The Williamsville South Softball team's goal all season long was to win their final game - that mission was accomplished Saturday, June 14th, 2014 at Moreau Park in South Glens Falls. The Billies recorded 21 hits on their way to a 21-4 win over Sayville (Section XI-Long Island) in the Class A State Title. It was South's 4th state title in school history and since 2006.

The path to the finals was not an easy one. South beat Starpoint for the Section VI Class A title 6-4, after trailing, 4-0, in the bottom of the 7th with two outs and nobody on base. Next, they beat Geneva (Section V-Rochester), 8-7, in eight innings. The Billies who were ranked #3 in the state did it again versus Troy (Section II- Albany) in the state semi-finals. South was trailing, 6-2, after 2 ½ innings before scoring once in the 3rd, twice in the 4th, and another two in the bottom of the 7th to send them to the Class A State final game.

In the state final game, South and Sayville were tied, 3-3, in the bottom of the 3rd when the Billies exploded with 9 runs to change the momentum of the game. Standout performances in the final game came from Senior, Captain Emily Martin going 5-5 with 3 RBIs, Senior, Catcher Stephanie Tirone finished 4-5 with 6 RBIs, 3 doubles, and a 3-run home run over the fence. Other hitting stars were Junior, Nicole Rice, 3-5, Junior, Carlie Scime, 2-4, Brianna and Madison Clark both 2-5. Senior, Pitcher Samantha Moon recorded the state final win and also 22 wins on the season to lead the Billies to a 23-2 overall record.

In the state final game, South and Sayville were tied, 3-3, in the bottom of the 3rd when the Billies exploded with 9 runs to change the momentum of the game. Standout performances in the final game came from Senior, Captain Emily Martin going 5-5 with 3 RBIs, Senior, Catcher Stephanie Tirone finished 4-5 with 6 RBIs, 3 doubles, and a 3-run home run over the fence. Other hitting stars were Junior, Nicole Rice, 3-5, Junior, Carlie Scime, 2-4, Brianna and Madison Clark both 2-5. Senior, Pitcher Samantha Moon recorded the state final win and also 22 wins on the season to lead the Billies to a 23-2 overall record.

South graduates 7 seniors that were instrumental in the growth of the softball program over the last 4 years. The team had a never quit attitude and played until the last out and last pitch of every game.

-Julie Murphy, Coach
The Clarence varsity softball team made its sixth trip to States this year with a Regional win over Brockport High School, 5-0. Katrina Buczkowski threw a perfect game striking out 11 batters in the Regional victory. Gabby Keller and Katrina Buczkowski each had hits in the 5 run 5th inning. Corrie Colf hit one off the fence for a two run triple in the inning.

In the Section 6 final, Clarence defeated Williamsville North 8-0 behind the pitching of Buczkowski once again. Corrie Colf hit a 3 run home run while Moriah Harris added 2 hits. To reach the final, Clarence had to overcome one run wins versus Frontier and Orchard Park in the sectionals. Clarence ended the season at States with a loss to the East Meadow Jets, 3-0, in the semi-final game, who eventually won the Class AA State Championship. The Clarence Devils left 10 runners on base throughout the game and Buczkowski struck out 11 batters. The team won ECIC Division 1 with an 11-1 record. Congratulations on a fine season.

-Todd Banaszak, Coach

The Eden girls’ softball team used a 1-0 crushing loss in the B Crossover Game in the 2013 season fuel their fire for 2014. The Lady Raiders dominated on both sides of the plate during the regular season, going 12-0 in the ECIC Division IV. The girls earned their first trip to Far West Regionals after a heart pounding 2-1 victory over Depew in the Class B final. During Regionals, Eden used solid pitching and crushing hitting to beat Rochester’s Wayland Cohocton, 14-0, for the program’s first ever Regional victory.

In the semi-final match-up versus Center Mariches, the Lady Raiders were down 3-2 in the bottom of the seventh. Kelly Staub (first base) hit for a single with one out, Jill Murray (short stop) was intentionally walked, as she tied the game in the third with a two-run home run, Hayley Kobie (third base) brought Staub in from second, moved Murray to third with a one-run double, and Carly Nasca (P) laid down the suicide squeeze to win the semi-final. It was another heart pounding victory for the young Lady Raiders, and it would not stop there.

The NYSPHSAA Class B finals saw two defensively sound teams battle it out each inning. Solvey had the game’s first scoring chance in the top of the third with the game’s only walk at second, and a HP at first, but Jill Murray (pitched a no hitter) closed them down on the mound, striking out one and allowing her infield to make the other two routine outs. Eden would have a few runners on the rest of the way, but it was not until extra innings that they could bring one in. With the game tied at zero in the bottom of the eighth, Jill Murray hit a double to center field, Hayley Kobie (third base) would once again come up with a big hit. With two outs and two strikes on her, Hayley hit a shot into right field sending Jill Murray home just in time to beat the throw. This capped off an amazing season of firsts for the young Lady Raiders! Only graduating two from this team of three All-WNY players and seven division All-Stars is a good incentive to work hard in the off-season and continue to make history for Eden Girls Softball.

-Marisa Fallacaro, Coach
“ABILITY is what you’re capable of doing. MOTIVATION determines what you do. ATTITUDE determines how well you do it.”

-Lou Holtz

Baseball
Sectional Champions

Albion - Class A

The league record was 13-1 and the overall record was 17-3.

Scores:
Albion 18 - Wilson 1
Albion 11 - Barker 2
Albion 7 - Akron 8
Albion 7 - Medina 5
Albion 17 - Newfane 10
Albion 7 - Aquinas 15 - non-league
Albion 8 - Roy Hart 3
Albion 18 - Wilson 8
Albion 13 - Barker 0
Albion 19 - CSAT 2
Albion 11 - Medina 3
Albion 5 - Roy Hart 0
Albion 17 - Akron 3
Albion 13 - Newfane 3
Albion 8 - CSAT 1

Sectionals:
Quarter Final:
Albion 5 - Maryvale 2
Semi Final:
Albion 3 - Cheektowaga 2
Final A2:
Albion 8 - Springville 3
Overall A Championship:
Albion 2 - Starpoint 1
Regional:
Albion 2 - Pittsford Sutherland 3

Cassadaga Valley - Class C

There has been a drought in Cassadaga Valley since 1958 when it comes to winning boys varsity baseball status. This year’s team, consisting of twelve players, fought to the end to achieve something that has not been celebrated on Cassadaga Valley soil in 56 years. On May 30th, 2014, at Deithrick Park, a plaque was handed to the Cougars Varsity Baseball Team crowning them Class C Section VI Champions. The crowning came after the Cougars, seeded second, led by Head Coach, Joe Mistretta, won 7-3 against first seeded team, the Westfield Wolverines.

The road there was not always smooth, but as Coach Mistretta stated “When your heart is bigger than your talents, it has a way of making good things happen.” That sums it up!

Facing weather and injury problems, the Cougars had to show what they were made of. They set their goals high and worked together. Due to rain, the Cougars were only able to play three league games on home turf, forcing the Cougars to play on opponents’ fields more than they did their own. With two of their starters injured, adjustments were made and some of the players stepped into new positions and played hard. However, their love for the game and never give up attitude kept them winning.

