

**HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS SCENE**  
KEEPING KIDS IN THE NEWS

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### PUBLISHER'S NOTE

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

What an amazing fall high school sports season we just had!

And can you believe the winter season has already started with area basketball teams already tipping things off?

Before we jump into the winter season we have to reflect on what was an amazing fall season.

On the football field, the Mason and Corunna football teams provided their communities with a bushel full of memories that will be remembered for years!

What amazing runs both teams had. In Corunna, the 1983 state basketball championship is still talked about and remembered. This season, the football team etched its name in the annals of Corunna sports and will be talked about for years to come. Week after week the Cavaliers turned in incredible performances culminated in a trip to Ford Field and the Division 5 state championship game where the Cavs turned in a spirited effort against a perennial state powerhouse in Grand Rapids Catholic Central.

In Mason, the story was as similar. Week after week the Bulldogs kept adding to the legacy with big wins. The comeback against Walled Lake Western in the regional title game. The thrilling state semifinal game where the Bulldogs avenged previous disappointments against Detroit King with a thrilling win. Everything culminating with a memorable state finals appearance where it seemed the entire Mason community descended on Ford Field in Detroit turning the stands into a sea of red, white and blue.

A big tip of the hat to Corunna and Mason and all the area football teams that turned in memorable performances including Ithaca and Mt. Pleasant teams that turned in memorable seasons.

With snow in the air its time to turn our attention inside as the basketball and wrestling seasons get going. Plenty of great action will keep area gyms humming with excitement so get ready for a winter full of new memoraies.

A big thank you to all our advertisers and sponsors, without you there would be no High School Sports Scene Magazine.

See you at the games!



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# Storybook Season For Mason Ends In Division 3 State Championship Game

## David Cook Sports Scene

It was a season that the Mason community will remember for a long time even though the outcome was not what the Bulldogs had in mind as Forest Hills Central defeated Mason 27-10 in the Division 3 state championship game at Ford Field in Detroit.

In their first-ever appearance in the state finals, Mason fell behind early and had to deal with the loss of all-state running back AJ Martel early in the game. The Bulldogs, however, never gave up the fight against a veteran Forest Hills Central team that was on a mission after falling short in last year's state title game.

The game started out as a defensive struggle with the teams trading field goals in the first quarter. Collin Winters booted a 26-yard field goal to tie the game for Mason late in the quarter.

Forest Hills Central began to take control of the game during the second quarter. The Rangers scored the first touchdown of the game and added a field goal as they took a 13-3 into halftime while the Bulldogs were forced to make adjustments when Martel went out with an injury.

"Their front seven was the fastest we've seen all year," said Mason coach Gary Houghton. "It was even faster than Detroit King. They were better than us tonight."

Central built the lead to 20-3 early in the second half when Ranger quarterback Mason McDonald hooked up with Ty Hudkins on a 62-yard scoring strike.

Mason cut the lead in half later in the third quarter. That was when the Bulldogs mounted an 18-play, 83-yard scoring drive. The drive was capped by Derek Badgley who ran in for a touchdown from two-yards out.

Mason continued to battle but was held scoreless the rest of the way.

Forest Hills Central scored the final points of the game when Drew Fortino intercepted a Mason pass and returned it 25 yards for a touchdown.

"We gave it our best shot," said Mason senior Kaleb Parrish. It wasn't the outcome that we wanted, but we tried for the community. At the end of the day, we all tried. When I looked up in the beginning it was great to see all the community that showed up."

Parrish finished the game with eight receptions for 102 yards on offense while he paced the Mason defense with 10 solo tackles, four assisted tackles and one tackle for loss.

Mason junior quarterback Cason Carswell finished the game completing 22-of-40 passes for 229 yards.

Martel ran the ball eight times during the game before going out with an injury.

Central's experience and speed on defense proved to be a major hurdle for Mason.

"Them being here last year played a role a little bit," Martel said. "They kind of knew what it was like and they had that experience on the big stage. They were a fast team. They were probably the fastest team up front we've played."

Along with scoring the Mason touchdown, Badgley caught eight passes for 71 yards and totaled four tackles on defense.

While the loss stung, the Bulldogs still turned in a memorable season that has to be looked at as the greatest in school history.

"This is the greatest season of Mason football," Houghton said. "At the end of the day you can't measure a season based on the last game. You have to look at the whole body of work. I couldn't be prouder of these guys. There's too many players to name that were huge contributors and made this just an amazing season. I can't overstate that."

Mason fell 27-10 to Forest Hills Central in the Division 3 state title game at Ford Field in Detroit. Mason played in its first state title game in program history and finished the season with a 13-1 record.





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# Dream Season Comes To An End In The State Finals For Corunna Football Team

## Butch Harmon Sports Scene

A dream season came to an end in the ultimate destination for high school football teams in the state of Michigan as Corunna fell to Grand Rapids Catholic Central 21-7 in the Division 5 state championship game at Ford Field in Detroit.

After winning 13 straight games, the Cavaliers came up just short of perfection as Catholic Central took a first-half lead and held off the Cavaliers.

After a scoreless first half, Catholic Central took a 14-0 lead in the second quarter as Cougar quarterback Connor Wolf capped a pair of drives with one-yard touchdown runs.

"They (Catholic Central) did a good job stopping us in the first half and we just couldn't get thing going," said Corunna coach Steve Herrick. "I think our kids played hard, tremendous. Very talented players well coached by our coaching staff and who played their butts off tonight and I appreciate everything they've done all season."

Corunna battled back in the third quarter and cut the margin in half late in the quarter. That was when Wyatt Bower capped a 14-play, 67-yard run by running in from seven-yards out for a touchdown. Braden Andrejack tacked on the extra point cutting the gap to 14-7.

That was as close as the Cavaliers would get, however, as Catholic

Central closed out the scoring in the fourth quarter. Wolf scored his third touchdown of the game midway through the fourth quarter putting the Cougars up 21-7.

"I felt like they were more physical than us," said Bower. "I felt like all year we didn't get the respect we deserved, but we battled those guys in the second half"

Corunna was led on offense by Jaden Edington who rushed for 70 yards. The Cavaliers found more success funning the ball in the second half.

"We just did a couple of things different," Herrick said. "We wanted to make sure that we cleaned up our blocking schemes."

The Cavalier passing game was led by Wyatt Bower who threw for 123 yards. Tarick Bower caught two passes for 69 yards to lead the receiving corps.

On the defensive side of the ball the Cavaliers were led by Jaden Edington who finished with 10 tackles. Wyatt Bower, Kaden Cowdrey and Dayne Zeeman added eight tackles apiece while Bryce Edington and Tarick Bower added five tackles each.

The state title appearance was the first for Corunna and caps a 13-1 season that included a Flint Metro League championship, district and regional championships. The Cavaliers averaged 42.3 points per game while allowing 8.2 points per game.



The Corunna football team dropped a 21-7 decision. To Grand Rapids Catholic Central in the Division 5 state title game at Ford Field in Detroit. Corunna finished the season with a 13-1 record.

# HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS SCENE FOOTBALL STATS

## PASSING YARDS

Sawyer Glennie, Davison 2,641  
Preston Wallace, Evert 2,449  
Ethan Mason, Saginaw Heritage 2,136  
Drake Irwin, Rockford 2,051  
Chad Brown, Hemlock 2,043  
Cason Carswell, Mason 2,011  
Wyatt Bower, Corunna 1,974  
Jackson Conn, Ithaca 1,936  
Logan Borodychuk, Mt. Pleasant 1,767  
Benjamin Fletcher, East Lansing 1,694  
Alex Fernandez, Lansing Catholic 1,685  
Preston Otter, Saginaw Nouvel 1,641  
Owen Halstead, Essexville-Garber 1,629  
Zach Cribbs, Williamston 1,586  
Jacob Dunlap, Alma 1,390  
Colton Klein, Swan Valley 1,344  
Tryce Tokar, Ovid-Elsie 1,224  
Jayden Arthur, Clare 1,170  
Keegan Gochenour, Eaton Rapids 1,118  
Elliott Larner, DeWitt 1,084  
Christian Powers, Charlotte 1,064  
Max Volk, Chesaning 1,020  
Ian Crump, Millington 954

## PASSING TOUCHDOWNS

Sawyer Glennie, Davison 36  
Preston Wallace, Evert 30  
Jackson Conn, Ithaca 28  
Cason Carswell, Mason 27  
Ethan Mason, Saginaw Heritage 26  
Drake Irwin, Rockford 24  
Logan Borodychuk, Mt. Pleasant 23  
Alex Fernandez, Lansing Catholic 23  
Colton Klein, Swan Valley 23  
Wyatt Bower, Corunna 22  
Owen Halstead, Essexville-Garber 21  
Tryce Tokar, Ovid-Elsie 18  
Max Volk, Chesaning 17  
Jayden Arthur, Clare 16  
Zach Cribbs, Williamston 16  
Benjamin Fletcher, East Lansing 16  
Chad Brown, Hemlock 15  
Preston Otter, Saginaw Nouvel 13  
Ian Crump, Millington 13  
Jacob Dunlap, Alma 12  
Jake Metiva, Freeland 10  
Elliott Larner, DeWitt 9  
Austin Poirier, Perry 9  
Jackson Reisbig, Lowell 9

## RUSHING YARDS

Brayden Florian, Chesaning 2,010  
AJ Martel, Mason 1,810  
Nakai Amachree, Haslett 1,671  
AJ Hill, Davison 1,573  
Bradley Uhlmann, Bath 1,560  
Bo Schwartz, Bullock Creek 1,376  
Brayton Thelen, Pewamo-Westphalia 1,311  
Jack Rich, Frankenmuth 1,272  
Jace Clarizio, East Lansing 1,247  
Jahi Wood, Lansing Waverly 1,222  
Aidan Robinson, Bay City Western 1,214  
Hoyt Patrick, Owosso 1,178  
Jackson Reisbig, Lowell 1,177  
Wyatt Bower, Corunna 1,163  
Cody Manley, Belding 1,163  
Dallas Walsh, Millington 1,095  
Cutler Brandt, Charlotte 1,066  
Caleb Neubecker, Mt. Pleasant 1,060  
Dylan May, Pewamo-Westphalia 1,057  
Ty Robertson, Saginaw Heritage 1,003  
Dwataye Sams, East Lansing 965  
Elliott Larner, DeWitt 960  
Wyatt Bower, Corunna 930  
Sam Talaga, Freeland 907  
Jaden Edington, Corunna 906  
Carson Koehler, Mich. Lutheran Seminary 894  
LaDon Hatcher, Holt 891  
William Salgat, Mich. Lutheran Seminary 889  
Noah Dunckel, Williamston 873  
Ty Fournier, Freeland 835  
Tryce Tokar, Ovid-Elsie 814  
Anthony Schultz, Central Montcalm 812  
Jalen Brown, Midland 776  
Westyn Bryant, Clare 773  
Nick Earles, Greenville 771  
Hunter Bernthal, Frankenmuth 722  
Nathan Mikesell, Ithaca 695  
Austin Poirier, Perry 675  
Clayton Fruchey, Ovid-Elsie 674  
Isaiah Henderson, Midland 653

