



# SECTION VI *newsletter*

January 2008

Volume 14 Issue 3

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

## *Next Athletic Council Meeting*

March 19, 2008

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:**

- Guidelines for Charter School Placement
- Sport Season Calendar 2008-09
- By-Laws Change (due dates for sports reports)
- Combining Schools, Senior All-Star and Outside Agency Contests

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

- Updates to the Section VI Constitution and By-Laws

## **CONGRATULATIONS Section VI Fall Scholar/ Athlete State Champion**

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

**Southwestern Football- State  
Champion with a team GPA of 95.333**

Congratulations to the members of the Southwestern High School football team, winners of their first NYSPHSAA Team Scholar Athlete State Championship for the Fall 2007 sports season. A team of 21 varsity members placed first out of 221 teams in the state with a combined average of 95.333. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Scholar Athlete State Championship that Southwestern High School has received.

(1<sup>st</sup> being the Boys Golf team in Spring of 2007.) This is the 1<sup>st</sup> for their Football team.

NAME	GRADE	AVERAGE
Sleggs, Will	10	97.5
Lata, Andy	11	95.5
Sopak, Zack	11	99
Wright, Travis	12	95.5
Sanfilippo, Brandon	12	92.75
Skinner, Greg	12	94
Ferraro, Matt	12	95.5
McCandless, Zack	12	94.33
Bursch, Levi	10	95.33
LaMantia, David	11	95.83
Schutte, Trevor	10	93.25
Volpe, John	11	95.5

## **CONGRATULATIONS SCHOLAR/ ATHLETES AND STATE CHAMPS!!**

### ***NYSPHSAA SCHOLAR/ATHLETE TEAM AWARDS***

#### ***FALL 2007 STATE CHAMPIONS***

SPORT	SECTION	SCHOOL	TEAM GPA
Cross Country - Boys	5	Greece Odyssey School	98.779
Cross Country - Girls	9	Warwick Valley	99.266
Field Hockey	8	Cold Spring Harbor HS	95.833
<b>Football</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Southwestern</b>	<b>95.333</b>
Soccer - Girls	4	Norwich	97.052
Soccer - Boys	1	Irvington	97.417
Swimming - Girls	8	Farmingdale	98.835
Tennis - Girls	8	Herricks	99.444
Volleyball - Girls	5	Brighton	97.277

### **SECTION VI 2007 FALL SPORTS STATE CHAMPIONS**

*(see page 5-7)*

#### **Teams Sports**

- Girls Cross Country Class B – East Aurora
- Field Hockey Class AA - Williamsville North
- Volleyball Boys Class B – Eden
- Volleyball Girls Class C – Eden

#### **Individual Sports**

- Girls Cross Country Class B - Catherine Lusardi, East Aurora

#### **Boys Gymnastics**

1st Place Team: Section 6

- All-Around, Floor Exercise, Pommel Horse & Vault - Michael Morse, Clarence
- Still Rings, Parallel Bars & High Bar - Jonathan Zirna, Clarence

#### **Girls Swimming**

- 200 Freestyle: Marissa Dressel, Kenmore West
- Diving - Casey Matthews, Williamsville North

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

*(listed on page 8-9)*

## **CONGRATULATIONS SOUTHWESTERN STATE SCHOLAR ATHLETE CHAMPIONS!!!**



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

This Newsletter is available at our Web site: [www.section6.wnyric.org](http://www.section6.wnyric.org) - click on News

# NEWS FROM THE STATE OFFICE

## ASSISTANT DIRECTOR POSITION

Candidates interested in applying should contact the NYSPHSAA for further information. Major responsibilities include sanctioning, Modified & Sportsmanship Committees, Safety & Risk Management, annual school classification, coaching clinics, NY Good Sports, Wrestling Minimum Weight Certification and Citizenship Through Athletics, etc. Application deadline January 31, 2008.

## ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

**GIRLS VOLLEYBALL** - The committee is requesting to be able to permit two score keepers at the table with the home score book as the official book.

**BOYS SOCCER** - The committee is requesting to have statewide consistency for the following procedures:

- All games will consist of two 40 minute halves.
- Regular season overtime procedure will be two 10 minute sudden victory periods.
- In regular season tournaments when teams need to advance there will be two 10 minute sudden victory periods and if still tied penalty kicks will be used to determine advancement.
- In Sectional and State Tournament games overtimes will consist of two 15 minute sudden victory periods and if still tied penalty kicks. However in the state final championship game Co-Champions will be declared at the end of the two 15 minute periods with no penalty kicks.

**GIRLS SOCCER** - The committee is requesting to have statewide consistency for the following procedures:

- All games will consist of two 40 minute halves.
- Regular season overtime procedure will be two 10 minute periods (played fully). If still tied, the game will end in a tie.
- In regular season tournaments when teams need to advance there will be two 10 minute periods (played fully) and if still tied penalty kicks will be used to determine advancement.
- In Sectional and State Tournament games overtimes will consist of two 10 minute periods (played fully) followed by two 5 minute sudden victory periods. If still tied penalty kicks will be used to determine the winner.

**WRESTLING** - The committee is seeking approval for a wrestler to compete twice in a regular dual meet under specific situations pertaining to forfeits and exhibition matches.

**FIELD HOCKEY** - The committee will be requesting the following rule clarification; if undershirts are worn - they must be white in color for the home team and dark in color for the away team.

