

# ATHLETICS INSIDER



Winter 2013

## WEST ALLIS NATHAN HALE HIGH SCHOOL

### Wrestlers Win Conference for Second Straight Year

The varsity wrestlers of West Allis Nathan Hale once again claimed the Greater Metro Conference dual meet crown, this year going through the season without a defeat.

The 6-0 GMC record started with a dominating 52-24 victory over Brookfield Central. **Jordan Planitiko, Dallas Wanta, Ryan Vankerkvoorde, Luke Ellis** and **Josh Petrovich** each picked up wins by pin.

Hale improved to 2-0 with another dominating win, 68-4 over Marquette. Hale scored 10 pins in the dual with **Wanta, Vankerkvoorde** and **John Baltz** earning the six point wins in the first three matches of the meet.

In a rematch of last seasons' co-conference champions, Nathan Hale picked up a hard-earned victory over West Allis Central, 42-23. **Jake Gruichich, Taylor Tomczak** and **Andrew Buelow** had victories by pin in the win. Hale won nine of the matches in the contest.

Brookfield East offered little resistance to Hale as the Huskies improved to 4-0 on the year with a 58-15 win. **Gruichich, Tomczak, Logan Mocco** and **Buelow** each won by pin in the final four matches to stretch the margin of victory.

A victory over Sussex Hamilton set up a winner-take-all showdown for the regular-season dual match crown between Hale at Menomonee Falls. Menomonee

Falls opened up a 9-0 lead after two matches before Hale went on its first of two four-match win streaks. **Petrovich** and **Maurice Beck** each claimed wins before pins by **Gruichich** and **Tomczak** regained Hale the lead, 18-9. **Buelow, Wanta, Vankerkvoorde** and **Baltz** later won four matches in a row to help set up the Huskies 40-25 win and perfect dual match season.

After the dual match portion of the season concluded, wrestlers turned their collective attention to the post-season, which began with the Greater Metro Conference meet. Hale finished third of six, placing behind Menomonee Falls and West Allis Central.

Hale claimed a pair individual titles at the conference meet with **Wanta** winning the 220 pound-class and **Vankerkvoorde** taking the top weight class. **Tomczak** was second the 160-pound classification, as was **Buelow** in the 182-pound tournament.

While the wrestling season is in its

post-season, there is still plenty of action left. The varsity wrestlers take part in the WIAA regional meet at West Allis Central on Saturday, Feb. 9. The winning team will advance to the team sectionals on Tuesday, Feb. 12. The top four individuals per weight class will advance to the WIAA sectional meet on Saturday, Feb. 16. Those who finish in the top two at sectionals will move on to the state meet, which is Feb. 21-23 in Madison. The team state meet is March 1-2 in Madison.



Luke Ellis

## Boys' Basketball Breaks GMC Losing Streak, Picks Up More GMC Wins

One of the many challenges facing first-year head coach John Palesse was how to end a four-year long Greater Metro Conference losing streak. The current class of seniors had never seen a Hale boys' basketball team win in conference play in their time in high school.

That streak ended very early in the season as the Huskies held off a late charge from Brookfield East on Dec. 14 to win 59-54 in front of a raucous home crowd. Senior **Derrick Waller**, who is ranked in the top 15 in area scoring, scored 19 points in the win.

Hale opened up a huge lead early thanks to a 20-11 run in the first half, but Brookfield East battled back and took a second-half lead. Waller's scoring and a huge defensive effort down the stretch helped end the longevity of losses.

While the Huskies may still have more conference losses than wins, Hale has picked up its share of victories over the course of the season, with its most recent win coming on Tuesday, Feb. 5 with a win over Wauwatosa East, 57-55, avenging a 37-point loss to the Red Raiders earlier in the season.

Junior **Noel Crabtree** was the sharpshooter of the game, scoring 20 points, six of which came on three point baskets. Hale's defense shut down the Red Raiders in the fourth quarter, limiting Wauwatosa East to just

seven points in the period to cling to the win. Entering the game, Tosa East was sitting third in the GMC standings.

In all, Hale has picked up three GMC wins this season, including a 69-53 victory over West Allis Central on January 29. Crabtree scored a game high 27 points in the win over the Huskies.

Out of conference, the team has been very successful, winning seven of eight times in non-league play to sit at 10-9 overall so far this season. The year started with a three-game win streak, with victories over Cudahy, Oak Creek and Shorewood.

Additionally, the Huskies won their home tournament for the second-consecutive year, defeating Waukesha North and Kettle

Moraine in the process. Hale has not lost more than two games in-a-row this season.

With three regular-season contests remaining, the varsity squad is set to receive a decent seed in the upcoming WIAA tournament. The final contest is against Menomonee Falls and is senior night. It will be the final home game for seniors **Arthur Arena, Steve Acker, Travis Balcerzak, Peter Heal, Jacob Geiger, Cole Lampe, Nick Sotiros**, and **Waller**.

