



**HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS SCENE**  
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### PUBLISHER'S NOTE

Hello sports fans, it's another great day here at High School Sports Scene Magazine.

The baseball and softball state championships brought down the curtain on another exciting year of high school sports, and what an exciting year it was.

The Beal City baseball team put the icing on the cake of a fantastic season as the Aggies won the fifth state baseball title in school history with a thrilling 2-1 win against Plymouth Christian in the Division 4 state finals. After coming up one-run short in last year's state title game, Beal City was on a mission this season and did not stop until the job was done. Great job Aggies!!!

Lansing Catholic also turned in a great job by reaching the state semifinals in Division 3.

A big shout out goes to Okemos junior baseball player Caleb Benenger. The University of Virginia recruit put together a monster year and was named the Gatorade Michigan Baseball Player of the Year. Benenger turned in a multitude of outstanding performances highlighted by hitting three home runs in the district title game.

In softball, Unionville-Sebewaing continued its dominance as it won a record ninth softball state title and fourth title in a row. Hats off to both Laingsburg and Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart for turning in thrilling state tournament runs as both teams reached the state semifinals.

On the track, the area was again well represented at the state track and field finals that kicked off the championship season for spring sports.

Area soccer players, golfers and tennis players also turned in some impressive performances during their state tournaments.

As we get into the heat of summer and the summer dead period of high school sports, take the time to rest and relax and think about the great season we just had and another exciting season coming up this fall. Before you know it the crack of pads will be taking place as area football teams hit the practice fields and other fall athletes will be beginning practice.

A big shout out to all of our advertisers without whose support we would not be able to keep our local athletes in the news.

Have a great summer and see you in the fall!!!



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## Beal City Baseball Team Captures Fifth State Title In Program History

### Butch Harmon Sports Scene

After falling one-run short of a fifth baseball state title last year, the Beal City baseball team was determined to hoist the championship trophy this season.

That determination was rewarded as Beal City captured the fifth state title with a 2-1 win against Plymouth Christian Academy in the Division 4 state championship game at Michigan State's McLane Stadium.

"We're state champions and these guys deserve all the credit in the world," said Beal City coach Brad Antcliff. "The expectations they met today, it's hard. It's hard to get here and it's really hard to win it."

The title game was a defensive

struggle until the fourth inning when both teams pushed a run across. After Plymouth Christian took the lead with a run in the top of the inning, Beal City evened the score with a run in the bottom of the fourth. Cayden Smith scored the run for the Aggies as he led off with a single, advanced to second on a sacrifice bunt by Owen McKenny, moved up to third on a passed ball and then scored when Jake Gauthier reached on an error.

Beal City scored the winning run in the bottom of the sixth inning. With one out Gauthier singled and eventually came in to score the game-winning run on a throwing error.

Beal City was led on the mound by strong pitching efforts from Smith and Blake Walcutt. Smith pitched six and a third innings

allowing three hits and one run. Walcutt recorded the final two outs to record a save.

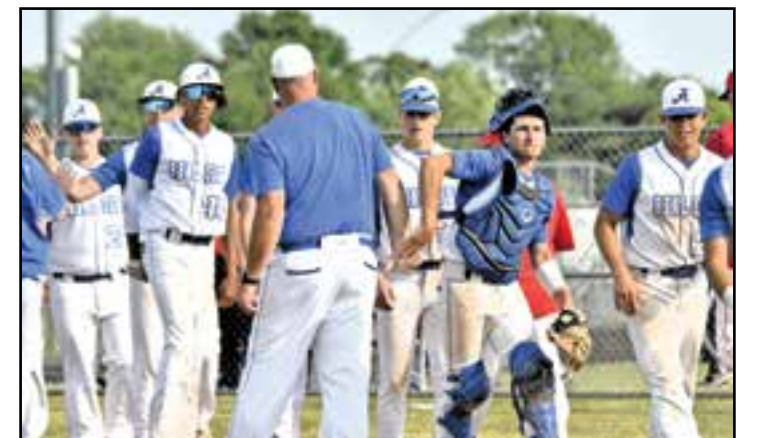
Beal City reached the title game by defeating Kalamazoo Hackett 8-0 in the semifinals.

The Aggies were led on the mound by Josh Wilson who pitched a complete game. Wilson scattered three hits and struck out five batters.

Smith led the way for the Beal City offense as he had two hits and three RBI. Gauthier added two hits and drove in a run while Jack Fussman and Wilson added RBIs.

The Aggies finished the season with a 31-8 record and the state title was the first since 2018.

Beal City won the title this season despite graduating five players who earned all-state honors last season. Fussman, a senior, was



The Beal City baseball team enjoyed several celebrations on its way to the Division 4 state title this season.

one of the team leaders this season as he entered the state finals hitting .484 with 45 RBI and 25 stolen bases. Smith, a junior, was hitting .400 entering the final four with 36 stolen bases and a 1.66 ERA on the mound. Wilson, also a junior, was hitting .466 with a 7-3 record and a 2.01 ERA. Walcutt, a freshman, turned in a big season with a .342

average entering the final four with 28 RBI.

The Aggies, who were ranked fourth in the state entering the tournament, cleared a rugged tournament trail defeating No. 2 Plymouth Christiani, No. 3 Fowler, No. 11 Maple City Glen Lake and No. 12 Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart on the way to the title.

## Freeland Softball Team Enjoys Championship Season

### John Raffel Sports Scene

Mike Rybicki enjoyed quite a season as Freeland softball coach.

The team finished at 33-11 overall, 14-2 in conference and second in the conference

"The team had an outstanding year," Rybicki said. "They played as a team the entire year. They beat their rival, finished second in the toughest conference in the

State, first in the St. Johns tourney, first in Districts, second in regionals losing 4-2 to the state champs. Freeland broke or tied 10 school

records and was Academic All State as a team.

Freeland lost 4-2 in the regional finals to eventual Division 2 state champion Gaylord.

"We believed we were one of the top 10 teams in Division 2 in the State and when the season started and I think our big game performances

proved that," Rybicki said. "One more break our way in the regional final could have gotten us all the way to the trophy we all chase."

Injuries were a challenge for Freeland.

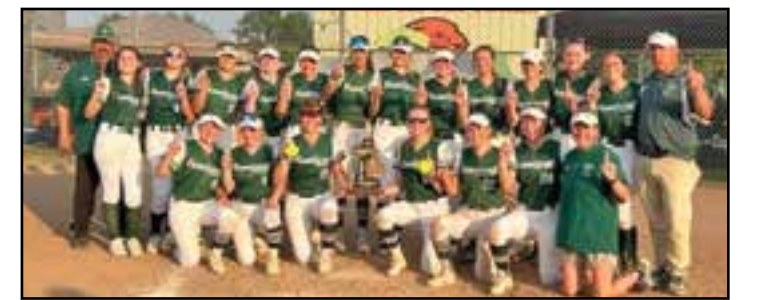
"The team missed their junior cleanup hitter the majority of the year and had a catcher limited at the end of the season due to injury," Rybicki said.

Jenna Kowalski will be a junior next season for Freeland. She will be an important leader both offensively and defensively. She received all-state recognition in 2023.

Evelynn Rybicki is a Saginaw Valley State University commit for next season. "She anchored our offense and outfield defensively. She received all state recognition in 2023," Rybicki said.

Ashley Collier will be graduating on to the University of Michigan in 2024.

"Ashley was our number 1 pitcher in 2023 and received All conference and region awards," Rybicki said. "Zoey Markey is a Lawrence Tech University commit for next season. Zoey captained our infield as shortstop the last three years and set school record for triples. Zoey received all conference and district awards.



The 2023 season was another good one for the Freeland softball team.

"Isabel Cumper will be a sophomore in 2024. She will take over the number one pitching role next season. She received All Conference and District recognition."

Freeland will lose Evelynn Rybicki, Zoey Markey, Ashley Collier, and Cadence Swartz to graduation. Three of the four will be moving on to play collegiately. Key returners are Jenna Kowalski, Isabel Cumper,

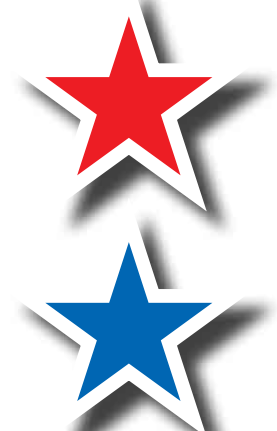
Madeline McDonald, Brynn Jaime, Addie Steffen, Avery Mantei, Jenna Irrer, and Grace Deshone.

"If everyone returns to the softball field in 2024, we will be ready for another great season and deep playoff run," Mike Rybicki said. "The 2023 team will hold a special place with me for a long time. The senior leadership, the team unity, and the competitive nature of the players was a blast to coach."

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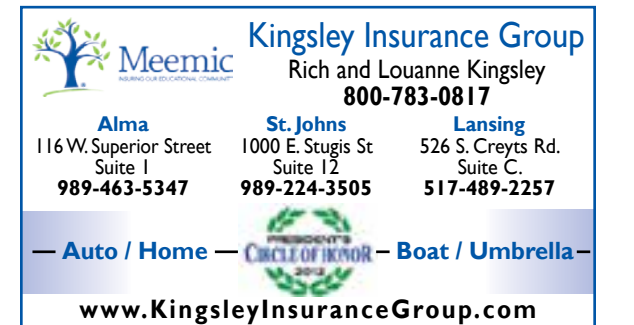


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# USA Wins Another Softball State Title

## John Raffel Sports Scene

Unionville-Sebewaing's softball team did it again.

USA, under coach Isaiah Gainforth, won its fourth straight title. USA a year ago beat Ottawa Lake Whiteford 4-1 and in 2021 thumped Rudyard 14-1. There was no softball on 2020 because of COVID.

Previous to that USA had won four other Division 4 state titles and two in Division 3.

This season, USA had to endure two very tight games to win in the semifinals and in the finals.

Sacred Heart scored one run in the first inning and USA had single runs in the fourth and fifth innings

Both runs were unearned as the Irish committed two key errors and USA made them pay. Catcher Gabriella Crumm had two hits for the winners.

Ryle Betson pitched a masterpiece, going seven innings and allowing one earned run

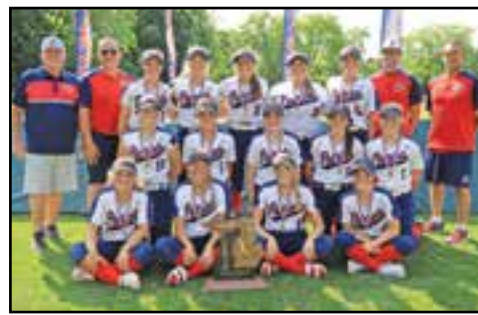
on six hits, striking out six and walking none.

The title game was a 5-4 win for USA over Mendon.

The season ended for USA at 33-10.

USA trailed 3-1 after three innings but scored four in the top of the fourth for a 5-3 lead. Mendon scored once in the bottom of the seventh.

Betson was again the winning pitcher, allowing four runs on five hits and three walks while striking out six. Olivia Jubar had two hits and a run scored. Jenna Gremel had the big bat with two hits and three RBIs including a home run for USA



USA's softball team won another state title this season.

# Sacred Heart Softball Makes It All The Way To D4 Semis

## John Raffel Sports Scene

Mount Pleasant Sacred Heart barely fell short in its bid for the Division 4 state championship.

But the future is definitely bright for coach Josh Wheaton and his girls.

Several key freshmen were on the team and the Irish will bring back a lot of players next season.

