

THE EVENING
SUN

2025 FALL SPORTS PREVIEW

CHENANGO COUNTY
HIGH SCHOOL
CROSS COUNTRY,
FIELD HOCKEY,
FOOTBALL, GOLF,
SOCCER, SWIMMING,
TENNIS, VOLLEYBALL



By Morgan Golliver
The Evening Sun

SHERBURNE – The Sherburne-Earlville Timberwolves boys' soccer team is back for the 2025 season, ready to reclaim its culture and officially take the field on its new turf. Previously, home games were played at the Granville grass fields, but the program now makes the transition to the Stadium turf.

Coach Mike Rodriguez and assistant coach Kenneth Buehner are eager to lead a motivated group of players into the new season.

“Over the course of the last few seasons, we had strayed a bit from the culture that previous S-E boys soccer teams have built and passed on that have led to success,” Rodriguez said. “We have made it a point this season to return to our roots and that we need to be consistent in doing the little things that go a long way to winning games.”

S-E is proud to return a group of leading upperclassmen, including senior goal-



The 2025 Sherburne-Earlville Timberwolves boys' soccer team, coached by Mike Rodriguez and Kenneth Buehner. (Photo by Morgan Golliver)

keeper JJ Fischer, senior defender James O'Connor, senior forward William Leinbach, and junior midfielder Raphael Olsen.

"I would like to see JJ build on the gains made as our starting goal keeper and continue the solid play that he gave us last year," Rodriguez said. "James will continue to

provide the defensive leadership and skillful defensive play that led to him being named our Defensive MVP. Leinbach will continue to lead our offensive attack and continue to score goals that led to him being named our Offensive MVP two years in a row. For Raphael, I look for him to be our creative play

maker and offensive sniper from the midfield.”

Rodriguez is also looking forward to seeing Gaven Ingerto get quality minutes as an outside wing back this season.

The coach carries a message of growth and resilience for his team.

“I want my team to see

every challenge as an opportunity to grow toward success and not something to be feared," Rodriguez said.

S-E is one of eight teams in the Center State Conference Division I this season, with each team facing each other once. New opponents for the Timberwolves include Brookfield, Herkimer, and

Frankfort-Schuyler.

Aside from those, S-E always circles a few rivalry games on the schedule.

“We have a good rivalry with Canastota and we are also looking forward to taking on Clinton, the team that has dominated our division over the last 10 seasons.”

By Morgan Golliver
The Evening Sun

Sherburne-Earlville
Timberwolves girls' soccer
team is entering the 2025 sea-
son with a strong team atmo-

sphere and renewed depth. Coach Emma Mead and her players have put in the work, both on and off the field, to be

prepared for the year ahead. The team is also excited to have games on their new turf field that was finished just after the soccer season.

The Timberwolves bring back nearly the same core as last season, minus four graduated seniors, and are proud to have their JV program return. Mead has 17 players ready to make an impact this fall, including four seniors and a large group of juniors. While next year's roster may present challenges, her focus is on making this season count.

Part of that preparation came from building a more competitive schedule. Mead worked hard to bring in new opponents for this year's S-E Kickoff Tournament, including Brookfield, Manlius-Pebble Hill, and

Johnson City—teams S-E had never faced before. The Timberwolves placed second in the tournament and left encouraged by their performance compared to past years.

“We have a good team atmosphere,” Mead said. “They are so supportive and one of the nicest groups I’ve coached. It has boosted their confidence that I worked hard to get us competitive games this year.”

The Timberwolves also scrimmaged against Madison prior to the tournament, giving the squad an early chance to learn and build confidence. "We learned a lot from the scrimmage and felt good about how we matched up with them," Mead said.

League play will look dif-

ferent this year, as Central
State Conference Division
I teams will only face each
other once instead of twice.
S-E's schedule also features
a local non-league matchup
at Greene on September 16,
alongside their usual Class B
and Class C contests.

Key returners for S-E include Ava O'Dell, Kendall Hill, Lydia Dulina, Kadyn Babcock, Hannah Barth, Sadie Davis, Kayden Edwards, Allesandra Ingerton (goalkeeper), Olivia Parker, Emma Chapman, Katrina White, Savanna Hook, and Lydia Brown. Rounding out the roster are Ava Flanagan, Beyla Cron, Cassie Slater, and Samantha Garrison, making for a well-balanced team with strong depth across the field.

*from the news team at
The Evening Sun*



Tyler Murphy
Managing Editor



Morgan Golliver
Sports Editor



Sarah Genter
Staff Writer



Kelli Miller
Staff Writer



Cindy Tiley
Newsroom Coordinator



**Chenango County's
Hometown Daily Newspaper Since 1891**
29 Lackawanna Ave., Norwich, NY 13815
news@evesun.com



The 2025 Sherburne-Earlville Timberwolves girls' soccer team, coached by Emma Mead. (Photo by Morgan Golliver)

S-E Football: Timberwolves eye sectional title run

By Morgan Golliver
The Evening Sun

SHERBURNE – The Sherburne-Earlville Timberwolves football team enters the 2025 season hungry for more, aiming to capture the Sectional title after falling just short in the finals two years in a row. While the roster is smaller this year following the graduation of a large senior class, the Timberwolves remain determined and will also feature a few players from Otselic Valley.

Adjustments have been plenty for head coach Steve Franklin and his staff, but the effort has been strong from the start. “Our seniors left some big holes to fill, but the boys have been working their tails off,” Franklin said. “We may not be the biggest or the fastest team, but we’re committed and hard-working. The guys had a great summer with 17 to 18 kids in the weight room three to four days a week, really bought into the program.”

S-E will be led by senior quarterback Hadden Price, now in his third year as the



The 2025 Sherburne-Earlville Timberwolves football team, coached by Steve Franklin. (Photo by Morgan Golliver)

starter. Following in the footsteps of past standouts like Darren Miles, Price has embraced the leadership role. “Price is a natural-born leader and no one works harder than him,” Franklin said. “He’s a great role model, loves the game, and always strives to get better.”

Last season, Price completed 76 of 119 passes for 904

yards with nine touchdowns and seven interceptions. This fall, he’s focused on improving those numbers and finishing his career on a high note.

Replacing standout running back Nick Hull will be a challenge, but Franklin is confident in the next group. Justin Race steps into the lead back role after finishing second to Hull last year, while Crispen

Prosser, Dylan Winton, Lukas Schieferstein, and Cooper Thorpe will also see touches in the ground game.

Price has no shortage of targets, with receivers Nolan Sigman, Tomek Jusianec, Landin Prosser, Jordan Palmer, Bryce Bevilacqua, Maverick Brown, Ben Southworth, and Michael Behret all in the mix. Tight

end Cameron Mann is also expected to be a factor in the passing game.

Up front, the Timberwolves will rely on Owen Kellogg, Tyler Thompson, Caden Ray, Dustin Perry, Alex Campbell, Andrew Menard, Loghun Shreve, Brayden Warren, Blake Smith, and possibly Leland Smith. With seven of the top eight linemen gone

from last season, Franklin is counting heavily on this group to step up quickly.

One new addition is senior Michael Behret, who made the switch from soccer to football. He’ll take on kicking duties while also contributing as a receiver and defensive back.

The Timberwolves’ schedule brings familiar foes like Canastota, Phoenix, and Jordan-Elbridge, but classification changes have shifted their competition level. After competing in Class C Division II, S-E now finds itself in Section III’s A/B/C Division II, meaning matchups against larger schools. Still, Franklin believes his team will rise to the challenge.

This fall, S-E will face Westmoreland/Oriskany, Jamesville-Dewitt, Mexico, Weedsport, and Oswego, along with its traditional rivals. With eight games on the schedule, the Timberwolves will begin playoffs while other Section IV teams are still finishing their regular seasons come the last week of October into November, hoping for a big breakthrough.

S-E Field Hockey: Building for the future

By Morgan Golliver
The Evening Sun

SHERBURNE – The Sherburne-Earlville Timberwolves field hockey team is heading into its third year as a program under coaches Alanna Hodge and Nicole Sheehan. With two full seasons now behind them, the coaches are focused on continuing to grow the program at both the varsity and modified levels.

Hodge and Sheehan, both experienced in the sport, were tasked by S-E administration with bringing the program back — and they’ve done just that. Now, they’re working to strengthen the pipeline by promoting the sport at the youth level and plan to host clinics in the future.

This year’s roster is a mix of

newcomers and players with a few years of experience. In fact, about half the varsity squad is learning field hockey for the first time. Much of the early season has been dedicated to skill development, but the group has been quick to pick things up. A key focus is grooming a goalkeeper to eventually step in after senior Bethany Garrison graduates.

Garrison and Evelyn Thomas lead as the team’s seniors, while other key contributors include Aurora Burk, Peyton Darragh, Riley Combes, Aubrey Davis, Chloe Amin, Abby Gayfield, Ellie Garrison, Kamri Peek, Addie Tyrrell, Alivia Franklin, and Layla Young.

The Timberwolves open the 2025 season on the road at Morrisville-Eaton on September 12 at 4:30 p.m.



The 2025 Sherburne-Earlville Field Hockey team, coached by Alanna Hodge and Nicole Sheehan. Missing from photo are Kamri Peek and Aubrey Davis. (Photo by Morgan Golliver)

GOOD LUCK TO ALL ATHLETES!

SHERBURNE SPORTS

PARTS & ACCESSORIES

ATV, Motorcycle (Dirt & Street)

HEADQUARTERS

We have you covered

Jackets • Helmets • Gloves

Plugs • Oil (including Amsoil®)

Parts & Accessories

ATV Tire Special

25x8x12 or 25x10x12.

Four Tires

Only \$349

Burt Matott, Jr. • Phone / Fax: 607-674-9281

84 North Main Street, Sherburne, NY 13460

M-F 10-5; Sat. 10-2; Sun. 9-1 (Dec.-March)

Email: sherburnesports@frontiernet.net

GOOD LUCK TO ALL ATHLETES!

THE CRESCENT MOON

7321 State Highway 12

Sherburne, NY 13460

F@thecrescentmoon4

CALL OR EMAIL US TO ADVERTISE ON THIS PAGE

TYLER SLATER

Senior Account Executive

Print/Digital Marketing

(607) 337-3026

tslater@pennysaveronline.com

THE EVENING SUN

NATHAN FOOTE

Senior Account Executive

Print/Digital Marketing

(607) 337-3032

nfoote@pennysaveronline.com

UV Volleyball: Growth, consistency in 2025 season

By Morgan Golliver
The Evening Sun

NEW BERLIN – The Unadilla Valley Volleyball team is back in action for a new season. Coach Shannon McIntyre is focused on building strong fundamentals after fielding a youthful roster last year.

