

# State Champs!

## Sussex Central captures first football title

Sussex Central High School captured its first-ever state football championship with a 33-7 victory over Salesianum in the Delaware Division I final on Dec. 1 at Delaware Stadium in Newark.

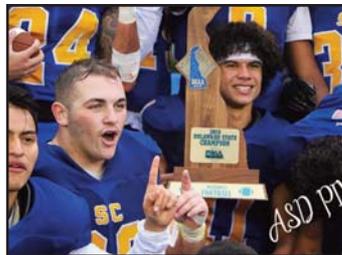
Coached by John Wells, the Golden Knights rolled to a 9-1 regular season record and the Henlopen Conference Northern Division title. In the playoffs, Sussex Central dominated Appoquinimink 36-7 in the quarterfinals before recording a thrilling 21-20 come-from-behind victory over Dover in the semifinal.

In the state final, the Golden Knights jumped ahead 7-0 in the first quarter on a 59-yard touchdown pass from Isaac Barnes to his brother Isaiah Barnes. They broke the game open in the third quarter when Shihiem Williams returned the second half kickoff 99 yards for a touchdown and Kasim Lewis scored from three yards out a few minutes later after a fumbled a punt snap by Salesianum. The Knights cruised to victory from there as their defense held Sallies to under 200 yards of total offense.

Sussex Central ended the year on a 12-game winning streak and the team was honored at special rally on Dec. 3 at the school stadium.



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**SCHS Coach John Wells**



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Isaac Barnes with the championship trophy at the rally on Dec. 3.

## The Championship Season

at Hodgson	L 6-26
vs Queen Anne's	W 31-3
at Caravel	W 31-0
vs Dover	W 21-0
at Sussex Tech	W 25-0
vs Smyrna	W 31-12
at Polytech	W 42-0
at Cape Henlopen	W 43-0
vs Caesar Rodney	W 39-0
vs Indian River	W 63-0

### State Tournament

vs Appoquinimink	W 36-7
at Dover	W 21-20
vs Salesianum	W 33-7



Aerin Donovan photo



The team was honored at Legislative Hall in Dover in January.