The Irish lost to Unionville-Sebewaing 2-1 in the semifinals at Michigan State in mid-June. USA went on to win the state title game.

Two errors proved costly for Sacred Heart as neither of USA's runs were earned.

Catcher Kate Liscomb had two hits for Sacred Heart while second baseman Eliza Pieratt, shortstop Ellery Garver, third baseman Savannah Jones and first baseman Kallie Smith had one hit apiece.

Mairin Wheaton, the coach's daughter, was the losing pitcher but had a stellar performance.

She went seven innings, allowing two unearned runs on seven hits, walking three and striking out six.

In the quarterfinal win to get

Sacred Heart to the semifinal, Garver went 4-for-4, hitting three triples and one double. Sacred Heart beat Lake Leelanau St. Mary in the quarterfinal 10-0 in six innings.

The Irish defense was superb. Senior center fielder Alexys Zeien robbed a home run away from Unionville-Sebewaing in the top of the seventh.

In the regionals at Carson City-Crystal, Sacred Heart blanked Saginaw Michigan Lutheran 3-0 and then shut out Coleman 15-0 in four innings in the title game.

No one scored against Sacred Heart in the district round. The Irish had wins of 17-0 in seven innings over Carson City-Crystal,



Mount Pleasant Sacred Heart's softball team played in the state semifinals against USA.

12-0 in five innings over Vestaburg and 8-0 over Fulton in the title game.

Sacred Heart ended the season

at 33-10 with a team that had several freshmen, which is why Wheaton and the Irish like their chances to win it all next year.

# New Lothrop Softball Girls Finish Off Another Winning Season

## John Raffel Sports Scene

New Lothrop's softball team was again one of the best in the state. Tom Birchmeier was in his fifth season as coach and had a 27-15 overall record and was tied for second in the league

"Overall, I would say we didn't reach our goals," Birchmeier said. "We were shooting for our third consecutive league title. Losses to Lakeville and Montrose sidetracked that goal. We did reach our goal of winning districts, our third consecutive, while avenging regular season losses to Montrose."

"We also avenged our losses to Lakeville by beating them in regional semifinals. We didn't quite

reach our goal of being regional champions."

"We beat a very good Traverse City Saint Frances team to take first at the Alma tournament during the regular season. Winning districts title vs Montrose. Another highlight was trailing by three runs vs Lakeville in the bottom of the seventh in regional semifinals, scoring three to tie it and the winning in the eighth inning."

"We lost seven games by one run and two more by two runs. We struggled to get the key hit needed or make a crucial defensive play at numerous times."

Top athletes included Brynne Birchmeier at second and third base; first team MMAC infielder, 1st team all district, region and

all district and region and HM all state at shortstop. .465 batting average. 5 homers, 60 hits. Sara Dammann, outfielder, second team all MMAC outfielder, 1st team all district and region and HM all state. .468 batting average, 53 hits, 13 doubles. Delaney Gross, pitcher and outfielder, HM all MMAC outfielder, first team all district outfielder. 9-4 pitching record with a 2.315 ERA; five home runs. Victoria Henige, catcher was first team all MMAC catcher. 1st team all district and 2nd team all region as a catcher. .460 batting average, four home runs, 14 doubles and 42 RBIs. Ashlyn Orr, 1st base, 1st team all MMAC at first base, first team all district and second team all region at first. .467

batting average, 57 hits, four home runs and four triples. 38 RBIs. Mallory Heroux, pitcher/utility was second team all-MMAC pitcher and first team all district and region as a utility player. 13 wins, 164 strikeouts, 1.55 era. .484 batting average, 50 hits, two home run.

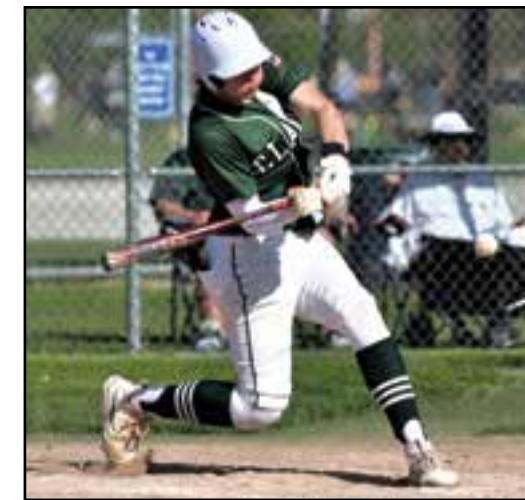
"We have one senior, Olivia Birchmeier, who won't be returning," Tim Birchmeier said. "The other 11 girls will all be back. Obviously with most of our girls returning, I have high expectations. I assume our goals will include winning a league title and making a decent run in the postseason. It will all depend on the progress our girls make in the offseason and how much work they do to get better. "We played a very

competitive schedule with eight of the teams we played winning district titles. three of those teams went on to win regionals and one was a state champion. I like to challenge the girls as much as possible during the season so they are battle tested for the playoffs. I expect to do the same thing next year. Our girls will all have a bunch of varsity experience. I hope the tough schedule combined with that experience will allow us to have a fairly successful season next year."



New Lothrop's softball team was once again one of the best in the state in 2023.

# AREA ALL STATE BASEBALL PLAYERS



## DIVISION 1

**First Team**  
Caleb Bonemer, inf, Okemos, jr.  
Ben Kochany, p, Bay City Western, sr.  
**Second Team**  
Jack Bakus, 1b, Midland Dow, sr.  
Brayden Jones, inf, Flushing, sr.  
Aidan Robinson, of, Bay City Western, jr.

## DIVISION 2

**First Team**  
Grant Garman, p, Flint Powers, jr.  
Connor Kelly, inf, Flint Powers, jr.  
Brody Krzysiak, p, Bay City John Glenn, sr.  
Lucas Mead, inf, Gladwin, sr.  
Tanner Sonntag, utl, Bay City John

Glenn, sr.  
Isaac Sturgess, of, Flint Powers, jr.  
Drew Titsworth, p, Frankenmuth, sr.  
**Second Team**  
Nathan Ball, of, Bay City Glenn, sr.  
Ben Knuth, p, Big Rapids, sr.  
Landon Mackley, 1b, Lakewood-Lake Odessa, jr.  
Maddox Woods, inf, Shepherd, sr.

## DIVISION 3

**First Team**  
Ty Randall, P, Laingsburg, jr.  
Nash Wendling, 1b, Chesaning, jr.  
**Second Team**  
Joey McGraw-Allen, inf, Perry, jr.  
Truk Terbush, inf, Millington, so.

## DIVISION 4

**First Team**  
Caden Fleming, of, Merrill, sr.  
Luke Mason, inf, Michigan Lutheran Seminary, sr.  
Joe McDonald, p, Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart, so.  
Connor Stempky, c, Mt. Pleasant Sacred H, jr.  
Josh Wilson, inf, Beal City, jr.  
**Second Team**  
Jake Gauthier, c, Beal City, jr.  
Aiden Halliday, 1b, Mt. Pleasant Sacred H, jr.  
Sam VanNeste, p, Fowler, so.  
Kaleb Walker, c, Merrill, sr.

# AREA ALL STATE SOFTBALL PLAYERS

## DIVISION 1

**First Team**  
Natalie Donaldson, of, DeWitt  
Kyra Shaddock, p, DeWitt  
Peyton Steffes, of, Rockford  
**Honorable Mention**  
Delaney Belding, ss, Midland Dow  
Oliva Jatczak, 3b, Bay City Western  
Marie Rehm, utl, Holt  
Morgan Williams, 1b, Midland

## DIVISION 3

**First Team**  
Brynne Birchmeier, 2b, New Lothrop  
Lillian Martinez, utl, Hemlock  
Abby Robinson, 3b, Shepherd  
Lillia Sherman, 1b, Millington  
**Honorable Mention**  
Ashley Bila, ss, Laingsburg  
Addyson Buchin, p, Laingsburg  
Grace Chinavare, of, Sanford-Meridian  
Sara Dammann, of, New Lothrop  
Kaitlyn Dickey, 1b, Bath  
Regan Finkbeiner Hemlock  
Addison Gray, p, Evert  
Arika Hines, p, Montrose  
Izabella Latuszek, 2b, Laingsburg  
Kami Linton, p, Sanford-Meridian  
Liv Regenfuss, c, Shepherd  
Marissa Rombach, ss, New Lothrop

## DIVISION 2

**First Team**  
Sarah Basket, p, Essexville-Garber  
Brooklyn Compau, p, Frankenmuth  
Kennedy Coombe, ss, Clio  
Marissa Warren, c, Big Rapids  
**Honorable Mention**  
Lily Federau, c, Lakewood-Lake Odessa  
Jaiden Griffith, 2b, Williamston  
Tiffany Keller, 2b, Frankenmuth  
Jenna Kowalski, 3b, Freeland  
Alexis Linton, utl, Essexville-Garber

Jamie Maier, ss, Owosso  
Evelynn Rybicki, of, Freeland  
Ella Wagner, 1b, Essexville-Garber

Grace Simpson, utl, Beaverton  
Allyson Theunick, c, Evert

## DIVISION 4

**First Team**  
Alexandria Coffey, p, Michigan Lutheran Seminary  
Ellery Garver, ss, Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart  
Ella Hagerman, 2b, Carson City-Crystal  
Macy Johnston, utl, Beal City  
Rylee Scheurer, of, Portland St. Patrick  
Kallie Smith, 1b, Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart  
Mairin Wheaton, 3b, Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart  
**Honorable Mention**  
Ava Gross, of, Coleman  
Brianna Halfmann, p, Fowler  
Savannah Jones, p, Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart  
Avery Koenigsnecht, c,

Fowler  
Kourtney Mack, of, Dansville  
Rachel McCaughna, 2b, Michigan Lutheran Seminary  
Saige Miller, ss, Fowler  
Gracelyn Rockey, ss, Portland St. Patrick  
Makenna Smith, 2b, Fowler  
Emily Taylor, ss, Beal City  
Gracie Taylor, c, Dansville



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# Baseball Season Ends With Area Teams Making Strong Showings In State Tourney

## Butch Harmon Sports Scene

The following is a recap of the boys baseball state tournament and a look at how some of the top local teams fared in post-season action.

### DIVISION 1

#### Novi Wins First-Ever State Baseball Title

Led by a deep and talented pitching staff, Novi won its first-ever baseball state championship as it defeated Woodhaven 8-3 in the Division 1 state championship game.

#### Caleb Bonemer Leads Okemos To District Title

Okemos standout Caleb Bonemer capped off his junior season in style by helping lead the Wolves to their first district championship since 2018. Bonemer, who was named the Gatorade Michigan Baseball Player of the Year, clubbed three home runs in the district title game against Grand Ledge to help Okemos to a 6-4 win. Okemos finished the season with a 23-6 record after falling to Battle Creek Lakeview in the regional semifinals.

#### Midland Dow Stuns Bay City Western In District Final

The Midland Dow baseball team came away

and all-district honors. Sophomores Wyatt Ball and Maddox Armour also earned all-district and all-conference honors this season.

#### Frankenmuth Reaches State Quarterfinal Round

Led by senior standout pitcher Drew Titsworth who will play college baseball at Clemson, the Frankenmuth baseball team won district and regional titles this season before dropping a 9-5 decision to Flint Powers in the state quarterfinal game. The Eagles, who finished the season with a 22-13-2 record, won the district title with a 9-2 win against Flint Kearsley. In the regional Frankenmuth outlasted Swan Valley 6-4 in nine innings in a semifinal thriller and then defeated North Branch 13-2 in the regional title game.

