

The Weekly Pineneedle



Camp Kawaga Newsletter

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Spectacular Outlook: By Jarett Goldblatt

The Spectacular is one of the most anticipated events of the summer for Kawaga's campers. It is a competitive, thrilling rally of sportsmanship and grit for all campers. The camp is divided into 8 teams, each represented by a college or university. The camp is split up via a draft, with the first round being a live evening program. The players drafted that night are seniors and serve as the team captains for the duration of the Spectacular. For the entirety of first session, hype and speculation is built up regarding the Spectacular as more information is revealed, including coaches, teams, and draft picks. This week marks the beginning of Kawaga's largest, most exciting event of the summer thus far.

This year, some changes were made to the format of the Spectacular. In the past, each team was divided into two sections, juniors and seniors, who would compete against each other in sports and other activities. However, this even divide would lead to campers who fell in the middle of these two age groups playing sports against the oldest campers. This would also lead to the youngest campers being undervalued in the draft and on the team. These two factors made the Spectacular much less fun and fair for some players. This year, an intermediate section was added. This makes the teams more equitable and ensures that every camper is playing against kids their age and actually has a significant impact on the team based on their performance. These changes will make the Spectacular more fun, fair, and competitive for all campers. Best of luck to all of this year's teams as we enter the competition!

Campers of the Week: Spirit



Chip: Nicholas
Papadopoulos



Sioux: Nate
Swerdlin



Mohawk: Decklyn
Daube



Oneida: Moe Woll

Principle Summary

This week's guiding principle was spirit. These campers were all in for everything they did this week. They are eager participants who bring energy to every game they play. Their spirit is contagious, as all the campers around them feed off their energy and use it to boost their play as well. As camp moves forward, we are excited to see how these four Braves will keep up the energy and give their all to every activity.

Fourth of July

All of camp woke up to the Oneidas rushing into their cabins on one of the most exciting days of the summer- the 4th of July! Every camper then did a polar bear and, after an enthusiastic breakfast, gathered to watch the seniors take on the counselors in Senior Ball! The A and B games were fought hard by the seniors, with the counselors unfortunately taking the A game. The B team was able to pull away with the win to secure a victory for the seniors and for camp as a whole. During the Senior Ball games, campers had the opportunity to participate in various other activities, such as a bounce castle, a dunk tank, Spikeball, and many other games. They could place prop bets on the games and complete activities to earn tickets which went toward items such as root beer floats and snow cones. At the end of the day, all of camp gathered to watch a firework show to close out an extremely special day at Camp Kawaga.



Senior Ball

Captain’s Message: By Jonah Nakisher

Despite not winning the senior A game, the seniors fought hard, and I am proud of all the effort they gave. Congratulations to the B team on their amazing win!

A-Team Lineup

Coaches: Quinn Korach, Tyson Daube, Ethan Levine

1	Eli Goodman: 1st
2	Luke Winshall: C
3	Simon Busch: CF
4	Jonah Nakisher (C) : 3rd
5	Oakley Daube: RF
6	Hal Steinberg: SS
7	Paul Cascade: LF
8	Owen Roth: SC
9	Mason Hirschfeld: P
10	Sawyer Alexander: 2nd
11	Lincoln Goldstein: U

B-Team Lineup

Coaches: Jonah Satyr, Logan Flater, Sam Adelman

1	Moe Woll: C
2	Zach Schulman: P
3	Will Mason: 3rd
4	Michael Moksins: SS
5	Oliver Montoya: 2nd
6	Dean Menfi: 1st
7	Cooper Aranoff: LF
8	Andrew Colianni: CF
9	Beau Pomerantz: RF
10	Sam Lippman: SC
11	Jacob Stillman: U

Spectacular Update

Spectacular Assistants & Picks!

