

# ATHLETICS INSIDER

August 2012

## WEST ALLIS NATHAN HALE HIGH SCHOOL



Nathan Hale and combined teams have eight new head coaches heading into the 2012-13 school year.

Boys' basketball, girls' basketball, cheerleading, football, pom poms, boys' soccer, girls' swimming and girls' volleyball all have new leaders, with a recent vacancy in the boys' track and field program which has yet to be filled.

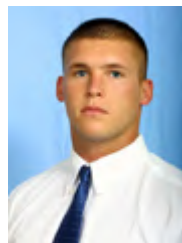
Leading the boys' basketball squad is John Palesse. Coach Palesse is a long-time district resident with a significant basketball background. He was one of the most recognized basketball officials in Wisconsin, officiating at both the high school and collegiate levels. Palesse officiated at the WIAA state tournament six different times. He also spent seven years leading teams in the Junior Huskies program, helping to develop the youth teams in the district. He was involved in the formation of the West Allis Wolves youth baseball organization.

Head girls' basketball coach George Sotiros was announced as head coach in April. He has significant youth coaching experience, leading girls' teams for several years in the Junior Huskies program. He is significantly invested in the community, having served on the school board, as president of the Hale booster club, and having been involved with various youth organizations throughout the community. He

### New Coaches Dot Hale Landscape

has also been involved in coaching youth boys and has been in leadership roles in organizations statewide. Sotiros will be assisted by Bill Barbeau on the varsity level, Chris Sheff and T.J. Ustruck on the JV level and Rob Navarette and Dru Schneider on the freshman level.

Danielle Schoenwetter has been named Cheerleading coach. She is a teacher in the district, instructing French at West Milwaukee Intermediate. She has significant cheer coaching experience, serving as head coach at Island Coast High School in Cape Coral, Fla., for three years. She also coached a JV squad and Pop Warner team in Florida and assisted with the West Bend West cheer squad.



Ehret

Brandon Ehret was named head football coach in January, and he is a physical education instructor at Nathan Hale. He was an assistant coach on the football and boys' basketball teams in previous seasons. His coaching staff includes: Jeremy Gemig, Kyle Koch, Dan Irwin, Lonnie Heller, Dan Dederich, Guy Powell, Mike Bach, Tim Green, Kelly Goggins, Jesse Blunt, George Cwiklowski, Ryan Lindberg, John Arena and Tom Werner.

Leading the Pom Pons squad is Ashley Johnston. She has led

the Hale Pom squad since May and will be taking them to competition shortly. She has used her previous head coaching experience at Green Bay Preble to help her guide Hale Poms. She also a certified WACPC dance judge, has taught studio dance classes and has more than 20 years of dance experience.

Neil Dombrowski returns to Nathan Hale as the boys' soccer head coach. He was a four-year letterwinner at Hale, graduating in 2001. He led the team to state appearances in 1998 and 1999. He used his Hale experience to lead him to a collegiate career at UW-Milwaukee, where he was an all-region and all-conference selection. He also played professionally in the United Soccer League first division. His coaching experience includes professional camps and as part of the Parkland Soccer Club. His assistants will remain the same as last sea-

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Dombrowski as a pro player.

## Coaches Named for Season (con't)

son: Brent Behnke, David Manske and Mark Clementi.

Kristen Chesek now leads the combined girls' swimming team. A competitive swimmer at Milton High School, she also competed at UW-Whitewater in her post high school career. Her swimming experience includes three years as a aquatics director in Milton, directing all pool operations and managing all swim activities. She also was an assistant swim coach at Milton High School for two seasons and head coach for one year. In her lone year as head coach, she led Milton to the 2010 Division 2 state championship. She also coached two individual state

champions and several other state medalists. She will be assisted by Heidi Nelson. Sandy Sikitch will continue as diving coach.

Leng Sayaovong was named head girls' volleyball coach last winter. He comes to Hale having served as the junior varsity coach at West Bend East. He also has significant club coaching experience with West Bend Power. His assistant coaches are Cheng Chang and Keng Sayaovong.

Still needing to be filled for the 2012-13 season is the head coach for boys' track and field.

## Poms Set for Hale Showcase

Under the direction of first-year head coach Ashley Johnston, the Nathan Hale Poms team will be hosting its fourth annual showcase on Tuesday, August 14 at the Nathan Hale Gym.

The team will be performing all of its routines including open, short, kick, hip hop, solos, duets and trios.