“This year, we’re emphasizing fundamentals and helping each player understand their role, both on and off the court,” McIntyre said. “We’ve

learned to celebrate progress over perfection. Rather than focusing solely on wins and losses, we’re recognizing the smaller victories that contribute to long-term growth and overall success.”

The team also aims to improve consistency.

“One of our top goals is developing consistency, both individually and as a team,” McIntyre said. “We’re focusing on bouncing back quickly from mistakes. My message to the team is simple: whatever

you do, do it with purpose. Accountability and doing the little things right add up to make a big difference.”

Key returners include sophomore outside hitter Shyla Roberts.

“Shyla has been part of the program for several years despite only being a sophomore,” McIntyre said. “I expect her to be both a steady leader and a consistent performer on the court.”

Returning setters Jade Cook and Madison Pierce

also look to be major assets to the team this season.

“I’m looking for them to run the offense and create strong opportunities for our hitters,” McIntyre said. “Their roles naturally require leadership in moments of uncertainty, and I’m confident they’ll step up.”

UV also welcomes new players stepping into key roles.

“I’m excited to see how they rise to the challenge,” McIntyre said. “The team

has already shown eagerness to learn and a willingness to grow—two essential traits for reaching its potential.”

UV is currently renovating the high school gym, which has made things difficult for the start of the 2025 season, but the volleyball program has been able to work around it.

“The biggest challenge this season is that the JV and Varsity volleyball teams have been working around limited gym space during the first

half,” McIntyre said. “We’ll be on the road for many of our early matches until we’re able to host games at home again.

Despite this challenge, McIntyre is optimistic about the season, given the mix of new and experienced players.

“I’m excited to see how we grow and compete each week,” she said. “Every match is an opportunity to challenge ourselves and measure our progress.”

UV/GMU golf: Focused on growth and sportsmanship for 2025

By Morgan Golliver
The Evening Sun

NEW BERLIN – The Unadilla Valley/GMU golf team returns for its second season as a full program after reuniting last year. Coach Kevin Nial was encouraged

by the turnout, with 22 players signing up — giving him a solid mix of returning athletes and seven newcomers from GMU to choose from for his top six.

Nial has been impressed with his team’s progress. Last season, he challenged them

to reach a team score of 200, a milestone they achieved twice. Now, the Storm are eager to continue improving as a young but hungry group.

“This season, we’ve set two main goals,” Nial said. “We want to hit at least 200 and also be the best team in terms

of sportsmanship. That means having fun, being cohesive, and making sure everyone is on board with the process.”

With such a large roster, Nial is committed to giving everyone opportunities to play — especially during home matches at Sherburne’s

Mountain Top Golf Course, where he plans to include exhibition rounds.

“These kids are passionate about golf, especially the new kids from GMU,” Nial said. “They go out and play every day. They’re less nervous this year, and we’ve been focus-

ing on fundamentals. They want to produce something.”

The UV/GMU Storm got an early start with four matches before the beginning of the school year and continue to show steady improvement in each outing.

UV Cross Country: Hard work leads the way

By Morgan Golliver
The Evening Sun

NEW BERLIN – The Unadilla Valley Cross Country team is gearing

up for another fall season. Coach Lee Schaeffer is excited to welcome back key returners and help his athletes achieve their personal goals.

Jake Favinger, who finished in the top 10 at last year’s sectionals, returns alongside senior Dominic Berthel, as well as Andrea Favinger, Margaret

Kemnah, and Kathleen Pizzuto.

“As there are not enough boys or girls for a full scoring team, our goals are personal—aiming to match

or exceed each athlete’s race times from last season on the same courses,” Schaeffer said. “Margaret Kemnah moves up to the varsity level from modified

and is adapting well. I also push my team to give their best in practice every day so that hard work translates into strong results in the meets.”



HONEST, LOCAL, RELIABLE SERVICE

- Brake Service • Tune Ups • Transmission Service
- Lube, Oil, Filter • Muffler Work
- Servicing All Brands, Foreign & Domestic
- NYS Inspections • Tires



STAGE'S
AUTOMOTIVE SERVICES, LLC

CLIP & SAVE

STAGE'S AUTO SPECIAL

Lube/Oil*/Filter **\$34⁹⁵**

Offer good up to 5 quarts of oil. Tax excluded.

*Does not include synthetic oil



STAGE'S
AUTOMOTIVE SERVICES, LLC

94 North Main Street, New Berlin
www.randysautomotive@frontiernet.net **607-847-6911**
Randy & Nick Stage, Owners Open Weekdays 8 am to 5 pm

DOENGES
RUBBISH REMOVAL
My TOP priority is your satisfaction!
Doengesrubbishremoval.com

SMALL & LARGE SCALE
CLEAN OUTS

- General Junk Removal
- Junk Vehicle Removal
- Camper & Motorhome Removal
- Residential & Commercial Clean Outs
- FREE Scrap Removal (with stipulations)

Fully Insured!

14 YEARS EXPERIENCE

We Do Not Remove Paints, Oils, Spackles, Fluorescent Lightbulbs Or Any Other Potentially Hazardous Liquids/Debris.

Call Or Text Devin Doenges
607-287-4321 Like us on Facebook! 

UV Girls' soccer: Confidence and teamwork fuel sectional push

By Morgan Golliver
The Evening Sun

NEW BERLIN – The Unadilla Valley Storm girls' soccer team is proud to bring back much of its core group from last season. Coaches Rob and Jill Catena have a positive, confident squad eager to take the field and showcase their growth.

Last fall was a valuable learning experience as the Catenas stepped in as co-head coaches of the varsity program, with Rob having assisted the year before. The Storm's season ended in heartbreak with a 1-0 overtime loss to Trumansburg in the second round of sectionals. This year, they aim to return stronger.

"We have a great team dynamic, where the girls work very well together," Jill Catena said. "They are very



The 2025 Unadilla Valley Storm girls' soccer team, coached by Rob and Jill Catena. (Photo from the Catenas)

supportive, and we're looking to finish inside the top four of the MAC, where our team belongs."

The Storm graduated six seniors but retain a strong core, anchored by senior goalkeeper Kora Johnson. Other key returners include Madison Anderson, Sophia Bell, Meadow Bert, Madison Dix, Noelle Fernandez-Naughton, Emma Fernette, Molly Gorrell, Avery Hill, Logan Lindholm, Addison Marinelli, Annie Rogers, Natalya Schrag, Sydnee Studer, Lyla Taylor, and Myriah Taylor.

UV will also gain valuable experience competing in several tournaments this fall. The Lady Storm recently placed third at the Mount Markham Tournament and will host their annual NY Pizzeria Tournament on September 12-13.

UV Boys' Soccer: Returns with optimism for a new season

By Morgan Golliver
The Evening Sun

NEW BERLIN – After showing steady growth and competing closely in many games last season, the Unadilla Valley/GMU Storm boys' soccer team returns with optimism for a new season. Coach Josh Burchill and Assistant coach Jordan Smith

know they had to fill quite a few spots after graduating a bulk of last year's core, but believe this group has matured and is ready to take the next step.

The Storm is still young overall, but the program has depth and plenty of leadership. Burchill said he is confident the team can make noise this fall.

"We have the potential to sneak out wins out and the talent and drive to get better," Burchill said. "We can win games by going out and outworking everyone else and being the hardest team to play against."

Burchill is also grateful to see the UV soccer program building back up with the growing partici-

pation in soccer.

Burchill is also encouraged by the continued growth of the UV soccer program, pointing to the strong participation numbers and the enthusiasm of his players.

Key returners for the Storm this season include seniors Brodey Cattanach (goalkeeper), Preston York, Steven Johnson, Kyle

Keuhn, Latham Retz, Zayne Dibbell, Dalton Fernette, Braden Golliver, and Seth Meagley. Killian Wood leads the junior class, along with Payton Behnke and Declan Potter. Underclassmen Darrin Ruiz, Reed Osborne, Koda Stockdale, Fraser MacDonald, and Jerson Lopez are eager to make their mark on the varsity stage.

The Storm opened its 2025 season at the Mount Markham tournament before traveling to Delhi on Wednesday, September 10. They'll then begin a three-game home-stand at GMU starting with Walton/Downsville on September 12.

Good Luck To All Athletes And Teams On A Successful Season!



Norwich's only
locally-owned funeral
home since 1891

Specialists in funeral, cremation, memorial and pre-planning services. Our facilities offer a warm, caring, and compassionate environment to honor your loved one. Our dedicated team is honored to assist 24/7 and are only a phone call away. Our staff has the full ability to make your service as personal as one wishes.

PERSONALIZE YOUR PLAN. WE ENCOURAGE IT.

John J. Antonowicz - lifelong Norwich resident - Director & Manager

Questions? Call us at (607) 336-3993 - or visit www.wilsonfh.com

68 South Broad Street Norwich, NY 13815

Neighbors caring for neighbors.



Afton/Harpursville Field Hockey: Chasing the crown

By Morgan Golliver
The Evening Sun

AFTON – The Afton/Harpursville Crimson Knights return for the 2025 season with their sights set on a Class B championship after finishing runner-up in the sectional

finals the past two seasons. Last fall also brought a major milestone for coaches Josh and Casey Conover, who notched their 100th career win in September against Newark Valley. The duo returns with a renewed focus on fitness

and teamwork, knowing both will be essential for competing at the highest level. With eight experienced seniors leading the way, the Crimson Knights believe this could be their year. The veteran group includes Gracie

Bagg, Adriana Hartman, Miranda Schultz, Abby Hoyt, Jessalyn Powell, Makenna Schultz, Vanessa Card, and Emilie Hopkins. They’re joined by juniors Abbey Paoletti and Zoe Fuller, along with underclassmen Kaley

Copeland (freshman) and eighth graders Carly Bagg and Lainey Steinbrecher. Afton/Harpursville opened the season in the InVANNational Tournament at Windsor (Aug. 28–29), finishing 1-1 with a win over

Walton before falling to Windsor in the championship game. The Crimson Knights continue non-league play with two contests during the first week of school before hosting Spencer-Van Etten on September 15 at 4:30 p.m.

Afton/Harpursville Crimson Knights girls’ soccer team



The 2025 Afton/Harpursville Crimson Knights girls’ soccer team, coached by Kendra Smith. Roster: #1 Misty Bushaw, #2 Appalonia Bushaw, #3 Cindy Miller, #4 Amber Tyler, #5 Ariana Florance, #7 Piper Harder, #9 Aubrey Patrick, #10 Jenna Wilson, #13 Kathleen Charette, #15 Brooklee Patrick, #16 Tabitha Charette, #18 Isabella Brotzman, #20 Aisley Ruff, #22 Alyssa Spathelf, #23 Mariah Florance (Photo by Morgan Golliver)



**Good Luck
to all
Chenango County
Student Athletes
this season!**

6 N. MAIN ST., SHERBURNE, NY
607-674-9691
HOURS: 9-8 Mon.-Fri; 9-6 Sat.; 9-1 Sun.

12 MAIN ST., NEW BERLIN, NY
607-847-8100
HOURS: 9-8 Mon.-Fri; 9-6 Sat.; 9-1 Sun.

Be A Smart Shopper... Compare Prices • Parking In The Rear Of The Store
Rainchecks Always Available • Senior Citizens Prescription Discount

Like us on
Facebook 

OV Girls Soccer: Building confidence and experience

By Morgan Golliver
The Evening Sun

SOUTH OTSELIC – The Otselic Valley Vikings girls soccer team returns to the field this fall under head coach Jordan Hicks (formerly Klein), who previously coached the program in 2023.

