

# The Ninth Annual



# NIGHT OF CHAMPIONS 2022



Tuesday, June 28, 2022

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# Welcome to ESPN Ithaca's **Night of Champions Awards**

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Tonight's event is intended to recognize a wide array of Scholar-Athletes and Head Coaches for the tremendous accomplishments they made during the 2021-22 school year

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# Special Thanks

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***Thank you to all the Athletic Directors for their support and assistance  
in the nomination and selection process for this event.***

**Holly Carling**  
Candor Indians

**Scott Wandell**  
Newark Valley Cardinals

**Todd Kwiatkowski**  
Dryden Purple Lions

**Jeff Augustine**  
Newfield Trojans

**Mark Triolo**  
Groton Indians

**Greg Gavich**  
Odessa-Montour Indians

**Samantha Little**  
Ithaca Little Red

**Caitlin Wasielewski**  
Southern Cayuga Chiefs

**Katie Crandall**  
Lansing Bobcats

**Beth Ebel-Ruocco**  
Spencer-Van Etten Panthers

**Todd James**  
Marathon Olympians

**Robin McColley**  
Trumansburg Blue Raiders

**Todd Mulvaney**  
Moravia Blue Devils

**Todd Salls**  
Union Springs Wolves

**Rod Weeden**  
Watkins Glen Senecas

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# Fall Sports Awards Winners

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Boys Cross-Country Coach: Neil Clifford, Trumansburg

Boys Cross-Country Athlete: Jonny Sherwood, Newark Valley

Girls Cross-Country Coach: Bill Mullarney, Southern Cayuga

Girls Cross-Country Athlete: Julia Gloss, Southern Cayuga

Field Hockey Coach: Jessica Doehring, Newark Valley

Field Hockey Athlete: Phaedra Day, Newark Valley

Football Coach: Mike Chaffee, Spencer-Van Etten/Candor

Football Athlete: Mikey Wandell, Newark Valley

Boys Soccer Coach: Benji Parkes, Lansing

Boys Soccer Athlete: Braeden Morrison, Marathon

Girls Soccer Coach: Eric Stickel, Lansing

Girls Soccer Athlete: Delta Barber, Marathon

Girls Swimming Coach: Nichole Chaffee, Watkins Glen

Girls Swimming Athlete: Alice Clapp, Ithaca

Volleyball Coach: Nicole Lamie, Lansing

Volleyball Athlete: Shelby Swartz, Candor

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# Winter Sports Awards Winners

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Boys Basketball Coach: Mike Nembhard, Newfield

Boys Basketball Athlete: Jalen Hardison, Newfield

Girls Basketball Coach: Greg Schweiger, Newark Valley

Girls Basketball Athlete: Hannah Ferguson, Newark Valley

Boys Bowling Coach: Michael Siegel, Candor

Boys Bowling Athlete: Oscar Giblin, Ithaca

Girls Bowling Coach: Marianne Viscardi, Union Springs

Girls Bowling Athlete: Colleen Jump, Union Springs

Cheerleading Coach: Katie Brindisi, Newark Valley

Cheerleading Athlete: Hannah Hayes, Newark Valley

Boys Hockey Coach: Paul Zarach, Ithaca

Boys Hockey Athlete: Eli Simons, Ithaca

Girls Hockey Coach: Holly Norsen, Ithaca

Girls Hockey Athlete: Liala Cryer, Ithaca

Boys Indoor Track & Field Coach: Karen Weaver, Dryden

Boys Indoor Track & Field Athlete: Silas Richardson, Ithaca

Girls Indoor Track & Field Coach: Rosie Morse, Trumansburg

Girls Indoor Track & Field Athlete: Neil Clifford, Trumansburg

Boys Swimming Coach: Diane Hicks-Hughes, Lansing

Boys Swimming Athlete: Zachary Hwang, Lansing

Wrestling Coach: Eric Parker, Ithaca

Wrestling Athlete: George Oroudjov, Ithaca



# Spring Sports Awards Winners

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Baseball Coach: Brett Hotchkiss, Lansing

