

Spring Athletes

Track & Field

What began as an epic quest ended on an historic note as the SGS Lady Dragons track and field team swept all three relays at the WIAA 2B State Track and Field Championships May 23-25 at EWU's Roos Field in Cheney.

The last of the troika, the 4x400 relay, was the fifth consecutive win for the SGS girls in that event, a never before accomplished feat in State Meet history. The team of Maggie McLaughlin, Grace Harrill, Jora Gleason and Reagan Ivey ran away from the field winning in 4:09.32, a margin of victory by almost 3 seconds. Leading up to the 4x4 win, the 4x100 team (Taylor Sande, Grace Harrill, Reagan Ivey and Fair Niven) grabbed the gold in a school record 50.74. Then they quickly followed up with a win in the 4x200 relay (Jora Gleason, Grace Harrill, Reagan Ivey and anchor Fair Niven) in another school record time of 1:47.4.

The boys team performed at a championship level as well with Dan Rigsby winning the 400 meters in a solid 51.08. The combined medal count for boys and girls was 25 – Fair Niven 3rd in the 100, Reagan Ivey 4th in the 400, Maggie McLaughlin 6th in the 800, Jora Gleason a pair of 8th place finishes in the 1600 and 3200, and Taylor Sande an 8th place medal in the triple jump. Boys medalists were Marcus Manson 4th in the 100, and Oscar Angell 6th in the 300 hurdles. The boys' 4x400 combined Chaitanya Nalluri, Marcus Manson, Oscar Angell and Dan Rigsby to finish a hard fought 3rd place.

The girl's 47 team points were good enough for a 4th place trophy, the 5th team podium placing in the last 5 years. The boys finished a creditable 12th. With the exception of Senior Jora Gleason, all 2019 team members will return for the 2020 run at another record-breaking year.

– Rick Riley, Track & Field Coach



4x400 times 5 years = State High School Record!



Reagan Ivey anchors the 4x400 win



Grace Harrill hands off to Fair Niven for 4x200 victory



Dan Rigsby leads the pack to 400 meter win



Tennis Senior celebration

Saint George's Tennis had a transition year as new head coaches, Meghan Kilgore and Matt Melka, took the helm. Even with new coaches, the student athletes hit the ground running! The team was 8-1-1, with the only league loss coming against Chewelah, a former 1A school. Saint George's saw success in Districts, as three of the four championship matches had a Dragon competing for a District Title. Boys singles player, Daniel Zhao, and girls doubles players, Grace Generous and Maria Madero, were District Champions! Nik Chaudhry and Ethan Wu finished 2nd; and Aidan Reichel and Tariq Ravasia were 4th in boys doubles.

The Dragons competed with a lot of heart at Regionals against the bigger local 1A schools. In the end, our girls doubles team of Grace Generous and Maria Madero earned a berth to State.

At State, the girls faced a first-round matchup with top-seeded Chimacum, and then a hard-fought battle against Naches Valley. Grace and Maria showed great resilience and heart in their two losing matches, proving they definitely belonged with the rest of their State competitors.

Overall, it was a successful season with the Dragons reaching State. We are thankful for the seniors who helped us learn the ropes this season. These students set the tone for the program – Daniel Cao (District Competitor), Nick Chaudhry (2nd in Districts), Brett Coles (District Competitor), Adam Hasdorff (District Competitor), Daniel Zhao (1st in Districts), Marceline Tang (District Competitor), and Grace Generous (1st in Districts, 4th in Regionals, State Competitor).

– Matt Melka, Tennis Coach



Maria Madero, Coach Matt Melka & Grace Generous at State

On the Web
See more photos of spring athletes at www.sgs.org/magazine

Golf

Late winter weather kept the golf team inside until after Spring Break. Fortunately, I had a great group of students, including the largest boys' team in program history. All 11 boys gave me their best efforts all season long. The work paid off as the boys' team won their first District golf title in school history, defeating three-time defending District champion Colfax by just 2 points! Michael McCarthy was 3rd overall, shooting an even par 72 on the second day. Patrick McCarthy finished 11th, taking the last individual spot to the State tournament. Hunter Johnson, Winston Poppel, and Caleb Flegel all finished in the top 18 to help solidify our first golf title.