It will be hosting the showcase to prepare for its big summer-time competition, the Badgerette Midwest Showcase in Schaumburg, Ill., on Aug. 16-18.

## Rob Miller to Provide Leadership Seminar

Rob Miller of Proactive Coaching will return to West Allis Nathan Hale, this time providing a leadership seminar for team coaches and team leaders on Thursday, August 16.

Thanks to the generosity of the booster club, Miller will be making his third appearance at Nathan Hale, previously providing instruction and information to parents, coaches and student athletes.

This time, Miller is being brought to campus to provide direction to the program's leaders. Coaches and selected student-athletes will benefit from Miller's expertise in athletics leadership as he shares his knowledge.

This goals of this half-day seminar are:

- Transform captains into effective, dynamic leaders
- Clarify the role of the captain
- Establish clear behavioral standards for the team
- Establish team values - core covenants
- Develop communication between captains, coaches and team



**Rob Miller**

- Be proactive with potential problems

Rob Miller holds a master of science in sports administration from Michigan State University. He was a member of the Spring Arbor College men's basketball team, where he served as team captain, earning a BA in secondary education.

Miller has also served as Director of Athletic Facilities at Spring Arbor College. He was commissioner of the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic conference, executive director of the National Christian College Athletic Association, commissioner of the Sun Conference and Director of Champions of Character with the NAIA.

## Spring and Summer Student-Athletes Garner Accolades

Dozens of student-athletes were honored by the GMC, coaches associations or media outlets for their play or their academic success along with their sport participation. In all 34 student-athletes were mentioned for their performance during their seasons.

**Patrick Heal** was honored in two sports, being named in baseball and boys' golf.

**Rachel Seefelt** was honored as the GMC Player-of-the-Year in softball, as well as being named to the Suburban Now all-region team along with **Sarah Mueller**.

**Nick Sotiros** was named to the Suburban Now all-regional baseball team along with being named a second-team all-state performer by the coaches' association. **Dan Sotiros** was also a member of the Suburban Now all-regional baseball team

### Baseball

Alex Elenteny, All-GMC Honorable Mention, GMC Senior Scholar-Athlete; Marcel Mundt, All-GMC Honorable Mention; Patrick Heal, All-GMC Honorable Mention, GMC Senior Scholar Athlete; Brian Kimpel, All-GMC Honorable Mention; Dan Sotiros, Second-Team All-Greater Metro, GMC Senior Scholar-Athlete, Suburban Now First-Team All-Region; Nick Sotiros, First-Team All-Greater Metro, Second-Team All-State, Suburban Now First-Team All-Region; Sam Versnik, GMC Senior Scholar-Athlete.

### Boys' Golf

Patrick Heal, GMC Senior Scholar-Athlete; Joey Oulette GMC Senior Scholar-Athlete.

### Girls' Soccer

Rachel Chojnacki, GMC Senior Scholar-Athlete; Marissa Egeland, All-GMC Honorable Mention; Hannah King, All-GMC Honorable Mention, GMC Senior Scholar-Athlete; Jennifer Stawicki, All-GMC Honorable Mention, GMC Senior Scholar-Athlete; Gabrielle Ulik, First-Team All-Greater Metro, GMC Senior Scholar-Athlete; Amber Riley, All-GMC Honorable Mention; Ashley Weiss, All-GMC Honorable Mention; Amanda Westfahl, GMC Senior Scholar-Athlete; Virginia Wightman, GMC Senior Scholar-Athlete.

### Softball

Sarah Mueller, Second-Team All-Greater Metro, Suburban Now First-Team All-Region; Jenny Schmidt, Second-Team All-Greater Metro; Rachel Seefeldt, First-Team All-Greater Metro, GMC Player-of-the-Year, Suburban Now First-Team All-Region, Suburban Now Region Player-of-the-Year; Sarah Sheard, GMC Senior Scholar-Athlete.

### Boys' Tennis

Curt Farner, GMC Senior Scholar-Athlete; James Kocen, GMC Senior Scholar-Athlete; Jamie Rypel, GMC Senior Scholar-Athlete; Noah Radjenovic, GMC Senior Scholar-Athlete.

### Boys' Track & Field

Jacob Ebben, GMC Senior Scholar-Athlete; Peter Keen, First-Team All-Greater Metro; Sam Olszewski, Third-Team All-Greater Metro.

