

## **PREVIEW: No. 1 Bergen Catholic and No. 5 St. Peter's Prep ready for battle**

By Braulio Perez | NJ Advance Media for NJ.com

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It's going to be tough not to hear the Crusader Crazies or Marauder Nation on Saturday and rightfully so.

At 2:30 p.m. in Oradell, No. 1 Bergen Catholic will host No. 5 St. Peter's Prep in a contest featuring two of the top clubs in New Jersey.

The Crusaders are led by starting quarterback and Tennessee commit Jarrett Guarantano, while senior receivers **Kolton Huber** and Boston College commit **KJ Gray** fuel the charge for the Marauders.

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## **PREVIEW: An emotional return to the gridiron for Bergen Catholic star Jarrett Guarantano**

By Braulio Perez | NJ Advance Media for NJ.com

on September 10, 2015 9:14 AM

It was moments before Bergen Catholic stepped out on to the gridiron last week that starting quarterback Jarrett Guarantano was overcome with emotion.

Here's a superstar, who is known around the country as one of the top quarterbacks for the 2016 class. A Tennessee commit, Guarantano gave the Volunteers his verbal over more than 20 offers, including Ohio State, Rutgers, Clemson, Michigan, Penn State, Pitt, Wisconsin and many more.

With all the success the top-ranked quarterback in New Jersey had in the offseason, which included an impressive performance at the Elite 11, some people have forgotten that Guarantano's junior campaign was cut way short.

In a Big North battle vs. St. Joseph (Mont.) on Oct. 17, Guarantano suffered a fractured wrist, ending his season. Saturday's contest vs. American Heritage, a meeting the Crusaders won by a final score of 37-7, was Guarantano's first game in nearly 11 months.

“It was an emotional time for me,” Guarantano said. “I won’t lie to you, I had tears in my eyes before we walked out. Ever since I suffered that injury vs. St. Joes, I’ve been waiting for this moment. It feels incredible to be back.”

And in the season-opening victory, Guarantano looked outstanding. The senior finished with 122 passing yards and one touchdown, while adding 37 yards rushing and another score. His numbers undoubtedly would have been much higher, but with a 30-0 lead at halftime, Guarantano wasn’t used much in the final 24 minutes of play.

And Guarantano’s solid play will be needed more than ever at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday as No. 1 Bergen Catholic takes on No. 5 St. Peter’s Prep. It’s a contest Guarantano has certainly had his mind on for quite some time.

“I’m so excited that we get to play them again,” Guarantano said. “They beat us twice last year and we have to get them back. We’re ready for some revenge.”

The Crusaders will also enter that contest with plenty of confidence on their side. The team from Oradell took over the No. 1 spot on the NJ.com Top 20 following their performance last week, which Guarantano and Campanile said provided a message to the rest of the state.

“I think we played the best team out of all the other top teams,” Guarantano said. “I think us winning 37-7 really solidified what we’re trying to show this year. We have another showcase this week against St. Peter’s Prep and we’re ready to show them what we’re made of as well.”

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**Game will be live at 2:30 today.**