Dell, 45-28, quarterfinals
- 1999 - #19 Bergenfield defeated #3 Pascack Valley, 64-58, first round
- 1988 - #18 Pascack Hills defeated #3 Pascack Valley, 37-34, semifinals

- 1995 - #11 Holy Angels defeated #3 Bogota, 62-52, quarterfinals
- 1998 - #11 Bogota defeated #3 Pascack Valley, 47-43, quarterfinals
- 2002 - #11 Holy Angels defeated #3 Paramus Catholic, 58-36, quarterfinals
- 2003 - #10 Paramus Catholic defeated #3 Immaculate Heart, 37-30, semifinals
- 1983 - #20 Ridgewood defeated #4 Garfield, 54-35, first round
- 1981 - #13 Waldwick defeated #4 Englewood, 48-38, first round
- 1986 - #13 Mahwah defeated #4 Rutherford, 44-40, first round
- 1987 - #13 Ridgewood defeated #4 Bergenfield, 31-23, first round
- 1991 - #13 Fair Lawn defeated #4 Rutherford, 60-34, first round
- 2006 - #13 Ramapo defeated #4 Holy Angels, 38-33, first round
- 2007 - #13 Ramapo defeated #4 Rutherford, 35-19, first round
- 1989 - #12 Bergenfield defeated #4 Dumont, 57-45, quarterfinals
- 2005 - #12 Old Tappan defeated #4 Holy Angels, 50-43, quarterfinals
- 2005 - #28 Saddle Brook defeated #5 Teaneck, 44-43, preliminary round
- 1983 - #20 Ridgewood defeated #5 Cresskill, 58-46, quarterfinals
- 2006 - #13 Ramapo defeated #5 Old Tappan, 37-35, quarterfinals
- 1988 - #12 Old Tappan defeated #5 Emerson, 51-41, first round
- 1990 - #12 Bergenfield defeated #5 Pascack Hills, 52-46, first round
- 1996 - #12 Cresskill defeated #5 Ramsey, 57-35, first round
- 2001 - #12 Immaculate Heart defeated #5 Northern Highlands, 54-33, first round
- 2002 - #12 Ramapo defeated #5 Old Tappan, 44-42, in 3 overtimes, first round
- 2007 - #12 Ridgefield Park defeated #5 Pascack Valley, 43-40, first round

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HAVE NO FEAR, UNDERDOG IS HERE - In the first 30 years of the tournament, teams seeded 20th or higher had a combined record of 6-121 in their preliminary round games. In 2005, an amazing **FIVE** teams seeded 20 or higher won their preliminary round games, including 28th seeded Saddle Brook, the highest seed to ever win a county tournament game. The 20+ group went 5-4 in their first games in 2005. In 2009, four teams seeded 20 or higher won their preliminary round games. The overall mark for teams seeded 20 and higher is now 20-174 in tournament history. These are the 17 winners:

- 1983 - #20 Ridgewood defeated #13 Pascack Hills, 43-36
- 1985 - #23 Ridgefield Park defeated #10 Holy Angels, 47-44
- 1995 - #20 Englewood defeated #13 Waldwick, 44-39
- 2000 - #21 Ramapo defeated #12 Emerson, 34-29
- 2002 - #23 Tenafly defeated #10 Northern Highlands, 45-42
- 2004 - #20 North Arlington defeated #13 Demarest, 52-50
- 2005 - #28 Saddle Brook defeated #5 Teaneck, 44-43
- 2005 - #24 Dumont defeated #9 Becton, 51-49
- 2005 - #23 Bergenfield defeated #10 Cresskill, 52-41
- 2005 - #22 Queen of Peace defeated #11 Pascack Hills, 44-41
- 2005 - #20 Glen Rock defeated #13 St. Mary's, 41-33
- 2006 - #23 Queen of Peace defeated #10 Demarest, 67-56
- 2006 - #21 Immaculate Conception defeated #12 Becton, 67-59
- 2009 - #24 Cliffside Park defeated #9 Paramus Catholic, 42-30
- 2009 - #22 Glen Rock defeated #11 Fair Lawn, 55-43
- 2009 - #21 Paramus defeated #12 Cresskill, 53-43
- 2009 - #20 River Dell defeated #13 New Milford, 46-43

Of the 17 teams, only Ridgewood in 1983 and Ridgefield Park in 1985 won their next game.

Ridgewood actually won two more games and reached the semifinals, the only 20+ seed to do so, while Ridgefield Park won its next game before falling in the quarterfinals.

REFUSING TO LOSE - In 35 years, 12 teams have entered the tournament undefeated and gone on to win the title. Paramus Catholic did it six times (1976, 1977, 1979, 1982, 1983, 1984), Pascack Valley three times (1980, 1981, 1989) and Ridgewood (1994), River Dell (1997) and Immaculate Heart (2005) once.

HOW'D THEY GET HERE? - Pascack Hills reached the 1988 final with nine losses on their record, the most for a finalist. Ironically, the same year, Teaneck won the tournament with six losses on its ledger, the most by a championship team. Paramus Catholic matched the Cowgirls, as they reached the 2003 finals with nine losses on their ledger.

JASPER THE DEAN OF TOURNAMENT COACHES - Pascack Valley head coach Jeff Jasper owns virtually all of the coaching records for the tournament. The Indians' only coach in their 36-year history, he has taken his team to the dance 31 straight years through 2009. Here is where he stands in the tourney record books.