The Cougars had an outstanding season with a record of 12 wins and 5 losses. Five players on the Cougars team were nominated to All-Star status.
Fredonia - Class B

The 2014 Boys Varsity Baseball team under Vince Gullo’s coaching had an overall 20 and 4 record this season with a 12 and 0 league record. This is the 4th consecutive year in which the team finished as league champions and sectional champions. As it stands, Fredonia has received 5 of the last 6 sectional titles and 7 of the last 10.

There are many noteworthy individual player accomplishments leading to this year’s success:

• Weston Ley and Cam Voss both broke team records
• Weston Ley holds the record at Fredonia for the most hits (53) within a season
• Cam Voss will enter his senior year with a 21 and 1 record

We attribute this success to the hard work and dedication of the athletes under the leadership of the Fredonia baseball coaching staff in conjunction with the support of each individual athletes’ family and the community of Fredonia.

We are very proud of our team and are honored by the support received from the community.

-Scot Stutzman, Athletic Director

Safe Sport Zone

On Monday, April 7th, 2014, Section VI and the New York State Athletic Administrators Association offered a Safe Sport Zone seminar to all Section VI athletic directors. The seminar, presented by Jay Hammes, provided safety training to assure safer environments for activities occurring after regular school hours.

Training included seven steps to mitigate liability at any high school athletic event while emphasizing building safety teams, how to screen the gate entrance, and how to deal with an irate fan. Participants (56 Section VI athletic directors attended) received a manual and a certificate from the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association and Safe Sport Zone, LLC.
Lancaster - Class AA

The Lancaster boys’ baseball team won its second Section 6 Championship in three years. In 2012, the Lancaster Redskins defeated Clarence, and in 2014, they defeated Orchard Park, 4-3. Lancaster was defeated by Section 5 powerhouse, Victor High School in the 2014 Regional Championship. It was a great season for the Lancaster Varsity Baseball Team.

-Brian Wild, Athletic Director

North Collins - Class D

On Saturday, May 31st, 2014, the North Collins boys varsity baseball team traveled to Jamestown and captured its third Sectional championship by defeating Brocton with a final score of 7-0.

David Lynch earned the win on the mound and the shutout, pitching a complete game while surrendering only two hits and striking out 11 batters along the way. Joey English played stellar defense and had the game winning RBI that drove in Austin Winter in the fourth inning. The Eagles would not stop there, however. They struck for four more runs in the fifth inning with some well executed bunts and timely hitting. Jake Jasinski and Chris Pulinski laid down perfect bunts in the fifth that drove in runs and fired up the crowd. Jake finished the day with two hits while Austin Winter, Chris Pulinski, Joey English, and Dylan Winter added the other hits. Dylan Winter would drive in the seventh and final run for North Collins in the bottom of the sixth with a laser to right field. Brocton would threaten in the seventh, loading the bases, but, David pitched his way out of it. He also picked off a runner at third earlier in the game to stifle Brocton’s momentum. Austin Winter made two fantastic plays up the middle as the Eagles earned their second consecutive shutout.

In their three playoff games combined, they have out-scored their opponents by a margin of 28 to 1.
Williamsville South -
Joe Bartelo & Anthony Podgorsak
Doubles

Seniors Joe Bartelo and Anthony Podgorsak ended their high school tennis careers by returning to the state tennis tournament at the National Tennis Center for a second consecutive year. In qualifying for states, the doubles tandem won five rounds at the ECIC tournament and four rounds at Sectionals without dropping a set. Bartelo has been a sectional qualifier the past four years (the previous three in singles) and Podgorsak the last two years in doubles. They are the first two South players to be sectional champions in tennis since 1999, and the first pair to go to states in back to back years in Williamsville South’s school history. In the past four years with these two players, the teams division record has been a stellar 42-6. At this year’s state tournament, Bartelo and Podgorsak won an exciting three set match on Louis Armstrong Court and lost a three set heartbreaker to the number six seed Section 11 in the round of 16. Both players played some of their best tennis in their final two matches of their high school career.

-Paul Gennuso, Coach

Hamburg - Tim Kane
Singles

After a three year hiatus from playing boys varsity high school tennis, Tim Kane returned this year to play for Hamburg in his senior year. Tim had a great senior season for Hamburg, playing at 1st singles and going undefeated in the regular season (14-0) while leading the Bulldogs to a 10-4 overall season record. Tim dropped only a few games the entire season.

After earning the #1 seed in the ECIC tournament, Tim overwhelmed his competitors Tom Greco from Amherst (6-0,6-1) and Bryan Daigler from Sweet Home (6-0,6-0). In the finals, he defeated Jack McClaren from East Aurora (6-0,6-2) to win the ECIC singles championship.

Tim earned the #1 seed for the Section VI Tournament. Tim was once again on his game as he cruised into the finals defeating Anthony Sinnatt from Eden (6-0, 6-0), Quinn White from Southwestern (6-0, 6-0), and Mike Kessler from Williamsville North (6-0, 6-1). In the finals of the tournament, Tim again faced Jack McClaren from East Aurora and this time defeated him (6-0, 6-3) to win the Section VI Tournament.

After his sectional win, Tim went on to compete at the Boys High School State Tennis Tournament at the National Tennis Center in Flushing Meadows, NY- site of the US OPEN. Tim was seeded fifth in the tournament. Tim won two matches making it into the quarter-finals where he eventually lost 4-6, 4-6. He finished fifth overall to cap off a great senior season.

Tim will further his education and continue playing tennis at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania this fall.

-Joseph W. Tretter III, Coach
Boys Lacrosse
Sectional Champions

Akron - Class C

The 2014 Akron Tigers boys' lacrosse team made school history this spring by winning the Class C Section Championship for the first time. Coached by Mr. Bryan Bellis, the team ended their season with a 15-3 record and earned several impressive section honors.

Junior, Attackman Larson Sundown, the team’s points leader with 73 goals and 87 assists, was named Section VI All-American. Sundown was also selected to First Team All-WNY along with teammate and long-stick midfielder, Junior Chaunce Hill. They are the first Akron players to be selected for these honors. Senior, Attackman Zakany Hayes was selected to the Second Team All-WNY and Sophomore, Gates Abrams earned Honorable Mention. The team also had eight members selected for the Class C All-League team.

Section VI Lacrosse also honored two of Akron’s coaches. Mr. Mahlon Jonathan was honored as “Assistant Coach of the Year” as the assistant coach who impacts players’ success on and off the field. Volunteer coach, Mr. Gary Sundown, was named “Man of the Year” for positively influencing lacrosse within his community.

“The future is bright for Akron Lacrosse,” said Coach Bellis. “In Spring 2015, we’ll return many of the key players from the championship team and have exciting young talent coming up as well.”

Hamburg - Class B

The lacrosse season saw the boys varsity team remaining perfect in Class B at 10-0, 3-0 in Class B Sectional playoff games, winning the program’s 7th championship in the last 8 years. A final record of 15-5 includes losses to out of region Chantilly, VA, Canandaigua, Webster Thomas, Penn Yan, and Victor, New York. The 10-8 loss in the Far West Regional to Victor, Section V Champion, ended the 2014 campaign.

-Jerry Severino, Coach

Orchard Park - Class A

Orchard Park finished the season, 15-4, claiming the league and sectional championship. The Quakers fought hard and won their 22nd sectional title in the past 24 years. This amazing accomplishment came after Orchard Park graduated 11 out of 15 starters last year. The Quakers demonstrated consistency all year and battled right to the end in an exciting 11 to 8 loss to Fairport in the Far West Regionals. Fairport was ranked 12th in the nation and raced out to a 4-0 lead, but the Quakers rallied to tie the game, eight all, at the end of the third quarter. Orchard Park was led by Seniors Charlie Wistner, Adam Belica, Bret McMullen, Ryan Falsone, Chris Murphy Brian Fitch, and John Wellington. The Quakers want to thank all of the fans and community for their support.