On the JV side, the team has played well through a tough GMC schedule. The squad is 9-10 with three games left. The freshman team started the year with an eight-game win streak and is currently 12-4 on the season.



Derrick Waller



Nick Sotiros

## Boys' Volleyball Seeks New Coach

Dan Hardwick has resigned as the head coach for Boys' Volleyball, citing a personal decision, and will not return for the 2013 season. A search is underway for a replacement. A new coach should

be in place in the coming days. The boys' volleyball team is coming off a fifth-place finish in the Greater Metro Conference, a tournament win at UW-Oshkosh and a win in the WAA Tournament.

## Mueller, Seefeldt Lead Girls' Basketball Team as Hale Continues to Make Positive Strides

The results of the girls' basketball team may not be indicative of how hard and dedicated this group of girls has been during the year.

Despite the 4-14 record, the team has been in a lot of close contests. The rim, as it seems, hasn't been kind to the girls all year. Good shots and hustle have been the norm for the team all season.

Since a win in game two of the season over St. Thomas More, the Huskies have been challenged by the likes of the familiar conference foes and been in scraps with out-of-conference opponents.

Three conference victories have come, with the wins being against Wauwatosa East, which came on a buzzer-beater by **Sarah Mueller**, and a pair against West Allis Central.

The story that is really to be told

is how far the team has come throughout the season.

First-year head coach George Sotiros aims to put in a defensive scheme that is more pressing in nature than in previous years. The implementation of this defense has been slow, but as of late has proven frustrating to opposing offenses when it's been run well.

That being said, scoring in bunches has been a challenge for the Hale hoopsters. The team has good execution in its offensive sets but has been challenged in finishing the shot.

**Mueller** is the team's leading scorer at 8.3 points per game. Behind her is **Rachel Seefeldt** at 6.0 points per game.

Recently, the team has seen improved scoring from other members of the team. **Delaney Mielke** led the team in scoring with 11 points in a loss at Wau-

watosa East. **Jennifer Jender** was a top scorer in the win over West Allis Central.

The squad has five-regular season games remaining, finishing the year at home on Thursday, Feb. 21 against Brookfield Central. It will be the final home game for **Seefeldt, Courtney Westhouse, Jender, Kristen Folger, Katie Liban** and **Rachel Milani**.

The other levels have seen their share of success. The JV is 9-9 and the freshman team is 12-4 with five games remaining.



## Bowlers Place Fifth In Division

The boys' bowling team placed fifth of six teams in their division over the course of the season. **Austin Cutting** was the highest ranked bowler on the team, converting 85 percent of all frames by either strike or spare.

## Gymnasts Season Winds Down

The gymnastics team is nearing the end of its season. Its final home meet is Wed., Feb. 13 with a triangular meet against Homestead and Nicolet. The gymnasts also have the conference and WIAA meets remaining.

## Lustig Wins Diving Crown

The swim team competed at the conference meet on Saturday, Feb. 2. Senior diver **Sam Lustig** was the conference champion in 1m springboard. He heads to sectionals with the focus on qualifying for state.

## Cross Country Runners Named Academic All-State

The Hale Varsity Boys Cross Country team was named an Academic All-State team by the Wisconsin Cross Country Coaches Association. Members of the team are **Sam Gagliano, Robert Effinger, Milan Stojanovic, Daniel Nelson, Tony Lozano,**

**Tim Ebben** and **Bailey Keune**. In addition, Gagliano, Effinger and Nelson received individual Academic All-State recognition. Congratulations to our cross country runners for another deserved post-season award.

## Alex Schwab Signs NLI With Southeast Missouri State

Senior linebacker **Alex Schwab** signed a National Letter of Intent to play football in the 2013 season at Southeast Missouri State.

Schwab received a full scholarship to play and attend school at the NCAA Division I FCS school.

An all-conference and all-region selection, Schwab was the Defensive MVP for the Huskies, who went 4-5 last season.

"He's a hard worker who dedicated himself to the program and our team was better for it," head coach Brandon Ehret said. "Southeast Missouri State is getting a quality football player and a good person in Alex Schwab."



## February, March, April Events

### Boys' Basketball

Feb. 8	at Sussex Hamilton	F-JV-V
Feb. 12	Menomonee Falls	F-JV-V
Feb. 14	at Brookfield Central	F-JV-V
Feb. 22	WIAA Regional	V
Feb. 23	WIAA Regional	V
Feb. 28	WIAA Sectional Semifinal	V
Mar. 2	WIAA Sectional Final	V
Mar. 8	WIAA State Semifinal	V
Mar. 9	WIAA State Championship	V

### Girls' Basketball

Feb. 8	Sussex Hamilton	F-JV-V
Feb. 12	at Menomonee Falls	F-JV-V
Feb. 18	Westosha Central	F-JV-V
Feb. 21	Brookfield Central	F-JV-V
Mar. 1	WIAA Regional	V
Mar. 2	WIAA Regional	V
Mar. 7	WIAA Sectional Semifinal	V
Mar. 9	WIAA Sectional Final	V
Mar. 15	WIAA State Semifinal	V
Mar. 16	WIAA State Championship	V

