

THE BEST OF OF CHENANGO COUNTY WINTER SPORTS

2022-2023

THE EVENING SUDD



2022-2023 BEST OF CHENANGO COUNTY WINTER SPORTS





- 145 lbs
- Finished third in Sectionals to make states
- Season record: 27-10 with nine pins

"This was Yanni's first year on varsity after not wrestling for two years, but had a lot of mat time in big tournaments throughout the country," Bob Hagenbuch, Norwich wrestling coach said. "He eased in so fast with a little bit of help and exploded onto the season."



Maverick Beckwith Norwich 8th grade **Purple Tornado Wrestling**

- 102 lbs
- 2023 Sectional Champion
- Finished third at States
- Season record: 36-6 with 18 pins

"Maverick is always working hard and is fun to watch," Bob Hagenbuch, Norwich wrestling coach said. "He lost a heart-breaker and was robbed of a win in the state semi-finals. That outcome will only drive him to be a better wrestler. He has plenty of time left and is already training for next season."





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Mason Edwards **Norwich Senior Purple Tornado Wrestling**

- 172 lbs
- 2023 Sectional Champion
- Finished sixth at States
- Career record: 59-24 with 40 pins
- Pinned 80 % of his opponents

" Mason had a toll of injuries in his career, so we had to be careful and pick and choose when and where he wrestled," Bob Hagenbuch, Norwich wrestling coach said. "Everything worked out and we were grateful that the wrestling gods looked out for him."



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Andie Mucha **Norwich Junior Purple Tornado Bowling**

- Finished eighth in the STAC top independent games with a 202 in state qualifiers.
- Received STAC All-Division honors

"This year, Andie did a great job being the anchor and bowled her best average to make our all division team as well as qualifying for state qualifiers," Kyle Ellis, the Norwich Bowling coach said. "During practice, she helped out all the girls and tried to help them with their approaches."

"My expectations for her next year is to make all conference and shoot a 190 average. I think she is more than capable of jumping her average by about 15 pins."





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Dawson Robinson Norwich Sophomore Purple Tornado Bowling

- Bowled a 300 for his USBC bowling team out of Vestal, NY
- Finished sixth in the STAC top independent series with a 563 in state qualifiers.
- Received STAC All-Division honors

"Dawson was usually pretty quiet in practice, but he always bowled well," Kyle Ellis, the Norwich Bowling coach said "One of the first practices, he shot a 279 and from there, you would know his season was going to be great. He received all division awards, highest sectional game and series, and bowled a 300 in another league. It was a joy to watch him at state qualifiers and just the grind he took to every match. He should be on the states team next year and average about a 210."

"I believe that I had a great bowling season. I made a lot of good memories and had a lot of fun," Dawson Robinson said. " I enjoyed the traveling and the bus rides, going out to eat and talking with friends. I improved quite a bit over the season and learned a lot and gained experience in different conditions. I've gotten many achievements this year, including my first 300, which was a huge accomplishment. Now for the 800 series. Our Norwich team worked well together this season, but unfortunately, we didn't make it to states...next year! Individually, I got MVP, and I made it to the states and went to Waverly, where I placed 8th just missing the cut. Along with my Norwich team, I have a Vestal league, which helped me improve my game. This helped reflect over to the Norwich team with added experience to the oil pattern, being the alley that we bowl STACs and the sectionals in."



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Richard Fuller Norwich Junior Purple Tornado Indoor Track

- Made states in the 300 meter dash- finished 24th with a time of 36.38 seconds
- Achieved his best time of 36.36 seconds at State Qualifers

"Richard is a "track maniac" who is really into the sport," Coach Shaun Horan said. "He had the best day at state Qualifiers with everyone running fast. He is in range to break the school record (less than a second away) next year."

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Gabe Blenis Norwich Junior Purple Tornado Indoor Track

- Made states for weight-throw-finished 27th with a throw of 48 feet, four inches.
- His personal-best is 51-1.75 (Jan 2023)

"Gabe as a junior competed with a lot of seniors at states. He has made improvement and gotten stronger this season with a lot of potential next year," Coach Shaun Horan said.



Congratulations To All Area Athletes And Teams!