## POSTPONED ITEMS

The following items will be addressed by the Executive Committee on February 1, 2008

**OUTDOOR TRACK & FIELD** - To adjust the at large entry to permit one entry for Division I

and one entry for Division II when the qualifying standard has been met. (Vote in February)

## OFFICIALS COORDINATING FEDERATION

- The approval of the 2008 – 2010 Officials Agreement. (Vote in February)

**SPORTSMANSHIP** - Requesting approval of a mandatory Sportsmanship Workshop to be coupled with the yearly mandatory Eligibility Workshop. (Vote in February)

## ITEMS OF INTEREST-REMINDERS

### FUTURE MEETING DATES

February 1 Executive Committee 1:00  
(Saratoga Hotel)

February 9 Boys Lacrosse 10:00

### COACHES CLINICS (Brochures will be mailed)

Softball January 18, 2008

Adirondack Sports Complex

Lacrosse January 25, 2008 SUNY Cortland

Baseball February 29, 2008 Cooperstown

Field Hockey March 28, 2008 Utica

Track & Field March 28-29, 2008 Utica

Soccer May 30, 2008 Oneonta

Volleyball TBA

**CITIZENSHIP THROUGH ATHLETICS** - On February 6, 2008 in the NYSPHSAA Office the CTA Instructors course is scheduled from 8 AM—3:30 PM. There is no cost. A light breakfast and lunch will be provided. Please contact Lloyd Mott to register at [lmott@nysphsaa.org](mailto:lmott@nysphsaa.org).

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

**WRESTLING** - The concept of a regional wrestling format to advance to the state championship finals is being discussed. The wrestling committee members are seeking input prior to their April meeting.

**BASEBALL** - The committee is considering requesting a two day tournament format.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

**HANDBOOK COMMITTEE** - Permission has been granted for the Handbook Committee to explore the establishment of specific penalties and/or fines for rule and eligibility infractions. Any suggestions should be sent to Nina Van Erk.

## RECENT NEWS

**CONCUSSION MANAGEMENT** - Sections will be scheduling concussion management workshops for athletic directors and physicians with whom the schools work. Superintendents are encouraged to support attendance at the workshop. Any school interested in purchasing the ImPACT Concussion Management program, please check the NYSAAA or NYSPHSAA websites.

**FOOTBALL CLASSIFICATION CUT OFF NUMBERS** - The following classification numbers will be used beginning with the 2008 season. (Please note - this is a change from

previously published numbers) Class AA 1051 and up; Class A 626 – 1050; Class B 441 – 625; Class C 276 – 440; Class D 275 and below

**ICE HOCKEY** - Rule waivers were approved to assist in the transition from NCAA to NFHS playing rules.

**BOYS LACROSSE** - The East Regional Semi-Final games scheduled for June 12, 2008 will now be played at Hofstra University.

**ON LINE STORE** - When ordering NYSPHSAA Handbooks, sport rulebooks and scorebooks please use our on-line store at [www.nysphsaa.org](http://www.nysphsaa.org). The use of the on-line store enables orders to be processed more quickly and efficiently.

**BOYS BASKETBALL** - For 2008—2009 season permit each Section to have the opportunity to use two 16 minute halves as they feel appropriate in their schedules for tournaments and non league games.

**RISK MANAGEMENT DVD** - The NFHS and NIAAA have joined to produce a Risk Management DVD. The two part DVD can be shown to parents & students to highlight the need to take responsibility for one's safety. Part II targets administrators and coaches focusing on the 14 duties involved in interscholastic athletic programs. The DVD can be purchased on our on-line store for a cost of \$34.95.

**FIELD HOCKEY** - Protective eye wear will be required for the 2008 season.

## ONGOING ANNOUNCEMENTS

**POINT OF EMPHASIS** - All safety related equipment required for competition should be worn in all "practice sessions". Examples include but are not limited to: mouth guards, goggles, ear guards and shin guards. Jewelry should not be worn in practice.

**WRESTLING** - Continuation of the waiver for the 1.5% weight loss rule. The 50% rule and the current minimum weight class will remain in effect.

**SPORTS RECORDS** - Coordinators are reminded to send in any new records at the conclusion of the season.

**FUELING SPORTS PERFORMANCE DVD** - The NFHS has partnered with Gatorade to provide a free video which aims to educate high school coaches on the performance benefits of hydration, how dehydration can affect health and performance and what to do in an emergency situation. The free video is available online at [www.nfhslearn.com](http://www.nfhslearn.com) as part of the NFHS Coaches Education Program.

**PERMISSION FOR SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS** - School districts are reminded to follow the procedures outlined in the NYSPHSAA Permission for Special Accommodations policy to ensure all students in need of religious or physical accommodations are reviewed

*Continued on page 4*

## UPCOMING MANDATORY WORKSHOP

### Life of an Athlete Year 4: "Selecting and Training Student Athlete Leaders"

April 28, 2008 8:30am – noon

At Erie 1 BOCES, 355 Harlem Rd. West Seneca, NY 14224

Section VI will be hosting the mandatory workshop for Athletic Directors: Life of an Athlete Year 4. 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.

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 Year 4 of the 5-Year Program entitled Life of an Athlete. Each Athletic Director will be asked to bring one male and female student athlete from 10th or 11th grade who possess outstanding leadership qualities and will act as a student trainer to train team leaders in your home school district.

The traditional view of athletic team captains has remained unchanged for many decades. Year four of NYSPHSAA's Chemical Health Program will hope to accomplish several important objectives for this important group. The State Chemical Health committee decided that year four will center on selecting and training student athlete team leaders. Realizing that today's athletes face unprecedented social and behavioral issues, we have developed a detailed process for choosing potential leaders. Additionally, significant tasks and duties are assigned for individuals who choose to serve as team leaders. The Life of an Athlete program developer, John Underwood, of the American Athletic Institute has been working on the program for nearly one year and it has been piloted in two of the eleven NYSPHSAA sections already. Underwood stated, "We have seen a significant number of incidents involving both drug use and out of character behaviors as well as criminal acts, committed by team leaders in recent years. There seems to be a trend toward pack mentality in sport that has greatly diminished the ability of individuals to impact teams and teammates". In light of the recent string of high level scandals in world of sport, it is important that at this developmental and impressionable level of high school athletics, we are proactive in regard to educational prevention and intervention programs. Developing leaders is a difficult task and even more difficult, is to find potential leaders among the masses. If we can find and train leaders, they can have an impact on their peers. The Life of an Athlete program has been shared with the Department of Justice for the past four years at their National Leadership Conference to rave reviews. The Code Workshop was presented to the United States Department of Education. The Life of an Athlete has also been utilized in twenty nine other states and nearly two hundred colleges and universities.