By: Theo Payne

As the anticipation built for the 2026 Kawaga Spectacular, campers learned more new information during dinner on the 27th! Spectacular Commissioner Quinn Korach announced that campers would be learning the assistant coaches that night! Up first, Gabe Rosen, head coach of Arizona, selected Cam Watson as his first assistant coach. Next, Tyson Daube announced that Sam Adelman would be helping him coach Indiana. Third up was ECU's head coach Logan Flater announced his brother Hayden Flater as one of his assistant coaches. Immediately following this, Josh Levitan, head coach of Stanford, caught Joe Patey in a leap off of the CIT table as his pick. With the next pick, UAB's Jordi Mokhtarian picked Josh Zirin, his former coach on Baylor, following with Phil Kaplan selecting Will Garibaldi for UVA. Jonah Swift brought up Ethan Levine for LIU, and to wrap up the first round, Eli Metz picked up his fellow 23' CIT, Tobin Busch to help coach UNC. To start the second round of coach picks, UNC selected Santiago Madrid. LIU, selected Oisin Tolan. UVA selected Richie Gutierrez, and UAB selected Tomas Occelli. It continued with Stanford selecting John Haines, ECU, who selected Andy Brandenstein, Indiana, who selected Spencer Drake, and finally, Arizona, who selected Dustin Weber. After the coaches were fully revealed, Quinn said he had one more surprise for us all, and brought out a box full of lottery balls with team names inside. Quinn picked campers out from the crowd, and they each drew a ball to determine the draft order. ECU got the 8th pick, LIU got the 7, UVA got the 6, Arizona drew the 5, and UNC grabbed the 4. The top 3 picks were super suspenseful, with Stanford drawing the 3. After a short drum roll... the Indiana Hoosiers got the 1st pick and UAB got the 2nd!



Spectacular Update



Indiana University
Captain: Jonah Nakisher



The University of Alabama at Birmingham
Captain: Paul Cascade



Stanford University
Captain: Mason Hirschfeld



The University of North Carolina
Captain: Eli Goodman



The University of Arizona
Captain: Isaac Levin



The University of Virginia
Captain: Oakley Daube



Long Island University
Captain: Sam Lippman



East Carolina University
Captain: Lincoln Goldstein

Spectacular Begins

After a session of waiting, the Spectacular was kicked off the afternoon of the 4th of July! Campers eagerly found out their teams and went right into the first block of the competition. The night concluded with another block and a 4th of July firework show. The competition has been fierce and full of energy so far, and we are excited for a winner to be revealed in a few short days!



Spectacular Begins



Indiana University

Spectacular Begins



The University of Alabama at Birmingham

Spectacular Begins



Stanford University

Spectacular Begins



The University of North Carolina

Spectacular Begins



The University of Arizona

Spectacular Begins



The University of Virginia

Spectacular Begins



Long Island University

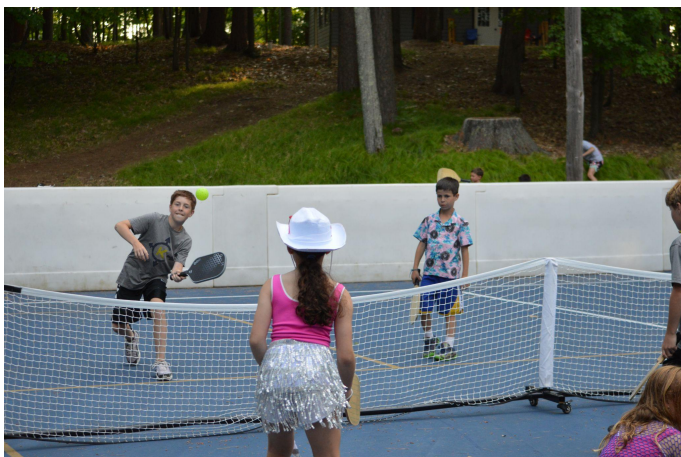
Spectacular Begins



East Carolina University

Agawak Social

This week, all of camp gathered by the big house for the first Agawak social of the camping year! The theme for the social was disco, and it was an amazing night for both camps. There was food, music, and games for the campers of both camps to connect over. Great time had by all!



P'fian Swim

The P'fian swim is one of the most trying, difficult challenges that a camper at Kawaga can take on. Eligible participants must swim across the bay, along the shoreline, around an island known as P'fian, back across the shoreline, and back across the bay. Doing this is no easy task, and even waking up to attempt the swim is viewed with the utmost respect by the rest of camp. Finishers earn points toward Mawanda and Sachem based on their time.