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Lucas Craddock Norwich Junior Purple Tornado Indoor Track

- Made States for Triple Jump- finished fifth with a jump of 44 feet, 6 2/4 inches.
- Broke the indoor track record this seasonbest jump is 46-6.25.

"Lucas did not do indoor track last year but has made a huge improvement from last Spring," Coach Shaun Horan said. "He is used to being in big meets, where he earned more experience and just needs to work on his form to get even better."

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2022-2023 BEST OF CHENANGO COUNTY WINTER SPORTS

APRIL 27, 2023



- Won Sectionals, Regionals, and State Semi-finals
- Finished second in Class D* (Lost to Hammond in the State championship)
- Finished second in the MAC Division II behind Greene
- Final record: 22-6
- will move back to Class C in 2023-2024 season.*
- Roster Head coach Chris Palmer: #1 Naiomi Smith #2 Kyla Kelsey-Jones #3 Madalyn Barrows #4 Kadence Gallo #5 Taylor Smith #10 Ella Kelsey #11 Jocie Finch #12 Ava Benjamin #14 Bailey Chesebro #15 Lizzy Knapp #23 Abby Denz #24 Leah Oliver #30 Taegan Manwarren

"We were in Class D for the first time this year, which helped us in the postseason. We had everyone come back from last year that have been working hard and getting stronger and better," Coach Chris Palmer said.

Palmer on the States run: "I am very proud and grateful to be on the inside of this states team after watching as a modified coach in 2003. This wasn't just a one person show, so thank you to all players, coaches, parents for their help."

Palmer on the 2023 seniors: "The seven seniors (Barrows, Smith, Kelsey-Jones, Kelsey, Chesebro, T. Smith, and Gallo) are the most girls we've had for so long and a group that have known each other since primary school. They will be hard to replace."



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Ella Kelsey **Oxford Senior Blackhawks Girls Basketball**

- Midstate Athletic Conference Division II first team
- Second leading scorer for 2022-2023 behind Barrows (331 total points)
- Averaged 11.8 points per game, 3.3 rebounds per game, 2.4 steals per game.

Madalyn Barrows on playing with Kelsey:

"We came together and worked well on the court," Barrows said. "I told her if she got out and ran, I would give her the ball. It worked well in consecutive games when we were on the same page."

Coach Chris Palmer on Kelsey:

"Ella was an aggressive and competitive player, especially on defense. We did need her to step up and be the team's second scorer and she understood," Palmer said. "She showed no fear when guarding the opponent's best and quick player."







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to all area athletes in **Chenango County!** Best of Luck to all of you in your future endeavors.



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JUST MINUTES FROM OXFORD



Great Job and **Special Congratulations** to our Oxford Lady Blackhawks!

2022-2023 BEST OF CHENANGO COUNTY WINTER SPORTS



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Madalyn Barrows Oxford Senior Blackhawks Girls Basketball

- Midstate Athletic Conference Division II Most Valuable Player
- Oxford's second all-time leading scorer with over 1000 points
- Combined with 43 points, 17 rebounds, and seven steals in the final states games.
- Averaged 20.6 points per game, 9.4 rebounds per game, and 2.9 steals per game.

"Over the five years playing varsity, I was able to grow as a player and shape into my role on the team while also preparing for college," Madalyn Barrows said. "Because of all my experience, especially in AAU and Nationals over the summer, I prepared for every game without any pressure. To me, it was 'just another game'."

Barrows on Favorite Memories:

"I found every year to be a building block on getting better, where we made sectionals four out of five years, minus covid," Barrows said. "I also enjoyed practices where we played against the coaching staff."

Advice to younger teammates:

"If you put in the work, you will achieve your goal(s)," Barrows said.

Coach Chris Palmer on Madalyn:

"Madalyn evolved as a player. In her eighth grade and freshman year, she was in the backseat, but then we needed her to be confident in scoring more," Palmer said. "She always gave her best in every drill and had a great work-ethic to help set a good example. She was our leading rebounder and we trusted her to match up physically against the opponent's taller player."



To all athletes and teams this year!

A very special Congrats and Thanks goes out to our Oxford Girls Basketball Team, Coaches, Family and Fans. It was a thrill to watch you all play so well and accomplish so much this season!