End of season honors included:

1st Team All-League
Lucas Shafer
Jordan Kuss
Jacob Wittmeyer
Evan Hollfelder
Griffin Ryan
2nd Team All WNY Defense
Griffin Ryan
2nd Team All WNY Midfield
Evan Hollfelder
1st Team All WNY Midfield
Lucas Shafer
2014 NYS All America
Lucas Shafer
2014 Resetairsts Award
Lucas Shafer
Hamburg - Class B

“Three in a row! The Hamburg Girls Lacrosse team won its third straight sectional title in four years, and sixth in program history on May 28th, 2014 at All High Stadium. First Team All American and Niagara University bound, Jillian Ford, led the way with five goals while Junior Rachel Arana added 1 goal and six assists. First team All-WNY, Sophomore Claire Herrmann, and Senior Sam Eberle, added three goals apiece in the 14-11 victory over Williamsville North.”

-Katy Ryan, Coach

Lancaster - Class A

The Lancaster Girls Lacrosse team won its third straight Section VI Championship this past May. They beat Frontier by a score of 10-8. This is Lancaster’s ninth sectional win in the past ten seasons.

-Julie Buccieri, Coach

Lake Shore - Class C

The 2014 Lady Eagles consisted of two 8th graders, three 9th graders, one 10th grader, nine juniors and five seniors. Going into the Section VI Championship with two losses against Amherst, the only losses in their league, the ladies were determined to play their best game of the season and were successful with a victory of 9-5 over Amherst. For the first time, the Lake Shore Lady Eagles brought home the Class C Championship.

The Lady Eagles went into play-offs with a record of 10-3 and left with a record of 12-4. The Honeoye Falls-Lima Cougars ended the Eagles’ season in the regional playoff competition.

Captains Alie Jimerson, Shelby Stevens, and Danielle Williams hoped to graduate from Lake Shore with the Class C Championship. All three captains have been a part of the Lake Shore program from 7th to 12th grade. After losing to Amherst in the previous two years, the ladies had one goal in mind - to win the championship. It was their turn to lead the squad and they wanted to lead them to victory. Alie and Shelby exemplified their desires by scoring the highest and second highest number of goals on the team. Still, they could have scored many more but chose to make their squad a true team by assisting 32 goals and encouraging the less experienced athletes to get involved on attack. This can be seen by the five high scorers with more than 20 goals and the other seven multiple goal scorers on the team.

Danielle Williams led her defense to multiple shutdowns, turnovers, and interceptions. She knew the key to defense is communication and teamwork. Danielle paired up with Kristen Sedar, also a senior, to lead the younger defensive players as they implemented new defensive strategies. As a whole, the defense, along with the midfield players, showed impressive understanding, teamwork, and communication, while putting a stop to several offensive attacks by Amherst in the class championship.

With the same goal in mind, Sophomore Jenna Haring returned to the varsity squad to stand in goal. Jenna played a large part in the success of the team with a 65% save percentage and was voted by her teammates as MVP for the 2014 season.

Freshman Shayla Scanlan returned for her third year to the varsity squad. Shayla not only is the fourth highest scorer on the squad, she leads the team with a draw percentage of 49%. Add in her groundballs and numerous interceptions and turnovers, anyone can see Shayla was a crucial part of the team’s victory this season.

As an 8th grader, Jalyn Jimerson returned to varsity for her second year. With the third highest number of goals on the team and her ferocity on the field, Jalyn supported the captains in their endeavor to create a true team and become class champions.

Joining the varsity squad for her first year is Sophia Koenig. Sophia is number 5 on the high scorer list. Take her groundball wins, interceptions, and speed, add her desire to succeed, and Sophia was a force to be reckoned with this season.

Juniors Symone Maracle, Jordan Valliere, and Courtney Mitchell returned for their second varsity season. These ladies have been in the Lake Shore program for five years. They have competed alongside their captains for just as many.

First year varsity members, Sherisse John (Junior), Emily Nephew (8th grade), Taylor Owens (Junior), Ashlee Quinn (Junior), Sarena Seneca (Junior), Madison Stevens (Freshman), and Jordan Thompson (Junior), quickly joined the veteran athletes in their mission to win the championship.

The success of the 2014 Lady Eagles was truly based on teamwork, determination, and passion for the sport.

-Hannah Wawrowski, Coach
Cattaraugus Little Valley’s (CLV) varsity softball team completed the season with its first ever Section VI Class C Title. The Timberwolves finished the season with a record of 16-5; losing three games in Myrtle Beach while spring training at The Ripken Experience, Franklinville (league loss), and Bolivar-Richburg (playoff loss). The team, comprised of 18 girls had 12 scholar-athletes as well as the CCAA Division II East Player of the League, Sara Crandall (Pitcher, Senior).

As the fifth seed in the playoffs, CLV began their playoff run with a 3-0 win over 12th seeded Randolph in the pre-quarter round. In the quarter finals, CLV traveled to fourth seeded Westfield and won 8-2. CLV then hosted eighth seeded Allegany-Limestone for the semi-finals, and won 2-0. This win sent CLV to play Franklinville in the sectional finals.

Heading into the Section finals, we knew there was work to be done as we were facing the team that handed us our only regular season loss in New York. They provided a pitcher (Ally Haskell, 8th grader) that had 27 strikeouts against our team in the two games they played against us (the most recent, 17 at Franklinville).

The extra inning title game was a defensive battle for CLV, as Franklinville had runners at third base for the first 3 innings, including a lead-off triple by Haskell in the third. Key pitching and double plays involving Katie Reynolds (Third Base, Senior), Hannah Powers (Left Field, Sophomore) and Molleigh Bradley (Catcher, Sophomore) helped keep the game scoreless in the top of the seventh and eighth innings. On the offensive side, we did not have much to offer as Haskell took a no-hit game into the bottom of the eighth, when Alexia Ploetz (Right Field, Senior) led off with a line drive single. The only hit in CLV's favor proved to be the winning run after a sacrifice bunt, passed ball, and a hard hit grounder to second.

Although our playoff run ended in the Far West Regional game against Bolivar-Richburg, as a team, we feel we accomplished our goal of our school’s first sectional softball title. Our teamwork constantly improved as we grew closer together. We knew that we had to maintain focus in every game, no matter the score, win or lose, focus was our key. We set our goals high, put everything we had into the season, and pushed hard in every practice and game to achieve these goals.

The Section VI Class C team had six seniors (front row): Caylee Starks, Kaylee Eaton, Katie Reynolds, Alexia Ploetz, Sara Crandall and Abby Wabik. The underclassmen (back row) are: Megan Jones (Junior), Menleigh Ellis (8th), Brianna Sciolino (Junior), Ashlee Harvey (Junior), Natalie Booth (Sophomore), Hannah Powers (Sophomore), Kaitlyn Navarre (Freshman), Savanna Studley (Sophomore), Molleigh Bradley (Sophomore), Hannah Ulinger (Sophomore), Jenna Martin (Junior) and Brooke Moore (Junior). The Timberwolves were coached by Heather Hyde and Joe Crandall.

