

# Sweet Home lacrosse brings back most of lineup

by PATRICK J. NAGY  
Reporter

The Sweet Home boys lacrosse team doesn't have the big guns in Section VI Class B like Amherst or Hamburg but they do return a ton of players with varsity experience.

Thirteen players are back, including tri-captains Craig Stallard and Steve Phillips (defense) and Taylor Heald (midfield).

Panthers coach John Faller said the midfield is a team strength. Also returning in the midfield are juniors Matt Zon, Nick Cavaliere and Eric Galdys and senior Matt Cuddihy.

Zon was second on the team with 64 ground balls. He also won 56 percent of faceoffs. Galdys won 52 percent of faceoffs.

Senior Jim Cardinale, a returning Class B first-team all-star, returns as a long stick midfielder. Cardinale led the team with 93 ground balls.

"He gets a lot of ground balls and can move and make things happen," said Faller. "He puts pressure on the midfielders. Plus he has the speed to take the ball down and set up the offense."

At attack, Faller returns juniors Chris Covel and Donnie Daniels. Covel was third on the team in scoring last year with 25 goals and eight assists. Daniels leads



Sweet Home's Donnie Daniels, left, fends off West Seneca West's Eric Gershacket during the Panthers' 6-4 win last Friday at Sweet Home. Daniels leads Sweet Home with eight points through four games. Sweet Home is 3-1.

Photo by Joe Eberle

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the Panthers in scoring through four games this spring with three goals and five assists.

The team was scheduled to re-

turn leading scorer Colin Cardinale (35 goals, 20 assists, Class B second-team all-star) but the junior tore his left anterior cruciate

ligament during a scrimmage. Senior Eric Danheiser has stepped in for Colin Cardinale and supplied offense, Faller said.

On defense, Faller brings back, in addition to Stallard and Phillips, senior Nate James.

Sophomore goalie Pat McMahon, cousin of former Sweet Home standout netminder Jon McMahon, gets the start in net. McMahon replaces All-Western New York second-team netminder Chris Lyon.

"He's got good reaction time from being the quarterback on the (JV) football team so he knows how to push the ball up the field," said Faller. "He's been pretty consistent so far this year."

Sweet Home lost its opener to Frontier, 4-2, but has rolled off wins over St. Joe's, 8-6, West Seneca West, 6-4, and Lancaster, 10-4, since then.

The only game the Panthers have trailed this season was Frontier (2-1 at halftime).

McMahon made nine saves

against Lancaster, 11 versus West Seneca West and 13 against St. Joe's.

Sweet Home played at Clarence on Tuesday but the result was unavailable before The Bee went to press.

"We're still kind of young," said Faller. "We have to see if we can come together and make up the scoring from Colin Cardinale, whether it is from other people scoring or playing better defense."

Sweet Home 2008 Schedule	
4-23 at East .....	5 p.m.
4-25 Nichols.....	5 p.m.
4-29 Hamburg.....	5 p.m.
5-1 at Lake Shore .....	5 p.m.
5-3 Victor .....	4 p.m.
5-5 Amherst.....	5 p.m.
5-7 Grand Island.....	5 p.m.
5-9 at South.....	5 p.m.
5-12 Iroquois.....	5 p.m.
5-14 at W.S. East.....	4:15 p.m.
5-16 Lockport.....	5 p.m.
5-20 Orchard Park.....	5 p.m.

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## Sports brief

The Amherst Women's Senior Golf League will tee off between 8:30 and 8:45 a.m. on Friday, May 22, at Oakwood Golf Course, 3575 Tonawanda Creek Road. The league is currently accepting new members.

Interested golfers should contact Jackie at 835-5712 or Pat at 635-0556.

# Returning East girls lax coach committed to success

by PATRICK J. NAGY  
Reporter

Returning Williamsville East coach Jennifer Librock wants some stability brought back to the girls lacrosse program she started in 1993.

"It's great to be back," said Librock, who coached the East varsity team in 1993, 1994 and 2003. "I was disappointed with how much turnover there had been (in the coaching staff) over the years. It's not good for any program."

Librock, returning varsity coach Erin Coyne, along with JV coach Natalia Brenton and modified coach Mai Nyguen have worked well together this season. Librock said the varsity team has already been working with the modified team.

"Our philosophy is we're not separate teams. We're a program," said Librock.

While Librock said it's too early to tell where team strengths lie, she's hoping to have a well-rounded varsity team with depth in a lot of different areas.

Leading the team on the field will be co-captains Sarah and Ellen DiPofi as well as Aleece Burgio, Emily Dehlinger, and Courtney Vitello. Every girl except junior Sarah DiPofi is a senior.

Sarah DiPofi (13 goals, 12 assists) returns in the midfield while Ellen DiPofi should play as a defensive wing or third man. Burgio (six goals, four assists) leads the defense. Dehlinger (16 goals, 16 assists) will see time in the midfield and at attack wing. Vitello, a returning ECIC Division III first-team all-star, will start in net with junior Ashley Sliz expected to get some playing time.

Sarah DiPofi and Burgio are returning ECIC III second teamers. Dehlinger is an honorable mention.

Also back is senior attacker and returning ECIC III second-team all-star Brittini Hargis (33 goals, 19 assists).

"I have a bunch of great leaders on the field," said Librock. "If somebody gets down, someone else picks them up. (Last week) in practice we were dropping a lot of passes. We were off. Without the coaching staff's initiation, the DiPofis and Burgio pulled the group together and said 'we need to focus. We're better than this.' You don't find that kind of stuff very often."

