



SECTION VI *newsletter*

January 2009

Volume 15 Issue 3

N.Y.S. PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

Next Athletic Council Meeting

January 21, 2009

Lunch 11:00 am – Meeting begins at 11:30 am
Erie 1 BOCES Education Campus, 355 Harlem Rd., W.Seneca, Building B, Room B2b

ACTION ITEMS:

- Section VI Budget 2009-2010
- Federating girls lacrosse
- Transportation Policy Update
- Approvals for Combining Schools for 2008-09
- Approvals for Senior All-Star and Outside Agency Contests

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- Recommendations from the State Fiscal Concerns Committee
- Updates to the Section VI By-Laws

SOUTHWESTERN ACHIEVES STATE CHAMPIONSHIP IN BOTH ATHLETICS AND ACADEMICS!!

The New York State Public High School Athletic Association and Section VI are proud to announce that the Southwestern Football Team is the leader in New York State for not only excellence on the field but excellence in the classroom. The Trojans culminated their 2008 football season with a Class C State Championship, the first state championship in any team sport at Southwestern. The team's motto "Be in Balance" is exemplified with their achievement of state championship in



CONGRATULATIONS SCHOLAR/ATHLETES AND STATE CHAMPS!!

NYSPHSAA SCHOLAR/ATHLETE TEAM AWARDS FALL 2008 STATE CHAMPIONS

SCHOOL (SECTION)	SPORT	GPA
West Seneca West (6)*	Girls Volleyball	97.964
Southwestern (6)*	Football	95.427
Cold Spring Harbor (8)	Boys Soccer	97.000
Wheatley (8)	Field Hockey	97.101
Jericho (8)	Girls Swimming & Diving	98.752
Smithtown East (11)	Girls Tennis	98.611
Smithtown West (11)	Girls Soccer	97.667
Smithtown East & West (11)	Boys Cross Country	99.250
Smithtown East & West (11)	Girls Cross Country	99.571

**see page 6*

*Congratulations To All The
Section VI Fall Scholar/Athlete Team Award Winners
(listed on pages 12-13)*

SECTION VI 2008 FALL SPORTS STATE CHAMPIONS

(articles on page 3-11)

Girls Swimming

100 Yard Freestyle – Marissa Dressel, Kenmore West

Cross Country

- Girls Class B Team Champ – East Aurora
- Boys Class A – Joe Whalen, Hamburg
- Girls Class B Champ – Brenna Symoniak, Amherst

Boys Gymnastics

- The Section VI Team
- All-Around - Jonathan Zirna, Clarence
- Floor Exercise – Noah Roberson, Williamsville South
- Pommel Horse – Jonathan Zirna, Clarence
- Still Rings – Jonathan Zirna, Clarence
- Vault – Eric Niedermeier, Clarence
- Parallel Bars – Nathaniel Roberson, Williamsville South
- High Bar – Nathaniel Roberson, Williamsville South

Football

- Orchard Park – Class AA
- Sweet Home – Class A
- Southwestern – Class C
- Maple Grove – Class D

Girls Volleyball

- Class C – Salamanca
- Class D – Portville

Boys Volleyball

- Class A – Orchard Park

academics as well. The Southwestern football team had an overall GPA of 95.427. This is the 2nd year in a row that the Football Team has achieved this honor!

NYSPHSAA reported that the only 6 teams have achieved the State Championships in both their Sport and Academics in the 18 year history of the program. They include Suffern Boys Cross

Country in 1999-00, New Hartford Ice Hockey in 1996-97, Sandy Creek Softball in 2003-04, New Hartford Boys Soccer (co-champs) 2004-05, Cold Spring Harbor Boys Lacrosse 2005-06 and this year Southwestern Football 2008-09.

The Scholar/Athlete Team Award Program, begun in 1991 has been co-sponsored by The Pupil Benefits Plan, Inc. since 1995.

355 Harlem Road • West Seneca, NY 14224 • (716)821-7299 • (716) 821-7365 • Fax (716) 821-7352
Email address: cszczesny@e1b.org

This Newsletter is available at our Web site: www.section.e1b.org

NEWS FROM THE STATE OFFICE

FISCAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

On December 8th members of the Fiscal Concerns Ad Hoc Committee held a telephone conference call meeting to discuss ways the NYSPHSAA could assist member schools, leagues/conferences and Sections to reduce costs while maintaining quality interscholastic athletic programs for all students in grades 7-12. After considerable discussion on the merits and feasibility of each of the suggestions, the members of the committee unanimously reached consensus on the following items for consideration by the NYSPHSAA Executive Committee:

1. Supporting the use of telephone conference calls and video conferencing for NYSPHSAA meetings to reduce the travel reimbursement costs for the NYSPHSAA and Sections.
2. Support the use of officials from the host section at all NYSPHSAA regional contests. Officials at semi final and final contests will be reviewed in the future.
3. Support a moratorium on the expansion of NYSPHSAA tournaments as it pertains to participation.
4. Support the use of centralized sites for all NYSPHSAA Championship competition.
5. Support the reduction of the maximum number of contests permitted during the regular season. Sports with 24 contests be reduced to 20, sports with 20 contests be reduced to 18 and sports with 18 contests be reduced to 16. Wrestling would be reduced to 19 points (5 tournaments) and football would be reduced by one contest. Junior Varsity and Freshmen programs would be reduced by two (2) additional contests and the modified program would be reduced by two contests.
6. Support the reduction of the number of classes and divisions in team and individual NYSPHSAA championship competition.
7. Support the reduction of participants in NYSPHSAA Championships in individual and combination (team/individual) sports.
8. Support the reduction of tournaments (multi

school competition) for team and individual sports.

9. Support the establishment of a maximum number of scrimmages permitted by a team to: Varsity, JV and freshmen – 2 scrimmages and Modified – 1 scrimmage.
10. Support the reduction of Central/Executive Committee meetings to three per year. (Constitutional change)
11. Support the establishment of a team travel restriction for all member schools limiting out of state team travel to competition with bordering states only.
12. Support the establishment of a moratorium on the following NYSPHSAA (mandated) workshops such as Safety, Life of an Athlete, Sportsmanship and Chemical Health workshops.
13. Support eliminating participation in the NFHS Student Leadership Conference.

QUESTIONS and comments regarding these recommendations in Section 6 can be directed to Section 6 committee member Mark Ward at mward@eville.wnyric.org or 699-2368.

POSTPONED ITEMS FROM NYSPHSAA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- Redefining a scrimmage to be a practice competition.
- Eliminating Friends & Neighbor status at the high school level

ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (JANUARY 30)

Modified - Mercy rule experiment in baseball and softball.

Safety - Collect data on injuries to head and neck area in girls lacrosse.

Softball - Super Regional in Classes B&C for Sections 1,8,9 & 11. Increase student athlete

roster size from 20 to 23 and bench personnel from 4 to 6 to equal baseball.

Baseball - Tied and Suspended game rule.

Girls Lacrosse - Increase student athlete roster size from 25 –35 to equal boys lacrosse.

Boys Tennis - To increase medals to award places 3-6 to equal girls tennis.

Girls Tennis - To permit coaching on the court at championship, but no cheering.

Boys and Girls Tennis - The student athlete's certified high school coach must be present at NYSPHSAA Championship events.

Boys Volleyball - The use of NCAA Volleyball

CITIZENSHIP THROUGH ATHLETICS COURSE

February 4, 2009 at the NYSPHSAA Office. NO REGISTRATION FEE. Materials and lunch will be provided. To register contact: Todd Nelson at 518-690-0771 or tnelson@nysphsaa.org

COACHING CLINICS

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| January 16 | Softball @ Field of Dreams, Utica |
| January 30 | Lacrosse @ SUNY Cortland |
| February 27 | Baseball @ Hall of Fame |
| March 6 | Field Hockey @ Field of Dreams Utica |
| March 27-28 | Cross Country & Track & Field @ Syracuse Holiday Inn at Carrier Circle |

JANUARY 2009 CALENDAR

- | | |
|-------|--|
| 15 | Handbook Committee Conference Call 9:30 AM |
| 16 | Championship Advisory Committee 9:00 AM |
| 20 | Fiscal Concerns Ad Hoc Committee Conference Call 9:00 AM |
| 30/31 | Executive Committee |

UPCOMING MANDATORY WORKSHOPS

Life of an Athlete Year 5: Stakeholder Unity 8:30- noon

Safety Workshop 1:00-4:00

May 11, 2009 at Erie 1 BOCES, 355 Harlem Rd. West Seneca, NY 14224

Section VI will be hosting the mandatory workshops for Athletic Directors: Life of an Athlete Year 5 and the Safety Workshop. Attendance is mandatory for Athletic Directors (or a designee). Details are being finalized and will be forwarded by the Section office in late January. Athletic Directors will be asked to pre-register in April.

Section VI is sponsoring Mr. John Underwood, Founder and Director of the American Athletic Institute, in cooperation with the New York State Public High School Athletic Association and the NYS Chemical Health Committee, to conduct the workshop for the final year of the 5-Year Program entitled "Life of an Athlete - Stakeholder Unity"

This fifth and final step in Life of an Athlete is to ensure that all members of the community take stake in eliminating drug and alcohol use among youth. Only by coordinating our efforts and empowering all stakeholders to take a "many messengers with the same message" approach can we ensure that individuals receive that message. This is our culminating year during which school districts will assess the entire athletic program. Strengths, limitations, good, bad, what's right and wrong, will be examined to make recommendations for the future of athletics and athletes in your community. Our pilot school district for this program garnered incredible amounts of information as well as trends good and bad that must be addressed. This process will establish priorities for school districts to maintain strengths and improve limitations.

The culminating year of the Life of an Athlete program is centered around stakeholder unity. Our goal is to allow all stakeholders to have an opportunity to give their views and perspectives of the athletic program. This process allows the most important aspect of success to set a course for excellence and that is communication. This is a survey oriented program that examines all aspects of your programs.