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Oxford/Greene Bowling Briana Fowlston Oxford Junior

- Made State Section IV All-Star team as the alternate
- Bowled a high game of a 244 at State Qualifiers

"Briana was the only junior among the rest of the seniors on the Section IV team, which means she's likely to be one of the leading girls next year. Even though she wasn't allowed to bowl (in the actual event), she was there and got to do everything the others did." Frank Ross, the Greene/Oxford bowling coach said. "Her mom and dad have helped with her bowling experience, taking her on youth bowling tours and she will go to Indianapolis this summer for the Youth Junior Gold Championships, where the best high school bowlers in the nation compete. That experience has made it easier when it came to the transition to our high school team, especially with house shots."

Halia Tallett **Greene Senior**

- Made State Section IV All-Star top six
- Bowled a high game of a 258 at State Qualifiers
- Finished 12th out of 66 bowlers at States- Bowled a 1,234 series in six games, highest game with a 255.

"Halia's parents were bowling alley 'rats,' so she was always practicing about seven or eight months out of the year," Ross said. "She was my "happy, go lucky" girl who always had a positive attitude that helped her teammates have a good time. She would get upset but not stress about it. She'd just ask what she needed to do to get better and did it."

Ross on both bowlers contributing to the team.

"Halia was our lead-off bowler and Briana was our anchor/final bowler. It worked out good to have one in one spot and one in the another because then there was no break in between where the rest of the girls could see anyone get upset," Ross said.







Congratulations to all of our local athletes from the news team at **The Evening Sun**

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2022-2023 BEST OF CHENANGO COUNTY WINTER SPORTS



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Jaden Eroshevich Greene Junior Trojans Boys Basketball

- Midstate Athletic Conference First Team
- Scored 20 points or more in five games-24 points against Oxford (Jan 2023) and against B-G (Dec 2022)

"Jaden's determination and strong mindset is hard to stop. His teammates would sit in awe of just watching him perform at the best of his scoring ability," Rick Tallman, Greene boys basketball coach said. "He works hard and his teammates lean on his leadership while also challenging him. He just needs to improve on his consistency and defensive play for next season."





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2021-2022 BEST OF CHENANGO COUNTY WINTER SPORTS



- 2023 Midstate Athletic Conference Division II Champions
- Won 14 straight games to start season (lost to Oxford Jan 2023)
- Lost MAC Championship to Unatego, Lost Second Round of Sectionals to Delhi
- Roster Head Coach Dave Gorton #3 Emma Rice #5 Claire Flanagan #10 Molly Cornell #11 Cassie Butler #15 Abby Yahner #22 Payton Yahner #23 Cali Knapp #24 Josie Dutcher #33 Dakota LeBlanc #45 Lyla Biefeldt

"We had our core returners back whom expected to be competitive this season," Coach Dave Gorton said. "They built great teamwork and chemistry that helped them stay together despite some injuries and illnesses."

Gorton on the graduating seniors (P. Yahner, Butler, Rice):

"These girls were such a special group who were so respectful and appreciative," Gorton said. "They will be missed."

- Season Record: 17-3

Payton Yahner Greene Senior Girls Trojans Basketball

- Valedictorian of Greene Central School
- Four-year varsity player
- Averaged 17.5 points per game and 5.5



15

rebounds per game

"Payton adjusted to any role we needed her in," Dave Gorton, Greene girls basketball coach said. "In the last few years, she's become a leader, collecting more rebounds while shooting and passing the ball well. Her intelligence on and off the court helped out tremendously and she always did what was expected of her."

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2022-2023 BEST OF CHENANGO COUNTY WINTER SPORTS



Hunter Page Greene/Oxford Wrestling Senior

-189 lbs

-Finished third at Sectionals

-7th at NYS Division II

- Career record: 80-33 with 34 pins

"Hunter moved up to a heavier weight class (172 to 189) this year, having to adapt to the style changes and tougher opponents," Jesse Fendryk, Greene's Wrestling Coach. "He has grown a lot as an athlete and as a person who shows a lot of toughness, where he isn't afraid to grind and tackle on a problem."

"Unfortunately, he was 12 wins short of the 100 win mark with Covid being the driving factor on that. I think he would of accomplished that and then some had he not lost that year of eligibility. He did have the little success of two state tournaments and placements that kids will look at and will attempt to have similar results."