This year, as with every year, we had high expectations for our team. We entered the 2014 season with many returning, experienced veterans and added to that group some athletically skilled ladies that had played JV the year prior. This year’s team comprised of Seniors: Aleah Fancher, Laural Killock, Kayla Mansfield, Cassandra Tingue, and Aaren Waterman, Juniors: Alexandrea Bentham, Kaitlyn Hoth, Brittany Howard, and Jessica Pillard and Sophomores: Lindsey Crisanti, Jamie Wilcox, and Jessica Wilcox. The season for the Lady Panthers did not have the exact start we were looking for. After the first few games, we had a 1-4 record overall, 0-2 league, but even with those losses we were always looking at the bigger picture. Every game and practice we were constantly focusing on getting better and improving our skills, and as long as that was happening, we viewed that as success. By the end of the regular season, we had a 7-5 record, which in our mind was not a good representation of the athletic abilities of the ladies and they knew this. We told the girls that the most important thing is to be playing our best ball by the end of the season because that is when everyone starts back at square one in playoffs.

By the end of the season, the ladies were mentally and athletically where they needed to be. We beat Clymer 11-0, Forestville 5-3, and Brocton 2-0 to take the Section VI Class D Championship for the second year in a row. We went against Arkport in the Far West Regional Game, and unfortunately, fell to them with a 6-5 loss. The ladies were definitely devastated as they wanted so badly to have a chance to head back to the state competition. Even though the season was cut much shorter than we had wanted, the girls had so much to be proud of. They had learned and improved so much throughout the season and had accomplished so much over the years. We could not have been more proud of all of their accomplishments.

This year, we had many ladies receive recognition throughout the division. The following ladies were placed on First Team All-Star: Alexandrea Bentham, Kayla Mansfield, Cassandra Tingue, and Jessica Wilcox; Second Team All-Star: Aleah Fancher, Aaren Waterman, and Jamie Wilcox; Honorable Mention: Kaitlyn Hoth, Laural Killock, and Jessica Pillard. We also had all of our senior ladies participate in the Senior All-Star game at the end of the year. We will definitely miss these seniors and there will be big shoes to fill next year.

-Danielle Arnone, Coach
Section VI Coaches’ Award:
Mitch Feneziani - West Seneca West

Coach Potter (left) with Mitch Feneziani (right)

NYSPHSAA Sportmanship Award:
Kevin Borowicz - Grand Island

Kevin Borowicz (left), Coach Warthling (right)

NYSPHSAA State All Star
(Top 20 Finish):
Nolan Ditcher - T19, 77-78 155

NYSPHSAA Scholar Athlete Team Awards
Winter 2013-2014

At the end of each sport season, the NYSPHSAA honors those teams that excel in the classroom. This past winter, Lancaster’s boys' bowling (GPA 98.56) and boys' basketball (GPA 97.28) teams were honored with this prestigious award.

Pictured left to right: Jeff Rabey (Section VI President), Brian Wild (Athletic Director), Cesar Marchioli (High School Principal), Matt Tryjankowski, Lucas Seeley, and Timm Slade (Section VI Executive Director).

L to R: Eileen Troy - NYSPHSAA President, Doug Courtright - State Golf Coordinator, Nolan Ditcher, Robert Zayas - NYSPHSAA Exec. Director
Players (FRONT from Left to Right): Aaron Orechwaok (Eden), Andrew Kempton (Clarence), Matt Lesinski (Williamsville North), Erich Spitz (Orchard Park), Adam Patronik (Orchard Park), Steve Kaufmann (Iroquois), Kevin Borowicz (Grand Island), Mitch Feneziani (West Seneca West), Nolan Ditcher (Randolph)

Coaches (BACK from Left to Right): Paul O’Connor (Eden), Jason Urbanek (Clarence), John Burns (Williamsville North), Nate Leary (Orchard Park), Scott Murray (Iroquois), Craig Warthling (Grand Island), Lori Potter (West Seneca West), Rob Vogtli (Randolph)

Section VI State Team Championship Results

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“In order to succeed, your desire for success should be greater than your fear of failure.”

-Bill Cosby
Girls Golf
State Team

Left to right: Kirstie Hanson (Jamestown), Marissa DelMonaco (Southwestern), Alexis Kim (Clarence), Helen Busch (Amherst), Chelsea Dantonio (Lancaster), Jenna Stogsdill (Williamsville North), Leigh Yartz (Southwestern), Sarah Godfrey (Depew), and Samantha Stanford (Williamsville North)

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USA Football

On May 3rd, 2014, Section VI sponsored a “Heads Up” Football Clinic for all area high school football programs. The clinic was held at Depew High School. A special thanks goes out to Athletic Director Brian Wilson and Superintendent Jeff Rabey for opening their facility to host this event.

The “Heads Up” program is a national program which has been developed by USA Football in conjunction with the NFL, the American Football Coaches Association, and the Center for Disease Control. The focus of the program is to create a safer game by further educating coaches in the areas of concussion awareness, heat & hydration, proper equipment fitting, and the “Heads Up” tackling techniques.

Over 40 local high school coaches volunteered their time to become trained as a Player Safety Coach for their program. Each coach attended the all day clinic and will now have the capability to train all coaches, players, and parents in their respective schools in an effort to create a better and safer game for all.

This group of coaches is only the second group of high school coaches in the country to be trained in this program. Fairfax County in Va. had 35 schools participate in the program last year, and it was an extremely positive experience. Congratulations to the Section VI Coaches for making the same commitment for the health and safety of our young athletes.

-Ken Stoldt, Section VI Football Chairman
East Aurora Girls 4 x 800 Meter Relay Team
3rd Place NYSPHSAA, 8th Place Federation Division II

The East Aurora High School girls’ 3200 meter relay team of Marta McLaughlin, Molly McLaughlin, Fiona Danieu, and Sophia Tasselmyer placed third at the New York State Championships held at CNS High School. The squad also placed eighth in the Federation Championships in the same race. East Aurora’s girls 1600 meter relay team of: Hannah Hitchcock, Bekah Zee, Molly McLaughlin, and Marta McLaughlin placed 6th.

The East Aurora High School boys’ 1600 meter relay team of Jack Zagrobelny, Mike Durant, Mike Coatsworth, and Matt McLaughlin represented Section VI well where they placed third, less than one second from the title and only .01 from second place.

East Aurora’s super ten also qualified for the New Balance Nationals, which were held in Greensboro, North Carolina where the girls squad won and broke their own Section VI record in the Distance Medley Relay and the boys’ team set a new mark in the Sprint Medley Relay.

-Walt McLaughlin, Coach

Pictured left to right: Mike Durant, Jack Zagrobelny, Molly McLaughlin, Fiona Danieu, Sophia Tasselmyer, Marta McLaughlin, Bekah Zee, Hannah Hitchcock, Matt McLaughlin, and Mike Coatsworth.

Boys Track & Field

Alden
Phil Zobrest - Discus
1st Place NYSPHSAA, 4th Place Federation Division II

The Alden High School Track and Field team is proud to announce State Champion Phil Zobrest, a senior at Alden High School, who won the Division II Discus title with a top throw of 163’3”. He edged out the second competitor by a mere two inches. In the Federation meet, Zobrest topped his own personal record again with a throw of 169’10”. This was good for fourth place in New York State. He also competed in the shot put, coming in 9th place. Zobrest plans to attend Holy Cross in the fall on a football scholarship.