After working on the fundamentals last season with Coach Roque, the Vikings are now focused on growth both on and off the field.

“The team has discussed trying to have fun this season,” Hicks said. “The goal is to win games, but the girls also want to communicate positively and stay well-rounded so they can succeed academically as



well.”

Hicks has already seen strong effort in preseason, with a mix of new and experienced players stepping up. She will lean on her five seniors — Skyler Graham, Miranda Hackett, Mackenzie Reandeau, Emma Rooker, and Abby White — to provide leadership on and off the field.

Other returners include juniors Kassidie Cruikshank and Kimmy Miron-Blanco,

as well as sophomores Baleigh DuBois, Isabella Neal, Addison Palmer, and Isabella Sayles. Freshmen Kadyn Bishop, Taylor Marshall, and Kaytlynn Cookingham round out the roster.

For Hicks, building confidence is as important as building skills.

“Be positive, have fun, and strive to get better each day,” she said. “Stop saying ‘I can’t,’ especially when trying to use your weak foot. Set goals that can be accomplished. Work hard, support each other, and communicate. Building confidence as individuals and as a team has been a big message.”



When Wisdom Makes a Difference

Real Estate Services
Christopher Dowdall
Licensed Real Estate Salesperson

Cell: 607-226-1729
Office: 607-336-8080
christopherdowdall@howardhanna.com

6095 State Highway 12, Norwich NY 13815



Real Estate Services

B-G Volleyball: Consistency is everything

By Morgan Golliver
The Evening Sun

BAINBRIDGE – The Bainbridge-Guilford Bobcats volleyball team is back on the court this fall, determined to build off last year’s lessons and lean on an experienced roster. Head coach Tracy Kutz says the key to success will come down to one thing: consistency.

“Consistency is everything,” Kutz said. “We also learned last season that trusting your teammates is important, not letting doubts win, and being able to shake off mistakes in our game play.”

The Bobcats finished as the fifth seed in the Section IV Class C tournament last year, falling in the opening round to Trumansburg. This season, Kutz hopes a veteran-heavy lineup can take the next step.

“Focusing on one point at a time is a big goal,” she said. “I want us to raise both our intensity and our grit.”

B-G returns seven seniors to the roster, including several expected to take on bigger roles. Makayla McCloud will look to gain confidence with



The 2025 Bainbridge-Guilford Bobcats Volleyball team, coached by Tracy Kutz. Front row L-R: Morgan Prisco, Madisyn Peck, Elanor Sprow, Shaylyn Fitzgerald, Kaylynn Crandall, Peyton Umbra. Back Row: Leyah Thomas, Alessandra Cafasso, Makayla McCloud, Akai Sherman, Madalynn Beardslee, Madeline Astalos. (Photo by Tracy Kutz)

her timing at the net, while anchor the defense. Peyton Morgan Prisco is expected to Umbra brings leadership and offensive confidence, and the offense with her ability to Kaylynn Crandall will guide read hitters. Madisyn Peck is

also set to see increased time opposite of Crandall.

Other key contributors include junior Elanor Sprow, praised for her versatility, and junior Alessandra Cafasso, known for her leadership and power. Seniors Shaylyn Fitzgerald and Akai Sherman, juniors Madeline Astalos and Leyah Thomas, and sophomore Madalynn Beardslee round out the roster.

“I believe in all of them,” Kutz said. “With seven of our 12 players being seniors, it’s time to tap into that potential.”

The Bobcats’ schedule mirrors previous years, with a mix of familiar league matchups and tournament play. They open the 2025 season on the road at Delhi on Thursday, September 4, before hosting Walton in their home opener on Tuesday, September 16.

Every attempt was made to gather photos and team information from all our local schools. If your favorite team didn’t make it into our Fall Sports Preview, please let your coach know that you want your athletes included next year. They can contact our sports department at sports@evesun.com for this special section, or send photos or information to The Evening Sun for regular games.

**SCHOOL SPORTS**

**NOW
HIRING:
FULL TIME
SPORTS
WRITER**



**THE EVENING
SUN**

Preferred Skills & Experience Include:

- Strong command of grammar, spelling and punctuation
- Ability to work independently and meet daily deadlines
- Comfortable handling fast-paced coverage and flexible scheduling

Schedule & Hours:

Full-time position Monday through Friday with weekend event coverage required. Set your own hours around a morning editorial deadline and evening/weekend game schedules.

Willing to train the right person.
Pay Range: \$16.00/hr – \$18.00/hr

**SEND YOUR RESUME AND COVER LETTER
TO: CAREERS@EVESUN.COM**

No phone calls please.
The Evening Sun is an equal opportunity employer

R.J. FAHY

FUNERAL HOME

A Tradition Of Service Since 1939

To all Student Athletes
in Chenango County...

Best Wishes

on a
Great Year!

116 North Broad St. • Norwich, NY

607-334-8833

David Beardsley, Manager
Thomas Ackerman, Funeral Director



B-G golf: Establishing a team-first culture

By Morgan Golliver
The Evening Sun

BAINBRIDGE – The Bainbridge-Guilford Bobcats golf team returns to the course under new direction this season. Darryl Decker steps in to the mix, where he brings over 25 years of experience.

“I always keep tabs on all the local sports and saw that B-G was looking for a golf coach,” Decker said. “B-G has always been a class act in sports and being part of a positive program was very appealing to me. I have coached at all levels of High School sports and have previously coached varsity gold at Afton and Unadilla Valley.”

Decker has 20 kids ready to make a statement this season, fighting for a spot in the top six, but staying patient and maintaining a positive attitude.

“This is a wonderful group of student athletes from seventh to 12th grade,” Decker said. “They come to practice



The Bainbridge-Guilford Bobcats golf team, coached by Darryl Decker. Back row left to right : Cullen Benjamin, Andrew Ireland, Cole Fleming, Gavin Dicks, Cyrus Megale, Mason Acquisto, Mason Buchanan, Zane Holmes, Elodie Hall and Aubrey Schinn. Front row left to right: Michael Schwartz, Evan Weber, Aaron Caffery, Gavin Swartwout, Levi Nightengale, Braison Ives, Dawson Crandall, Maddie Ingham, Kate Baciaska and Breanna Casey. (Photo from Coach Decker)

ready to learn and work on skills to be successful. The team has many members new to golf, but they are learning fast.”

While Decker is new to the B-G program, he has sights on his team continuing to be the class act that he knows they can be.

“My first-year vision beings with establishing strong foundations of sportsmanship, discipline, honesty, and team-first culture,” Decker said. “I want our players and myself to represent the program with class both on and off the course. On the first day, I told the team

that they are scholar athletes, and they represent the whole community, which means that they needed to always act with class, dignity, and maintain a good academic report.”

Decker is proud to have back three of the team’s key returners, who have seen time in the top six last season. Gavin Dicks, Mason Buchanan, and Cole Fleming have impressed Decker by helping the new members of the team learn the ins and outs of golf.

Decker said one major focus for the team this season is getting everyone on track.

“We have set a goal to work toward playing bogey golf,” Decker said. “If we can get there, then we can be a competitive High School golf team. Individually, if a player can meet this goal, they can then take the next step to be a really competitive golfer and try to qualify for sectionals.”

Good luck, Coach Decker and the Bainbridge-Guilford Golf team.

Bainbridge-Guilford Football: Remaining optimistic with new faces

By Morgan Golliver
The Evening Sun

BAINBRIDGE – Coach

Art Rigas and the Bainbridge-Guilford Bobcats are back for the 2025 football season, ready to battle through another tough Class D schedule. Rigas often compares the level of competition to the SEC in college football.

The Bobcats finished 6-3 last year, opening with a 5-0 run before dropping three of their last four games and narrowly missing the playoffs.

“It was a very positive season,” Rigas said. “Our schedule is always tough with powerhouses like Tioga, who have won several state championships. Every team is competitive, so there are no easy wins.”

As B-G works to stay competitive in the league, the team is focused on making adjustments and approaching the year one week at a time.

“You will see new faces on the offensive line and in several key spots,” Rigas said. “The kids are working hard in the weight room and have put in the effort all offseason. They are competing for starting spots, buying into the process, and keeping their focus on one game at a time.”

The Bobcats lost a talented group of seniors, including record-breaking standout Declyn Marshfield, center Timmy Kinter, Elliott Briggs, and several others. Still, Rigas is confident in his returning leaders, led by senior quarterback Connor Davy, who is poised for a strong final season. Key offensive playmakers Isaiah Hampton and Parker Buttice also return, while senior Chris Moyer will anchor the line.

The program is also looking forward to playing on a new field this fall, which is

expected to be completed by Week 1. If not, Rigas said the team will look to nearby schools as possible alternatives.

The Bobcats will also compete in a preseason scrimmage before the opener.

“We will use the scrimmage as a final look since several positions are still up in the air,” Rigas said. “It will be a good battle for spots.”

B-G begins the season at home on September 5 against Trumansburg, which is new to 11-man football after being 8-man. The Bobcats will then continue their three-game home stretch on September 12 against Whitney Point.



The 2025 Bainbridge-Guilford Bobcats football team, coached by Art Rigas (Photo by Carletta Larsen)

HOLDEN’S EMBROIDERY

Screen Printing & Custom Embroidery

- Schools • Coaches
- Booster Clubs
- Sports Teams & Leagues
- Fundraisers & Special Events
- Fire Departments and Auxiliaries

- Clubs - Groups & Organizations
- Companies & Businesses of all sizes
- Corporate Buyers
- Team Discounts

T-shirts, Sweatshirts & Pants, Hoodies, Vests, Golf Shirts, Hats, Duffle Bags, Backpacks, Drink Holders, Blankets, Stockings & MUCH MORE

Call us first for BEST QUALITY at BEST PRICES!