The Team at Mayhood's sends our Congratulations to all the athletes around **Chenango County on a** successful season!







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Jacob Prentice

Unadilla Valley Sophomore Storm Bowling

-Made Section IV all-star team

-Finished 30 out of 76 individuals at States with a high series of 1220 and a high game of 234.

"Jacob was the first ever in our six year program to make it to states. We've never had that happen and I've never been to states personally, so it was a huge accomplishment," Matt Bleyle, UV bowling coach said. "Jacob is a great leader and a down to earth guy who the kids look up to, even the younger ones. He bowls two-handed, like a lot of the kids at States, and now everyone sees that and wants to be exactly like Jacob Prentice."



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Gracie Gorrell

Unadilla Valley Sophomore Storm Indoor Track

- Sprinter
- Made states in the 300 meter dash-finished 14th and second in her heat with a new personal-best time of 41.31 seconds.
- Broke indoor track school record in the 300 (41.31) and 400 dash (1:01.32)

"This was Gracie's first season running indoor track compared to her experience with outdoor track. She has improved with her focus on technique, getting stronger and learning strategies on how to run her events," Steven Pelosi, Unadilla Valley track coach said. "She realizes that to reach her goals she needs to put in the time, work, and push through the tough workouts. Through her hard work Gracie has learned how to push herself and enjoy hard work and practices that will help her improve and grow.

Pelosi on Gracie's expectations for next season:

"She needs to build off this experience and use it as motivation for next season and keep running and working to get stronger," Pelosi said. "She will be working on running longer distances so she can maintain her speed and strength throughout 400 meters. "Gracie has the dedication and drive to improve moving forward. We are excited to see what she will do in the future."

Unadilla Valley School Records set for 2022-2023 Indoor Track Season Girls

55 Hurdles 300 400	Jaiden Schrag Gracie Gorrell Gracie Gorrell	9.03 41.31 1:01.32
800 Relay (4x200)	Jaiden Schrag Isabella Potter Kalie Fernandez-Naughto	1:51.29 n
1400 Dolay	Gracie Gorrell	
1600 Relay (4x400)	Molly Gorrell	4:33.03
	Isabella Potter Kalie Fernandez-Naughto Gracie Gorrell	'n
Sprint Medley	Gracie Gorrell Isabella Potter	4:39.68
	Kalie Fernandez-Naughto	n
Triple Jump	Lyla Taylor Kalie Fernandez-Naughton	32′ 1.5″
Boys 400 Shot Put Weight Throw	Alex Kemnah Trason Murray Bruce Townsend	1:03.16 37′ 2.25″ 39′ 2.5″



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Congratulations everyone!

Unadilla Valley Storm Bowling



- Finished 2022-2023 season with a 55-1 record.
- 2023 Midstate Athletic Conference Champions
- Section IV Class D Champions-finished third

Roster: Coach Matt Bleyle: Pyper Kneale, Kailee Figger, Bryn Grant, Arin Buchanan, Phalen Hill, and Shelby Rose.



- Finished 2022-2023 season with a 53.5-2.5 record.
- 2023 Misstate Athletic Conference Champions
- Section IV Class D Champions- finished with a 3142 total pin count that led all Class B, C, and D schools.

Roster: Coach Matt Bleyle, Owen Hill, Blake Wright, Jacob Prentice, Nate Rumovicz, Will Rumovicz, Nic Haggerty, Andrew Grant, Brayden Prentice, Hunter Miller, and Zayne Dibbell.

"This year's team was like the 'dream team.' Both teams were good all year to win both the league and sectionals," Matt Bleyle, UV bowling coach said. "It was disappointing that we just fell short at the State Qualifiers as a team, but we were proud to go far as a young program that's six years in the making. The kids have an all-in attitude where they put in the work and the time everyday and took full advantage of our home lanes at Lake Street." "Kudos to Rob Catena, the owner of Lake Street for being 'all-in' with us and providing everyone with their own equipment."

Bleyle on the outlook for next year: "We are losing a lot of our boys team (five class of 2023 seniors), but I have the advantage as a coach of also working at the school, so I can recruit by word of mouth," Bleyle said. "If I see someone who shows athleticism, is coachable, and doesn't play a winter sport, they're in."