Allegany-Limestone
Owen Barber - 3200 Meter Run
2nd Place NYSPHSAA Division II

Allegany-Limestone Sophomore, Owen Barber, capped off an outstanding outdoor season at the New York State Track and Field Championships in June. Owen finished second in the Division II 3200 Meter Run with a new school record time of 9:33.17.

Even though it was his first experience at the state meet, he competed like a veteran runner. Owen enjoys competing against older more experienced runners as he feels it only helps him to continue to improve.

Congratulations Owen!
Boys Track & Field

Barker
Jacob Haight - High Jump
3rd Place NYSPHSAA, 3rd Place Federation Division II

Barker
Bruce Moeller - Pentathalon
2nd Place NYSPHSAA, 4th Place Federation Division II

Cheektowaga
4 x 800 Meter Relay Team
1st Place NYSPHSAA, 7th Place Federation Division II

Clarence
Teddy Okon - High Jump
2nd Place NYSPHSAA, 5th Place Federation Division I

Barker Seniors, Jacob Haight and Bryce Moeller, capped their high school athletic careers with their best performances at the NYSPHSAA Track and Field Championships in Cicero-North Syracuse. Coming off of his Section VI championship in the pentathlon, Bryce set personal bests at the state meet in high jump, shot put, and the 1500 to finish 2nd in Division II and 4th overall in the Federation. His score of 3335 points broke the Niagara-Orleans League pentathlon record by more than 70 points. Jacob Haight improved on his performance from the Section VI championships to jump 6’ 6” at the state meet earning a 3rd place finish in Division II and in the Federation standings. Both Jacob and Bryce have played vital roles in Barker’s four consecutive undefeated Niagara-Orleans league championships and they leave as two of the best athletes ever to compete for Barker. Jacob, an all-Western New York football and basketball player will continue his hoops career at Niagara County Community College while Bryce will be attending the University at Buffalo next fall.

-James Jurewicz, Coach

The 4 x 800 meter relay team of Kobe Walenka, Jack Behlmaier, Noah McGhee, and Tim Whelan - went in seeded 3rd in the event to start the meet - sitting 1.2 seconds out of the 1st place seed. The boys were on a mission that day as they wanted to upset the two teams ranked above them. They not only did that by winning the event in small schools, but they shattered their own school record by 14 seconds, running one of the fastest times ever by a Section 6 team. They won the small schools’ state championship running an incredible time of 7:52.01, just missing the Section VI record by .95 seconds. This was an epic race by all four members of this team as they all ran a personal best time. This same relay team traveled down to Greensboro, North Carolina where they were crowned the National Champions of the Emerging Elite division as they took the division by storm.

Teddy Okon capped an impressive career at Clarence High School by returning to the State Championships in both the high jump and triple jump. Teddy won the high jump at every meet he competed in this year leading up to the state meet. He placed second in Division 1 at the NYSPHSAA High Jump State Championships. Teddy won against some of the best jumpers in the state at the Hilton Invitational with a school record 6’8” jump. He broke his own record the very next week with a jump of 6’9” at the Starpoint Invitational. In addition, Teddy was a clutch performer all year coming up with big jumps in both the long jump and the triple jump to help his team win. Teddy will be attending SUNY Binghamton next year.

-Kevin McCuen, Coach
Boys Track & Field

Lake Shore
TJ Hornberger -
800 Meter - 3rd Place NYSPHSAA, 4th Place Federation
1600 Meter - 3rd Place NYSPHSAA, 3rd Place Federation

Division I

TJ Hornberger, a now graduate of Lake Shore High School, ended his high school running career with record breaking performances this spring. At the Sectional meet in Olean, Hornberger raced the clock to run a 4:12.77 in the mile to beat the record held since 1987 by Charlie Kern. The crowd in the stadium could feel that they were witnessing history, standing on their feet cheering him in the last 100m. The following weekend at the state meet, Hornberger led the pack throughout the 3rd lap in the mile race. Although he was beat out by 2 other racers, in the end, he still finished in 4:10.21 beating his previous record by over 2 seconds for the bronze medal. Hornberger just last year broke the 3200m record with a time of 9:03.2. He hopes his 1600m and 3200m records for Section VI will last for many years.

- Trisha Ippolito, Boys Assistant Track and Field Coach

Randolph
Chris Doubek - Pole Vault
2nd Place NYSPHSAA, 8th Place Federation

Division II

Chris Doubek finished a stellar athletic career at Randolph Central School (RCS) with a second place finish in the pole vault for Division II and eighth place finish in the Federation Championship. Chris vaulted 14’ and tied the champion’s height, but lost the championship by fewer total misses. Chris narrowly missed two attempts at 14’ 6” by coming down on the bar one time and grazing on the way up the second. His success in the pole vault this season was astonishing as he was probably only 80% of top speed due to a nagging injury suffered last November in the NYS Championship Football Game. Chris is the school record holder at RCS with a height of 14’ 4”. Chris will be attending the University of Buffalo this fall and will participate in football and possibly track.

- Azure Mucitelli, Coach

Williamsville South
Devon Patterson - Shot Put
3rd Place NYSPHSAA, 2nd Place Federation

Division I

Devon Patterson finished off his distinguished career with a new personal record and amongst great friends. Devon finished second in the federation final with a throw of 67 feet 8 inches, an outdoor best. “All I wanted to do was PR” Devon said “I just wish it would have been by more”. This fall Devon is off to UB to join an extremely talented group of throwers coached by Jim Granham. We have a strong family of throwers here in Western New York. Many of the throwing coaches in Western New York were coached by Jim Granham in high school and now we are sending our athletes to him in college. Devon is sure to continue his rise in the throwing world. I look forward to seeing him complete his dream of becoming an Olympian.

- Azure Mucitelli, Coach

Maple Grove
Corey Wefing
800 Meter - 1st Place NYSPHSAA, 2nd Place Federation
1600 Meter - 3rd Place NYSPHSAA

Corey Wefing had an exceptional senior year winning the sectionals in cross country, leading the Dragons basketball team to the sectional finals, being an All-Star in division III baseball, and topping it all off with a state championship in the 800m and a third place finish in the 1600 meter, both in school record times. Corey will continue his academic/athletic career at Edinboro University in Pennsylvania.

- Bob Goold, Coach

Orchard Park
Dawson Hillis - Discus
3rd Place NYSPHSAA, 2nd Place Federation

Division I

This past spring, Dawson Hillis, from Orchard Park, placed second at the federation championships and third at the state championships. Last winter, he finished in eighth place at the indoor track and field state finals held at Cornell. Dawson plans to compete in Track & Field at West Point this upcoming fall season.
Girls Track & Field

Alden

Hailey Rospierski -
High Jump - 1st Place NYSPHSAA, 2nd Place Federation
100 Meter High Hurdles - 3rd Place NYSPHSAA
Division II

The Alden High School track and field team is proud to announce State Champion Sophomore, Hailey Rospierski who competed in both the high jump and the 100 hurdles at the state track meet. In the 100 hurdles, she earned a third place finish with a time of 15.47 seconds. Rospierski's state championship came in the high jump. She tied her previous top jump of 5’7” to take the small school state crown and just missed clearing 5’8”. In the Federation, a girl from Bethlehem (large school) tied Rospierski’s 5’7” jump. The tiebreaker (less previous misses) went to the girl from Division I giving Alden's sophomore jumper a second place finish in the state.

The 2014 Albion girls’ 400 meter relay team won the Section VI Championship for the second time in a row and placed third in Division II at the New York State Championship. Freshman Chanyce Powell also competed in the Triple Jump placing sixth while Abby Squicciarini ran 200 meters. Kayla, Abby, and Mariah have been running the relay together the last four years. Last year, the team broke the Niagara-Orleans League record with a time of 49.69.

