By Heather Lewis,
Seneca Valley Athletics & Activities Director

WINTER SPORTS UPDATES

Basketball, Boys & Girls: At the time of this writing, our girls basketball team sits atop of their section and our boys team is in a four-way tie for second place. TribLive has our girls ranked second and our boys are currently fourth in their 6A WPIAL rankings. Coaches Dorothea Epps and Kevin Trost have their teams rounding into form as both squads enter the second half of section play. With plenty of basketball to be played, we wish both teams good luck in their pursuit of section titles and a berth in the WPIAL tournament.

Team	Conf. Record	PF/PA	Overall Record
Seneca Valley	5-0	267-163	9-5
Pine-Richland	4-1	255-140	9-7
North Hills	3-2	213-197	5-8
North Allegheny	2-3	229-172	7-7
Butler	1-4	208-226	8-7
Woodland Hills	0-5	71-345	0-13

Team	Conf. Record	PF/PA	Overall Record
New Castle	8-0	491-337	14-0
North Hills	4-4	446-508	10-5
Seneca Valley	4-4	334-354	9-6
Woodland Hills	4-4	383-368	8-8
Butler	4-4	404-427	6-8
Fox Chapel	3-5	377-378	8-7
Pine-Richland	3-5	407-404	7-9
North Allegheny	2-6	379-445	6-9

Bocce: Raider Bocce celebrated Senior Day on Friday, Jan. 9, hosting the Knoch Knights. While the scoreboard did not play in favor of Seneca Valley, it was a great afternoon of competitive bocce and celebrating our wonderful seniors!



Competitive Cheer: By virtue of their ninth-place finish at WPIALs, Raider Competitive Cheer qualified for the PIAA state championships in Large Varsity traditional 3A classification! At the PIAA state championships, Seneca Valley advanced to the semifinals, narrowly missing an automatic finals qualification by 0.5 points. In the semifinals, despite a performance with zero deductions, the Raiders fell 0.1 points shy of the finals. It has been a great WPIAL and PIAA season and now the squad turns their attention to Nationals which will be held at Disney World in Orlando. Well done, Raiders!



Ice Hockey: At the time of this writing, Raider Ice Hockey is in first place in the PIHL 3A standings with a record of 12-0-1. The team has six games remaining and will look to lock up the No. 1 seed in the PIHL bracket. Goalkeeper Chris Nichols was honored by the PIHL as its December Player of the Month. He was 4-0 (including three shutouts) with a 96% save percentage and a 0.75 GAA (goals against average). He gave up three goals on 84 shots for the month – that is some outstanding play in net!

VARSITY CLASS AAA
– 2025-2026 Season Regular Season

TEAM	GP	W	L	OTW	OTL	PTS
Seneca Valley	14	12	0	1	0	40
Peters Township	16	12	3	0	1	37
Central Catholic Varsity	14	8	3	1	1	28
North Allegheny	14	6	4	1	2	23
Thomas Jefferson	14	7	6	0	0	22
Pine-Richland	14	4	5	2	1	20
South Fayette	14	4	7	1	0	18
Franklin Regional	14	5	7	0	2	17
Upper Saint Clair	16	2	9	2	1	13
Fox Chapel	15	1	10	2	0	11
Mt Lebanon	13	1	8	1	3	8

Swimming & Diving: Raider swim and dive teams are in the middle of their section schedules and are training hard for WPIAL and PIAA championships. The girls team is currently undefeated (9-0, 2-0) in dual meets and the boys are 5-3 and 2-0 in section meets. Seneca Valley currently has two relays in the top six of current WPIAL top times: girls 400 free relay (third) and girls 200 free relay (fifth). In addition, diver Ali Waters sits in second place of top scores with a six-dive score of 269.95. Final season and postseason results will be available in a later Raider Pride issue.



Wrestling: At the time of this writing, Raider boys wrestling had a key section match against Mars to determine their fate for the WPIAL Team Championships. On the girls' side, while there are no WPIAL team championships this year, the Raiders have fared very well in their tournament and dual match season. Their tournament schedule included Red Bank Valley Invite, Beast of the East, and nationally known Powerade. The month of February will find both teams competing in sectional and WPIAL individual qualifiers with the hope of earning a berth in the PIAA state championships in Hershey in early March. Final season and postseason results will be available in a later Raider Pride issue.

COLLEGE COMMITMENTS – CLASS OF 2026

Raider student-athletes have recently made their college commitment official, officially signing to attend their college of choice. We congratulate these seniors for 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 immensely proud of your efforts in the classroom, in competition, and in the community.