If you take the time to gather information and share it with all stakeholders, you will find that the vast majority will support any measures to deter and reduce social drug use by student athletes and support programs of excellence. The materials provided in this workshop can provide that critical information. Just like we have told our athletes "it's not just what you do, but what you don't do... It's not just the positives that increase success, it's reducing the negatives..."

Nominations Being Accepted

Section VI is currently accepting nominations for Fall Sport Chairperson positions. Any member in good standing of the professional staff of a member school may serve as a Sport Chairperson. Appointments will be made at the Athletic Council meeting in May. The Fall Chairpersons will be appointed for a three-year term to expire June 30, 2012. Current nominees are:

Cross Country-B: Mike Janisch,
Cross Country-G: James Zubler

Field Hockey: Judy Otto

Football: Chuck Funke, Football Asst.: Chuck Amo

Gymnastics-B: Joe Buscaglia,
Gymnastics-G: Donna Aquino

Soccer-B: Two nominees 1) Art Jaspe 2) Todd Marquardt

Soccer-B Asst.: Patrick Anderson

Soccer-G: Chris Durr, Soccer-G Asst.: Joanna Fildes

Swimming-G: Bruce Johnson,
Tennis-G: Dave Coates

Volleyball-B: Walt Stefani, Volleyball-G: Debby Schrufer & Sue Pernick (as co-chairs)

Please forward all nominations to the Section VI office, 355 Harlem Rd., West Seneca, NY 14224
cszczesny@e1b.org



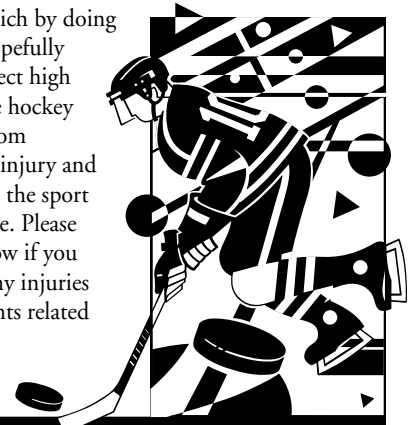
Dates to Remember 2009



Jan. 7	Sectional/Intersectional Committee meeting on Distance Learning	March 6	Deadline for Winter Scholar/Athlete Team Award Applications	May 3	NYS Officials Coordinators Federation spring meeting – Holiday Inn, Carrier Circle East Syracuse
Jan. 14	Pre-Season Meeting for Spring Sport Chairs at Erie 1 BOCES, W.Seneca, room B2a	March 11	Section VI office open for Photo ID's until 6:00 pm by appointment only	May 10	Good Sports Assessments forwarded to NYSPHSAA
Jan. 21	Athletic Council meeting, 11:30 am at Erie 1 BOCES, W.Seneca	March 18-20	NYSAAA Annual Conference	May 11	MANDATORY WORKSHOPS for Athletic Directors at Erie 1 BOCES, W.Seneca:
Jan. 16	Executive Committee meeting, 9:30 am at Erie 1 BOCES, W.Seneca	March 25	Athletic Council meeting, 11:30 am at Erie 1 BOCES, W.Seneca	8:30am-noon	Life of an Athlete Year 5 – Stakeholder Unity
Jan. 16	Softball Coaching Clinic at Field of Dreams Utica	March 27-28	XC/Track & Field Coaching Clinic at Syracuse Holiday Inn at Carrier Circle	1:00-4:00	Safety Workshop
Jan. 26-29	Regents Examinations	April TBA	Post Season Meeting - Winter Sports	May 15	Deadline for NYSPHSAA Spring Scholar/Athlete Team Award Applications
Jan. 30	Lacrosse Coaching Clinic at SUNY Cortland	April 15	Deadline for online Good Sports Assessments (& hard-copy to Section Sportsmanship Chair Doug Ames)	May 15	Deadline for Section VI Spring Scholar/ Athlete All-WNY Individual Award
Jan. 30-31	NYSPHSAA Executive Committee Meeting, Regency or Holiday Inn, Binghamton	April 21	Finance Committee Meeting – Section VI office	May 20	Athletic Council meeting, 11:30 am at Erie 1 BOCES, W.Seneca
Feb. 10	Finance Committee Meeting – Section VI office	April 22	Executive Committee Meeting, Distance Learning	Executive Committee meeting, 9:30 am at Erie 1 BOCES, W.Seneca	Soccer Coaching Clinic location TBA
Feb. 25	Executive Committee Meeting, Distance Learning sites TBA	April 27	Sectional/Intersectional Committee meeting	May 29	Good Sports Assessments: State & Section award winners selected
Feb. 27	Baseball Coaching Clinic at Hall of Fame, Cooperstown	May TBA	Volleyball Coaching Clinic	May 30	Executive Committee Meeting, Distance Learning sites TBA
March 1	Deadline for All-WNY Winter Scholar Athlete applications to the Section office	May 1-2	State Executive Committee Meeting, Holiday Inn Carrier Circle - Syracuse	June 17	Regents Examinations
March 4	Sectional/Intersectional Committee meeting, Distance Learning			June 16-25	State Central Committee Meeting, Crowne Plaza, Lake Placid
March 6	Field Hockey Coaching Clinic, Field of Dreams, Utica			Aug. 4-6	

Ice Hockey Helmet Recall

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission has issued a press release (12/2/08) "Hazard: The helmet's chinstrap can unexpectedly disengage while in use. If this happens, the helmet can fall off, posing a head and neck injury risk to consumers." It also notes that this involves "about 1,000 units," and that no incidents or injuries have been reported thus far. From the NFHS rules perspective, Rule 3-4-7 states: "An immediate whistle must be blown when a player's helmet or face mask becomes dislodged during play. That player must leave the ice for equipment adjustment and cannot return until after play resumes." The penalty is a minor penalty. While no injuries for this particular helmet have been reported thus far, we want to do everything we can to ensure that remains the case. With those thoughts in mind, we wanted to first of all simply bring this to your attention. Second, we would encourage you to share this press release and this information with your member high schools if you are so inclined. We appreciate your assistance in this effort to inform schools of this recall, which by doing so will hopefully help protect high school ice hockey players from potential injury and help keep the sport injury-free. Please let us know if you hear of any injuries or incidents related to this.



ERIE 1 BOCES COACHING COURSE SCHEDULE - FALL/WINTER 2008-09

Coaching Certification Director:

Phil Coyle (W) 821-7530 (C) 913-7120 (Fax) 821-7409 (Sect) 821-7091

Additional courses are posted → <http://www.section.e1b.org/> click on the *Bulletin Board*

PHILOSOPHY, PRINCIPLES & ORGANIZATION OF ATHLETICS

CHUCK AMO

January 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 22, 27, 29/February 3, 5, 2009
6:00 pm-10:30 pm
Tuesdays & Thursdays

Hamburg H.S.
4111 Legion Drive, Room 216
Hamburg, NY 14075
\$165.00

Registration Deadline: December 29, 2008

THEORY & TECHNIQUES OF COACHING

CHUCK AMO

March 3, 5, 10, 12, 17, 2009/Last date TBD by instructor
6:30 pm-10:00 pm
Tuesdays & Thursdays

Hamburg H.S.
4111 Legion Drive, Room 216
Hamburg, NY 14075
\$165.00

Registration Deadline: February 26, 2009

PHILOSOPHY, PRINCIPLES & ORGANIZATION OF ATHLETICS

CHRIS DEMARCO

March 3, 5, 10, 12, 24, 26, 31/April 2, 6, 8, 2009
6:00 pm-10:30 pm
Tuesdays & Thursdays (Note: Monday 4/6 & Wednesday 4/8)

Sweet Home H.S.
1901 Sweet Home Road, Rm 501
Amherst, NY 14228
\$165.00

Registration Deadline: February 25, 2009

HEALTH SCIENCE APPLIED TO COACHING

CHRIS KAPLAN

April 20, 22, 27, 29/May 4, 6, 11, 13, 18, 20, 2009
plus balance of this course (15 hours) will be taught online.
6:30 pm-9:30 pm
Mondays & Wednesdays

Maryvale H.S.
1050 Maryvale Drive
Alumni Hall
Cheektowaga, NY 14225
\$165.00

Registration Deadline: April 8, 2009

FOR FIRST AID & CPR CONTACT:

1. Sharon Barley 574-8254
2. American Red Cross - Safety Services 886-7500
3. Athletic Care - Karen Roehling 238-3742

CHILD ABUSE: Patricia Riegler 822-3333

SAVE - Violence: Robert Carlson 821-7553

ERIE 2-CHAUTAUQUA-CATTARAUGUS BOCES COACHING COURSE SCHEDULE - WINTER 2008-09

716-672-4371 ext. 2062

Additional information is posted → <http://e2ccboces.wnyric.org/programs/intercoach.html>

PHILOSOPHY, PRINCIPLES AND ORGANIZATION OF ATHLETICS IN EDUCATION

January 5, 7, 12, 14, 21, 26, 28, Feb. 2, 4, 2009
6:00 pm - 10:00 pm
Instructor: John Bogardus

HEALTH SCIENCE APPLIED TO COACHING

February 23, 25, March 2, 4, 9, 11, 16, 18, 2009
6:00 pm - 10:00 pm
Instructor: Marty Hemmer