#### Williamston Wins District Title

Williamston capped a 20-win season by winning a district title with a 10-4 victory against Fowlerville in the district title game. The young Hornet squad was paced by freshman Hunter VanSickler who collected three hits and four RBI. Fellow freshman Hunter Harding added three hits and two RBI while junior Carter Gulick had a pair of hits, two RBI and a double. Junior pitcher Brayden Johnson pitched five inning and struck out seven while allowing no earned runs. Williamston ended the season with a 23-12-1 record after falling to Flint Powers in the regional semifinals.

#### Bay City John Glenn Ends Season In Regional Finals

The Bobcats capped a big season with a district championship and reached the regional finals before dropping a 2-0 pitching duel to Forest Hills Eastern. Led by the one-two pitching punch of Tanner Sonntag and Brody Krzysiak, John Glenn won the district title with a 7-1 win against Shepherd and a 3-1 win against Freeland in the title game. John Glenn then defeated Gladwin 6-3 in the regional semifinals. The Bobcats, who won a district title for the 13<sup>th</sup> time in the last 15 years, finished the season with a 36-6 record.



The Gladwin baseball team won a district title in 2023.

### DIVISION 3

#### Bridgeman Wins First State Title In Over 30 Years

Bridgeman won its first baseball state championship since 1987 when it defeated top-ranked Algonac 7-1 in the Division 3 state championship game.

#### Lansing Catholic Ends Season In The Final Four

Lansing Catholic wrapped up a big baseball season by reaching the final four in Division 3. The Cougars, who turned in a 23-6 record this season, dropped a 4-1 decision to top-ranked Algonac in the Division 3 state semifinals. Lansing Catholic reached the semifinals after a 6-4 win against Watervliet in the quarterfinals. Tyler Rakan led the offense with three RBI while pitcher Drew Diehl threw a complete game three-hitter to pick up the win. Catholic began its tournament run by winning the Vermontville Maple Valley district where it defeated Pewamo-Westphalia 7-1 in the title game. The Cougars then won the regional with a 4-2 semifinal win against Grand Rapids NorthPointe Christian and a 7-0 win against North Muskegon in the regional

finals. Drew Tolfree tossed a three-hit shutout in the final while Drew Burlingame led the offense with two hits and three RBI and Austin Gates and Diehl added two hits and an RBI apiece.

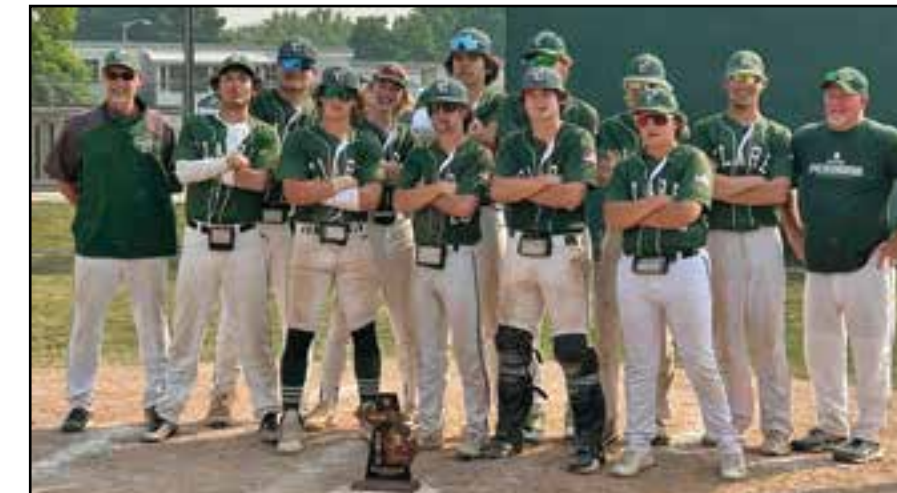
#### Chesaning Wins First District In Over 30 Years

Chesaning made history this season as it won its first district title since 1990. The Indians won the district title with an 8-1 win against Ithaca in the finals. Brady Sager threw a complete game, three-hitter with nine strikeouts to earn the win and also added a pair of hits and an RBI. Lucas Rumisek collected three hits and two RBI while Lucas Powell had three hits and two runs scored and Adam Woodcock had two

hits and a RBI. Chesaning then defeated Laingsburg 7-2 in the regional semifinals before dropping a 5-1 decision to Watervliet in the regional title game to end the season with a 27-9 record. Logan Fulk threw a five-hitter with seven strikeouts in the regional semifinals while Sager led the offense with three hits and two RBI including a two-run home run. Nash Wendling also added three hits.

#### Clare Captures District Title

Clare claimed the title at the district it hosted with an 11-1 win against Reed City in the title game. Miles Haggeret pitched a complete game to lead the Pioneers. Clare reached the finals after holding off Chippewa Hills 3-2 in the semifinals. Chase Randall picked up the win in the semifinals as he



The Clare baseball team defeated Reed City to win the district championship.

tossed a complete game. Jayden Arthur drove home Matthew Mast with the winning run in the game.

#### Laingsburg Wins District Championship

Laingsburg capped off the season with a district championship before falling to Chesaning in the regional semifinals. Laingsburg claimed the district title with a 5-1 win over Perry. Jylon Peek picked up the win as he allowed one hit over 6 2/3 innings pitched. Wolfpack all-state standout Ty Randall had a big game in the district semifinal win against Byron as he went 5-for-5 with three doubles, a triple and seven RBI.

### DIVISION 4

#### Beal City Wins Fifth State Title

After coming up short in last year's state title game, Beal City came home with the state title this year as it defeated Plymouth Christian Academy 2-1. The state title was the fifth in program history for the Aggies.

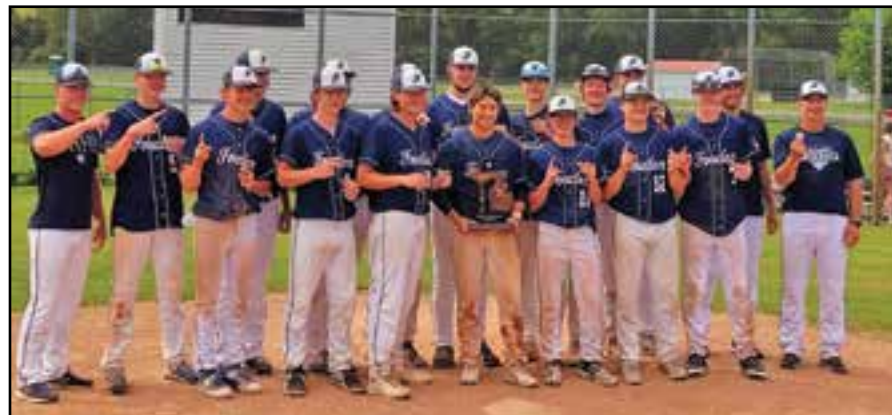
#### Fowler Reaches Top Eight In The State In Tourney

With no seniors on the team this year, the Fowler baseball team gave a glimpse of what the future has in store as it made a run to the state quarterfinals in the Division 4 state tournament. Fowler opened tournament play by winning the district it hosted with a 10-1 win against Carson City-Crystal. The Eagles then added a regional championship

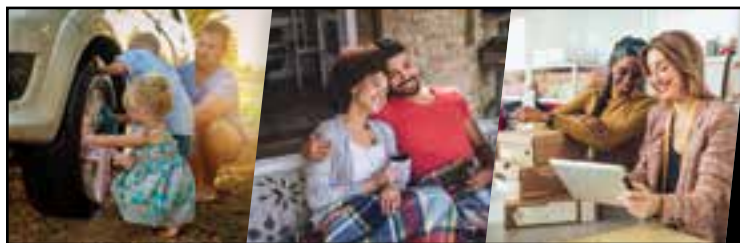


The Bay City John Glenn baseball team had one of the best seasons in school history in 2023.

as it defeated Lansing Christian 5-3 in the semifinals and then Muskegon Catholic Central 3-1 in the regional title game. Evan Curtiss picked up the win in the win in the quarterfinals as he pitched a complete game and also helped the offense with a home run. Mitchell Wirth added a pair of hits in the game. The season came to an end for Fowler in the quarterfinals when it fell to eventual state champion Beal City.



Fowler defeated Carson City-Crystal in the title game to win the district championship.



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# Area Softball Teams Turn In Big Efforts In State Tournament

## Dave Cook Sports Scene

The following is a recap of the softball state tournament and a look at how some of the top local teams fared in post-season action.

### DIVISION 1

#### Hartland Wins Wins D1 State Title

Hartland won the Division 1 state championship as it defeated Woodhaven 9-1 in the D1 state championship game.

#### DeWitt Extends District Win Streak

DeWitt softball won a district title for the third consecutive year as it turned back Holt 3-0 in the district title game. Panther pitcher Kyra Shaddock twirled a two-hitter while freshman Madeline Torrence came up with the big hit with a two-run single. Ruby Puck also added an RBI hit for the Panthers who also won a conference title for a second straight season.

#### Midland Softball Wins Third Straight District Title

The Midland softball team claimed a district title for the third consecutive season as it defeated Mt. Pleasant 5-2 in the district title game. Junior pitcher Grace Schloop allowed one earned run and struck out six to earn the win while Hayden Purvis led the offense with a pair of doubles and two RBI and Morgan Stewart added two doubles. Midland concluded the season with a 31-6 record after falling 2-1 to Traverse City West in the regional semifinals.

### DIVISION 2

#### Gaylord Wins First-Ever Softball State Crown

Gaylord, which set a new state record for team home runs in a season, won its first-

ever softball state title with a 8-3 win against Vicksburg.

#### Frankenmuth Reaches State Quarterfinals

The Frankenmuth softball team turned in a big season that was capped by the first regional championship since 2015. The Eagles clinched the regional title with a 2-0 win over Goodrich. Senior pitcher Brooklyn Compau, who finished her career with over 800 strikeouts, tossed a four-hitter and struck out six in the win. Frankenmuth opened regional play with a 10-3 win against Owosso and reached the regional after defeating Birch Run 7-0 in the district finals. Frankenmuth finished the season with a 33-7-1 record after dropping a 3-2 decision to Richmond in the quarterfinals.

### DIVISION 3

#### Standish-Sterling Wins First-Ever Softball State Title

Standish-Sterling made program history as it defeated Ottawa Lake Whiteford 1-0 to win the first softball state title in school history.

#### Laingsburg Reaches Final Four

After winning its first regional title since 1978, the Laingsburg softball team reached the state semifinals where it fell to Ottawa Lake Whiteford 8-0. Laingsburg wrapped up the season with a 36-7 record, winning district and regional titles and defeating Cass City 8-6 in the quarterfinal round. Laingsburg secured the regional title with a 9-5 win against New Lothrop. Freshman Bella Latuszek and Harper Strouse led the offense with a double and two RBI apiece. Sophomore Addyson Buchin pitched a complete game and added two hits and two RBI on offense. Junior Ashley Bila turned in a huge season for the Wolfpack as she hit over .500 while stealing over 40 bases and



The Shepherd softball team defeated Ithaca in eight innings to win the district softball title.

driving in 25 runs. Latuszek hit over .390 this season while fellow freshman Harper Strouse hit over .340 with 35 RBI.

#### Shepherd Reaches Regional Title Game

Shepherd capped a big softball season with a district title and reached the regional finals before dropping a 7-4 decision to Cass City. The Bluejays won the district title in thrilling fashion with a 10-9 win in eight innings against Ithaca. Shepherd edged Hemlock 5-4 in the regional semifinals and finished the season with a 26-16 record. Abby Robinson and Liv Regenfuss both earned first-team, all-conference honors this season while Jordyn Schafer, Kendra Walch, Adrian Reed and Morgan Bloniarczyk earned second-team honors and Isabelle Robinson was honorable mention.