### Girls' Track & Field

Haley Drehmel, GMC Senior Scholar-Athlete; Elizabeth Elliot, Third-Team All-Greater Metro; Sarah Janusch, GMC Senior Scholar-Athlete; Stephanie Streicher, GMC Senior Scholar-Athlete; Molly Sykes, GMC Senior Scholar-Athlete; Jessica Trapp, GMC Senior Scholar-Athlete.

## Facilities to Undergo Changes

In preparation for the Fall season, the soccer practice area has begun the transformation to a soccer complex. Some areas have been cleared to add additional practice, but the main practice venue has been fenced in as preparations continue to transform it to a competitive venue. This year, JV and Freshman teams will play their games on this field.

The West Allis Athletic Complex main stadium will be seeing a transformation in the coming months. The school district received a major grant from the National Football League and Green Bay Packers to install synthetic turf on the current field.

The district will front the additional money for the improvements, which

will be used along with the NFL grant. The project will begin in June 2013.

The district will begin an aggressive fund-raising campaign to offset the fronted costs in an effort to fund the project. Play on the new surface will begin in the 2013-14 school year.

## Spring/Summer Teams Succeed



Alex Elenteny

The West Allis Nathan Hale baseball team came within one game of the state tournament, joining the girls' volleyball team as the program that advanced the farthest in a WIAA tournament.

Proving that the Greater Metro Conference is perhaps the toughest baseball conference in the state, Hale finished 9-11 in league play, but was one of the final two teams

left fighting for a spot in the state tournament. After wins over St. Thomas Moore, New Berlin West and South Milwaukee, Hale found itself in the sectional final against conference-mate Oak Creek.

Oak Creek, the top seed, prevailed in the sectional final game, hosted at the West Allis Athletic Complex, to earn its trip to state.

Despite the loss, it was a great ride in the WIAA tournament and the team should be proud of its accomplishments.

The softball team also advanced far in the state tournament, advancing to the regional semifinal contest. Hale defeated Waukesha West and Arrowhead before falling to state tournament participant Hamilton in the sectional semifinal.

## Concussion Law Implemented

The state legislature passed new concussion laws that affect all student-athletes and their parents. School districts are now required to provide athletes and their parents information on

concussions. Students will not be allowed to participate until they and their parents have signed the form acknowledging that they have read information on concussions.

## August/September Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5	6 SOC — First Practice	7 FB — First Practice TNS — First Practice SWIM — First Practice	8	9	10	11
12	13 XC — First Practice GVB — First Practice	14 TNS at Deleva-Darien SOC vs Univ. School POMS — Showcase	15 TNS at South Milw.	16 Leadership Seminar TNS at South Milw. SOC at Lake Co. Luth. SOC vs Brk. East (Fr.) POMS at MW Show.	17 FB at Whitefish Bay (Fr. Scrimmage) POMS at MW Show.	18 FB — Hale Scrimmage SOC at Greenfield POMS at MW Show.
19	20 BVB — First Practice	21 TNS at NB West SOC at Brk. Central	22 SOC at Pius XI TNS vs Milw. King GVB — Hale Quad	23 FB at Badger (Fr.) FB vs Badger (JV) SOC vs M. Falls (Fr.) GVB — Hale Quad SWIM vs Wauk. West	24 SOC at Greendale FB at Badger	25 XC at West Bend
26	27 SOC vs Milw. Lutheran	28 TNS at Tosa East SOC vs Marquette GVB at Brk. Central	29 BVB at WAC Quad	30 TNS vs Hamilton FB vs Brk. Cent. (Fr.) FB at Brk. Cent. (JV) SWIM vs DSHA	31 SOC at NB Eisenhower XC — Hale Invit. FB vs Brk. Central	SEPT. 1 SOC at NB Eisenhower BVB at Kettle Mor. GVB at Muskego
2	3	4 First Day of School	5 SOC at WA Central VB vs DSHA	6 FB vs Marquette (Fr.) FB at Marquette (Fr.) SOC at Cudahy SWIM vs Brk. Central	7 TNS vs Milw. King (JV) FB vs Marquette	8 VB — Hale Invit. SOC vs Racine Horlick BVB at Racine Park GVB at South Milw.

KEY: XC — Cross Country, FB — Football, POMS, Pom Pons, SOC — Boys' Soccer, TNS — Girls' Tennis, BVB — Boys' Volleyball, GVB — Girls Volleyball

Schedules subject to change.