HOLDEN’S EMBROIDERY

7805 State Route 12, Sherburne, NY 13460

Call 607-674-2020

Open Monday through Friday 8am - 4pm



The 2025 Bainbridge-Guilford/Afton/Harpursville boys soccer team, coached by Will Spalholz and Scott Lord. (Submitted Photo)

BGAH Boys Soccer: New merger brings depth and optimism

By Morgan Golliver
The Evening Sun

BAINBRIDGE – After both varsity programs struggled to field an official team, Bainbridge-Guilford and Afton/Harpursville decided to merge their boys soccer teams for the 2025 season and possibly beyond. The two schools already combine for wrestling, cross country, and track, creating a strong

sense of acceptance for athletes across both programs. “It came out of nowhere,” Afton’s Scott Lord said about the merger, which was finalized just a few days into fall practices. “Afton was just going to have a JV program, but I was able to bring seven kids to varsity to go along with the 11 or 12 that Bainbridge had. It worked out and benefited both teams.”

Lord joins longtime B-G coach Will Spalholz, who has more than 50 years of experience. The two bring different coaching styles but are already meshing well. “I’ve noticed how he wants the team to play a little bit differently than my style,” Lord said. “He has the records to show for and focuses more on moving the ball and passing and less dribble to get the defense

confused.” So far, the two coaches have blended their approaches well, balancing drills and managing practices smoothly. Lord, who previously coached the seven Afton players at the modified level, said they are adjusting quickly. Among the returning players, Lucas Mills is expected to be a key contributor after sharpening his skills during

the winter indoor club season. Junior Ben Porter also returns as a strong leader for B-G, with an eye on distributing the ball effectively to create scoring chances. Matthew Wombacker anchors the team in goal, backed by a solid unit that includes Mills, Porter, Brayden Barton, Andra Polido, Adian Masse, Brody Mertz, Harpo Hardt, Beckett Longwell, Brian Lynn, Nolan

Foster, Aiden Haynes, Troy Cannistra, John Winn, John Leizear, Jordan Lune, Logan Cole, and Ethan Morris. With the merger moving the program into Class B, the coaches know the competition will be tough, but their goals are clear. The team is aiming for a top-three or top-four finish in the MAC, a realistic target if the new-look roster continues to gel.

B-G Girls Soccer: Being the best on and off the field

By Morgan Golliver
The Evening Sun

BAINBRIDGE – The Bainbridge-Guilford Bobcats girls soccer team is eager to get back to work this fall, returning a strong core of talent and plenty of potential. Head coach Sarah Nezelek hopes to carry over the positivity that fueled the Bobcats last season.

“The power of a positive mindset is important,” Nezelek said. “If we believe in ourselves and our teammates, we will be unstoppable. We’re also putting a heavy emphasis on being the best version of ourselves as teammates, both on and off the field.”

The Bobcats finished last year’s regular season 9-4, placing third in the MAC. They earned a home sectional game, defeating Southern Cayuga 2-0 before falling to Oxford in a tight 1-0 match-up.

This fall, Nezelek and her team have set their sights on even greater success.

“Our team goals are to win the MAC and be competitive, but also to stay positive in our communication, body



The 2025 Bainbridge-Guilford Bobcats girls’ soccer team, coached by Sarah Nezelek and Riley Smith. (Submitted Photo)

language, and in the way we hype each other up,” Nezelek said. “We want to work hard and give 110 percent all the time—in practice, games, school, and life—while constantly improving ourselves and the team.” Nezelek believes that with

hard work and a strong group of returners, this year could be special. “The message to the team has been that this is truly our MAC and sectional year,” she said. “Our coaching staff has complete confidence in this group. We have the tal-

ent, the drive, and the right mindset to make this a banner year.” The Bobcats will be led by a “very talented and hard-working group” of seniors: Breanna Casey, Brenna George, Jayslin Henderson, Danica Park, and Hannah

Shackleton. “Their experience and leadership will be instrumental throughout the season,” Nezelek said. “We’ll also be looking to underclassmen like Keelan Ammon and Breegan George to help on the offensive front. Plus,

our sophomore class is really pushing the pace at practices, challenging themselves and keeping the upperclassmen on their toes.” The Bobcats are also excited about this year’s schedule, which features plenty of home games and the long-awaited debut of B-G’s new turf field. “We were on the road a lot last year, so it’ll be a nice change of pace,” Nezelek said. “By the end of the season, we should have full access to the brand-new stadium and turf field.” The Bobcats will open their season in the Flannery Tournament in Downs ville during the first week of September, giving them a preview of MAC rivals as well as opponents from other leagues. Their first home game is set for September 11 against Greene at 4:30 p.m.

Norwich Football: Playing for each other



The 2025 Norwich Purple Tornado football team, coached by Mike Chrystie. (Photo by Shawna Lawrence)

By Morgan Golliver
The Evening Sun

NORWICH – Head coach Mike Chrystie and the Norwich Purple Tornado football team are eager to open a new season with a new-look roster ready to take the field. Norwich went 6-4 last fall but graduated a strong senior class, including both its starting and back-up quarterbacks, leaving big

shoes to fill. Chrystie, now in his 13th year leading Norwich, said he’s proud of how his players continue to handle adversity—whether through injuries, lineup changes, or the need for underclassmen to step up. “They believe in the system of building the culture of Norwich football,” Chrystie said. “They want to play for each other and have made strides to be more like a fam-

ily on and off the field. We have a lot of underclassmen this year, but everyone gets along, which I’m most proud of. Being a good-spirited team doesn’t guarantee wins, but it puts us in position to keep improving.” This season, Chrystie will lean on a pair of familiar faces—his sons. Cooper Chrystie steps into the starting quarterback role after the graduation of Steven Dowdall, while Carter

Chrystie moves up to varsity as a wide receiver. “Cooper has put in a lot of work to get to this point,” Chrystie said. “He’s got a great group of guys rallying around him, especially Carter at wide receiver.” The Tornado also return a solid core of veterans, including Kaden Downey, a key two-way player, along with Tiernan Lindsay, Kassen Stubb, Zack Parker, Zac Turner, Connor White,

Leland Montgomery, and Josh Lindridge. Norwich opens the season at home on Friday, September 5, in a Week Zero matchup against Guilderland, a Class AA school from near Albany. “It’s exciting to play someone different,” Chrystie said. “It’ll be a good mental and physical test and show us where we stand heading into the season. We know we’ll still face powerhouses like

Maine-Endwell, Waverly, and Owego—those are the divisional games we star on the calendar. If we can come out of Section IV, Class B strong, we’ll have a shot at a title.” Norwich will then play at non-league opponent Cossackie-Athens, located two hours away near the Albany area, on September 12 before traveling to Waverly on September 19.

LET OUR TEAM FEED YOUR TEAM

Proud to support all the teams of Chenango County

GIFT CARDS AVAILABLE!

Give Back Nights

ENJOY THE BEST IN ITALIAN AND HELP RAISE MONEY FOR YOUR ORGANIZATION!

WHAT IS A “GIVE BACK NIGHT”

A Give Back Night is a fundraiser where Nina’s “Gives Back” to non-profit organizations. It’s so easy! Your members present the GIVE BACK NIGHT flyer, and Nina’s donates 20% of those sales back to your organization!

GIVE US A CALL OR CHECK OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR DAILY & WEEKLY SPECIALS!



Italian Restaurant
32 South Broad St., Norwich
607-334-6278
Open 7 Days A Week

www.thestadium.biz



Give Back Nights

Score BIG at The Stadium and raise money for your organization!



FOOTBALL TICKET
Every Game... Every Sunday

CHECK FOR OUR WEEKLY FOOTBALL SPECIALS!

Check us out on Facebook or our New Website www.thestadium.biz
1 Main St., Oxford, NY • 607-843-5255
Monday- Saturday 11 am to close; Sunday noon to close

Norwich boys soccer: Building under new direction

By Morgan Golliver
The Evening Sun

NORWICH – The Norwich Purple Tornado boys soccer team enters the 2025 season with new leadership at the helm. Michael Oberg, coaching at the varsity level for the first time, is eager to bring his passion for the sport to the program.

“I grew up with soccer. I was the MVP in school and went into the military and played soccer in Germany, and have coached YMCA teams,” Oberg said about his experience and love for the sport. “I was working at the school and Zan Stewart told me I needed to be in coaching and I applied, had an interview and accepted the offer.”

Oberg hopes his presence within the district will help grow the program in the years ahead.

“We have 23 kids on the varsity team, and I’d like to bring back the JV program,” he said. “I want to connect with the younger community, grow the sport for both boys and girls, and get my face out there at the YMCA.”



The 2025 Norwich Purple Tornado Boys soccer team, coached by Michael Oberg and Mwenda Righa. (Photo by Morgan Golliver)

With just four seniors this season, Oberg said his focus will be on building up his younger players.

“I don’t have goals but objectives,” Oberg said. “We are in a tough league, so I want to strive to be at .500 and also use our non-league games to get there. We are a young team with just four seniors this year. Our freshman and sophomore players have been great to work with and they get to experience the heat of the movement out there, and with the experience, they will be better in the long run.”

Oberg also credited assistant coach Mwenda Righa for his support.

Norwich returns plenty of experience this fall, led by seniors Liam Ballin, Duncan McNicol V, Liam Hunter, and Joe Hall. Juniors Collin Reid (goalkeeper), Wyeth Stafford, Andrew Mirabito, Patrick Mulwane, Sharon Thinagaran, and Cam Moore add further depth. Sophomores James Sprague, Fisher Rivenburg, Brady Perry, and Brooks Boland also bring varsity experience.

Newcomers looking to make an impact include Jayden Zornow, Jack Spiegel, Carter Newton, Nicholas Hall (back-up goalie), Colten Thompson, Aiden Morris, Vinny Lawson, Shalom Thinagaran, and Nash Swindle.

Good luck, Norwich.

Norwich Girls Soccer: Have each other's backs

By Morgan Golliver
The Evening Sun

NORWICH – The Norwich

Purple Tornado girls’ soccer team takes the field this fall with a team-first mindset, determined to grow from every game they play. Coach Riley Lougee is confident in the group’s hard work and preparation as they aim to

build on last season.

“Our girls want to work hard as a team and win and lose as a team,” Lougee said. “We want to be so cohesive that we learn from every game to improve throughout the season. Our overall goal is to win the STAC and make a run in sectionals, but our short-term focus is taking each game as a chance to improve as a team and program.”

Lougee emphasized that unity will be the key to success. “Last year, we learned that when we played together, we played much better and had more success,” he said. “My message this season has been to always have each other’s backs. No matter what happens in the game, we pick each other up.”

Norwich will lean on several experienced players, including Josey Ryan and Daphney Frank. “Josey has continuously been a threat in the offensive third, but this year I’m looking for her to get more involved in the midfield and help us transition through the middle,” Lougee said. “Daphney will continue to be a solid goalkeeper. My expectations for her are to stay mentally strong and positive for the entire game. As one of our captains, I’m looking for her to always focus on the next play rather than dwell on the past.”