Baseball Athlete: Mikey Wandell, Newark Valley

Boys Golf Coach: John Fazzary, Watkins Glen

Boys Golf Athlete: Jacob Banks, Candor

Girls Golf Coach: Shelly Matheny and Kelly Baughan, Lansing

Girls Golf Athlete: Hailey Baughan, Lansing

Boys Lacrosse Coach: Clayton Fickensher , Ithaca

Boys Lacrosse Athlete: Luke VanDeMark, Ithaca

Girls Lacrosse Coach: Kaitlyn Hoffay, Ithaca

Girls Lacrosse Athlete: Shea Baker, Ithaca

Boys Outdoor Track & Field Coaches: Julian Munoz & Dewitt Grove, Trumansburg

Boys Outdoor Track & Field Athlete: Aidan Gallagher, Lansing

Girls Outdoor Track & Field Coach: Mark Gaffney, Union Springs

Girls Outdoor Track & Field Athlete: Isabel Morse, Trumansburg

Softball Coach: Jim Bona, Union Springs

Softball Athlete: Jenna Plue, Ithaca

Boys Tennis Coach: Shane Taylor, Ithaca

Boys Tennis Athlete: David Riccio, Ithaca

Girls Tennis Coach: Matt Prokosch, Ithaca

Girls Tennis Athlete: Elise Park, Ithaca

Girls Flag Football Coach: Jodi Maddren, Ithaca

Girls Flag Football Athlete: Fatou Fofana, Ithaca

Unified Athlete Coach: Stephanie Valletta, Ithaca

Unified Athlete: Mattison Roberts, Ithaca

# Coach of the Year in a Girls Sport



## Greg Schweiger, Newark Valley

The IAC has had many powerhouse Girls' Basketball teams over the years. One team that we will be talking about for a long time was this year's Newark Valley Girls Basketball team, head coached by Greg Schweiger. The State Title runner-up team provided five IAC All-Stars, with four making All-State teams. The dominant performance all-season led them to a 24-2 record while staying at the top of the Class C State Rankings for over

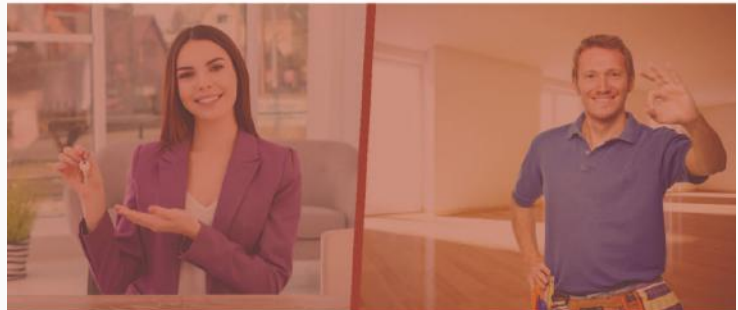
two month's time. From the players to the families, to the fans, Schweiger has been a name the Cardinals have been able to trust for some time now. Throughout the season, this team persevered, with Schweiger leading his group through it all. It is our greatest honor to recognize ESPN Ithaca's Coach of the Year in a Girls Sport, Greg Schweiger.



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# Coach of the Year in a Boys Sport

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## Mike Nembhard, Newfield

This basketball season, it was all Newfield Boys Basketball. From becoming Section 4 Champions all the way to winning the Class C State Title, none of it would be possible without head coach Mike Nembhard. In his first year with the Trojans, Nembhard led his squad to a 23-4 record during their campaign to states as well. In the classroom, the team stayed on top of their studies, earning the



NYSPHSAA Team Scholar Award. Nembhard's head coaching proved to be quintessential, as throughout the season the Newfield faithful continued to trust his instincts for his team. His leadership abilities were top-tier, as he would continually rally his players through close games. Through many years of success in the Newfield Boys Basketball, it would be this group, with a first-year head coach that would get the job done. It is a new age of basketball in Newfield with Mike Nembhard at the helm. With a young group of talented athletes and their rise to the top, it was a season that will be remembered forever. We are thrilled to recognize and salute ESPN Ithaca's Coach of the Year in a Boys Sport, Mike Nembhard.



# Female Scholar-Athlete of the Year

## Brooke Tillotson, Marathon

As expected from a team captain of three different sports, Brooke was instrumental in guiding the Marathon soccer, basketball, and softball teams to tremendous success over the last few seasons. This year on the soccer field, she made All-State Honors while making the Section 4 Semi-Final game. On the softball field, Brooke was also an IAC All-Star, leading her squad to the Section IV Championship game. On the basketball court, Brooke shined. During the season, she eclipsed the All-Time Scoring Record for Olympians Girls Basketball with a total of 1,845 points. Her season was followed by an abundance of accolades to cap off an incredible season. After averaging roughly 24 points, 8 rebounds, and 5 rebounds this season, she was awarded the IAC Small School North League MVP, Section IV Class D Co-player of the year, and was a Section IV First Team All-Star. Brooke has committed to Cortland State to continue her playing career with the Red Dragons. It is our honor, to recognize Marathon's Brooke Tillotson - ESPN Ithaca's Female Scholar-Athlete of the Year.



