



SECTION VI *newsletter*

May 2009

Volume 15 Issue 4

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

Next Athletic Council Meeting

May 20, 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:

- Appointments: Fall Sportchairs, Girls Rep to the Central Committee
- Continuation of Open Tournament
- Discontinue the ad portion of programs
- Federate girls lacrosse/ alignment 2010
- Approvals for Combining Schools for 2009-10
- Approvals for Senior All-Star and Outside Agency Contests

Section VI Loses a Veteran and Good Friend - Ken Young

Kenneth E. Young, a long-time Section VI Veteran, passed away December 21, 2008. Mr. Young served the Iroquois School District as the Athletic Director from 1966 until 1981 when he became the assistant principal of the high school. Throughout those years he coached football, basketball and baseball.

Ken held a number of positions for Section VI over the years. He served as the Division III Representative for the ECIC until he was appointed President-Elect in 1980. From 1982-84 he served as Section VI President followed by two years as past-president. During these years he was instrumental in the Central Committee vote for football playoffs to be conducted at Rich Stadium, a tradition being carried on today at Ralph Wilson Stadium. Ken held various leadership positions in the Section as the Section and State Associations worked to implement Title IX as it related to sport participation for high school girls. He was influential in votes that allowed Section VI teams to compete in State Championships and admitted Jamestown to the ECIC league. Ken also chaired a committee to study the issue of admitting non-public schools into the Section. Throughout his life, Ken enjoyed golf, travel, fishing and hunting as well as being a fan of all televised sports.

CONGRATULATIONS SCHOLAR/ATHLETES AND STATE CHAMPS!! *NYSPHSAA SCHOLAR/ATHLETE TEAM AWARDS* *WINTER 2009 STATE CHAMPIONS*

SPORT	SECTION	SCHOOL	TEAM GPA
Boys Bowling	2	Saratoga Central Catholic	97.497
Ice Hockey	2	Christian Brothers Academy	96.558
Boys Basketball	3	Pulaski	96.314
Boys Skiing	5	Honeoye Falls-Lima	95.761
Girls Basketball	5	Wayland-Cohocton	97.463
Girls Skiing	5	Honeoye Falls-Lima	97.721
Boys Indoor Track	8	Wheatley	97.701
Boys Swimming & Diving	8	Jericho	97.771
Girls Bowling	8	Jericho	97.008
Girls Gymnastics (winter)	8	Cold Spring Harbor	98.571
Girls Indoor Track	8	Wheatley	98.950
Wrestling	8	Massapequa	95.140

Congratulations To The *Section VI Winter Scholar/Athlete Team Award Winners*

(see page 8-9)

SECTION VI 2009 WINTER SPORTS STATE CHAMPIONS

(see page 7-10)

Bowling

West Seneca East Boys Team

High Series Boys Individual: John Stopka, Kenmore West

High Game Boys Individual: Frank Porter, Niagara Falls (3 way tie)

Indoor Track

Long Jump: Brian Archie, Niagara Falls

Shot Put: Melissa Kurzdorfer, Lancaster

Rifle

Section 6 Rifle Team

Kneeling: Josh Gorski, Alden

Wrestling (Div 2)

Class 112: Kyle Mcgregor, Tonawanda

Class 119: Matt Peters, East Aurora

Class 152: Kenny Betts, Fredonia

Class 215: Kyle Colling, Pioneer

The sports world has indeed lost a true pioneer rest in peace. If desired, memorials may be made to the world of high school sports. Many area to The Ken Young Scholarship Fund - Iroquois athletes knowingly and unknowingly have been Central School, P.O. Box 32, Elma, N.Y., 14059 touched by his actions and convictions. May he

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This Newsletter is available at our Web site: www.section6.e1b.org

NEWS FROM THE STATE ASSOCIATION

ACTION TAKEN BY NYSPHSAA - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

MAY 1-2, 2009

APPROVED

- **The Partnership for a Drug Free America:** Banners, DVD's, posters and advertisements educating students about the dangers of steroid use will be mailed to member schools.
- **Logo:** A newly designed Association logo for use in all correspondence, web site, marketing, and all other materials promoting and branding NYSPHSAA.
- **Field Hockey:** Overtime procedure- If a player is yellow carded during overtime the offending team will play shorthanded.
- **Boys Volleyball State Championship:** November 20, 2010 at Cicero North Syracuse HS (3).
- **Boys Volleyball Rule Modification Request:** Center Line – A player may touch the opponent's court with hand(s) or feet, provided some part of the hand(s), foot/feet remain either in contact with or directly above the center line, and the penetration does not interfere with the opponents play.
- **Swimming:** For 2009-2010, the qualifying times will be established by using the average (last two years) of the 30th place time in the preliminary heats. For relays the 15th place time in the preliminary heat averaged over the last four years will be used. The diving score will be 390.00.
- **Track and Field:** Use of a wrist watch in practices only.
- **Sportsmanship Rule:** For both the coach and player be changed from, "...ejected from one contest", to "receiving a disqualification penalty". The language would be changed at all three levels of the sportsmanship rule.
- **Modified Football:** Requesting a one year continuation of the Football pilot program permitting the use of two wide receivers.

DENIED

- **Football:** With Section approval, teams not participating in Sectional Football Championship play may participate in a 10th game as part of a Section sponsored/approved contest.
- **Track and Field:** Requesting permission to include the 5000M run on the list of approved events.

BACK TO SECTIONS FOR DISCUSSION:

- **Football:** Change in the practice requirement to: 1 day no contact, 4 days of transition, 6 days of contact with full equipment and four additional days. **NOTE:** For any violation of this rule, the head coach will be suspended from the next regularly scheduled contest.
- **Boys Lacrosse:** With mutual agreement, the use of top officials from competing Sections for regionals

*** ALERT *** SOCCER BALL

The Adidas Finale is not approved for play according to NFHS Soccer Rules

NFHS STUDENT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

The NYSPHSAA is now accepting applications for those students interested in attending the NFHS Student Leadership Conference in Indianapolis. Six students will be selected to represent the NYSPHSAA at the NFHS Conference. Deadline for applications is May 8th. Applications can be found on the Association website at www.nysphsaa.org. The four day conference is scheduled for July 16-19, 2009.

SPRING CHAMPIONSHIPS 2009

May 28-30	Boys Tennis US Tennis Center (NYC)
May 30- June1	Boys Golf Cornell University (4)
June 5-7	Girls Golf Foxfire Golf Club (3)
June 7	Federation Boys Golf Mark Twain (4)
June 11	Boys Lacrosse Regional West - St. John Fisher (5) East - Middletown HS (9)
June 12-13	Girls Lacrosse SUNY Cortland (4) Track and Field CNS High School (3)
June 13	Baseball Binghamton Area Sites (4) Softball Waterloo High School (5) Boys Lacrosse Finals Paetec Park (5)

CALENDAR MAY 2009

May 13	Citizenship Through Athletics
May 15	Scholar Athlete DEADLINE Basketball (B) Committee
May 18	Transfer Committee Life of an Athlete
May 19	Section 8
May 20	Bowling Committee Sections 6 Meeting

COACHING CLINICS

MAY 15	Cheerleading Holiday Inn, Liverpool
MAY 29	Soccer Soccer Hall of Fame, Oneonta

CITIZENSHIP THROUGH ATHLETICS COURSE

MAY 13, 2009 at the NYSPHSAA Office
No Cost—Lunch Provided
To register contact: Todd Nelson,
tnelson@nysphsaa.org
518-690-0771

Congratulations Daryl Johnston!!!!