The Purple Tornado will also look for Quinn Terry and Kerragan Reid to step into larger roles. “Quinn will be a key player in the midfield. Her foot skills are a huge part of her game and will help us control play,” Lougee said. “Kerragan is another key player with exceptional foot skills and game awareness. Between her and Daphney, we have two quality goalkeepers who make a great tandem.”

Other notable players include Abby Brunick, Alivia Burrell, Marina Arraez, Reagan Decker, Olivia Doliver, Arabella Dwyer, Emma Baker, Layla Root, Leanna Clipston, McKenzie Brunick, Emma Colosi, and Raegan Doliver.

Norwich’s 2025 schedule features several new non-league matchups, including Walton/Downsville, Greene, and Liverpool. “I am really looking forward to playing Liverpool,” Lougee said. “It will be a great test for us to face a AAA school and measure ourselves against a strong opponent from outside the area.”



The 2025 Norwich Purple Tornado girls’ soccer team, coached by Riley Lougee. (Photo by Morgan Golliver)

OUR BEST IN THE FIELD DEALS ARE HERE

For a limited time, save big on the all-new 1100 and 2100 Series. With a reliable diesel engine, our best-ever lift capacity, and intuitive tech like Crank Assist, dual-pedal HST, and a handy companion app, they're tougher and smarter than anything else out there.

BEST IN THE FIELD DEALS

1100/2100 SERIES
0% FINANCING + **\$2,000 CASH BACK**
OR UP TO \$5,000 CASH BACK

NORWICH OUTDOOR POWER EQUIPMENT
5876 County Rd. 32- East River Road, Norwich
607-334-4378
www.norwichope.com
8:00-5:00 Monday-Friday and 8:00-12:00 on Saturday

mahindra TRACTORS
OUTWORKING THE FIELD

Available 0% APR financing on purchases of selected new Mahindra tractor models from participating dealers' inventory on qualified purchases through Mahindra Finance US LLC. A down-payment may be required for selected tractor models. Financing information is made available by Mahindra Finance USA LLC for discussion purposes only and is not a commitment to finance any transaction. The information provided is not intended and should not be construed as legal, accounting, or tax advice. All financing is subject to credit review and approval and other terms and conditions and is at Mahindra Finance USA LLC's sole discretion. Offer available for a limited time only and subject to change without notice.

Norwich Girls Tennis: Growing strong with big numbers

By Morgan Golliver
The Evening Sun

NORWICH – The Norwich Purple Tornado girls’ tennis team takes the court this fall with a larger-than-usual roster, giving Coach Nikki Brooks plenty of optimism for the season.

Brooks welcomed 16 players this year — three upper-classmen and a young core with mostly modified experience but plenty of potential.

“We usually get 10 to 12 on a team,” Brooks said. “The team as a whole has been accepting and supportive of each other, which can be tough with a larger group, but they’ve all been patient with one another.”



The 2025 Norwich Purple Tornado girls’ tennis team, coached by Nikki Brooks. (Photo by Morgan Golliver)

Norwich lost only two seniors from last year’s squad and returns its top six singles players. Riley Wolford leads the way at first singles, followed by Finley Farrow at second, Rori Gates at third, and Paulina He stepping into

fourth singles after previously gaining experience in doubles. Doubles pairings will rotate throughout the season.

Other players to watch out for this season include Marianna Chetronie, Gwendolyn Brees, Giuliana O’Reilly, Autumn Greco, Annie Boland, Maria Miranda-Cruz, Mattie Merritt, Selina Lian, Mia Tang, Helena Brunton, Samantha Palmer, Mara Lanfair, and Skylr Newman.

The schedule remains mostly the same, though Brooks noted one significant change: Sectionals and States will now be combined into a single large tournament, which will take some adjustment for players and coaches alike.

Norwich Volleyball: Building team chemistry for the 2025 season

By Morgan Golliver
The Evening Sun

NORWICH – The Norwich Purple Tornado volleyball team enters the 2025 season with depth, experience, and optimism. Coach Kyle Ellis is eager to make this a memorable year for his seven seniors by focusing on improvement and consistency.

“These girls have all played together and have been improving,” Ellis said.

“We are working on having a better offense and making sure everyone is involved.”

Alongside their on-court skills, the Tornado are also emphasizing team unity and stronger bonds between players, including the younger athletes joining the program.

Seniors Temprance Dockray, Emma Urgo, Shaelyn Rice, and Lorelee Brown are embracing their leadership roles in building a positive team culture.

“I know we’ve had our share of up and down seasons,” Dockray said. “But so far, we’re looking good as an experienced team. We’re getting along and playing well together.”

Urgo echoed that optimism, noting the growth in team chemistry and the excitement for the future. “There’s been a big push for good team chemistry, and we’re trying to

be as united a program as we can,” she said. “We’re feeling more optimistic in finding our way back as a successful program, and it’s great to see more younger girls becoming interested in the sport.”

Rice added that leadership also means keeping the energy high and the players focused. “As a senior leader and captain, I want to make sure I’m reassuring everyone—saying, ‘It’s okay, go

get the next one’—and keeping our heads up,” Rice said. “This is the best chemistry we’ve ever had, and everyone is ready and wants to play together.”

Brown agreed, stressing the importance of enjoying the journey as a team. “We have been building more every year and coming together more too,” she said. “We all want to have a good time and win together.”

Other key contributors this season include seniors Brooke Rogers, Tamika Marango, and Ava-Rose Cirigliano, junior Hannah Hatton, and sophomores Breylyn Eaton, Bri Cirigliano, and Kiarah Williams.

With experienced leadership, strong team chemistry, and a clear focus on consistency, the Purple Tornado are determined to push for sectionals this fall.



The 2025 Norwich Purple Tornado volleyball team, coached by Kyle Ellis. (Photo by Morgan Golliver)

Where
"Mr. Gooooo
Purple"
Hangs Out!

Good luck to all
area teams for a
great season!

10% discount all the time!

C.V.
Electric
Supply

12 Park St.
Norwich

334-3292

From Our
TEAM
To Yours...

All of us at Burrell’s Excavating would like to wish the best of luck to every girls and boys team in Chenango County.

Work hard to have another successful season!

**BURRELL’S
EXCAVATING, Inc.**

6146 COUNTY RD. 32,
NORWICH, NY
607-336-6236

K M C II
SAND & GRAVEL

www.burrellsexcavating.com



The 2025 Norwich Purple Tornado girls' swim team, coached by Saundra Gantt. (Photo by Morgan Golliver)

Norwich Girls Swimming: 'Just Keep Swimming' with returning core

By Morgan Golliver
The Evening Sun

NORWICH – The Norwich Purple Tornado girls swim team brings everyone back and are ready to continue to improve this season, under Coach Saundra Gantt.

With everyone returning, including Kaelyn Conant, Brynn Meek, Olivia Palmer, Raeley Patterson, Jillian Petrie, Mikayla Sastri, and Alexandra Shtrauch, the expectations remain the same

as the girls look to continue to improve on technique.

“In swimming, the little things do matter,” Gantt said. “They have been really focused on making the technique improvements necessary to perform at their best. It’s the same every season, where every practice is important to get ready for competition. Every competition is practice for championships and championships is practice for the next level of championships.”

The team is always looking to swim the best times and have success at sectionals and will strive to do just that with fewer dual meets this season, Gantt said. The team still will have the Waverly Invitational in the beginning of the season, which Gantt said is “great energy and fast racing to start,” as well as as the Maine-Endwell invitational, which is the midseason checkpoint meet, on October 11.

Norwich Golf: Staying consistent on the course

By Morgan Golliver
The Evening Sun

NORWICH – The Norwich Purple Tornado golf team returns a strong core after a perfect 11-0 STAC season in 2024, capped with a second straight Section IV Class B title and a STAC East Division championship.

For head coach Dave Branham, the focus is simple: consistency.

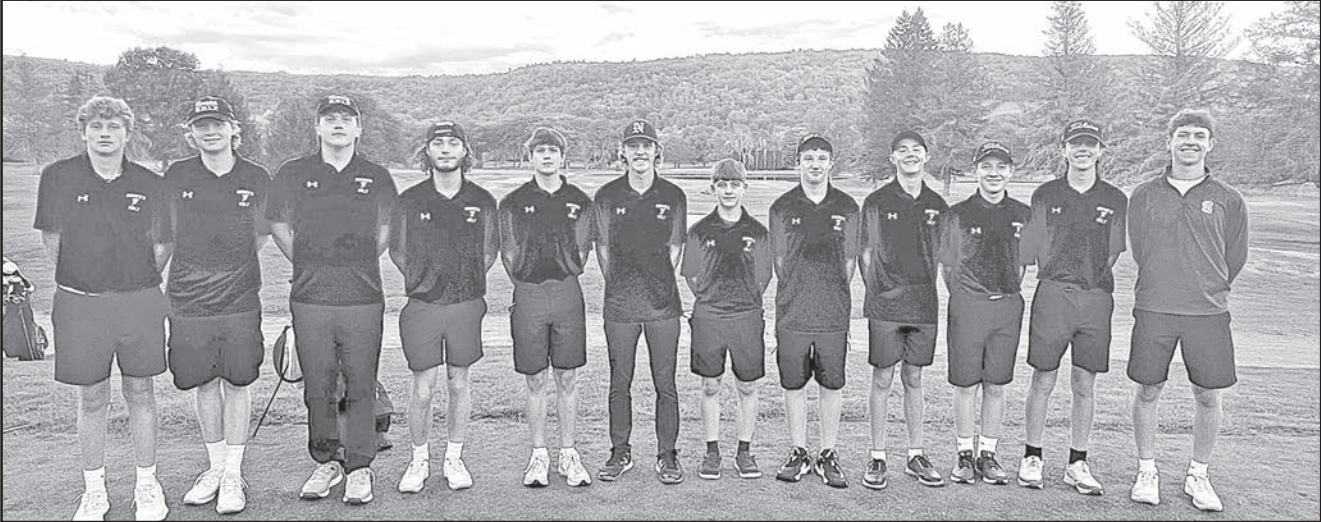
“We actually talk about consistency, or the process of how we do things,” Branham said. “Great athletes follow a process, and those processes

help eliminate mistakes. In sports, the person or team with the fewest mistakes almost always wins.”

Branham emphasizes that success in golf comes from following routines.

“Every day we talk about the process of playing golf. From the first tee shot to the last putt, a consistent pre-shot routine helps eliminate mistakes and lower scores,” he said. “That balance between individual performance and team score is what we strive for.”

The Tornado lost just two seniors from last season, leav-



The 2025 Norwich Purple Tornado golf team, coached by Dave Branham. (Photo by Dave Branham)

Football Fans LOVE our FOOD

HIGH SCHOOL GAME NIGHT

Eat in or take out before the game.

COLLEGE GAME DAY OR NFL SUNDAY

Eat in and enjoy the games on our HUGE TVs or order ahead to enjoy at your own party.