## Kobbi Ke, Frankenmuth 650

## RUSHING TOUCHDOWNS

AJ Martel, Mason 25  
Nakai Amachree, Haslett 22  
Dylan May, Pewamo-Westphalia 22  
Jackson Reisbig, Lowell 21  
Brayden Florian, Chesaning 20  
Cody Manley, Belding 20  
AJ Hill, Davison 19  
Jaden Edington, Corunna 18  
Bradley Uhlmann, Bath 18  
Jack Ritch, Frankenmuth 17  
Ty Robertson, Saginaw Heritage 17  
Jace Clarizio, East Lansing 16  
Elliott Larner, DeWitt 16  
Trav Moore, DeWitt 16  
Bo Schwartz, Bullock Creek 16  
Dallas Walsh, Millington 16  
Wyatt Bower, Corunna 15  
Sam Talaga, Freeland 15  
Carson Koehler, Mich. Lutheran Seminary 14  
Cutler Brandt, Charlotte 13  
Caleb Neubecker, Mt. Pleasant 13  
Dwataye Sims, East Lansing 13  
Tryce Tokar, Ovid-Elsie 13  
Jahi Wood, Lansing Waverly 13  
Ian Crump, Millington 12  
Aidan Robinson, Bay City Western 12  
William Salgat, Mich. Lutheran Seminary 12  
Brayton Thelen, Pewamo-Westphalia 12  
Nathan Mikesell, Ithaca 11  
Ty Fournier, Freeland 10  
Kobbi Ke, Frankenmuth 10  
Preston Otter, Saginaw Nouvel 10  
Hoyt Patrick, Owosso 10  
Anthony Schultz, Central Montcalm 10  
Jalen Brown, Midland 9  
Noah Dunckel, Williamston 9  
Clayton Fruchey, Ovid-Elsie 9  
Jacob Jensen, Midland Dow 9  
Austin Poirier, Perry 9  
Mark Bendele, St. Johns 8  
Isaiah Henderson, Midland 8

## RECEIVING YARDS

Brayton Isom, Saginaw Heritage 1,611  
Max Fellows, Essexville-Garber 1,334  
Tarick Bower, Corunna 1,298  
Landon Zastrow, Hemlock 990  
Camden Kruisenga, Rockford 986  
Tristen Elizalde, Saginaw Nouvel 971  
Jacob Jensen, Midland Dow 940  
Charlie Baker, East Lansing 900  
Dakobe White, Evert 814  
Buddy Banks-Williams, Davison 775  
Noah Vanderlinde, Evert 743  
Braden Rabideau, Lansing Catholic 705  
Max McCune, Williamston 704  
Rylee White, Ithaca 681  
Brayton Naves, Davison 680  
Carter Gensch, Hemlock 616  
Easton Day, Mt. Pleasant 606  
Owen Mikulka, Ithaca 585  
Abram Larner, DeWitt 581  
Ryan Louch, Clare 539  
Tyler Baker, Mason 466  
Derek Badgley, Mason 445  
Brendan Ray, Freeland 438  
Cade Sutherland, Alma 425

## RECEPTIONS

Brayton Isom, Saginaw Heritage 82  
Max Fellows, Essexville-Garber 70  
Landon Zastrow, Hemlock 64  
Charlie Baker, East Lansing 55  
Dakobe White, Evert 48  
Tristen Elizalde, Saginaw Nouvel 47  
Carter Gensch, Hemlock 47  
Noah Vanderlinde, Evert 42  
Tarick Bower, Corunna 41  
Braden Rabideau, Lansing Catholic 41  
Buddy Banks-Williams, Davison 39  
Abram Larner, DeWitt 37  
Max McCune, Williamston 36  
Camden Kruisenga, Rockford 34  
Ryan Louch, Clare 34  
Brayton Naves, Davison 32  
Owen Mikulka, Ithaca 29  
Tyler Streeter, Midland Dow 29  
Easton Day, Mt. Pleasant 28

## RECEIVING TOUCHDOWNS

Brayton Isom, Saginaw Heritage 26  
Tarick Bower, Corunna 18  
Camden Kruisenga, Rockford 16  
Max Fellows, Essexville-Garber 15  
Noah Vanderlinde, Evert 11  
Buddy Banks-Williams, Davison 10  
Tristen Elizalde, Saginaw Nouvel 10  
Owen Mikulka, Ithaca 10  
Brayton Naves, Davison 10  
Kaleb Parrish, Mason 10  
Braden Rabideau, Lansing Catholic 9  
Ryan Louch, Clare 8  
Rylee White, Ithaca 8  
Easton Day, Mt. Pleasant 7  
Abram Larner, DeWitt 7  
Xavier Luea, Lansing Catholic 7  
Riley Olson, Mt. Pleasant 7  
Jamison Pelt, Swan Valley 7  
Cal Delisle, Swan Valley 6  
Max McCune, Williamston 6

## TACKLES

Noah Risner, Ithaca 147  
Tim Bensingler, Charlotte 135  
Carter Herriman, Davison 131  
Hunter Conrad, Belding 125  
Garett Forgash, Bay City Glenn 123  
Jalen Edwards, Davison 121  
Nathan Mikesell, Ithaca 121  
Dayne Zeeman, Corunna 118  
Max Parry, Bath 112  
Carter Moore, Charlotte 109  
Isiah Sams, East Lansing 107  
Carson Berkompas, Charlotte 101  
Julius Goodwin, East Lansing 101  
Hoyt Patrick, Owosso 97  
Chuck Armstead, Davison 96  
Miles Keener, Williamston 96  
Lucas Neering, Essexville-Garber 96  
Cameron Doody, Perry 94  
Cal Frasier, Chesaning 92  
Collin Thrush, Ithaca 92  
Jaden Edington, Corunna 89  
McCoy Wernholm, Central-Montcalm 87  
Nicklaus Hoesman, Frankenmuth 86  
John Watters, Lansing Catholic 86  
Jaxon Craven, Evert 85  
Aiden van bonn, Clare 84  
Kaleb Parrish, Mason 83  
Ollie Brown, Williamston 80  
Westyn Bryant, Clare 79  
Noah Dunckel, Williamston 79  
Noah Reif, Michigan Lutheran Seminary 79  
Justice Dungey, Lansing Waverly 78  
Sean Jackson, Evert 78  
Jahi Wood, Lansing Waverly 78  
Logan Broekhuizen, Michigan Lutheran Seminary 77  
Trevor Spitzley, Pewamo-Westphalia 77  
Brandon Pass, Ithaca 76  
Sam Talaga, Freeland 76  
Nathan Precise, Okemos 75  
Brayden Florian, Chesaning 74  
Griffin Barker, Frankenmuth 73  
Owen Craven, Evert 72  
Logan Demarest, Bay City Glenn 72  
Timothy Hall, Perry 72  
Carson Knoll, Frankenmuth 72  
Jack Pestrue, Essexville-Garber 70  
Noah Vanderlinde, Evert 70

## SACKS

Justice Dungey, Lansing Waverly 15  
Collin Main, Frankenmuth 14  
Trevor Spitzley, Pewamo-Westphalia 9  
Tyler Dosh, Davison 8  
Van Reed, Charlotte 8  
Warren Cain, Davison 7  
Ashton Collins, Eaton Rapids 7  
Noah Lopez, East Lansing 7

Hoyt Patrick, Owosso 7  
Brandon Pass, Ithaca 7  
Broden Peska, Ithaca 7  
Jake Vanderhaar, Frankenmuth 7  
Maximus Stahl, Bay City Glenn 6.5  
Jalen Edwards, Davison 6  
Kaleb Hallock, Ithaca 6  
Nicklaus Hoesman, Frankenmuth 6  
Dontaveus Royals, East Lansing 6  
Keighan Stoddard, Chesaning 6  
Ryan Brey, Essexville-Garber 5  
Cal Frasier, Chesaning 5  
Nathan Mikesell, Ithaca 5  
Broden Peska, Ithaca 5  
Derrick Simmons, Frankenmuth 5  
Marshall VanWagner, Lowell 5  
Jahi Wood, Lansing Waverly 5

## INTERCEPTIONS

Cole Chamberlain, Bath 7  
Owen Mikulka, Ithaca 6  
Ryan Wascher, Frankenmuth 6  
Keenan Harris, Lansing Waverly 5  
Jay Kreisler, Bath 5  
Riley Hubbard, Frankenmuth 5  
Caden Tate, Bullock Creek 5  
Bradlee Uhlmann, Bath 5  
Issac Beougher, Swan Valley 4  
Carson Knoll, Frankenmuth 4  
Johnathan Meyette, Swan Valley 4  
Jamison Pelt, Swan Valley 4  
Truk Tertush, Millington 4  
Weston Yoho, Owosso 4  
Dylan May, Pewamo-Westphalia 3  
Liam Patrick, Owosso 3  
Jackson Reisbig, Lowell 3  
Cole Ries, Mason 3  
Gary Tackett, Lansing Catholic 3  
Isaac Thelen, Pewamo-Westphalia 3  
Max Volk, Chesaning 3  
Ethan Wicks, Bath 3



Coaches, statisticians, High School Sports Scene Magazine wants to be the source for high school football stats this season. Feel free to contact us with any updates or statistics you have. Send any updates to [greg102300@yahoo.com](mailto:greg102300@yahoo.com). HSSS will be updating the football stats page on a daily basis.

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# 2023 All-Area Division 1-2 Football Team

## FIRST TEAM OFFENSE

**QB) Sawyer Glennie, Davison, sr.**  
Passed for over 2,600 yards this year along with 36 touchdown passes.

**RB) A.J. Hill, Davison, jr.**  
Ran for nearly 1,600 yards and 20 touchdowns this season.

**RB) Jace Clarizio, East Lansing, jr.**  
Averaged 172 yards per game and scored 18 touchdowns in seven games.

**WR) Braylon Isom, Saginaw Heritage, sr.**  
Miami (Ohio) recruit sent state receiving records this year.

**WR) Cam Kruisenga, Rockford, sr.**  
Explosive playmaker earned all-state honors in Division 1.

**WR) Charlie Baker, East Lansing, sr.**  
Hauled in 55 passes for 900 yards this season.

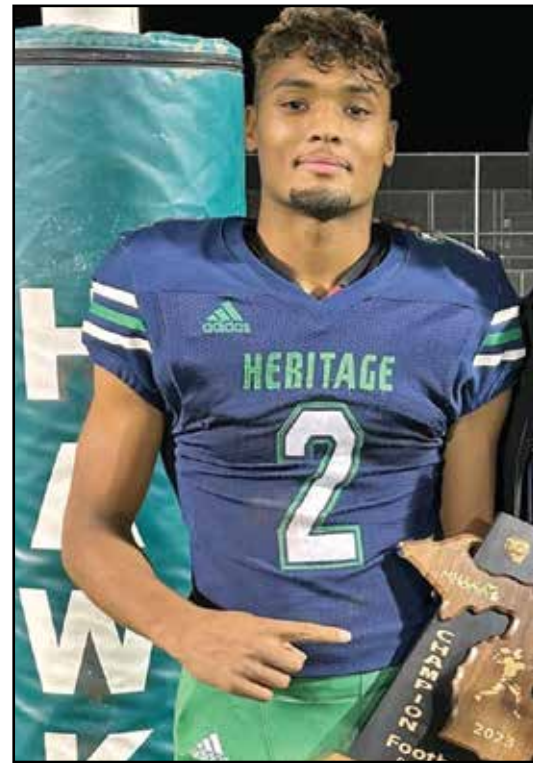
**OL) Hayden Anderson, Davison, sr.**  
Veteran lineman help paved the way for an explosive offense.

**OL) Ethan Kraats, Saginaw Heritage, jr.**  
Talented junior earned all-state honors in Division 2.

**OL) Alex McPhee, Rockford, sr.**  
Earned first-team, all-state honors in Division 1.

**OL) Ben Nichols, Davison, soph.**  
Massive sophomore (6-foot-6, 330 pounds) getting attention of Big 10 schools.

**OL) Tommy Stout, East Lansing, jr.**  
Latest outstanding lineman to come from Division 2 powerhouse.



Saginaw Heritage wide receiver Braylon Isom wrapped up his high school career as one of the most productive receivers in Michigan prep history.

