

Kevin Patterson: The Hard Work Pays Off

As another school year comes to an end, we reflect on months of hard work and how they have helped us grow. One ASA Alumni, Kevin Patterson, is celebrating a number of both academic and athletic accomplishments as a senior at Catholic Central. Specifically, Kevin has experienced inspiring success on the ice with the Catholic Central hockey team.

Kevin started playing hockey when he was five years old. He grew up watching his brother play and knew he wanted to play too. His final season at Catholic Central definitely looked different. Due to COVID, players were required to wear masks, follow strict locker room time limits, and limit their time with the team outside of practice and games. Kevin and his team had to find ways to adapt to such regulations, especially wearing masks during the game. Even with the restrictions, the team was off to a great start before having to take a break from practices and games due to a COVID exposure. While it was a rocky start coming back from the exposure, the team was able to get back on track for playoffs after a little hard work. Catholic Central showed great resilience and adaptation this year and ended the season by winning regionals.

Kevin also has been playing lacrosse for seven years and is finishing up his last season with Catholic Central. Lacrosse also looks different this year due to COVID. Due to the delayed start of the season, their team is playing more games in a week to fit all of them in. “Besides having a few COVID restrictions with masks and getting tested weekly, the season should hopefully still be a fun one”, Kevin said.

While having everything come to an end can be a bit sad and stressful, Kevin said, “I am excited to see that the hard work is finally paying off and I will finally have some time to relax.” Kevin is also grateful that Catholic Central is still able to provide some special senior events, despite COVID providing many regulations. The senior class has been able to attend a handful of senior class retreats and will be able to attend a senior prom this May.

The next step in Kevin’s hockey journey will continue at Calvin College in Grand Rapids next fall while studying business. He is excited to see what it will be like to play at the collegiate level and at the faster pace. As he learned through his time at ASA and Catholic Central, the next challenges will surely pay off with a little hard work.