More than ever before in history, we need young leaders to step forward and make a difference for their teammates, teams, communities and sport. NYSPHSAA has supported a chemical health program that is a nationwide model. Student athlete health and welfare has remained a constant priority.

## Nominations Being Accepted

Section VI positions open for nominations are all **Winter 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 Winter Chairpersons will be appointed for a three-year term to expire June 30, 2011.

Current nominees are:

Basketball (Boys) - Jim Walker and Assistant - Jon Roth; Basketball (Girls) - Leo Kaminsky;  
Bowling (Boys) - Ted Berdzik, Co-Chairperson - Lou Marcantonio; Bowling (Girls) - John Zloty;  
Ice Hockey - Brett Banker; Indoor Track (Boys) - Peter Szymanski, Indoor Track (Girls) - Emilio Mancino,  
Consultant - Bill Malican;  
Rifle - Paul Borkowski; Swimming (Boys) - James Graczyk and Co-Chairperson - Al Fritzinger;  
Wrestling - Mike DeBarbieri and Co-Chairperson Israel Martinez

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

## 2007-2008 Section VI Directory Updates

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

- 2 Executive Committee Girls Rep: **Cindy Bullis, Lew-Port Intermediate Education Center, 4061 Creek Rd., Youngstown, NY 14174 716-754-8281 bullisc@lew-port.com**
- 13 Akron: Larry Bryant, AD Direct Dial **716-542-5088**
- 14 Barker: Dave Carson, AD office phone **716-795-3340**
- 19 Cleveland Hill: Superintendent **Gordon Salisbury**
- 33 North Tonawanda: New AD **Greg Witman gwitman@ntschoools.org**
- 39 Tonawanda: New Principal **Mary Beth Scullion (interim)**
- 46 Girls Lacrosse Officials Assigner email correction: **camdon17@aol.com**

## Welcome Aboard!!

Congratulations and a warm welcome are extended to Cindy Bullis who was appointed by the Section VI Athletic Council in November as the new Section VI Girls Sports Representative to the Central Committee. Section VI is looking forward to sharing her energy and enthusiasm for interscholastic sports!



## 2008 Dates to Remember

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| Jan. 22-25  | Regents Examinations  |
| Jan. 25     | Boys and Girls Lacrosse Coaching Clinic at SUNY Cortland  |
| Feb. 1-2    | State Executive Committee Meeting, The Saratoga, Saratoga Springs   |
| Feb. 5      | Finance Committee Meeting - Section VI office   |
| Feb. 13     | Executive Committee Meeting, Distance Learning sites TBA  |
| Feb. 29     | Baseball Coaching Clinic at National Baseball Hall of Fame, Cooperstown   |
| Feb 27      | Sectional/Intersectional Committee meeting, Distance Learning   |
| March 1     | Deadline for All-WNY Winter Scholar Athlete applications to the Section office  |
| March 5     | Section VI office open for Photo ID's until 6:00 pm <b>by appointment only</b>  |
| March 7     | Deadline for <b>Winter Scholar/Athlete</b> Team Award Applications  |
| March 12-14 | NYSAAA Annual Conference at the Saratoga Hotel  |
| March 19    | Athletic Council meeting, 11:30 am at Erie 1 BOCES, W.Seneca<br>Executive Committee meeting, 9:30 am at Erie 1 BOCES, W.Seneca                                      |
| March 28-29 | XC/Track & Field Coaching Clinic at Radisson Hotel, Utica   |
| March 28    | Field Hockey Coaching Clinic at Radisson Hotel, Utica   |
| April 1     | Finance Committee Meeting - Section VI office   |
| April 16    | Deadline for online <b>Good Sports</b> Assessments (& hard-copy to Section Sportsmanship Chair Doug Ames)   |
| April (TBA) | Post Season Meeting - Winter Sports   |
| April 23    | Executive Committee Meeting, Distance Learning  |
| April 28    | <b>MANDATORY WORKSHOP for Athletic Directors</b> at Erie 1 BOCES, W.Seneca: 8:30am-noon: Life of an Athlete Year 4 - Selecting and Training Student Athlete Leaders |
| April 30    | Sectional/Intersectional Committee meeting  |

## Citizenship Through Athletics Instructor Certification Course

The NYSPHSAA's Citizenship Through Athletics Course to certify instructors will be offered on Wednesday, February 6, 2008 at the NYSPHSAA Office.

There is no registration fee for this course. To register, simply contact Lloyd Mott at the Association Office – lmott@nysphsaa.org or 518 690 0771 – and indicate your intent to attend so seating, materials and meals can be planned. Coffee and bagels will be available at registration and lunch will be provided. Registration will be at 8:00 AM, the course will start by 8:30 AM and we will conclude by 3:30 PM.

If you wish to stay at the Holiday Inn Turf on Wolf Road, Tuesday, 2/5/08, call Sandy @ 518 690 0771 and she will make a reservation. You will have to make payment at the hotel.

Certified Instructors will receive a notebook including resources, strategies and plans for introducing the course's citizenship and sportsmanship initiatives with administrators, coaches, athletes, spectators, officials, parents and the community at large. Instructors will gain the ability to be teachers and facilitators of the CTA course in their schools. You will be encouraged to present the course at any organization wishing to be introduced to CTA.

*Continued from page 2*

and approved prior to any competition. Please contact Assistant Director Lloyd Mott.

**SPORTSMANSHIP EJECTION POLICY - Any player or coach:**

- Ejected from one contest shall not participate in the next regularly scheduled contest;
- Ejected from two contests in the same sport in the same season shall not participate in the next two regularly scheduled contests; and,
- Ejected from a third contest in the same sport in the same season will not be allowed to participate for the rest of the season.

**GIRLS LACROSSE -** Beginning with the 2008 season girls lacrosse jerseys will be required to have the 6" numbers centered on the front and 8" numbers to be centered on the back.

**SANCTIONING -** When traveling out of state for an athletic contest please contact Lloyd Mott or Barb Hennessey in the NYSPHSAA office to give notice or to determine if the event is properly sanctioned.