## FIRST TEAM DEFENSE

**DL) Jayxlon McAllister, Grand Ledge, jr.**  
Powerful junior earned first-team, all-state honors in Division 1.

**DL) Gabe Stouffer, Rockford, sr.**  
Athletic lineman was a disruptor up front for the Rams.

**DL) Javon Thomas, East Lansing, jr.**  
Talented all-stater will play in college at Eastern Michigan.

**LB) Ryan Ahern, Rockford, sr.**  
Punishing tackler is on impact player on both sides of the line.

**LB) Jalen Edwards, Davison, jr.**  
Totalled 123 tackles, 13.5 tackles for loss and six sacks this season.

**LB) Carter Herriman, Davison, sr.**  
All-state linebacker will play in college at Miami (Ohi).

**oDefensive back, Binkley was a solid pass defender who also had the ability to step up and defend the run.**

**LB) Isaiah McCary-Sams, East Lansing, jr.**  
All region linebacker totaled over 100 tackles this season.

**DB) Louis Bosscher, Rockford, sr.**  
Earned all-regional honors this season for the Rams.

**DB) D.J. Burns, Saginaw Heritage, sr.**  
Talented playmaker in the Heritage secondary this season.

**DB) Isaac Poot, Rockford, jr.**  
Versatile player made impact in all the phases of the game.

**DB) BJ Windham, East Lansing, jr.**  
Talented ball hawk was the leader of Trojan secondary.

### SPECIAL-MENTION OFFENSE

**Buddy Banks-Irwin, WR, Davison; Dalton Derocher, WR, Bay City Central; Dominic Eastman, WR, Okemos; Ryder Ferguson, PK, Davison; Ben Fletcher, QB, East Lansing; McIntyre Fourman, RB, Grand Ledge; Drake Irwin, QB, Rockford; Jacob Jensen, QB, Midland Dow; Zecheriah Jones, WR, Grand Ledge; Tyler Konieczny, OL, Grand**

**Ledge; Ethan Mason, QB, Saginaw Heritage; Braylen Naves, WR, Davison; Garlands Randolph, RB, Midland Dow; Ty Robertson, RB, Saginaw Heritage; Mwataye Sams, RB, East Lansing; Max Stoecker, OL, Midland; Tyler Streeter, WR, Midland Dow; Joshua Walker, OL, Saginaw Heritage; Maddox Wright, OL, Holt.**

### SPECIAL-MENTION DEFENSE

**Charlie Armstead, LB, Davison; Preston Bohnet, DB, Grand Ledge; Zach Buschlen, LB, Midland; Jay Carnegie, DL, East Lansing; Jason Casey, DL, Midland Dow; Tyler Dosh, DL, Davison; Darryle Geter, DB, East Lansing; Julius Goodwin, LB, East Lansing; Markwe Heard, DL, Saginaw; Drew Leuter,**

**DB, Midland Dow; Noah Lopez, LB, East Lansing; Tommy Miller, DL, Midland; Mason Nickel, DL, Midland Dow; Nathan Precise, LB, Okemos; Cole Sowinski, LB, Bay City Central; Jace Sullivan, LB, Saginaw Heritage; Wyatt Vandette, LB, Saginaw Heritage; Cameron Wardell, DL, Okemos.**

# 2023 All-Area Division 3-5 Football Team

## FIRST TEAM OFFENSE

**QB) Logan Borodychuk, Mt. Pleasant, sr.**  
Talented passer to continue his career in college at Central Michigan University.

**RB) Nakai Amachree, Haslett, sr.**  
Explosive runner to play his college ball at Bowling Green.

**RB) A.J. Martel, Mason, sr.**  
All-state running back rewrote the rushing records at Mason.

**WR) Max Fellows, Essexville-Garber, sr.**  
All-state receiver caught 70 passes for 1,334 yards this season.

**WR) Tarick Bower, Corunna, sr.**  
Explosive playmaker helped lead Cavaliers to state title game.

**TE) Kaleb Parrish, Mason, sr.**  
Blocking and receiving skills earned him all-state honors in Division 3.

**OL) Zach DeLeeuw, Freeland, sr.**  
Dominating blocker a big reason Falcons ran for over 3,000 yards this season.

**OL) Andrew Dennis, Mt. Pleasant, sr.**  
One of the best in the state headed to the University of Illinois.

**OL) Logan Klein, Gladwin, sr.**  
All-state blocker helped Flying G's gain over 3,000 yards this year.

**OL) Nick Saade, Mason, sr.**  
Helped pave the way for high-scoring Mason offense this season.

**OL) Derrick Simmons, Frankenmuth, sr.**  
Outstanding blocker earned first-team, all-state honors in Division 5.



Mt. Pleasant senior Logan Borodychuk helped Mt. Pleasant to a big season and will be playing next fall for Central Michigan University.

## FIRST TEAM DEFENSE

**DL) Grant Gilchrist, Mason, sr.**  
Earned all-conference and all-region honors the past two years.

**DL) Kal Kowallic, Mt. Pleasant, sr.**  
Disruptive lineman led the way for the Oiler defense this season.

**DL) Alan Mrva, Corunna, jr.**  
Division 5 All-state lineman anchored the Corunna defensive line.

**DL) Sam Talaga, Freeland, sr.**  
Playmaker on both sides of the ball will play in college at Harvard.

**LB) Derek Badgley, Mason, sr.**  
Versatile Bulldog was a leader on defense at linebacker.

**LB) Hunter Conrad, Belding, jr.**  
All-state linebacker posted 125 tackles this season.

**LB) Jaden Edington, Corunna, sr.**  
A leader of the Cavalier defense and Division 5 all-state pick.

**DB) Tyler Baker, Mason, sr.**  
Big-time athlete who provided numerous impact plays.

**DB) Wyatt Bower, Corunna, sr.**  
All-stater provided scores of big plays on both sides of the line.

**DB) Conner Kazamer, Portland, sr.**  
Division 4 all-stater helped lead Portland to state semifinals.

**DB) Jhace Massey, Gladwin, sr.**  
Totalled 65 tackles and scored a pair of touchdowns on defense.

### SPECIAL-MENTION OFFENSE

**Brayden Andrejack, PK, Corunna; Owen Behrenwald, QB, Tri-County; Reid Blasius, OL, Charlotte; Jaden Button, WR, Tri-County; Carson Carswell, QB, Mason; Isaac Casey, TE, Belding; Luke Chambers, OL, Williamston; Evan Cody, OL, Corunna; Triston Conner, TE, Freeland; Donald Corlew, WR, Gladwin; Easton Day, WR, Mt. Pleasant; Ty Fournier, RB, Freeland; Colton Klein, QB, Swan Valley; Adam Larner, WR, DeWitt; Elliot Larner, QB, DeWitt; Codey Manley, RB, Belding; Dan Marowell, OL, Portland; Max McCune, WR, Williamston; Trav Moore, RB, DeWitt; Caleb Neubecker, RB, Mt. Pleasant; Luke Nolen, OL, DeWitt; Cole Plotts, WR, Tri-County; Jackson Reisbig, QB, Lowell; Jack Rich, QB, Frankenmuth; Aidan Robinson, RB, Bay City Western; Treyton Siegert, PK, Gladwin; Caden Thelen, RB, Portland; Travis Tucker, RB, Ionia; Riley Vennix, QB, Big Rapids; Jackson Vrabel, OL, Bay City Glenn; Aden Wenzel, OL, Ionia; Alex Winter, OL, Lowell; Collin Winters, PK, Mason; Jahi Wood, RB, Lansing Waverly.**

### SPECIAL-MENTION DEFENSE

**Crittin Barker, LB, Frankenmuth; Tim Bensing, LB, Charlotte; Carson Berkompas, DL, Charlotte; Cutler Brandt, DB, Charlotte; Marcus Castellon, LB, Mt. Pleasant; Sam Corey, DL, Mason; Charlie Doyle, DL, Corunna; Noah Duncel, DB, Williamston; Justice Dungey, DL, Lansing Waverly; Bryce Edington, DB, Corunna; Garrett Forgash, LB, Bay City Glenn; Kaeson Frost, DB, Bay City Western; Hayden Halladay, DB, Belding; T.J. Holtern, LB, Lowell; Case Johnson, LB, Greenville; Miles Keener, LB, Williamston; Ashton Luck-hardt, DB, Shephard; Colin Main, DL, Frankenmuth; Hunter McDowell, DL, Gladwin; Mark Meyers, DB, Portland; Brody Quinn, LB, Haslett; Braden Ritchie, LB, Gladwin; Dom Ryan, DL, DeWitt; Zach Rye, LB, Owosso; Jack Schieding, LB, DeWitt; Brayden Stellard, DB, Haslett; Reice Thelen, DL, Portland; Evan Walker, DB, Lansing Waverly; Phillip Wilber, LB, Big Rapids; Preston Willert, LB, Gladwin; Weston Yon, DB, Owosso; Dayne Zeeman, LB, Corunna; Logan Zeneberg, DB, Mt. Pleasant.**

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# 2023 All-Area Division 6-8 Football Team

## FIRST TEAM OFFENSE

**QB) Jackson Conn, Ithaca, jr.**  
Passed for over 1,900 yards this year along with 28 touchdown passes.

**RB) Brayden Florian, Chesaning, jr.**  
Ran for over 2,000 yards and scored 20 touchdowns this season.

**RB) Bo Schwartz, Bullock Creek, sr.**  
Rushed for over 1,600 yards and scored 20 touchdowns this year.

**WR) Brandon Horton, Montrose, sr.**  
Big-play receiver earned all-state honors in Division 7.

**WR) Braden Rabideau, Lansing Catholic, jr.**  
Division 6 all-stater caught 41 passes for 705 yards.

**WR) Landon Zastrow, Hemlock, jr.**  
Hauled in 64 passes for 990 yards this season.

**OL) Jake Bowen, Ovid-Elsie, jr.**  
Helped anchor a line that paved the way to a regional title.

**OL) Evan Curtiss, Fowler, sr.**  
Athletic lineman will play in college at Grand Valley State.

**OL) Miles Haggart, Clare, sr.**  
Earned first-team, all-state honors in Division 6.

**OL) Slade Raleigh, New Lothrop, sr.**  
Impact player on both sides of the line for the Hornets.

**OL) Justin Uhl, Beaverton, sr.**  
Division 7 all-stater dominated on both sides of the line.



Ithaca junior quarterback Jackson Conn helped lead the Yellowjackets to a conference and district championship this season.