NYSPHSAA has informed Section VI that Daryl P. Johnston has been selected for induction into the NYSPHSAA Hall of Fame. His significant contributions to high school athletics in New York State have made him stand out from his fellow student athletes.

Daryl, a former Lewiston-Porter High football star and All-Pro fullback of the Dallas Cowboys, led the Lancers football team to two straight Section VI titles in 1982 and 1983. Johnston, a native of Youngstown, NY, was a running back, punter, place kicker, and defensive back for Lewiston-Porter. After earning 1983 Western New York Player of the Year honors and breaking numerous records his senior year, he went on to Syracuse University where he was an All-Big East honoree in 1988 and an All-American in 1989. Following four Super Bowls in the NFL and an 11-year career with the Cowboys, Johnston is currently one of the top NFL color commentators for FOX.

Mr. Johnston is one of ten individuals selected for induction into the 2009 Class of the NYSPHSAA Hall of Fame. The induction ceremony will take place at the NYSPHSAA Central Committee meeting banquet at the Crowne Plaza in Lake Placid scheduled for Wednesday, August 5, 2009. Congratulations to Mr. Johnston for this outstanding achievement!! Look to the September newsletter for a full report.

The NYSPHSAA Hall of Fame has been made possible by the generous support from Pupil Benefits, Inc.



Dates to Remember

- May 1-2 State Executive Committee Meeting, Holiday Inn Carrier Circle - Syracuse
- May 3 NYS Officials Coordinators Federation spring meeting, Holiday Inn Carrier Circle - E.Syracuse
- May 8 Good Sports Assessments forwarded to NYSPHSAA
- May 11 **MANDATORY WORKSHOPS** for ADs at Erie 1 BOCES (Life of an Athlete Year 5 & Concussion Management)
- May 13 AD Hoc Committee on Charter Schools meeting – teleconference from Erie 1 BOCES
- May 15 Deadline for NYSPHSAA Spring Scholar/Athlete Team Award Applications online
- May 15 Deadline for SECTION 6 Spring Scholar/ Athlete All-WNY Individual Award applications to Section office
- May 15 **NEW** -> Cheerleading Coaching Clinic, Holiday Inn Liverpool (Syracuse area)
- May 20 Athletic Council meeting, 11:30 am at Erie 1 BOCES, W. Seneca Room B2b
Executive Committee meeting, 9:30 am at Erie 1 BOCES, W. Seneca Room B2b
- May 29 Soccer Coaching Clinic, Hall of Fame Oneonta
- June 1 Good Sports Assessments: State & Section award winners selected
- June 17 Executive Committee Meeting via teleconference 9:00am
- June 17 **NEW** -> Pre-season meeting for Fall Sportchairs at 7:00 pm at Erie 1 BOCES, W.Seneca
- June 16-25 Regents Examinations
- Aug. 4-6 State Central Committee Meeting, Crowne Plaza, Lake Placid
- Aug. 31 **MANDATORY ELIGIBILITY WORKSHOP** for Athletic Directors - (details will be emailed)
- Sept. 2 Annual Sportchairs Recognition (tent) Dinner
- Sept. 9 Annual Veterans' Recognition Golf (tent) Tournament/Dinner
- Sept. 16 Athletic Council meeting, 11:30 am at (tent) Erie 1 BOCES, W.Seneca
Executive Committee meeting, 9:30 am at Erie 1 BOCES, W.Seneca

Nominations Being Accepted

Section VI **Girls Representative** to the Central Committee and all **Fall Sport Chairperson** positions are currently open for nominations. The Girls Representative will serve a term of four years beginning Sept. 1, 2009. The Fall Chairpersons will be appointed for a three-year term to expire June 30, 2012. Nominations will be accepted until the Athletic Council meeting May 20 when appointments will be made. Please forward all nominations to the Section VI office, 355 Harlem Rd., West Seneca, NY 14224 cszczesny@e1b.org fax: 821-7352. Current Nominations include:

- a) Girls Rep to the Central Committee (4-year term 9/1/09 - 8/31/13) Current nomination: Cindy Bullis, Lew-Port
- b) Program Committee Chairperson No Nominations received as of this printing
- c) Fall Sportchairs (3-year term 7/1/09 - 6/30/12). Current nominations:

Sport	Nominee	Nominated by:
Cross Country-B:	Mike Janisch, Silver Creek	Incumbent
Cross Country-G:	James Zubler, Frontier	Incumbent
Field Hockey:	Judy Otto, Barker	Incumbent
Football:	Chuck Funke, ECIC	Incumbent
Football Asst.:	Chuck Amo, Hamburg	Incumbent
Gymnastics-B:	Joseph Buscaglia, Williamsville	Incumbent
Gymnastics-G:	Donna Aquino, Lancaster	Incumbent
Soccer-B:	Written ballot will be required:	
	1) Art Jaspe, N.Tonawanda	Incumbent
	2) Todd Marquardt, Kenmore West	NFL league
Soccer-B Asst.:	John Luce, Allegany Limestone	Boys Soccer Committee
Soccer-G:	Chris Durr, Williamsville East	Incumbent
Soccer-G Asst.:	Joanne Fildes, Amherst	Incumbent
Swimming-G:	Bruce Johnson, Frewsburg	Incumbent
Tennis-G:	OPEN (no nominations as of 5/8/09)	
Volleyball-B:	Walt Stefani, Orchard Park	Incumbent
Volleyball-G Co-Chairs:	Debby Schrufer, Frontier	Incumbent
	Sue Pernick, Lancaster	Incumbent

Heartfelt Thanks

Section VI would like to express sincere gratitude to the following people who are stepping down from their respective positions at the end of this school year: Larry Lash, Pat Anderson and David Coates. We are truly grateful to have benefited from their passion and enthusiasm for their sport!

Larry Lash served on the Section VI Softball Committee as a representative for the NO league for 8 years before becoming the Co-Chairman

for Section VI Softball in 2005. He retired from Wilson Central in 2007 after coaching softball coach for over 20 years.

Pat Anderson served as the Section VI Assistant Boys Soccer Sportchair since 1998. He coached boys soccer for many years at Cassadaga Valley High School before retiring in 2008 and will now be coaching mens soccer at Jamestown Community College.

David Coates, school counselor and tennis coach at Kenmore East, has served as the Section VI Girls Tennis Chairperson for two years. He was

recently elected Vice President for Professional Development for a state counseling organization (NYSACAC) in which he has been active for several years making him unable to continue as the Section Chair.

These individuals have given immeasurable time and energy in service to the Section for interscholastic athletics. We thank each of them for their tireless efforts, and endless dedication to high school sports and Section VI athletes and wish them the best of luck in all their future endeavors!