Name	Sport	College/University	Major
Riley McGee	Cross-Country/Track & Field	Edinboro University	Physical Education

ALUMNI VISIT WITH SALT TO TALK COLLEGE

Prior to winter break, the Student-Athlete Leadership Team (SALT) welcomed nine Raider student-athlete alumni to talk about college and what it is like to be college student-athlete. Joining SALT were:

- Creed Erdos ('24) - West Virginia University, Baseball
- Addison Fowler ('25) - Robert Morris, Volleyball
- Aedan Fowler ('25) - Gannon University, Baseball
- Colton Garner ('25) - Ohio Wesleyan University, Men's Lacrosse
- Lexie Hames ('25) - Clemson University, Softball
- Anna Kalkowski ('24) - Seton Hill University, Softball
- Chloe Leonard ('23) – University of South Carolina Aiken, Women's Soccer
- Beaux Lizewski ('23) - Lafayette College, Men's Soccer



- Kara Pasquale ('24) - Slippery Rock University, Volleyball

The panel shared their experiences on the daily life of a student-athlete, the importance of finding the right fit, balancing academic responsibilities with athletic commitments, how the transfer portal has impacted college athletics, and ended with words of advice for students in the audience. We are grateful for their willingness to come back "home" for an afternoon and share valuable words of wisdom with our Seneca Valley students.

Leading up to winter break, SALT members spent a few days visiting our elementary buildings and spending time with students.



Activities included making ornaments, coloring snowflakes for classroom décor, reading stories, playing Jeopardy-style holiday trivia and taking questions from our inquiring young minds. They capped off their visits as "rock stars" at Ehrman Crest during the lunch hour.

ATHLETES OF THE MONTH, NOVEMBER 2025

Photos courtesy of Captivating Imagery

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The Captivating Imagery Female Athlete of the Month for November was soccer senior midfielder and captain Karly Majeski. Karly scored 18 goals and provided seven assists to lead the Raiders to a 13-5-2 record. Her midfield work played a key part in a Western Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic League (WPIAL) section championship, WPIAL 4A runner-up and quarterfinal finish in the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) 4A tournament. Karly was named All-Section, All-WPIAL, All State, First Team Big 56 and voted Section 3 Player of the Year. She also made history by becoming the first SV girls soccer player to be named a Regional All-American by United Soccer Coaches. For a fantastic season, we recognized Karly as the November Female Athlete of the Month. Congratulations, Karly!



The Captivating Imagery Male Athlete of the Month for November was senior soccer forward Owen Eastgate. Owen was prolific in front of the net, scoring 22 goals in 23 games. His offensive output included three hat tricks along with dishing out nine assists. As a captain, he led the Raiders to a 19-4 record that included a Western Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic League (WPIAL) 4A runner–up finish and semifinal berth in the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) 4A tournament, losing to the eventual champions Abington High School. His impressive season was recognized by local and statewide coaches as he was named All-Section, All-WPIAL, All State and First Team Big 56. We recognized Owen as the November Male Athlete of the Month. Congratulations, Owen!

RAIDER ATHLETICS PARTNERS

The Seneca Valley Athletics Department is proud to partner with many community organizations and families whose support goes a long way in helping provide a quality athletic experience for our student-athletes. Listed below are our current Raider Athletics Partners – we thank you for your support!

NexTier Bank
"We're more than just a bank – we provide personal and business banking solutions that support our communities and help you reach your dreams."
www.nextierbank.com

Myers Law Group
"Official Law Firm Partner of Raider Athletics."
www.jpmyerslaw.com

Allegheny Health Network
"Official Sports Medicine Partner of Raider Athletics."
www.ahn.org

Field Turf, USA
"A world leader in artificial turf and field surface for Raider Athletics."
www.fieldturf.com

Hawkins Financial Services
"We strive to exceed our clients' long-term goals."
www.hawkins-fs.com

Captivating Imagery
"Your local professional portrait photographer and proud sponsor of Raider Athletics 'Athlete of the Month' program."
www.captivatingimagery.com



Khara Family Baseball Field
"Proud sponsor of 'The Khara Family Baseball Field' – home to the defending WPIAL Champion Raider Baseball program."

REMINDERS FOR SPRING SPORT PARTICIPATION

Key Dates to Remember

- Feb. 4: Drug & Concussion Testing and Athletic Physicals for Spring Sports in Senior High School
  - 30 physicals offered 2:45-5:15 p.m.
- Feb. 18: Final Drug & Concussion Testing and Athletic Physicals for Spring Sports in Senior High School
  - 30 physicals offered 2:45-5:15 p.m.
- Feb. 19: **Deadline** for Spring sport paperwork; all papers are due in athletic office.
- **March 2:** First official day of Spring 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 2025-26:

- **ALL** paperwork for Spring sports is due in the athletic office no later than **Thursday, Feb. 19, by 3 p.m.** Coaches cannot accept paperwork on 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 2025-26 athletic 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 in a fall and/or winter 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 Jan. 19.
- 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.