MOST APPEARANCES -

JEFF JASPER, PASCACK VALLEY	31
Sue Liddy, Holy Angels	26
Al Roth, Paramus Catholic	18

MOST CONSECUTIVE APPEARANCES -

JEFF JASPER, PASCACK VALLEY	31
Sue Liddy, Holy Angels	24
Al Roth, Paramus Catholic	18

MOST GAMES COACHED -

JEFF JASPER, PASCACK VALLEY	98
Sue Liddy, Holy Angels	65
Al Roth, Paramus Catholic	43

MOST VICTORIES -

JEFF JASPER, PASCACK VALLEY	74
Sue Liddy, Holy Angels	44
Al Roth, Paramus Catholic	26

MOST LOSSES -

JEFF JASPER, PASCACK VALLEY	24
Sue Liddy, Holy Angels	21
Al Roth, Paramus Catholic	17

MOST CHAMPIONSHIPS -

JEFF JASPER, PASCACK VALLEY	7
Rose Battaglia, Paramus Catholic	6
Sue Liddy, Holy Angels	5

MOST FINALS -

JEFF JASPER, PASCACK VALLEY	14
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Rose Battaglia, Paramus Catholic	9
Curtis March, Teaneck	6

MOST FINAL FOURS -

JEFF JASPER, PASCACK VALLEY	23
Rose Battaglia, Paramus Catholic	9
Curtis March, Teaneck	7
Sue Liddy, Holy Angels	7

WHAT'S THAT LINE FOR? - The three-point field goal was in effect for the 1988 season, but it took five years before it made its presence in a championship game. Not until Tina Buccarelli of Old Tappan canned one in the third quarter in 1992 did the "bomb" make an appearance in a title game.

TEAMS OF THE DECADE - Looking at the tournament through its three separate decades, the following are the teams with the most wins in tournament play in the 1970's, 1980's, 1990's and 2000's.

1975-79

Paramus Catholic	15-0
Cliffside Park	3-2
Englewood	3-2
Ramapo	3-3
Lyndhurst	3-4

1980-89

Paramus Catholic	26-6
Pascack Valley	26-7
Teaneck	18-4
Ridgewood	13-8
Three teams with 9 wins	

1990-99

Ridgewood	22-6
Pascack Valley	22-8
Holy Angels	17-7
River Dell	15-8
Bogota	13-9

2000-09

Immaculate Heart	31-7
Holy Angels	24-7
Pascack Valley	25-8
Ramapo	21-8
Old Tappan	19-10

BETTER LUCK NEXT TIME - If there are winners, then there are also losers, and the following teams found themselves on the wrong end of the scoreboard more than any other in the 1970's, 1980's, 1990's and 2000's.

1975-79

Lyndhurst	3-4
Ramapo	3-3
Cliffside Park	3-2
Englewood	3-2
Six other teams with 2 losses	

1980-89

Waldwick	9-9
Ridgewood	13-8
Bergenfield	7-8
Old Tappan	7-8
Ridgefield Park	5-8
Mahwah	4-8
Emerson	2-8

1990-99

Immaculate Heart	12-10
Cresskill	11-10
Bogota	13-9
Old Tappan	12-9
Ramsey	10-9
Rutherford	8-9

2000-09

Tenafly	10-10
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St. Mary's	13-10
Paramus Catholic	16-10
River Dell	17-10
Old Tappan	19-10

THE FIRST TIME'S A CHARM - Three coaches have won the tournament in their first year as a head coach, Maria Gargiulo of Paramus Catholic in 1984, Jim Ross of Ridgewood in 1998 and Jen Bednarek of Immaculate Heart in 2004. Ironically, they all took over for coaches who had won the title, Gargiulo for six-time winner Rose Battaglia, Ross for three-time winner Rebecca Gattoni and Bednarek for one-time winner Jeff Horohonich.

COMING BACK FOR SECONDS? - Fourteen times in the 35-year history of the tournament, the defending champion has reached the finals, and only three times have they lost - Pascack Valley to Paramus Catholic in 1982 and Ridgewood in 1993 and River Dell to Ridgewood in 1998.

A look at how the defending champions have done the following season:

- 1975 - Paramus Catholic wins inaugural tournament
- 1976 - Paramus Catholic defends the title with a 67-42 win over Cliffside Park
- 1977 - Paramus Catholic defends the title with a 59-46 win over Pascack Hills
- 1978 - Paramus Catholic defends the title with a 62-45 win over Ramapo
- 1979 - Paramus Catholic defends the title with a 72-39 win over Englewood
- 1980 - Paramus Catholic was not invited to participate in the tournament
- 1981 - Pascack Valley defends the title with a 51-48 win over Paramus Catholic
- 1982 - Pascack Valley is defeated by Paramus Catholic 54-47 in the championship game
- 1983 - Paramus Catholic defends the title with a 74-42 win over Pascack Valley
- 1984 - Paramus Catholic defends the title with a 58-38 win over Ramapo
- 1985 - Paramus Catholic is defeated by Ridgewood 64-62 in the semi-finals
- 1986 - Ridgewood is defeated by Paramus Catholic 33-26 in the quarterfinals
- 1987 - Teaneck defends the title with a 40-31 win over Northern Highlands
- 1988 - Teaneck defends the title with a 46-35 win over Pascack Hills
- 1989 - Teaneck is defeated by Paramus Catholic 70-60 in the semi-finals
- 1990 - Pascack Valley defends the title with a 58-38 win over Teaneck
- 1991 - Pascack Valley is defeated by Teaneck 49-45 in triple overtime in the quarterfinals
- 1992 - Ridgewood is defeated by Pascack Valley 52-47 in the quarterfinals
- 1993 - Pascack Valley is defeated by Ridgewood 56-32 in the championship game
- 1994 - Ridgewood defends the title with a 49-44 win over Pascack Valley
- 1995 - Ridgewood is defeated by Holy Angels 58-39 in the first round
- 1996 - Holy Angels is defeated by Pascack Valley 55-43 in the quarterfinals
- 1997 - Paramus Catholic is defeated by Ridgefield Park 55-53 in double overtime in the semi-finals
- 1998 - River Dell is defeated 59-52 by Ridgewood in the championship game
- 1999 - Ridgewood is defeated 56-46 by Cresskill in the first round
- 2000 - Holy Angels defends the title with a 62-40 win over Old Tappan
- 2001 - Holy Angels is defeated 67-60 by Paramus Catholic in the quarterfinals
- 2002 - Pascack Valley is defeated 35-34 by River Dell in the semifinals
- 2003 - Immaculate Heart is defeated 37-30 by Paramus Catholic in semifinals

- 2004 - Holy Angels is defeated 46-44 by River Dell in the quarterfinals
- 2005 - Immaculate Heart defends the title with a 51-31 win over Pascack Valley*
- 2006 - Immaculate Heart is defeated 29-27 by Ramapo in the semifinals*
- 2007 - Ridgefield Park is defeated 32-29 by Ramapo in the quarterfinals
- 2008 - Holy Angels is defeated 68-44 by Pascack Valley in the quarterfinals
- 2009 - Pascack Valley is defeated 35-20 by Ramapo in the semifinals

*2005 title declared vacant after Immaculate Heart forfeits games due to ineligible player.