INTERSCHOLASTIC COACHING CERTIFICATION COURSES

ERIE 1 BOCES

355 Harlem Rd., West Seneca, NY 14224

Phil Coyle, Coordinator
821-7530(W), 913-7120(C),

Cinda West, Secretary 821-7091(W),
821-7409 (fax)

SPRING/SUMMER 2009-2010

THEORY & TECHNIQUES OF COACHING CHUCK AMO

(Mondays & Wednesdays)

June 8, 10, 15, 17, 2009 - 5:30 pm-10:00 pm

June 22, 2009 - 5:30 pm-8:30 pm

Hamburg High School, Room 501
4111 Legion Drive
Hamburg, NY 14075

Registration Deadline: June 1, 2009
\$165.00

PHILOSOPHY, PRINCIPLES & ORGANIZATION OF ATHLETICS KEN STOLDT

July 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 2009 - 8:00 am-4:00 pm

July 13, 2009 - 8:00 am-10:00 am

Erie 1 BOCES, Room A-2
355 Harlem Road
West Seneca, NY 14224

Registration Deadline: June 29, 2009
\$165.00

THEORY & TECHNIQUES OF COACHING CHRIS DEMARCO

July 20, 21, 22, 23, 2009 - 8:00 am-1:30 pm

Sweet Home High School
Amherst, NY 14226

Registration Deadline: July 13, 2009
\$165.00

HEALTH SCIENCE APPLIED TO COACHING CHRIS KAPLAN

July 20, 21, 22, 23, 2009 - 8:00 am-6:00 pm

Erie 1 BOCES, Room A-2
355 Harlem Road
West Seneca, NY 14224

*The balance of this course (15 hours) will be
taught online.

Registration Deadline: July 13, 2009
\$165.00

Central Management and Assigning of Officials – TheArbiter

Section VI is nearing the end of 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, Cross Country, Field Hockey, Soccer, Girls Swimming and Volleyball were auto-assigned by the Section VI office and reassignments handled by league assigners. Beginning with winter sports, all assigning was handled by the league assigners without Section intervention. In the South, sports assigners from the officials organizations used TheArbiter to assign Soccer, Swimming, Volleyball, Basketball (Catt), Wrestling, Baseball and Softball. The assigners used both manual and auto-assigning techniques.

Federated sports assigners are now assigning in thearbiter. Varsity and JV Football assignments were imported in the North. The Ice Hockey schedule was imported and assignments entered. Boys Lacrosse was 100% assigned in thearbiter by NFLOA Assigner Tom Sutton. Coaches evaluation of officials in TheArbiter will be piloted this season.

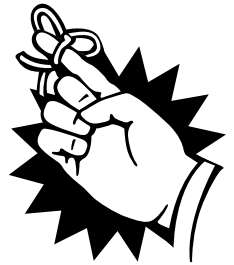
To maintain compliance with Schools Against Violence in Education (SAVE) legislation, the Section VI Superintendents mandated in Sept.2003 that all sports officials who work contests in Section VI must be fingerprinted. In keeping with this mandate, all sports in all leagues must be assigned in the system where the data base of fingerprinted officials is managed. The Section will ensure compliance with SAVE legislation by requiring that all officials are assigned by their corresponding assigner in TheArbiter. Coming onboard in 2009-10 will be Indoor Track, B&G Gymnastics, Chautauqua Basketball and STier Football, XC and Track.

Reminder of Requirements

Officials: All assignments for Section VI sports will be made using ONLY the officials that are signed-in to the Arbiter. **All fall sports officials must sign-in and update their availability on TheArbiter by May 22 in order to receive assignments!!!** A Reminder (with instructions) was emailed to fall officials May 8.

Assigners: All individual sports assigners must verify their rosters and rankings in TheArbiter and notify the Section office of any updates required for their season before assigning begins. Comply with the following timeline for 2009-10.

Athletic Directors: Comply with the following timeline for 2009-10 sport schedules:



2009-2010 Timeline for FALL schedules & assignment of officials NORTH: Buffalo, ECIC, NFL, NO, MM SOUTH: Cattaraugus & Chautauqua

	NORTH	SOUTH
Officials Rankings from coaches/chairs due	4/17/09	NA
Subassigners review of rosters in thearbiter for accuracy	4/24/09	4/24/09
Draft schedules complete	5/1/09	5/8/09
Final schedules complete including non-league games. Import schedules to TheArbiter (South: <u>G.Volleyball only</u>)	5/15/09	5/15/09
Officials registered & availabilities listed	5/22/09	5/22/09
South: GVB assignments from Group 30 must be complete	NA	5/26/09
South: Final schedules complete including non-league games. Import schedules to TheArbiter	NA	5/29/09
Final date: ALL schedules must be in TheArbiter	5/22/09	6/5/09
Varsity & JV assignment of officials begins	5/26/09	6/8/09
Pre-Round Table: Review & finalize selections	5/29/09	NA
Assignments adjusted in thearbiter (where necessary)	6/ 1/09	NA
Assignments released to the OBR's for 72-hour review	6/ 4/09	NA
Round Table (with OBRs) to finalize assignments	6/ 8/09	NA
Publish assignments	6/ 8/09	*
FOOTBALL assignments completed by L.Michael (N), A.Feser(S)	6/19/09	6/19/09
FOOTBALL assignments all entered in thearbiter	7/10/09	7/10/09
Deadline for Round Table (Officials Contract p.13)	6/15	NA

* Dates to be set by Southern Tier assigners

Section VI Hosts Workshops for Athletic Directors

Section VI hosted two mandatory workshops for Athletic Directors: Life of an Athlete Year 5 and the Safety Workshop on Monday, May 11 at Erie 1 BOCES, 355 Harlem Rd., West Seneca.

CHEMICAL AWARENESS WORKSHOP:

Life of an Athlete Year 5: Stakeholder Unity

Section VI sponsored 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..."

SAFETY WORKSHOP: **Concussion Management**

The Section VI Concussion Management Team discussed the following topics:

1. Establishing a concussion management team within the district.
2. State regulations on first aid and CPR for coaches.

The members of this team include Dr. John Leddy and Dr. John Baker of UB Sports Medicine, Dawn Sprenger Nurse Practitioner, Karen Roehling Certified Trainer and Erie 1 BOCES Safety Risk representatives Keith Bender and Dennis Kwaczala.