THEORY AND TECHNIQUES OF COACHING

April 6, 7, 8, 9, 2009
6:00 pm - 10:00 pm
Instructor: Marty Hemmer

ADULT CPR/AED

Session A: January 22, 2009
6:00pm - 10:00 pm

Session B: February 9, 2009
6:00pm - 10:00 pm

FIRST AID SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE UPDATE

February 3 & 5, 2009
6:00 pm - 10:00 pm

FIRST AID SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

February 9,10,11,12, 2009
6:00 pm - 10:00 pm

ONLINE

PHILOSOPHY, PRINCIPLES AND ORGANIZATION OF ATHLETICS IN EDUCATION ONLINE

January 6, 2009 - May 3, 2009

THEORY & TECHNIQUE OF COACHING ONLINE

January 13, 2009 - April 30, 2009

HEALTH SCIENCE APPLIED TO COACHING ONLINE

January 13, 2009 - April 30, 2009

2008-2009 Section VI Directory Updates

Please mark the following changes (noted in bold) on the appropriate pages of your directory. Page #

- 2 October State Executive Committee Meeting is October **19-20**
- 3 Chaut League Secretary-Treas, **Dan Cassidy, Gowanda**
dcassidy@gowcsd.wnyric.org
532-3325 x6003, fax 995-2108
- 4 ECIC Superintendent Rep, Ron DeCarli, Frontier, rdecarli@frontier.wnyric.org,
926-1711 fax 926-1767
- 5 Boys Bowling, Dan Kaplan:
686-3601 x3183
- 5 Art Jasper S: **807-3620**
- 10 ADD: Newspaper **Chautauqua Star, Contact Jason Sample, Jason.sample@maytumcompany.com, 366-9200, fax 366-9201**
- 14 (also page 16) Amherst Secretary: Paula Jasinski
pjaskinski@amherst.k12.ny.us 362-3021
- 19 Cattaraugus/ Little Valley Superintendent: **Jon Peterson**
jpeterson@cattlv.wnyric.org
- 22 Dunkirk HS new principal: **Paul Lyons**
pylons@dunkirk.wnyric.org;
Wrestling coach: Joe McMurdy
- 26 Frontier AD Secretary – **Kris Passinault**
kpassinault@frontier.wnyric.org
926-1704
- 27 Grover Cleveland Principal: Casey Young
cyoung@buffaloschools.org
- 32 Lewiston Porter Superintendent: R.Christopher Roser roserc@lew-port.com
- 33 MTS@ Seneca coaches:
Basketball (G) James McCarthy,
Softball TBA & Tennis (B) TBA
- 35 Niagara Falls Superintendent: Cynthia Bianco cbianco@nfschools.net
- 37 Orchard Park High School Principal: **Jon Wolf jwolf@opschools.org**
- 37 Orchard Park AD office **209-6208**
- 38 Portville new Superintendent **Tom Simon**
tsimon@portville.wnyric.org
- 38 Randolph Superintendent: **Kimberly Moritz**
kmoritz@rand.wnyric.org
Website: **www.randolphcsd.org**
- 40 Salamanca Girls Volleyball coaches: **Tom Roof and Colleen Wiedman**
- 41 Springville Superintendent: **Vicki Wright**
vwright@springvillegi.org
- 45 Williamsville South Principal: **Dan Ljiljanich DLjiljanich@williamsvilleK12.org**
- 47 Group #4: New President **Thomas Singer, 9013 Military Rd., Niagara Falls 14304**
TSinger@franklintraffic.com or
TWSinger@verizon.net (H) 283-5552, (C) 523-2874, (W) 731-5116 x328
- 48 Group #8 Bob Miske's new email address: **bmiske@roadrunner.com**

Update - Central Management and Assigning of Officials in TheArbiter

Section VI is now into the second year of coordinating the efforts of centralized management and assigning of sports officials through TheArbiter. In the North, where officials are shared by multiple leagues, winter sports were successfully assigned by the league assigners. In the South, sports assigners have successfully used TheArbiter to assign basketball and wrestling.

New for this year, the Section VI Girls Soccer chairperson successfully piloted the assignment of officials for sectional competition in TheArbiter. Also, the Ice hockey Federation schedule was entered into the system and officials required to register on-line. For the spring, boys lacrosse will be assigned in thearbiter by the NFLOA's new assigner Tom Sutton. Baseball and softball for ECIC, Buffalo and MM will be assigned by G.Neunder using the WNYUA arbiter account in 2009 and the Section 6 account in 2010.

All assigners are commended for their efforts and accomplishments!!

Reminder: All officials, assigners and Athletic Directors must comply with the Section 6 Timeline below.

Officials: All assignments for sports in Section 6 will be made using ONLY the officials that are signed-in to the Arbiter. **All spring sports officials must sign-in and update their availability on TheArbiter by January 30 in order to receive assignments!!!** A Reminder (with instructions) will be emailed to spring officials January 16.



2008-2009 SECTION 6 TIMELINE FOR SCHEDULES AND ASSIGNMENTS

NOTE: The dates for Chautauqua and Cattaraugus Counties are 2 weeks delayed.

* Dates in the timeline for officials are standard across the Section.

	Spring
Final schedules complete including non-league games Import of schedules to TheArbiter begins	Fri. Jan 16, 2009
Officials registered in the arbiter and availability entered	Fri. Jan. 30, 2009
Final date: ALL schedules must be imported to TheArbiter	Fri. Feb. 6, 2009
Varsity & JV (& S.Tier mod wrest) assignments begin	Mon. Feb. 9, 2009
Publish date for spring sports assignments will be sport - specific	TBA

East Aurora Girls Cross Country

By Coach Walt McLaughlin

The East Aurora Girls XC Team as pictured are from left to right: Marta McLaughlin, Erin Crawford, Megan Hulton, Kirsten Weberg, Ashley Beyer, Catherine Phillips, and Sarah Mars. The team was undefeated this season winning all of their invitationals and their ECIC and Section VI Championships for the 8th consecutive year. Their team time at Sectionals was the second fastest team time ever run on the course. They won the New York State Class B Championship for the 4th straight year and went on to place 5th at the Federation Championship Meet.



The All Western New York Runners of the Year were: Kirsten - 12th grade, Catherine - 11th grade, Megan - 10th grade, Marta - 7th grade. Kirsten, Catherine, Erin, and Megan were Section VI First Team All Stars. Marta was 2nd teamer and Sarah and Ashley were honorable mention. Congratulations on a great season!

CONGRATULATIONS

Section VI Fall Scholar/Athletes State Champions!!

Section VI is pleased to congratulate the Southwestern Football Team and the West Seneca West Girls Volleyball Team for achieving the State Scholar/Athlete Championship for fall sports!

Southwestern Football- 2008 State Champion with a team GPA of 95.427

The Southwestern Trojan Football team capped their 2008 season with a Class C State Championship and the New York State Academic Championship. It was the finest season in school history and the first state championship in any team sport at Southwestern. This year's team motto was "Be in Balance". The Trojans stayed

true to that statement as the team played excellent football in all phases of the game. The balanced carried over into the classroom and also into several community service projects during the year. The team was led by several strong senior leaders Andy Lata, Dan Imfeld, and Eric Mazgaj and inspiring underclassmen Zack Sopak, Jasen

Carlson, Levi Bursch.

This is the 4th Scholar Athlete State Championship that Southwestern High School has received. It is the 2nd year in a row for the Football Team. Southwestern Boys Golf team won the award in spring 2007 and spring 2008.



West Seneca West Girls Volleyball - 2008 State Champion with a team GPA of 97.964

The West Seneca West Girls Varsity Volleyball Team excelled on the court and in the classroom. The team was named the New York State Fall 2008 Scholar Athlete Team Champion in Girls Volleyball after compiling a 97.964 cumulative

average. Pictured are (Front row, from right to left,) Allison Altman, Alicia Roskwitalski, Sara Janovic, Taylor Jaszka, Ashley Hoffmann, Sarah Cleversley, Jenna Cleversley, Amanda Kosicki, and West Seneca Schools Athletic Director Timm Slade

(back row) West Seneca West Assistant Principal John Brinker, Head Coach Molly McDermid, Kelly Flatley, Michelle Christie, Molly Minkiewicz, Bridget Bowman, Kaitlin Orcutt, and Colleen Bowman.



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR STATE SCHOLAR ATHLETE CHAMPIONS !!!

Orchard Park clinches the NYSPHSAA Boys Volleyball Regional Championship

The undefeated (34-0) Orchard Park High School Boys Volleyball Team clinched the New York State Regional Championship, held in Syracuse, New York on November 8, 2008. They played against top teams in New York State: Burnt Hills – Ballston Lake High School, Suffern High School, Cicero-North Syracuse High School, and Penfield High School.

Orchard Park High School's boy's volleyball team, coached by Walt Stefani and Matt Lexner, went 8-0 in pool play to qualify for the Regional State Final against Burnt Hills. The intensity of the final match could be felt in the first game as Burnt Hills poured it on but couldn't match the fire power of Orchard Park, ending at 26-24. During the next two games (best of five), Orchard Park put on a solid display of hitting power and defensive skills that thwarted the Burnt Hills offense, winning by 25-17 and 25-18. Burnt Hills could not answer the multi-faceted attack from Orchard Park, nor the extreme jump serving that pounded them relentlessly. Many in attendance felt that the 2008 Orchard Park team was one of the finest high school volleyball teams that have played in the history of the State Regional Championships.

Team captains, Mike Stefani (Ohio State recruit), Pat Schwagler (Princeton University recruit), and Tom Comfort (undecided), led the team to the state regional title. Tom Comfort received the "Sportsmanship" award from the NYSPHSAA for Orchard Park High School – the second year in a row. The captains received tremendous support from Shane Cassell (libero), Jake Breindel and Kevin Brouillard (middle blockers), and Troy Nowak (setter). The team played an inspired, focused match to overcome the strong challenge from Burnt Hills, who had won the title in 2007 against Orchard Park.