## FIRST TEAM DEFENSE

**DL) Brandon Pass, Ithaca, sr.**  
All-stater in Division 8 totaled seven quarterback sacks this season.

**DL) Keighan Stoddard, Chesaning, jr.**  
Recorded six sacks on way to earning Division 6 all-state honors.

**DL) Cole Workman, Ovid-Elsie, sr.**  
Anchor of Marauder defense from his nose guard position.

**LB) Preston Haddock, Montrose, sr.**  
Athletic linebacker earned Division 7 all-state honors.

**LB) Noah Risner, Ithaca, sr.**  
Among the leaders in tackles in the entire state with 149.

**LB) Zane Schwartz, Bullock Creek, sr.**  
Totalled over 100 tackles this season along with 11 tackles for loss.

**LB) Brayton Thelen, Pewamo-Westphalia, jr.**  
Talented player was an impact player on both sides of the line.

**DB) Jack Fussman, Beal City, sr.**  
All-state defensive back made big plays on both offense and defense.

**DB) Noah Gross, Montrose, sr.**  
Talented defender earned Division 7 all-state honors.

**DB) Owen Mikulka, Ithaca, sr.**  
Versatile player picked off six passes on defense.

**DB) Brady Sager, Chesaning, jr.**  
Skilled pass defender named all-state in Division 6.

### SPECIAL-MENTION OFFENSE

Jackson Audretsch, PK, Laingsburg; Logan Broekhuizen, OL, Michigan Lutheran Seminary; Chad Brown, QB, Hemlock; Jameson Custer, WR, Ovid-Elsie; Tristan Elizalde, WR, Saginaw Nouvel; Alex Fernandez, QB, Lansing Catholic; Bennett Gilde, OL, Beal City; Jacob Halfmann, QB, Fowler; Zach Halfmann, WR, Fowler; Carson Koehler, RB, Michigan Lutheran Seminary; Jack Kulhanek, QB, New Lothrop; Carter Lance, PK, Fowler; Jamisen Latham, RB, Beal City; Caden Lickfeldt, OL, Bullock Creek; Ryan Louch,

WR, Clare; Jayden Martinez, DB, New Lothrop; Dylan May, QB, Pewamo-Westphalia; Gabe Miller, TE, Pewamo-Westphalia; Zach O'Neal, QB, Montrose; Preston Otter, QB, Saginaw Nouvel; Cayden Smith, RB, Beal City; Connor Thompson, OL, Montrose; Bradley Uhlmann, RB, Bath; Noah Vanderlinde, WR, Ewart; Preston Wallace, QB, Ewart; Dakobe White, WR, Ewart; Ryley White, WR, Ithaca; Josh Wilson, TE, Beal City; Hunter Witbeck, OL, Ewart.

### SPECIAL-MENTION DEFENSE

Andrew Archibald, DL, Michigan Lutheran Seminary; Javen Belill, LB, Ovid-Elsie; Jack Borgman, DB, Laingsburg; Westyn Bryant, LB, Clare; Jaxon Craven, LB, Ewart; Owen Craven, DB, Ewart; M.J. Dailey, DL, Montrose; Alec Fowler, DB, Chesaning; Reese Longstreth, DB, Beaverton; Cole Niec, LB, New Lothrop; Max

Parry, LB, Bath; Brock Pelong, DL, Chipewa Hills; Jake Punchess, DL, Clare; Zach Seidel, LB, Hemlock; Trevor Spicer, LB, Fowler; Trevor Spitzley, DL, Pewamo-Westphalia; Colton Symons, DL, New Lothrop; Kaven Unangst, DB, New Lothrop; William Warner, LB, Beaverton; Braydn Wendling, DL, Chesaning.



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# 2023 All-Area Division 8-Man Football Team

## FIRST TEAM OFFENSE

**QB) Jason Boge, Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart, jr.**  
A talented dual-threat quarterback, Boge used his passing and running skills to help lead Sacred Heart to a 9-2 record and a trip to the regional finals.

**RB) Landon VanderVlucht, Carson City-Crystal, sr.**  
This hard-charging running back rushed for over 1,800 yards and scored 18 touchdowns this season as he helped the Eagles turn in an 8-2 record.

**RB) Joel Fisher, Morrice, jr.**  
An all-state running back, Fisher ran for over 1,000 yards and 17 touchdowns this season for an Oriole team that averaged 41 points per game.

**WR) Trey Most, Breckenridge, soph.**  
One of the most productive receivers in the state, Most hauled in 56 passes this season for 920 yards and nine touchdowns.

**WR) Joe McDonald, Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart, jr.**  
A talented all-around athlete, McDonald provided the Irish with playmaking skills on offense on his way to earning all-state honors.

**OL) Connor Stempky, Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart, sr.**  
A standout on both sides of the line, Stempky earned all-state honors for his blocking skills on offense as he helped the Irish average 41 points per game.

**OL) Mason Tucker, Coleman, sr.**  
An outstanding lineman on both sides of the line, Tucker earned all-state honors on offense where he utilized outstanding quickness to pull and lead block.

**OL) Jace Staff, Carson City-Crystal, sr.**  
An all-state lineman, Staff provided the Eagles with strong blocking on offense that enabled Carson City to average 40.5 points per game.



Chase Burrigen - Montabella



Coleman Jared - DeVrieze



Landon Simpson - Portland St. Pats



Kadenn Rose - Sacred Heart

## FIRST TEAM DEFENSE

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**OL) Jace Staff, Carson City-Crystal, sr.**  
An all-state lineman, Staff provided the Eagles with strong blocking on offense that enabled Carson City to average 40.5 points per game.

### SPECIAL-MENTION OFFENSE

Grayson Ackels, WR, Carson City-Crystal; Braden Bila, RB, St. Charles; Sam Bovee, WR, Coleman; Chase Burrigen, QB, Blanchard-Montabella; Wyatt Cartier, RB, Morrice; Brendan Ervin, OL, Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart; Austin Foster, WR, Blanchard-Montabella; Shawn Frawley, OL, Portland St. Patrick; Tyler Groothuis, PK, Portland St. Patrick; Antonio Jimenez, QB, Merrill; Robert Kral, QB, Ashley; Jacob Kroll, OL, Merrill; Landon Lajoice, OL,

Merrill; Brady Leonard, QB, Portland St. Patrick; Oliver Long, OL, Morrice; Walker Owen, OL, Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart; Gavin Reeder, QB, Carson City-Crystal; Kadenn Rose, RB, Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart; Collin Stockero, WR, Coleman; Caleb Strauch, OL, Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart; Vance Sysak, QB, Coleman; Thomas Thelen, OL, Fulton-Middleton; Tanner Villalobos, RB, Fulton-Middleton; Bo Williams, RB, Bay City All Saints.

### SPECIAL-MENTION DEFENSE

Aden Aultman, P, Coleman; Hayden Ayotte, DB, Merrill; Connor Ball, LB, Blanchard-Montabella; Cooper Bolton, DB, Blanchard-Montabella; Trent Brady, DB, St. Charles; Logan Glazier, DB, Coleman; Austin Gutting, LB, Morrice; Ethan Halfman, LB, Carson City-Crystal; Aidan Halliday, LB, Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart; Brady Hoeve, DL, Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart; Gibby Jason, DE, Ashley; Griffin Long, DB, Morrice;

William Long, DB, Ashley; Jim McDonald, DL, Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart; Aidan Mosser, LB, Portland St. Patrick; Riley Mosser, LB, Portland St. Patrick; Travis Murray, LB, Coleman; Cody Omo, DL, Blanchard-Montabella; Peyton Reynolds, DL, Fulton-Middleton; Tyler Smith, DL, Merrill; Rylee Strawn, DB, Carson City-Crystal; Phoenix Thompson, DB, St. Charles; Jackson Verleger, LB, Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart.



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# Area Teams And Runners Find Success At Regional Cross Country Meets

## Butch Harmon Sports Scene DIVISION 1 Okemos Girls Place In Top Ten At State Finals

The Okemos girls cross country team closed out the season in a big way by placing eighth at the Division 1 state finals. Senior Lily Salazar (52<sup>nd</sup>, 19:07.8) led the way followed by senior Nicole Mays (68<sup>th</sup>, 19:17.0) and sophomore October Harns (75<sup>th</sup>, 19:20.0).

## Bay City Western Boys Win Regional Title

The Bay City Western boys finished the season taking 11<sup>th</sup> at the Division 1 state finals. Senior Noah Selvaraj led the way at state as he placed 11<sup>th</sup> while junior Andrew Kaczmarczyk placed 36<sup>th</sup>.

Western qualified for state by winning the Shephard regional led by Selvaraj who won the individual title in a time of 15:40.3 followed by Kaczmarczyk (6<sup>th</sup>, 16:01.8).

## Midland Dow Girls Place 11<sup>th</sup> At State Finals

The Midland Dow girls capped the season by placing 11<sup>th</sup> at the D1 state finals. Junior Victoria Garces (fifth, 17:29.1) led the way followed by senior Katie Watkins (42<sup>nd</sup>) and junior Sydney Roberts (46<sup>th</sup>).

At the regional Dow was led by Watkins who won the individual title in a time of 18:07.7 followed by Garces (2<sup>nd</sup>, 18:28.6) and Roberts (sixth, 18:59.5).

## DIVISION 2 Alma Boys Place In Top Ten At State

The Alma boys wrapped up the season by placing eighth at the Division 2 state finals. Freshman Ezekiel Baltierra led the way for Alma at state as he placed 24<sup>th</sup> with a time of 15:46.5. Sophomore Thomas Larson placed 42<sup>nd</sup> while senior Ali Kudmani was 73<sup>rd</sup>.

Alma qualified for state by winning the Shephard regional. Larson (third,

15:47.1) led the way followed by Baltierra (fourth, 15:47.6), Kudmani (12<sup>th</sup>, 16:27.5), junior Bodie Heiss (19<sup>th</sup>, 16:57.0) and sophomore Elijah Baltierra (24<sup>th</sup>, 17:04.9).

## Gladwin Runners Place Fifth At State

The Gladwin boys cross country team finished the season with a fifth-place finish in Division 2. Senior Caleb Palmreuter (18<sup>th</sup>, 15:43.4) led the way followed by junior Seth Mead (41<sup>st</sup>), junior Elijah Christensen (43<sup>rd</sup>) and sophomore Ben Verellen (69<sup>th</sup>).

Gladwin qualified for state by winning the Chippewa Hills regional. Palmreuter led the way at regionals by placing fourth in a time of 16:33.17 followed by Mead (5<sup>th</sup>, 16:35.06) and Christensen (7<sup>th</sup>, 16:41.72).

## St. Johns Boys, Girls Compete At State Finals

Both the St. Johns boys and girls cross country teams competed at the state finals.

The St. Johns girls place 10<sup>th</sup> at the state finals. Freshman Ava Schafer led the team at the finals as she placed fourth in a time of 17:53.8 followed by senior Abby Young (32<sup>nd</sup>, 18:49.7).

The St. Johns girls qualified for state by winning the DeWitt regional. Ava Schafer who won the individual title with a time of 18:28.6 followed by Young (fourth, 19:45.1), senior Clara Fletcher (seventh, 20:12.17) and sophomore Miriam Kloha (10<sup>th</sup> 20:16.1).

The St. Johns boys finished 17<sup>th</sup> at the state finals led by senior Isaac Staib (23<sup>rd</sup>, 15:46.2).

The Redwing boys qualified for state by taking second at the regional led by senior Isaac Staib (fifth, 16:47.4) followed by senior Matthew Schrauben (eighth, 17:03.5).

## Haslett Runner Wins Individual Title

Haslett senior Nate Carmody brought

home the individual regional title at the DeWitt regional as he turned in a winning time of 16:11.7. Carmody went on to place 37<sup>th</sup> at the state finals with a time of 16:03.7.

## DeWitt Runners Compete At State Meet

Both the DeWitt boys and girls cross country teams wrapped up the season at the D2 state finals. The DeWitt girls placed 12<sup>th</sup> led by junior Kayla Williams (70<sup>th</sup>, 19:34.7), junior Mia Williams (96<sup>th</sup>, 19:57.8), junior Ayla Holben (100<sup>th</sup>, 19:59.3) and junior Autumn Thompson (103<sup>rd</sup>, 20:04.2).

The DeWitt boys placed 21<sup>st</sup> at the Division 2 state finals. Junior Noah Inglis led the way for DeWitt as he placed 36<sup>th</sup> with a time of 16:01.6.

## Freeland Girls Finish In Top 12 At State

The Freeland girls wrapped up the season by placing 11<sup>th</sup> at the Division 2 state meet. Freshman Clara Kaczor led the way as she placed 21<sup>st</sup> in a time of 18:36.6 followed by junior Karie Keefer (68<sup>th</sup>, 19:33.5) and sophomore Jada Prescott (109<sup>th</sup> 20:06.6).