INTERSCHOLASTIC COACHING CERTIFICATION COURSES ERIE 2-CHAUTAUQUA-CATTARAUGUS BOCES

716-672-4371 ext. 2062

SUMMER COURSES 2009-2010

PHILOSOPHY, PRINCIPLES AND ORGANIZATION OF ATHLETICS IN EDUCATION

July 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 2009
8:30 am - 4:00 pm

HEALTH SCIENCE APPLIED TO COACHING

July 13, 14, 15, 16, 2009
8:15 am - 3:45 pm

THEORY AND TECHNIQUES OF COACHING

July 20, 21, 27, 28 2009
5:30 pm - 9:30 pm

ADULT CPR/AED

Session:
July 2, 2009
5:30 pm - 9:30 pm

August 3, 2009
5:30 pm - 9:30 pm

August 13, 2009
5:30 pm - 9:30 pm

FIRST AID SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE UPDATE

Session A: July 6 & 7, 2009 5:30 pm - 9:30 pm
Session B: August 6, 2009 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

FIRST AID SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

August 3, 4, 10, 11, 2009
5:30 pm - 9:30 pm

ONLINE COURSES:

THEORY & TECHNIQUE OF COACHING ONLINE

September 15, 2009 - December 31, 2009

HEALTH SCIENCE APPLIED TO COACHING ONLINE

September 15, 2009 - December 31, 2009

PHILOSOPHY, PRINCIPLES & ORGANIZATION OF ATHLETICS IN EDUCATION

September, 17 2009 - December 31, 2009

FIRST SEMESTER COURSES 2009-2010

PHILOSOPHY, PRINCIPLES AND ORGANIZATION OF ATHLETICS IN EDUCATION

Sept. 14, 16, 21, 23, 28, 30, Oct. 5, 6, 7, 2009
6:00 pm - 10:00 pm
Instructor: John Bogardus

HEALTH SCIENCE APPLIED TO COACHING

Nov. 2, 4, 9, 10, 16, 17, 18, 23, 2009
6:00 pm - 10:00 pm
Instructor: Marty Hemmer

THEORY AND TECHNIQUES OF COACHING

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

ADULT CPR/AED

Session A: October 8, 2009 6:00pm - 10:00 pm
OR **Session B:** Oct. 26, 2009 6:00pm - 10:00 pm

FIRST AID SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE UPDATE

October 13 & 15, 2009
6:00 pm - 10:00 pm

FIRST AID SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

October 26, 27, 28, 29, 2009
6:00 pm - 10:00 pm

ONLINE COURSES:

THEORY & TECHNIQUE OF COACHING ONLINE

September 15, 2009 - December 31, 2009

HEALTH SCIENCE APPLIED TO COACHING ONLINE

September 15, 2009 - December 31, 2009

PHILOSOPHY, PRINCIPLES & ORGANIZATION OF ATHLETICS IN EDUCATION ONLINE

September 17, 2009 - December 31, 2009

NYSAAA 2009 AWARD WINNERS

Section VI congratulates the New York State Athletic Administrators Association (NYSAAA) award winners for 2009! The Chapter 6 Executive Board, an affiliate of NYSAAA, made the following selections for the 2009 awards which were presented on at the 27th NYSAAA Conference Awards Banquet in Saratoga Springs March 19-21, 2009. Athletic Directors recognized with Years of Service Awards were: 10 years- Jim Graczyk, Pioneer; 15 years- Len Jankiewicz, Lancaster and Jon Roth, Grand Island; 20 years- Greg Kaszubski, Clarence.

Chapter VI Athletic Administrator Award - David B. Thomas

David Thomas has worked with the students of the Buffalo City Schools since 1967. That is when he began his career as a physical education teacher. He later became the Director of Physical Education and Athletics; a position he still holds today. A graduate of Kenmore West High School, Dave ventured on to Bradley University where he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Physical Education. He earned his Masters Degree from Canisius College.

Dave has spent a great deal of his life coaching in various different Buffalo schools in many different sports. He coached varsity boys basketball, tennis, girls softball and girls basketball at Buffalo Arts. He has also coached varsity

boys soccer at Hutch Tech. In 2005, Dave was responsible for starting JV sports for both boys and girls including football, basketball and volleyball. Dave also started the Harvard Cup Hall of Fame (football), the Martin Luther King Holiday Basketball Tournament and he brought back the Silver Hoops All Star Basketball games for county, city and parochial high schools.

Dave was inducted into the Kenmore West Hall of Fame in 2007. Dave was part of the rebuilding and construction of Buffalo All High Stadium. He is now overseeing the new athletic fields under construction at Riverside High School and the reconstruction of Johnny B. Wiley (War Memorial Stadium) Sports Pavilion.

His commitment to athletics and children reach outside the walls of the Buffalo schools as well. Dave is a member of the Section Six Sectional-Intersectional Committee and Finance Committee. He is on the IAABO Board of Directors (basketball officials) and is also a member of the District United Way Committee.

When notified of his award, Dave stated "I have spent 42 years in P.E. and Athletics and have enjoyed each day I go to work because of my associates and the young people I work for. I consider this a great honor as I am humbled by my selection." Dave and his wife Patty have four children, Carey Anne, Bradley, David Jr. and Lauren.

Distinguished Service Award - Cynthia E. Bullis

Cindy Bullis is currently serving as the Interim Principal of the Intermediate Education Center for the Lewiston Porter School District. Prior to this, Cindy was a physical education teacher in grades K-5 at Lewiston Porter since 1992.

Cindy received her Bachelors Degree in Physical Education from Niagara University in 1981. She completed her Masters of Arts in Counseling Education at Edinboro University graduating in 1985 as well as a Masters of Science in Educational Leadership from Niagara University in May 2007. Cindy has received certifications in the areas of New York State School District Leader and New York State School Building Leader as well as Permanent Certification in Physical Education K-12.

Cindy is a Lewiston-Porter Alumni Association Treasurer, a committee member of the Athletic Hall of Fame, and a Section VI boys basketball committee member. Cindy was inducted into the Lewiston-Porter Athletic Hall of Fame in 1990. In 2003 she was awarded the American Red Cross Fund Raiser of the Year and in 1976 she received the Athletic Scholarship Battaglia Award.

Cindy has coached many sports. She is presently the girls varsity swim coach. Previously she was a junior varsity boys and girls swim coach. She has also coached varsity and junior varsity girls track and field. Also, at Lewiston-Porter Cindy has been a varsity girls and boys volleyball head coach. While at Niagara University, Cindy was the Women's Assistant Basketball coach and the Head Women's Volleyball coach.

Cindy currently serves as the Section VI Girls Representative to the New York State Public High School Athletic Association Executive Committee.

Judith Martens Secretarial Award - Fran Kowalewski

Fran Kowalewski is the secretary to the athletic director at Depew High School. She has held this position since 1996. Since that time, Fran has worked with student-athletes who work hard to be successful, coaches who are committed to the program, parents who support their children and the athletic program, and community members who have a positive perspective of what our department is trying to accomplish. Fran graduated from Jamestown High School and Bryant & Stratton Business Institute in Buffalo.

When notified that she had been chosen for this award, Fran states that she enjoys preparing schedules, interacting with league and non-league schools and the transportation department. Working out conflicts, adjusting times, notifying everyone involved and when you are finished you see a sports season unfold without a problem. I find this to be very satisfying and take pride in the end result. Fran also states she didn't realize what it took behind the scenes to keep a physical education and athletic office running smoothly. Fran takes pride in making sure each task is complete before she goes home as she would feel responsible if something she could have prevented went wrong. The success of this department is based on teamwork and everyone on this team works together.

Fran lives in Depew with her husband Paul.