-Mark Hryvniak

Cheektowaga

Stephanie Lombardo -
Shot Put - 1st Place NYSPHSAA, 3rd Place Federation
Discus - 1st Place NYSPHSAA, 3rd Place Federation
Division II

Stephanie Lombardo from Cheektowaga Central School was crowned the small schools’ state champion in the shot-put, throwing a distance of 42’ 3”. Stephanie is a two time New York State Champion in the shot-put as she also won the title as a junior last year. In the discus, she was also crowned the small schools’ state champion - heaving the disc 134’ 5”. This was her first time winning the New York State Championship for Discus, but she leaves Cheektowaga Central School as the only New York State Champion in the history of the Girls Track and Field program holding the school record in both events. Stephanie will attend Rider University in the fall as she recently accepted an athletic scholarship.

Flashback to... 98’ Track & Field State Championships

JFK High School 4x800 Relay Team
3rd Place

Pictured left to right: Paul Cieslak, Scott Page, Scott Pernick, and Gary Gonzales
Girls Track & Field

Grand Island
Jess Dhaliwall -
Discus - 1st Place NYSPHSAA, 1st Place Federation
Shot Put - 2nd Place NYSPHSAA, 1st Place Federation
Division I

Jess Dhaliwall, from Grand Island, is an outstanding senior female Athlete of the Year and Niagara Gazette Track & Field Athlete of the Year. Jess won the NYSPHSAA Division I Discus Championship and placed second in the NYSPHSAA Shot Put Championship. Jess placed 1st in both discus and shot put in the NYS Federation Championships. Jess will attend the University at Buffalo on a full athletic scholarship.

-Jon Roth, Athletic Director

Randolph
McKenna Maycock - Pentathlon
2nd Place NYSPHSAA, 2nd Place Federation
Division II

McKenna closed out another great track year with her fourth consecutive trip to the New York State Track Championships where she placed second in Division II and second in the Federation Championship with a score of 3269 points. On her way to the second place finish, McKenna set school records in the 110 meter high hurdles and the 800 meter run. McKenna currently holds 8 individual school track records at Randolph Central, and she is a member of two school record relay teams. McKenna is only a junior and has one more year to attempt to capture a state track championship before she takes her basketball career to the next level at St. Bonaventure University.

-Paul Steward, Coach

Hutch Tech
Lynda Brundige - 100 Meter Dash
3rd Place NYSPHSAA, 6th Place Federation
Division I

Lynda Brundige is a first year track & field athlete and a sophomore at Hutch-Tech High School. She won Section VI titles in the 100 and 200 meter dashes and was third in New York State in the 100 and 5th in the 200. She set the Buffalo Public Schools’ record in the 200 and helped Hutch-Tech to section finals in the 4 x 100 and 4 x 400 relays.

Lynda holds a 92 average at Hutch-Tech where she is involved in an Engineering curriculum. In addition, Ms. Brundige is an All-High volleyball player. She is not only an outstanding athlete, but a wonderful student and teammate. Her teammates rally around her because she is such a pleasant and upbeat person.

-David Sardo, Coach

Holland
Megan Caltagirone - 2000 Meter Steeplechase
2nd Place NYSPHSAA, 7th Place Federation
Division II

Megan Caltagirone was the top sophomore in the state in the 2000m steeplechase. She took second place in the steeplechase for Division II and seventh place overall. Currently, she holds the school record with a time of 7:08.83.

-Timothy Buckenmeyer, Athletic Director

East Aurora
Sophia Tasselmyer -
3000 Meter - 1st Place NYSPHSAA,
4th Place Federation
1500 Meter - 3rd Place NYSPHSAA
Division II
Section VI selected the winners of the All-WNY Scholar Athlete Award for the 2014 spring sports season. Of the 553 nominations; there are 12 three time winners, 44 two time winners, 117 winners, and 380 honorable mentions.

**Akron**

B. Golf | Noah Diebel | 2X
---|---|---
G. Track & Field | Gina Henley | 2X
G. Track & Field | Elizabeth Wager | 2X
B. Track & Field | Deegan Lotz | Winner
B. Track & Field | Matthew Minotti | Winner

**Alden**

B. Tennis | Jeremy Martin | Winner

**Amherst**

Softball | Emilee Foster | 2X
B. Tennis | Jack Quinlivan | Winner

**Barker**

Softball | Olivia Denny | 3X
Softball | Julia Atwater | 2X
G. Track & Field | Hayley Richbart | 2X
B. Golf | Nicholas Provencher | Winner

**Cattaraugus/Little Valley**

G. Track & Field | Claire Dowdall | Winner

**Clarence**

G. Golf | Shelby Cornell | Winner
G. Lacrosse | Amanda Delaney | Winner
B. Tennis | Andrew Lopez | Winner
Baseball | Alex McGlue | Winner
G. Lacrosse | Caitlyn Roberts | Winner
B. Lacrosse | Stephen Weppner | Winner

**East Aurora**

B. Golf | Carl Davidson | 2X
G. Lacrosse | Stephanie Vail | 2X
B. Golf | Zach Felder | Winner
G. Lacrosse | Allie Philips | Winner
B. Lacrosse | Cameron Radziwon | Winner
G. Track & Field | Carlin Sullivan | Winner
Softball | Karleigh Volk | Winner
G. Track & Field | Rebekah Zee | Winner

**Forestville**

Softball | Elizabeth Gilman | Winner
Baseball | Jacob Nosbisch | Winner
B. Track & Field | Ryan Ruia | Winner

**Frontier**

B. Track & Field | Adrian Cannon | 3X
Baseball | James Gleason | 2X
G. Track & Field | Samantha Curtis | Winner
B. Lacrosse | Zachariah Djaballah | Winner
B. Lacrosse | Ryan Donovan | Winner
G. Lacrosse | Hannah Lease | Winner
B. Track & Field | Sean Murray | Winner
B. Tennis | Andrew Scull | Winner

**Grand Island**

Baseball | Quinn Corrao | 2X
B. Golf | Kevin Borowicz | Winner
Baseball | Ben Goc | Winner

**Hamburg**

G. Track & Field | Renee Meinhold | 2X
Baseball | Justin LaRosa | Winner

**Holland**

G. Track & Field | Samantha Maloy | 2X

**Hutch Tech**

G. Track & Field | Alicia Busch | Winner
B. Track & Field | Markus Hines | Winner

**Iroquois**

B. Track & Field | Austin Valvo | 2X
G. Track & Field | Katherine Ackerman | Winner
B. Tennis | Martin Domondon | Winner

**JFK**

B. Track & Field | Daniel Wierzba | Winner

**Kenmore East**

Baseball | Richard Brinkman | Winner

**Kenmore West**

G. Track & Field | Brianna Mathias | 3X
G. Track & Field | Kaeli Mathias | 3X
Baseball | Adam Fron | 2X
Softball | Hannah Post | Winner

**Lake Shore**

B. Golf | Matthew Vona | 2X
G. Track & Field | Makayla Arcara | Winner

**Lancaster**

Baseball | Ryan Stekl | Winner

**Lewiston Porter**

G. Track & Field | Angela Gallo | 2X
Softball | Emily Bartos | Winner
B. Track & Field | Liam Drennan | Winner

**Niagara Wheatfield**

B. Golf | Johnathan McCasey | 2X
B. Track & Field | Jake Schoelles | 2X
B. Tennis | Jason Bolea | Winner
B. Track & Field | Jack Buddenhagen | Winner
Softball | Briana Krawczyk | Winner
G. Track & Field | Cassie Travers | Winner