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FOUR ON A MATCH - Paramus Catholic, Ridgewood and Immaculate Heart are the only schools to win the tournament under more than one head coach, with the Paladins winning under four head coaches and the Maroons gaining the title under three different mentors. Paramus Catholic got its first under Brother John McNiff, the next six under Rose Battaglia and one each under Maria Gargiulo and current head coach Al Roth. Ridgewood got its first under Dick Bennett, then had three with Rebecca Gattoni before winning the fifth under Jim Ross. IHA has won it once under Jeff Horohonich and once under Jen Bednarek.

BIGGER IS BETTER, SO FAR - In the 35 years of tournament play, no Group 1 school has ever won the tournament. Ridgefield Park became the first Group 2 winner in 2006, Pascack Valley and River Dell won as Group 3's, Ridgewood and Teaneck as Group 4's and Paramus Catholic, Holy Angels and Immaculate Heart as Parochial A's. Bogota's 1998 & 1999 appearances in the final four were the first by a Group 1 school since Cresskill in 1991. Pascack Valley, reclassified as a Group 2 in 2004, became the third Group 2 school to reach the finals, doing it back-to-back in 2004-05 (Ridgefield Park was a finalist in 1997 and 1999). No Group 1 school has ever reached the finals.

AT THE HEAD OF THE CLASS - Anne Donovan holds the record for most points in a game by both a junior and senior, having set the former with a 39-point game against Lyndhurst in the 1978 semi-final and the latter with her tournament record 58-point outburst against Wood-Ridge in the 1979 quarterfinals. The sophomore record belongs to Linda Zabielski, who notched 32 for Paramus Catholic in a 1989 semi-final win over defending champion Teaneck (Zabielski would transfer to Ridgewood after that season and win a title with the Maroons in 1991). The freshman record was set in 1999 by Bergenfield's Michelle Serrano, who scored 29 points in a 59-57 win over Tenafly.

SOMETIMES YOU WORK A LITTLE EXTRA - Of the 20 overtime games in tournament history, only one came in a championship game, that being the 1999 title contest won by Holy Angels, 59-52 over Ridgefield Park. It marked the fourth OT game for RP in tournament play, a record along with Immaculate Heart, and they have won three of them, also a record. In fact, the Scarlet are one of two teams to play two overtime games in the same tournament, the other being Paramus Catholic. Both PC and RP played them in consecutive games, with the Paladins winning the quarterfinal and losing the semi-final (to Ridgefield Park) in 1997 and the Scarlet winning the semi-final and losing the final in 1999. The 1999 set marked the fifth time two games in a tournament went to overtime. No tournament has had three OT contests.

WHO PUT THE LID ON THE BASKET? - New Milford gained the dubious distinction of being shut out in two straight quarters in a preliminary round game in 2000 against Pascack Valley. The Knights hold the record for the longest scoreless streak at 16:38, while

Holy Angels owns the championship game scoreless streak mark of 10:27, including the only scoreless quarter in championship game history, in 1995. While New Milford lost their game, Holy Angels won the title despite the drought. There have been 17 teams held scoreless for a quarter or more, and the Angels are the only ones to win the game. Immaculate Conception has been held scoreless for a period on three separate occasions, more than any other team.

SCORE THE BASKET - Melissa Czorniewy became only the second player ever and the first in 24 years to top the tournament in scoring average two years in a row when she turned the trick in 2002 (22.5) and 2003 (20.8). Anne Donovan of Paramus Catholic was the only other player to accomplish the feat, doing it in 1978 (32.3) and 1979 (41.7), the highest average in tournament history. Czorniewy also became the seventh player to lead the tourney in points scored in back-to-back seasons. Carolyn Dehn-Duhr of Paramus Catholic is the only player to top the scoring chart three years in a row, from 1982-84.

WORKING BOTH SIDES OF THE FENCE - Jen Bednarek became the third woman to earn a championship as both a player and a coach, having won as player with Paramus Catholic and as the coach of Immaculate Heart. She joins Maria Gargiulo (who won as a player and coach at Paramus Catholic) and Rebecca Gattoni (who played for Pascack Valley and coached Ridgewood). Sandy Gordon of Ramapo is the only other woman to both play and coach in a championship game. She was on the losing end as a player before winning as the Ramapo head coach.

WOMAN VS. WOMAN – When Sandy Gordon of Ramapo and Kerri Dressel of St. Mary faced off as head coaches in the 2009 final, it was the first time in tournament history that both finalists were coached by women. It was also the first-ever matchup of women who also played in the tournament, as Dressel also was a top player for the Gaels.

WHAT UPSET? - Only twice in tournament history have the top four seeds advanced to the Final Four. The first was in 1994, when top-seed Ridgewood bested second-seed Pascack Valley and the three and four seeds lost in the semis. It was the only time the tournament went 1-2-3-4. In 2004, second-seed Immaculate Heart knocked off top-seed Pascack Valley, with the three and four seeds losing in the semis.

ALL ARE WELCOME - The 2006 tournament set a record for the largest field, as 32 teams entered the tournament, marking the first time that there were no byes in the opening round.

TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONSHIP GAME RECAPS

1975

The inaugural tournament brought an eight-team field together, and Paramus Catholic did what everyone expected, breezing to the championship with a 65-44 win over Bergenfield. Nine first quarter turnovers by the Bears helped the Lady Paladins to a 13-8 first quarter lead that became 33-20 at the half. Bergenfield would get no closer than nine points the rest of the way. Jen Bednarek had 27 points to lead PC, with Donna Margine (16 points) and Diane MacPhee (11 points) also hitting double figures. Kathy Suriani had 16 points to lead Bergenfield and Bette Tintle added 10 points.

