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News > Local News > Drinking rules not meant to be broken ...

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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU
46	43	35	32	39
39	28	21	20	

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Weekdays 5-7am

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### Drinking rules not meant to be broken for student athletes

10/7/2005 6:00 PM  
(Ty Chandler, WROC-TV)



(Honeoye Falls-Lima School)  
Video: [Low](#) : [High](#)

In less than a week, two school districts have sidelined players who chose to party too hard. These athletes learned the hard way that they are not exceptions to the rule. "All students are held accountable, regardless of scholarship opportunity or academic standing," explained Honeoye Falls-Lima Athletic Director Brian Donohue.

A handful of his students were suspended for drinking at a party on September 17th. Student-athletes and their parents sign a training rules agreement at Honeoye Falls-Lima. A player's signature is a promise not to drink, be a good citizen and follow a curfew. Not adhering to that policy means students will have to sit out 25 percent of the season's games.

School districts all over Monroe County have similar policies and Donohue has no problem following through with it. "It's pretty clear from an athletic standpoint if you do these things, you can't represent us on an athletic team," said Donohue.

Many of his students feel the same. "Doing that is not committing to the team," 9th grader Jesse Grisham asserted. Grisham, who plays for the school's junior varsity football team said, "It's bringing down the team itself."

Lacrosse player Ryan Flaherty was almost in that position. He was at the party where it all started, but he chose to get out. "Athletes should know their limits," he explained. "It's not the right thing to do during the season," said Flaherty.

A zero tolerance approach in Penfield led to about two hundred students sidelined. Some students questioned the district's investigation and accused them of placing players on suspension on the basis of hearsay. The District's only

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comment is that their investigation is still ongoing. However, Penfield's varsity football team is expected to forfeit its Saturday game against Pittsford.

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