#### Hemlock Wins District Title

Hemlock won its first district softball title since 2017 as it defeated Chesaning and Saginaw Valley Lutheran. Huskie pitcher Cayla Konop picked up both wins. Lauren Borsenik led the offense with two hits and four RBI in the title game and added a home run in the semifinals while Lillian Martinez and Klaira Salo each had two hits in the semifinals. Hemlock finished the season with

a 20-14 record after dropping a 5-4 decision to Shepherd in the regional semifinals.

### DIVISION 4

#### Fowler Captures Regional Crown

The Fowler offense totaled 20 runs in a pair of regional games highlighted by a 13-2 win against Sand Creek that gave the Eagles the regional title. Avery Koenigsnech led the offense with three hits while Saige Miller and Carly Andros drove in three runs each. Brianna Halfmann was the winning pitcher. Fowler reached the regional after edging rival Portland St. Patrick 4-3 in the district championship game. The Eagles closed out the season by dropping a 13-12 thriller against eventual state finalist Mendon in the quarterfinals.

#### Coleman Closes Season With District Title

Coleman finished the season with a 21-13 overall record and won a district title. The Comets defeated Beal City 7-5 in the district title game behind the pitching of Madison Miller. Miller and Ava Gross led the offense with three hits apiece while Elley Johnson added two hits including a home run. Coleman reached the regional title game with a 12-6 win against Alcona before falling to Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart in the regional final.

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# St. Patrick Sprinter Sparks Team To State Runner-Up Finish

## John Raffel Sports Scene

Portland St. Patrick track and field coach Dawn Fedewa can't say enough about her junior sprinter Rylee Scheurer.

"Rylee is a three-year spring dual sport athlete that excels in both track and softball," Fedewa said. "After qualifying for track and field state finals as a freshman, she made the tough choice to forego state finals and compete with the softball team at districts, helping that team make a deep run in the tournament. This year the same decision was on the table, but Rylee made the choice to compete at Track and Field State Finals. Her season was driven by constantly redefining goals and balancing training for both sports. Those efforts, doing the small things right, had big impacts on her finishing no lower than third in any finals race that she ran.

"As the weather warmed up, Rylee's times in the 100 and 200 began to drop consistently. And, when it counted most, she set personal bests at State Finals in the 100, finishing third, and as the State

Champion in the 200. Both races were school record efforts. Rylee's achievements

this year also helped her team win the first Regional Championship and State Finals Runner-up finishes in school history."

Scheuer's record sheet is as follows; 2023 Track State Finals: 1st 200M, 3rd 100 & 4x200, 4th 4x100; Regional champion and school record holder (all set in 2023) in 100 (12.63), 200 (25.82), 4x100 (51.87) & 4x200 (1:47.62); All-State 1st team Track & Softball; Academic All-State Track and Softball

"Rylee is incredibly coachable and has amazing body awareness," Fedewa said. "She is able to make form corrections with minimal practice. Her ability to compete at a very high level in softball translated well to the track this year when it came time to perform in high pressure situations. She has an amazing drive to succeed and improve. The combination of all of these characteristics, coupled with her God-given talent, put her in the perfect spot to have the success that she did this season.

"Rylee has put in a significant amount work in the weight room during the offseason

and her improved strength was noticeable this year. As an athlete who is relatively new

to track, Rylee's confidence and consistency were noticeably improved this year, as well. Rylee has always been blessed with natural talent, but is driven by exceptional work ethic. Since she joined the team, she never skips a workout, even though the balance between two sports is tough."

Fedewa added: "While her talent shines, during her sophomore season when she battled an injury, Rylee was an incredible teammate. She continued to come to every meet that she was able to, supporting her teammates in their efforts and encouraging them throughout the season."

Fedewa noted most of Scheurer's centers around softball. She also plays basketball.

"While most of Rylee's offseason work centers around softball, the work that she puts in there has improved her speed, strength and agility," Fedewa said. "Those abilities transfer exceptionally well, enhancing her abilities on the track. Rylee is still new to the sport of track which makes her top end potential something that is still developing. She has the strength to succeed in other events and will continue to fine tune form in those events that she already is successful in.

"Rylee has received interest from some Division I schools. Based on her current times, she would be

competitive in most college programs. She has also received collegiate interest for softball."



Rylee Scheurer holds Portland St. Patrick's state runnerup trophy in track & field.



Mason junior AJ Martel won a state champ in the 300 hurdles (38.90) setting the school record this year.

# Mason Boys Track Takes Second In State

## John Raffel Sports Scene

Mason coach Eric Haynie had a lot of talented track and field athletes on a team which was 5-0 in its league and also Division 2 state runners-up.

"Coming into the season I believed that we would be competitive, however I was concerned about depth because contributors from last season graduated," Haynie said. "A number of underclassmen improved a lot from last season to this year. Alex Doneth (10) in the 1600 (4:29) and 3200 (9:30) Nick Saade in (135-10) the discus. "We had two new additions this season which added to our depth. Junior Cole Ries

who was a member of the 4x100 4x200 and 4x400 relay teams and a strong 300 hurdler.

Freshmen Alex Charlot developed

into our top sprinter this season. Seniors Brian Ingram helped in the shot after

recovering from an injury last season and senior James Meninga was a solid force in the 800, 4x800 and 4x400 relays."

Haynie saluted his coaches Charles Miller, Dave Jones, Eddie Saade, Courtney Ford, Anna

Vandebussche and Haley Ginter "who work really well together to get our kids prepared to compete."

Among the top athletes was junior Tyler Baker in the high jump, long jump, 110 and 300 hurdles. He set the school record last year in the high jump with a jump of 6-7 and this

season in long jump 22-1.5. At states he was first in 110 high hurdles (14.63), second in long jump and third in the high jump.

He was a state qualifier in the high jump and 110 hurdles. He was also a member

of the football team which reached the D3 semifinals and the varsity basketball team.

Junior AJ Martel was injured last season. As a freshmen he was a member of the 4x400

relay team place fourth at states. He was a state champ in the 300 hurdles (38.90) setting

the school record this year.

"AJ ran the 300 hurdles for the first time at the end of the season," Haynie said. "He ran so well that I entered him in the 300 hurdles instead of the open 400. AJ is another multi-sport athlete who was a member of the football team, wrestling team and a state qualifier in diving this year.

Other state qualifiers were the 4x800 relay team James Meninga (12), Dalton

Dunn (11), Conner McCormick (10) and Texas Smith (11); 4x100 relay Cole Ries (11), AJ Martel (11), Colin Page (12) and Ethan Charlot (9) and 3,200 run Alex Doneth(10)

"We are excited about next season with so many athletes returning. We will work hard in the off-season to develop some more depth," Haynie said.

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East Lansing distance runner Anna Delgado ended the season as a state champion.

# East Lansing State Distance Champ Now Heads To Northwestern

## John Raffel Sports Scene

Anna Delgado is now ready to pursue a running career at Northwestern University after a championship season at East Lansing.

"Coming off an injury in September and starting the track season with bronchitis, I think her season was nearly perfect," assistant track coach and head cross country coach Kathy Hubbard said. "She improved every single meet, stayed healthy and focused on her goals and ended the season as a state champion."

Delgado, who ran track four seasons, was runner-up at the Division 1 State Track and Field finals in the 1,600 meter run and she was state champion in the 3,200 meter run.

Delgado set the ELHS records in the 800 (2:13.3), the 1600 (4:48.88) and the 3,200 (10:33.87). She broke the 18:00 barrier in cross country (17:59) her first cross country meet of senior year.

"Anna is extremely dedicated to everything she does whether it be athletics or academics," Hubbard said. "She always trains very hard and has laser sharp focus on her training, her times and every workout. Anna has the heart of a champion and true love of her sport. She has a strong inner drive to be the best. Besides obviously getting significantly faster, Anna has greatly improved her mental strength and her ability to understand her body. She is very in touch with her skills and her race every time. She knows where she is at each lap and where she needs to be to achieve the goal that she set."

"Some of her most memorable moments over the years would be her breaking 18:00 minutes in the 5K; her experiences at team cross country camp; qualifying for the state track finals as a junior and having the experience of competing at a high level; breaking the Greater Lansing Honor Roll meet record in the 1600 meter run. Anna rarely stops training. It is what she does and a huge part of who she is. Throughout

her senior year injury, Anna was either in the weightroom swinging ropes, doing the elliptical or riding a stationary bike. Many times she even did workouts in the pool. Throughout the year, Anna is always training. She is very diligent about her mileage and staying healthy. She tries very hard to not put too much stress on her body but still gets a workout in to keep her in shape. Rest is difficult for her."

Delgado also ran cross country. "Anna is the true definition of an elite runner," Hubbard said. "She never backs down from hard work or challenges. She will do her workouts in the rain, snow or heat and give 100 percent every time. Anna is the most coachable athlete I have ever had the honor to coach. She always wants to learn more about her body, her race and her as a competitor. She listens to her coaches and is able to execute exactly what she was told. She truly is one of a kind."

Hubbard said Delgado will be attending and running at Northwestern University this fall."

# Alma Boys Win State Titles

## Special To Sports Scene

The Alma Panther boys track team had an outstanding day at the Division 3 state finals on June 3.

The boys were 10th overall. Jacoby Dunlap won the high jump with an exciting competition. He battled and had no misses at 5-11,

6-1, 6-3 and 6-5 to seal the win. His final height was 6-7 to become a state champion.

Daniel Ash cleared opening height in his first state meet competition.

Joy Evans placed fifth in the 400 and earned all state honors. She also ran a very solid time of 26.71 in the 200 prelims but just fell short of making the finals.

Michael Howey took a commanding lead in the shot put with his second throw of prelims at 55-3. His last throw was 55-8 and he was crowned state champion.

Ezgi Kurt then ran the 3200 race. She was mid pack for the first mile then moved up to place 6th overall and earned all State honors.



Alma's Michael Howey (left) and Jacoby Dunlap (right).

# Fowler Boys Track Team Posts Another Strong State Finish

## John Raffel Sports Scene

Brett Schafer coached a Fowler boys track team, which was 6-1 in CMAC meets and second overall in the league, first at regionals and fourth at the state championship.

"It's a young team that was determined to win this year," Schafer said. "They were not concerned about the individual

performance, but determined to win as a team. Last year we finished 45th in the State Meet and didn't score in the 2021 State Final, and this year we took fourth.

"We performed in the top at every invite we competed in. We had several athletes place in the top tier at the invites and most will be returning athletes. Our 4x200 meter relay team at the state final

broke our 43-year school record, and they all return next year. We competed as a TEAM. There were several top athletes. Sophomore Brady Feldpausch is a four-time All-Stater in the 110 hurdles (2nd), 300 hurdles (2nd), 4x200M relay (3rd) and 4X400 relay (fourth).

Sophomore Ford Phillips is a three-time All Stater in the 400 meters (2nd), 4X200 meter (3rd) and 4X400 meters (4th). Sophomore Nate Spicer is a two-

time All State in the 4x200M (3rd) and 4X400M (4th). Junior Tristan Smith is a two-time All Stater in the 4X200 meter (3rd) and 4X400 meter (4th).

Senior Drew Ambrusmacher was an All Stater in the pole vault (7th).

"We have a great future with current and upcoming athletes. Several had great performances and will add to the future of Fowler track and field," Schafer said.