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# Male Scholar-Athlete of the Year

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## Mikey Wandell, Newark Valley

From starting quarterback to starting pitcher, Senior Mikey Wandell has been a core piece of Newark Valley's football and baseball teams over the last few years. On the diamond, he was sensational for the Cardinals. He tallied a .564 batting average while pitching lights out on the mound. Wandell had a .73 ERA that produced 96 strikeouts throughout 38.1 innings pitched. On the gridiron,

Wandell proved to be a team player, guiding the Cardinals to a Section 4 Championship appearance while becoming an All-State Honorable Mention. In the air he passed for 1,156 yards while tossing in 12 touchdowns. On the ground, Wandell ran for 686 yards and 9 touchdowns. That's not all. On the defensive half, the senior accumulated 78 tackles, 4 sacks, and 1 interception. All the hard work for the senior standout has paid off, as he will be joining the Cortland State Baseball program in the fall. It is our honor, to recognize Newark Valley's Mikey Wandell - ESPN Ithaca's Male Scholar-Athlete of the Year.

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# Female Senior Leadership Award



## Liala Cryer, Ithaca

Liala Cryer is a two-sport athlete who exudes leadership qualities in athletics. Cryer was the captain of both the Ithaca girl's hockey team and the girl's tennis team, the latter of which won the Section IV Championship. She was 11-5 in doubles competition for the Little Red and was a Section III All-Star in her final hockey season. Cryer also used her experience to help foster the next generation of Ithaca athletes, coaching and mentoring young players in the

Tompkins County Girls Hockey Association. Cryer received the Coach's Award in hockey for her display of leadership on the ice. Outside of athletics, Cryer is a member of the National Honor Society, Scholar-Athlete Council, and Little Red Leadership Institute. She also had a GPA of 4.47 in her senior year. We congratulate Ithaca's Liala Cryer, our Female Senior Leadership Award Winner.



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# Male Senior Leadership Award

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## Cameron Holland, Watkins Glen

Cameron Holland was an exceptional three-sport athlete for the Senecas. He was the captain and quarterback of the Watkins Glen/Odessa-Montour football team, a co-captain for the IAC Champion Watkins Glen basketball team, and a co-captain for the Watkins Glen/Odessa-Montour football team. Holland was one to watch across all sports as well. He was All-State Honorable Mention in football to start the year, passing for over 1,000 yards and 8 touchdowns. In the winter, he was a first team IAC All-Star as a sharpshooter for the basketball team, scoring over 10 points per game. In the fall, Holland was an IAC All-Star second baseman with a .450 batting average for the baseball team. Holland also excels academically, as his 99.11 GPA placed him third in his senior class. We congratulate Watkins Glen's Cameron Holland, our Male Senior Leadership Award Winner.



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# FUELING EXCELLENCE

*As of spring 2022 ESPN Ithaca has awarded OVER \$36,000 to local booster clubs  
in recognition for each Student-Athlete of the week.*

