



CHAMPIONS! Congratulations to the Rosa boys' basketball team on their championship season!

Love Those Memes check out p. 5 for more great memes by Raptor's Roar staff members

Remember to check out page 8 for **upcoming events** including PARCC testing and Spring break.

Brain Teasers will keep you scratching your head on page 6.



INDEX

- Around the World 3
- Fish Company Comics 8-9
- Puzzles and Games 6 & 11
- Raptor's Roar Staff 12
- Upcoming Events 12
- Yakety Yak 4

Rosa Boys' Basketball Team Notches 14-0 Season!

By JT Smith
Editor-In-Chief, Grade 8

As the whole school most likely knows, for the first time in school history, the Rosa Boys' Basketball team was undefeated this season. Except for the boys, their parents and their coach, Mr. Jules Farkas, no one truly knows how hard the team actually worked to achieve an undefeated season.

So is this the greatest team in Rosa history? "Very good team," said Mr. Farkas. "It's always the most fun when (the team) is focused and having fun because that is when they really love it."

The team appeared to have a variety of

different personalities and Mr. Farkas confirmed this. "There are a mixture of kids who haven't played on a team before so they are learning how to be a good teammate. Then there are the kids who are really dedicated to the win." Mr. Farkas said everyone is encouraged to try out for the team



regardless of experience level.

The hardest day for him of the coaching year, Mr. Farkas said, is the day he has to make cuts to get down to the required number of players. "I feel terrible and I'm sure no one feels worse than the coaches do." Mr. Farkas encourages anyone who

doesn't make a team to "please continue playing and definitely try out next year."

In terms of this season's undefeated team, Mr. Farkas said, the "relationships are very strong and the boys became very close. Some of them have been good friends even before the basketball team. I truly believe that playing on a team is something they will remember forever."

Why was this year's team able to go undefeated? "They played as a team, not as individual stars and they had excellent outside shooting," said Mr. Farkas. "They refused to lose." And, as a result of that tenacity, the Rosa Boys' Basketball Team made school history. Congratulations!

Spring Break Right Here In New Jersey

Spring break means sunshine and outdoor fun. But if a trip to Florida or the Caribbean is not in your family's plan this season, a low-key getaway that's closer to home is an ideal way to welcome warmer weather.

From New Jersey beach towns to campgrounds and indoor water parks and resorts, we've found the best options for fun family destinations right here in the Garden State. And if you're looking for a shorter jaunt minus the overnight stay, check out our guide to New Jersey family day trips. But don't forget we just profiled some pretty cool family

travel deals too!

Most New Jersey schools are on spring break in mid-April, when weather in the northeast can be unpredictable: Too chilly for outdoor swimming, yet too warm to stay cooped up inside all week. My family once drove to Washington, D.C., in 75-degree sunshine to see the cherry blossoms, only to get drenched later in a freezing downpour. So dress everyone in layers and plan a mix of indoor and outdoor fun for the whole family.

North Jersey
Crystal Springs Resort—Hamburg

When it's too warm for skiing and too chilly for outdoor swimming, this resort's tropical indoor pool oasis is the place to be. Featuring an underground aquarium, huge waterslide, and hot tub all surrounded by lush foliage, the Biosphere Pool Complex is a winner with families staying at the resort. Dining options range from café fare to the upscale Restaurant Latour, which boasts an award-winning wine cellar. Though the golf courses are not scheduled to open until May, hiking,

see p. 2