**ON LINE COACHING COURSES -** The NYSPHSAA has partnered with SUNY Cortland in offering the New York State Coaching Certification Courses on line - an asynchronous web-based program. Go to [www.cortland.edu/physed](http://www.cortland.edu/physed) for registration information.

## Reminder: New Policy for Transportation to State Competition

As approved by the Section VI Athletic Council in March 2007, member schools participating in state competition will be responsible for all costs related to that participation. Section VI's responsibility for member school participation in state championships is outlined below:

### Transportation:

- **For Team Sports:** Schools will make their own transportation arrangements for their athletes involved in state competition in team sports. Schools will be responsible for all transportation costs. Section VI will apply to NYSPHSAA for the allowed reimbursement of \$1.00 per mile on the state grid (for one bus per team) and will forward this reimbursement to the schools upon receipt of funds from the state.
- **For Individual sports:** Section VI will make the transportation arrangements for all athletes involved in state competition in individual sports. Transportation expenses will be billed to the Section. Section VI will apply to NYSPHSAA for the allowed reimbursement of \$1.00 per mile on the state grid and deduct the reimbursement from the total transportation cost. The remaining balance for transportation expenses will be invoiced to the schools based on a cost per participating athlete.

**Lodging:** The Sportchair will advise participating schools if accommodations are to be arranged by the state or by the schools. School will be responsible for all lodging costs.

**Meals:** Schools will be responsible for the cost of athletes' meals at state competition. For some individual sports, the Section will facilitate meal handling by paying meal expenses and invoicing the schools per participating athlete. This plan if being used will be listed in the sport handbook.

## Central Management & Assigning of Sports Officials

As per an Athletic Council decision in January 2007, TheArbiter has become the program for Central Management and Assigning of Sports Officials throughout Section VI. The Section 6 office is coordinating the centralization effort of all sports officials and is responsible for the initial assignments only, for sports where officials are shared by multiple leagues\*.

For winter in the North, Boys and Girls Basketball, Wrestling and Boys swimming were successfully auto-assigned by the Section. Re-assigning of turnbacks by league assigners is still in process. In the South, Cattaraugus Co. Boys and Girls Basketball were auto-assigned by IAABO121. Chautauqua Co. boys and girls basketball and S.Tier Wrestling were unable to receive training in sufficient time to enable use of TheArbiter for assigning, but these organizations had their officials registered.

For spring, Boys Lacrosse will be assigned by NFLOA Assigner M. Roberts and Girls Lacrosse by the Section 6 office. Baseball and softball for ECIC, Buffalo and MM will be assigned by G.Neunder using the WNYUA arbiter account in 2008 and the Section 6 account in 2009.

Please note that sports assigners not using TheArbiter, or the Section Arbiter account, to assign in 2007-08 are required to supply a written guarantee that only fingerprinted officials will be assigned. All will be required to assign using the Section 6 account in TheArbiter in 2008-09.

Thank you to all parties involved for your assistance, cooperation and patience as we move forward with a mutually beneficial method of Central Management of official, and resolution of the problems created when multiple leagues share officials.

### Reminder of Requirements

**Officials:** All Section 6 sports officials must have an email address and sign-in to the Section 6 account on TheArbiter. There is NO COST to sports officials. All assignments for spring sports in Section 6 will be made using ONLY the officials that are signed-in to the Arbiter. All spring officials must sign-in and update their availability on TheArbiter by February 8 in order to receive assignments!!!

**Assigners:** All Section 6 league assigners and individual sports assigners must verify the default playing sites for their teams (all levels) and enter subsites when more than one contest for a sport will be scheduled at that site. Verify the list of contacts within each school that will need access to TheArbiter and establish the relationships for all contacts.

**For Athletic Directors:** Comply with the following timeline for winter sport schedules:

#### Spring Sports Timeline

Draft schedules complete  
Final schedule complete, including non-league games  
Import of schedules to TheArbiter  
Begin Assigning Varsity & JV (modified TBA)  
Release assignments to OBR's for review  
Round Table to review assignments  
Publish and Accept/Decline Dates

<b>Buff, ECIC,NFL, NO, MM</b>	<b>Chaut, Catt</b>
<b>Tues. Dec. 18</b>	<b>Tues. Jan. 8</b>
<b>Tues. Jan. 15</b>	<b>Tues. Feb. 5</b>
<b>Tues. Jan. 22</b>	<b>Fri. Feb. 15</b>
<b>Tues. Feb. 12</b>	<b>Late Feb.</b>
<b>Fri. Feb. 29</b>	<b>NA</b>
<b>TBA</b>	<b>NA</b>
<b>TBA</b>	<b>TBA</b>

\*Officials are shared by the Buffalo, ECIC, NO, NFL and MMHSAA leagues for:

- Fall sports: boys and girls soccer, boys and girls volleyball, field hockey, cross country, girls swimming
- Winter sports: Boys and girls basketball, boys swimming, wrestling
- Spring Sports: Baseball, softball, girls lacrosse, track



## Bob Dinse Inducted into Wilson Athletic Wall of Fame

Section VI is proud to congratulate Executive Secretary Bob Dinse on his induction into the 2007 Class of the Wilson Athletic Wall of Fame. He was selected and consequently honored as a long-time Supporter of Athletics at Wilson Central for his service to the district as Athletic Director and Coach from 1963 to 1996. Bob is shown in the photo in the back row 2<sup>nd</sup> from the right. Congratulations Bob!!!