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Abby Ensign	Marathon	Hannah Ferguson	Newark Valley
Adam Pastore	Watkins Glen	Hannah Nolan	Odessa-Montour
Aidan Gallagher	Lansing	Isabel Morse	Trumansburg (2)
Aidan Kalousdian	Dryden	Isabella Harmon	Dryden
Alice Clapp	Ithaca	Jalen Hardison	Newfield. (2)
Ally Deeley	Dryden	Jeter Neff	Groton
Angelia Scholz	Union Springs	Jonny Sherwood	Newark Valley (2)
Ava Chouman	Ithaca	Jose Reyes	Union Springs
Bella Tracy	Union Springs	Josh Rowland	Dryden
Ben Dizer	Candor	Julia Gloss	Southern Cayuga (2)
Brandon Vanacore	Southern Cayuga	Justin Yearwood	Ithaca
Brooke Tillotson	Marathon (2)	Kate Baylor	Moravia
Brooke Wilcox	Candor	Keyonna Garrison	Odessa-Montour
Bryant DePaull	Dryden	Lauren Gulini	Dryden
Bryce Grove	Trumansburg	Max Flesher	Newark Valley
Caelob Georgia	Lansing	Mike Wandell	Newark Valley
Carlea Davis	Dryden	Moss Dengler	Ithaca
Carson Crandall	Lansing (2)	Nick Thomas	Candor
Cha Gardner	Newark Valley	Nico Potenza	Trumansburg
Charli Bennett	Southern Cayuga	Nora Burroughs	Southern Cayuga
Colleen Jump	Union Springs	Rhiana Lawrence	Spencer-Van Etten
Connor Boothroyd	Dryden	Rosie Morse	Trumansburg
Conor Holland	Marathon	Sam Bell	Lansing
Danny Parker	Ithaca	Shelby Swartz	Candor
David Riccio	Ithaca	Siena Goebel	Ithaca
Devin Beach	Spencer-Van Etten	Silas Richardson	Ithaca
Dustin Walawender	Union Springs	Tacoma Lee	Moravia
Ehler Somya Soe	Ithaca	Taylor Benjamin	Newark Valley (2)
Ellie Brozon	Southern Cayuga	Tori Brewster	Odessa-Montour (2)
Elliot Walter	Spencer-Van Etten	Will Zimmer	Candor
Elodie Fey	Ithaca	Xavier Scott	Dryden
Faye Mooney	Watkins Glen (2)	Zach Taylor	Newfield (2)
George Oroudjov	Ithaca	Zack Sperger	Lansing
Gracie Gardner	Newark Valley	Zola Vesci	Ithaca
Hailee Smith	Union Springs		

# 2020-2021 Award Winners

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**Coach of the Year**

**Nichole Chaffee**  
Watkins Glen Senecas  
Swimming



**Scholar-Athlete of the Year**

**Braelyn Hornick**  
Candor Indians



**Scholar-Athlete of the Year**

**Jacob Humble**  
Newfield Trojans



**Coach of the Year**

**Scott Voorhees**  
Trumansburg Blue Raiders  
Baseball

## 2019-2020 Award Winners

Scholar-Athletes: Diego Castellot, Marathon • Gwen Gisler, Lansing  
Coaches: Chip Stewart, Marathon • Pam Quinlan, Candor

## 2018-2019 Award Winners

Scholar-Athletes: Hannah Morse, Watkins Glen • Dylan Houseknecht, Odessa-Montour  
Coaches: Alicia Learn, Watkins Glen • Benji Parkes, Lansing

## 2017-2018 Award Winners

Scholar-Athletes: Nick Parkes, Lansing • Mackenzie Grube, Spencer-Van Etten  
Coaches: Chris Bubble, Newfield • BJ Bliss, Ithaca

## 2016-2017 Award Winners

Scholar-Athletes: Patrick Hazlitt, Watkins Glen • Nicole Gates, Candor  
Coaches: Alicia Learn, Watkins Glen • Brian Sherwood, Newark Valley

## 2015-2016 Award Winners

Scholar-Athletes: Emily Kopp, Southern Cayuga • Jared Lyon, Moravia  
Coaches: Brian Trippany, Newark Valley • Todd Mulvaney, Moravia

## 2014-2015 Award Winners

Scholar-Athletes: Lauren Trumble, Ithaca • Vincent Darpino, Newark Valley  
Coaches: Eric Stickel, Lansing • Jim Hodges, Union Springs

## 2013-2014 Award Winners

Scholar-Athletes: Eryn Griep, Marathon • Matt Gill, Watkins Glen  
Coaches: Lee Stuttle, Dryden • Adam Heck, Lansing

# Our Requirements & Selection Process

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Nominations for Outstanding Scholar-Athletes and Outstanding Coaches come from the Athletic Directors of our 15 area high schools. Winners are selected based on a voting process by the Athletic Directors with the final decision made by the ESPN Ithaca Selection Committee.

## Male and Female Scholar-Athletes of the Year

Each award winner has been recognized as a top varsity performer in at least two sports, while maintaining a minimum grade average of 85 with no disciplinary issues. The scholar-athlete must be a high school senior, with strong academic and civic contributions.

## Outstanding Scholar-Athletes

Each award winner has been recognized as a top varsity performer in their respective sport, while maintaining a minimum grade average of 80, with no disciplinary issues.

## Outstanding Coaches and Coach of the Year

Each award winner has been recognized as a top varsity head coach for their sport for the entire season and is in good standing with their school and Section IV Athletics



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A special thank you to our sponsors for supporting our vision to celebrate high school athletic excellence, most importantly, thank you to the families, coaches, teachers, and administrators that have fostered our scholar-athletes success.

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