For 5 Points:

Zev Stein
32:46
Will Mason
38:09
Jonah Nakisher
38:51
Chase Donohoo
43:11
Ari Kohn
43:19
Hal Steinberg
43:29
Sam Ott Bono
44:41
Augie Savage
44:48

For 1 point:

Cooper Aronoff
1:00:05
Jonas Hirschfeld
1:01:15
Eli Faye
1:08:45
Jeremy Gorman
1:09:12
Jonah Seeskin
1:10:11
Wes Saber
1:11:36

For 3 Points:

Ellis Burke
46:25
Ryan Shaewitz
46:41
Gabe Kaufman
46:50
Theo Payne
46:51
Eli Goodman
48:00
Zev Stillman
48:40
Dean Menfi
49:58
Max Noren
51:39
Case Reagles
52:30
Kyle Oseran
53:19
Michael Moxsin
53:53
Owen Roth
53:54
Benji Goodman
54:00
Joey Goodman*
54:24
Moe Woll
54:24

Staff Swimmers:

Jeff Kaplan
30:18
Mate
36:25
Brianna Fowlie
40:02
Talia Herst
46:54
Reese Hennen
48:21

P'fian



Camper Pineneedles

Sioux Blue/Gold Dodgeball

By: Lincoln Hoss

It was the Golden Goats vs. Maus' team, and it was an intense game of dodgeball for Sioux blue/gold leagues. To start, my team, the Golden Goats, came off to a hot start, winning a quick and easy game 1-0. Key players for this game were Alan Shapiro catching every ball he got and Lincoln Hoss was throwing and dodging every ball. In the second game, Maus' team came up on top, resulting in a tie score of 1-1. Some main players for this match were Harvey Colaianni, who got ten people out and was cooking for Maus' team. Also, Hunter Isenberg caught every ball he could. In game 3, the Golden Goats won again, resulting in my team taking the lead 2-1. Aaron Levey and Faunts were hyping the Goats up. Jax Louisin had some very good plays, as well as Ty Pomerantz. For game 4, Maus' team took the win 2-2. It looked like the goats were going to win, but no. It was an unreal comeback comeback from Maus' team, and Max Tresnick got a lot of people out at the end and they pushed to victory. Game 5, Maus' team won 2-3. They kept the momentum and took the game.

Preston Newmark had a crazy look in his eye and got a lot of people out. Harvey colaianni struck again in a victory they deserved. In game six, the Golden Goats tied the game back up 3-3. Goats just pulled this one out in a must win game with Lincoln Hoss leading the team and Isaac Memac got the last out to get the game into game seven. The final game ended with Maus' team winning 3-4. They definitely deserved the win. Although it was a tough loss for the Golden Goats, they still came back but couldn't pull through the win. Brody Cable for Maus' team crushed everyone of the Goats players. The Goats fought back, but could not keep up with all the throws that Maus' team was giving out. High Fives at the end of the game and the chants. That's how this crazy dodgeball game ENDS!

Oneida Blue/Gold Ultimate

By: Oliver Montoya

Today was a crazy day down at D2 because my team, Josh Levitan's Goldfish Memory played frisbee against Ethan Kaufmanns team, guest coached by Jake Pollack. We started off great with an interception of Santiago Madrazo's throw turning into an early touchdown. Our team hustled into the endzone to pull the frisbee. We got a long throw down to the other side of the field. We had the momentum in the game. Using it, we continued to push forward and score more points. Our strategy was to have me, Oliver Montoya, sit near the back and play safety and make the throws while guys like Sam Lippman and Grant LEvison made caught in the opposite end zone. We went on a run of about 3 touchdowns before we let one up to Gabe Kaufmann. On the opposing team, guys like Oakley Daube, Sawyer Alexander, and Bailey Glickson were making great plays, slowly working their way over to our endzone. Our team made some great defensive plays, but so did theirs. Although the Goldfish Memory team (ours), was always in the lead be a few points, Pollack's team make a come back. Before halftime, they leveled out the score 7-8, closing the gap. Coming into the next half, we were fired up. We had a new plan and it worked so well. WE scored 4 touchdowns quickly, and played amazing defense, forcing Santi to make crazy throws. We scored one more to close off the game, leading to a final score of 13-8, Goldfish Memory. Great time had by all.