**North Tonawanda**

G. Track & Field | Courtney Crooks | 2X
G. Track & Field | Gretchen Ringler | 2X
Softball | Olivia Miller | Winner
Baseball | Tom O’Connor | Winner
G. Lacrosse | Keara Schofield | Winner
### Section VI All-WNY Scholar Athletes Spring 2014

#### Orchard Park
- **G. Lacrosse**: Margaux Ruh 3X
- **G. Track & Field**: Emilee Welton 2X, Taylor Ziccarelli 2X
- **G. Track & Field**: Samantha Crowley Winner
- **B. Track & Field**: Benjamin Goodman Winner
- **Baseball**: Tyler Heath Winner
- **Baseball**: Dave Hollins Winner
- **Baseball**: Ryan Partridge Winner
- **B. Tennis**: Kevin Zablonski Winner

#### Pioneer
- **B. Track & Field**: Ryan Merlau 2X, George Duman Winner

#### Royalton-Hartland
- **Softball**: Ashleigh Miller Winner
- **Softball**: Courtney Van Buren Winner

#### Salamanca
- **B. Golf**: Derek Dux Winner
- **Baseball**: Riley Rybicki 3X
- **B. Track & Field**: Jordon Powers 2X
- **B. Tennis**: Matthew Johnson Winner
- **G. Track & Field**: Andrea O’Boyle Winner
- **G. Track & Field**: Briana Young Winner

#### Springville
- **Boys Golf**: Erik Hopkins Winner
- **G. Lacrosse**: Bethany Lazarus Winner
- **B. Track & Field**: Nathan Wolcott Winner
- **G. Track & Field**: Alena Woodarek Winner

#### Starpoint
- **Softball**: Nicole Adams Winner
- **G. Track & Field**: Kelsey Jaynes Winner
- **G. Track & Field**: Hannah Weiss Winner

#### Sweet Home
- **B. Track & Field**: Matthew Ciminella 2X
- **B. Lacrosse**: Tyler Desiderio Winner
- **G. Lacrosse**: Madison Kather Winner
- **B. Lacrosse**: Brock Prizel Winner

#### West Seneca East
- **Baseball**: James Klos Winner
- **G. Lacrosse**: Elena Osmanski Winner

#### West Seneca West
- **G. Track & Field**: Abigail Jankowski 2X
- **B. Lacrosse**: Nicholas Clancy Winner
- **G. Lacrosse**: Caitlyn Deubell Winner
- **G. Track & Field**: Quinn Gundel Winner
- **B. Golf**: Nicholas Lampman Winner
- **B. Golf**: Matthew Sipple Winner

#### Williamsville East
- **G. Lacrosse**: Kaitlyn Alcazaren 2X
- **B. Track & Field**: Ryan Berkun 2X
- **G. Lacrosse**: Lauren DiDuro 2X
- **Softball**: Laura Finley 2X
- **G. Track & Field**: Theresa Meosky 2X
- **G. Track & Field**: Julie Adams Winner
- **B. Golf**: Rajesh Bhayana Winner
- **Baseball**: Eric Dohn Winner
- **Softball**: Lauren Elliott Winner
- **B. Lacrosse**: Sebastian Fasanello Winner
- **G. Track & Field**: Megan He Winner
- **G. Track & Field**: Lorna Krabill Winner
- **G. Lacrosse**: Brooks Melnyk Winner
- **Baseball**: Richard Patti Winner
- **B. Track & Field**: Kiran Prasad Winner

#### Williamsville South
- **Softball**: Emily Martin 3X
- **B. Track & Field**: Joseph Michael Couche 2X
- **G. Lacrosse**: Allison Staebell 2X
- **Baseball**: Ryan Woods 2X
- **Softball**: Morgan Maley Winner
- **G. Lacrosse**: Meredith Parent Winner
- **B. Track & Field**: Jeremy Zgoda Winner

#### Wilson
- **Softball**: Emily Lasher Winner
- **B. Track & Field**: Kevin Wiesinger Winner
Olivia Denny
Barker Central School

Olivia Denny has always stood out as one of the top student-athletes in Barker Central School. She has a tremendous work ethic and her competitive drive has resulted in her receiving post-season honors and awards for field hockey, basketball, and softball. Her team field hockey accomplishments include being a key member of four Niagara-Orleans Championship teams, four Sectional Championship teams, and three Far West Regional Championship teams. Olivia's individual field hockey accomplishments are equally as impressive. This past fall, she was named to the All-League, All-WNY, and All-State field hockey teams. Olivia is an excellent basketball and softball player as well. In basketball, Barker's four year starting point guard earned honorable mention or 2nd Team All-League the past two seasons. Olivia is arguably the league's top softball player. As a junior, she was 1st Team All-League and has been a starter on the varsity team since the 8th grade. Olivia is an outstanding performer, but she is also known for her sportsmanship and commitment to academics. Olivia's persistent effort and high expectations for herself have gained her the respect of her teammates, peers, and the faculty and staff at Barker Central School.

The most significant contribution that Olivia has made to Barker Central School is her ability to be a positive role model and leader in the classroom, athletics, school clubs, and community activities. She is a self-motivated individual that always demonstrates class and professionalism. What I find most impressive about Olivia, is she is able to do all of this while excelling in the classroom with an unweighted G.P.A. of 99.184 and a weighted G.P.A. of 100.398. This past winter, both the Channel 4 and Time Warner News stations recognized Olivia as their Scholar-Athlete of the Month. Olivia was also selected as an All-Western New York Scholar-Athlete for basketball and field hockey.

Next fall, Olivia Denny will be attending the University of Rochester to major in Biomedical Engineering. She will also continue her field hockey career at U of R.

-Dave Carson, Athletic Director

Kaeli Mathias
Kenmore West

Kaeli Mathias, from Kenmore West High School, is a true student-athlete and is most deserving of the NYSAAA scholarship. Academically, Kaeli is ranked 4th in her class of 328 classmates. She carries a weighted grade-point average of 100.4. Kaeli has been consistently strong in all of her course work. Entering her senior academic year, Kaeli’s lowest grade was registered in her sophomore year when she earned a 92 in AP English Literature. In an incredible 27 of the 30 courses she has taken, she has earned a grade of 95 or higher.

Athletically, Kaeli not only participates, but excels in three vastly different sports. In the fall, she is a gifted field hockey player earning First Team All-League honors three years, All-Western New York three seasons as well as First Team All-State two seasons. Over the course of her time on varsity, the team has built a record of 51-19-2. She stands first in both career goals (96), assists (39), and points (135). She scored 37 goals in one season, a school record and led the league in scoring in 2012 with 37 goals and 8 assists. She served her team as captain in 2013.

In the winter, Mathias turns to the ice where she has been a member of the girls’ ice hockey team for four years. Over that time, Kenmore has captured two sectional titles and Kaeli has been named All-League one season. She has served as assistant or captain three years.

Mathias hits the track in the outdoor season and has competed in the 800 meter relay and 800 meter run since 7th grade. She has been named First Team All-League in outdoor track the last three seasons. She has been a five-time sectional qualifier in track.