1976

Paramus Catholic took advantage of a cold-shooting Cliffside Park team to capture its second championship with a 67-42 win over the Red Raiders. The Lady Paladins raced out to a 41-20 halftime lead as CP shot 9 of 34 in the opening 16 minutes while PC connected on 19 of 35 shots. Jen Bednarek set a championship game record that still stands to this day with a 38-point effort, 24 in the first half, and Donna Margine added 16 markers. Eileen Kohrherr led Cliffside with 19 points and Leslie Porschen added 15.

1977

The third time was a charm for Paramus Catholic, as the Lady Paladins took the measure of previously undefeated Pascack Hills by a 59-46 score. The Donovan sisters, Mary and Anne, combined for 41 points, 32 rebounds and 13 blocked shots to offset a subpar Paladin shooting performance (24 of 68 from the floor, 11 of 21 from the free throw line). PC was up 49-44 with 2:03 left before going on an 8-0 run over the next 38 seconds. Donna Margine started and ended the run with baskets, and Anne (21 points) and Mary (20 points) Donovan had the other buckets. Pascack Hills last led at 33-31 in the third quarter, the first time PC trailed in the second half in three title games. Linda DeRenzo paced the Cowgirls with 16 points.

1978

A second seed for the first time, Paramus Catholic nonetheless continued its mastery of the tournament with a fourth straight championship, defeating top-seeded Ramapo by a 62-45 score. An 8-1 run at the end of the first half turned a 27-26 nailbiter into a 35-27 intermission edge for the Lady Paladins, and they extended that lead to 49-34 after three quarters. Ramapo committed 26 turnovers in the face of a zone press headed up by PC guards Elyse Dowd, Mary Rowe and Mary Beth Reilly, and the Raiders could get closer than 11 points in the second half. Anne Donovan led Paramus Catholic with 26 points and 16 rebounds, while Debbie Alpert and Tammy Olenich paced the Raiders with 15 points each.

1979

The strive for five by the Paramus Catholic girls was completed with a convincing 72-39 defeat of sixth-seeded Englewood that was Anne Donovan's last tournament game. The senior finished with 28 points on 11 of 17 shooting and added 17 rebounds, 10 blocked shots and 7 steals, the latter two championship game records that still stand. Early on, however, she went 14 minutes without a field goal, yet PC increased a 17-15 first quarter lead to 40-19 at the half, as Peggy McAteer scored a career-high 19 points.

During the run, Englewood was 1 of 13 from the floor . Gwen Gaines had 20 point for the Maroon Raiders, while freshman Wendy Norris had only 6 on 2 of 11 shooting after hitting for 56 points in the previous three games. The margin of victory was the largest ever in a championship game, and Donovan's 125 points in 3 games is still a record for most points in one tournament.

1980

With five-time champion Paramus Catholic not invited to the tournament this time around, Pascack Valley seized the opportunity to become the champion, besting Englewood by a 48-42 score in the greatest comeback in championship game history. Trailing 34-19 at the half, the Lady Indians mounted a furious comeback to remain undefeated and give head coach Jeff Jasper his 100th career win. A 14-2 third quarter got PV within three, and when Laura Dougherty hit a bucket off a Rebecca Kucks feed with 4:05 to play, Valley had a 40-38 lead. Wendy Norris had 16 of her 18 points for Englewood in the first half, then went scoreless until 44 seconds remained. Dougherty led Valley with 21 points and Kucks chipped in with 14 and 10 rebounds.

1981

The meeting all were waiting for finally took place, as Pascack Valley defended its championship by handing sixth-seeded Paramus Catholic its first-ever loss in tournament play after 18 straight wins with a 51-48 victory. The game was not decided until the final minute, as senior Linda Cotrone sank two free throws with 50 seconds left to give PV at 50-46 lead, her only points of the game. Carolyn Sonzogni hit a basket with 40 seconds left for PC, and after a Valley miss, Laura Dougherty stole the ball with 12 seconds left, was fouled and hit the first of two shots for the final margin. The game was tied 12 times, the last at 46 with 2:47 left before Karen Vandenheuval hit the go-ahead bucket. Janet Schwarz led the Lady Indians with 20 points (14 in the first half) and six steals. Peggy Dowd's 15 point topped PC, which held a two-point lead entering the final period.

1982

In a rematch of last year's final, Paramus Catholic turned the tables on two-time defending champion Pascack Valley and secured its sixth county title with a 54-47 win. Carolyn Denh-Duhr was the difference in the game, as the sophomore used her eight-inch height advantage to record 22 points, 14 in the second half when the Lady Paladins wore down the undersized but game Lady Indians. With Valley holding a 32-23 advantage midway into the third quarter, Paramus Catholic went on an 8-0 run, with Dehn-Duhr scoring six points, to make it a game and heading into the fourth quarter it was tied at 37. The Paladins hit the first six points of the final stanza, and Janet Schwarz fouled out with six minutes left. A Rebecca Kucks basket tied it at 43 before Carolyn Sonzogni gave PC the lead for good with a hoop. Up 47-45, the Paladins hit for seven straight points in the final three minutes to put the game away. JoAnn Bonin led Valley with 13 points, and Sonzogni added 12 for Paramus Catholic.

1983

For the third time in three years, the Paramus Catholic and Pascack Valley met in the final, and the Lady Paladins won the rubber match in convincing fashion with a 74-42 rout of the Lady Indians. Holding a 19-12 lead after one quarter, PC went on a 25-5 run in the second stanza, hitting 10 of 18 shots from the floor while PV could manage only 2 of 7, giving the Paladins an insurmountable 44-17 cushion. Carolyn Sonzogni hit for 10 first-

quarter points on her way to a 22-point effort, and Carolyn Dehn-Duhr owned the inside with 18 points. Valley, playing without injured star Debbie Ivancich, was paced by Joelle Tita's 14 points and Karen Vandenheuval's 13 markers. The game marked PC head coach Rose Battaglia's seventh title in her final tournament game as head coach of the Paladins.