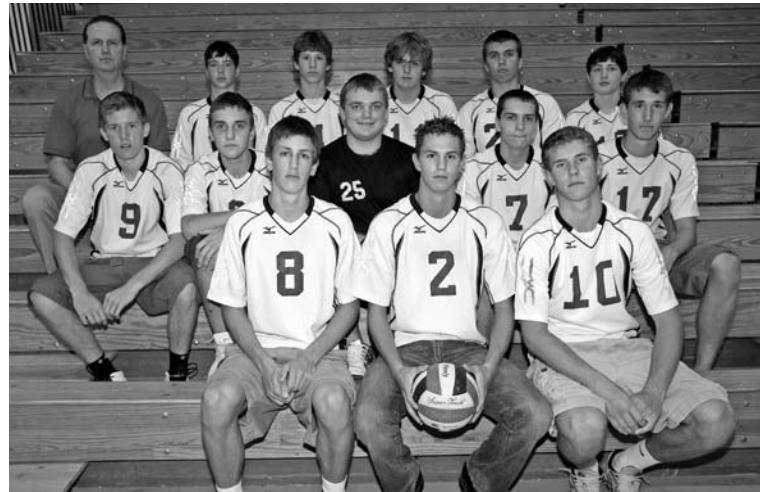
Prior to the match, Coach Stefani addressed his team with a statement, "... boys take what is given to them; men take what they want... now go get what you want – the State Title!" Throughout the final match, Coach Stefani quoted Buffalo Bills' Hall of Fame coach Marv Levy, "Where would you rather be than right here, right now?" Coach Lexner did an excellent job scouting the Burnt Hills team, and keeping the Orchard Park boys focused on a game plan that attacked Burnt Hills' vulnerable rotations.

Looking back at the 2008 year, the Orchard Park team has had many distinctions:

- Clarence Tournament Champions
- Eden Tournament Champions
- Webster Tournament Champions
- Orchard Park Tournament Champions
- ECIC Division I Champions
- Section VI Class A Champions
- New York State Regional Volleyball Champions
- Western New York No 1 Ranking in the Coaches Bowl
- Undefeated Season: Divisional Record 12-0; Overall Record 34-0

This is the second time in which Orchard Park High School has had an undefeated volleyball season. In 1991, Orchard Park posted an undefeated season (25-0), winning every divisional and non divisional game, all the western New York tournaments, the Section VI Class A Championship, the ECIC Division I Championship, and the New York State Regional Volleyball Championship.

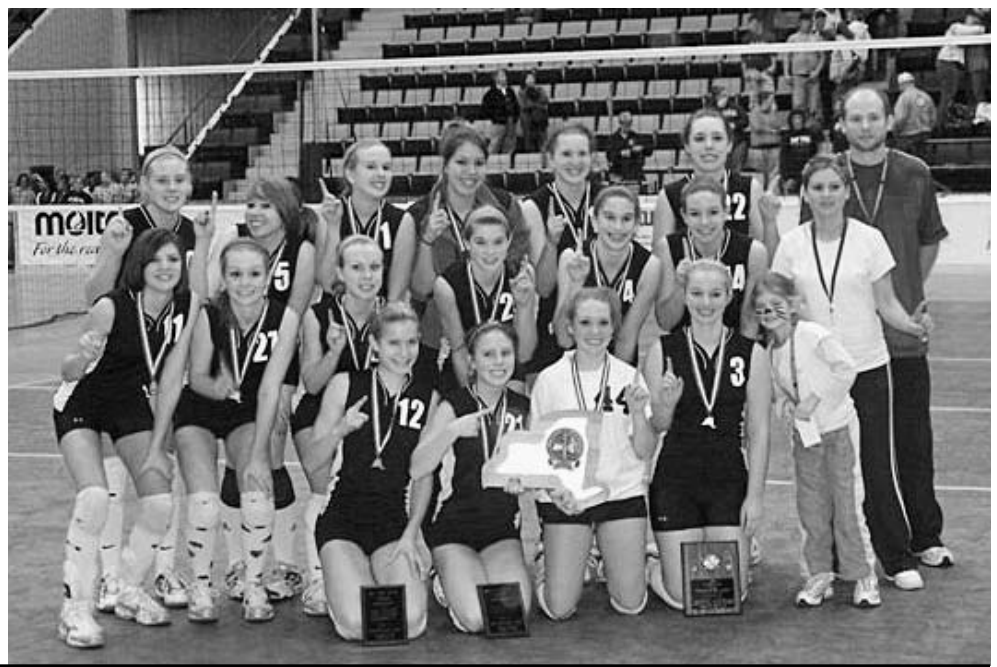
Today, the Orchard Park Volleyball Team has an unusual distinction in western New York. Not only are they State Regional Champions in 2008, their varsity coaches, Walt Stefani and Matt Lexner were named 2008 Western New York Varsity Coach of the Year, and the school's J.V. coach, Chris Clark, was named 2008 Western New York Junior Varsity Coach of the Year. This is Coach Stefani's 7th time (since 1978) and Coach Lexner's 2nd time (since 2001) receiving the award.



Lady Panther Volleyball Portville...State Champs!

By Alexis Jordan

The Lady Panthers have had a lot of success this year. The ladies were the number five seed at the end of season play and went on to play Randolph, the number four seed, and Forestville, the number one seed, which allowed the ladies to play in the sectional title game against Panama. After winning the sectional title, which was the first time in twenty seven years, the ladies traveled to Geneseo Community College to play Gananda in the far west regional. The ladies had won this game which gave them the opportunity to go to states. On November 14th the ladies had left school at 8:15 to head to Glens Falls for the state championship. On that Saturday the ladies participated in a tournament play where they had come out undefeated. On Sunday at 10:00 a.m., the ladies played Chateaugay in four games and won 25-22, 25-21, 14-25, 29-27. This is the first time ever that Portville has won a state championship. On October 20th, Portville honored their four senior captains, Lindsey Olson, Alexis Jordan, Brianne Starks, and Demi Kauppenin. The team is coached by Aaron Decker. Good Job Ladies in all that you have accomplished!



Amherst's Symoniak Claims Class B Girls State Cross Country Title

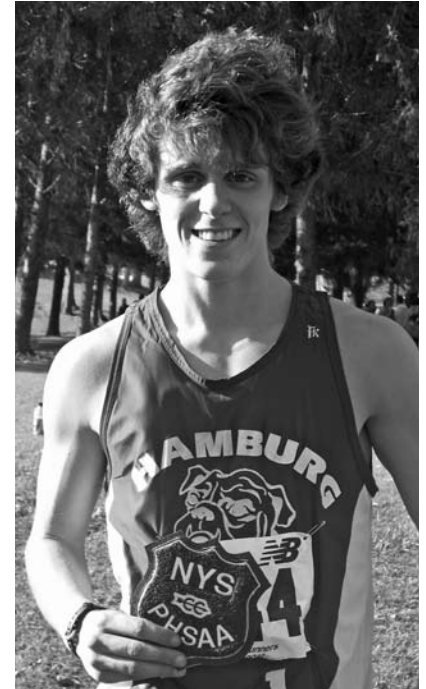
Brenna Symoniak, a junior at Amherst High School, was the top female runner in WNY in the 2008 season. She was undefeated in division meets, won 5 invitational meets, and was first overall in the ECIC Divisional Championship meet. Brenna won the Section VI B school race and had the best time of the day overall. She went on to take the State Championship in the B school division in the New York State Meet at Sunken Meadows in Section XI with a time of 18:50.6. Brenna is coached by Bob O'Donnell.



Joe Whelan, Hamburg XC Class A State Champ

By Ronald A. Fortuna, Hamburg Boys Cross Country Coach

Winning the 2008 NYS Class A State Cross Country Championship was especially satisfying for Joe Whelan. Last year Joe was forced to watch his team at the State Championship Meet from the sidelines wearing a cast after suffering a broken foot at the Section VI Championship Meet. Despite a complete fracture of his foot at the mid-way point of the race, Joe finished 3rd enabling his team to win the Section VI title. With renewed vigor and a healed foot, Joe made his first comeback in Outdoor Track placing 2nd in the Steeple Chase at the State Championship Meet. Yet, he faced another setback with a knee injury while training over the summer for the 2008 Cross Country season. With perseverance and patience he made his second comeback by first winning the Suffolk County Officials Invitational at Sunken Meadows Long Island followed by wins at ECICs, Sectionals. Joe then won the Class A State Championship with a 26 second margin of victory, achieving a goal he made 5 seasons earlier at his first State appearance as an 8th grader. Since winning the State title, Joe has represented New York by placing 3rd at the Footlocker Northeastern Regionals held at Van Cortland Park, NYC, and then placing 9th at Nationals held in San Diego, California.



Joe Whelan Statistics:

- * Qualified for State Championship Meet 5 times (Class A)
 - * 3 time Section VI Champion
 - * Top Hamburg runner 5 consecutive years
- 2008 * ECIC Champion, Section VI Champion, NYS Class "A" State Champion; * 3rd at Footlocker Northeastern Regionals - Time 15:38 (5k) (top NY runner); 9th at Footlocker Nationals - Time 15:44 (5k) 2nd Team All American; * Captain, Director's Key (Most Distinguished Hamburg XC Award)
- 2007 * Qualified for States, but broke his foot at Sectional Championship Meet (3rd); * Captain, Leadership Award
- 2006 * 4th in States Class A; Section VI Champion
- 2005 * 18th in States Class A; Section VI Champion
- 2004 * 23rd in States Class A (8th grade – youngest participate of the day); 4th at Sectional VI Championship Meet

Section 6 Mens Gymnasts Sweep State Championships

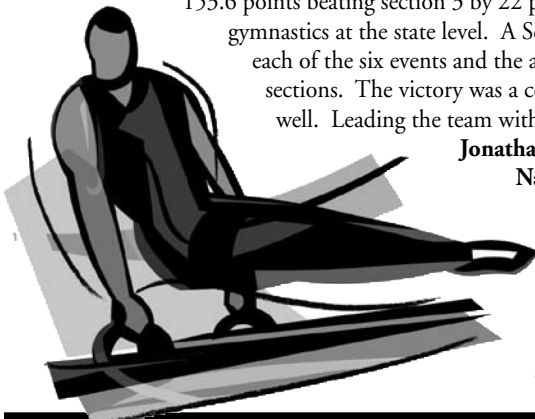
By Joe Buscaglia, Section VI Mens Gymnastics Chairman

For the sixth straight year in a row the Section 6 New York State Boys Gymnastics Team finished in first place winning another State Championship. The Section 6 boys gymnastics team scored 153.6 points beating section 3 by 22 points. Section 6 continues to dominate boys gymnastics at the state level. A Section 6 gymnast won a state championship in each of the six events and the all around competition, shutting out the other sections. The victory was a combined team effort and all gymnasts competed well. Leading the team with strong performances were Clarence gymnast

Jonathan Zirna and Williamsville South gymnast

Nathaniel Roberson. Zirna placed first in the all around competition and won a state title on both pommel horse and rings.