## Owosso Girls Place In Top 15 At State

The Owosso girls cross country team finished the season by placing 15<sup>th</sup> at the Division 2 state finals. Sophomore Emma Crandell led the way for the Trojans as she placed 48<sup>th</sup> in a time of 19:18.7 followed by senior Libby Summerland (77<sup>th</sup>, 19:40.6) and junior Julionna West (120<sup>th</sup>, 20:14.2).

## DIVISION 3 Central Montcalm Boys Fifth, Girls Eight At State

Both the Central Montcalm boys and girls teams placed in the top ten at the state finals.

The Central Montcalm boys placed fifth at the state finals. Sophomore Gage Hoffman led the Hornets at state (eighth, 16:01.4) followed by senior Graham Coston (25<sup>th</sup>, 16:25) and sophomore Sylus

Wilson (34<sup>th</sup>, 16:32.9).

Central Montcalm qualified for state by taking second at the DeWitt regional. Hoffman led the way at the regional (second, 16:40.3) followed by Coston (third, 17:17.4) and Wilson (fourth, 17:25.3).

The Central Montcalm girls placed eighth at state. Junior Kyah Hoffman (third, 18:02.7) paced the Hornets followed by junior Ashley Choponis (12<sup>th</sup>, 18:55.7), sophomore Grace Coston (30<sup>th</sup>, 19:18.2) and freshman Andrea Rolston (105<sup>th</sup>, 21:01.5).

The Hornets qualified for state by taking second at regional led by Hoffman who won the individual regional title with a time of 18:25.4 followed by Coston (2<sup>nd</sup>, 20:07.2), Choponis (4<sup>th</sup>, 20:30.4) and Rolston (10<sup>th</sup>, 21:25.9).

## Pewamo-Westphalia Boys, Girls Finish In Top Ten At State

The Pewamo-Westphalia girls placed fourth and the boys finished seventh at the state finals after both teams won regional championships.

Junior Whitney Werner (31<sup>st</sup>, 19:18.7) led the way at state followed by freshman Alyssa Kramer (36<sup>th</sup>, 19:37.7), senior Melanie Werner (55<sup>th</sup>, 20:09.2) and freshman Jenna Keilen (56<sup>th</sup>, 20:14.). At the regional the Pirates were led by Werner (third, 20:15.7) followed by Kramer (5<sup>th</sup>, 20:44.3), Keilen (6<sup>th</sup>, 20:39.2), sophomore Abbie Schneider (7<sup>th</sup>, 21:08.4) and Melanie Werner (9<sup>th</sup>, 21:13.1).

The boys were led at state by senior Collin Farmer who won the individual title in 15:39.1 followed by freshman Wyatt Werner (65<sup>th</sup>, 17:05.3) and junior Allan George (70<sup>th</sup>, 17:07.9). At the regional the Pirates were led by Farmer (first, 16:15.8) followed by George (sixth, 17:30.8), Werner (seventh, 17:36.9), junior Sam Muirhead (10<sup>th</sup>, 17:55.8) and freshman John Kowatch (13<sup>th</sup>, 18:08.4).

## Lansing Catholic Boys, Girls Win Regional

The Lansing Catholic boys and girls teams both brought home

regional titles and competed at the state finals.

The girls placed seventh at state led by senior Tessa Roe (sixth, 18:14.8) followed by sophomore Frances Melinn (37<sup>th</sup>, 19:39.4) and freshman Grace Wonch (42<sup>nd</sup>, 19:42.8). At the regional Roe (first, 19:22.7) led the way followed by Melinn (fourth, 21:53.0), Wonch (fifth, 22:04.1), freshman Avery Miller (ninth, 22:51.4) and junior Kaitlin Ludwig (13<sup>th</sup>, 23:13.4).

The Cougar boys placed 25<sup>th</sup> at the state meet led by sophomore Lucas Gates (103<sup>rd</sup>, 17:22.2). Gates (seventh, 19:01.7) also led the way at the regional followed by freshman Teo Krumm (10<sup>th</sup>, 19:09.1), sophomore Blaise Demko (13<sup>th</sup>, 19:17.3), freshman Everett Beach (14<sup>th</sup>, 19:17.9) and freshman Finn Korte (15<sup>th</sup>, 19:18.3).

## St. Louis Boys Capture Regional Crown Enroute To State

The St. Louis boys cross country team came away with the regional title at the Shephard Division 3 regional enroute to a berth in the state finals where it placed second.

Senior Ben March won the regional title with a time of 16:02.4 followed by junior Landon Astrue (second, 16:08.0), sophomore Hayden Shattuck (14<sup>th</sup>, 17:23.9), sophomore Alex Rodriguez (17<sup>th</sup>, 17:36.9) and junior Colin Kuhn (18<sup>th</sup>, 17:38.8).

## Ithaca Boys, Girls Compete At State

Both the Ithaca boys and girls cross country teams competed at the state finals. The Ithaca girls placed ninth at the state meet led by senior Lilianna Lehnst (21<sup>st</sup>, 19:06.4) followed by sophomore Myleigh Hepner (35<sup>th</sup>, 19:37.4), freshman Makinna Foglesong (66<sup>th</sup>, 20:19.8), sophomore Izabelle LaLone (127<sup>th</sup>, 21:21.3) and senior Laiyla Pray (135<sup>th</sup>, 21:27.2).

The Ithaca boys placed ninth at state led by sophomore Landen Styka (16<sup>th</sup>, 16:10.7) followed by junior Miingen Bertrand (31<sup>st</sup>, 16:29.3), junior Brent DeSaegher

(106<sup>th</sup>, 17:23.3), sophomore Jacob Mankey (135<sup>th</sup>, 17:43.1) and sophomore Thad Whitmore (150<sup>th</sup>, 17:51.9).

## Clare Boys, Girls Compete At State Meet

The Clare boys and girls cross country teams ended the season competing at the Division 3 state finals.

The Clare boys placed sixth at the state meet led by senior Brad White (4<sup>th</sup>, 15:55.5) followed by seniors Andrew Klaus (46<sup>th</sup>, 16:49.1) and Nic Porter (63<sup>rd</sup>, 17:03.08) and freshman Connor Schmidt (97<sup>th</sup>, 17:19.4).

The Clare girls finished 23<sup>rd</sup> and were led by freshmen Sophia Buzzelli (28<sup>th</sup>, 19:14.7), Lauren Leis (137<sup>th</sup>, 21:30.0) and Elizabeth Letherer (168<sup>th</sup>, 21:55.1).

## Chippewa Hills Girls Finish In Top 12 At State

The Chippewa Hills girls cross country team capped the season placing 11<sup>th</sup> in Division 3. Senior Avelina Hollandsworth (18<sup>th</sup>, 19:05.2) led the way followed by sophomores Quinn Hatfield (70<sup>th</sup>, 20:21.0) and Kerttu Juvonen (88<sup>th</sup>, 20:38.6).

## Bath Boys Place In Top 15 At State

The Bath boys cross country team ended the season placing 14<sup>th</sup> at the D3 meet. The Bees were led by senior Carter Holmes (49<sup>th</sup>, 16:49.8), freshman River Fox (58<sup>th</sup>, 16:58.7) and senior Andrew Koenigsknecht (87<sup>th</sup>, 17:15.0).

## St. Louis Girls Compete At State Meet

The St. Louis girls cross country team ended the season by placing 21<sup>st</sup> at the D3 state finals. The Sharks were led by senior Jaiden Dickman (52<sup>nd</sup>, 20:07.4) followed by junior Abby Dice (117<sup>th</sup>, 21:09.0), freshman Lilly Mann (153<sup>rd</sup>, 21:44.3) and senior Natalie Lemert (158<sup>th</sup>, 21:47.0).

## DIVISION 4 Breckenridge Girls, Boys Run At State Finals

The Breckenridge girls cross country team ended the season by



The Breckenridge girls cross country team won a regional title at the Division 4 Chippewa Hills regional and placed sixth at the state finals.

placing sixth at the D4 state finals. Sophomore Ally Schmitz led the way (22<sup>nd</sup>, 19:46.6) followed by junior Danica Aldrich (57<sup>th</sup>, 20:48.1), junior Avery Westall (73<sup>rd</sup>, 21:07.3), junior Nataly Vine (103<sup>rd</sup>, 21:41.5) and senior Tori Most (116<sup>th</sup>, 21:54.4).

Breckenridge qualified for state by winning the regional. Schmitz (second, 20:46.3) led the way at the regional followed by Aldrich (seventh, 21:29.2), Vine (10<sup>th</sup>, 22:08.9), Westall (11<sup>th</sup>, 22:16.8) and Most (14<sup>th</sup>, 22:21.0).

The boys team placed 18<sup>th</sup> at the state meet. Senior Sawyer Stoneman (23<sup>rd</sup>, 16:43.8) led the way followed by freshman Anthony Rowe (43<sup>rd</sup>, 17:17.9). The boys qualified for state by taking second at the regional. Stoneman (second, 17:15.9) led that way at the regional followed by Rowe (10<sup>th</sup>, 18:00), senior Isaac Humm (20<sup>th</sup>, 18:54.57), sophomore Trey Most (28<sup>th</sup>, 19:32.3) and junior Aimon Humm (30<sup>th</sup>, 19:47.6).

## Vestaburg Runners Finish Season Strong

A pair of Vestaburg runners won individual regional titles at the Division 4 Chippewa Hills regional. Senior Owen Patton won the regional title in the boys race in a time of 16:45.1 while junior Abigail Davis captured the regional title in the girls race with a time of 20:34.0. Patton went on to place second in the state at the state finals with a time of 16:01.0. Davis placed 26<sup>th</sup>

at the state meet in 19:53.5. Davis helped the Vestaburg girls place 24<sup>th</sup> as a team.



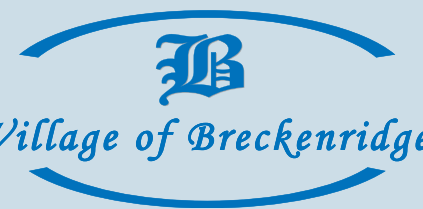


## Sacred Heart Girls Place In Top 20 At State

The Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart girls placed 20<sup>th</sup> in the state in Division 4. Freshman Anna Sheppard (55<sup>th</sup>, 20:47.1) led the way at state followed by Jacqueline Morton (64<sup>th</sup>, 20:55.8). Sacred Heart qualified for state by placing second at the regional. Sheppard (3<sup>rd</sup>, 20:59.7) led the way at the regional followed by Morton (5<sup>th</sup>, 21:17.7), and sophomores Kaya Rose (19<sup>th</sup>, 23:07.6), Laura Bigard (23<sup>rd</sup>, 23:47.7) and Savannah Jones (34<sup>th</sup>, 24:45.4).



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# P-W Runner Takes Division 3 Boys Title

## John Raffel Sports Scene

To say Pewamo-Westphalia senior runner Collin Farmer reached his expectations this year would be an understatement.

"I met my expectations this year. My goals were to run sub 15:30 and win the state meet and I did both of those," he said.

In the championship meet at Michigan International Speedway for Division 3 on Nov. 4, Farmer crossed the line in 15:39.1 to finish his high school season with five consecutive victories.

His PR of 15:29.3 came at Shepherd earlier in the season.

"Our team did very well this year. We won our regional meet and got 7th

at the state finals," Farmer said. "I ran extremely well this year and was 1st in all the major meets besides one. I felt like I improved a lot over the course of the past year, as I PR'd by 24 seconds. I was team captain, so it was my role was to be the one leading workouts and trying to get people to keep working hard.

"My role did not really change, except I went from a junior to a senior, so I had a little more responsibility when it came to tutoring the freshman class coming up. My fundamental strengths this year were holding a consistent pace during my races. I worked on trying to build my endurance over the summer by running at most 60 miles a week. My most memorable moments as a runner this year would be winning the state meet and winning the Greater Lansing Championship.