Sophomore Ben Kohagen qualified for state championship in the long jump this year.

Junior Carter Lance qualified for

the state championship in the long jump and high jump.

Carter Fedewa had a pole vault PR of 9 feet in 8th grade and jumped 10-6 this year as a freshman.

Sophomore Cole Hufnagel qualified for the State Final in Discus.

Senior Cooper Koenigsnecht qualified for State Finals in the shot put.

"With returning the majority of our team and adding a very strong upcoming freshman class, we look to better our 4th place finish at the State Championship," Schafer said.

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# Ovid-Elsie Pole Vaulter Claims State Title

## John Raffel Sports Scene

Tryce Tokar was a state champion in pole vaulting at Ovid Elsie High School this season and loved every minute of it.

It was his sophomore season and his second on the varsity.

His winning vault was 14 feet, 8 1/4 inches.

"It was a relief," Tokar said of his state title effort. "There was lots of pressure at the state meet because Jack Borgman (Laingsburg) cleared 15 feet the week before and pressure because I won the State Meet the year before so lots of pressure. It was a competitive

battle with Jack Borgman and Chase Battani (Almont), but we push each other to be better. "Right after last season's state championship I wrote my goals on the whiteboard in my bedroom which were I wanted to vault 15 feet and win the state championship again. I placed first in all meets except for one, the Honor Roll meet where I was jumping with shin splints. My first meet of the year was indoor at SVSU with a meet record vault of 14-1 to open the season."

At the regionals, Tokar broke the OE School Record (held by Joey Latz of 14-6) with a jump of 14-8.25.

The key to success, Tokar said, "is practice and competing year around for the most part, working with my vaulting coaches and speed/strength training coaches and family support."

He said improvement has been "working on my takeoffs, getting faster, more explosive, higher vertical jump so it's easier to get on bigger poles."

Tokar said he invests time in weekly vaulting training, summer vaulting, competing in Indoor Track Series, weight and speed training and playing other multiple sports (football and basketball).

"I would love to vault at the collegiate level," he said.



Tryce Tokar was a state champion in pole vaulting at Ovid Elsie High School this season.

# Bath Girls Hurdler Is A State Champion

## John Raffel Sports Scene

Brad Pullman is the girls track and field coach of Bath High School and was very impressed in the season Destiny McDaniels had, and for good reason.

She won the Division 3 state finals 100 hurdles in 15.28 seconds for a personal record. It was her sophomore season and a very good one.

She also had a good season in the long jump and took third in 16 feet, 3.75 inches.

Pullman said McDaniels came into the state finals seeded third in the hurdles.

"She just didn't want to lose," Pullman said. "She's been running good all year. She ran 18.35 as a personal best. But at the state meet, she ran a 15.28 and broke the school record by five-tenths of a second.

"She plays volleyball in the fall and as soon as volleyball is done, she starts track conditioning. She runs hurdles in the hallways in the school and works on her technique repetition and stuff like that."

"She's very motivated and wants to do well. Her dream school she wants to get an offer from is a place like Oregon, but she's gotten an offer from Central which is looking at her. Other schools are looking at her. I'm sure more people will start looking at her after

what she did at the state meet."

Winning the championship was a thrill for McDaniels.

"It was really exciting for me and my family," she said. "No one in my family has ever done anything like this before. There was a lot of excitement and enjoyment to do it."

Repetition was the key in pulling it off, McDaniels said.

"The key is motivating yourself and not giving up," she said. "The key was to push and push and go faster and faster."

For the next two years McDaniels hopes to get her time down to 13 seconds.



Bath's Destiny McDaniels won the Division 3 state finals 100 hurdles in 15.28 seconds for a personal record.

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# Rockford Long Jumper Takes State Title

## John Raffel Sports Scene

Rockford head track and field coach Sean O'Brien couldn't have been happier with the season he got from Maya Anderson.

She was the Division 1 long jumping champ at the state finals with an effort of 18 feet, 6.5 inches. She was also the OK Red Conference and regional champion. She was also on the 4x200 relay team which took sixth in the state and the 4x100 team which took eighth. She also ran the 100-meter dash and won the OK Red title.

"Maya is one of the hardest workers I ever had the pleasure of coaching," O'Brien said. "She worked relentlessly all offseason for her ultimate goal of winning a state championship. Maya was ranked No. 1 last year going into the state finals and placed seventh. This year she wanted to redeem herself and she did by placing first in indoor states this year and first in outdoor states this year in the long jump.

"She is a student of the game, constantly asking questions, researching and doing whatever she can get better at in the littlest of things."

Anderson was the lead leg in her two relays.

"She is the best leadoff leg I have ever seen," O'Brien said. "Her power and explosiveness helped her explode out of the blocks and get us out to a lead. Track is her only sport and she is a great leader on our team that helps out our younger athlete and sets a great example.

"Maya will truly be missed. Maya is attending the University of Michigan next year and will be competing on the track team."



Rockford's Maya Anderson won the the Division 1 long jump title this season.

# Meridian High Jumper Takes State Title

## John Raffel Sports Scene

Sanford Meridian boys track coach Mike Bilina was every impressed with junior Sawyer Moloy and his second year participating in track and field and in the high jump and long jump.

Moloy won the Division 3 State Championship in high jump with

an effort of 6 feet, four inches.

"Sawyer is a phenomenal athlete," Bilina said. "His size (6-6) and leaping ability are that of a college athlete. He's must see entertainment. I believe he has the potential to jump higher. He has jumped 6-7 a few times.

"He just started participating in the high jump in 2022.

His technique is still raw, however he was able to improve it with the help of our jumping coach (Coach Kolevar). As a result of him improving his technique he was much more consistent this season."

Moloy is an excellent track athlete but it's not his only fine sport.

"Sawyer is also an

accomplished basketball player," Bilina said. "He was 2023 BCAM 1st team All-State. He's very active athletically.

"Sawyer's very humble and doesn't like the spotlight on himself."

Bilina would not be surprised if Moloy plays college sports.

"Sawyer will have options in either track or basketball," he said.

Sanford Meridian's Sawyer Moloy.



# AREA ALL STATE TRACK AND FIELD

## DIVISION 1 BOYS

100-meters dash: 6-Keiton Fase, Rockford, 10.78.  
4x200 relay: 3-Rockford, Anthony Bouwhuis, Isaac Poot, Keiton Fase, Carter Bissell, 1:27.38.4. Lansing Eaverley, Kharee Davis Vaedean Trotter, Evan Ealker/Dean Taylor, 1:27.56.

1,600-meters: 7-Colin Graham, Rockford, 4:19.28.  
4x100 relay: 1-Rockford, Camden Kruisenga, Sam Coyle, Keiton Fase, 42.01.

400-meters: 7-Evan Walker, Lansing Waverly, 49.45.  
800-meters: 7-Noah Selvaraj, Bay City Western, 1:55.24.

200-meters: 3-Keiton Fase, Rockford, 21.80  
4x400 relay: 8-Rockford, Isaac Poot, Jonah Carlson, Adam Flanders, Carter Bissell, 3:23.40.

Long jump: 2-Carter Bissell, Rockford, 22-7; 3-Evan Walker, 22-4; 7-Rhett Klopf, Saginaw Heritage, 31-6.25.

Discus: 7-Merrick Hocking, Midland, 115-6.  
Shot put: 3-Case Johnson, Greenville, 48-8.

3,200 meters: 1-TJ Hanson, Freeland, 9:11.56; 8-Joey Bowman, St. Johns 9:27.44.

Long jump: 2-Tyler Baker, Mason, 21-11.75  
High jump: 1-Jacoby Dunlap, Alma, 6-2; 3-Tyler Baker, Mason, 6-4; 7-Lee Franco, Bridgeport, 6-0.

Discus: 4-Noah Simpson, Portland, 168-0  
Shot put: 1-Michael Howey, Alma, 55-9.

Valley Lutheran, 12-6.  
Long jump: 3-Ethan Hull, Ithaca, 20-6.25; 5-Preston Kelsey, 20-7.

High jump: 1-Sawyer Molloy, Sanford Meridian, 6-4.  
Discus: 2-Gavin Nurenberg, Pewamo-Westphalia, 150-8.

Shot put: 1-Gavin Nurenberg, Pewamo-Westphalia, 49-7.

100-meters dash: 3-Rylee Scheurer, Portland St. Patrick, 12.72; 5-BayLeigh Clapp, Breckenridge, 12.98.

4x200 meters relay: 1-Fowler, Grace O'Hare, Ella Hufnagel, Michaela Spitzley, Katie Spicer, 1:47.17; 3-Portland St. Patrick, Isabella Kissane, Sophia Schrauben, Kenzie Fedewa, Rylee Scheurer, 1:49.09.

4x100 meters relay: 2-Fowler, Grace O'Hare, Paige Thelen, Michaela Spitzley, 53.14; 4-Portland St. Patrick, Kyra Kinsman, Isabella Issane, Kenzie Fedewa, Rylee Schueuer, 52.03; 5-Coleman, Maddy Miller, Amber Nehrig, Ava Gross, Nevaeh Chaffee, 52.62; 7-Breckenridge, Raeyn Mayer, Kayla Goward, Kyla Riedel, BayLeigh Clapp, 52.72.

400-meters run: 1-Kaylee Locke, Beal City, 58.55; 5-Kenzie Fedewa, Portland St. Patrick, 1:01.46.

300-meters hurdles: 1-Anna Plum, Mount Pleasant Sacred Heart, 46.01; 4-Sophia Schrauben, Portland St. Patrick, 48.14; 7-Paige Thelen, Fowler, 48.71.

200-meters dash: 1-Rylee Scheurer, Portland St. Patrick, 25.82; 3-Katie Spicer, Fowler, 26.27; 8-Anna Plum, Mount Pleasant Sacred Heart, 31.29.

4x400 meters relay: 2-Portland St. Patrick, Sierra Schafer, Isabella Kissane, Sophia Schrauben, Kenzie Fedewa, 4:09.32; 3-Fowler, Grace O'Hare, 4:13.85.

Pole vault: 8-Kaylin Biemaster, Fulton, 8-3.  
Long jump: 2-BayLeigh Clapp, Breckenridge, 17-2; 7-Katie Spicer, Fowler, 16-4.75

Shot put: 3-Emily Stinson, Fulton, 37-4.75.

3,200 meters: 1-Lansing Catholic, Tessa Roe, Francis Melinn, CC Jones, Hannah Pricco, 9:30.34; 3-Allison Nurenberg, Abby Arens, Lorelei George, 9:35.51.

400 meters: 2-Hanna Pricco, 58.98; 3-Claire Neumann, Saginaw Valley Lutheran, 59.35.

Pole vault: 3-Natalee Hoyt, St. Louis, 10-0; 4-Natasha Nowakowski, Ithaca, 10-0; 6-Madison Phillip, Laingsburg, 10-0.

Discus: 5-Anna Nixon, Perry, 119-6.

110-meters hurdles: 6-Shane Braughton, Dansville, 16.10.

100-meters dash: 5-Jamison Latham, Beal City, 11.43.  
4x200 relay: 3-Fowler, Nate Spicer, Tristan Smith, Ford Phillips, Brady Feldspausch, 1:31.38.

1,600 meters: 3-Dakota Dykhuis, Montabella, 4:19.22.  
4x100 relay 8-Beal City, Jamison Latham, Brayden Shaffer, Kadin Straus, Drew Block, 45.23.

400-meters run: 2-Ford Phillips, Beal City, 50.77.  
300-meters hurdles: 2-Brady Feldspausch, Fowler, 40.60.

