

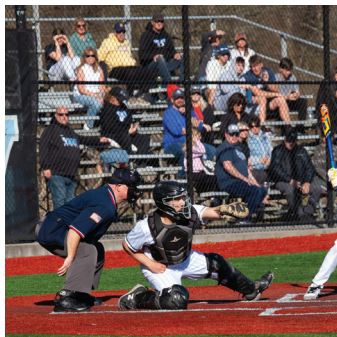


SPRING SPORTS ARE UNDERWAY

It is hard to imagine, but our spring sport teams have weathered the spring storms. Each of our teams have displayed remarkable resilience in adapting to the challenging forecasts of late March and early April. We applaud and appreciate our student-athletes and coaches for their patience and flexibility in keeping our schedules on track. Here is a glimpse of how the 2024 spring season has started off.

Baseball

Head Coach Eric Semega enters his 24th season at the helm and this year's team is a veteran roster looking to make an impact in the WPIAL playoffs. The roster has depth on the mound, quality bats and solid defense from all nine positions. As always, section play will be a battle with regular foes Butler, North Allegheny and Pine-Richland. At the time of this writing, the Raiders were 5-3-1 overall and 3-2 in section play.



Softball

Head Coach Marlesse Hames returns for her third season at the helm and her 2024 team is currently undefeated 9-0 (6-0 section) and ranked first in the WPIAL and second in the state for 6A softball. The team returns a veteran lineup including the battery of catcher Anna Kalkowski and pitcher Lexie Hames. Seniors Kara Pasquale and Kylie Staudt will patrol the outfield and provide the leadership for this championship-caliber team.



Boys Lacrosse

Head Coach David Hall returns to lead the Raider boys lacrosse program. Currently, the Raiders are 5-5 overall and 1-2 in section play. The upcoming games in the next few weeks include key section games with Pine-Richland, North Hills, Shadyside Academy and North Allegheny. The Raiders are led by a senior class of four – returners Aiden Burns, Nick Fischer and Dylan Kunkelmann and newcomer Cenzo DiTullio.



Girls Lacrosse

Katie Smolter returns to the sidelines for her 13th season as head coach and her 2024 Raider squad is out to an overall record of 4-3-1 (2-2-1 section). Remaining games include section contests with North Allegheny, Freeport, Fox Chapel and Pine-Richland. A senior class of eight strong leaders and players lead the team: Addison Barbe, Kacy Christensen, Megan Holby, Alba Lanti Gago, Lorena Lopez, Lydia Miller, Alena Rosenzweig and Brooklyn Salameh.



Boys Tennis

Coach Eric Grove, in his 24th season as head coach, has a squad led by seniors Michael DeVyver, Graham Logue and Mark Wilson. First singles player Michael DeVyver finished in fourth place at sectional singles, qualifying him to the WPIAL Individual Championships as the 11th seed – the first Raider to qualify for the WPIAL Individual tournament in 24 years!



Track & Field

Head Coach Ray Peaco, in his 16th season at the helm, currently has both the boys and girls teams at 4-1 overall and in section meets. The Raiders have a key upcoming section meet with Butler to determine their postseason fate in the team championships. At the North Allegheny meet, the following athletes moved into the



Top-5 on the Raider record board: Kathryn Morrison, 100 hurdles (15.61, #4 All-Time); Kyler Matson, 300 hurdles (39.79, #5 All-Time); and Eddie Strong, 200m (22.50, #5 All-Time). At the Butler County Track & Field Classic, records set by the Raiders included Kyle Mancing in boys high jump (6' 2"), the girls 4 x 800 relay (Claire Riehl, Sydney Heltzell, Paige D'Amico and Delaney Mansfield), and boys 4 x 400 relay (Karter LeRoy, Kyler Matson, Ethan Barnett and Elliott Deutsch.) These are just a few names we will look to for medal performances next month at the WPIAL championships.