"This year, our team had some pretty high highs. We got 2nd at the Portage Invite, the biggest Invitational in Michigan, we won our regional meet and got seventh. Our team met most of our expectations this year as well. Our goals were to win the regional meet and place top 5 at the state meet, and we did our regional meet but barely missed our state goal. Individually, I won the regional championship, state championship, Greater Lansing Championship. My PR is 15:29."

He runs cross country and track and also does indoor meets unattached from a team.

"My favorite sport is cross country because the team atmosphere is extremely fun and everyone gets along super well," Farmer said. "After cross country, I will be running indoor and outdoor track and field."



Collin Farmer relaxes after winning the Division 3 state meet.

# Vestaburg Girl Enjoys All-State Moment

## John Raffel Sports Scene

Junior Abigail Davis brought home All-State honors to Vestaburg with a solid effort in the state finals race for Division 4 at Michigan International Speedway on Nov. 4.

Her time was 19:53.5 for 26th place.

The following week, she would produce her personal record with 19:48/2 at the fourth annual Michigan Meet of Champions.

"I came in with a good mindset," Davis said. "I felt good. The competition was good."

It was her third time at the state meet and was her best performance.

At the Chippewa Hills Early

Season Warrior Invitational, Davis was seventh in 21:18.14. At the 2023 Shepherd Jon Bruder Classic, she was eighth in 20:21.0. At the Central Montcalm Hornet Invitational, she was 18th in 20:39.90. At the Beal City Invitational, she was first in 21:16.90. At the Evert Wildcat Invitational, she was second in 21:33.89.

At the MSAC Jamboree hosted by St. Charles, Davis was third in 21:30.96. At the Morley Stanwood Mohawk Invitational, she was third in 21:39.5 At the Shepherd Blue Jay Invitational, she was 10th in 20:38.6. At the

MSAC Jamboree No. 2 at Ashley, she was third in 21:46.2. At the Heritage Invitational, she was sixth in 21:23.8. At the Montabella Mustang Invitationals, she was second in 20:37.5.

At the MSAC jamboree No. 3 at Breckenridge, she was first in 20:41.8. At the Chippewa Hills Late Season Warrior Invitational, she was 11th in 20:16.1. At the regional at Chippewa Hills, she was first in 20:34.1.

But she has one season remaining.

"Next year, I just want to do the best I can," she said.



Vestaburg's Abigail Davis.

# St. Louis Boys Runners Take Second Place In Division 3

## John Raffel Sports Scene

St. Louis' boys cross country team had another outstanding Division 3 state meet on Nov. 4 and finished second to receive a trophy.

Traverse City St. Francis was first with 113, followed by St. Louis at 175, Grand Rapids Covenant Christian at 209, Reed City at 217, Central Montcalm at 242. Clare at 251, and Pewamo-Westphalia at 253.

Landon Pestrue led St. Louis with a time of 16:01.7. He was 10th overall and all runners and seventh

for those who had full teams at the meet.

Ben March (16:05.1) was 14th and 10th, Alex Rodriguez (17:07.0) was 68th and 49th, Hayden Shattuck (17:07.4) 69th and 50th and Colin Kuhn (17:13.4) and Collin Kuhn was 84th and 59th

Gage Hoffman led Central Montcalm (16:01.4) with finishes of eighth overall and fifth in the team standings. Graham Coston (16:26.0) was 25th and 18th. Suylus Wilson (16:32/9) was 34th and 24th. Tyler Fertig (17:47.3) was 144th and 94th.



St. Louis' cross country team was presented with the second place cross country state trophy in Division 3. Photo courtesy RunMichigan.com.

# Lansing Catholic Runner Finishes On Impressive Note

## John Raffel Sports Scene

Lansing Catholic's Tessa Roe finished off an outstanding cross country career with a sixth-place effort in the Division 3 state finals at Michigan International Speedway on Nov. 4.

Her time was 18:14.8. She helped her team place seventh overall.

"I thought it was really good," she said. "It was a smooth race. The weather helped a lot. I was happy with it."

It was her fourth race at the state finals and her best one. Having run on the course four times gave her a good education on how to perfect her performance.

"I've been doing it a few times," Roe smiled adding the weather, with temperatures around 50 degrees, "was perfect."

Roe indicated at the state meet, her best performance "was the finish, Just coming around and trying to pass people."

Roe is hoping to run at the college level, but hasn't decided where yet.

A week after the state finals, she ran in the fourth annual Michigan Meet of champions and was 15th in 17:59.7.

It was quite a reduction from her first meet of the season Aug. 26, when she was second at the Michigan Catholic Invitational in 19:03.6/

Then she won three straight races at the Averill Invitational (19:32.7), the Lansing Catholic Invitational (18:53.2) and the CAAC White Jamboree (20:09.0).

Roe was third in the Cougar Falcon Invitational in 18:21.5 and 12th in the 2023 Shepherd Blue Jay Invitational in 18:23.4. She was first in the CAAC White Jamboree No. 2 in 20:33.9, and first in the CXAA White Jamboree No. 3 in 20:40.7.

She won the regional at Milford for Division 3 runners in 19:22.7.

Roe had an impressive fourth place in 18:55.1 at the Greater Lansing Cross Country Championship.



Tessa Roe enjoys a shining moment at the state meet.

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# Freeland Runner Breaks State Record

## John Raffel Sports Scene

Matthew Kaczor was in his first year as Freeland High School cross country coach and saw his team do some amazing things.

At the top was a Division 2 state championship by TJ Hansen, who set a new record for the division at 14:52.89 in the state meet on Nov. 4 at Michigan International Speedway.

Freeland's teams both took third place in the TVC Red.

Team record (league and nonleague and league placing):

"The ladies had a great year as they finished second in the TVC overall, 2nd Saginaw County, 3rd at Regionals, and 11th at the D2 State Finals.

"Gentleman had a good year where many new guys came in and stepped up to fill in holes that last year's seniors left," Kaczor said. "We had a very successful season as a first year coach in this

program. It was great getting the ladies back to the state finals for the sixth year in a row. Winning the Holly Invite (was a highlight)." TVC Red Honors went to:

Clara Kaczor 1st team; TJ Hansen 1st team (Champ); Karie Keefer 2nd team; Camden McLeod 2nd team; Jada Prescott 2nd team; Landrey Kuhn 2nd team; Isabel Reinke honorable mention; Sam Nemeth honorable mention; Nathan Anaya honorable mention.

TVC Overall: Clara Kaczor first team TJ Hansen first team (Champ); Karie Keefer first team; Jada Prescott second team Camden McLeod; Landrey Kuhn second team; Paige Kloha second team; Cessaly Fichtner third team Sam Nemeth third team; Nathan Anaya third team.

Saginaw County: Clara Kaczor first team; TJ Hansen first team (Champ); Karie Keefer first team; Jada Prescott second team; Camden McLeod second team;

Landrey Kuhn second team; Sam Nemeth second team; Paige Kloha second team; Isabel Reinke second team; Nathan Anaya honorable mention.

Regional Championships: Clara Kaczor All Region (6th); TJ Hansen All Region (Champ); Karie Keefer All Region (14th).

MHSA D2 State Finals: Clara Kaczor All State (21st) TJ Hansen State Champ (D2 Record Time).

Girls 11th Place Finish. Key losses from graduation will be: Paige Kloha and Joseph Klopf.

Key returners are: Clara Kaczor, TJ Hansen, Karie Keefer, Camden McLeod, Jada Prescott Sam Nemeth, Landrey Kuhn.

As for next year, "I hope it looks good with the foundation that we have but as we know with sports, every year brings new excitements and challenges," Kanzor said.



TJ Hansen heads to the finish of the Division 2 race at the state finals. Photo by Dave McCauley/RunMichigan.com.

# Area Girls Had Key Races At State Finals

## John Raffel Sports Scene

Many area girl performers had outstanding races at the Michigan cross country finals including Victoria Garces of Midland Dow, who was fifth in 17:29.4 in Division 1.

In Division 3 for Chippewa Hills, Avelina Hollandsworth

was 18th (19:05.2). The top 30 finishers earned All-State medals. "It went very well," Hollandsworth said.

"I was hoping for a PR and All-State today. I got both. It was, honestly God. I looked to God my whole race and asked Him to let me stay focused and keep my focus on him. In my weakness, I

called to Him and He really came through, like in every race, but especially today." At the two-mile mark, I was like 32nd or 33rd. Then I moved up to 18th."

Hollandsworth was 25th last year for All-State honors. Chippewa Hills' girls qualified as a team and placed 11th out of 27 squads. Hollandsworth

was 13th as a runner for a qualifying team. Quinn Hatfield was 50th (20:21.0), Kerttu Juvonen (20:38.6) 62nd, Augusta Bowman 98th (21:35.0) and Reece Clark 112th (21:50.8). Pewamo-Westphalia was fourth in Division 3 girls. Kamryn Salladay of Lakeview was eighth in 18:41.7.



Avelina Hollandsworth gets ready to receive her all-state medal at the state finals.



# 2023 AREA ALL-STATE SOCCER PLAYERS

## DIVISION 1 Second team

Xtreme Hawk, East Lansing, forward, sr. Adam Flanders, Rockford, forward, soph.

Lincoln Floyd, Grand Blanc, midfield, jr.

### Honorable mention

Brian Goushaw, Rockford, forward, sr. Chase Horneber, Midland Dow, midfield, sr. Jorge Loaisiga, East Lansing, defender, sr. Keegan Luick, Midland Dow, keeper, sr. Eli Soderberg, Midland Dow, defender, jr. Charlie Stover, Okemos, midfield, sr. Christian Trunk, East Lansing, midfield, sr. Mason Winkel, Holt, defender, sr. Reid Wyngarden, Rockford, defender, sr.

## DIVISION 2 First team

Blendi Jahiri, Mason, midfield, jr. Lucas Nay, Mason, midfield, sr. Alex Palmer, Mason, defender, jr. Brayden Powers, DeWitt, forward, sr.

### Second team

Colin Lomax, Mason, defender, jr. Caden Saxton, Flint Kearsley, forward, sr.

### Third team

Muris Gafurovic Jr., Cedar Springs, forward, sr. Zane Sarka, Ionia, forward, sr. Carter Sherman, Cedar Springs, midfielder, sr. Collin Winters, Mason, midfielder, jr.

### Honorable mention

Anthony Dupuis, St. Johns, midfielder, sr. Ian Fowler, DeWitt, midfielder, sr. Cam French, DeWitt, defender, jr. Mikey Krysiak, Mason, keeper, soph. Gibson Pifer, Swartz Creek, midfielder, jr. Mendi Rexhepi, Mason, forward, jr. Tony Romero, Flint Kearsley, forward, jr. Jonathan Schwarz, DeWitt, keeper, sr. Carson Soltis, DeWitt, defender, soph. Bryce Thompson, Lowell, midfielder, sr. Elijah Vue, DeWitt, midfielder, jr. Adam Wingeier, Bay City Glenn, forward, sr.

## DIVISION 3 First team

Gage Haynes, Flint Powers, midfielder, sr. Brady Lenzion, Flint Powers, forward, sr. Leo Richter, Alma, forward, jr.

Leo Stravato, Flint Powers, defender, jr.

### Second team

Daniel Ash, Alma, defender, sr. Evan Emch, Williamston, midfielder, sr. Jack Lemerand, Alma, midfielder, soph. Landon McAvoy, Flint Powers, midfielder, sr. Matthew Palmer, Williamston, defender, sr. Garrett Stenzel, Williamston, keeper, jr.