League Standings

Chip Blue/Gold League

Team Name	W	L
Kol L. & Matt C.'s Team	2	7
Ezra G. & Xander Z.'s Team	7	2

Chip Breakfast League

Team Name	W	L
Andrew Z. & Guillermo B's Team	5	1
Mate M. & Caleb R.'s Team	2	4
Tomas O. & Will B.'s Team	4	2
Jack B. & Josh R's Team	1	5

Sioux Meat League

Team Name	W	L
Andy B.'s Team	3	6
Eric G. & Quinn K.'s Team	4	5
Jarett G.'s Team	6	3
Max S. & Luca B.'s Team	7	2
Cam W. & JP M.'s Team	2	7
Dean G.'s Team	5	4

Sioux Blue/Gold League

Team Name	W	L
Mau V. & Santi R.'s Team	4	1
Paul S. & Richard G.'s Team	4	1
Aaron L. & Franta P.'s Team	2	3
Hayden F. & Oisin T.'s Team	2	3

Mohawk Blue/Gold League

Team Name	W	L
Levi S. & Dustin W.'s Team	3	2
Will G.'s Team	4	1
Joe P.'s Team	1	4
Philip K.'s Team	2	3

Mohawk Fish League

Team Name	W	L
Tobin B. & Gabe R.'s Team	2	2
Sam A. & Spencer D.'s Team	2	2
Tyson D.'s Team	3	1
Danny G.'s Team	1	3
Jonah A. & John M.'s Team	0	4
Jordan M.'s Team	4	0

Oneida Blue/Gold League

Team Name	W	L
Josh Z.'s Team	2	1
Jonah S.'s Team	1	2
Bryan G. & Meyer R.'s Team	3	0
Josh L.'s Team	0	3
Chance K.'s Team	2	1
Ethan K.'s Team	1	2

Oneida Cheese League

Team Name	W	L
Tyson A.'s Team	3	4
John H.'s Team	5	2
Sam S. & Eli M.'s Team	4	3
Ethan L.'s Team	3	4
Logan F's Team	4	3
Jonah S.'s Team	2	5

Notable Achievements

Birthdays
Max Noren (16)
Jack Linton (12)
Jack Stone (12)
William Bott (19)
Dean Menfi (16)
Zev Stillman (13)
Paul Cascade (17)

First Bullseye
Lennox Ramalingam
Lev Liss
Mason Crouse
Simon Bednyak
Owen Roth
Asher Klaff
Miles Castner

Miracles
Leo Merar (2-Ski)
Santiago Madrazo (2-Ski)
Asher Bell (2-Ski)
Zachary Gorman (Slalom)
Dean Menfi (Slalom)

First Fish
Lev Liss
Alan Shapiro

Chief's Corner

These past two weeks have been an excellent few for the Mohawks as a whole! The Mohawks have been all around camp; chasing after their various goals, taking advantage of the activities they wouldn't be able to do at home, and making new friends and lifelong memories each day!

During the second small Pow-Wow of the summer, and final of first session, the discussion centered around the idea of unity. Unity as age groups, and unity as a Mohawk tribe in all. From this topic, we then branched out into discussing some of our pillars here at Kawaga, Sportsmanship and Spirit, which are particularly important considering the beginning of the Kawaga Spectacular and the intense completion that it entails.

The continued drive of the Mohawks to strive to be better and better each day, and to get the most out of camp with every action has been glaringly obvious and I couldn't be more grateful to see it. I'm sure it's only up from here for the Mohawk tribe, and I can't wait to see it happen over the remainder of the summer!

-Chance Kosner, Chief of the Mohawk



Kawaga Leisure

		6				5		8
1		2	3	8				4
			2			1	9	
				6	3		4	5
	6	3	4		5	8	7	
5	4		9	2				
	8	7			4			
2				9	8	4		7
4		9				3		

Funny Photos This Week



7-Day Forecast

Sun 05		23%	Partly Cloudy
Mon 06		13%	Mostly Sunny
Tue 07		24%	Partly Cloudy
Wed 08		53%	Scattered Thunderstorms
Thu 09		24%	Partly Cloudy
Fri 10		24%	Partly Cloudy
Sat 11		24%	Partly Cloudy



Editors

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