Community Service Award - ADPRO Sports

ADPRO Sports was founded in 1998 and has grown to be Western New York's largest dealer of Nike apparel and equipment. At ADPRO they pride themselves on service. This first class service is provided by a seasoned group of professionals that include current and former coaches and athletic directors who recognize the needs of their customers through their own first hand experience. ADPRO Sports is committed to offering its clients the finest combination of pricing and quality possible. Listed below are ADPRO's many community involvements/sponsorships:

- All WNY Scholar Athlete Award
- Kensington Lions WNY All-Star Football Classic
- WNY Nike/ADPRO High School and Youth Football Coaches Clinic
- WNY High School Football Winter Passing League
- WNY Nike/Sparq High School Football Rating Day
- WNY High School Basketball Coaches Clinic
- Robert E. Rich Memorial High School Wood Bat Challenge
- Monsignor Martin-ECIC Basketball Challenge
- Buffalo Public Schools Foundation
- Monsignor Martin High School Football Play-Offs
- Section 6 High School Football Play-Offs Coaches Hospitality Suite
- Buffalo Police Athletic League/Gus Macker 3-on-3 Basketball
- YMCA Turkey Trot

Gold medals aren't really made of gold. They're made of sweat, determination, and a hard-to-find alloy called guts.

State Bowling Titles Claimed by Section VI Bowlers

The **Section VI Boys Bowling Team** took the State Championship Gold Medal at the Gates Bowl in Rochester. Ryan Gates is the first bowler to ever make states from Gowanda. Frank Porter rolled a 1,228. Maurice bowled 1,218 and Tyler had 1,211. These are six-game totals so all three of these kids plus Stopka with the high series of 1309 averaged over 200.

In addition to being a member of the 1st place Section VI all-star team, Niagara Falls High School's **Frank Porter** won a gold medal for his **high game** at the State Championships with a 256. Frank also received the Sportsmanship award for Section VI. **John Stopka**, a senior at Kenmore West High School, led the state championship Section VI team with **tournament high series 1,309**. He led the Blue Devils to a second place finish at sectionals with a 699-656- a 1355 set. As per coach Charles Burkhardt. "He came on really strong at the end of the season. With the season he had, he definitely deserves it."

The Section 6 girls team took the Silver medal at the NYSPHSAA State Championships at the Gates Bowl. They were led by Krystal Gravelle from Niagara Falls High School with an 1,161 six-game total (193 avg). Other participants included: Alyssa Narkiewicz (NF), Brianna Larson (NT), Hannah Mosher (NT), Melanie Hannon (Maryvale), Jackie Willy (Clarence). These girls qualified for states by finishing in the top six at the Section VI Championships held at Thruway Lanes in Cheektowaga.



*Standing (l to r): Coach Matt Burt, Eric Michalski (Amherst), Ryan Gates (Gowanda), John Stopka (Kenmore West), Section Coordinators Dan Kaplan and John Seeley
Kneeling (l to r): Maurice Davidson (Bennett), Frank Porter (Niagara Falls) and Tyler Skoczylas (North Tonawanda).*

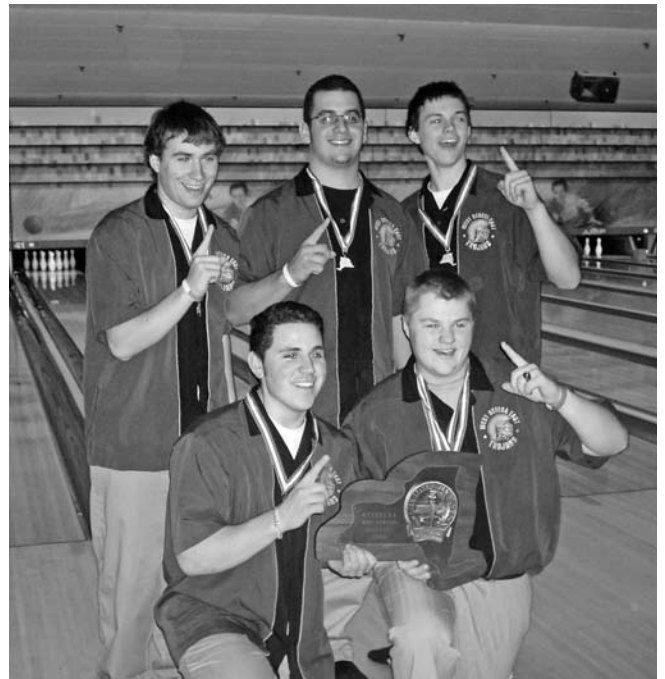
West Seneca East Boys Bowling Team Wins the Gold Medal

By Justin Mergenhagen, West Seneca East Boys Bowling Coach

West Seneca West was established in the mid 40's and East was established in 1970. No team in any sport has ever earned the State Title. That is many years and sports. To be record setters and part of history will live with the bowlers and me for life!!! Another accomplishment is going to states 2 years in a row and 2 titles in 2 years, 2nd place last year. That is unheard of - no other team has done the *2 year in a row thing*.

We had one goal in mind ever since states last year and that was to return to earn the State title as 1st place gold winners! When we were at sectionals we knew we had an opportunity to redeem ourselves and felt gifted to have a second stab at the champ spot. We put a lot of pressure on ourselves, knowing that *this is it* for the 4 seniors. We were determined to get the gold state plaque and make history for West Seneca. We had a slow start at States, not finding our lines until the end of the 1st game. Our 2nd game turned up a lot. We earned some good pins that game, along with the 3rd game. We were down by 48 pins after our 3rd game so we knew that we had some catching up to do. We did just that coming out after lunch with some power strikes and were able to string some "hambones" (i.e. 4 strikes in a row) together in the afternoon. One thing we did well was take advantage of the 10th frames, striking out most of the time to gain extra pins.

For the four seniors, this was their final competition at the high school level, so it meant the world to them to just pound away and stay focused and determined. We deserved the win, because we never let up and came through when it was our time. The boys are to be congratulated for their life-long dedication to the sport. Their high school coaches and parents should be congratulated for their continuous support and encouragement. The boys deserve ever bit of it because they know what it feels like to lose at the end..... but not this time. They came out champs!



*Standing (l to r) Derrick Gerschwendter, John Truslow, and Josh Broad
Kneeling (l or r) Nick Morrissey and Branden Simone*

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 Scholar Team Award Winners Winter 2009