### Third team

Shawn O'Brien, Flint Powers, midfielder, sr. Noah Vega, Alma, keeper, jr.

### Honorable mention

Carter Buckingham, Eaton Rapids, defender, jr. Ian Conway, Williamston, forward, jr. Keegan Crowe, Alma, midfielder, jr. Bradon Ellis, Eaton Rapids, keeper, sr. Liam Eyster, Williamston, midfielder, sr. Nate Ferry, Chesaning, midfielder, sr. Ethan Gosen, Freeland, forward, sr. Drew Holevac, Eaton Rapids, midfielder, jr. Mason Horwath, Swan Valley, midfielder, sr. Brandon Huntington, Eaton Rapids, defender, jr. Logan Johnson, Flint Powers, defender, soph. Logan Korson, Bullock Creek, forward, sr. Armando Lopez, Flint Powers, keeper, jr. Aidan O'Neill, Alma, midfielder, sr. Miles Paetz, Frankenmuth, midfielder, jr. Owen Senkowski, Freeland, forward, jr. Joe Shobbrock, Frankenmuth, forward, jr. Treyton Siegert, Gladwin, forward, sr. Brayden Truman, Alma, forward, soph. Devon Williamston, Freeland, keeper, sr. Ashton Wilson, Alma, midfielder, jr.

## DIVISION 4 First team

Owen Resch, Lansing Christian, midfielder, jr.

### Second team

Tyler Kendrick, Lansing Christian, midfielder, sr. Cullen MacKay, Lansing Christian, midfielder, soph.

### Third team

Dylan Kinnas, Lansing Christian, defender, sr.

Tim Plamondon, Saginaw Valley Lutheran, midfielder, sr.

### Honorable mention

Carson Block, Lansing Christian, midfielder, fr. Shane Darling, Saginaw Valley Lutheran, forward, sr. Drew Frantz, Dansville, forward, sr. Preston Kelsey, Saginaw Valley Lutheran, forward, sr. Tristan Medeiros, Bath, midfielder, jr. Anthony Pawlowski, Dansville, forward, jr. Luke Sowatsky, Saginaw Valley Lutheran, midfielder, sr. Mason Stark, Byron, forward, sr. Charlie VanBeek, Midland Calvary Baptist, midfielder, soph.



Alma senior Leo Richter capped an outstanding high school career by earning first-team, all-state honors in Division 3 and setting a new Alma career goal-scoring record.

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# Area Volleyball Teams Win District, Regional Titles

David Cook  
Sports Scene  
DIVISION 1

## Mason Volleyball Reaches Regional Final

The Mason volleyball team wrapped up the season by reaching the regional finals where it fell to Portage Northern. Mason defeated DeWitt 3-2 in the regional semifinals. The Bulldogs qualified for the regional by defeating Okemos 3-0 in the finals of the Holt district.

## Saginaw Heritage Wins District Title

The Saginaw Heritage volleyball team defeated Bay City Western 3-0 to win the title at the Midland Dow district. Heritage reached the finals by defeating Bay City Central in the semifinals and Saginaw Arthur Hill. The season came to an end for Heritage when the Hawks fell to Rockford in the regional semifinals.

## DeWitt Captures District Crown

DeWitt won the title at the St. Johns district by defeating Grand Ledge in three sets. The Panthers reached the district finals by stopping Lansing Everett in the semifinals after edging host St. Johns 3-2 in the first round. DeWitt fell to Mason 3-2 in the regional semifinals.

## DIVISION 2 Williamston Wins District Title

The Williamston volleyball team won the district it hosted with a three-set victory against Haslett after defeating Lansing Catholic 3-2 in the district semifinals. Williamston closed out the season by falling to Grand Rapids Christian in the regional semifinals.

## Essexville-Garber top Free-land for district title

Essexville-Garber turned back Free-land 3-1 in the finals of the district it hosted. Garber went on to the regional where it dropped a 3-1 decision to Frankenmuth in the regional semifinals.

## DIVISION 3 Pewamo-Westphalia Reaches State Quarterfinals

The Pewamo-Westphalia volleyball team turned in a big state tournament run by reaching the Division 3 state quarterfinals. The Pirates began their post-season run by defeating Lakeview in three sets to win the Lakeview district title. Pewamo-Westphalia then won the regional title at Fennville by stopping Grand Rapids Covenant Christian in three sets in the semifinals and Watervliet 3-0 in the regional finals. The tournament run

came to an end in the Division 3 state quarterfinals when the Pirates fell to eventual state champion Kalamazoo Christian 3-0.

## Saginaw Valley Lutheran Advances To Elite Eight

The Saginaw Valley Lutheran volleyball team capped the season with a run to the state quarterfinals in Division 3.

Valley Lutheran opened the tournament by defeating New Lothrop 3-1 to win the district title after opening the district with wins against International Academy of Flint and Montrose. Valley Lutheran then captured the regional title at Ithaca by defeating Dansville three games to one in the finals after stopping Byron in the regional semifinals. Valley Lutheran's season came to an end in the state quarterfinals when it fell to Cass City in four games.

## Ovid-Elsie Claims Regional Title

The Ovid-Elsie volleyball team captured the district title at St. Charles where it defeated Ithaca in four sets in the title match. Ovid-Elsie reached the final match after stopping Hemlock in five sets in the semifinals. Ovid-Elsie then advanced to the regional where it fell to Dansville in four sets.

## Beal City Volleyball Team Reaches Regional Finals

The Beal City volleyball team capped the season with a district title and reached the regional finals where it fell to eventual state finalist Traverse City St. Francis in four games.



The Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart volleyball team won district and regional titles before falling to Leland in the Division 4 state quarterfinals.

Beal City began the state tournament by winning the district title in a five-game tussle with Beaverton after stopping Sanford-Meridian in the district semifinals. Beal City then moved on to the regional where it defeated McBain in the semifinals before falling in the regional title match.

## DIVISION 4 Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart Reaches State Quarterfinals

The Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart volleyball team turned in a big post-season as it reached the Division 4 state quarterfinals.

Sacred Heart opened the state tournament by winning the district it hosted. The Irish defeated Vestaburg and Breckenridge to

advance to the district final where it topped Fulton-Middleton in four sets. Sacred Heart then captured the Fowler regional where it stopped Fowler in five sets in the semifinals and then defeated Onekama in the regional finals. Sacred Heart then advanced to the state quarterfinals where it fell in three sets to eventual state finalist Leland.

## Fowler Wins Regional Title

The Fowler volleyball team traveled west to win the title at the Fruitport Calvary Christian district. Fowler defeated Portland St. Patrick in three sets in the finals after defeating Calvary Christian and Grand Rapids Sacred Heart earlier in the district. Fowler then played in the regional where it fell to Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart in the semifinals.

# Frankenmuth Reaches State Quarterfinals

John Raffel  
Sports Scene

For the first time since 2011, Frankenmuth varsity volleyball reached the state quarterfinals.

The Eagles faced the 2022 state champions North Branch and fell in three sets. Frankenmuth served well, only making two service errors in the three sets. Marshall-bound senior

Audrey Geer, in her last match as an Eagle, led the team in kills with 10 and in serve receive rating with a 2.00.

Senior setter Kendall Thompson had 21 assists in her last match on the court for the Eagles. Madison Geer was second in kills with six, Julia Rodriguez had five and Miranda Polley had two.

Audrey, Rodriguez, Polley and Witbeck had one block each.

Libero Rosemary Brenner led the team with 19 digs, followed by Madison with 12 and Audrey with 12.

The future is bright for this young team following this historic season. It was a great season," Coach Mary Shelton stated. "It sets a new precedent for the future of Frankenmuth volleyball and the new standard that is in place. We will miss Audrey a ton and we appreciate everything that she has done in her four years with us. Our seniors are amazing and we will miss all of them. North Branch is a great team, they play with such consistency that it was hard for us to keep up with them."



Frankenmuth 2023 Volleyball Team.



# 2023 AREA ALL-STATE VOLLEYBALL PLAYERS

## DIVISION 1

**First Team**  
Piper Risdon, Lowell senior, middle hitter

**Second Team**  
Olivia Hosford, Rockford, sophomore, outside hitter

**Honorable Mention**  
Siena Wolfe, Rockford, sophomore, outside hitter

## DIVISION 2

**First Team**  
Carley Piercefield, Lakewood, senior, libero

Audrey Geer, Frankenmuth, senior, outside hitter  
Hailey Green, North Branch, senior libero  
Alana Deshetsy, North Branch, senior, outside hitter  
ClaraGyomory, North Branch, senior, right side  
Aubree Deshetsy, North Branch, sophomore, outside.

**Second Team**  
Abigail Pickard, Lakewood, junior, right side  
Ava Wilson, Lansing Catholic, senior, outside hitter

**Third Team**  
Alivia Everitt, Lakewood, senior, middle hitter

**Honorable Mention**  
Madison Geer, Frankenmuth, sophomore, outside hitter

## DIVISION 3

**First Team**  
Saige Martin, Pewamo Westphalia, Senior, outside hitter  
Taylor Smith, Pewamo Westphalia, Senior, setter

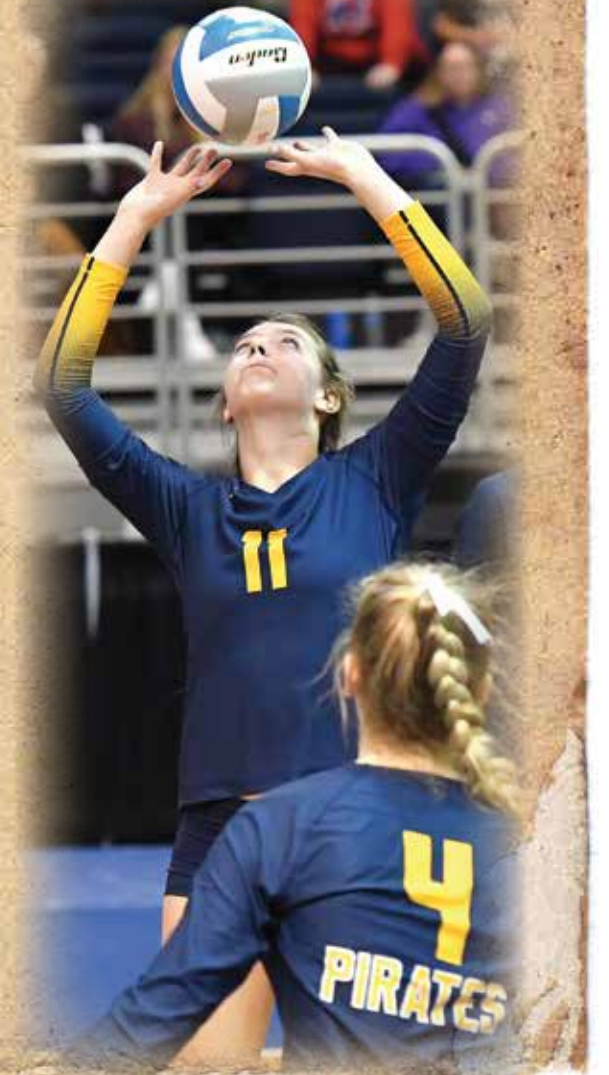
**Second Team**  
Caroline Hengesbach, Pewamo Westphalia, Senior, libero

**Honorable Mention**  
Annika Platte, Pewamo Westphalia, Sophomore, outside hitter  
Kyden Ehle, Ovid Else, Junior, setter

## DIVISION 4

**Second Team**  
Leah Smith, MP Sacred Heart, Senior, Middle hitter  
Bridget Ruiz, MP Sacred Heart, Senior, libero  
Sophie Hauck, MP Sacred Heart Junior, Setter