800-meters run: 1-Owen Patton Vestaburg, 1:55.11.  
3,200-meters run: 2. Dakota Dykhuis, Montabella, 9:42.52

4x400 meters relay: 4-Ford Phillips, Fowler, 3:30.47.

## DIVISION 2 GIRLS

4x800 relay: 4-Shepherd, Madison, Gimmey, Ellie Himbaugh, Jolie Fisher, Ariel Warner, 9:37.96.

200-meters: 8-Sydney Kuhn, Saginaw Swan Valley, 26.45.

100-meters hurdles: 3-Riley Gill, Mason, 15.76  
100-meters dash: 6-Annabelle, Charlotte, 12.47.

4x200 relay: 3-Mason, Tori Lator, Taylor Rowe, Jocelyn Shattuck, Riley Gill, 1:45.70.

400 meters: 5-Joy Evans, 57.97; 6-Christina Dixon, Haslett, 58.66.

300 meter hurdles: 3-Riley Gill, Mason, 47.33; 4-Haven Vasold, 48.45.

3,200 run: 6-Ezgi Kurt, Alma, 11:17.36; 8-Clara Fletcher, St. Johns, 11:50.07.

4x400 relay: 2-Shepherd, Falicite Babcock, Jolie Fischer, Isabel Wood, Ariel Warner, 4:08.48; 3-Payton Ball, Meghan Ford, Riley Gill, Jocelyn Shattuck, 4:08.74.

Shot put: 8-Alyssa Spegel, Freeland, 35-10.

4x200 relay: 6-Rockford, Maya Anderson, Emma Flanders, Greta Caprathe-Buczek, Evangeline Rowland, 1:43.65.

1,600 meters: 2-Anna Delgado, East Lansing, 4:48.88; 3-Taylor Pangburn, Grand Ledge, 5:00.51.

4x100 relay: 8-Rockford, Maya Anderson, Greta Caprathe-Buczek, Maiya Corrigan, Emma Flanders, 49.45.

400 meters: 2-Emma Thomas, Midland Dow, 57.72.  
800 meters: 8-Lauren Walker, Holt, 2:15.41

3,200 meters: 1-Anna Delgado, East Lansing, 10:45.95; 6-Annika Sandman, Lowell, 10:44.86.

Pole vault: 2-Taylor Diamond, Cedar Springs, 12-0; 4-Maija Corrigan, 12-6.

Long jump: 1-Maya Anderson, Rockford, 18-5.5; 3-Greta Caprathe-Buczek, 17-9.25; 5-Ashley Richburg, Grand Ledge, 17-2.

High jump: 6-Susie Schulz, Bay City Central, 5-0; 6-(tie) Greta Caprathe-Buczek, Rockford 5-0.

Discus: 4-Lillian Lince, Midland, 134-4.

4X800 relay: 3-Freeland, TJ Hansen, Jacob Alexander, Nate Niderquell.

Braydon Honsinger, 7:50.56  
4x200 relay: 6-Charlotte, Cutler Brandt, Nick Adams Malicki Garza, Braden Hill, 1:29.90.

4x100 relay: 4-Lansing Sexton, Seth Bouyer, Hurley Young, Andre Whitehorn, Tavvian Smith, 43.13; 7-Charlotte, Cutler Brandt, Nick Adams, Maliki Garza, Braden Hill, 43.55; 8-ason, Cole Ries, Colin Page, AJ Martel, Ethan Charlot, 43.59.

300 hurdles: 1-AJ Martel, Mason 38.90.  
800 meters: 3-Braydon Honsinger, Freeland, 1:54.44; 6-Jacob Montgomery, Ionia, 1:56.43.

200-meters dash: 2-Brayden Riley, Sanford Meridian, 22.24; 4-Trevor Smith, Pewamo-Westphalia, 22.54.

3,200-meter run: 7. Brad White, Clare, 10:08.29; 8-Colin Farmer, Pewamo-Westphalia, 9:52.23.

4x400 relay: 2-Claire, Jeffrey Schafer Owlin Thompson, Nic Porter, Karsten Tocco, 3:30.

Pole vault: 1-Tryce Tokar, Ovid-Elsie, 14-8 1/4; 2-Jack Borgman, Laingsburg, 14-0; 6-Noah Eden, Saginaw

4x100 relay: 1-Sanford Meridian, Kenneth Emerson, Madix Saunders, Nickolas Metzger, Brayden Riley, 43.47; 4-Ithaca, Ethan Hull, Bronson Bupp, Ryley White, 43.86, Nathan Mikesell, 43.87; 6-Pewamo-Westphalia, Connor Pohl, Trevor Smith, Brayden Harr, Alex Thelen, 44.03.

400 meters: 6-Nikolas Metzger, Sanford Meridian, 51.23.  
300-meters hurdles: 7-Colin Hagerman, Bath, 40.58.  
800-meters run: 5-Nathan Day, Saranac, 2:02.93.

200-meters dash: 2-Brayden Riley, Sanford Meridian, 22.24; 4-Trevor Smith, Pewamo-Westphalia, 22.54.

3,200-meter run: 7. Brad White, Clare, 10:08.29; 8-Colin Farmer, Pewamo-Westphalia, 9:52.23.

4x400 relay: 2-Claire, Jeffrey Schafer Owlin Thompson, Nic Porter, Karsten Tocco, 3:30.

Pole vault: 1-Tryce Tokar, Ovid-Elsie, 14-8 1/4; 2-Jack Borgman, Laingsburg, 14-0; 6-Noah Eden, Saginaw



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May 13	Sat	FULL SHOW/RELAY FOR LIFE FUND RAISER/GLTS	LM, PS, PT, IMCA, SS, FS, MW	7:00 PM	July 19	Wed	OUTLAW RACING SUPPLY IMCA MODIFIED SHOOTOUT	plus open practice for any race car on prepped surface	7:00 PM
May 20	Sat	FULL SHOW PLUS THE RON FLINN 52	LM, PS, PT, IMCA, SS, FS, MW	7:00 PM	July 22	Sat	LEBO'S BIRTHDAY BASH - ST. STOCKS \$722 TO WIN 50 LAP FEATURE	LM, PS, PT, IMCA, SS, FS, MW	7:00 PM
May 27	Sat	FULL SHOW PLUS GLSS - Sponsored by Engine Pro	NO MW, LM, PS, PT, IMCA, SS, FS, MW	7:00 PM	July 29	Sat	FULL SHOW PLUS GLSS - Sponsored by Blake Hollenbeck Auto Sales, Greenville	LM, PS, PT, IMCA, SS, FS, MW	7:00 PM
May 28	Sun	FULL SHOW PLUS FIREWORKS	LM, PS, PT, IMCA, SS, FS, MW	7:00 PM	Aug 5	Sat	FULL SHOW PLUS POLICE APPRECIATION NIGHT	LM, PS, PT, IMCA, SS, FS, MW	7:00 PM
June 3	Sat	FULL SHOW PLUS IMCA FAST SHAFT QUALIFIER	LM, PS, PT, IMCA, SS, FS, NO MW	7:00 PM	Aug 9	Wed	OUTLAW RACING SUPPLY IMCA MODIFIED SHOOTOUT	plus open practice for any race car on prepped surface	7:00 PM
June 10	Sat	MID SEASON CHAMPIONSHIP/M.A.R.F.C. NIGHT	LM, PS, PT, IMCA, SS, FS, MW	7:00 PM	Aug 12	Sat	FULL SHOW PLUS IMCA FAST SHAFT QUALIFIER - \$1500 TO WIN	LM, PS, PT, IMCA, SS, FS, NO MW	7:00 PM
June 14	Wed	OUTLAW RACING SUPPLY IMCA MODIFIED SHOOTOUT	plus open practice for any race car on prepped surface	7:00 PM	Aug 19	Sat	FULL SHOW	LM, PS, PT, IMCA, SS, FS, MW	7:00 PM
June 17	Sat	FULL SHOW/FLINN LOOK ALIKE/1ST ANNUAL CMS HALL OF FAME NITE	LM, PS, PT, IMCA, SS, FS, MW	7:00 PM	Aug 26	Sat	SEASON CHAMPIONSHIP	LM, PS, PT, IMCA, SS, FS, MW	7:00 PM
July 1	Sat	FULL SHOW - Race Car Bingo winner gets a season pass	LM, PS, PT, IMCA, SS, FS, MW	7:00 PM	Sept 2	Sat	FULL SHOW PLUS GLSS & FIREWORKS	NO LM, PS, PT, IMCA, SS, FS, MW	6:00 PM
July 3	Mon	FULL SHOW - FIREWORKS - ALEX RICHARDS MEMORIAL	LM, PS, PT, IMCA, SS, FS, MW	7:00 PM	Sept 3	Sun	OUTLAW LM \$750 TO START & OPEN MODIFIED and GLS	NO IMCA, NO MW, LM, PS, PT, SS, FS	6:00 PM
July 8	Sat	"YES 2 KIDS" - CHRISTMAS IN JULY CELEBRATION - Autographs 5:30-6:30 pm	LM, PS, PT, IMCA, SS, FS, MW	7:00 PM	Sept 15	Fri	GREAT LAKES NATIONALS - TWO BIG DAYS OF RACING - 7 CLASSES	LM, PS, PT, IMCA, SS, FS, MW (Fri. Only) - Chili Poles shuffle set lineups for this weekend.	6:00 PM
					Sept 16	Sat	GREAT LAKES NATIONALS FEATURE DAY - GLTS (Sat. only), FWD 4CYL STOCK, LM, IMCA, PS, PT, SS	6:00 PM	
					Jan 20	Sat	AWARDS BANQUET (\$30 each if RSVP & Pd before Jan. 4th - \$40 after Jan. 5th)	5:00 PM	

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Area track athletes turned in a number of standout performances this season.

# Area Soccer Teams Compete For Post-Season Glory In State Tournament

## David Cook Sports Scene

The following is a recap of the girls soccer state tournament and a look at how some of the top local teams fared in post-season action.

### DIVISION 1

#### Rochester Hills Stoney Creek Wins D1 State Title

Rochester Hills Stoney Creek won the Division 1 state championship as it defeated Hudsonville 2-1 in the D1 state championship game. Senior Lilley Bosley, who is headed to the University of Michigan,

scored a pair of goals in the final 10 minutes of the match to key the win.

#### Midland Soccer Team Reaches Regional Semifinals

The Midland soccer team finished the season by reaching the semifinals of the regional where it dropped a defensive struggle to Portage Central. Central, ranked seventh in the state in Division 1, defeated Midland 1-0 in an overtime shootout. Midland reached the semifinals after defeating Midland Dow 2-1 in the district finals. Midland, which had just three seniors on the team this season, ended the season with a 15-5-1 record.

### DIVISION 2

#### Grosse Pointe North Wins First-Ever D2 State Crown

Grosse Pointe North won the first state title in school history as it outlasted East Grand Rapids 3-2 in an overtime shootout in the Division 2 state title game.

#### DeWitt Reaches Regional Semifinals

The soccer season came to an end in the semifinals for the DeWitt soccer team. The Panthers dropped a 2-1 decision to Linden in the semifinals at the Linden regional. DeWitt reached the regional after a dominating defensive performance in the district. The Panthers posted three shutouts in district play highlighted by a 1-0 overtime win against Mason in the district title game. Senior forward Abby Deppen scored the game-winning goal off an assist from Alison Ashbrook as DeWitt won its first district title since 2021. The Panthers ended the season with a 13-7-3 record.

against Grosse Ile in the D3 state title match. Unity Christian turned in a perfect performance on defense during the state tournament outscoring its opponents 35-0 for the tournament.