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20

James Hogroian Bainbridge-Guilford Junior Boys Basketball

- Midstate Athletic Conference first team allstar
- Averaged 17 points per game, 10 rebounds per game

"James stepped into a different role this season, where he was put into the position to be the focal point of our offense," Kevin Wehrli, B-G's boys basketball coach said. "From the help of his teammates, especially with the development of Michael Lipani, James was able to perform well and has set a great example for Bainbridge-Guilford basketball. He can really help lead the team again in his final season if he is willing to be competitive on and off the court and will have to be the hardest worker in the offseason."



Congratulations to all local athletes and teams on your successful seasons!

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Catherine Fuller Bainbridge-Guilford Senior Girls Bowling

- Made Section IV States team-top six
- Finished 35th at States with a 1,098 series, including a high game of a 211.
- Led the Midstate Athletic Conference girls with a high series of 682.
- Finished third in the girls MAC with a 192.9 average.

"Catherine has improved every year with her best average of a 193 this year," Sammy Ventura, B-G's bowling coach said. "They (Section IV) finished third in the states. It was a really close and exciting to watch. She is going to Wichita for college and they have a great bowling team. Hopefully she can continue to improve and help their chances to win a national championship."



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Celeste Baldwin Bainbridge-Guilford Senior Girls Basketball

- Midstate Athletic Conference Division II First Team
- Career Totals: 868 points (13.6 points per game), 414 rebounds (7.39 rb/g), 143 steals (2.23/g), 168 assists (2.63/g)

"Celeste's efforts offensively and defensively led her team to a plus 500 record and a sectional appearance for the first time in four years," Bob Conway, Bainbridge-Guilford girls basketball coach said. "As an experienced senior, Celeste knows how to relate to her teammates and has built relationships on and off the court. It is this leadership that has earned the respect of her teammates."



23

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2022-2023 BEST OF CHENANGO COUNTY WINTER SPORTS



Braeden Davis Otselic Valley Junior Boys Basketball

- Achieved 1000 points on December 29, 2022 in loss to Cincinnatus- eighth OV player to achieve milestone
- Central County League First team All-Star
- Averaged 24.5 points per game with 490 total points on 2022-2023 season.

"For Braeden, basketball is his sport and plays whenever he can. Right now, he is on a AAU team and will join the OV YMCA team in Norwich over the summer," Jacob Preston, the Otselic Valley Vikings boys basketball coach said. "He is a leader by example to the other players and knows what he is capable of to perform well again next year. He is always thinking about how he can push it to the next level and doesn't want to settle on what he's done so far. His hustle and hard work drives the other players on the team to follow."







grit. /grit/ noun

- 1. courage and resolve
- 2. perseverance of effort
- 3. essential quality of an athlete

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Local Athletes Start Here: The Norwich Family YMCA has been an important part of our communities for 158 years. A diverse organization, providing many community programs and services to meet a wide variety of member and community needs. One of the program areas that has supported hundreds of children annually is our Youth Sports programs. From ages three to twelve, we have become a feeder program for many of our area schools. The YMCA youth sports programs are played to help young athletes learn new skills, reinforce positive values, fair play, sportsmanship, teamwork, and having fun. Our philosophy puts the sport, the game, the activity, winning and losing, and the team all into perspective. We hope our sports programs build self-esteem, social skills, physical skills, while building relationships, developing responsibility, and creating a fun experience. Swim lessons to Swim Team, Youth Basketball to Travel Basketball, T-ball to Developmental Baseball, Outdoor Soccer to Indoor Soccer, Indoor and Outdoor Youth Track, Karate, and Sports camps to Clinics. We have something for everyone. "We are where the local athletes get their start". Our winter season was busy and full of excitement with many of our area teams and competitors achieving significant success. We enjoyed the sports updates, radio broadcasts, and pictures highlighting all of the successes. We are proud of our Chenango County Athletes and we enjoyed cheering for you this past season. Job well done.







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Amon Van Alst Sherburne-Earlville Junior **Boys Swimming**

- Sectionals champion in the 500 yard freestyle (first since Gavin Lopata in 2015)
- Broke school record in the 200 individual medley at Sectionals with a time of 2:09.43.

