

October Athlete of the Month - Seth Mendel

BY MATT NIEDERBAUMER, CFP® Vantage Financial, Partner, Senior Wealth Advisor



SETH MENDEL

Seth Mendel has been developing his soccer skills for the past six years. As captain of the James Valley Christian varsity soccer team, Seth is focused on working hard to improve his own skills, while pushing his teammates to do the same. With a young team this season, Seth is committed to helping the players develop, so they can compete and build on this season's successes. Seth encourages positive team spirit and strives to guide each teammate to do his best. Sportsmanship is an important part of athletics to Seth. He looks forward to the friendly rivalry games where there is healthy competition and the opportunity to build relationships with other players within the sport. One of his favorite parts of participating in soccer is the opportunity to grow relationships outside of class and one's peer groups. His coach shared

that while Seth partakes in many activities," he manages to stay incredibly organized and diligent in his classes and homework." His coach also noted that Seth is "genuinely considerate," treats his peers with respect, and exhibits a high standard of leadership. Seth is looking forward to the season as he and his teammates work toward a common goal - playoffs.

Throughout his high school career, Seth has excelled in the classroom maintaining strong grades while demonstrating his commitment to the many activities he enjoys in addition to soccer and basketball: four years of band, choir, and oral interpretation! Furthermore, Seth also finds time to cultivate his faith through Prairie Bible Church as Youth Group President and Byron Bible Camp as Camp Counselor.

To obtain an application for the Athlete of the Month Scholarship program email bfast@vfplanning.com, visit Vantage Financial Partners website at www.vantagefinancialwi.com, or ask your high school guidance counselor. If you are a high school senior who plays sports, attends a SD high school, you are eligible to apply for a \$1,500 scholarship sponsored by Vantage Financial Partners.

Getting to know Seth Mendel:

Future Plans: I plan to attend South Dakota School of Mines in Rapid City majoring in Mechanical Engineering and minoring in Computer Science. I am still undecided if I'll continue to play soccer in college.

Favorite Quote: "Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children's children what it was once like in the United States where men were free."
– Ronald Reagan

Favorite Food: Chicken: Enchiladas

Favorite Pre-Game Song: "Africa" by Toto

Highlight of Seth's High School Career: During my junior year, we had a corner during a game and my teammate kicked a perfect ball right in front of the net that I played it into the goal. It wasn't necessarily a super amazing play, but it was significant to me because I play defense, and don't have many opportunities to score.

Fun Fact about Seth: I joined the South Dakota Army National Guard in January of 2020. This past Summer, I attended Basic Combat Training in Ft. Jackson, SC. I am a third-generation guardsman following in the footsteps of my grandfather (retired Captain) and father (retired Sergeant First Class).



MATT NIEDERBAUMER, CFP®
Partner
Senior Wealth Advisor

1712 Dakota Ave. S
Huron, SD 57350

P | 605-352-4124
F | 605-352-4172
W | vfplanning.com

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