By Heather Lewis,
Seneca Valley Athletics & Activities Director

UNPRECEDENTED EXCELLENCE



There are many long days and nights as the Director of Athletics & Activities but in those hours, I often get to witness extraordinary accomplishments by our students. This fall has been an absolute privilege to witness greatness at a level not commonly seen in sport. For the graduating seniors (pictured here) of our Raider boys' soccer program, they will leave a legacy which might not ever be surpassed. In their final three seasons these seniors have won 60 games against three losses and three ties. They brought home three straight section titles, two WPIAL titles, one WPIAL runner-up trophy, two PIAA state titles and one PIAA runner-up trophy. It is quite the accomplishment to reach a WPIAL championship game and an even greater feat to find yourself on the grand stage of a PIAA state championship game. To reach both of those milestones for three consecutive seasons is nothing short of unprecedented excellence and it is a testament to the work of these student-athletes and their coaches - George Williams, Jay Roman, and Scott Stewart. I have been awed this season as I watched a team carry the target on their backs and rise to the occasion night in and night out. Not since September 24, 2020 have the Raiders lost to a section opponent - that is 36 straight matches without a loss. So, when the Raiders fell to Pine-Richland in the WPIAL championship game this season shock waves were felt by all. But, as George S. Patton Jr. once said, "*The test of success is not what you do when you are on top. Success is how high you bounce when you hit the bottom.*" Losing a WPIAL title is not necessarily "the bottom" but for this program it was unfamiliar territory and the measure of their success would rest on how they responded. Their rebound was to a height not seen at the state championships since 1996. Following their WPIAL championship loss, the Raiders went on a four-game winning streak, outscored their opponents



18-3, and registered the largest goal differential (six goals) in a state final since 1996. For a team that carried the burden all season long of the top-ranked team in state rankings and top-10 placement in national rankings, the decisiveness of their victory left no doubt of the unprecedented excellence of this program. In closing, I will end with George S. Patton Jr. again, "*Pressure makes diamonds.*" ■

A COMMUNITY THAT CARES

The Seneca Valley community was recently recognized by the WPIAL as the top 6A school in their 2nd Annual Food & Fund Drive with the Pittsburgh Food Bank. Juniors Kara Pasquale, Emerson Peffer, Kai West and Owen Yarussi accepted the District's banner at the recent WPIAL Sportsmanship Summit. THANK YOU #SVRaiderNation for your generosity! #SVRaiderPride ■





BOYS SOCCER WINS SECOND STATE TITLE IN THREE SEASONS!!

On the strength of a well-balanced attack and stingy defense, Raider boys' soccer ran the table in the PIAA 4A soccer bracket to bring home their second state title in three years. This was the program's third consecutive appearance in the state title game and following Saturday's result, there was no denying who the top team in Pennsylvania was! PIAA championship play began with a 7-3 rout of State College in State College, PA. Gavin Loya was the "Man of the Match" recording four goals. Cole Kamarec, Will Bruno, and Connor Oros would add their names to the scoresheet as well. In the quarterfinal round, Will Bruno had his night scoring two of the Raiders' three goals and Kamarec, for the second consecutive game, chipped in one more. The semifinal round would be a revenge game - a rematch of last year's state final - as SV faced off with Conestoga at Chambersburg H.S. Following a scoreless first half - on the backs of some brilliant defense and standout goalkeeper play from Ryan



Krumenacker - Max Marcotte and Loya would score all the goals needed on the night and the Raiders were on their way to the state championship. It is hard to find a "Man of the Match" in a decisive 6-0 win at the state finals but the honor goes to senior goalkeeper Krumenacker who emphatically denied a Lower Merion penalty kick less than three minutes into the match. His save escalated the team's confidence and energy to indescribable levels and the Raiders were off on a scoring frenzy. Kamarec scored two goals and Marcotte and Oros with one apiece and the lead was 4-0 at half. Loya and Evan Howard would round out the scoring sheet in the second



half and Seneca Valley were the PIAA 4A BOYS SOCCER STATE CHAMPIONS! Congratulations to a remarkable team of young men and an outstanding staff of George Williams, Jay Roman, Scott Stewart, and athletic trainer Noah Martin. When the moment called, you rose to the occasion with meticulous preparation and virtuoso play. ■

COLLEGE COMMITMENTS – CLASS OF 2023

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
Tyler Chappell	Wrestling	Univ. of Pittsburgh	Business/Marketing
Addie Fisher	Soccer	Saint Vincent College	Psychology
Chloe Leonard	Soccer	Queens University	Exercise Science
Julia Lozowski	Soccer	Univ. of Tampa	Undecided
Sara Weigel	Soccer	Robert Morris Univ.	Mech. Engineering
Abby Weis	Soccer	Univ. of Mount Olive	Biomedical Sciences ■

FALL SPORT POSTSEASON RECAPS

Cross Country

At the WPIAL Championships held on the campus of California University (PA), Raiders boys' cross country finished in third place, overall, as a team and in the process qualified two runners for the PIAA Championships the first weekend of November. Eli DeWitt finished 18th overall at WPIALs and teammate Max Smith was right on his heels in 19th place. These performances earned them both an opportunity to compete in Hershey at the state meet where Eli finished his career by running 17:26.7, good for 60th place out of 237 competitors. Max, running in his first state championship meet, came in at 17:53.8, good for 104th place. Congratulations to both runners for qualifying for the state championships.