Nathaniel Roberson placed second in the all around competition and won a state title on both parallel bars and high bar. Other Section 6 gymnasts winning state titles were Clarence gymnast **Eric Niedermeier** on the vault and seventh grade Williamsville South gymnast **Noah Roberson** on the floor exercise. Congratulations to all Section 6 gymnasts for a great season and another State Team Title.

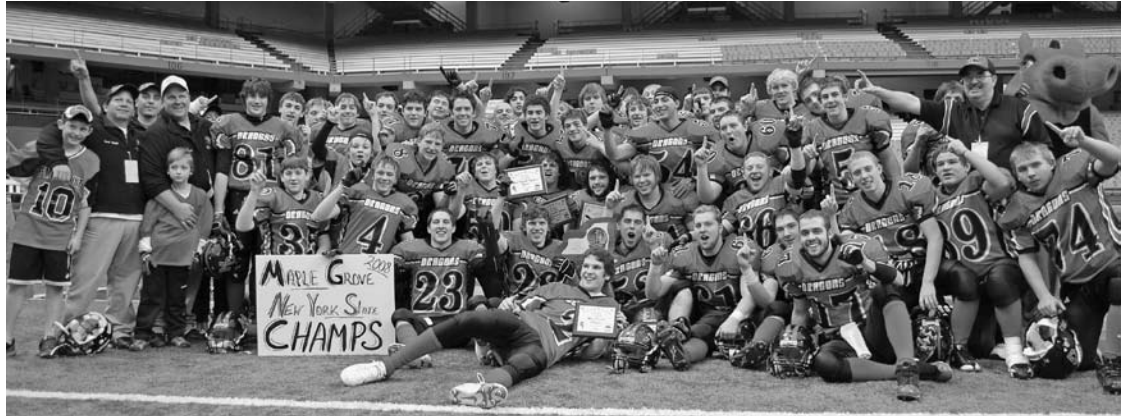


Maple Grove Dominates in 2008 and claims it's 2nd State Football Title

By Kim Rambacher

The Maple Grove Red Dragons dominated each opponent with a wide-open offense setting a Section 6 record of 661 points and allowing 114 points. This made the margin of victory a whopping 42.1 points per game! They started the playoffs with a 70-0 win over Brocton. The sectional semis were against rival Randolph ending with a 49-14 verdict. Next was the Section 6 Championship game with Clymer at Ralph Wilson Stadium in which the Dragons overcame a size difference to overtake the Pirates 48-13. Onto the Far West Regional Game at UB Stadium against the Section 5 Champ the Dundee Scots.....again the Dragons put the game away at halftime, which they had done for the previous 10 games. The final score was 57-12. The State Semi Final game was against the defending Class D state Champion, the Walton Warriors. The Warriors were much bigger than the Dragons and leading at the half 28-6 while the Walton faithful were getting colder. However the quickness of the Dragons offense and defense left the Warriors in the dust of snow that fell that night. Maple Grove stunned the number #1 state ranked team with a score of 49-14, setting up the State Championship Game at the Carrier Dome in Syracuse.

The Moriah Vikings from Port Henry, N.Y., representing Section 7 in the Champlain Area, would be the next victim for the Red Dragons. The Dragons took the opening kickoff 58 yards in 6 plays including a 13 yard run by MVP player of the game, QB Chris Secky. After MG kicked off, Moriah fumbled on their own 13 yard line and took only three plays to reach the end zone with a



4 yard run by Sr. Jake Larson. Then a four and out Moriah punted and the Dragons ended up with great field position at mid field. On a 6 play drive Secky, took it to the end zone on a 3 yard scamper. Just like the past 12 games, the opponents couldn't believe what was happening.....with 4:31 left in the 1st quarter, they were down 21-0. On the first play of the 2nd quarter, Brandon Fain blocked Moriah's punt and he recovered it on their 4 yard line. In the first play of that drive, Jake Larson got his 2nd TD of the game. With the score 28-0, again the Dragons held the Vikings. So Coach Curt Fischer thought he would show off the other part of his offense. The next three scores came through his aerial attack, including 1st Team All Western NY Wide Receiver Joe Caporale with touchdown receptions of 63, 48, and 62 yards respectfully. Moriah got on the scoreboard in the 4th quarter with a 10 yard run by Ron Schofield and Mike Brassard kicking the extra point. Maple Grove finished the scoring with an 8 yard run by sophomore Brett Tordoff.

As one of the sportswriters from Syracuse wrote, this team will go down as one of the most dominating high school football teams in New York State history. On a side note: The two teams, from Bemus Point and Port Henry, were the most distant teams in miles ever to compete in a state championship game - 441 miles apart. Bemus Point, NY is closer to Notre Dame in South Bend,

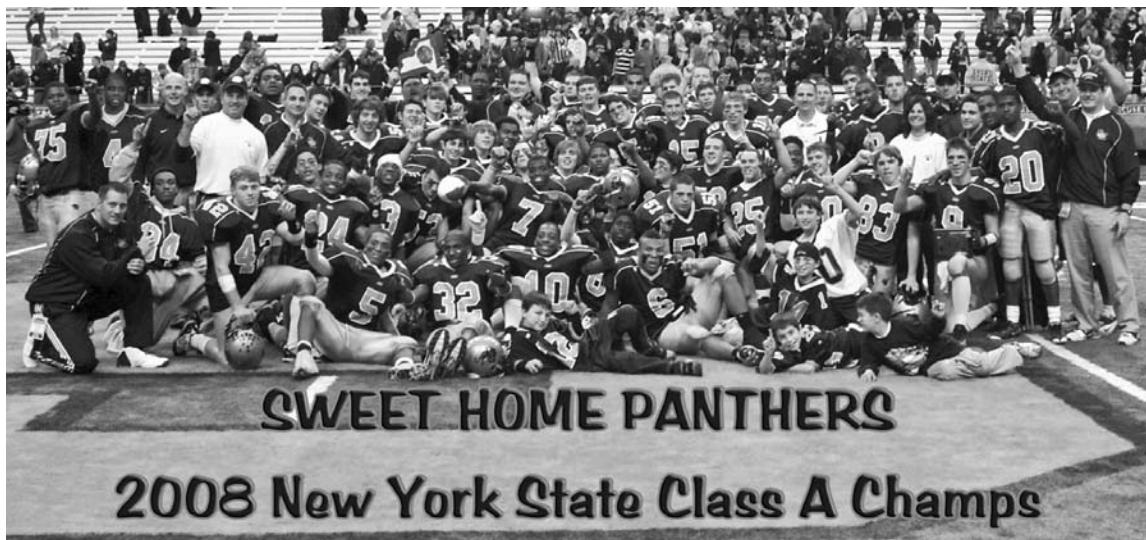
Indiana than to Port Henry, NY.

Honors of the Game for Maple Grove went to:

- Adam Hover: Sportsmanship Award
- Andrew Wascher: Most Valuable Offensive Lineman
- Matt Fox: Most Valuable Defensive Lineman
- Jake Larson: Most Valuable Running Back
- Chris Secky: Most Valuable Player, 2 rushing TD's, 3 passing TD's & 7 extra points
- Cory Gens: On the top twelve list Trench Award Winner in Western NY

Season Stats:

- Chris Secky: Passed for 1815 yards, 23 Touchdowns and threw only one interception all year. Set a Ralph Wilson passing record of 10 for 10 for 266 yards. Kicked 73 extra points which is a Section 6 record and ranks him 2nd in the state for most extra points kicked in a season. 1st Team All Western NY.
- Joe Caporale: Ended the season with 45 receptions for 1134 yards and 14 touchdowns, setting a reception record of 182 yards in a state championship game at the Dome. 1st Team All Western NY.
- Jake Larson: Rushed for 1514 yards and 30 Touchdowns for the season.
- Coach Curt Fischer: Buffalo Bills HS Coach of the Week Award in Week 3. Buffalo Bills HS Coach of the Year. Career Record 138-33, 80.9% in 17 years



Panther's Finish Perfect Season

Sweet Home brought their first State Championship in Football Class A, in school history back from Syracuse on November 29, 2008 after defeating Burnt Hills of Section 2, 35 - 28.

The Panthers finished a perfect 13-0 setting many records on the way. Sweet Home had four players make 1st team All Western New York, also a record. The Panthers are coached by John Faller.

Southwestern Football 2008 - Athletic and Academic State Champs!!



“Be in Balance.” The Southwestern Trojan football team’s motto for the season was to “be in balance” on and off the field. The Trojans achieved that goal as they earned the Class C State Championship on the field and were crowned the State Academic Champions off the field. It was the second consecutive year that the Trojans won the Academic Championship.

The regular season saw the Trojans roll through the Class C South League unblemished. On September 19, the Southwestern Central community opened its new artificial turf athletic complex in front of 3,000. Home has been a more than sweet for the Trojans, as they’ve compiled a 27-1 record there since 2003. The Section VI playoffs started with a dominating 43-8 win over JFK, followed with a 28-13 triumph over Allegany-Limestone. The Trojans earned their fifth trip to Ralph Wilson Stadium this decade to battle Silver Creek for the sectional title. The Trojans methodically shut down the Black Knights in a 21-0 victory, earning the Trojans their second Section VI Championship.

