By Heather Lewis,
Seneca Valley Athletics & Activities Director

WINTER SPORT UPDATES

Boys Basketball



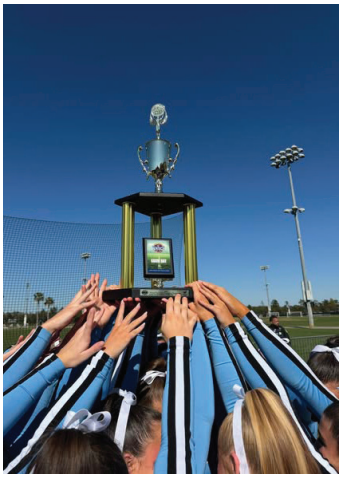
Raider boys basketball opened the first half of section play with a 3-4 record and their playoff position was tenuous at best. However, the boys turned it around in the second half, going 5-2 and finishing tied for second place in their section. Their three-game win streak to end the season was rewarded with the No. 4 seed in the WPIAL playoffs. As a result, the Raiders hosted Hempfield in late February. At the time of this writing, results were not available. A final season recap will be provided in March. Congratulations, Coach Trost and the entire Raider boys basketball program, for getting better each day and returning to the playoffs for the second consecutive season!

Girls Basketball



For the second consecutive season, Raider girls basketball will have their team on a banner, capturing a share of the section title with a 9-1 mark and overall record of 13-6. In the past two seasons, Seneca Valley earned a 19-1 record in section play – a remarkable run by this program! The Raiders will square off against the Rams of Pine-Richland in the opening round of the 6A WPIAL championships. We congratulate Coach Epps, the entire staff and team on a remarkable season and wish you all the best in the postseason. A final season recap will be provided in March.

Competitive Cheer



Raider competitive cheer had an outstanding year, and the squad capped off their season competing at the National High School Cheerleading Championships (NHSCC) in mid-February at Disney World in Orlando, Florida. History was made when the team finished 10th in the nation in the Game Day routine. In the Traditional routine, the Raiders narrowly missed advancing to the championship mat. There is much to be proud of this season as the squad "threw zeros" (cheer terminology for having a clean routine) in all their routines! Congratulations, Coach Wise, the entire staff and athletes on another outstanding season!

Ice Hockey



With two games remaining in the regular season, the defending state champion Raider Ice Hockey team sits firmly in first place with a record of 17-1, their only loss coming in a shootout to the North Allegheny Tigers. The team looks to capture their second straight Penguins Cup and state title. A final season recap will be provided in March. Good luck, SV!

We congratulate our 2026 PIHL All-Stars! Their All-Star game will be played Sunday, March 29 at Robert Morris University (RMU) Island Sports Center.

Jacob Gilbert (F)	Leyton Moreau (D)	John Sroka (F)
Carter Hoehn (D)	Chris Nichols (G)	

Swimming & Diving



Raider swimming and diving is in the final preparations for their WPIAL and PIAA championships. The regular season has ended, and both teams finished as section runner-up with identical 5-1 section marks. Overall, the girls were 11-1 in the season and the boys finished 8-5. With attention now on preparing for postseason, Ali Waters currently sits in the first spot for top scores heading into the WPIAL Diving Championships. On the swimming side, the following relays have earned top five times heading into the WPIAL Championships: girls 200 free relay (3rd) and girls 200 medley relay (5th). We will recap postseason performances in March. Good luck to our swimmers and divers!

Wrestling

It is that time of year again where our boys and girls wrestling members are singularly focused on the upcoming individual championship season.

Boys wrestling recently completed their individual sectional qualifiers for the WPIAL 3A Championships. Six Raiders advanced to WPIALs, including two section champions: Riley Smith (Champion, 107 lbs.), Zach Hill (Champion, 145 lbs.), Tommy Wuycheck (3rd, 285 lbs.), Jimmy Bidoli (5th, 172 lbs.), Tyler Nguyen (6th, 133 lbs.), and Mason Purvis (6th, 152 lbs.). Congratulations, boys, and good luck

in your pursuit of a WPIAL title and berth in the PIAA State Championships! A final season recap will be provided in March.

At the time of this writing, girls wrestling is training for WPIAL Championships and qualifications for the PIAA State Championships. We wish Raider girls wrestling the best of luck in their pursuit of WPIAL titles and PIAA state championship berths! A final season recap will be provided in March.





ATHLETES OF THE MONTH, DECEMBER 2025

Photos courtesy of Captivating Imagery

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The "Captivating Imagery" Female Athlete of the Month for December was sophomore wrestler Kaeleigh Tuell. Wrestling at the 148-pound weight class, Kaeleigh has had a breakout season. She boasts a team high individual record of 14-6. Kaeleigh has been a key contributor for the Raiders by placing in each of the tournaments she has entered. She finished sixth at the prestigious "Beast of the East," fourth at "Powerade" and third at the "Redbank Valley Invite." To top it all off, Kaeleigh is currently ranked fourth in her weight class in Western Pennsylvania. We recognized Kaeleigh as the December Female Athlete of the Month. Congratulations, Kaeleigh!



The "Captivating Imagery" Male Athlete of the Month for December was senior boys hockey player Chris Nichols. A goalkeeper, Chris has carried his stellar form into the new season. In the month of December, he helped the Raiders to a 4-0 record, boasting a save percentage of 96%, an average of .75 goals allowed and three shutouts. His play in the net earned him Pennsylvania Interscholastic Hockey League (PIHL) AAA Player of the Month honors along with being named a PIHL AAA All-Star. Chris is now 11-0 on the season and is a key part of an historic 14-0 start for the Raider hockey program. For an impressive season, we recognized Chris as the December Male Athlete of the Month. Congratulations, Chris!

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 is a tremendous representative 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
Adam Bayer	Football	Washington & Jefferson	Business Marketing
Cayden Parker	Football	Slippery Rock	Business
Ryan Rebholz	Baseball	Grove City	Exercise Science
Sean Smith	Football	Penn West California	Exercise Science

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."