Boys Golf

Raider boys golf qualified four out of sectionals to compete in the WPIAL individual championships. Senior Lucas Bruns (6th) and junior Casey Clawson (8th) were in the top-10 finishers at individual sectionals and teammates Payton Brown and Marcos Lopez tied for 16th place to advance to WPIAL individual semifinals. At a tough Champion Lakes Golf Club, the Raiders' top finisher in the semifinals was junior Payton Brown, shooting an 86. Unfortunately, no SV golfer advanced to the WPIAL finals.

Girls Golf

For the first time in program history Raider girls golf qualified two - Lihini Ranaweera and Madison Sharek - for the PIAA championships. Lihini won her third consecutive section title and Madison finished fourth. At the WPIAL finals Lihini brought home runner-up honors and Madison's fifth-place performance earned her trip, along with Lihini, to Penn State's Blue Course for the PIAA championships. In State College, Lihini finished tied for 15th in the state for girls 3A golf and Madison came in at 23rd. Both players are juniors and will look forward to a return trip in 2023. Congrats Lihini and Madison for making program history!

Girls Soccer

Coach Mark Perry's squad finished the season with a record of 13-2-2, falling to eventual WPIAL champion North Allegheny in the WPIAL semifinals by a score of 3-2. Senior Kendall Walton scored both goals for the Raiders and the team fought valiantly in a back-and-forth affair. The Raiders' only other loss on the season came at the hands of North Allegheny as the teams split their regular season games. Congratulations Raider Girls Soccer on an outstanding season!

Girls Volleyball

A rarity in WPIAL playoff brackets, the top three teams - North Allegheny, Pine-Richland, Seneca Valley - in WPIAL girls volleyball Section 1 earned the top-3 seeds for the WPIAL championships and the brackets played out to form. The third-seeded Raiders advanced through postseason play with a 3-0 win over Baldwin and 3-1 win over Peters Township, setting up a third meeting with the second-seeded Rams of Pine-Richland. Unfortunately, the Rams' had our number and we fell 3-0 in the WPIAL semifinals. It has been five years since the Raiders advanced to the semifinal round and we congratulate Coach Poirier and this team on a great season.

ALL-CONFERENCE SELECTIONS ANNOUNCED IN FALL SPORTS

The Big 56 Conference recently announced its fall sport honorees in football, boys' and girls' soccer and girls' volleyball and the Raiders were well represented. The following Seneca Valley student-athletes were recognized for their excellence on the field and court.

FOOTBALL

1st Team
Chris D'Appolonia, OLB
Lucas Lambert, OG
Luke Lawson, DB
Aiden Lyczek, TE

2nd Team
Graham Hancox, QB
Devin Webb, OT

Honorable Mention
TJ Border, ILB

BOYS SOCCER

1st Team
Will Bruno, For
Beaux Lizewski, Mid
Connor Oros, Mid

2nd Team
Cole Kamarec, For
Ryan Krumenacker, GK
Jeremiah Laslavic, Def
Gavin Loya, For
Max Marcotte, Mid

Honorable Mention
Ben Hankinson, Def
Ben Randall, Def

Additional Honors
PIAA All-State – Beaux Lizewski, Connor Oros
WPSCA Player of the Year – Beaux Lizewski
WPSCA All-WPIAL – Will Bruno, Beaux Lizewski, Max Marcotte, Connor Oros
WPSCA All-Section – Will Bruno, Ryan Krumenacker, Beaux Lizewski, Gavin Loya, Max Marcotte, Connor Oros

GIRLS SOCCER

1st Team
Mia Humphreys, GK
Lindsey Price, Def

2nd Team
Ayla Ward, For
Abby Weis, Mid

Additional Honors
WPSCA All-WPIAL – Mia Humphreys, Lindsey Price, Ayla Ward
WPSCA All-Section – Mia Humphreys, Lindsey Price, Kendall Walton, Ayla Ward, Abby Weis

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

1st Team
Ollivia Congdon, OH
Bria Stepp, S

2nd Team
Alex Krzan, L

Additional Honors
All-WPIAL – Ollivia Congdon (1st Team), Bria Stepp (2nd Team), Alex Krzan (3rd Team)
WPIAL All-Section – Ollivia Congdon, Alex Krzan, Bria Stepp