*Front R/L: Mark Woodard, Kimberlee McGrath-Dunlop, Margaret Thompson, and Adrian Frerichs*

*Back R/L: Douglas Schroeder, Scott Perry, Richard Hillman, Michael Gombert, David Schmidli, Michael Twardoski, Steve Clark for his Father, Floyd Clark, David Rohring, Jon Swick, Robert Dinse, and Jerry Pearce for the late Walter Hutchison.*

## Eden Claims State Championships in both Boys and Girls Volleyball

*By Robert Pierce, Boys Volleyball Coach*

It may seem like a tradition, like homecoming that happens every year across America, but once again our Varsity Volleyball teams finished their 2007 seasons with State Championship Titles. The year proved to be the girls turn to go undefeated with a perfect record of 23 -0. The boy's team went 22-8

The Boys team was lead by seniors Steven Klein (1st Team All-WNY), Ryan Meller (2nd team All-WNY), Greg Kotecki (2nd Team ECIC), Andy Kiel, Adam Wightman (2nd Team ECIC), and Mark Gardner (1st Team ECIC). Underclassmen Charlie Keubler, Gary Gawera, Tony Blaszczyk, Ryan Said and Jay Senozetnik (1st Team ECIC), all will once again have very big shoes to fill when they come to camp next August to defend their title next season. Highlights of the season also included winning the Orchard Park Tourney, ECIC Division III Title, Class B Sectional Title as well as the aforementioned NY State Class B Intersectional Championship.



The Girls team, coached by Stephan Pierce, was led by one senior Chelsea Hennigan (1<sup>st</sup> Team All-WNY) and a host of underclassmen that made up a team that will most likely be looked at as the best team that Eden has ever had. The perfect season was topped with another State Championship. Other key team members were Juniors Heather Henry (1<sup>st</sup> team All-WNY), Joelle Crabtree (Div IV All-Star), Sally Schaefer (Div IV All-Star), Janine Benkelman (Div IV All-Star), Sophomores Stacey Smith (2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-WNY), Hannah Herc (2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-ECIC), Katie Escher (Div IV All-Star), Hailee Herc (Div IV All-Star), and the lone Freshman Heather Feldman (Div IV All Star). Season highlights included winning the statewide tournaments, the Eden Invitational and the Horseheads Tournament of Champions. The Lady Raiders were also ranked 72<sup>nd</sup> in the nation on prepvolleyball.com and received a featured write-up on the national website. The team will be sad to see Chelsea leave, but the future looks bright for another perfect season with such a young team returning next season.



Once again both teams proved that working hard in the off season, playing as a team, and never giving up on a play can make for a very rewarding season.

## Clarence and Section VI Shine at Men's Gymnastics State Competition



The Clarence Men's Varsity Gymnastics Team claimed their second Section VI title this year with yet another undefeated 10-0 record. Coach Steve Martin said, "I am very proud of my team. They work hard and they earned their title!"

Two stars emerged throughout the season, Senior and Captain, **Mike Morse** and 8<sup>th</sup> grader **Jon Zirna**. Mike Morse was last year's Section VI all-around champion and repeated his performance again this year. Jon Zirna took a very close second. Mike and Jon performed outstandingly at their High School State Meet in Brockport again placing first and second respectively.

At both Sectionals and at States, Mike and Jon swept the podium at their events. Mike took first on the Floor Exercise, Pommel Horse, and Vault. He had a shaky start to the season after injuring his thumb, but in the end he was able to pull off the win. Jon emerged as a team leader. He was the youngest gymnast on the team and was able to win the Rings, Parallel Bars, and High Bar.

Mike Morse was given the Clarence White Letter award for outstanding leadership and overall accomplishment. He also earned the Mark Monaco for sportsmanship, talent, and commitment. Mike plans on competing in college with the same drive and success as in High School gymnastics. Jon Zirna will continue to compete for Clarence and hopes for his shot at the title. The Clarence Men's Varsity Gymnastics team still looks strong. The team will miss Mike and wishes him the best of luck.

IN addition to amazing performance by the Clarence athletes in individual events, the Section 6 New York State Boys Gymnastics Team finished in first place winning another State Championship for the fifth straight year in a row. The Section 6 boys gymnastics team scored 146.85 points beating section 2 by over 21 points. Section 6 continues to dominate boys gymnastics at the state level. The victory was a combined team effort and all gymnasts competed well. Leading the team with strong performances were Clarence gymnasts Michael Morse and Jonathan Zirna along with Williamsville South gymnasts Cody Stumpf and Nathaniel Roberson. Congratulations to all Section 6 gymnasts for a great season and another State Team Title.

## Matthews and Dressel win Girls Swimming State Titles



**Casey Matthews** of Williamsville North captured her third New York State Diving title at the NYSPHSAA Championships held on Long Island in November. She was also State champ in 2003 and 2006. Casey is a six time State qualifier, finishing 5<sup>th</sup> in 2001, 3<sup>rd</sup> in '02 and 2<sup>nd</sup> in '05. This season Casey broke a number of 1 meter diving records including pool records at each venue she competed, as well as the Section VI eleven dive record and the New York State six dive record. She has attained All-America status each of the past three years. At the State Championships this year she broke her own meet record and was selected for the Section VI "Good Sport" award. Casey who was coached by Doug Cassidy, will attend Perdue University next year.



**Marissa Dressel**, a sophomore at Kenmore-West, has been on the varsity swim team for 4 years. She has eight section 6 titles, and has NFL records in the 200 free, 100 fly, 100 free, and 500 free. Marissa, the team co-captain this season, is also a member of the 400 free relay, which has the NFL record as well. She also broke the section 6 record this year in the 200 free. Marissa, who is coached by Carrie Meetze, has competed in the State swim meet for the last 4 years and this year won the 200 free and placed 2nd in the 500 free. During the 2007 swim season, Marissa broke 19 records at various pools, including Ken-West. We can expect to see her name often in the next 2 years breaking more records!

## East Aurora Girls Cross Country Paces at the Top Again

The East Aurora Girls Cross Country athletes continue to achieve top honors at state competition. The **East Aurora Girls Cross Country Team** claimed the Class B state title for the third consecutive year. Other team achievements include:

- 7<sup>th</sup> Consecutive ECIC and Section VI Championship
- Set net Section 6 Championship Meet course record team time by 3:30
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place finish at NY State Federation Championships
- 5<sup>th</sup> Place finish at Nike Team National Regional Qualifier (missed qualifying for nationals by 1 point).