WEEKLY SPECIALS

MONDAY

Burgers - All burgers 2.00 off

TUESDAY

Salads & Sliders - All salads & sliders 2.00 off

WEDNESDAY

Mozzarella Stick Madness - 10 for 7.99, 20 for 11.99 (Eat in only)
Flatbreads - 2.00 off all flatbreads

THURSDAY

Wing Day - All wings & things 50% Off (Eat in only)

FRIDAY

(Per person)
All-You-Can-Eat Fish & Chips - Served with house salad and French fries. 19.99

SATURDAY

(Per person)
All-You-Can-Eat Butterfly Shrimp - Served with house salad and French fries. 19.99

SUNDAY

All Day Happy Hour - (Eat in only) 2.00 off warm-ups, 1.00 off drafts & wines. 4-6 pm every day & all day Sunday

Happy Hour

(Eat in only)
\$2.00 Off Warm Ups,
\$1.00 Off Drafts & Wines
4 to 6 pm
EVERY DAY and
ALL DAY SUNDAYS





7-9 East Park Place, Norwich
www.parkplacenorwich.com
607-336-7275

ing a close-knit group of 12 golfers who are familiar with the program’s atmosphere.

“We have a lot of familiar faces,” Branham said. “I’m hoping the experienced players can help the new ones, the same way an assistant coach might do for me.”

Leading the way are Brevin Bennett and Matthew Brunick, both fixtures on the course. Branham also expects big strides from other returners.

“Michael Brunick, Gavin Burrell, Charlie Smith, and Jacob Lobdell return from last year, and I’m expecting them to have breakout seasons. I’m already seeing improvements from them,” he said.

The team hopes to build on its success by focusing on details.

“Team goals are to win our division again and repeat as Class B champions,” Branham said. “But most importantly, it’s about everyone learning to play better golf and having fun each time they compete. I tell the kids to try to keep the ball between themselves and the hole—stay in the middle of the fairway and follow the process.”

Small roster, Big experience for Norwich XC

By Morgan Golliver
The Evening Sun

NORWICH – The Norwich Purple Tornado cross country team returns to the course this fall with a small but seasoned group of runners. Head coach Shaun Horan begins the season with three boys and three girls on the roster but hopes to add more athletes once the school year begins.

As a P.E. teacher at the high school, Horan has the advantage of recruiting directly from within the building and even plans to visit the middle school to spark early interest in the sport. Though distance running is always a challenge to fill, Horan is confident in the hard-working group he already has.

“Nic Sutton returns to cross country and continues to be a strong runner, while Connor Marshall is entering his sec-

ond year after transitioning from track to help lead the upperclassmen,” Horan said. “On the girls’ side, freshman Malea Sutton joins the program, while senior Laci Zieno brings valuable experience. New to the team is Natalie Phillips, who moved into the district last year and ran track.”

Horan has been impressed with his athletes’ preparation over the summer and is optimistic about their potential.

“Cross country kids are used to working hard,” he said. “This group has had good training, they’re fit, faster, and well-experienced. We’re aiming for individual successes this year, with the ultimate goal of qualifying for states.”

Norwich will also welcome back its signature home meet. “Last year we couldn’t be on the school grounds because of construction, but this year the Tornado 5000 is back at the high school,” Horan said. “It’ll be great for the kids to have a home-course advantage and strong competition in their own backyard.”

The Tornado 5000 is set for Saturday, October 11 and will feature teams such as Chenango Forks, Lansing, Thomas A. Edison, Sidney, and BGAH, among others.

Greene Field Hockey: Elevating to the next level



The 2025 Greene Trojans field hockey team, coached by Matt Carlin, Julia Nuval, and Chrissy Conroe. (Submitted Photo)

By Morgan Golliver
The Evening Sun

GREENE – The Greene Trojans field hockey team takes the field under new leadership this season but with the same Trojan spirit. Matt Carlin steps into the varsity head coach role once held by his mother, who led the program from 2000 to 2015.

He'll be joined by assistant coaches and Greene alums Julia Nuval and Chrissy Conroe.

The Trojans finished second in the MAC last year and advanced to the Section IV Class A semifinals before falling 3-2 to Maine-Endwell. With Section IV home to some of the state's strongest programs, Carlin and his staff

are focused on getting their players motivated and confident.

"Our main goal for the team is to work hard, be passionate, play together, and have fun — because winning is fun," Carlin said. "Our theme this year is 'Elevate.' We want to take our program to the next level."

The Trojans return a solid

core, including senior Josie Dutcher, who paced the team with 20 goals last season and earned All-State honors.

"Offensively, Josie will look to pace our attack again," Carlin said. "Brooke Williams (senior) and Ahraya Whitt (junior) will be key in the midfield, while sophomore goalkeeper Braelyn Blakeslee has worked hard in

the offseason to sharpen her skills."

Carlin also expects younger players to step into larger roles.

"Rachel Anderson (junior), Irelyn DeHaan (sophomore), and Deirdre Colgan (sophomore) will be stepping into positions left open by graduation," he said. "They bring knowledge and strong offsea-

son work that will help us immediately."

Beyond their MAC slate, Greene has highlighted two non-league matchups on the schedule: Saratoga Springs (Sept. 13) and Rome Free Academy (Oct. 10), opportunities Carlin sees as important tests for his team.

Greene Golf: Making adjustments towards success

By Morgan Golliver
The Evening Sun

GREENE –The Greene golf team is gearing up for the 2025 season after back-to-back strong years, including a perfect season last fall. With most of the top six graduated, the Trojans are making early adjustments as matches begin even before the school year starts.

"We lost four of our top six," Greene golf coach Pete Flanagan said. "We have 12 kids this year—nine returners and three new—so it's fair game for anyone to step up into the starting lineup."

Among the returners, Flanagan will lean on senior Trent Drew, who qualified for individual sectionals last spring. Greene graduated two standouts in Lincoln Youngs and Parker Flanagan, both of whom competed at States in June, leaving new opportunities for others to step up.

The coach also has his eye on junior Carter Williamson

and freshman Cooper Flanagan, Parker's younger brother, as players to watch this season.

"Last year, we had kids bounce in and out of the top six, so this year really opens the door for opportunities," Flanagan said. "The kids are working hard to earn those spots."

With a younger roster, Flanagan said the program is focused on growth rather than setting lofty expectations.

"Our goal is to keep things realistic," he said. "Golf is such an individualized sport. The kids have to put in the work on their own for us to stay consistent as a team."

Every season brings uncertainty with league competition, as rosters are constantly changing.

"We won't really know where we stand until we get into matches," Flanagan said. "We do have kids who've been playing all



The 2025 Greene Trojans golf team, coached by Pete Flanagan. (Photo from Coach Flanagan)

summer, and they're ready to compete for those top six spots."

Greene's schedule features familiar league oppo-

nents—Oxford, Sidney, Bainbridge-Guilford, Deposit-Hancock, and Delhi—along with Unadilla Valley/GMU, in its second

season back as a program, and brand-new program Unatego.

The Trojans will play four home matches at the Genny

before school begins, giving them an early chance to establish their lineup and see where the season takes them.

Greene volleyball: Embrace new season with optimism and grit

By Morgan Golliver
The Evening Sun

GREENE – The Greene Trojans volleyball team enters the 2025 season under new leadership, as Megan Matts takes over the varsity program. Matts is eager to build on Greene's strong volleyball tradition while laying a solid foundation for both the JV and varsity teams.

"I was drawn to this program because of the strong

sense of community and pride in the school," Matts said. "Volleyball here has so much potential, and I am excited to help the girls grow not just as athletes but as people. What excites me most is building something meaningful together and watching their hard work turn into confidence."

Matts brings years of experience to the role, both as a player and a coach. She says each step in her journey has prepared her for this new challenge.

"Each experience has taught me about leadership, teaching, and connecting with athletes," she said. "Stepping into the varsity role feels like a natural next step, and I'm excited to put those lessons into action here."

This year's squad is led by seniors Lily Pecka and Marissa Kenyon, along with juniors Nali Basa, Molly Harris, Kayla Swift, and Ella Donnelly. Sophomores Camryn Kirchbaum, Aliveya Hannon, Madelyn LaFave,

and Gemma Phillips, as well as freshmen Libby Davidson and Kenzie Finnerty, are expected to make an impact as underclassmen contributors.

So far, Matts has been impressed with her team's effort and growth in practice.

"The girls have been working hard, showing up ready to learn, and improving quickly," she said. "We've focused on process goals—improving daily, building team chemistry, and becom-

ing more disciplined and confident. Of course, we want to compete and win, but we know the scoreboard will reflect our growth if we stay committed to those values."

With a mix of vocal leaders and players who lead by example, Matts is confident the Trojans will play with heart and resilience.

"My vision is to build a strong foundation of culture, accountability, and hard work," she said. "Wins matter, but what matters more

is that we compete with heart, improve each week, and establish an identity as a team that doesn't quit. My overall message has been: control what you can control—effort, attitude, mental toughness, and how you support your teammates. If we focus on those things, we'll not only improve on the court but also grow together as a team."

Greene Boys' Soccer: Team unity and possession play at the forefront

By Morgan Golliver
The Evening Sun

GREENE – The Greene Trojans boys' soccer team enters the 2025 season on the younger side but with a mindset of rebounding rather than rebuilding. Coaches Rick Tallman and Chris Rice know the program lost several talented seniors from last year's squad, including leading scorer and playmaker Kloden Rapp, but they are confident in the group stepping into larger roles.

Last season, Greene came close to a MAC title game berth but fell short after tough battles with Delhi, who eventually lost to Oxford in double overtime. This fall, Tallman hopes to see his team come together as a unit and play more of a possession style.

"Chris and I are very excited that our team is coming together and more unified," Tallman said. "We



The 2025 Greene Trojans boys' soccer team, coached by Rick Tallman and Chris Rice. (Photo by Morgan Golliver)

always emphasize that we are only as strong as the weakest link, and the little things equal the big things." Tallman also praised the team's summer bonding, something he said wasn't required but showed the players' commitment to each other.

The Trojans will be led by captains Jackson Roth,

a standout goalkeeper, and Seth Symons. Seniors Kenny Baucas, Alex Kehl, and Shane Rideout also return to bring valuable experience.

Other key contributors include Jackson Rice, Grant Leonard, Judd Dutcher, Gavin Strantz, Jacob Acevedo, Sam Suk, Paxson McCumiskey, Kade Mustin, Caleb Tennant, Laken Loveless, Levi Pritchard, Dillion Eichler, and Dawson Kimble—a mix of veterans, newcomers, and players gaining varsity minutes after modified experience.

Along with its regular MAC schedule, Greene will also take on several non-league opponents, including Edmeston, Southern Cayuga, Cincinnatus, Dryden, and Horseheads, giving the team a variety of challenges as it works to build momentum throughout the season.