BOYS BASKETBALL		BOYS INDOOR TRACK		GIRLS BASKETBALL		GIRLS BOWLING	
Frontier	95.241	Clarence	95.070	Wilson	97.330	Lancaster	96.525
Southwestern	94.401	Hamburg	94.493	Portville	96.543	Depew	95.123
Royalton Hartland	93.753	Williamsville East	94.481	Barker	96.445	Williamsville East	94.683
Hamburg	93.196	Lancaster	94.473	Albion	96.045	Alden	94.007
Albion	93.036	Depew	93.979	Southwestern	95.936	Clarence	93.916
Falconer	92.719	Iroquois	93.633	Clymer	95.806	Iroquois	93.857
Iroquois	92.443	Frontier	93.381	East Aurora	95.789	Cheektowaga	93.813
Tonawanda	92.410	Williamsville North	92.855	Williamsville East	95.689	Williamsville North	93.597
Williamsville East	92.397	West Seneca East	92.222	West Seneca West	95.598	John F. Kennedy	93.356
Clarence	92.395	West Seneca West	91.846	Hamburg	94.820	Hamburg	93.343
Franklinville	92.334	Lockport	91.685	Iroquois	94.814	Springville	92.937
Newfane	92.219	Dunkirk	91.083	Pine Valley	94.689	Lackawanna	92.846
Olean	92.186	Lake Shore	90.637	Williamsville South	94.406	North Tonawanda	92.590
Akron	92.045	Grand Island	90.498	West Valley	94.149	Frontier	92.395
East Aurora	91.921	Williamsville South	90.293	Brocton	94.121	Holland	92.363
Holland	91.810	Niagara Falls	90.167	Cassadaga Valley	94.024	Chautauqua Lake	92.079
Barker	91.647	Olean	90.025	Lockport	93.790	Tonawanda	91.867
Niagara Wheatfield	91.531			Medina	93.780	Southwestern	91.521
Depew	91.486	BOYS SWIMMING & DIVING		Falconer	93.666	Williamsville South	90.837
Springville	91.271	Royalton Hartland	97.267	Lewiston Porter	93.661	Niagara Wheatfield	90.752
Allegany Limestone	91.143	Clarence	96.326	Depew	93.433	Grand Island	90.707
Clymer	91.080	Southwestern	95.758	Franklinville	93.113	Clymer	90.164
Lewiston Porter	90.990	East Aurora	95.494	Springville	93.077		
Lancaster	90.921	Williamsville East	94.928	Alden	93.064	GIRLS INDOOR TRACK	
Wilson	90.829	Hamburg	94.387	Niagara Wheatfield	93.053	West Seneca West	97.593
Williamsville North	90.753	Williamsville North	94.374	Sherman	92.857	Depew	96.941
West Seneca West	90.745	North Tonawanda	94.318	Akron	92.668	Frontier	96.824
West Valley	90.712	Lake Shore	93.924	Newfane	92.662	Clarence	96.768
Williamsville South	90.601	Newfane	93.781	Clarence	92.485	Hamburg	96.098
Grand Island	90.414	Olean	93.642	Eden	91.909	Iroquois	95.879
Kenmore East	90.265	Sweet Home	93.591	Chautauqua Lake	91.866	North Tonawanda	95.733
Starpoint	90.209	Lewiston Porter	93.397	Holland	91.705	Lockport	95.516
Maple Grove	90.147	Starpoint	93.043	Grand Island	91.686	Allegany Limestone	95.392
Kenmore West	90.105	Iroquois	92.927	Sweet Home	91.684	Lancaster	95.373
		West Seneca East	92.751	Starpoint	91.442	Lake Shore	95.280
BOYS BOWLING		Lockport	92.082	Hutch Tech	91.386	Williamsville North	95.252
Southwestern	95.084	Medina	92.006	Williamsville North	91.360	Williamsville East	95.096
Depew	94.387	Albion	91.821	Frontier	91.260	Cheektowaga	94.823
Clarence	94.315	Frontier	91.502	Allegany Limestone	91.243	Olean	94.068
Lancaster	92.724	Williamsville South	91.415	West Seneca East	91.212	West Seneca East	91.907
Alden	92.621	Barker	91.317	Lancaster	91.187	Niagara Falls	91.750
Falconer	92.151	City Honors	90.995	Westfield	91.017	Springville	91.084
Williamsville North	91.810	Cheektowaga	90.963	Kenmore West	90.578	Kenmore West	90.625
Lewiston Porter	91.343	Akron	90.920	Lake Shore	90.423	Kenmore East	90.583
Williamsville East	91.227	Kenmore West	90.888	Tonawanda	90.409	Williamsville South	90.576
Cheektowaga	90.976	Niagara Wheatfield	90.869	Maple Grove	90.323	Fredonia	90.556
Eden	90.959	Kenmore East	90.859	Kenmore East	90.160	Sweet Home	90.530
Frontier	90.902	Grand Island	90.564	Fredonia	90.059	Grand Island	90.064
Grand Island	90.695	Eden	90.552	Salamanca	90.031		
East Aurora	90.480	Tonawanda	90.018				
Williamsville South	90.424	Cleveland Hill	90.008				

GIRLS SWIMMING & DIVING

Newfane	96.556
Medina	95.205
Barker	94.596
Albion	93.174
Royalton Hartland	92.736
City Honors	91.315
Akron	90.951

ICE HOCKEY

Lockport	94.063
Clarence	93.918
Lancaster	93.568
Hamburg	93.411
Niagara Falls	93.125
Williamsville East	92.915
West Seneca West	91.743
Williamsville North	91.421
Sweet Home	91.414
Williamsville South	90.643
Niagara Wheatfield	90.273

RIFLERY

Clarence	95.397
Alden	94.149
Lancaster	93.031
Kenmore East	90.212

WRESTLING

Wilson	94.460
Clarence	94.146
Alden	93.730
Gowanda	93.525
Southwestern	93.455
Williamsville North	93.157
Albion	92.376
Barker	92.187
Depew	91.900
Lockport	91.900
Hamburg	91.674
West Seneca East	91.116
Cheektowaga	91.101
Newfane	91.087
Williamsville East	90.899
Williamsville South	90.858
Fredonia	90.504
Sweet Home	90.338
Falconer	90.230
Lewiston Porter	90.199

Section VI Rifle Team and Josh Gorski Claim NYSPHSAA Regional titles

By Coach Paul Borkowski

Josh Gorski, a senior and honor student at Alden High School, has been a member of the rifle team for the past 4 years. This year was Josh's second trip to the regional match. He was part of the Alden team and the Section 6 team that fired at West Point last year. Josh fired a 276.10 at the Nassau County Range and finished in 4th place overall. As part of the aggregate score, he fired a 94.05 in the kneeling stage and was declared the **state kneeling champion**.

The **Section VI team** won the sectional competition for the first time since 2006, taking 1st place in cartridge with a score of 1635. Team members are pictured (back row- boys L to R): sophomore Santino Mecca, seniors Michael Brice and Josh Gorski, juniors Andy Besch and Jack Wallace. (front row girls L to R): freshman Dominique Mecca, 8th grader Alison Sylvester, sophomore Kirsten Guidie, junior Victoria May and senior Kim Hahn. Statistics from the Regional Competition follow.



