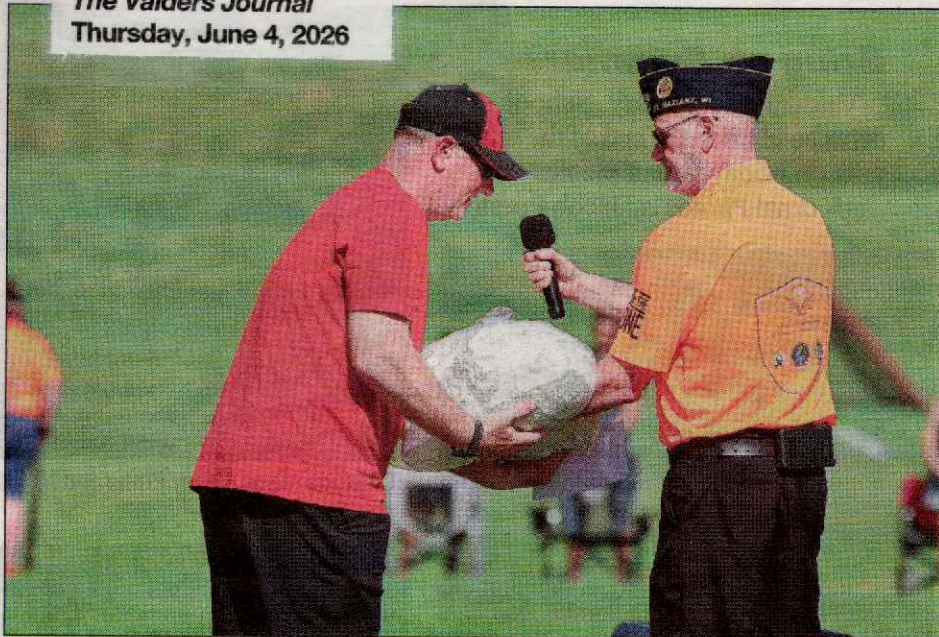


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Net Worth

Valders soccer coach Kirk Zimpel (left) accepts new soccer nets from Kevin Nett, commander of St. Nazianz American Legion Post 477 during a brief ceremony before a game on Friday.

—Journal Photo by Cathy Rusch

Legion post replaces VHS soccer nets

Last Friday night's match against Seymour was more than just a soccer game—it was a celebration of service, community and the seniors who helped shape the Valders High School girls varsity soccer program.

Before the opening whistle, St. Nazianz American Legion Post 477 Commander Kevin Nett presented two brand-new goal nets to the Valders program, with head coach Kirk Zimpel accepting on behalf of the team.

"The donation reflects the Legion's deep commitment

to investing in the young women of the program and the broader Valders community, ensuring the next generation of players has the equipment they need to compete and grow," Zimpel noted.

The pre-game ceremonies continued as senior captain Eva Endter, captains Lola Mills and Molly Taylor and Bryanna Bodart and senior Carson Zimpel took center field to perform the national anthem, with American Legion Post 477 serving as color guard and carrying the Amer-

ican flag.

At halftime, the spotlight returned to the four departing seniors as their underclassmen teammates stepped forward to recognize and speak about each of them, giving a heartfelt tribute to the players who have meant so much to the program.

"As the seniors prepare to move on, Friday night served as a powerful reminder of what makes Valders soccer special: the people, the tradition and a community that always shows up," coach Zimpel said.