Greene Girls Soccer: Strong numbers, good potential

By Morgan Golliver
The Evening Sun

GREENE – The Greene Trojans girls' soccer team is seeing a boost in roster numbers this season, a welcome development for the program. Coach Matt Butler, along with assistants Kathleen Cragle and Nick Specht, are encouraged by the growth, with 16 girls on varsity and 14 on the modified level—a challenge the program had struggled to overcome in previous years.

The Lady Trojans' main goal this season is consistency. Led by four returning seniors—Johanna Trepa, Brooke Relyea, Lyndsay Specht, and Makenzie Soto—the team is optimistic about competing at a high level in the MAC. Players have shown their commitment through hard work and preparation in the offseason.

"They are really nice girls

and a pleasure to work with," the coaches said. "They work hard, support each other, and we enjoy coaching them."

Beyond the seniors, Miah Cregle, Khloe Waltz, Melana Gregware, and second-leading scorer from last season Hailey Butler will help power the offense, with Lexi Cloyd at striker and Caitlin Walls and Melanie Specht covering sweeper and midfield roles. Johanna "Jo Jo" Trepa, Isabelle Stewart, Macie Dunlap, and Soto will anchor the center backs, while Clare Tompkins provides support where needed. Abby Roth remains a versatile asset across the field. Quinlin Cavanaugh will start in goal, defending the net for the Lady Trojans.

"A valuable team all-around," Butler noted.

After winning the Waterville Tournament, Greene opens its MAC sched-



The 2025 Greene Trojans girls' soccer team, coached by Matt Butler, Kathleen Cragle, and Nick Specht. Missing from photo is Quinlin Cavanaugh, Brooke Relyea, and Makenzie Soto. (Photo by Morgan Golliver)

ule on September 11 against a tough B-G team. The Trojans will also face non-league opponents Dryden, Sherburne-Earlville, and Norwich to gain additional experience and variety this season.



Greene girls' swimming: Rebuilding the program

By Morgan Golliver
The Evening Sun

GREENE – The Greene Trojans girls' swim team is back in the water this season under the direction of Coach Maureen Biviano, who brings a lot of passion and experi-

ence to the team.

I swam all through my middle and high school career in this same pool that I am coaching in so things really have come full circle for me," Biviano said. "I put a lot of hours and effort into this pool that I hope to see continue through the current swimmers and swimmers of the future."

Biviano has five girls on the team this year, including two new swimmers, all working hard on their skills.

"At this point, we are really just trying to build our swim program," Biviano said. "Our

goals at this point are to have personal bests in meets and work on growing our swim program."

Greene opens the 2025 swim season at home against Windsor on September 12 at 5 p.m.

Oxford Boys Soccer: “Reloading and defending the MAC title”

By Morgan Golliver
The Evening Sun

OXFORD – Coach Corey Endress and the Oxford Blackhawks boys soccer team are back with a mix of new and experienced players, ready to defend the MAC title. Oxford captured the 2024 championship with a 1-0 double-overtime win over Delhi—the first in program history.

After losing six seniors, Endress remains optimistic, returning offensive player of the year Paxton LaMonica, speedy Gordon Smith, and strong defender Liam Philippone.

“We had a super successful season last year and hope to compete again,” Endress said. “We are looking to be consistent—not in rebuild mode, but more reloading.”

Senior goalkeeper Kayden Renfrow, a fifth-year varsity

standout, returns along with Eddie Golden in his third year and Isaac Utter. Junior Adam Beckwith will serve as backup goalkeeper, while Dawson Viele adds versatility and leadership. Sophomore Gordon Smith leads a group that includes newcomers Haven Bourn, Owen Winter, and Braden Stanton. The freshman class is led by LaMonica and joined by Calvin Moore, Max Pecka, and Joey Locke.

“We’re excited for the season and have been working hard,” Endress said. “I’m especially excited for the new players, with the freshmen all fighting for playing time.”

Oxford kicks off the 2025 season in the annual Sherburne-Earlville tournament and will host its own tournament on September 19–20, featuring Sidney, Whitney Point, and Windsor.



The 2025 Oxford Blackhawks boys soccer team, coached by Corey Endress and Ken Moore. (Photo by Morgan Golliver)

Oxford Girls Soccer: Determined to finish the job

By Morgan Golliver
The Evening Sun

OXFORD – The Oxford Blackhawks girls soccer team returns in 2025 with renewed intensity and motivation under third-year head coach Rachel Seiler. Last fall, Oxford reached the MAC championship game but fell short against Unatego. This season, the Blackhawks are focused on making another run.

With nine returning upper-classmen and several players moving up from JV, Oxford has plenty of experience and depth. Leading the way are team captains: seniors Lily Marshman, Colette Kappauf, and junior Jayne Fleury.

Marshman, a varsity player since her sophomore year, is eager to lead in her final season. “I may not be the most athletic one on the team, but I always show good attitude and strongly support my team,” Marshman said. “We are a team with a lot of potential this year.”

Kappauf echoed that mind-



The 2025 Oxford Blackhawks girls’ soccer team, coached by Rachel Seiler and Megan Kappauf. (Photo by Morgan Golliver)

set. “We have good team chemistry and everyone has a purpose in the game, whether you’re on the field or cheering from the bench,” she said. “I hope we can create a positive environment for the younger players as well.”

Coach Seiler praised her captains and noted the group’s progress. “I’m really impressed with the team, who has started the season with intensity and has already grown a lot,” she said. “We lost key seniors last year, so

we had to move some players around, but it’s all coming together.”

Aside from the team captains, Oxford is looking forward to seeing what seniors Emmalee Reiss and Peyton Cummings have to show for

their final season as well as juniors Arielle Ross, Jenna Denz, Reesanne Tefft, Kayla Knapp, Deanna Ferreira and sisters Paige and Aubrey Rickard. Sophomores include Ahnalee Kappauf and Emily Williams with Freshmen

Jordan Palmer and Raine Rovente.

Oxford won its annual soccer tournament during the first weekend of school, defeating both Marathon and Afton/Harpursville in shutout victories, where Seiler was very proud of her team.

“Being our first game, the girls were a little inconsistent at the start,” Coach Rachel Seiler said after the win against Marathon. “As soon as the second half started, the girls demonstrated resilience and determination throughout the game. Notably, they emerged with renewed energy and intensity following the halftime whistle. I am exceedingly proud of their efforts and eagerly anticipate our team’s future prospects this season.”

Oxford officially opens MAC league play with a game at UV on September 10 and hosts Delhi on September 15.



Be ready for the game with Mueller Sports Care!

- Mouthguards
- Braces
- M-Tape (your school colors)
- No Glare Strips

This is a good time to stock up your First Aid Kits or get a new one



BARTLE'S PHARMACY INC.
"ON THE PARK" • 10 LAFAYETTE PARK, OXFORD
PHONE 843-2841

Mon.-Fri. 8 am to 8 pm; Sat. 8 am to 6 pm; Sun. 8 am to 1 pm
We Double Manufacturer's Coupons.
See Pharmacy For Details

bartlespharmacy.com
Ask our Pharmacist about Flu, Pneumonia and Shingles Shots available now!

Bartle's Pharmacy Health Mart Sale Circular
<http://pennysaveronline.com/promos/Bartles/ad.pdf> or at bartlespharmacy.com

OXFORD MOTORS LLC



QUALITY PRE-OWNED CARS & TRUCKS

At the light in Downtown Oxford • www.oxfordmotorsllc.com

Complete Mechanical Service

Complete Auto Collision Service

Please Remember To Shop Locally!

Oxford Volleyball: Building experience with plenty of potential

By Morgan Golliver
The Evening Sun

OXFORD – The Oxford Blackhawks volleyball team returns to the court this season with Coach Dean Curtis back for his second full year at the helm. With more than 40 years of experience, Curtis has been impressed by how quickly his players have learned and adjusted to his system.

After winning the MAC title in 2022 and making a sectional run in 2023, Oxford entered the 2024 Section IV Class D tournament as the No. 4 seed but fell to Newfield in the first round. Now, the Blackhawks are determined to bounce back and continue growing as a program with plenty of potential this season.

With only losing one senior last season, Oxford returns nearly its entire core. Seniors Margaret Rovente, Kassidy Miller, Olivia Oliver, Emerson LaMonica, and Abby Stone headline the



The 2025 Oxford Blackhawks JV and Varsity volleyball teams, coached by Dean Curtis, Kristin Seiler, and Margo Barrows. (Photo by Morgan Golliver)

roster, supported by a large junior class of Mia Battista, Brienne Charles, Miley Depew, Reagan Long, Gabby Palmer, and Abby Polaro. Sophomores Bridgette Foster and Sydney Ohl also return to the mix.

Many of the players have

stayed sharp through year-round club volleyball, helping refine their skills outside the regular season. Curtis said his goals include winning a sectional title and securing a berth to states, while also continuing to strengthen the program from the youth level up.

“The Oxford community deserves a lot of credit,” Curtis said. “They’ve really bought into the volleyball program, and that support has helped establish Oxford as a strong volleyball school.”

Curtis is also excited about this year’s schedule,

which features strong competition and several tournaments that will challenge his team. Oxford opens in the Hornet Pride Tournament on September 6 in Fayetteville-Manlius, then faces Nottingham on September 8 before beginning MAC

league play at home against Walton on September 10. The Blackhawks will also compete in the Johnson City Tournament on September 27 and the Perrone Tournament in Horseheads on October 4.

Oxford Golf: “Keeping their skills sharp”

By Morgan Golliver
The Evening Sun

OXFORD – The Oxford Blackhawks golf team is

back on the course this fall with a mix of proven returners and fresh faces. Leading the way is Bennett Paden, who reached the Section

IV medalist tournament for the second straight year last spring alongside senior Abby Denz. He’s joined by returners Degan Endress, Blake

Barrows, and Uri Tracy.

Head coach Lance Thorne says the focus this year is on the little details that add up to big results.

“They learned last year that the small things really make a big difference,” Thorne said. “Kids worked hard on chipping and putting, which can be boring or repetitive, but because of the work they put in, scores went down. So far this season we’ve emphasized the importance of work around the greens, and how that time spent will pay off.”

Half of this year’s roster is new to varsity golf, and Thorne expects several to step into starting roles.

“Our goal from day one was to get kids out playing so we can make solid decisions on our top six,” Thorne said. “I send out a preseason letter in July urging players to get

on the course as much as possible. Our returners already knew that, but I was pleasantly surprised to see our eighth and ninth graders put in the work too. That kind of commitment will be key to our success.”

After finishing 8-4 a year ago, Oxford enters the season with ambitious goals. “We always aim to win the MAC championship, but with so many inexperienced golfers, a top-two finish would be a great accomplishment,” Thorne said. “Individually, we have a strong chance for Bennett to return to the medalist tournament for a third straight year, and he has a realistic shot at qualifying for the state team. Degan Endress is also a kid to watch who could make that push.”