1984

A new coach, yet the same results as Paramus Catholic won its third straight title and eighth in the 10-year history of the tournament with a 58-38 conquest of sixth-seeded Ramapo, which was making its second trip to the finals and first since 1978. Carolyn Dehn-Duhr became the only player to play in 16 tournament games and she went out in style, with 24 points and nine rebounds, giving new coach Maria Gargiulo The Lady Paladins went out to leads of 34-15 at the half and 47-23 after three periods, and held its biggest lead at 50-23 early in the fourth quarter. A 16-4 run to start the game all but decided the game, as Ramapo had seven first quarter turnovers. Regina Grennan had five assists for PC, mostly on lobs inside to Dehn-Duhr, while Sandy Gordon and Michelle Mulfinger led Ramapo with 10 points each.

1985

For the first time, neither Paramus Catholic or Pascack Valley were playing in the final, and Ridgewood broke open a tight game in the third quarter and went on to defeat the top seed, Teaneck, by a 57-44 score for their first county championship. Up by 26-25 at the half and tied at 30 in the third quarter, Ridgewood got four points each from Sally Tarvin and Debbie O'Connell in the third quarter to jump out to a 38-30 lead. After Teaneck closed to within 44-38 with 6:18 left, O'Connell hit two baskets to make it a 10-point game and Teaneck got no closer the rest of the way. Tarvin hit for 19 points and had 13 rebounds, with 7 offensive rebounds among her 11 first half caroms, while O'Connell and Jen Bourn added 16 each for the Maroons, with Bourn hitting on 8 of 9 free throws. Tabatha Long and Shaunda Byrd had 12 and Landra Harris 11 points for the Highwaywomen.

1986

Teaneck made its second appearance in the final and this time came away a winner with a 45-39 win over Paramus Catholic, which lost for only the second time in 10 championship game appearances. Diane Waespy was a dominating force inside in the second half for the Highwaywomen with 18 of her 25 points as Teaneck broke open a 14-13 game at the half. Landra Harris had four points in an 8-0 run that made it 24-15 Teaneck, and Waespy scored eight straight points to turn a 30-23 lead in the opening moments of the fourth quarter into a 38-23 cushion, its biggest of the game. Rainie DeMauro led the Lady Paladins, the top seed, with 17 points, four in the first half when the lead changed hands six times. Harris added 9 points for Teaneck.

1987

Teaneck used a 6-0 run in the third quarter to grab a nine-point lead and went on to defend their county title with a 40-31 triumph over Northern Highlands, making its first-ever appearance in the final. In a game in which neither team shot well from the field or the foul line, the Highwaywomen jumped out to a 17-8 lead in the second quarter only to see Highlands close to within 18-14 at the half. Pam Healy hit a layup to bring NH to within 19-16, but Teaneck went on its 6-0 run, with Laura Singleton hitting two baskets and Yolanda Torres one. A Healy basket closed Highlands to 25-19 before a 6-1 Highwaywomen run made it 31-20, the biggest lead of the game for Teaneck. Singleton led all scorers with 20

points, including two late baskets that pushed the lead to 11 again inside of two minutes remaining. Healy led Northern Highlands with 12 points.

1988

Becoming only the second team in tournament history to win three consecutive championships, Teaneck finally ended the Cinderella hopes of Pascack Hills, which became the lowest seed ever to reach the final. The 18th-seeded Cowgirls, making their second title game appearance and first since 1977, were on the short end of a 46-35 score in the final tournament game played at Bergen community College, home of the tournament since its inception in 1975. Holding a 23-17 halftime lead despite 20 turnovers, the Highwaywomen outscored PH by a 16-7 count in the third quarter to take its biggest lead of the game, 39-24. Barbara Browne had six of her game-high 17 points in the period, while Anne Wellington and Jamala Gaither each had four points. Wellington had 10 points for Teaneck, and Torres had nine points and six assists. Kris Heineman had 11 points to lead Pascack Hills and Chris Nicolosi added 10.

1989

It was back to the old times in the final, as Pascack Valley and Paramus Catholic met for the fourth time in the championship contest at Fair Lawn High School, the new site for the tournament. Valley evened the ledger at two apiece with a resounding 70-46 defeat of the Lady Paladins for their third county championship and first since 1981. Whereas the height advantage had belonged to PC in previous finals, Pascack owned the inside edge this time around, and Laura Seiden and Julie Miles took advantage to pace the Lady Indians. The duo combined for 37 second-half points as PV turned a 28-16 halftime lead into a 53-32 bulge after three quarters and never looked back. Miles had 8 points in the third quarter and Seiden 12. Seiden led all scorers with 31 points and Miles added 22, while Nadine Duhamel held PC's Linda Zabielski to 12 points after she had scored 32 in the semifinals. Bernadette Arbucho led the Paladins with 14 points, and Michelle Maxwell added 10 points for Pascack.

1990

A 16-1 first quarter advantage was the impetus for Pascack Valley's 58-38 win over Teaneck, as the Lady Indians defended their county title. Teaneck was 0 for 14 from the floor in the first quarter and 4 for 26 in the first half of a foul-plagued game, and found themselves down by 27-15 at the half. Valley was whistled for 23 fouls, and lost starters Julie Miles and Dani Tita for much of the second quarter. Neither team shot well from the floor all game (Valley was 17 of 51 and Teaneck 12 of 58), but PV made 24 of 34 foul shots, many coming after Teaneck got to within 29-25 in the third quarter. An 9-2 Valley run made it 38-27 after three quarters and the Highwaywomen never got closer than 10 points the rest of the way. Miles had 20 points and a championship-game record 22 rebounds and Colleen Fitzpatrick added 13 points for Valley. Stephanie Cheatham led Teaneck with 7 points and Andora Jackson grabbed 15 rebounds for the Highwaywomen.

1991

Ridgewood returned to the championship game for the first time since 1985 and came away victorious with a 63-50 defeat of Teaneck, which dropped its second straight county final. After a 15-15 first quarter, the Maroons went on a 10-0 run to open the second stanza, with Linda Zabielski and Shannon McGarrigle each hitting a pair of baskets in the run. Teaneck closed to within 46-40 with 6:07 left in the fourth quarter, but Ridgewood used

an 8-2 spurt to up the lead to 12, using three straight Highwaywomen turnovers to their advantage. Ridgewood offset a 23 of 65 day from the floor with 17 of 27 free throws, while Teaneck hit just 19 of 62 from the floor and 12 of 26 from the foul line. Zabielski, in her second year with Ridgewood after playing her first two years with Paramus Catholic, had a game-high 25 points, and teammates Jodi Hartwig and freshmen McGarrigle added 14 and 10, respectively. Jamala Gaither had 13 points and 9 rebounds to pace Teaneck.