"Amon put in 100 percent into every practice he did. He has always worked hard at practices in past years, but this year was clearly different. Amon also made sure he was eating right, and taking in enough calories for his body to burn and reach his potential," Sarah Hill, the S-E Swimming coach said.

Hill on watching Amon break the record:

"It was very exciting to witness Amon break his first record. He started off the season just a few seconds in reach from it, so we knew it was do-able for this year if everything lined up," Hill said. "We worked a lot on open turns to make sure he got off the wall as quickly and efficiently as possible. We also worked on a lot of backstroke and breaststroke to get him a bit quicker at those two strokes. That worked well for him."

Hill on Amon's Expectations for his final season:

"Next year he is hoping for a few more records, especially in the 500" yard freestyle. He is also very close to the 100 fly and 100 back record as well. As long as he works hard, and practices in the "off-season" I believe he can get any record he wants," Hill said. "The one thing I think all our swimmers can improve on is working on their flip turns and open turns during every lap in practice, not just working on them separately. In the end, records are set in practice, not at meets!"



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Lily Stoddard Sherburne-Earlville Junior Indoor Track

- Qualified for the Section III state qualifiers in the weight-throw event
- Acheived a new best of 32 feet, 7¼ inches for 14th place at state qualifiers.
- Holds S-E's indoor throw record (32-7.25)

"This was Lily's first season of indoor track and field. In the past, she did powerlifting in the offseason and never competed in weight throw before," Wesley Macker, S-E indoor track coach said. "It was a pleasant surprise to see her make it to the state qualifier for it. She is very strong, but her form isn't there yet. With additional practice, I expect her to make major improvements."

Macker on Lily's positivity towards the overall team:

"Lily is a strong leader and has a positive influence on her team. She is always ready to help others learn throwing technique," Macker said.

"I listen to pink floyd and just get in the circle and go over motions until I'm ready to throw. Throwing is a lot like dancing except its a lot less awkward," Lily Stoddard said about her preparing for each meet. "I have learned that you have to listen to your body. I used to practice until I was injured or sick and that actually made me lift and throw worse. I also learned that lifting is the key to success and you have to trust yourself. When I thought 225 was too much, my Dad would just say drop and trust yourself and I would pop out five reps. Your body can do a lot more than your mind says you can."

Lily has since transitioned from indoor to the outdoor track season, where she currently ranks 15th in the state (110-3) in her strongest event of discus throw.



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Student Athletes on your successes this season, and best of luck in your future endeavors.

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2022-2023 BEST OF CHENANGO COUNTY WINTER SPORTS



Landon Andrade Sherburne-Earlville Sophomore **Marauders Wrestling**

- 285 lbs
- Clyde Cole Champion
- True second place at sectionals
- Qualified for states- went 4-2, no placement
- Season Record: 32-5 with 26 pins.

"At the end of the 2021-2022 season, we knew Landon had the tools to make a run for the 22-23 Sectionals and States. I really contribute Landon's immense improvement to his work ethic in the off-season, as well as his wrestling style change," Greg DuVall, S-E Wrestling coach said. " Landon is extremely athletic, and he thrives when scrambles take place. Mid way through the 22-23 season, we started focusing more on upper body throws and positioning and I feel this was also a major factor in his late season success."

Duvall on Andrade's expectations for next year:

"Going in to his junior year, our goal is to be back at the NYS tournament where we will look to get on the podium as high as we can. The sky is the limit for our soon to be junior heavyweight," DuVall said. "Landon is our leader, and others will continue to be motivated by him as he chases a NYS boys title in the 23-24 season."

"It's not the will to win that matters - everyone has that. It's the will to prepare to win that matters."

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"Champions are built during the off-season!"

Selina Moore **Sherburne-Earlville Junior Marauders Wrestling**

- 138 lbs
- Finished second in NYSPHSAA's first ever Girls Wrestling Invitational

"Selina had a great junior season and wrestled through many adversities and injuries on her way to her NYS podium finish. Participating in this tournament was a great opportunity for Selina as an individual, but also as a member of the S-E wrestling team," Greg DuVall, S-E Wrestling coach said. "Her podium finish put S-E girls wrestling on the map, and will help pave the way for future female competitors in our school. Pasley French, Leonora Serrano, and Gabriella Naylor also participated in the event."

