



STARTING THE YEAR WITH RECORD-BREAKING SEASONS!

While most fall sports have not yet started their post-season play, two Raider teams – girls golf and girls tennis – have completed their seasons in record-breaking fashion. The girls varsity golf team surprised the entire WPIAL team championship field with their runner-up finish earning one of six playoff berths in the PIAA Girls 3A Team Golf Championships held at the Penn State University Blue Course. At the one-day championship event, the Raiders finished in fifth place. Out of 116 AAA teams in the state, to place fifth is quite a seasonal accomplishment! Prior to the team championships, senior Lihini Ranaweera finished in third place at the WPIAL Girls Golf 3A Individual Championships and earned her second opportunity to compete at the PIAA Championships, and she did not disappoint! Lihini's two-day total of 152 was good enough to finish in the top-nine of the championships earning herself a PIAA 3A Girls Golf Championship medal. We congratulate Lihini and the PIAA state qualifier girls golf team (Madison Sharek, Sarah McCullough, Rylin Barbe and Cassie Dague) on an amazing 2023 season!

The girls tennis team, under head coach Eric Grove, had a record-breaking 2023 campaign, qualifying for the WPIAL 3A Girls Tennis Team Championships and sending a singles player, senior Kylie Staudt to the WPIAL 3A Girls Tennis Individual Championships. By virtue of her top-four finish at the section singles tournament, Staudt qualified for the WPIAL finals, seeded 16th and had to face the eventual runner-up from Penn Trafford. While the result was not what Staudt expected, we applaud her tenacity throughout the singles bracket and the fact that she was the first Raider girls tennis player to qualify for the WPIAL Individual Championships in 15 years! The team completed their season with an overall record of 10-8 and 4-3 in section play.



Their fourth-place finish in the section rewarded the Raiders with a spot in the WPIAL Team Championship bracket as the 14th seed, squaring off against 3rd seed Mt. Lebanon. Seedings held true to form as the Raiders fell 5-0 to close out their fantastic 2023 season. We congratulate Coach Grove and the entire team on their performances this fall! ■

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENT DATES
FOR RAIDER ATHLETICS

Winter Sport Information

- **Nov. 8, 2023:** Final Drug & Concussion Testing and Athletic Physicals for Winter Sports in Senior High School
 - 30 physicals offered 2:45-5:15 p.m.
- **Nov. 9, 2023:** **Deadline** for winter sport paperwork; all papers due in athletic office.
- **Nov. 17, 2023:** First official day of winter sports - mandatory tryouts begin this day.
 - For tryout schedule, please contact the coach directly. Coaches contact information is located on athletics website under [Participation Information](#) tab.

Reminders for 2023-24:

- **ALL** paperwork for winter sports due in athletic office no later than 3 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 9. Coaches will not accept paperwork at the first day of tryouts.
- The PIAA mandates the CIPPE Section 6 form as the only permissible form for doctor's signature.
- All required paperwork for 2023-24 athletics participation is available on Parent Portal or Athletics website. Paperwork includes PIAA CIPPE Sections 1, 2, 5 & 6 and Drug Test Consent Form.
- IF a student played a fall sport, the only paperwork needed is PIAA CIPPE Section 7 and, if applicable, PIAA CIPPE Section 8 - these forms can be dated no earlier than Oct. 6, 2023.
- All student-athletes must register in the Parent Portal under "Sports Registration" before the start of each season.
- Tryouts are mandatory. Student-athletes are expected to attend every tryout session. ■

FALL SPORTS UPDATES

Following successful regular seasons, many Raider fall sport teams begin postseason competition in late October and early November. A recap of the remaining fall sports, including postseason results, will be shared in the November issue of *Raider Pride*. ■

WHAT IS SALT?

The Student-Athlete Leadership Team (SALT) was founded in the 2022-23 school year with the following four focus areas: Service, Advocacy, Leadership and Team.

The mission of SALT is: to provide student-athletes with a voice. Members of SALT have the privilege of representing the student-athlete body; they act as liaisons between athletics and administration. They prioritize growth as an individual – academically, athletically, and personally.

At the start of the 2023-24 school year, SALT members broke into the following seven teams: Raider Buddies, Community Service, Recognition, Increased Attendance, Special Programming, Student-Athlete Experience and Student-Athlete Development. Each team creates its own goals and strategizes plans to meet with success.

Raider Buddies is a program whereby our SALT members visit elementary schools to engage with “Lil Raiders,” and share lessons on what it means to be a great teammate, how to be an awesome leader and the importance of valuing all team members in their classrooms. Most recently, SALT members visited Haine Elementary and spent



the day sharing their wisdom of sports, reading to students and embracing the beautiful day during recess!