In addition to the returning core, Oxford welcomes

senior Dominic Howe, who made the switch from football to golf, and senior Edward Johnson, who Thorne expects to push for a top-six spot.

“Dom is an athletic kid who picked up the game quickly,” Thorne said. “Edward just needs a few more rounds under his belt, but he has the potential to help us right away.”

The Blackhawks will also see some new competition this fall with the addition of Unatego/Franklin to the MAC and a new venue for team sectionals, which move from Delhi to Marathon.

Oxford begins the season with four matches before the school year starts, including three on the road. Their home opener is set for Tuesday, September 2, against Unatego/Franklin.



The 2025 Oxford Blackhawks golf team, coached by Lance Thorne and Tim Paden. Front row left to right: Clayton Carlson, Kevin Northup, Justin Peck, Ethan Trombly, Uri Tracy, and Alex White. Back row left to right: Edward Johnson, Dom Howe, Bennett Paden, Degan Endress, Blake Barrows, and Fitz Denkers. (Photo by Katie Kappauf)



We Support
Fifty Shades of
Purrfect
Sanctuary

Annie's Thrift Shop

Something for
EVERYONE with
FAMILY FRIENDLY
PRICING

Best Wishes

to all athletes and teams
throughout Chenango County
for another great season!

Good job to each of you, as
well as your coaches, family,
friends and everyone who
cheers you on!

Like Us on Facebook

OPEN Monday – Saturday • 9 am – 5 pm
5311 NY-12 Norwich 2 miles south of Norwich
607-244-3771

Oxford/Greene Football: Two Communities, One Team



The newly combined Oxford-Greene football team, co-coached by James Wrench and Jason Lyon. (Photo by Morgan Golliver)

By Morgan Golliver
The Evening Sun

CHENANGO COUNTY – After discussions at the close of the 2024 season, Oxford and Greene officially decided to merge their football programs beginning in 2025 and moving forward.

“For the Greene community, it was about wanting to get back to 11-man football, and we knew Oxford tried that last year but wasn’t effective,” said Greene Athletic Director Rod Wankel. “This was the best move for both schools, and we’re looking to make it happen at all three levels of football in the best interests of growing the stu-

dent-athlete.”

Oxford and Greene already share programs in wrestling, track, and bowling, but this marks their first fall-season merger—one that could pave the way for additional combined teams in the future.

On the coaching side, both schools will be represented. James Wrench, who has long worked in the youth program, steps in as co-head varsity coach alongside Jason Lyon, who previously coached at Harpursville/Afton.

The newly formed Oxford-Greene football team opens with 32 players and will compete in 11-man Section IV, Class D West, widely regarded as one of the toughest divi-

sions in New York State high school football.

Both coaches have emphasized restoring the culture of the sport while teaching integrity and sportsmanship. They also plan to ensure that every player gets meaningful reps and opportunities to contribute.

Among the returners are two experienced quarterbacks: Greene’s Michael Slater, last season’s starter, and Oxford’s Jacob Gallo, a veteran under center. Both are seniors and adjusting to the new system, while two additional quarterbacks in the program could also see snaps this fall.

However, Gallo will find

more playing time as a running back and a linebacker this season, giving Troy Braman a go at reps at QB along with Caleb Holbert and Eli Eggleston.

More notable players include John Mulroy, Isaiah Sexton, and Drake Malmquist splitting time as tight end as well as helping on the defensive front. Urijah Dibble, Tallan Davis, Shawn Pixley, and Donte Wrench will be powerhouses on both the offensive and defensive line with names like Richard Hunter, Wyatt Dunlap, Jacob Eroshevich, and key receiver Keegan Waltz looking to make impacts on the offensive gain.

Gallo, Severin Lodge, Jasen Ledford, Sherman Ludolph, Aiden Ives, Lazarus Ludolph, David Dunckel, Aiden Carter, and Justin Arboit give plenty of options at the run game.

The merged squad is also embracing its new identity. While the program hasn’t finalized a permanent mascot, the players have adopted the nickname “Trohawk,” blending Greene’s Trojans and Oxford’s Blackhawks. The team has also rallied behind the slogan “One Goal,” symbolizing the unity of both schools.

“We want to make our communities proud and be competitive, and we believe we have a good chance to do

so,” the coaches said. “Oxford brings size that Greene lacked, and Greene brings senior leadership. Together, it’s a great combination—and it’ll be a special atmosphere having both towns in the stands.”

Oxford/Greene will play five home games this season, with three hosted at Greene and two at Oxford. Both schools will celebrate their own homecoming games, with Oxford’s falling on September 26 and October 3.

The team opens its season in a Week Zero matchup against Oneonta before hosting Harpursville/Afton on September 12 at 7 p.m. at Greene’s George G. Raymond Turf Field.



Good Luck To All Area Teams!

PROUD TO BE AN OXFORD BLACKHAWK FAN

We look forward to serving you before or after the games. Call ahead or order online and we'll have it ready to go for you.

Roma

PIZZERIA & RESTAURANT

607-843-6555
2 Main St., Oxford
Open 7 Days A Week

Order Online at
www.toasttab.com/roma-pizza
www.romapizzeriaoxford.com

*We know the **DEDICATION** and **HARD WORK** it takes to **ACHIEVE GREATNESS!***

*Just as our furry friends teach us about loyalty and determination, our student athletes inspire us with their **COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE.***

Faithful Friends Pet Crematory, Inc.

PO Box 404, 1977 NYS Highway 23, Morris, NY 13808
607-263-2363 ■ Fax 607-263-5392
Email: nanjohnston@faithfulfriendsofmorris.com ■ www.faithfulfriendsofmorris.com



When the chill is in the air... you know what that means. Kids are back in school, fall sports have begun, and the start of another heating season.



Call today to schedule your cleaning for optimal performance this heating season.

We offer: B20 Heating Oil, Diesel, Gas and Propane



Thermo Pride
Furnaces and
TRIO
CAST IRON BOILERS

Oil and Gas Mobile Home Furnaces

Air Conditioning Air Handlers & Boilers

REESE-MARSHALL

We make warm friends and keep you cool.
since 1942

6254 County Road 32, Norwich, N.Y. 13815
PHONE: (607) 334-3633 • Nights, Sundays & Holidays (607) 334-7970
www.reesemarshall.com • email: service@reesemarshall.com



| Bainbridge-Guilford Varsity Football | | | |
|---|----------------|------------|------------------------------------|
| DATE | OPPONENTS | START TIME | LOCATION |
| Fri., Sept 5 | Trumansburg | 7:00 p.m. | Sidney HS Multi-purpose Field |
| Fri., Sept 12 | Whitney Point | 7:00 p.m. | B-G Track & Field Complex* |
| Fri., Sept 19 | Newark Valley | 7:00 p.m. | B-G Track & Field Complex* |
| Fri., Sept 26 | @ Hancock | 7:00 p.m. | Hancock Football Field |
| Fri., Oct 3 | @ Tioga | 7:00 p.m. | Haggerty Field/Track |
| Fri., Oct 10 | Delhi | 7:00 p.m. | B-G Track & Field Complex* |
| Sat., Oct 18 | @ Harpursville | 1:30 p.m. | Harpursville Alumni Football Stad. |
| Fri., Oct 24 | Sidney | 7:00 p.m. | B-G Track & Field Complex* |
| Sat., Nov 1 | @ Walton | 1:30 p.m. | Jim Hoover Field |
| *Subject to change= in process of new turf field* | | | |

| Oxford - Greene Varsity Football | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|------------|------------------------------|
| DATE | OPPONENTS | START TIME | LOCATION |
| Fri., Sept 5 | Oneonta | 7:00 p.m. | George G. Raymond Turf Field |
| Fri., Sept 12 | Harpursville | 7:00 p.m. | George G. Raymond Turf Field |
| Fri., Sept 19 | @ Sidney | 7:00 p.m. | Sidney HS Multipurpose Field |
| Fri., Sept 26 | SVEC | 7:00 p.m. | Oxford: Blackhawks Stadium |
| Fri., Oct 3 | Walton | 7:00 p.m. | Oxford: Blackhawks Stadium |
| Fri., Oct 10 | @ Newark Valley | 7:00 p.m. | Newark Valley HS |
| Fri., Oct 17 | Groton | 7:00 p.m. | George G. Raymond Turf Field |
| Fri., Oct 24 | @ Tioga | 7:00 p.m. | Haggerty Field/Track |
| Fri., Oct 31 | @ Trumansburg | 7:00 p.m. | Stadium Field |

| Norwich Varsity Football | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|------------|--------------------------|
| DATE | OPPONENTS | START TIME | LOCATION |
| Fri., Sept 5 | Guilderland | 7:00 p.m. | NHS Stadium |
| Fri., Sept 12 | @ Coxsackie-Athens | 6:00 p.m. | Stadium Field |
| Fri., Sept 19 | @ Waverly | 7:00 p.m. | Veteran's Memorial Stad. |
| Fri., Sept 26 | Ithaca | 7:00 p.m. | NHS Stadium |
| Fri., Oct 3 | Owego Apalachin | 7:00 p.m. | NHS Stadium |
| Fri., Oct 10 | Johnson City | 7:00 p.m. | NHS Stadium |
| Fri., Oct 17 | @ Oneonta | 7:00 p.m. | OHS |
| Fri., Oct 24 | M-E | 7:00 p.m. | NHS Stadium |
| Sat., Nov 1 | @ Sus Valley | 1:30 p.m. | Sabers Stadium |

| Sherburne-Earlville Varsity Football | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|------------|------------------------------|
| DATE | OPPONENTS | START TIME | LOCATION |
| Sat., Sept 6 | @ Westomo/Oriskany | 1:00 p.m. | Oriskany: Bernie Block Field |
| Thurs., Sept 11 | Canastota | 7:30 p.m. | HS Stadium Field |
| Fri., Sept 19 | JVille/Dewitt | 7:00 p.m. | HS Stadium Field |
| Fri., Sept 26 | @ Mexico | 6:00 p.m. | Mexico HS Stadium Field |
| Fri., Oct 3 | Weedsport | 7:00 p.m. | HS Stadium Field |
| Fri., Oct 10 | Phoenix | 7:00 p.m. | HS Stadium Field |
| Sat., Oct 18 | @ Oswego | 12:00 p.m. | Joe Wilber Turf |
| Thurs., Oct 23 | @ Jordan-E | 7:00 p.m. | JEHS Stadium |

Hometown Sales - Service - Collision



175 E. Main St. Norwich
Across from Chenango County Fairgrounds

HOURS: Monday to Friday 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM, Saturday 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

607-334-3273 • matthewsfordofnorwich.com