Outnumbered by many of the other schools at State, the McCarthy boys played smart, kept the ball in play and finished in 4th place as a team, the first SGS golf trophy since 2015! Returning to State, Michael shot 82 and 78 to finish 9th overall. Patrick, a freshman making his first State appearance, shot 87 on day 1 and made a huge putt on the 18th hole on day 2 for an 86 to lock up our 4th place trophy. A repeat at District and even a State title is within our reach next year.

We had one of our smallest girls' teams, but they worked every day to improve. Alli Dixon made huge strides, lowering her stroke average by 15 shots over the course of the short season. Liv Senske needed a tweak to her swing to shoot 97 for the first time in a tournament at Districts, qualifying 10th for State. There she played through an ankle injury, missing the cut by only four shots.

Maddy Christiansen took a huge step this year, dropping her scores consistently into the 70s and dominating district play by an average of 15 shots. She took 1st place in each tournament she competed in and was the Sub-District champion. In five years on the SGS golf team, she placed at State three times and was part of teams that finished 2nd, 3rd, and 6th in the state of Washington. A fierce competitor and team-focused leader, I am so proud of Maddy's hard work this season. I will miss her like crazy but am excited for her to continue golfing at Notre Dame in the fall.

— Brad Kirsch, Golf Coach

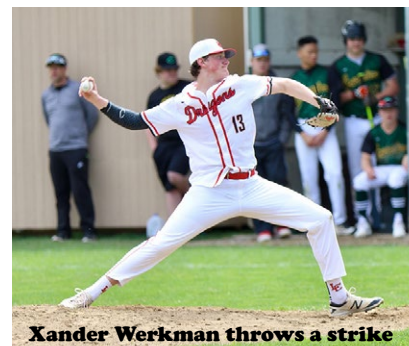
Baseball

The thing I appreciate most about baseball is the way that it builds community and the joy that it brings those involved with the game at Saint George's. Dragon baseball was marked by a palpable joy, whether it was during practice, collecting change for Joya (formerly the Spokane Guild School) or battling our North division foes in a home double header. Coming in as a first-year head coach, one of my top goals was to make sure that win, lose or draw our players and parents enjoyed the experience. I think we accomplished that goal.

Finishing the season with a 14-5 record and a first-round District loss to Colfax might have some thinking we did not have the season we hoped for. What needs to be remembered is what a tough and competitive group of schools we play. In any given year we could make a legitimate argument for 4, 5 or even 6 teams to advance to Regionals. This year we were on the outside looking in.

In reviewing our season, there were some great baseball plays and clutch performances. Chris McIndoe blasting a walk-off double to beat Northwest Christian. Xander Werkman throwing a no-hitter on the road against Liberty. Turning a record five double plays in a sweep of Medical Lake over spring break. This season was filled with great moments, exceptional individual efforts and excellent team baseball. For some, the season ending loss to Colfax will leave a lasting sting. I remain exceedingly proud of the team for the effort they gave throughout the season and the joy they brought so many through their outstanding play and love of the game.

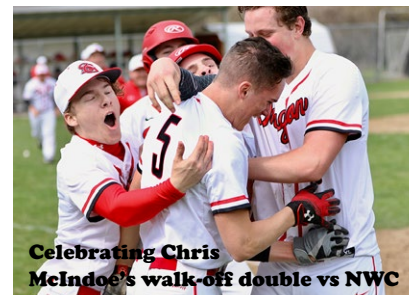
— Mark Rickard, Baseball Coach



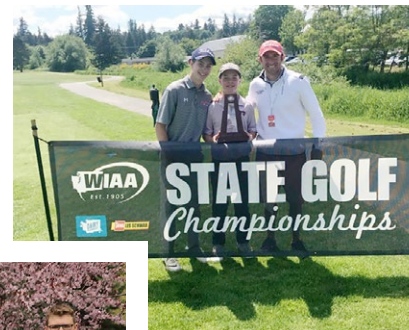
Xander Werkman throws a strike



Matt Napier lays down a bunt



Celebrating Chris McIndoe's walk-off double vs NWC



Michael & Patrick McCarthy bring home trophy for 4th place at State

SGS boys' and girls' golf teams