In individual competition, **Catherine Lusardi** was the NYSPHSAA Class B Individual State Champion in addition to All Western New York Girl Runner of the Year. Jenna Hulton placed 3<sup>rd</sup> at states. She was also All Western New York 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Runner of the Year. Megan Hulton was All Western New York 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Runner of the Year. Additional honors achieved by East Aurora athletes include:

- Catherine Phillips: All Western New York First Team Selection
- Alice Coughlin: All Western New York Second Team Selection
- Erin Crawford: All Western New York Second Team Selection
- Alt. Tara O'Connor: All Western New York Honorable Mention
- Alt. Paige Peltan: All Western New York Honorable Mention.



**Team photo:**

Front row left to right: Kristen Weberg, Megan Hulton, Erin Crawford.

Back row left to right: Catherine Phillips, Catherine Lusardi, Jenna Hulton, Alice Coughlin

## Williamsville North Field Hockey Earns First State Title

Excerpted from an article by Patrick J Nagy, Reporter

The Williamsville North Spartans completed a 23-0 campaign by winning the Class A Field Hockey State Championship, beating defending champion Lakeland, 2-1, before about 200 at Cicero-North Syracuse High School. "It's like all the stars were aligned, that everything fell into place," said Williamsville North coach Kris LaPaglia. All season, the goal of the Williamsville North field hockey team was to win a New York State Class A title. North had lost 2-0 to Lakeland in the 2003 Class A state final.

North had a 2-0 lead until 1.5 minutes left in game when Jill Bozek scored on a scramble in front of goalie Nicole Lewis. Lewis only finished with three saves but they were all important. "They had a corner opportunity where she extended her leg going for a shot to the far corner on the inside post," said LaPaglia. "She got her foot on it and deflected it off the end line." Junior forward Emily O'Gorman scored nine minutes into the first half on a deflection by senior midfielder Leslie Ahern, from Miller and freshman attacker Allie Ahern, scored on a corner 10 minutes into the second half. "We definitely knew it was going to be physical," said LaPaglia. "They play comparable to how we play. It was definitely a chess match."

To advance to their second state title final appearance, North defeated Ward Melville of Section XI, 3-0. The first 9:47 of the first half was played on Friday night but a lake effect snowstorm postponed the rest of the game until Saturday afternoon. North completely dominated Ward Melville in the part of the game played on Friday. "One of the players' fathers took a picture of the field (with snow on it)," said LaPaglia. "There were only footprints in Ward Melville's defensive

zone at that point." When the game resumed so did North's domination. Miller scored at 15:04 of the first half from the Allie Ahern on a corner. Allie Ahern scored a minute into the second half from a hard shot from the 35-yard line by sophomore defender Holly Flanigan. Flanigan got possession of the ball after a shot from Miller hit the post and the rebound bounded to her. "Holly hit it so hard and fast that all Allie had to do was put her stick down and deflect it in," said LaPaglia. Ten minutes later, Miller made it 3-0 on an assist from Allie Ahern. Lewis made two saves. "You always worry when there is a delay how a team will respond," said LaPaglia. "To their credit, they stayed focused." LaPaglia lauded the play of Miller. "She took herself out of the midfield zone,

stood by the midline and did a good job of picking the ball off or stopping their long hits through the middle," said LaPaglia.

Miller, Lewis and senior defender Adriana Meholick were named to the all-state tournament team. Flanigan earned the sportsmanship award. Miller finished the season with 41 goals and 31 assists. The senior closes out her six-year career with 148 goals and 134 assists. She will graduate in January to start taking classes at Michigan State University, where she has received a full scholarship to play field hockey. The greatest lesson she could have given the team is to teach the younger players how to win and what is expected out of a North field hockey player," said LaPaglia. "The younger kids have embraced her."



## Williamsville North Field Hockey Fast Facts

1. 1<sup>st</sup> North field hockey team to win a State Championship – Beat Ward Melville 3-0 in the State Semi-Final and then Lakeland 2-1 in the State Final.
2. Varsity has been ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in the WNY coaches Poll since 10-10-03.
3. Top of the Circle Nation Team Ranking Poll – 3<sup>rd</sup>.
4. Only undefeated team in NYS with no ties 23-0
5. Chantae Miller National Career Assist Record holder – 117
6. State Team Records:
  - Most Goals Scored in a Season – 98 (9<sup>th</sup> Place)
  - Most Shutouts in a Season – 19 (8<sup>th</sup> Place Tie)
  - Consecutive Team Wins – 23 and counting (8<sup>th</sup> Place)
7. Nicole Lewis Career Shutout Record – 53 (4 years)
8. 2007 Goals for: 98 / Goals Against: 4
9. Section 6 Class A Champions 4 out of the past 5 years.
10. Playoff Goals for: 28 / Playoff Goals Against: 1
11. Chantae Miller Section 6 Single Season scoring record – 41
12. Seniors Chantae Miller, Adriana Meholick and Nicole Lewis selected to the State All Tournament Team.
13. Sophomore Holly Flanigan selected to the State Sportsmanship Team.
14. Chantae Miller selected to the All – American Regional Team
15. 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-WNY Seniors: Chantae Miller, Emily Curry, Nicole Lewis
16. 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All-WNY Senior Leslie Ahern, Junior Emily O'Gorman, Freshman Allie Ahern
17. Honorable mention All WNY Seniors: Adriana Meholick and Tish Kennery, Junior Lauren Weber
18. Chantae Miller 2<sup>nd</sup> Team National All- American 3 years in a row.