No other team in any sport in school history had ever won a Far West Regional before this year. On

a wet morning at UB Stadium, the Trojans set out to make school history. Southwestern quickly jumped out to a 21-0 lead over Section V power and top ranked LeRoy. The Oatkan Knights staged a furious comeback that was thwarted after Eric Mazgaj sacked the LeRoy quarterback causing a fumble that was recovered by Drew Merchant. Levi Bursch accounted for four Southwestern touchdowns and quarterback Zack Sopak was a perfect 10 for 10 passing for 218 yards to lead the Trojans into the state semifinals.

Chautauqua County was hit hard by an autumn snow storm in mid-November. The adverse conditions throughout the week prepared the Trojans for their snow covered showdown with Elmira Notre Dame at Rochester’s Paetec Park. Defense again, was the key to the victory, as the Trojans bottled up the Crusader’s attack. Led linebackers Chris Jock, Jeff DeVlieger, Ryan Buzzetto, and Tanner Delahoy, the Trojans punched their ticket to the state finals via a 20-6 verdict. Once again, quarterback Zack Sopak was named MVP of the game.

The Southwestern football team had one more stop on their journey to the become State

Champions. The Croton-Harmon Tigers stood in the way at the Carrier Dome, but the Trojans would not be denied. After a scoreless first quarter, the Trojans erupted for 21 points in a 70 second span of the second quarter to stun Croton-Harmon. Levi Bursch caught a 20 yard touchdown pass from Zack Sopak. Ryan Buzzetto returned a fumble 24 yards for a score and Andy Lata caught a 10 yard touchdown pass from Sopak to take a three score lead into the second half. The Trojans added a touchdown run by Sopak and John Mistretta to lead the 35-7 rout. The Trojans returned home to several hundred fans that help celebrate the Trojans first State Championship.

In finishing 13-0, the 2008 Southwestern football team will go down in history as the best team in school history in any sport. Several players received post-season awards. Jasen Carlson and Zack Sopak were named first team All-State, with Sopak as Class C State Player of the Year. Levi Bursch, Ryan Buzzetto, and Dan Imfeld were named second-team All-State. The Trojan’s balance and faith ultimately lead them to the STATE CHAMPIONSHIP.

Marissa Dressel- Swimmer Kenmore-West Wins 2 State Titles

Marissa Dressel, a junior at Kenmore-West Senior High School not only broke 3 NFL records, and 2 Section 6 records this season in swimming, but she added 2 state titles in the 200 free and 100 free events. Marissa also broke the New York State Public School record in the 200 freestyle. In the much-anticipated 200 freestyle final, Dressel swam a smart race coming back in the second half to beat defending champion Emily Kelly of down-state’s Sacred Heart. In prelims the two were only separated by only .44, but Dressel poured it on after the final turn to swim a 1:48.47 to beat Kelly, who went 1:49.50. Dressel’s time broke her own Section VI record of 1:49.98. Marissa is the most decorated swimmer in Kenmore-West history. She also holds school records in the 200 free, 200 L.M., 50 free, 100 fly, 100 free, 500 free, and 400 free relay. Marissa is coached by Carrie Meetze.



Salamanca Girls Volleyball Team Digs Deep For State Win

To be able to call yourself the best, you have to beat the best. That is what the Salamanca Lady Warriors Volleyball team did during the 2008 season. The Lady Warriors claimed the NYS Title by defeating Section I representative Westlake at the Glens Falls Civic Center this fall.

This year's team was led by a determined hard working group of 11 athletes- Ashley Abrams, Hannah Reynolds, Brittany Haines, Katie Auge, Lori Acosta, Molly Cooper, Cassie Crandall, Olivia Beattie, Kayla Siperek, Lauren Dry and Tina Leblanc.

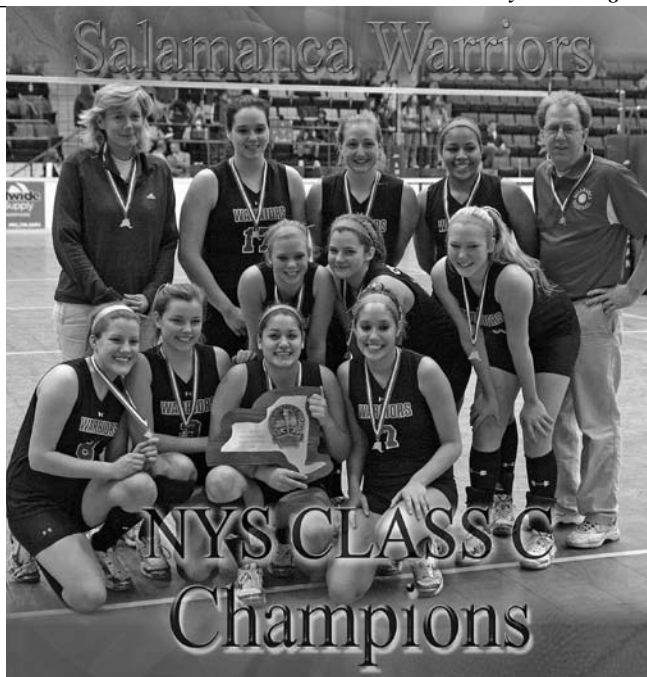
Their title dreams began way back in the 2007 season. These ladies have worked hard to achieve their goal. Both the girls and their parents have put in hundreds of hours into becoming the best they could be. Everyone shared a common goal- "to win states."

Their road to the Final Four started with a pre-quarter sectional win against Buffalo's Performing Arts. They beat Falconer in a quarter finals game and then they defeated Royhart in the semi-finals. In the Section VI Finals, the Lady Warriors defeated an experienced City Honors team who was ranked much of the season ahead of the Lady Warriors. The Lady Warriors traveled to the Far West Regionals to face the best that Section V had to offer -Nazareth Academy- where the Lady Warriors took care of business defeating Nazareth 25-21, 25-19, 25-15. With the exception of the pre-quarter Finals, Salamanca played every game on the road. With the Far West Regional title in hand, the Lady Warriors were in for the longest, most memorable road trip of their careers. Friday morning, the Lady Warriors boarded their bus for the seven hour road trip to Glens Falls.

Saturday's Pool Play determined who would make it in to Sunday's Finals. Salamanca finished Pool Play with a 5-1 record (losing their first and only game in the run to the title). Their opponent would be Westlake who also finished 5-1 and handed Salamanca its only loss. Sunday morning's Finals saw a determined, inspired, revengeful group of ladies. There was no denying this group as they defeated Westlake in straight sets 25-21, 25-19, 25-15.

Although it was Katie Auge and Ashley Abrams who were chosen for the NYS All-Tournament team, these two would tell you it was a total team effort.

This is an incredible accomplishment for these ladies and the school. Not only are they gifted athletes, they are exceptional students. Both the Community and school should be proud of the way these girls represented Salamanca. The team is coached by Tom Roof and Colleen Wiedman.



The Orchard Park Quakers Class AA State Football Champs

The Orchard Park Quakers reached the pinnacle of success with a State Championship victory over Monroe-Woodbury. The mighty Quakers scored 21 second half points to finish the season 13-0. Orchard Park fought their way to the championship game with tough victories over Binghamton, Gates-Chili, North Tonawanda and Kenmore West.

The Quakers were led by quarterback Kyle Hoppy, with an incredible 63 yard touchdown run and a

MVP offensive award. Jeff Tundo finished with 146 yards and a big touchdown to get the Quakers started. Rob Kugler and Brendan Nuessle were defensive MVP's and helped shut down Monroe's potent offense in the second half.

Tremendous efforts by the Quakers offensive and defensive lines sparked the victory. Dave Goltz, Kyle Robinson, Kyle Perla, Gary Davies, Dave Michael, Sean Griffin, Alex Korzanjewski and Ken Selby played stellar on defense. Cameron Hicks

blocked 3 points in the Binghamton semi-final game.

The Quakers were led by Captains Nick Bonacquisti, Nate Longbine, Jeff Tundo, Dave Goltz, Kyle Hoppy and Brendan Nuessle. The Quakers dedicated their State Championship victory to the Matthews family in honor of their daughter Lindsay, a former Orchard Park student-Athlete.



SCHOLAR/ATHLETE TEAM AWARD PROGRAM

The NYSPHSAA, Inc. believes that the athletic participation of students enhances their academic performances. To support this belief, The Scholar/Athlete Team Award Program was begun in 1991. Varsity teams who earn a 90.0% or higher average during their sport season qualify for the NYSPHSAA award. The Pupil Benefits Plan, Inc. became the co-sponsor of the program in 1995.

