

BY HEATHER HARGRAVE

NEW TRADITION

Berchmans Academy Saints Football

The 2014-15 school year was a year of firsts for Berchmans Academy of the Sacred Heart in Grand Coteau. One of the biggest was the inaugural season of 8-man football where the Saints finished third in the league with a 4-2 record. Berchmans Academy started this season with an undefeated 4-0 record.



/// Senior, All-State Running Back Grant Hunter breaks outside against assembly Christian.

ACEL (The Association of Christian Educators of Louisiana) teams are not eligible to participate in the playoffs the first year of their programs, but the Saints are ready to compete for the state title for the 2015 season. With a 21-man roster, the team has plenty of depth to run a variety of offensive formations and keep fresh players on the field.

The team is led by head coach Mark Aune. The Saints coaching staff is rounded out by Will Delhomme and Matt Chaisson, Jr.

Seventy percent of students in grades 9-12 participate in the football program and even more participate in jobs off the field. There are student statisticians, videographers and photographers, and many younger students



/// The Saints offense works as a unit to create running room.



/// Berchmans Academy was 7-0 when they lost Grant Hunter (26) to a season-ending knee injury.

are team managers. This allows the tradition of the close community culture at Sacred Heart to be continued.

Berchmans Academy joined the ACEL league last year in order to provide more athletic opportunities at the varsity level. One of the benefits of the ACEL is that students who transfer from other schools do not have to wait

for eligibility to continue playing. This allows students to transfer to Berchmans, the only single gender school for boys in the Acadiana area, where they can immerse themselves in the rigorous academic program.

Berchmans provides and still enjoys traditional athletics such as football, basketball, and baseball. ///