STATISTICS RIFLE REGIONAL COMPETITION 2009

Cartridge	Air Rifle
H.S. Team	H.S. Team
1. Valley Stream (8) 1094	1. Valley Stream (8) 1107
2. Alden (6) 1086	2. Alden (6) 1063
3. Central Square (3)1024	3. South Lewis (3) 1050
	4. Massena (10) 1349

Cartridge Sectional Team	Air Rifle Sectional Team
1. Section 6 1635	1. Section 8 1662
2. Section 8 1632	2. Section 6 1604
3. Section 3 1544	3. Section 3 1565
	4. Section 10 1349

Section 6 Shooters			
<u>Cartridge</u>			
Andy Besch	Alden	276.10	3 rd overall
Josh Gorski	Alden	276.10	4 th
Santino Mecca	Orchard Park	275.08	6 th
Dominique Mecca	Orchard Park	274.08	8 th
Jack Wallace	Alden	267.07	10 th
Mike Brice	Alden	267.06	11 th

Besch won: 3rd aggregate (overall)4th prone, 4th offhand & 4th kneeling
 Gorski won: 4th aggregate, 5th prone, 10th offhand & **1st kneeling**
 S. Mecca won: 6th aggregate, 3rd offhand, 5th kneeling
 D.Mecca won: 8th aggregate, 3rd prone & 7th offhand
 Wallace won: 10th aggregate, 10th prone, 10th kneeling
 Brice won: 8th prone, 6th kneeling

<u>Air Rifle</u>			
Kim Hahn	Clarence	277.08	6 th place
Andy Besch	Alden	273.09	7 th
Victoria May	Alden	269.05	9 th
Josh Gorski	Alden	267.05	10 th
Jack Wallace	Alden*	264.04	11 th
Kirsten Guidie	Alden	254.04	17 th

Alden's alternate: 8th grader Alyson Sylvester



Section VI Division 2 Wrestlers Shine at States

Section VI had four Division 2 wrestlers win their weight class at Times Union Center in Albany Saturday, March 2, 2009.

Kenny Betts, a three-time Division 2 state finalist from Fredonia High School, concluded his 6-year varsity career as the state record holder in wins (269) and as a state champion beating Craig Scott of Lyons (Section 5), 2-0 in the 152# final. The match was scoreless after one period, but Kenny escaped 47 seconds into the second for 1-0 lead. He kept pushing the pace, forcing Scott to receive a stall warning. Betts, who surpassed Shepard's (Central Square) 267 victories, went 57-3 on the season and was 269-37 for his career, including 186pins.

Kyle McGregor, a junior with a current career record of 110-11, became the first Tonawanda Wrestler to win a New York State Wrestling Championship in Tonawanda High School history. Kyle won his weight class of 112 lbs with class. He defeated Kyle Crisufuli of Phoenix High School 2-0. Crisufuli, coached by 3x World Cup Champion Gene Mills, is a 3x finalist and a State Champion of two years ago. Crisufuli took second last year at the New York State Championships, while Kyle McGregor took 4th at 103 lbs.

McGregor is coached by Jim Schraufstetter and Tim Considine. This is Coach Schraufstetter's fifth season as Varsity coach and he could not be more proud. Coach Schraufstetter mentioned that it is great that Kyle has won a state title but to go the whole tournament without a point scored on him is phenomenal. Kyle finished the season 38-2. One of his losses he avenged in the Semi-Finals at the State Championships to beat Joe Smaldone of Geneva 3-0 who he lost to in the Finals at the Sweet Home Tournament this past January.

Kyle has his sites set on the High School Nationals come April 1st – April 3rd in Virginia Beach, Virginia. Last year Kyle was one match shy of being an All-American. He has already avenged his loss of last year at nationals by defeating David White of Pennsylvania to take the Empire Nationals title for the third year in a row on Sunday, March 15th at Gates Chili High School. Hopefully Kyle will reap the benefits of all this success and hard work by receiving his dream of a Division I Scholarship.

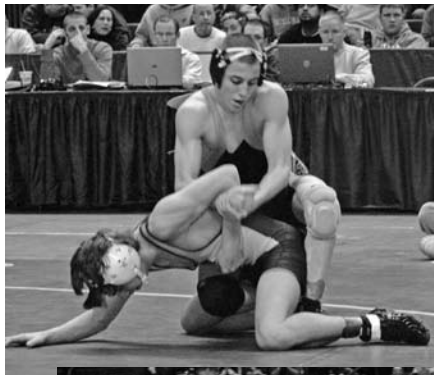
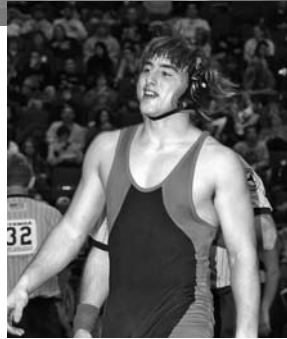
Matt Peters, a senior at East Aurora, had a career record of 165-31, the second highest win total in East Aurora's history. Matt became East Aurora's first ever New York State Wrestling Champion in the school's history, winning his weight class of 119 lbs. Matt defeated Quinton Murphy of Holley, state champion last year, by a score of 4-0. Matt also defeated D.J. Fluger and Ryan Osleeb, who placed last season at the state tournament. Matt, coached by Paul Rakoski, will be wrestling in the Senior High School Nationals April 1st – April 3rd in Virginia Beach. He is hoping to wrestle in college and is interested in attending Cleveland State, University of Buffalo, or Virginia Tech.

Additional statistics include: 2007 Placed 4th in the state; 2008 & 2009 Section 6 Champion; 2008-2009 50-1 record with a 165 career wins second in school history; 784 career back points; 280 career takedowns .

Pioneer's **Kyle Colling** finished the event with a 9-4 victory over Craig Amidon of Canisteo-Greenwood (Section 5) in the 215-pound final. Colling's only loss this season came to Amidon a few weeks prior by a 2-1 score, but he made a big adjustment and came out more aggressive to take the state championship.



Betts



McGregor

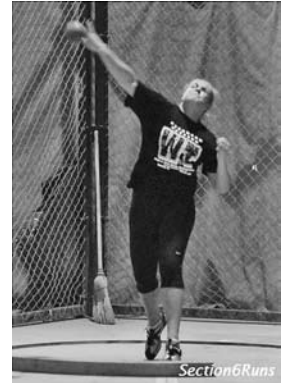


Peters

Section VI Indoor Track Stars

Melissa Kurzdorfer (photo right), a junior at Lancaster HS, had a very successful Indoor Track Season. She won her third consecutive Indoor State Shot-put Title at Cornell's Barton Hall and as icing on the cake set a new Indoor State Shot-put record on her last throw at 48' 2 1/2".

Melissa also established a new state record in the 20 lb. weight throw at 57' 71/2". An honor roll student, Melissa looks forward to the outdoor campaign in the shot-put and discus where she has also won state titles. Her throws coach is George Rak. Melissa is shown on the left with her "twin", Erin Miller of Lockport. They call themselves "Thunder and Lightning".



Brian Archie (above) of Niagara Falls took first place in the Long Jump at the NYSPHSA and Federation Indoor Track Championships with a leap of 22' 1.25 ". At the State meet he also finished 13th in 55 Meters and 7th in Triple Jump. Brian's other accomplishments include Section 6 champion in Long Jump, Triple Jump, and 55 Meters. He was voted by the coaches as the Boys Indoor Track Most Valuable Athlete. Brian who is coached by Jonathan Robins, is a honor student, and will be attending UB in the Fall.

Always A Winner...

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

TIPS FOR COACHES AND PARENTS:

"You don't win silver. You lose gold." That's the sour message of a sneaker advertisement that aired on TV during the Atlanta Olympics.

Such omnipresent multimedia messages combined with a "winning is everything" philosophy embraced by increasing numbers of parents and coaches - makes it harder than ever for adults to teach our student athletes that it's not whether you win or lose, but how you play the game that's important.