The most amazing commentary on Kaeli and what she stands for is that many of these amazing accomplishments were earned while her father, and number one supporter, was suffering from failing health, ultimately leading to his passing during this past fall’s field hockey season. Paul was the rock for his twin girls (Bri is also a three sport athlete and outstanding student). He was the sole provider financially and was the only driver in the family. He transported his girls to nearly every practice. He was in attendance at every event. This included the girls’ participation in elite travel leagues in field hockey and ice hockey in the off season.

Kaeli is a remarkable individual; a fantastic student, great athlete and courageous young lady. She has given herself to our school district, our town, her coaches and teammates, and has performed in the face of tragedy.

-Brett Banker, Supervisor of Health Services, PE, Recreation & Athletics

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Barker High School

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Next fall, Olivia Denny will be attending the University of Rochester to major in Biomedical Engineering. She will also continue her field hockey career at U of R.

-Dave Carson, Athletic Director
Introducing... Meet the Athletic Director

A new segment to the Section VI newsletter that profiles an Athletic Director from each league.

Elizabeth Colligan, Portville Central School
Chautauqua Cattaraugus Athletic Association

Years of Administrative Service: 4 years
Education: High School - Springville Griffith Institute College - St. Bonaventure University
Family: Husband - Robert Colligan Jr. Stepchildren - Gavin, 15 years old & Sydney, 13 years old

Foster children - (sisters), ages 8 and 15 months
Favorite Food: Peanut Butter M&M's
Favorite Movie: Frozen
Hobbies: I play golf, love kayaking, enjoy watching my stepchildren play sports, I have completed a few triathlons, and I love just spending time with my family.

Why/How did you choose athletics/education?
I really enjoyed playing sports as a child. I played sports throughout high school. I also really enjoyed working with children. I worked at a daycare in the summer when I was in high school and college. So, what better job than to become a physical education teacher! My first couple years working at Portville, I coached a lot of different sports. I enjoyed seeing students in a different light and seeing them excel athletically. I was given the opportunity to be the athletic director about five years into my career. I have enjoyed my time being involved with my students in all their sports and have also enjoyed being able to recognize their accomplishments.

John Forcucci, Niagara Falls High School
Niagara Frontier League

Years of Administrative Service: 4 Years
Education: High School: (the former) LaSalle Senior High School, Niagara Falls, NY College: State University College at Buffalo (BS) '83, State University College at Buffalo (MS) '88, Niagara University: MS in Administration and Supervision ’99, Professional Diploma in Educational Supervision and Administration ’99
Family: Wife - Debbie, 28 years Children - Anthony, Nicholas, and Marisa Pet - Carson; Golden Retriever
Favorite Food: Pizza
Favorite Movie: Nothing like a good Stoogefest at the Riviera Theatre in North Tonawanda.
Hobbies: Renovation projects, coaching 18U baseball during the summer, and an occasional round of golf or a bike ride around Goat Island and the falls.

Why/How did you choose athletics/education?
Being able to teach in my hometown school district was always a goal that I had in mind while attending college, but what I didn’t know after reaching that goal was how many changes would occur over the years that would impact my career path. From curriculum changes in my certification area to district consolidation, which resulted in one high school, each one of these events offered new career opportunities. When the opportunity came along to become the Niagara Falls Athletic Director, I saw it as chance to further the successful district athletic programs already in place. Little did I know, two years after I began, that I would find myself adding yet another dimension to my job. The approval of a multi-million dollar district-wide capital project put funding in place to overhaul our outdoor athletic complex. This has become a once in a lifetime opportunity to rebrand our athletic complex for the next generation of student athletes and for our community residents and user groups. While very time consuming and demanding, to this point, it has been the most rewarding chapter of my career, and the most memorable.

Robert J. Hasenoehrl, Buffalo Academy of Science Charter School
Independent League

Years of Administrative Service: 2 years
Education: High School - Frontier Central High School College - SUNY Brockport (BS) Physical Education / Athletic Training, Canisius College (MS)
Family: Wife - Debbie, 28 years Children - Anthony, Nicholas, and Marisa Pet - Carson; Golden Retriever
Favorite Movie: Frozen
Favorite Food: Steak / Ribs
Hobbies: Coaching, travel, hiking, softball, golf, volleyball, football, hockey, weights, cycling, tennis, fishing, and guitar.

Why/How did you choose athletics/education?
Having experienced sports from the sand lot, little league, high school, college, professional level, and beyond has been the source of some of my fondest memories and what has developed me into the person that I am today. Reflecting on my time participating in athletics, I recognize the impact that each coach has had on me. I was very lucky to have the best parents that were involved in my life. A coach/teacher at any level can have such a positive impact on their students/athletes and be a great role model for those that may be in need of one. Through teaching, coaching, and administration, I am working hard to provide students the opportunities that I had and lead them toward lifelong health and fitness.

A Special Thank You

Section VI would like to express a special “Thank You” to Dr. Jeff Rabey, Superintendent of Depew Union Free School District, for his service as Section VI President over the past three years. “We are appreciative of your hard work and grateful for your dedication and commitment to Section VI.”
Meet the Athletic Director

A new segment to the Section VI newsletter that profiles an Athletic Director from each league.

Joel Reed, Charter School for Applied Technologies
Niagara Orleans League

Years of Administrative Service:
11yrs as AD, 5yrs at Administrative level

Education:
High School - North Tonawanda High School
College - SUNY Brockport (Undergrad), Buffalo State (Graduate), MCLA (Admin)

Family:
Wife - Jennifer
Son - Joel Jr. (JJ), 11 years old
Daughters - Piper, 9 years old & Casey, 7 years old

Favorite Food:
Chicken Wings- Cajun shaken, in hot sauce!

Favorite Movie:
Cool Hand Luke

Hobbies:
Coaching my son’s baseball teams, fishing and hunting, and going for motorcycle rides.

Why/How did you choose athletics/education?
I was always athletic, but when I got into middle school and high school, I was pretty undersized and so I was always having to work extra hard to catch up to the bigger more talented athletes. Trying to gain an advantage wherever I could, I would try my best to get to know the other aspects of the sport such as strategy and what goes into running games/matches. I believe it was this time that peaked my interest in becoming a physical education teacher, and then eventually a coach, and finally, an Athletic Director. I think being undersized also led me to want to give as many athletes as possible a platform to perform and participate in sports, regardless of talent level. I have always felt that I wanted to create a positive athletic environment for students to have an outlet that they can positively shape their own point of view about competition and sportsmanship while creating a sense of camaraderie that they can look back fondly at for the rest of their lives.

Duke Ziegler, Iroquois Central School District
Erie County Interscholastic Conference

Years of Administrative Service:
4 years as Athletic Director at Iroquois
3 years as Director of Physical Education at Nichols School

Education:
High School:South Park
College: St. Bonaventure University-B.S., Buffalo State, American College-Athletic Administration (in progress)

Family:
Wife - Michele
Sons - Brett (22) & Connor (17)
Daughter - Lexi (20)

Favorite Food:
Thanksgiving dinner

Favorite Movie:
Departed, Slap Shot, and Frozen

Hobbies:
Golf, music, and family vacations; former part time regional scout for the New York Mets & Seattle Mariners.

Why/How did you choose athletics/education?
I had successful experiences in high school as an athlete. I learned that athletics helps to prepare you for events in life. I wanted to become involved in physical education and high school athletics as a teacher and coach to share with students all the opportunities I had growing up. An opportunity came along to become an athletic director - I took it and have enjoyed the journey every step of the way.