Sophomore JV call-ups Shayna and Rayna Durden and Haley Schilling, freshman modified call-up Courtney Haas and junior Claire Foglia, should see time at attack.

Seniors Erika Flaschner (five goals, four assists last year) and Jennifer Berger, juniors Lauren LaPoint, Alina Swierski (four goals, four assists), Kelly Spiotta,

and Jessica Taylor and sophomore Morgan Marzo will see time at defense.

Freshman modified call-up Chelsea Greenway could play at defense but her status for this season is up the air after breaking one of her wrists.

Sophomore Nell Meosky will probably play in the midfield. Senior exchange student Natia Chikobava could play an attack or defensive position.

Librock sees improvement every day from her team.

"I see us continuing to grow and develop throughout the season," said Librock. "I see us becoming stronger if we continue with the work ethic that we have."

East opened its season with a

16-7 loss on Monday at East Aurora. The Lady Flames hosted Springville on Tuesday but the result was unavailable before The Bee went to press.

East 2008 Schedule	
4-21 South.....	4:30 p.m.
4-24 at Springville.....	4:30 p.m.
4-25 Eden.....	4:30 p.m.
4-28 at North.....	4:30 p.m.
4-29 at Amherst .....	7 p.m.
5-1 Iroquois.....	4:30 p.m.
5-3 Grand Island.....	2 p.m.
5-6 East Aurora.....	4:30 p.m.
5-7 at W.S. East.....	4:45 p.m.
5-8 at South.....	4:30 p.m.
5-13 at Eden.....	5 p.m.
5-15 Amherst.....	4:30 p.m.
5-17 at Iroquois.....	10 a.m.

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## Offseason

(Continued from page 18)

ley Ferenczy (midfield/attack) and sophomore Krista Pomeroy (goalie).

Dadebo led South with 11 goals last year. Gunning said Dadebo will be taking a lot of draws, is extremely fast and has good stick skills. Dadebo is a returning ECIC III honorable mention all-star.

Ferenczy, also a returning division honorable mention all-star, was third on the team with eight goals.

Pomeroy had a save percentage around 70 last year but Gunning said it has "gone up a ton" in the Epic Center league.

"She's gone to a bunch of camps for goalies and has really gotten better," said Gunning. "Her clears are much better as has her stick and hand work. She really has been doing a phenomenal job."

Other players to watch out for are junior JV call-ups, Sarah Grant (defense) and Brittany Zoworak (midfield/attack).

South won two games last year

and lost to Iroquois in the Section VI Class B prequarterfinals. Gunning said improving the team record overall and faring well against Williamsville East are some of the team goals.

South opened its season at Eden on Tuesday but the result was unavailable before The Bee went to press. The Lady Billies host Amherst at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday.

South 2008 Schedule	
4-21 at East .....	4:30 p.m.
4-23 Springville .....	4:30 p.m.
4-24 Sweet Home .....	4:30 p.m.
4-25 East Aurora.....	4:45 p.m.
4-29 at Iroquois.....	4:45 p.m.
5-3 Eden.....	10 a.m.
5-5 North.....	4:30 p.m.
5-6 at Amherst .....	4:30 p.m.
5-8 East.....	4:30 p.m.
5-10 at Springville.....	10 a.m.
5-12 at Lockport .....	5 p.m.
5-13 at East Aurora.....	4 p.m.
5-15 Iroquois .....	4:30 p.m.

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## HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS CALENDAR

### Wednesday, April 9

**Baseball:** East at W.S. East, 5 p.m.; Orchard Park at North, 4:30 p.m.; Hamburg at South, 5 p.m.

**Boys tennis:** Amherst at Cheektowaga, 4:30 p.m.

**Boys lacrosse:** South at Lancaster, 5 p.m.

**Girls lacrosse:** Sweet Home at Lake Shore (J.T. Waugh Elementary), 4:30 p.m.; Frontier at North, 5 p.m.

**Softball:** North at Orchard Park, 5 p.m.; South at Hamburg, 4:30 p.m.; Sacred Heart vs. St. Mary's of Lancaster (Amherst Pepsi Center), 4:15 p.m.

**Boys tennis:** Hamburg at Sweet Home, 4:30 p.m.; East at Iroquois, 4 p.m.; W.S. West at North, 4:45 p.m.; Depew at South, 4:30 p.m.

**Boys track:** Holland at Amherst, 4:30 p.m.

**Girls track:** Holland at Amherst, 4:30 p.m.

### Thursday, April 10

**Baseball:** Ken. West at Amherst, 4:30 p.m.; Orchard Park at Frontier, 5 p.m.

**Boys lacrosse:** Bishop Timon-St. Jude at Amherst, 7:30 p.m. (Kings Hwy.); North at Hamburg, 5 p.m.

**Girls lacrosse:** Amherst at South, 4:30 p.m.; East at East Aurora, 5 p.m.; Sacred Heart at Mt. Mercy, 4 p.m.

**Softball:** Frontier at North, 4:30 p.m.

**Boys tennis:** Sweet Home at Lancaster, 4:30 p.m.; North at Clarence, 4:30 p.m.

### Friday, April 11

**Baseball:** Amherst at Tonawanda, 4:30 p.m.

**Boys tennis:** Starpoint at Amherst, 4:30 p.m.; Lake Shore at Sweet Home, 4:30 p.m.

### Saturday, April 12

**Baseball:** Amherst at Grand Island, 11 a.m.

**Boys outdoor track:** Amherst at JFK Early Bird Invitational, 10 a.m.

**Girls outdoor track:** Amherst at JFK Early Bird Invitational, 10 a.m.