1992

Pascack Valley got stellar performances out of all five of its starters, while Old Tappan relied on one player to carry the load, and the Lady Indians found themselves on the right side of a 50-45 score, gaining their fifth county championship as the tournament moved to Ramapo College in Mahwah, its current home. Old Tappan was making its first-ever final appearance, and with Christine Sacco was expected to give Valley fits, yet the Indians prevailed on the strength of 15 points from Heather Miles, 14 from Kim Beezer and 11 from Marla Mekjian, who had her best game of the season, and good defense by Wendy Bennett on Sacco. The trio offset a 23-point day by Sacco, who shot 11 of 23 from the floor while her teammates hit only 9 of 31 shots combined. Up 25-19 at the half, Valley went out to a 40-27 lead after three quarters, and Old Tappan would come only as close as 48-41 in the fourth quarter. Anna Lee added a pair of free throws to close out the PV scoring, and Sacco hit the last two Golden Knight buckets. PV missed four one-and-one tries in the final minute, but OT could not capitalize.

1993

Ridgewood put on a strong shooting effort and did a good defensive job on Pascack Valley's Kim Beezer on the way to a 56-32 win and their third overall county championship and the second in three seasons. Shannon McGarrigle hit a pair of baskets and Aimee McGuire and Keltly Weeks each canned a three-point field goal in a 10-0 run to start the game, and Valley would get no closer than seven point the rest of the way. That deficit was at 26-19, but the Maroons scored the final six points of the second quarter and maintained that lead, going into the final period with a 41-26 advantage. McGarrigle finished with 26 points and six rebounds and McGuire 13 points and 4 assists as Ridgewood hit on 20 of 44 from the field, including five of 13 threes. Beezer was held to 14 points on 6 of 15 shooting, and Liz Ruckdeschel had 11 points and 11 rebounds for PV, which was 13 of 42 from the floor and only 2 of 10 from three-point range.

1994

In the biggest scare they had faced all season, Ridgewood defended its county title with a 49-44 defeat of Pascack Valley in a rematch of last year's final. The Maroons claimed their fourth overall title and third in the last four seasons. Holding a 29-19 halftime lead and never having trailed in the second half all season, Ridgewood saw the Lady Indians come all the way back and take a 41-40 on a Cortnie Ciaccio layup with 5:08 left. After a Shannon McGarrigle basket, Kim Beezer gave Valley a two-point lead with a three-pointer. Ridgewood then ran off a 7-0 spurt to end the game, with Keltly Weeks tying the game with two free throws and Aimee McGuire converting a steal into a layup and the lead. McGarrigle hit for 25 points, including three threes, and McGuire canned 16 points despite a 6 for 16 shooting effort. Beezer had 17 points to lead PV and Liz Ruckdeschel had six points and 13 rebounds. Ciaccio also had three three-pointers among her 11 points.

1995

In the year of the upset, 11th-seeded Holy Angels became the first team to win the tournament after having played in the preliminary round and the first seed lower than second to claim the title, besting eighth-seeded Pascack Valley, 35-33. It was the third straight year Valley lost in the championship game, and the first time in tournament history that none of the top four seeds reached the final four teams. The Angels accomplished the win despite a 10:27 scoreless span from the final minutes of the first quarter to the opening minute of the third quarter, the longest scoreless string in championship history. PV did not take full advantage, scoring only six second quarter points to hold a narrow 14-12 halftime lead. Alison Higgins, who was 2 of 11 in the first half, hit 7 of 9 second half shots to finish with 20 points and carry Angels to the win. With Valley up 31-28 courtesy of a 6-0 run that saw Aly Morin (11 points) hit two buckets, Holy Angels ran six straight in return, with Maura Lamadore and Higgins hitting layups and Colleen Breslin two free throws. Angels was up 35-32 when Chris Cummings was fouled on a three-point try, but she hit only one of three free throws. The game was the lowest scoring championship game in history with a combined 68 points.

1996

Returning to the championship game for the first time since 1986, Paramus Catholic took home its ninth county title and first since 1984 by besting first-time finalist River Dell, 51-37, in a battle of third and fourth seeds. The Lady Paladins took control early, rushing out to an 16-2 advantage in the second quarter and never looking back. PC held a 25-9 halftime lead, the fewest points scored by a team in a half in championship game history. The Golden Hawks closed it to 32-24 after three quarters, but the Lady Paladins' superior depth helped them make a fourth quarter spurt to put the game away. Erin Harvell had a key three-pointer in the final stanza to open up an 11-point lead, and she finished with 19 points to lead all scorers. Bronwyn Tobin added 13 points and Alison Raimondi had six steals and 10 rebounds. Deirdre McCarthy topped River Dell with 15 points.

1997

It was an all BCSL American final, as River Dell and Ridgefield Park hooked up for the title. River Dell, back in the championship game as an undefeated number one seed, got the better of the sixth-seeded Scarlet for the third time in the season in with a 40-31 win that made the Golden Hawks only the sixth school to win the county championship and the first BCSL school. Ridgefield Park reached the final for the first time on the strength of a stifling defense that not only ousted third-seeded Pascack Valley but also second seed and defending champion Paramus Catholic in double overtime. The Golden Hawks were too much for the Scarlet, however, as they used their own tough defense to keep RP to an 11 of 41 shooting effort. Lindsay Davis led the Hawks with 15 points and 12 rebounds, and it was her three-point field goal and steal and layup in the opening minute of the third quarter that turned an 18-13 halftime lead into a 10-point margin. River Dell was not seriously threatened the rest of the way despite a poor 17 of 57 shooting game. They used their height advantage for a 42-20 rebounding edge, with Deirdre McCarthy also pulling in 12 boards to go along with nine points. Veronica Mullen led the Scarlet with 11 points, including three three-pointers, while leading scorer Shenee Clarke was held to six points.