It's not surprising that the rise in bad sportsmanship -- and outrageous behavior in professional sports has resulted in a parallel increase of poor sportsmanship (e.g., trash-talking, violence) in high schools as well as youth sports. Regardless of whether we caution our athletes to NOT idolize professional athletes who behave badly, our students will continue to be influenced by the behavior of the pros.

How can you instill in your student athlete's the importance of good sportsmanship and offset the "win at all costs" philosophy? Administration, coaches and parents can start by focusing on these issues:

- **Be Your Player's Role Model.** Offer praise and encouraging words for all athletes, including your opponent's athletes. Never openly berate, tease, or demean any student athlete, coach, or referee while attending a sporting event. When attending athletic events or watching them on TV with your child, refrain from criticizing or condemning athletes' performances.
During the Olympics, what messages are you sending your child if you honor only athletes from the United States, while rooting against athletes from all other countries? Let your child see you enjoy the sports and athletic activities that you play, modeling the philosophy that you don't always need to win or be the best to enjoy playing sports.
- **Do You Have a Hidden Agenda?** Be honest with yourself about why you want your child to play organized sports. What do you want him or her to gain from the experience? Are your intentions based on providing them with pleasurable, social activities that develop a better sense of self-worth, skills, and sportsmanship? Or do you harbor dreams of them turning their topspin forehand into a collegiate scholarship, or riches and fame? A child's participation in sports and the importance attached to it should not be driven by a parent's desire to use her child's sports accomplishments for ulterior purposes.
- **You Set the Rules.** It's ultimately your responsibility to teach your student athlete's good sportsmanship, both as a participant and as a spectator. If you observe your child engaged in poor sportsmanship, regardless of whether his coach corrects him or not, you must discuss your child's misbehavior and insensitivity with him after the game. If a coach is ignoring, allowing, or encouraging poor sportsmanship, you need to make your objections known to the coach in a *private* discussion.
- **Watching and Learning.** Whether you're watching the Olympics on TV or attending a high-school sporting event, you can always find "teachable moments" regarding

sportsmanship. Ask your child their opinions of: players who showboat and taunt their opponents; the costs to the team of a technical foul, or being ejected from a game for unsportsmanlike-like conduct; and the appropriate behavior of opposing players toward one another after a game. During these "teachable moments" ask those open-ended questions and listen more than you talk or lecture.

JUST FOR COACHES:

Coaches nurture good sportsmanship. They should embody parents' values regarding good sportsmanship. A coach must model good sportsmanship at every level and make it a core goal of his work with kids.

I recommend that every high school sports coach engage his or her players in a detailed discussion of good sportsmanship as soon as he or she forms their team. A written contract, perhaps titled The Good Sportsmanship Code, should be given to every student athlete and his parent to sign. The contract should spell out what the coach expects from each player in terms of good sportsmanship, including the following areas:

- Cheating
- Losing one's temper
- Negative criticism of teammates, coaches, referees, and opposing players
- Blaming teammates for mistakes or a poor team performance
- "Trash talk" and taunting opponents
- Showboating
- Arguing referees' calls and judgments
- The need to congratulate one's opponents after a game

Coaching athletes at any level is an honor and a privilege that carries with it a moral responsibility to contribute to the healthy character development of young athletes. Coaches who equate "trying your best" as the definition of success -- and who value, expect, and demand good sportsmanship from their players -- help shape the moral, ethical, and spiritual character of children.

Communicate often with your child's coach to make sure he takes this responsibility seriously.

TIME OUT FOR A SPORT THOUGHT:

- Have you ever had a firsthand experience as a coach of a team coming together in a magical way? Why did this happen? What factors were involved?
- In a team meeting after a game, do you mention the little things that were positive after a big win or a bad loss?
- Suppose you have a rule that any player who misses a practice without clearing it with you in advance will be suspended for one game. If your star player violated this rule just before the most important game of the season, would you be willing to enforce the penalty even if it meant that you would lose the game?
- Should you consult with your players before establishing team rules? That is, should you ask players to contribute suggestions concerning team rules and penalties?

(continued on page 12)

...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.

Sportsmanship ...

Sportsmanship ...

GOOD SPORTS PROMOTION PROGRAM – SECTION VI 2008–2009 WINNERS

The New York State Public High School Athletic Association has established the promotion of sportsmanship as a major goal. The New York Sportsmanship Promotion Program encourages each member school to assess its district’s approach to developing sportsmanship and recognizes schools that have exemplary sportsmanship programs with New York Sportsmanship Promotion Awards that are presented annually to qualifying schools. The NYSPHSAA Sportsmanship Committee, consisting of one representative from each section, coordinates the New York Sportsmanship Promotion Program, provides sportsmanship guidelines and materials to schools, studies sportsmanship concerns and recommend solutions, administers the selection process for recognizing schools with exemplary sportsmanship programs and coordinate public relations campaigns promoting sportsmanship.

Each school that has completed the New York Sportsmanship Promotion Self-Assessment will receive a New York Sportsmanship Promotion Certificate and congratulatory letter from the Association. The Section Sportsmanship Committee has reviewed the self-assessments submitted for 2009 and selected the following schools to receive Section recognition with a New York Sportsmanship Promotion Plaque for promoting sportsmanship!

Allegheny–Limestone High School, Cleveland Hill High School, Frewsburg High School and North Tonawanda High School

CONGRATULATIONS!! These schools will be invited to the September Athletic Council meeting to receive their award. These schools are in contention for the New York Sportsmanship Promotion State Banner. By **May 30**, the NYSPHSAA Sportsmanship Committee will choose the school(s) deserving and this prestigious award will be presented to the winner(s) at the Annual NYSPHSAA, Inc. Central Committee Meeting Dinner in August 2009.

IT'S OFFICIAL...

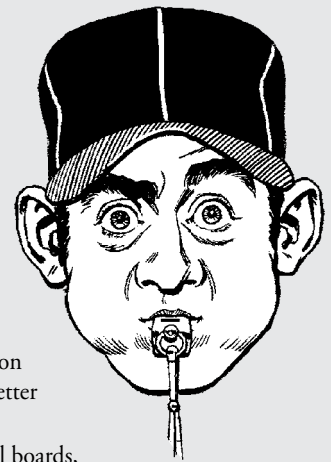
By Tom Cowan/Section VI Official's Coordinator

Congratulations are extended to all individuals who are in any way involved in the steady growth of interscholastic athletic programs throughout the country!

Recent studies indicate that students who engage in afterschool activity programs accept the added responsibilities associated with their choice to participate. For most school districts, interscholastic sports dominate the afterschool programs made available to students. The privilege to participate provides valuable lessons in teamwork, sportsmanship and self discipline.

Athletes become representatives of the district and are encouraged to display appropriate conduct in the classroom, on the field of competition and throughout the community in general. They generally have higher grade point averages, better attendance records and a lower dropout rate.

I forward a special “Thank You” for your efforts to maintain and grow local programs. I especially encourage school boards, coaches, maintenance workers, sports officials and involved citizens to keep up the good work. Supporting after school activities means understanding that they are a privilege and they become a valuable extension of a good educational program.



SECTION VI

355 Harlem Road
West Seneca, NY 14224