Section VI Team Award Winners – Fall 2008

** State Champion

BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

Royalton Hartland	97.881
Clarence	97.391
Southwestern	96.596
East Aurora	95.954
Depew	95.683
Newfane	95.557
Dunkirk	95.214
Hutch Tech	95.194
Frontier	95.156
Alden	95.043
Hamburg	94.914
Lake Shore	94.544
Lockport	94.331
Frewsburg	94.047
Sweet Home	93.964
Lancaster	93.897
Barker	93.871
Williamsville East	93.831
Williamsville North	93.821
Cleveland Hill	93.558
Niagara-Wheatfield	92.957
Wilson	92.706
Amherst	92.564
West Seneca West	92.484
Eden	92.463
Albion	92.412
Allegany-Limestone	92.386
Lewiston Porter	91.689
Kenmore West	91.400
West Seneca East	91.292
Tonawanda	91.039
Grand Island	90.887
Niagara Falls	90.571
Williamsville South	90.544
Pioneer	90.536
Iroquois	90.453
Gowanda	90.293

BOYS GOLF

Clarence	97.412
Alden	96.490
Lake Shore	95.135
Barker	95.055
Wilson	95.009
Newfane	94.620
Albion	94.014
Niagara Falls	94.000
East Aurora	93.901
Williamsville East	93.770
Springville	93.586

Hamburg	93.557	Lake Shore	91.859
Sweet Home	93.378	Lewiston Porter	91.833
Depew	93.177	Dunkirk	91.825
Amherst	93.062	Williamsville North	91.721
West Seneca West	92.674	Chautauqua Lake	91.683
Frontier	92.627	Holland	91.543
Lockport	91.803	Williamsville South	90.945
Tonawanda	91.519	Grand Island	90.766
Iroquois	91.499	Niagara-Wheatfield	90.682
Niagara-Wheatfield	91.376	Frontier	90.468
West Seneca East	91.347	West Seneca West	90.393
Kenmore East	91.346		
Orchard Park	91.235		
Pioneer	91.161		
Lewiston Porter	90.809		
Starpoint	90.499		
Medina	90.496		
Eden	90.378		
Grand Island	90.369		
Williamsville South	90.183		
Williamsville North	90.153		

BOYS GYMNASTICS

Clarence	94.125
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BOYS SOCCER

Lockport	95.859
Albion	95.226
Cheektowaga	94.784
Clarence	94.540
West Seneca East	94.335
Southwestern	94.158
East Aurora	94.064
Lancaster	93.884
Alden	93.833
Olean	93.683
Westfield	93.616
Newfane	93.045
Ellicottville	92.983
Springville	92.955
Wilson	92.669
Sweet Home	92.626
Niagara Falls	92.558
Williamsville East	92.537
Falconer	92.407
Medina	92.368
Iroquois	92.334
Maryvale	92.325
Royalton Hartland	92.170
North Tonawanda	92.150
Allegany-Limestone	92.133
Hamburg	91.892

BOYS VOLLEYBALL

West Seneca East	95.750
Clarence	95.040
Cheektowaga	94.564
Sweet Home	93.757
Frontier	93.617
Williamsville East	92.924
Williamsville North	92.758
Iroquois	92.524
East Aurora	92.398
Holland	91.486
Niagara-Wheatfield	91.459
Lake Shore	91.301
Kenmore West	91.052
West Seneca West	90.918
Depew	90.908
Amherst	90.643
Williamsville South	90.599
Grand Island	90.473

FIELD HOCKEY

Iroquois	95.964
Clarence	95.860
Barker	95.283
Sweet Home	94.525
East Aurora	94.353
Royalton Hartland	94.320
Williamsville East	94.318
West Seneca West	93.885
Hamburg	93.883
Wilson	93.209
Lancaster	92.776
Williamsville North	92.653
Newfane	92.636
West Seneca East	92.417
Williamsville South	92.375
Orchard Park	92.297
Kenmore East	91.707
Medina	91.679
Eden	91.333

Kenmore West	90.663
Amherst	90.608
Pioneer	90.518
Akron	90.225
Holland	90.009

GIRLS GYMNASTICS

Williamsville North	96.982
Clarence	96.285
Frontier	95.919
Lancaster	95.726
Hamburg	95.571
Sweet Home	95.435
Maryvale	93.586
Lewiston Porter	92.363
Kenmore East	90.509
Kenmore West	90.347
Williamsville East	90.306

FOOTBALL

Southwestern**	95.427
Alden	95.088
North Tonawanda	95.000
Lancaster	94.571
Lake Shore	94.492
Lockport	94.454
Depew	93.950
Frontier	93.625
Clarence	93.461
Sweet Home	93.445
Iroquois	93.375
Allegany-Limestone	93.342
Clymer	93.130
Falconer	93.041
East Aurora	92.673
Tonawanda	92.522
Hamburg	92.500
Williamsville North	92.392
Springville	92.259
Albion	91.715
West Seneca East	91.558
Eden	91.517
Panama	91.360
Cleveland Hill	91.326
West Seneca West	91.294
Williamsville East	91.250
Medina	91.206
Lewiston Porter	90.843
Cheektowaga	90.750
Williamsville South	90.660
Niagara-Wheatfield	90.609

Maryvale	90.442
Pine Valley	90.295
Grand Island	90.273
Akron	90.234
Kenmore West	90.182
Wilson	90.174
Barker	90.114
Kenmore East	90.084

GIRLS TENNIS

Frontier	96.531
Williamsville North	96.406
Sweet Home	96.253
Clarence	96.135
Lancaster	96.099
Southwestern	95.749
Falconer	95.540
North Tonawanda	95.489
Frewsburg	95.292
Hamburg	95.211
Depew	95.171
Alden	95.144
Starpoint	94.929
West Seneca West	94.649
Williamsville East	94.309
Iroquois	94.248
Orchard Park	94.189
West Seneca East	94.149
Springville	94.089
Jamestown	94.064
Tonawanda	93.980
Maryvale	93.944
Cheektowaga	93.767
Lake Shore	93.724
Eden	93.247
Lewiston Porter	93.082
Lockport	92.895
Chautauqua Lake	92.853
Williamsville South	92.729
Kenmore West	92.197
Grand Island	92.162
East Aurora	91.426
Amherst	91.288
Fredonia	90.927
Niagara-Wheatfield	90.789
Niagara Falls	90.719
Kenmore East	90.545
Olean	90.146

GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

Clarence	97.395
West Seneca West	97.054
East Aurora	96.969
Southwestern	96.861
Hamburg	96.743
Depew	96.591
Iroquois	96.414
Lake Shore	96.031
Lockport	95.919
Newfane	95.625
Falconer	95.607
Frontier	95.514
Allegany-Limestone	95.271
Wilson	95.162
Eden	95.100
Leonardo Da Vinci	94.889
Williamsville North	94.886
Amherst	93.974
Lancaster	93.621
Alden	92.888
Niagara-Wheatfield	92.796
Williamsville East	92.734
Orchard Park	92.458
City Honors	92.185
Barker	92.020
Kenmore West	91.381
Williamsville South	91.311
Lewiston Porter	90.931
Cleveland Hill	90.828
Pioneer	90.724
Hutch Tech	90.719
Grand Island	90.311
Fredonia	90.219
Sweet Home	90.052
Akron	90.000

GIRLS SOCCER

Portville	96.968
Allegany-Limestone	96.475
Falconer	96.173
Depew	95.899
Southwestern	95.587
Ellicottville	95.555
Albion	95.258
East Aurora	95.233
Hamburg	95.183
Clarence	95.165
Lockport	95.123
West Seneca West	95.058
Iroquois	94.623
Frontier	94.487
Alden	94.457
Sweet Home	94.446
Cassadaga Valley	94.340
Maryvale	94.200
Olean	94.178
Newfane	94.148
Cheektowaga	94.026
Orchard Park	94.012
Jamestown	93.912

Medina	93.805
Eden	93.794
Wilson	93.741
Williamsville North	93.700
Brocton	93.675
West Seneca East	93.662
Williamsville East	93.510
Niagara-Wheatfield	93.431
Franklinville	93.408
Lake Shore	93.266
Royalton Hartland	93.154
Lancaster	93.064
Lewiston Porter	92.893
Kenmore West	92.833
Amherst	92.744
Springville	92.550
Tonawanda	92.505
Frewsburg	92.392
Pioneer	92.379
Holland	92.359
Williamsville South	92.176
Chautauqua Lake	91.938
Salamanca	91.844
Barker	91.648
Starpoint	91.304
Kenmore East	90.857
Westfield	90.828
Fredonia	90.475
Akron	90.399
North Tonawanda	90.125

GIRLS SWIMMING & DIVING

Lockport	97.535
Southwestern	97.225
Clarence	96.964
Frontier	96.811
Orchard Park	96.772
Iroquois	96.735
Sweet Home	96.686
Depew	96.653
Olean	96.440
Niagara Falls	96.364
Williamsville North	95.988
Williamsville East	95.853
Cheektowaga	95.666
West Seneca West	95.545
Jamestown	95.494
Lake Shore	95.238
East Aurora	95.235
Springville	94.727
North Tonawanda	94.571
West Seneca East	94.293
Eden	94.198
Starpoint	94.134
Maryvale	93.609
Portville	93.540
Niagara-Wheatfield	93.338
Lewiston Porter	93.213
Chautauqua Lake	93.193
Kenmore West	93.175
Allegany-Limestone	92.773

Frewsburg	92.543
Alden	91.891
Tonawanda	91.765
Cleveland Hill	91.195
Kenmore East	91.081
Holland	90.533
Dunkirk	90.200
Salamanca	90.192
Grand Island	90.178

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

West Seneca West **	97.964
Frontier	96.369
Clarence	95.737
Hamburg	95.338
Sweet Home	95.259
Brocton	95.034
Royalton Hartland	94.955
Cassadaga Valley	94.756
Cheektowaga	94.691
Iroquois	94.521
Lockport	94.351
Alden	94.256
Lancaster	94.201
Eden	94.163
Albion	94.106
Williamsville East	93.994
East Aurora	93.808
Newfane	93.735
Maryvale	93.713
Medina	93.645
Tonawanda	93.586
Cattaraugus-Little Valley	93.525
Starpoint	93.267
Southwestern	93.124
Clymer	93.062
Falconer	93.035
West Seneca East	92.925
Williamsville North	92.864
Pine Valley	92.729
Springville	92.670
North Tonawanda	92.438
Lewiston Porter	92.293
Wilson	92.280
Niagara Falls	92.000
Kenmore East	91.904
Ellicottville	91.838
Niagara-Wheatfield	91.623
Barker	91.429
Williamsville South	91.296
Allegany-Limestone	91.113
Westfield	91.091
Pioneer	91.078
Grand Island	91.042
Cleveland Hill	90.941
Lake Shore	90.872
Dunkirk	90.850
Amherst	90.744
Salamanca	90.531
Fredonia	90.328
Kenmore West	90.006
Panama	89.303
Portville	88.725



Always A Winner...