1998

In becoming the first team seeded fourth to win the tournament, Ridgewood picked up its fifth title in five trips to the championship game, defeating River Dell by a 59-50 score. The Maroons were led early by Laura Mala, who scored 13 of her 20 points in the first half in staking her team to a 28-21 lead. In the second half, Kate Ferguson kept her side

comfortably ahead, hitting on 14 of her game-high 21 points, including a beauty of a reverse layup that put the nail in the Golden Hawks' coffin early in the fourth quarter. She also added three three-point field goals for the Maroons. First year-head coach Jim Ross also got a strong game out of his bench, as he had throughout the tournament, with Emily Shaw getting a pair of key hoops to extend the Ridgewood lead into double figures in the third quarter and Susan Murray adding four steals in the second half to keep River Dell at bay. Lindsay Davis was the only double figure scorer for the Hawks, who were making their third straight appearance in the finals. She had 20 points, but 9 came in the final four minutes after the game had been decided.

1999

In the first-ever overtime game in championship history, Holy Angels won its second county championship by defeating previously undefeated Ridgefield Park by a 59-52 score. The game saw two lead changes and seven ties in the second half, as no team led by more than three points in the final two quarters. Kristin Wagner's three-point field goal tied the game for the Scarlets with 18.1 seconds left, then Tobi Petrocelli took over for Holy Angles, hitting on 12 of the Angels' 14 overtime points, including eight in a row that turned a 51-50 nailbiter into a comfortable 59-50 lead. Petrocelli finished with 25 points in the game, while Casey McGuirt hit for 13 points and Keri Loeffelman added 11 points and 9 rebounds for HA. Shenee Clarke had a game-high 27 for the Scarlets, the most points in a final since Laura Seiden had 27 for Pascack Valley in 1989. It was RP's second title game loss in three seasons. Jessica Henry of Cresskill set a tournament record with 14 three-point field goals in three games. Nicole Doran of Ridgefield Park tied the record for three-pointers in a championship game with 3 and set a new record for career threes in title games with six in two outings.

2000

After ending the previous century as champions, Holy Angels opened the new millennium by becoming the first team since Ridgewood in 1993-94 to defend the title, coming out of the ninth seed. Their 62-40 defeat of Old Tappan gave head coach Sue Liddy her third title overall, and it was sparked by a solid third quarter in which Angels outscored the Golden Knights 18-3 and held them scoreless for 6:32. Holding a 28-21 lead at halftime, HA ran off 16 unanswered points, with Tobi Petrocelli notching seven and Casey McGuirt five. Petrocelli and McGuirt both had 16 points for the Angels, while teammate Lindsay Watson blocked five shots and set a tournament record with 26 in her five games. Keri Loeffelman added 15 points for Holy Angels. Christine Massaro had 13 for the Knights, who played without forward Kaitlin Waldron, sidelined by an ankle injury suffered in the semi-finals. Angels became the second lowest seed to win, behind their own 1995 team that was seeded 11th.

2001

Pascack Valley won its first county title in nine years in impressive fashion, putting on an offensive clinic in the first half before holding on for a 48-43 win over first-time finalist Immaculate Heart. The win enabled head coach Jeff Jasper to tie the legendary rose Battaglia of Paramus Catholic with his sixth county championship, and also gave the Indians 56 tournament wins, breaking a tie with the Paladins for the all-time record. Jenn Jurjevic scored 10 of her team-high 16 points in the first quarter, as PV opened up a 19-5 lead. Using a motion offense that led to numerous layups, the Indians stymied the 12th-seeded Blue Eagles, who upset both the fourth and fifth seeds on the way to the championship game. Valley, the second seed, took a 32-16 lead into the fourth quarter and was able to hold off IHA despite a tournament-record 27 fourth quarter points by the Eagles. Janet

Muller hit 8 of 8 free throws in the final period as PV went 14 for 19 from the foul line. Immaculate Heart closed to within three points, but could never catch the Indians. Muller had all 10 of her points from the foul line for Valley, while Martina Williams led all scorers with 18 points for Immaculate Heart.

2002

Immaculate Heart, a team with no seniors on its roster, became just the seventh school to win the county championship, as the Blue Eagles denied River Dell a second title with a 58-38 win. IHA broke the game open early, taking a 14-7 first quarter lead and increasing it to as much as 23-7 in the second quarter. River Dell climbed back within 26-17 at the half and 30-24 with 4:56 left in the third quarter before the Eagles went on a 13-0 run that in a 3:48 span of the third quarter to put the game away. Freshman Vanessa Holden had the first six points of the streak, and sophomore Daryl Cioffi had her championship-game record-tying third three point field goal in the run as well. Holden finished with 14 points and freshman Tahirah Williams added 12 points and eight rebounds for Immaculate Heart, the second seed. Cioffi finished with nine points and four steals and Nikki Flores added eight points. Samantha Winters led all scorers in the game with 18 points for River Dell, the fourth seed. Alison Finley added eight points for the Golden Hawks, who were outrebounded 27-14 and committed 20 turnovers against the tenacious IHA defense.

2003

In a tournament full of surprises both on and off the court, Holy Angels outlasted the field to win its fourth championship. The Angels defeated Paramus Catholic by a 51-41 score in the final in a game played on the Paladins' home court. Due to security issues revolving around the imminent war with Iraq as well as the unfortunate death of a spectator due to a heart attack during a game, the quarterfinals, semifinals and finals were played at Paramus Catholic. The familiar surroundings may have helped the Paladins knock off second-seeded River Dell and third-seeded Immaculate Heart on the way to the finals, but Melissa Czorniewy made sure that her Angels team would not fall prey to their 10th-seeded opponent. She scored 24 points, including 10 in the second quarter to push Holy Angels to a 34-22 halftime lead, and she added 14 of the Angels' 17 second half points. Erin Lackey had eight of her 12 points in the opening quarter as HA moved to an 18-9 lead, and Danielle Holmes had 10 rebounds for the Angels. Dana Rotio led PC, playing in its 13th final, with 12 points and Shalissa Burgess had 9 rebounds. The Paladins, nine-time champions, played without senior leader Michele Coriale, who tore an ACL five days before the final.