Boys Volleyball

Brett Poirier enters his fourth season leading Raider Boys Volleyball and the team's overall record stands at 6-3 (3-3 section) and includes a championship trophy in their own tournament, held March 23. Nine returning seniors lead the team this year: Peter Breski, Matt Cinker, Matthew DeGraaf, Nicholas Dunmire, Connor Gormly, Daniel Kane, Matthew Mirilovich, Ian Phelps and Jose Tinoco. ■



THE EPITOME OF SCHOLAR-ATHLETE EXCELLENCE

The Western Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic League (WPIAL) announced their ten male and female James Collins Scholar-Athlete Award winners on Wednesday, April 17. The Seneca Valley Senior High was represented on both lists with diver Isaiah Clerkley and golfer Lihini Ranaweera honored as one of ten WPIAL Scholar-Athletes. Isaiah and Lihini were two of 20 honorees out of 146 nominations, and it is an uncommon moment when a district has both a male and female honoree. The scholarly excellence and athletic brilliance of both Isaiah and Lihini is a testament to the strength of Raider Athletics and a commitment to our core values of excelling athletically, academically and socially. We congratulate Isaiah and Lihini and thank them for representing our District with immense class and distinction. ■



COLLEGE COMMITMENTS – CLASS OF 2024

Many Raider student-athletes made their college commitment official with the early signing period starting in mid-November. We congratulate these seniors in achieving their goals of continuing their athletic and academic careers at the next level. Each of you are tremendous representatives of Raider Athletics and we are very proud of your efforts in the classroom, in competition, and in the community. ■

Name	Sport	College/University	Major
Emerson Pepper	Basketball	Saint Vincent	Early/Elementary Education



ATHLETES OF THE MONTH, MARCH 2024

The Female Athlete of the Month for March was girls lacrosse attacker/midfielder Lorena Lopez. The senior had a hot start to the season, contributing goals or assists in all seven games for the Raiders. She leads the team with 37 goals, averaging five goals a game. Lorena has also chipped in with five assists and over 27 ground balls. Her performances have lifted her team to four wins, one draw and two losses, including a 3-1 section record, strong enough for third place. Lorena's standout game came in a 19-15 victory over Shaler where she tallied eight goals. She has also scored a hat trick (three or more goals) in five of seven games. We recognize Lorena as the March Female Athlete of the Month. Congratulations, Lorena!



The Male Athlete of the Month for March was senior boys tennis player Michael DeVyver. Michael came into the season as Seneca Valley's No. 1 singles player and has certainly lived up to that ranking. He is 6-2 on the season in singles matches, leading the Raiders to a .500 record halfway through the season. Michael also represented Seneca Valley at the 2024 Boys Tennis WPIAL Section Individual Playoffs, where he came in fourth place, the highest finish for a Seneca Valley boys tennis player in 24 years. With his accomplishment, Michael qualified as the 11th seed for the Boys Tennis WPIAL Singles Championships. For an impressive month, we recognize Michael as the March Male Athlete of the Month. Congratulations, Michael!



WE ARE PLANNING FOR 2024-25

Physical, drug & concussion test dates

The athletic department has announced its summer physical, drug testing and baseline concussion testing dates for 2024-25. Please note these plans are subject to change.

REMINDERS for 2024-25:

- All required paperwork for athletic participation in 2024-25 will be available on [Parent Portal](#) and the SV Athletics website starting May 1. **New for 2024-25:** No paperwork may be completed prior to May 1.
- ALL fall sports** paperwork is due in the athletic office no later than **3 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 1**. Coaches will not accept paperwork on the first day of tryouts.
- Dates for physicals are not yet confirmed. Once dates are set, we will announce. Please note physicals are first come, first served - we do not take reservations in advance. *We encourage families to have their physical completed as soon as possible after May 1. You may visit your PCP or any Urgent Care Clinic for an athletic physical.*
- The PIAA mandates their CIPPE form as the only permissible form for doctor's signature.

- All student-athletes must register in the [Parent Portal](#) under "Sports Registration" before tryouts/practice begin. Registration begins May 1.
- Complete information available on the District's Athletics website under "Participation and TRYOUT information" starting May 1.
- Concussion baseline testing only needs to be completed every other year. Parents may call the Athletics Office at (724) 452-6040, x1752 to confirm the status of their child's baseline concussion test.

Drug Testing and Baseline Concussion Testing Dates – Senior High School

- Tuesday, July 9**, from 3– 7 p.m.
- Wednesday, July 10**, from 8 a.m. – noon and 1 – 3 p.m.
- Tuesday, July 30**, from 3 – 7 p.m.
- Wednesday, July 31**, from 8 a.m. – noon and 1 – 3 p.m. ■