# 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 2007

\*\* State Champion

### BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

Clarence	97.393
Barker	96.076
Lockport	95.954
Royalton Hartland	95.940
Depew	95.879
Lancaster	95.546
Newfane	95.484
Hamburg	95.414
Hutchinson Tech	95.250
Dunkirk	95.224
Williamsville East	95.053
Southwestern	95.027
Frontier	94.844
East Aurora	94.744
Williamsville North	94.323
Wilson	93.470
Sweet Home	93.325
Albion	93.030
Cleveland Hill	92.907
Pioneer	92.694
Franklinville	92.360
Alden	92.349
Iroquois	91.843
Amherst	91.824
Kenmore East	91.673
Allegany-Limestone	91.544
Kenmore West	91.237
West Seneca West	91.208
Lake Shore	91.203
Niagara-Wheatfield	90.800
Williamsville South	90.757
City Honors	90.571
Grand Island	90.215
Fredonia	90.110

### BOYS GOLF

Clarence	97.070
Depew	96.263
Newfane	95.723
West Seneca West	95.175
Wilson	94.839
Alden	94.743
Medina	94.739
Iroquois	94.714
Hamburg	94.700
Williamsville East	94.219
Barker	94.209
Sweet Home	94.067
Lake Shore	93.814
Amherst	93.248

East Aurora	92.791
Tonawanda	92.588
Frontier	92.280
Royalton Hartland	92.233
Pioneer	92.043
Springville	91.513
Williamsville North	91.466
Kenmore East	91.247
Maryvale	91.159
Albion	91.105
Kenmore West	90.973
Lockport	90.834
Grand Island	90.668
Williamsville South	90.645
Lewiston Porter	90.560

### BOYS GYMNASTICS

Clarence	92.013
----------	--------

### BOYS SOCCER

Iroquois	96.200
Lockport	95.218
Southwestern	95.094
Ellicottville	94.433
Olean	94.300
East Aurora	93.989
Allegany-Limestone	93.611
Clarence	93.274
Newfane	93.249
Williamsville East	93.112
Akron -	93.060
Alden	92.717
Cassadaga Valley	92.553
Albion	92.513
Sweet Home	92.185
Starpoint	92.179
Cheektowaga	92.098
Westfield	92.078
Williamsville North	91.893
Amherst	91.767
Depew	91.692
Brocton	91.555
Niagara-Wheatfield	91.525
West Seneca East	91.392
Frontier	91.351
Dunkirk	91.291
Hamburg	91.192
Williamsville South	90.933
Kenmore West	90.651
Wilson	90.628
West Seneca West	90.625
Tonawanda	90.571

Springville	90.492
Holland	90.434
Medina	90.275
Lewiston Porter	90.247
Grand Island	90.167

### BOYS VOLLEYBALL

West Seneca East	95.396
Depew	93.975
Frontier	93.765
Iroquois	93.363
Williamsville East	93.258
Williamsville North	93.146
Clarence	93.017
Sweet Home	92.929
West Seneca West	92.864
Cheektowaga	92.510
East Aurora	92.135
Amherst	91.032
Kenmore West	90.918
Lockport	90.774
Kenmore East	90.664
Niagara-Wheatfield	90.425
Lewiston Porter	90.331
Williamsville South	90.314
Hamburg	90.113
Maryvale	90.093
Grand Island	90.000

### FIELD HOCKEY

Iroquois	95.075
Barker	94.895
Lancaster	94.494
Clarence	94.454
Sweet Home	94.428
Williamsville North	94.272
East Aurora	94.246
Williamsville East	93.988
Hamburg	93.533
Royalton Hartland	93.418
Holland	93.405
West Seneca East	93.294
Wilson	92.868
Medina	92.657
Newfane	92.317
Orchard Park	92.303
Kenmore East	91.873
West Seneca West	91.654
Pioneer	91.609
Starpoint	90.482
Kenmore West	90.458
Akron	90.358

Williamsville South	90.019
---------------------	--------

### FOOTBALL

<b>Southwestern</b>	<b>95.333**</b>
Sweet Home	94.922
North Tonawanda	94.900
Depew	94.548
Iroquois	94.525
Hamburg	93.450
East Aurora	93.406
Medina	93.290
Kenmore West	92.999
Frontier	92.846
Allegany-Limestone	92.841
Springville	92.790
Lockport	92.744
Niagara-Wheatfield	92.400
Lancaster	92.321
Williamsville East	91.798
West Seneca West	91.776
Clarence	91.767
Williamsville North	91.678
Brocton	91.531
Wilson	91.504
Dunkirk	91.458
Alden	91.212
Cleveland Hill	90.988
Franklinville	90.663
Pine Valley	90.655
West Seneca East	90.583
Albion	90.574
Maryvale	90.543
Newfane	90.356
Cheektowaga	90.158
Kenmore East	90.125
Lewiston Porter	90.111
Grand Island	90.105
Clymer	90.088
Pioneer	90.085
Panama	90.008

### GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

Clarence	97.639
Frontier	97.483
Lockport	97.244
West Seneca West	97.007
East Aurora	96.370
Iroquois	96.229
Depew	96.164
Newfane	96.003
Southwestern	95.977



Hamburg	95.614
Wilson	95.457
Williamsville East	94.703
Leonardo Da Vinci	94.574
Hutchinson Tech	94.019
Eden	93.872
Williamsville North	93.596
Lancaster	93.357
Franklinville & Ellicottville	93.280
Royalton Hartland	93.120
Lake Shore	92.768
Olean	92.286
West Seneca East	92.195
Barker	91.791
Kenmore West	91.617
Sweet Home	91.568
Lewiston Porter	91.323
Grand Island	91.196
Kenmore East	91.188
Akron	90.734
Dunkirk	90.660
Alden	90.565
Albion	90.307
Williamsville South	90.260
Fredonia	90.027

**GIRLS GYMNASTICS**

Hamburg	96.186
Frontier	95.929
Lancaster	95.745
Williamsville North	94.876
Clarence	93.974
Sweet Home	93.550
Maryvale	91.887
Williamsville East	91.731
Kenmore West	91.555
Williamsville South	91.529
Kenmore East	90.898