2004

For the first time in 10 years, the top two seeds met in the championship game, and this time the "two" got the "one" to become #1. Immaculate Heart saw a 14-point fourth quarter lead disintegrate to just a two-point edge in the final minute, but the Blue Eagles held on for a 44-39 win over Pascack Valley. A Lenissa Lopez basket to start the fourth quarter sent IHA up 34-20, but the Indians kept clawing back. PV had a 9-0 run to get within 38-36 with 27 seconds to go, as IHA missed three one-and-ones during the streak. Heather Zurich was 6 for 6 at the line for Valley during the run. The Eagles got a pair of free throws from Emilie Taus after she was fouled on the inbounds at :27 to go up four, but Kristen Brown had a layup to make it a two-point game again with 22 ticks on the clock. The teams traded free throws, with Tahirah Williams making one of two before Brown hit one of two with 13.5 to go. Taus made it a three-point game by hitting the first of two with 10.9 showing, but Valley got the rebound and had a chance for the tying three-pointer, only to see it go off the iron.

Vanessa Holden clinched the game with two free throws with three seconds left. Williams' 12 points were a game high, while Brown (11), Zurich (10) and Erin Thames (10, all in the second half) reached double figures for the Indians.

2005

Immaculate Heart and Pascack Valley staged a rematch of the 2004 title game, and the Blue Eagles became the first team since Holy Angels in 1999-2000 to repeat as champion with a 51-31 win. It was a game of patience for IHA, which used a controlled half court offense that not only worked for shots but prevented PV from getting the ball. The 31 points by Valley tied for the lowest total in a championship game, matching Northern Highlands (1987) and Ridgefield Park (1997). Alyssa Michella hit back to back three point field goals during a 15-0 run to end second quarter, then hit another to open the third quarter that put the Eagles up 29-6. Michella set a championship game record with four three-pointers while scoring 14 points. Tahirah Williams had 14 points 6 rebounds and 5 assists and Vanessa Holden had 11 points, 6 rebounds and 5 assists as Immaculate Heart had very balanced scoring. Their defense helped cause 20 Pascack Valley turnovers, and the Indians scored only 2 points in the second quarter. Heather Zurich had 16 of her 18 points after halftime for the Indians.

***NOTE: Two weeks after the completion of the tournament, Immaculate Heart was found to have used an ineligible player, a New York resident who had played Varsity as an eighth grader in her home town. This made her a "fifth year senior" and ineligible by NJSIAA standards. The Bergen County Women Coaches Association voted to vacate the title and not award it to runner-up Pascack Valley.

2006

In a tournament filled with upsets, Ramapo could not turn one last one, as seventh-seeded Ridgefield Park became the first Group 2 school to win the championship with a 41-33 defeat of the 13th-seeded Raiders, who were looking to be the lowest seed to ever claim the title. A defensive struggle throughout, the Scarlet held a 15-14 lead at halftime, but with Ramapo ahead 19-15, Ridgefield Park scored 13 straight third quarter points, including a pair of three-point field goals by Amber Doran, who tied a championship game record with four threes. Ramapo was within three points in the final minute before free throws sealed the win for the Scarlet. The teams combined for a championship game record 43 turnovers thanks to solid defense by both teams. Doran had 14 points and Jillian Kane 11 for RP, which won in head coach Joe Branda's final game. Lindsay Ianna topped Ramapo, which played the final without a senior in the starting lineup, with 13 points. The Raiders had won their three previous games on last second shots, knocking out the four, five and eight seeds in the process.

2007

For the second year in a row, Ramapo took the number 13 seed and turned it into a championship game appearance. The Raiders couldn't crack the win column however, as Holy Angels won its fifth title with a 39-34 victory. It was the fifth county championship in five finals appearances for the Angels, tying Ridgewood for consecutive championship game wins. The teams went back and forth for three quarters, entering the final period knotted at 28. Tayler Wejnert's three-point field goal broke the deadlock with 5:41 to go and Holy Angels never relinquished the lead. Ramapo was within 35-32 after a Lindsay Ianna steal and layup with 1:28 to go, but Kaley de Nicola hit a free throw and Wejnert hit two foul shots with 34 seconds left to put the game out of reach. Wejnert topped Holy Angels with 16 points and nine rebounds, Cara Bonito added 11 points and Krissi Gorsuch had four second half assists. Ianna scored 14 points and swiped 8 rebounds and Samantha Depken had 9 rebounds and 4 assists for the Raiders.

2008

Pascack Valley played in a record 14th championship game and won for the first time since 2001, taking a 53-43 win over Immaculate Heart. The win marked the seventh championship for the Indians and head coach Jeff Jasper, giving the long-time mentor the all-time tournament record. Thanks to a 20-10 first quarter that ended on a 13-2 Pascack run, Valley played ahead the entire game. They were up 33-13 at halftime and extended the advantage to 40-15 in the third quarter before the Blue Eagles made a frantic run to make the score respectable in the fourth quarter. The trademark Indian defense was instrumental in a number of Immaculate Heart turnovers. Rebecca Lynch had six steals and seven rebounds and Mary Beierle had four steals to lead the defense, while the Ely sisters were taking care of the offense. Maggie Ely topped Valley with 15 points and sister Sara had 14, with Terry dropping in 10. Aileen Daniels paced Immaculate Heart with 19 points.

2009

For the first time in tournament history the championship game was decided by a single point. In a battle of teams looking for their first county championship, Ramapo prevailed, 44-43, as St. Mary saw a last-second shot by Shanice Hawkins glance off the rim. It was a back-and-forth affair that saw the two combine for a championship game record 44 turnovers. Ramapo was down four, 33-29, entering the fourth quarter before Sarah Halejian drilled a baseline three-pointer with 5:33 to go. Halejian was the hot hand down the stretch, scoring 12 of her 17 points in the fourth quarter to spark the Raiders, who came into the tourney as a sixth seed. St. Mary had a chance to tie with 1:56 to go but missed a free throw. The Gaels had a second chance to tie with :04.2 left but missed the second of two free throws. Ramapo turned it over on the inbounds on a Hawkins steal, but her shot was no good. Afreyea Tolbert topped St. Mary, in its first championship game appearance, with 16 points.