#### Freeland Reaches Elite 8 In D3

It was a successful soccer season for Freeland as the Falcons reached the elite 8 in the Division 3 state tournament. Freeland opened the state tournament by winning the Standish-Sterling district where it defeated Essexville-Garber 2-0 in the title match. Freeland outscored its three district opponents by a combined score of 12-1 at the district. Freeland opened regional play at Clare by defeating Big Rapids 3-0 in the semifinals. Catherine Mueller led the offense with a pair of goals while Megan Hemgesberg added a goal. Adelyn Senkowski picked up the shutout in goal. The season came to an end for Freeland in the regional title game where it dropped a 2-1 decision to Elk Rapids in the regional title match and finished the season with a 16-6-1 record.

#### Williamston Soccer Reaches Regional Finals

The Williamston soccer team wrapped up the season by reaching the regional finals in the Division 3 state tournament where it dropped a 2-1 decision to eventual state finalist Grosse Ile. Williamston opened regional play with a 7-0 win against Quincy. Williamston reached the regional round after winning the district tournament it hosted and finished the season with a 13-6-1 overall record.

#### Bay City Western Ends Season In Regional

The Bay City Western soccer team wrapped up the season by reaching the regional semifinals at Cedar Springs. Western dropped a 2-1 decision to Spring Lake in the regional semifinals. Western reached the regional after defeating Mt. Pleasant 2-1 in the district championship match.

### DIVISION 3

#### Hudsonville Unity Christian Wins 11<sup>th</sup> D3 Title

Soccer powerhouse Hudsonville Unity Christian won its 11<sup>th</sup> state soccer championship with a 3-0 win

The Williamston soccer team ended the season with a district title.



## Saginaw Nouvel Finishes In Top Eight In The State

The Saginaw Nouvel soccer team capped a strong season by reaching the regional title game in the Division 4 state tournament. Nouvel dropped a 2-0 decision to eventual state runner-up Clarkston Everest Collegiate in the regional finals at Montrose. Nouvel reached the title game after defeating Hemlock 2-1 in the regional semifinals. Nouvel reached the regional by winning the Genesee Christian district where it defeated Bad Axe 3-1 in the district title game.

#### Hemlock Reaches Regional Round

The Hemlock soccer team ended the season by reaching the regional round where it dropped a 3-1 decision to Saginaw Nouvel. Hemlock reached the regionals after winning the Laingsburg district where it stopped the host Wolfpack 3-2 in the regional championship game. The Huskies were led this season by Izzy Curry and Avery Ross who both earned all-state honors, the first time the Hemlock soccer team has two all-state players.



The DeWitt soccer team defeated Mason 1-0 in the district finals to earn its first district title since 2021.

# AREA ALL STATE SOCCER PLAYERS

### DIVISION 1

#### Second Team

Ainsley Newcomb, fw, Midland sr.

#### Third Team

Abby Jager, fw, Okemos, sr.

Papapolymerou, gk, Okemos, sr.

#### Honorable Mention

Halle Barnard, def, Rockford, sr.

Lindsay Hart, mf, Midland Dow, sr.

Alaina Schalk, fw, Midland Dow, sr.

Lizzy Striebel, mf, Midland, soph.

Samantha Youmans, fw, Flushing, jr.

### DIVISION 2

#### First Team

Rachel Savage, mf, DeWitt, sr.

#### Second Team

Isabel Strubel, mf, Mt. Pleasant, sr.

Chloe Wittbrodt, fw, Bay City Western, sr.

#### Third Team

Claire Ramsey, def, Mason, sr.

RJ Wagamon, fw, Lowell, soph.

#### Honorable Mention

Alison Ashbrook, mf, DeWitt, sr.

Carly Dennis, def, DeWitt, fr.

Maddie Fant, fw, Haslett, sr.

Aubree Lee, gk, Lowell, jr.

Katie Longpre, fw, Mason, sr.

Madison McDonald, gk, DeWitt, soph.

Grace Mease, fw, Mt. Pleasant, jr.

Ainsley Reigler, mf, DeWitt, sr.

Ava Ruster, def, Mason, soph.

Brooke Swartz, mf, Bay City Western, jr.

Audrey Walkington, gk, Mason, jr.

### DIVISION 3

#### First Team

Grace Cameron, def, Flint Powers, jr.

Ella Kleiver, mf, Williamston, sr.

Catherine Mueller, fw, freeland, sr.

Natalie Vance, mf, Flint Powers, sr.

#### Second Team

Bayne Davis, def, Essexville-Garber, sr.

Breyer Fenech, fw, Williamston, sr.

Emma Gorsline, mf, Williamston, sr.

Abby Jones, mf, Flint Powers, jr.

Ashley Stover, def, Williamston, jr.

Maria Thompson, gk, Flint Powers, jr.

Julia Waltz, mf, Big Rapids, sr.

#### Third Team

Ella Betzold, mf, Essexville-Garber, jr.

Carolyn Haas, fw, Flint Powers, jr.

Megan Hemgesberg, mf, Freeland, sr.

Allison Johnson, fw, Tri-County, sr.

#### Honorable Mention

Ava Bates, gk, Ovid-Elsie, jr.

Danielle Bobowski, def, Flint Powers, sr.

Kyra Couch, fw, Big Rapids, sr.

Sydney Eiler, def, Williamston, jr.

Natalie Fodrey, gk, Essexville-Garber, soph.

Ellyson Gorsline, mf, Williamston, fr.

Rylee Jatczak, def, Essexville-Garber, soph.

Alli Maize, fw, Freeland, sr.

Al Peterson, mf, Frankenmuth, fr.

Madeline Sesti, def, Williamston, sr.

Teresa Vance, def, Big Rapids, jr.

### DIVISION 4

#### First Team

Lydia Jacobs, fw, Saginaw Nouvel, sr.

Ila Tomko, fw, Midland Calvary Baptist, soph.

Ava Mustapha, fw, Lansing Christian, soph.

Audra Usiak, mf, Lansing Christian, sr.

#### Second Team

Isabella Curry, mf, Hemlock, soph.

Sadie Day, mf, Midland Calvary Baptist, fr.

Emma Schmidt, gk, Midland Calvary Baptist, sr.

#### Third Team

Emilee Rosenberg, fw, Saginaw Nouvel, sr.

Avery Ross, gk, Hemlock, jr.

#### Honorable Mention

Bella Buckholz, mf, Saginaw Valley Lutheran, soph.

Olivia Davidson, fw, Lakeview, sr.

Kayla Grabill, mf, Midland Calvary Baptist, soph.

Julia Hamilton, gk, Saginaw Nouvel, soph.

Riley Karas, fw, Saginaw Valley Lutheran, sr.

Desire Knoblauch, fw, Laingsburg, jr.

Isabelle Krueger, fw, Hemlock, soph.

Isabelle Loucks, def, Hemlock, sr.

Ava Mustapha, fw, Lansing Christian, soph.

Natalie Schmidt, def, Midland Calvary Baptist, soph.

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# High School Boys Golf State Tournament Roundup

## David Cook Sports Scene

The final putts dropped on an exciting high school golf season. Following is a look at the boys golf state tournament and a recap of the performances from some of the area's top teams and golfers.

### DIVISION 1

Northville won the Division 1 team state golf championship by two strokes with a two-day total of 605 while Rochester Adams finished in second place with 607 while Brighton finished in third place with 609.

Peter Roehl of Rochester Adams won the individual state title by three strokes as he carded rounds of 72 and 68 for a 140 total. East Lansing junior Drew Miller finished in second place for the second consecutive year with a 143 while Mason Sokolowski of Northville placed third with a 144.

### Okemos Golfers Compete At State Finals

The Okemos golf team wrapped up the season with a 16<sup>th</sup>-place finish at the Division 1 finals. Okemos was led by senior Neel Srivastava who finished 18<sup>th</sup> individually as he carded rounds of 75 and 79 for a 154 total. Aaroosh Patil finished with a two-day total of 165 while Peyton Webber finished with a 179 total.

Okemos golfers qualified for the state meet by placing third at the Midland regional. Okemos was led at the regional by senior Jonah Timm-Blow and Patil who both carded rounds of 79 to finish in a tie for 13<sup>th</sup> place individually. Srivastava finished 23<sup>rd</sup> with an 81 while Alex Contreras carded an 84.

### DIVISION 2

Grand Rapids Christian took home the top honors at the Division 2 state golf finals at The Fortress in Frankenmuth. The Eagles won the team title by two strokes over second-place Birmingham Brother Rice while Vicksburg finished third.

Birmingham Brother Rice senior Lorenzo Pinili won individual medalist honors as he finished with a 134 total highlighted by a round of 64 on the first day. Robert Burns of Flint Powers placed second

with a 141 total.

### DeWitt Golfers Finish In Top Ten At State

The DeWitt golf team finished the season strong as it finished in a tie for 10<sup>th</sup> place with Chelsea at the D2 state finals. The Panthers totaled a 655 team score at the finals.

The Panthers were paced at the state finals by junior Luke Hanselman who finished 26<sup>th</sup> as an individual with rounds of 83 and 76 for a 159 total. Senior Grant Crawley finished one stroke behind with rounds of 85 and 75 while senior Aiden Wurm totaled 161 with rounds of 83 and 78. Freshman Justin Steinman finished the tourney with a 175 total.

DeWitt qualified for state by placing second at the regional it hosted with a team score of 333. The Panthers were led at the regional by Wurm who placed fifth individually with a round of 80. Crawley placed sixth with an 81 while sophomore Will Tucker and Hanselman were tied in 15<sup>th</sup> place with rounds of 86.

### Big Rapids Golfers Earn Spot In State Finals

The Big Rapids golf team closed out the season by placing 15<sup>th</sup> at the Division 2 state finals. The Cardinals turned in rounds of 341 and 329 for a two-day total of 670.

Junior Zachary Steers led the way for Big Rapids as he placed 38<sup>th</sup> individually with rounds of 81 and 80 for a 161 total. Sophomore Ari Ziska finished with a 166 total while junior Preston Younge totaled a 171 and sophomore Ethan Voigt totaled a 174.

Big Rapids qualified for the state meet by finishing third at the regional it hosted with a 324 team total. Senior Kyle Schroeder led the way for the Cardinals at the regional as he finished in a tie for second individually with a 77. Steers placed 12<sup>th</sup> with an 80 while Voigt shot an 82 and Younge shot an 85.

### Mason Golfers Wrap Up Season At State Finals

Mason closed out the season by placing 17<sup>th</sup> at

the Division 2 state finals with a team total of 676. The Bulldogs were led at the finals by junior Luke Petee who totaled a 162 for two days. Sophomore Chaase Makley totaled 170 followed by sophomore Talan Gardner with a 172 and junior Joe Strach with a 174.

Mason qualified for the state finals by finishing second at the Coldwater with a team score of 316. The Bulldogs were led at the regional by Petee and Strach who finished in a tie for fourth place individually with rounds of 76. Makley finished seventh with a 78 while Gardner carded an 86.

### DIVISION 3

Grand Rapids Catholic Central won the Division 3 state title for the second time in the past three years in impressive fashion with a team total of 614 at Michigan State's Forest Akers West course. The Cougars were led by Matthew Sokorai who claimed medalist honors with a 141 while Will Preston shot a 146 to place second individually for the second-consecutive year.

### Jeffrey Sager Of Alma Wraps Up Career With Big Effort

Alma senior Jeffrey Sager wrapped up his high school golf career in a big way as he placed third individually at the Division 3 state finals. Sager carded rounds of 74 and 75 for a two-day total of 149 to finish eight strokes back in third place. Sager punched his ticket to the finals by taking second individually at the Sandusky regional with a round of 75.