**Third Team**  
Erin Judge, MP Sacred Heart, Junior, Middle hitter  
Makenna Smith, Fowler, Senior, Libero



Pewamo-Westphalia's Taylor Smith

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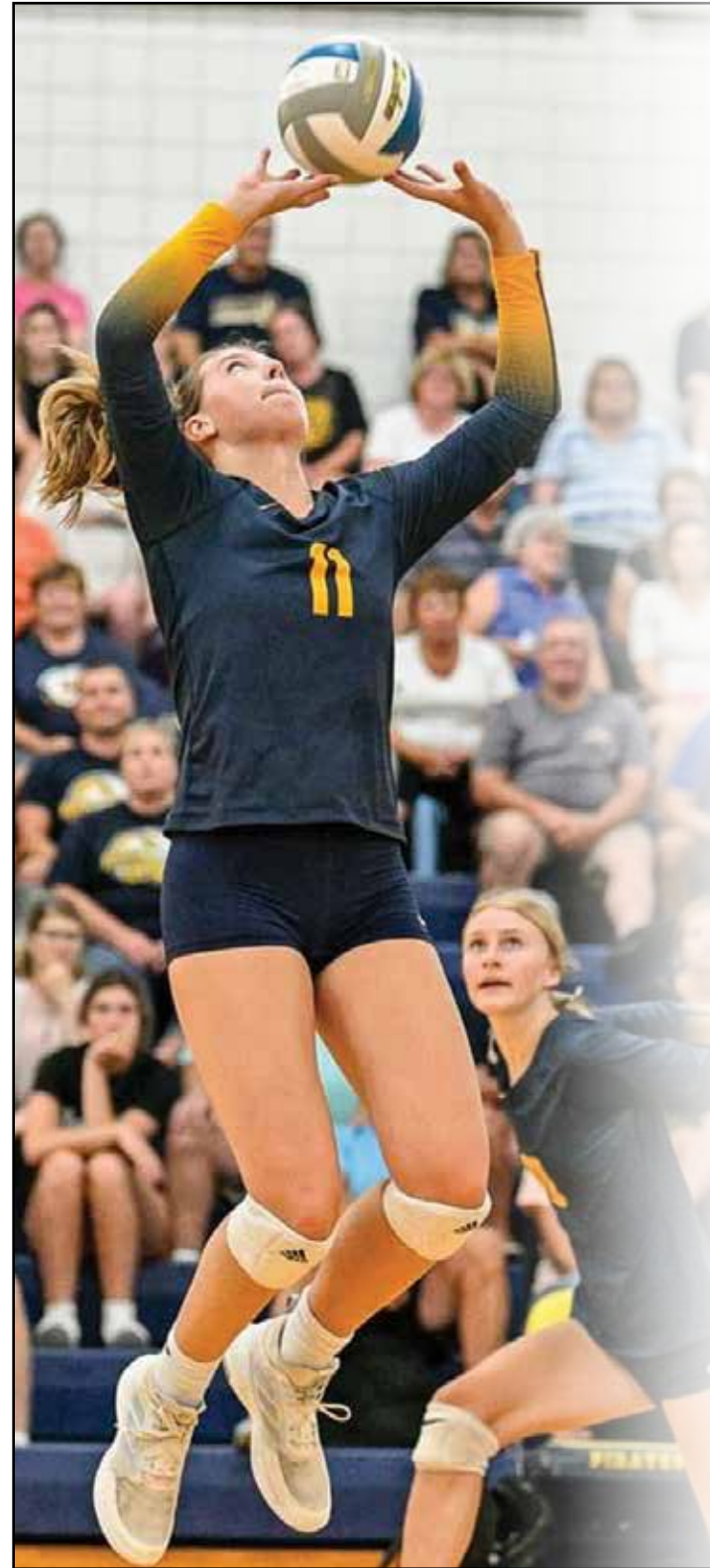
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# P-W Standout Taylor Smith Is Miss Volleyball

## John Raffel Sports Scene

She was voted Miss Volleyball 2023 and the numbers speak for themselves for Pewamo-Westphalia's Taylor Smith.

"I was truly honored to win Miss Volleyball this year," she said. "This award typically goes to larger schools, so it was really cool to see it come to our tiny community. I was just very glad to be able to bring it home and get the recognition not only for myself, but for all of my teammates and every single person who helped me along the way."

I think that I exceeded my expectations because of the things that I accomplished this season. I was truly shocked and honored to have won Miss Volleyball, so I definitely exceeded my expectations."

Her career stats were as follows: Kills - 208 Assists - 2153 Aces - 170 Digs - 607 Blocks - 150.

"I think that I played well this season. I reached my 3,000 career assists this year which was very exciting. But of course I couldn't have done it without my teammates," Smith said. "This year I really improved my locations while setting the ball and my attacking. Both of these helped me develop a lot more as a player."

For P-W as a team, in 2022, the Pirates had a record of 46-2-2; Conference Champions, District Champions, Regional Champions, State Champions; 2021 Record 34-4-3 Conference Champions, District

Miss Volleyball Taylor Smith (11) was a dynamic setter for Pewamo-Westphalia. (Hockey Weekly Action Photos)

Champions, Regional Champions. She has committed to Eastern Michigan University.

The Pirates were 53-2, losing in the quarterfinals to eventual state champ Kalamazoo Christian.

"Our team played very well this season," Smith said. "We were 50-3-2 and to reach 50 wins was something very big. We had a good mix of age groups playing and I thought that we came together very well."

Her role for P-W was critical. "My role is the same as last year, but with a little more. I really had to step up this year to be a leader because I was a senior and it was very important to help our team succeed," Smith said. Some of my fundamental strengths as a player would be seeing the court very well and communicating with my teammates. Both of these things are very important in the sport of volleyball and I think that they have really helped both me and my team succeed.

"I had to work a lot on consistency to get better at setting. Consistency is very important because you want to give your hitters a good ball every time, so I really pushed to be more consistent and to better the ball."

There were many memorable moments during a Miss Volleyball season.

"My most memorable moments this year were really just building a bond with my team," Smith said. "We had a team sleepover and we were together a lot throughout the season. It was a really fun group of girls and we were all super close. It was super fun to be able to win our conference, district, and regional titles together and have fun while doing it."

"Some team highlights were that we won at all of our tournaments, we achieved 50 wins, and we won a conference, district, and regional title. These all took a lot of work in order to accomplish so I was super happy to see our hard work pay off. My team definitely exceeded my expectations because I knew that we would do good, but I didn't know exactly how good. We had a very successful season and it was really cool to see everything come together."

Next up, "I have club volleyball," Smith said. "This starts up in January and will end around May this year. I am super excited to get back in the gym and continue to grow."



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# North Branch Dominate For Another State Title

## John Raffel Sports Scene

North Branch dominated Grand Rapids West Catholic in the Division 2 state finals to win back to back state crowns 25-8, 25-14, 25-18.

Jim Fish has coached the team for 24 years. North Branch was 10-0 in the league and did not lose a set with a 30-0 mark and outscoring the opponents 750-351. The team finished 56-4-1 which is the most wins in the state and might be the most in the country.

The team as ranked No. 1 all season.

"We played in the Asics Challenge in Chicago against nationally ranked teams, winning our 19th straight district title, advancing to the state final four for the 11th season, winning our fifth state championship and first back to back state titles," Fish said.

Outside hitter Alaina Deshetsy has committed to Ferris. She was first

team All-State and All-American honorable mention.

Libero Hailey Green is also an all-stater and All-American and finished third in the Miss Volleyball voting. She is going to Wingate University.

Adrienne Greschow was an all-state setter. Kaela Cingwa is all-state middle hitter Clara Gyomory has committed to Northwood.

North Branch graduates eight seniors

"Our JV team was 42-5 so we will reload," Fish said.

Deshetsy was very excited with the win.

"The team played very well," she said. "We kept our composure and played our game. We tried to stick to the game plan as much as possible, but at the end of the day we just played. I thought I played pretty well although there is always room for improvement. My team does most of the work and I'm just another part of it. For example, our passing/digging

was amazing so our setter Adrienne had a lot of different options for our offense and spread the offense out giving us hitters only one blocker.

"Some things that I improved this year were my power at the net, my aggressiveness, and my consistency. A lot of improvements were made due to an improvement in my confidence. I've gotten better at letting my mistakes go and moving onto the next play. My role on the team was to be supportive of my teammates, do my job, and trust my teammates in doing theirs. Also, I tried my best to hold my teammates accountable in order to keep our expectations high." Deshetsy added: "My role is different from last year in a couple different ways. Last year being a freshman, the whole high school volleyball experience was new to me and I was following and listening to my older teammates without giving much of my own input. However, that changed this year because I knew what it took to reach our goals and could be more of a leader and give more input to my teammates/coaches.

"My fundamental strengths as a player are reading the ball on defense and attacking different spots at the



North Branch players hold the state trophy.

net. This year I really worked on getting better at serve receive. I knew that we had a very strong offense and that if I could get our setter in a position to set any hitter that it would make our team much stronger and tougher to beat." Deshetsy said: "My most memorable moment as a player this year was going to Battle Creek again. It's such a fun trip and a great way to end the season. A team highlight from this year was our reverse sweep against Marysville in the regional semifinals. Our team showed a lot of our determination and dedication in that game because we never gave up. That game made me much more appreciative of the

privilege we had to be there and playing for the state title. It really put into perspective that you can't take any set or game for granted because you'll never know which one would be your last.

"I think that I met my expectations this year. I wanted to be someone that my team could count on in a time of pressure, bring more enjoyment to the game, and be someone that they knew they could talk to/hold accountable. Looking back at the season, I think that I was the teammate I wanted to be." cuts:

Aubree Deshetsy holds the state trophy for North Branch.

# Area Swimmers And Divers Compete At State Swimming And Diving Finals

## David Cook Sports Scene

### DIVISION 1

Ann Arbor Pioneer came away with the Division 1 state title as the Pioneers totaled 301 points. Grand Haven placed second with 237.5 points while Jenison was third with 228.5.

### Rockford Swimmers Take Sixth At State Finals

The Rockford swim team placed sixth at the Division 1 state finals with a total of 123 points.

Rockford was led by a pair of divers who finished in the top

fifteen. Junior Emma Shutich placed seventh overall in diving while senior Lucy Verwys placed 13<sup>th</sup>.

A trio of relay teams scored points. The 200-free relay team of Izzy Suidinski, Allie Stiles, Bella Nole and Avery Rottier placed sixth, the 200-medley relay team of Megan Unger, Maddy St. Charles, Cambell Quijano and Avery Rottier placed eighth while the 400-free relay team of Nole, Stiles, Suidinski and Quijano placed 12<sup>th</sup>.

Individually, senior Bella Nole and junior Cambell Quijano placed 10<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> respectively

in the 200 freestyle. Quijano also placed 10<sup>th</sup> in the 100 butterfly. Junior Avery Rottier placed sixth in the 100 freestyle and ninth in the 50 freestyle. Sophomore Izzy Suidinski placed 14<sup>th</sup> in the 200 IM and 15<sup>th</sup> in the 100 freestyle, senior Maddy St. Charles placed 15<sup>th</sup> in the 100 breaststroke and senior Megan Unger placed 15<sup>th</sup> in the 100 backstroke.

### DIVISION 2

Farmington Hills Mercy won the Division 2 swim championship as it totaled 326 points. Birmingham Seaholm was second with 198 points and Grand Rapids Northview was third with 172 points.

### Midland Dow Places In Top 10 At Swim Finals

The Midland Dow swim team wrapped up the season with a top-ten finish at the Division 2 swimming state finals as the Chargers placed seventh overall with 135 points.



The action was fast and furious as area swimmers competed at the state swimming and diving finals this season.

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