DuVall on watching Selina and getting to know her strengths:

"Selina is a huge advocate for off-season wrestling and this surely helped her improve from the 21-22 season to the 22-23 one," DuVall said. "As this past season progressed, I feel she started to understand where her strengths were (especially on her feet). I commend Selina for her never give up attitude, and she is a warrior on the mat."

DuVall on the outlook for the 2023-2024 season:

"The 23-24 season will be a huge one for S-E girls wrestling. We are looking to create an all girls wrestling program as NYS is continuing their girls NYSPHSAA invitational," DuVall said. "Our wrestling program has solid girl participation numbers in both the varsity and youth levels and as a coaching staff, we truly hope our district will be able to provide further opportunities for these athletes. Girls' wrestling is currently the fastest growing sport in NYS, and I look forward to Selina leading the way as she chases a NYS girls title next wrestling season."



Congratulations on a Successful Season to all our local athletes!



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2022-2023 BEST OF CHENANGO COUNTY WINTER SPORTS

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Darren Florance Bainbridge-Guilford/ Afton/Harpursville Bears Wrestling Harpursville Junior

-Repeat State Champion (2022 & 2023)

-Clyde Cole and Sectionals Champion

-110 lbs from a 102 (2022)

-Season Record: 36-1 with 12 pins

"As a state champion last season, Darren found it hard to defend his title this year, but next year it will be even harder to go for a threepeat," Brandon MacNaught, BGAH Wrestling coach said. "He puts in a lot of extra work in the offseason. We just have to work on tiny adjustments, such as match management for his senior year."





Joey Florance Bainbridge-Guilford/ Afton/Harpursville Bears Wrestling Harpursville Senior

- 118 lbs

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- Finished second at States (lost in final match to Copenhagen's Chase Nevills 9-1)
- Clyde Cole and Sectionals Champion
- Final Career record: 119-29 with 59 pins

"This was Joey's fourth time at States, so we had a mindset for him to win it. At 118, he had one of the toughest schedules and he had to work hard in every Tournament this year," Brandon MacNaught, BGAH Wrestling coach said. "He proved himself to a lot of people by making it far and set a great example to his teammates for putting in extra work similar to his brother Darren."



Bainbridge-Guilford/ Afton/Harpursville **Indoor Track**

Ethne Degan

Junior

- Made States in the 1500 meter run-finished 15th in 4:51.29
- Qualified for Nationals- finished ninth (4:51.59)

"I had everyone write down their goals for the season and Ethne's goals were to qualify for states and nationals again for the second year, which she did," Nick Mayo, BGAH indoor track coach said. "She always comes to practice ready to work and takes care of herself as a year long runner. If she continues to be true to herself and utilizes what she already has, she will have a great senior year."

Julian Pruskowksi Junior

 Made states in the triple jump-finished 25th with a jump of 40 feet, 2/4 inches.

"Julian's goals were to triple jump over 40 feet, which he broke multiple times," Nick Mayo, BGAH indoor track coach said. "He was injured in the middle of the season but came back late and was able to finish consistent and make states. Next season, we will focus on the little things and perfect what he is capable of without any pressure to make sure he is healthy. The progress will come."

From the Evening Sun Sports Editor:

Thank you for supporting these awesome local athletes who went above and beyond for their teams this winter season. A big congratulations goes out to everyone.

As much as we wanted to include every team and every athlete in this special section, each athlete included reached either a major milestone, a state-level achievement, or a conference first team recognition.

'The Best of Chenango County Winter Sports' is not to take away from the efforts of athletes who put in extra hours of dedicated work for their teams, but to recognize this year's



We, at the Evening Sun, share appreciation and gratitude for all athletes and their coaches.

If we missed an athlete or team that achieved a title or milestone, we want to hear about it. At the Evening Sun, we always appreciate the positive feedback from our readers and look for ways to improve for the future.

This would not be possible without the cooperation and dedication of the student-athletes and coaches who helped us put this special section together. We cannot thank you enough!

With the 2022-2023 winter sports season in the books, we wish the student-athletes much success for the rest of the school year and beyond.

> -Morgan Golliver, Evening Sun Sports Editor mgolliver@evesun.com or sports@evesun.com