### Lansing Catholic Places Second At State Meet

The Lansing Catholic golf team capped the season by taking second in the state at the Division 3 state finals. The Cougars posted rounds of 333 and 316 to finish with a two-day total of 649. The Cougars were paced at the state

meet by seniors Sam Murphy and Ethan Rule who finished with two-day totals of 155 to finish in a tie for seventh place individually. Junior Cole Hutchinson finished with a 161 to place 14<sup>th</sup> overall while sophomore Hayden Riley finished with a 178.

Lansing Catholic qualified for the state meet by winning the title at the Hawk Hollow regional with a team score of 316. Riley captured medalist honors at the regional with a round of 75 while Murphy was second with a 78. Rule and Hutchinson also placed in the top 10 as Rule was sixth with an 81 and Hutchinson was seventh with an 82.

### Swan Valley Golfers Compete At State Meet

After placing 13<sup>th</sup> at state last season, the Swan Valley golf team came back strong this season and placed third at the Division 3 state finals with a team total of 652. Senior standout Ashton DiBlasi led the way for the Vikings as he carded rounds of 77 and 75 to place fifth as an individual. in 16<sup>th</sup> place overall. Sophomore Alexander Galsterer placed 25<sup>th</sup> overall with a 164 total while senior John McCarthy took 29<sup>th</sup> with a 166 and junior Issac Beougher finished with a 177.

Swan Valley earned the trip to the finals by winning Sandusky regional by two strokes over Millington with a team total of 323. Four Vikings golfers placed in the top 20 led by McCarthy who placed third overall with a 77. Senior Owen Galsterer took eight with a 78 while DiBlasi placed 17<sup>th</sup> with an 83 and Alexander Galsterer placed 20<sup>th</sup> with an 85.

### Shepherd Golfers Finish Season At State Finals

The Shepherd golf team closed out the season by placing 12<sup>th</sup> at the Division 3 state finals with a 691 total. The Bluejays were led at the state meet by sophomore

Christopher Crockett who finished 18<sup>th</sup> overall with rounds of 83 and 79 for a 162 total. Sophomore Talan Bailey placed 44<sup>th</sup> with a 172 total while junior Carter Myers totaled 178 and senior Joel Bendele totaled 180.

Shepherd qualified for the state meet by placing third at the Sandusky regional with a 326 team score, one shot behind second-place Millington and three behind regional champion Swan Valley. Crockett led the way for the Bluejays as he won medalist honors by shooting a 74. Bendele placed eight with a 78 while senior Hunter Reed placed 20<sup>th</sup> with an 85 and Bailey placed 39<sup>th</sup> with an 89.

### DIVISION 4

Clarkston Everest Collegiate won the Division 4 state title with a team total of 625 while Hillsdale Academy placed second with a 642. Remy Stalcup led the way for Everest Collegiate as he claimed medalist honors with a 142 total.

### Saginaw Nouvel Places In Top Ten At State

For the second straight year, the Saginaw Nouvel golf team ended the season by placing sixth at the D4 state meet. Nouvel golfers combined to post a 673 team score to earn the top-ten finish. Sophomore Alex McCarthy led the way for Nouvel as he placed 12<sup>th</sup> overall with rounds of 78 and 81 for a 151. Junior Giorgio Fabiano placed 17<sup>th</sup> with rounds of 79 and 83. Freshman Ian Ziegelmann placed 40<sup>th</sup> with a 173 total while sophomore Rodney Iamurri finished with a 179 total.

Nouvel qualified for the state meet by winning the Alma regional at the Pine River Country Club with a score of 333. Nouvel golfers placed one-two individually at the regional with McCarthy taking first place with a 75 and Fabiano placing second with a 79. Iamurri placed sixth with an 83 while Ziegelmann took 30<sup>th</sup> with a 96.



Golfers took their swings on a great day for golf at the Division 3 state finals.

### Breckenridge Golfers Reach State Finals

Last year, Breckenridge juniors Zane Schmitz and Jaxon Laubscher qualified for the state finals as individuals. This year the duo helped lead Breckenridge to the state meet as a team and the Huskies placed in 14<sup>th</sup> place overall. Schmitz led the way for the Huskies as he finished 22<sup>nd</sup> individually with a 164 while Laubscher placed 25<sup>th</sup> with a 166.

Freshman Blaze Snyder added a 185 while freshman Noah Barr totaled a 196.

Breckenridge qualified for the state finals by taking second at the Alma regional with a 349. Laubscher led the way at the regional as he carded a 79 to place second overall while Schmitz was sixth with an 83. Barr placed 14<sup>th</sup> with a 90 while Snyder was 33<sup>rd</sup> with a 97.

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# Area Teams Volley For Titles In State Tennis Tournament

## David Cook Sports Scene

The following is a recap of the girls tennis state tournament and a look at how some of the top local teams fared in post-season action.

### DIVISION 1

#### Ann Arbor Pioneer Claims D1 State Title

Ann Arbor Pioneer won the Division 1 state championship for the third year in a row. Pioneer totaled 32 points while Troy finished second with 25 points.

#### Rockford Places In Top Ten At State Finals

The Rockford tennis team finished the season by placing 10<sup>th</sup> at the Division 1 state meet with a total of nine points. Rockford was led at the finals by a pair of doubles teams that reached the quarterfinal round. The No. 3 doubles team of sophomores Kayleigh Koster and Avery Marchlewski and the No. 4 doubles team of senior Juliana Antel and junior Abby Goss both reached the quarterfinal round to lead the Rams.

#### Midland Dow Caps Season At State Finals

The Midland Dow tennis team finished 13<sup>th</sup> at the Division 1 state finals with a total of seven points. Dow was led in singles play by sophomore Ayesha Middha who reached the quarterfinals at No. 3 singles.

Dow qualified for the state finals by taking second place at the regional. Middha led Dow at the regional by winning the title at No. 3 singles. Also reaching the regional finals for the Chargers were Dalton DeBoer (No. 1 singles) Saumya Somasi (No. 2

singles) and Tessa Wood (No. 4 singles).

In doubles action, Dow was paced by the No. 3 doubles team of Lauren Yao and Sachi Togashi who reached the finals at No. 3 doubles. Reaching the semifinal round in doubles play for Dow were the No. 1 doubles team of Emelia Ingalla and Maggie Nelson, the No. 2 doubles team of Elisa Costeux and Norah Lacher and the No. 4 doubles team of Alexa Leiti and Evelyn Wang.

### DIVISION 2

#### Birmingham Seaholm Wins D2 State Crown

Birmingham Seaholm won its first Division 2 title since 2018 with a total of 32 points. Grand Rapids Forest Hills Northern, the three-time defending champion, finished in a tie for second place with Grand Rapids Forest Hills Central with 27 points apiece.

#### East Lansing Finishes 12<sup>th</sup> At Tennis Finals

The East Lansing tennis team capped the season by placing 12<sup>th</sup> at the Division 2 state finals. The Trojans were led at the state finals by sophomore Ellery Scales who reached the quarterfinals at No. 3 singles and the No. 1 doubles team of junior Emma Mae Baker and sophomore Sabrina Gresens who also reached the quarterfinal round.

East Lansing earned a trip to the state finals by winning the Mason regional. The Trojans were led at the regional by freshman Maia Meghea who won the No. 2 singles title. Seniors Leah Wronikowski (No. 1 singles) and Grace Rose (No. 4 singles) both reached the regional finals while Scales was a semifinalist at No. 3 singles. In doubles action, East Lansing was led by the No. 2 doubles team of Elsa Elhenicky and Erika



Tennis players needed to stay focused at the Division 2 state tennis finals.

Stokstad who reached the finals. Reaching the semifinals in doubles play were Baker and Gresens (No. 1 doubles), Elena Cull and Elizabeth Gisholt (No. 3 doubles) and Grace Knake and Willa Cornillie (No. 4 doubles).

#### Mt. Pleasant Tennis Wraps Up Season At State Meet

The Mt. Pleasant tennis team wrapped up the season by taking part in the Division 2 state finals. The Oilers scored a total of three team points as they competed at the state finals for the second time in the last three years.

Junior Clara Bonnell led the way for the Oilers at the state meet as she reached the quarterfinals at No. 2 singles.

Mt. Pleasant qualified for the state meet by taking third at the Midland regional. Bonnell led the way at the regional by winning the title at No. 2 singles while the No. 1 doubles team of Lily Burkhart and Isabel Goodrich also won a regional title.

### DIVISION 3

#### Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook Kingswood Repeats As D3 Champs

Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook Kingswood captured the Division 3 state championship for the second straight year. Cranbrook Kingswood totaled 33 points to edge second-place Detroit Country Day by two points.

## Williamston Places 10<sup>th</sup> At State Finals

Williamston capped the tennis season by placing 10<sup>th</sup> at the Division 3 state finals with a total of eight points. Williamston was led at the state finals in singles play by senior AnnaSophia Stone who reached the quarterfinals at No. 2 singles. In doubles play the Hornets were led by the No. 1 doubles team of seniors Maggie Sinke and Lili McGuire and the No. 2 doubles team of Annelise Jeitschko and Abigail Eyke who reached the quarterfinals. Williamston qualified for the state finals after winning its first regional title in a decade when it won the title at the Haslett district. Stone and Morgan Harkema won singles titles at the regional while Sinke and McGuire won the No. 1 doubles title and Jeitschko and Eyke won the No. 2 doubles title.

#### St. Johns Ends Season Competing At State Finals

The St. Johns tennis team wrapped up the season by competing at the Division 3 state finals where it finished with four team points. The Redwings were led by junior Isabel Thelen who reached the quarterfinals at No. 1 singles. St. Johns earned a berth in the state finals by taking second at the Haslett district tournament. The Redwings were paced at the regional by the No. 4 doubles teams of seniors Anna Garofoli and Grace Lounds who won a regional title. Reaching the finals were the No. 1 doubles team of Kaylee Woodbury and Kennedy Sturgis and the No. 2 doubles team of Paityn Chant and Brenda McCann. In singles action, Thelen reached the finals at No. 1

singles while senior Camille Devillers (No. 3 singles) and junior Lily Howell (No. 4 singles) also reached the finals.

### DIVISION 4

#### Ann Arbor Greenhills Wins D4 State Title

Ann Arbor Greenhills won the Division 4 state championship for a second straight year as it amassed 36 points. Ann Arbor Richard placed second with 20 points.

#### Five Area Teams Place In Top 20 At State

A total of five area tennis teams wrapped up the season by finishing in the top 20 at the Division 4 state finals.

Saginaw Nouvel placed 13<sup>th</sup> with a total of six points. Nouvel was led by its No. 2 doubles team of McKenna Milka and Elizabeth Garner who reached the quarterfinal round.

Lansing Catholic and Ovid-Elsie finished in a tie for 15<sup>th</sup> place with five points. Hannah Bradford led the way for Lansing Catholic as she reached the quarterfinal round at No. 4 singles. In doubles action the No. 3 doubles team of junior Aubrey Bruch and sophomore Grace Currie reached the quarterfinal round.

Ovide-Elsie was led by its No. 4 doubles team of sophomore Ava Anderson and junior Willow Evans who reached the quarterfinal round.

Durand finished in 17<sup>th</sup> place with four points while Hemlock placed 18<sup>th</sup> with three team points.



Tennis players from across the state came together to compete at the Division 3 state tennis finals.



The state tennis tournament produced some outstanding performances this season.

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