By Doug Ames, Section VI Sportsmanship Coordinator
Newfane High School 778-6560 • dames@newfane.wnyric.org

WHO DO WE BLAME FOR OUR LOSS?

I am writing this article in response to something I read in the paper from a coach, which I found very disturbing, especially in light of our constant quest to improve sportsmanship among our athletes, students, and fans. This is something I believe every coach, athlete, parent and spectator should consider and take a critical look at how they themselves handle these situations. It concerns public criticism and blaming of officials for a loss!

I want to begin by saying that I have yet to meet an official that goes out to deliberately make one team or another lose. Keep in mind that most of the calls that officials make are JUDGMENT CALLS. Coaches also make judgment calls such as who to play, when to play them, what plays to use, etc. These are calls coaches make based on our best JUDGMENT of the situation. Sometimes they work and sometimes they don't (in other words, sometimes we are right, and some times we are wrong). It is our call to make, and we do the best we can based on our best professional judgment of the situation. The same is true for the calls made by the professional officials we hire for that purpose.

When we blame officials or anyone else for our losses, we are degrading the effort of all individuals involved in the contest. Instead of blaming anyone for our losses, we should congratulate our opponents for out-playing us on that day. I feel this approach would be better for our relationship with our opponents, as well as better for our players, our spectators and the program and sport as a whole.

Let our athletes know that they played hard, but on that particular day our opponent played a little better. It wasn't luck or someone's fault that we lost. It was because they played a good game. In athletic contests, there is always a winner and a loser. There is no shame in being the loser, especially if you gave your best effort. However, when we blame the officials or anyone else for our loss, everyone involved in the contest comes out losers. No one intentionally tries to lose a contest. Everyone tries their best to win, so the winner should be congratulated. The loser should not look for anyone to blame, not even himself, for the loss.

It has been my experience in watching contests of all kinds for more than 25 years as a coach, an official, and a spectator, that officials do make bad calls. But the bad calls for and against a team tend to even out throughout the course of a game or season. I have never heard a coach give the official credit for the bad calls that went that coach's way. If we don't give credit for bad calls in our favor, then we should not criticize calls we don't agree with. Keep in mind that if the calls tend to even out, then that means that there must have been some other reason for the loss..... our opponent played better that particular night.

We, as coaches, should not look for the negatives in a contest or who to blame for the loss. This leads to a negative combative attitude in the players towards that opponent or official that carries over to parents and fans. When we blame officials for the loss, we are sending the message to our athletes that the only way that opponent can beat us is by cheating. Instead, we should look for positive things achieved in the contest and work to improve in areas where we did not perform up to expectations.

As a coach who has watched an athlete work hard to win, I understand the feeling of frustration when that athlete loses a contest. It is not anyone's fault that the loss occurred. The other athlete or team just out-performed our athlete on that day, so give him credit for that effort.

Please keep in mind the challenge of recruiting new officials and the difficulty your athletic director has in getting officials for your contests. It is getting more difficult every year. One reason is the verbal abuse officials receive from fans and players. In some cases it is even physical abuse, which is on the rise. When coaches openly criticize officials, they are only reinforcing and legitimizing this type of behavior from fans.

Officials, just like boundary lines, are on the field to keep the contest fair for both sides. All the officials I have talked with are involved because they want athletes to have as good an experience as possible. If you have a legitimate complaint about an official, there is a process established to file your complaint rather than voicing it in public. Remember, it is very hard to argue with a judgment call. You may not agree with it but there is very little you can do to change it.

I feel that BLAMING people for our losses, whether it is officials, players, coaches or spectators, has become a big problem in high school athletics, and it really has no place there. I have offered some ideas in this article. If we all work together and share these ideas with our colleagues, we can create a situation in our athletic programs where both sides can feel like winners in a contest, even if we are the team with the lower score on the scoreboard.

TIME OUT FOR A SPORT THOUGHT

- As a coach what can you do to instill the spirit of play in your players? Parents? Fans? Administrators?
- As a coach do you ever set aside some part of your practice for activities that are "pure" fun?

...Good Sports Finish First

Sportsmanship ...let the players play, let the coaches coach, let the officials officiate ...we then can enjoy the game.

Sportsmanship ...let the players play, let the coaches coach, let the officials officiate ...we then can enjoy the game.

Always A Winner...

ALL WNY "GOOD SPORT" PROGRAM- MODELS OF SPORTSMANSHIP IN ACTION SELECTION CRITERIA

Sportsmanship just doesn't happen...it must be taught! Students learn immeasurable and unique lessons through interscholastic athlete participation. Educators universally agree, of all the goals established as outcomes for secondary students involved in school sports, sportsmanship is primary. Student athletes who learn to value and practice sportsmanship are developing the characteristics of good citizenship. Honesty, generosity, self discipline, a sincere concern for others, ethical behavior and a commitment to fair play are all demonstrated in sportsmanship. These are the criteria for the All WNY "Good Sports" award.

This award program is carried out seasonally for all sports in Section VI. Each division for each sport within the league is asked to select a team that best exemplifies good sportsmanship to receive the team award. The team selected then chooses one student athlete to receive the individual award, an All WNY "Good Sports" patch. The names are given to the Section VI Sportchair or directly to Doug Ames, Sportsmanship Coordinator. The selection criteria, as stated above, will identify the very best we have to offer in Section VI. The award winners are models of sportsmanship in action and this program is designed to recognize and honor them. Contact the Section VI Sportsmanship Coordinator Douglas Ames, Newfane Central Schools 778-6560 with questions or concerns.

Congratulations to the All-WNY "Good Sports" selections for fall 2008 listed below. These athletes will receive a certificate and an ALL-WNY Sportsmanship patch.

ALL-WNY INDIVIDUAL AND TEAM RECOGNITION

FOR OUTSTANDING SPORTSMANSHIP: FALL 2008 (names listed are those submitted as of 1/1/09)

Sport	Division	School	Individual
Football	AA-North	Niagara Falls	Guy Philbrick
	AA-South	Frontier	Travis Sipos
	A-North	Starpoint	Joe Delelio
	A-South	Amherst	Kevin Denny
	B- North	Depew	Brad Barth
	B-South	Eden	Robert Slisz
	C-North	Roy-Hart	Morgan Fonzi
	C-South	Cassadaga Valley	Andrew Pignitore
	DD	Pine Valley	Chadd Rexford
	D	Sherman	Chris Persons
Girls Soccer	NFL	Niagara Wheatfield	Madison Brown
	NO	Roy-Hart	Samantha Smith
	CCAA-1	Southwestern	Tori Wessel
	CCAA -2	Cattaraugus / Little Valley	Stephanie Golembiewski
	CCAA -3	Brocton	Rychelle Waclawski
	ECIC-1	Clarence	Alex Rohloff
	ECIC -2	West Seneca East	Stephanie Smigiera
Boys Soccer	ECIC-3	Maryvale	Kailee Pundt
	ECIC -4	John F. Kennedy	Michelle Schultz
	CCIAC-1	Falconer	Sam Garver
	NFL	Grand Island	Joe Fischer
Boys X-Country	NO	Albion	Ben Church
	Barker	Barker	Eric Brick
Girls X-Country	NO	Barker	Hannah McGee
Girls Tennis	NFL	Grand Island	Kelsay Mash
Girls Volleyball	NFL	Grand Island	Susan Pioll
	NO	Akron	Sara Rosenberg
Golf (fall)	NO	Royalton Hartland	Corey Callaghan

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IT'S OFFICIAL....

By Tom Cowan/Section VI Official's Coordinator

As we enter a new calendar year, Section VI interscholastic sports advocates can look back on 2008 as a banner year for our region. It would be impossible to list all the major accomplishments, however several strike me as worth mentioning.

Our section led the state with 5 "School of Distinction" awards for the 2007-08 school year. "School of Distinction" status is achieved when 100% of their interscholastic varsity sports teams earn above a 90.0% grade point average.

Member schools in the Section VI Football Federation presented the section with 4 out of 5 state championships. Congratulations should be extended to the leadership, coaches and athletes whose hard work and dedication to excellence paid off.

Two of the four NYSPHSAA Association officers hail from Section VI. Dr. Ron Black

(Ret.) stepped down from a very successful team as State President to become State Past President. Mark Ward, Superintendent Ellicottville Central, moved up to the 1st V.P. position from which he will soon become the state leader.

Our Section produced 5 State Champions or runners-up in the state Scholar Athlete team awards program during the Spring and Fall of '08.

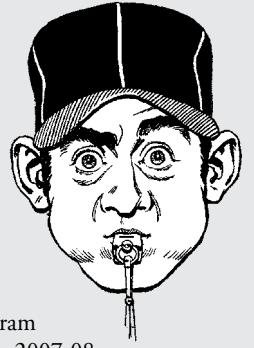
As a district, Southwestern Central won the State Class C Football Championship with a perfect 13-0 season. The 36 member team also won the NYSPHSAA State Championship Scholar Athlete Team Award with 95.427 Academic Average. Nice Job!

Throughout the section, Building and Athletic Administrators should be commended for being strong advocates of both the academic and athletic aspects of interscholastic programs.

If you are an interscholastic sports trivia fan, Take Note:

- A record 7,429,381 student athletes participated in High School Athletic program across the 50 states in 2007-08.
- Texas led the nation with 779,049. New York was third with 380,870.
- Boys 11 man football was the leader with 1,108,286 participants.
- Basketball was the most popular with girls with 449,450 participants.
- 54.8% of the students enrolled in US high schools participate in athletics.

To all who have the privilege of touching the life of an interscholastic athlete, let's strive to make 2009 another banner year in Section VI.



SECTION VI

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