Additional objectives our SALT members have accomplished and implemented include the annual student athletic pass, \$1 nights for students at team events, creating a SALT Instagram account and weekly SALT segments on the morning announcements to promote our teams and special accomplishments of our student-athletes, and prioritizing a menu of eventual speakers. ■



ATHLETES OF THE MONTH

The Female Athlete of the Month for September was senior girls golfer Lihini Ranaweera.

Lihini has anchored the Raiders golf team to a 10-4 regular season record including a second-place finish in section play. She maintained a 9-hole average of 38 and her lowest score on the year was a 34. She also scored a 35 against Mt. Lebanon in a match which saw the Raiders break the 170 mark, winning 168-177. She came in first place at the SV “Climb the Ridge” tournament along with a fourth-place finish at the Erie McDowell Invite that featured over 80 female golfers from the Western Pennsylvania area. She was also one of two Raiders to qualify for the first round of the Western Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic League (WPIAL) 3A Girls Golf Championships after coming in second place in sectionals with an 18-hole score of 75. Lihini was also recognized as the Week Four Scholar Athlete of the Week by 22 The Point’s Friday Night Rivals. We recognized Lihini as the September Female Athlete of the Month. Congratulations Lihini!



The Male Athlete of the Month for September was boys golfer Payton Brown.

A senior, Payton has had a great season on the links with a 9-hole average of 39.91. He was a team medalist in two matches, including scoring a season low of 36 in a match versus Shaler. Payton left his best golf for the postseason, finishing in the top 27 at sectionals with an 18-hole score of 80. He was one of five Raiders to make the cut and represent Seneca Valley at the first round of the Western Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic League (WPIAL) 3A Boys Championships. During first round play, Payton qualified for the finals in dramatic fashion, scoring an eagle on the par-5 18th hole to finish with a score of 82 and above the cut line. He competed as Seneca Valley’s sole representative against 38 others for a chance to qualify for the state championships, unfortunately missing the cut. For an impressive month, we recognized Payton as the September Male Athlete of the Month. Congratulations Payton! ■



LET'S RUN FOR RYAN!

Join us on Sunday, Nov. 5, for the inaugural SFC Ryan Gloyer Memorial Run! Presented by Westinghouse and hosted by the Seneca Valley Foundation (SVF), this incredible event serves to spread community awareness of the life and legacy of SFC Ryan Gloyer by highlighting the many amazing attributes this man possessed; to remind students and the entire community of Ryan's ultimate sacrifice for our Country; and even more importantly, preserve his legacy of being inclusive, selfless, dedicated and a true patriot.

The race will begin at 9 a.m. on the beautiful campus of Seneca's secondary schools. Because of course logistics, it is necessary to shut down Seneca School Road for approximately 1 hour. We ask participants and guests to arrive no later than 8:30 a.m. Please also note that the American Legion will perform a 21-gun salute prior to the race at approximately 8:50 a.m. A 50/50 raffle will be available at the event, so be sure to bring cash!

Thank you to the many people and businesses who have committed to support this event, including the following:

Presenting Sponsor: Westinghouse

T-Shirt Sponsors: Gilliland Vanasdale Sinatra Istik Law Office, LLC; Baird - The Dishart Mackie O'Brien Group; Victory Family Church; and Eckles Construction Services

Mile Marker Sponsors: LLI Engineering; Communications Consulting; The Georgie Smigel Group Coldwell Banker; Dutilh Church; Neofes Insurance Group and the U.S. Border Patrol

Water Station Sponsor: Randolph Tool Co.

Finish Line Sponsor: Univest Financial

In-Kind Donations: Marburger Farm Dairy; Eat N' Park; Burn Boot Camp (Zelienople); Dairy Queen Grill & Chill (Cranberry); Butler County Tourism & Convention Bureau; MPLX and Jenny Lee Bakery

We wish to extend our sincere thanks to all participants, sponsors, donors and the community for your support of this event. All proceeds will benefit Ryan Gloyer Middle School and the Ryan Gloyer Memorial Scholarship.



PRESENTED BY:



**Inaugural 5K Walk/Run
In Memory of SFC Ryan Gloyer**
November 5, 2023 - 9 a.m.
SV Secondary Campus, Harmony, PA



If interested, donations to this event can be made here:

<https://runsignup.com/Race/Donate/PA/Harmony/RyanGloyerMemorialRun>

WE LOVE SV ALUMNI AND NEW FRIENDS

It was wonderful to see the smiling faces of Seneca Valley Alumni and new friends at homecoming this year. Thank you for visiting our booth and connecting with us.

If you would like to keep up with SV Foundation news, initiatives and events, connect with us here!