### Boys' Bowling

Feb. 9	Conference Tournament	V
Feb. 16	Scholarship Tournament	V

### Girls' Bowling

Feb. 9	Conference Tournament	V
Feb. 16	Scholarship Tournament	V

### Wrestling

Feb. 9	WIAA Regional (at WAC)	V
Feb. 12	WIAA Team Sect.	V
Feb. 16	WIAA Regional	V
Feb. 21-23	WIAA Indiv. State	V
Mar. 1-2	WIAA Team State	V

### Boys' Golf

Apr. 10	at New Berlin West	JV-V
Apr. 11	at Pewaukee	V
Apr. 15	at GMC Mini Meet	V
Apr. 17	at GMC Mini Meet	JV
Apr. 19	at Menomonee Falls	JV
Apr. 22	at GMC Mini Meet	V
Apr. 24	at Brookfield Central	JV-V
Apr. 29	at GMC Mini Meet	V

### Girls' Soccer

Mar. 27	at Sussex Hamilton	JV2
Apr. 8	at Greendale	JV2
Apr. 9	at Brookfield Central	JV-V
Apr. 10	at Wauwatosa East	JV2
Apr. 11	at Racine Horlick	JV-V
Apr. 13	Greenfield	JV-V
Apr. 15	at New Berlin Eisenhower	JV2
Apr. 16	DSHA	JV-V
Apr. 17	Brookfield East	JV2
Apr. 18	at Waukesha North	JV-V
Apr. 19	South Milwaukee	JV-V
Apr. 23	at West Allis Central	JV-V
Apr. 24	Brookfield Central	JV2
Apr. 25	St. Thomas More	JV-V
Apr. 26	at Appleton West Invite	V
Apr. 26	at New Berlin West Invite	JV
Apr. 27	at Appleton West Invite	V
Apr. 27	at New Berlin West Invite	JV
Apr. 30	Brookfield East	JV-V

### Softball

Mar. 26	at Brookfield Central	JV-V
Mar. 27	Waukesha North	JV2-JV-V
Apr. 9	DSHA	JV-V
Apr. 10	at Brookfield Central	JV2
Apr. 11	at West Allis Central	JV-V
Apr. 12	at Franklin	JV-V
Apr. 12	DSHA	JV2
Apr. 15	Brookfield East	JV-V
Apr. 16	at Wauwatosa East	JV-V
Apr. 17	at West Allis Central	JV2
Apr. 18	Sussex Hamilton	JV-V
Apr. 19	at Cudahy (DH)	V
Apr. 19	Brookfield East	JV2
Apr. 20	at Racine Park	V
Apr. 22	at Menomonee Falls	JV-V
Apr. 23	Brookfield Central	JV-V
Apr. 24	Hamilton	JV2
Apr. 25	at DSHA	JV-V
Apr. 26	at Menomonee Falls	JV2
Apr. 29	Oak Creek	JV-V
Apr. 30	West Allis Central	JV-V

### Boys' Tennis

Apr. 12	at Oak Creek	V
Apr. 13	at Oak Creek	V
Apr. 16	Wauwatosa East	JV-V
Apr. 17	at Racine Park	JV-V
Apr. 18	at Sussex Hamilton	JV-V
Apr. 20	at New Berlin West	V
Apr. 24	Wauwatosa West	JV-V
Apr. 25	at Brookfield Central	JV-V
Apr. 27	at Delevan Darien	V
Apr. 30	Marquette	JV-V

### Boys' Track and Field

Mar. 13	Pewaukee (at WAC)	JV-V
Mar. 15	at West Allis Central	V
Mar. 18	at West Allis Central	JV
Mar. 22	at West Allis Central	V
Mar. 23	at GMC Indoor Meet	JV
Mar. 25	WAC/Greenfield (at WAC)	JV-V
Mar. 26	at GMC Indoor Meet	V
Apr. 9	at Brookfield East	V
Apr. 13	Mondo Invitational	V
Apr. 15	Hale JV Invitational	JV
Apr. 20	at Wisconsin Lutheran	V
Apr. 25	at Kettle Moraine	JV
Apr. 27	at Waukesha North	V
Apr. 29	at Brookfield East	JV

### Girls' Track and Field

Mar. 13	Pewaukee (at WAC)	JV-V
Mar. 15	at West Allis Central	V
Mar. 18	at West Allis Central	JV
Mar. 22	at West Allis Central	V
Mar. 23	at GMC Indoor Meet	JV
Mar. 25	WAC/Greenfield (at WAC)	JV-V
Mar. 27	at GMC Indoor Meet	V
Apr. 10	at Brookfield East	V
Apr. 13	Mondo Invitational	V
Apr. 15	Hale JV Invitational	JV
Apr. 20	at Wisconsin Lutheran	V
Apr. 25	at Kettle Moraine	JV
Apr. 26	at Wisconsin Lutheran	V