**GIRLS SOCCER**

Niagara-Wheatfield	96.408
Wilson	96.275
Iroquois	96.017
Lockport	95.865
Southwestern	95.763
Frontier	95.556
Depew	95.283
Williamsville North	95.241
Medina	95.109
Alden	95.031
East Aurora	95.019
Williamsville East	95.005
Hamburg	94.758
Portville	94.757
Kenmore West	94.709
Barker	94.662
Allegany-Limestone	94.652
Orchard Park	94.624
Newfane	94.477
Clarence	94.446
Olean	94.333
Albion	94.260
Ellicottville	94.225
Cassadaga Valley	93.928
Springville	93.709
West Seneca West	93.453
Maryvale	93.218
Sweet Home	93.178
Lancaster	93.174
Holland	92.936
Chautauqua Lake	92.925
Jamestown	92.908
Tonawanda	92.815
Royalton Hartland	92.666
Cheektowaga	92.630
Pioneer	92.606
West Seneca East	92.144
Amherst	92.070
Franklinville	91.950
Westfield	91.787
Grand Island	91.729
Lake Shore	91.485
Kenmore East	91.095
Williamsville South	91.056
Leonardo Da Vinci	91.019
Akron	90.400
Lewiston Porter	90.341

North Tonawanda	90.242
Fredonia	90.236

**GIRLS SWIMMING & DIVING**

Frontier	96.995
Clarence	96.905
West Seneca West	96.759
Iroquois	96.750
Southwestern	96.683
Hamburg	96.609
Williamsville North	96.396
Sweet Home	96.320
Olean	96.182
Cheektowaga	96.130
Depew	96.016
Lockport	95.750
Niagara-Wheatfield	95.391
Lake Shore	95.162
Alden	94.801
North Tonawanda	94.700
Springville	94.626
Williamsville East	94.563
Maryvale	94.495
Allegany-Limestone	94.181
East Aurora	93.626
Portville	93.616
Holland	93.079
West Seneca East	92.938
Williamsville South	92.332
Tonawanda	92.323
Dunkirk	91.279
Lewiston Porter	90.974
Amherst	90.689
Kenmore West	90.408
Grand Island	90.364
Fredonia	90.187
Cleveland Hill	90.164
Chautauqua Lake	90.065
Salamanca	90.027

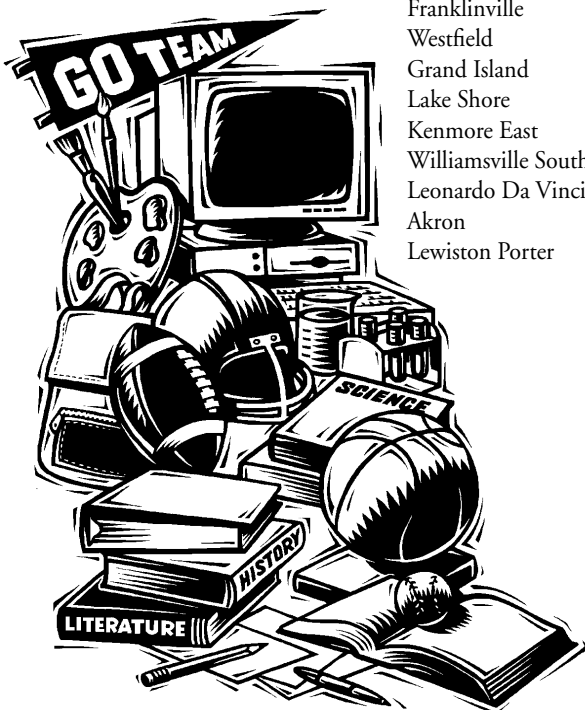
**GIRLS TENNIS**

West Seneca East	96.717
Hamburg	96.167
Southwestern	96.102
Lancaster	95.977
Depew	95.564
Iroquois	95.400
Williamsville North	95.393
Sweet Home	95.173
Alden	94.447
Frontier	94.410
Clarence	94.274
Niagara Falls	94.159
Williamsville East	94.051
Lockport	93.966
Olean	93.900
West Seneca West	93.790
Niagara-Wheatfield	93.389
East Aurora	93.201
Amherst	93.139
Grand Island	93.092

Cheektowaga	93.077
Jamestown	92.622
Springville	92.609
Kenmore West	92.195
Kenmore East	92.147
Dunkirk	92.062
Maryvale	91.982
Orchard Park	91.956
Lake Shore	90.961
Lewiston Porter	90.900
Chautauqua Lake	90.701
Williamsville South	90.467
Salamanca	90.400
Starpoint	90.321

**GIRLS VOLLEYBALL**

Royalton Hartland	96.863
Hamburg	96.513
Depew	96.325
Lockport	96.164
West Seneca West	96.079
Alden	95.900
Frontier	95.705
Orchard Park	95.525
Wilson	95.462
Cassadaga Valley	95.390
Portville	95.380
Pioneer	95.305
Sweet Home	95.292
Medina	95.093
Newfane	94.787
East Aurora	94.726
Lancaster	94.684
Niagara-Wheatfield	94.588
Clarence	94.408
North Tonawanda	94.272
Cheektowaga	94.075
Eden	93.998
Maryvale	93.998
Brocton	93.994
Southwestern	93.944
Williamsville East	93.579
Olean	93.350
Barker	93.044
Williamsville North	92.904
Clymer	92.621
Pine Valley	92.396
Williamsville South	92.319
Iroquois	92.013
Westfield	92.006
Lewiston Porter	91.971
Kenmore East	91.609
Albion	91.509
West Seneca East	91.502
Starpoint	91.444
Salamanca	91.250
Allegany-Limestone	90.786
Kenmore West	90.618
Springville	90.545
Holland	90.390
Grand Island	90.125



# IT'S OFFICIAL...

*By Tom Cowan/Section VI Official's Coordinator*

Advocates of interscholastic sports programs often express their views concerning the influence that sports have on the developmental aspects of daily programs. Lifelong lessons concerning sportsmanship, leadership and teamwork are common goals.

Basic building blocks providing positive experiences that rarely can be taught in other settings are common place. A great example of this in Section VI is the steady growth of the local school athletic team and individual awards. Our region is rapidly becoming a leader across the state in these programs.

Building and Athletic Administrators should be commended for promoting the academic aspects of interscholastic sports and for supporting funding concepts which advocate growth in these programs. Record numbers of boys and girls are participating in high school sports as reported by the 2006-07 High School Athletic Survey. Results indicate that an all time high of 7,343,910 school age students experienced many positive aspects of scholastic sports.

Keep up the good work!



## SECTION VI

355 Harlem Road  
West Seneca, NY 14224