



HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS SCENE
KEEPING KIDS IN THE NEWS

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Vol. 16, Issue 172 - March 2025

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COACHES:
To publish your results on our free website Highschoolsportsscene.com send your results after every event to jraffel@gmail.com

PUBLISHER'S NOTE

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

The winter sports season is in the books and what an amazing finish was provided by athletes in the winter sports.

In wrestling, the juggernaut that is Lowell wrestling continued to roll. The Red Arrows won an unprecedented 12th straight team state championship when they defeated Fowlerville in the title match. Lowell was not threatened at the state finals as it showed why it also earned national recognition during the season.

Hats off to Rockford, Freeland, Greenville, Lakewood-Lake Odessa and St. Louis who also made it to the team state finals with Lakewood-Lake Odessa and St. Louis making it to the semifinal round.

At the individual state tournament, a number of area wrestlers brought home individual state championships. The story of the finals, however, was Lowell senior Jackson Blum who made history by ending his career as a four-time state champion!!! Congratulations' Jackson on a magnificent career.

This month's issue also includes our wrestling dream team which is full of state champions and state placers. Once again, our area is home to a plethora of outstanding wrestlers.

On the basketball court, East Lansing put the bow on a sparkling season. The Trojans captured the first boys state title since former Michigan State head coach Gus Ganakas led East Lansing to the 1958 Class B state title. Putting even more of a Michigan State spin on the East Lansing state title was the fact that three of East Lansing's standouts, KJ Torbert, Cameron Hutson and Kingston Thomas are all sons of former Spartan greats.

Speaking of Spartan basketball, a tip of the hat to Tom Izzo and this years Spartan team that won the Big Ten and reached the Elite 8.

The basketball season was also a big one up the road in Fowler. The Fowler girls continued their great play as they won the Division 4 state championship. The state title was the third in the past five years for the Fowler girls. The Fowler boys also turned in a big season as they reached the Division 4 state title game for the first time since the 2002 season.

The Rockford girls basketball team, led by Miss Basketball Anna Wypych also had a big season as it reached the Division 1 state semifinals. The Pewamo-Westphalia boys also made a deep state tournament run reaching the state semifinals in Division 2 while the Frankenmuth girls reached the semifinals in Division 2.

This month's issue caps all the state tournament action. With winter coming to an end, our reporters will be taking a look at the upcoming spring sports season which promises to be full of outstanding action.

We can't wait to see you at the games this spring!



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East Lansing Brings Home Division 1 Basketball State Championship

Butch Harmon Sports Scene

For the first time in 67 years, the East Lansing boys basketball team finished the season raising a state championship trophy.

In what was a memorable season, the Trojans put the finishing touches on with a 66-46 win against Wayne Memorial in the Division 1 state championship game. The state title was the first for the East Lansing boys since winning the Class B state title in 1958.

Wayne Memorial took the early lead in the game as it led 16-12 at the end of the first quarter, but after that, the game was all East Lansing. The Trojans outscored Wayne 21-4 in the second quarter to take a 33-20 lead into halftime.

East Lansing extended the lead to 52-34 by the end of the third quarter before salting the game away in the final quarter.

Senior standout Cameron Hutson led

the Trojans with 20 points and seven rebounds in the title game while sophomore Kingston Thomas added 19 points and 12 rebounds. Junior wing Kelvin Torbert added 16 points, four rebounds and two blocked shots while Jayce Branson added six points and eight rebounds.

The total-team effort was a trademark of the Trojans the entire season and helped the team compile a glittering 28-1 record.

"Our team truly had a family vibe to it since most of our guys have grown up and played with each other for many years," said East Lansing coach Ray Mitchell. "Our team was always connected and played for and held each other accountable."

The team effort was also needed in the state semifinal game where the Trojans defeated defending Division 1 state champion Orchard Lake St. Mary's 51-44 in the semifinals. Torbert led the way for the Trojans in the semifinals as he totaled

19 points, six rebounds, two steals and two assists. Thomas added 12 points, seven rebounds and two assists while Hutson scored nine points along with six rebounds and a pair of blocked shots.

East Lansing reached the semifinals by turning back Ann Arbor Huron 72-49 in the state quarterfinals. The win was especially gratifying for East Lansing as Huron defeated the Trojans in last year's quarterfinal game.


Torbert led the way for East Lansing with 24 points while Cameron Hutson added 22 points and Jayce Branson added 10 points.

East Lansing won the regional title in a big way by defeating Okemos 63-36 in the regional semifinals and Kalamazoo Central 77-42 in the regional title game.

East Lansing opened the state tournament by winning the district where it stopped DeWitt 57-33 in the semifinals and Lansing Waverly 65-48 in the district finals.



Photos courtesy of MHSAA Photography.




B4 you give up, stop and reach out!

The B#4 Foundation honors the life and achievements of Brady Hessbrook, who tragically took his own life on January 27, 2023. The B#4 Foundation strives to promote mental health awareness and suicide prevention through education, outreach initiatives, advocacy, and community service.

Suicide Prevention


If you or someone you know is struggling or in crisis, help is available. Call or text 988 or visit the Lifeline Chat (<https://988lifeline.org/chat/>) to connect with a trained crisis counselor.

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BOYS BASKETBALL DIVISION 1 AND 2 ROUND UP

Butch Harmon & David Cook Sports Scene

DIVISION 1

East Lansing Wins State Championship

East Lansing's regular season dominance continued in the postseason as the Trojans cruised to their first state championship in 67 years. East Lansing faced little resistance up through the quarterfinal with an average margin of victory of 25 points before facing fellow title favorites Orchard Lake St Mary's in the semi-finals. The Trojans managed to overcome the Eaglets in a 51-44 victory to advance to the championship game. After a slow first quarter, East Lansing was able to turn it up to secure a 66-46 victory over Wayne Memorial and the Trojans' first state title since 1958. East Lansing finished their historic year with just one loss all season.

Flint Carman-Ainsworth Falls Just Short Of State Title Game

Carman-Ainsworth's deep postseason run ended up just short of the championship game after losing to Wayne Memorial 49-66 in the semi-finals. The Cavaliers defeated

Flushing and Saginaw United for the district title and continued their run with a thrilling 64-60 overtime victory over title favorites Rockford in the regional semi-finals before securing the regional title with a win over Marquette. Carman-Ainsworth defeated a tough Byron Center team 54-51 in the quarterfinals before losing to Wayne Memorial in East Lansing. The Cavaliers finished the year with a 22-6 record.

Okemos Wins District Championship

Okemos came out strong to begin the postseason with a 55-35 win over Jackson and proceeded to defeat Holt for the district championship 66-54. The Wolves' playoff run would end in the regional semi-finals however with a 36-63 loss to eventual state champions East Lansing. Okemos finished the year 20-4 and second place in the CAAC-Blue.

Rockford Falls In Regional Semi-Finals

Rockford dominated in their first game of the postseason with an 80-53 win over Muskegon Mona Shores and followed it up by winning the district title in a thrilling 64-62 victory against Muskegon in a game that lived up to the hype. The Ram's title hopes were dashed early however

after a heartbreaking 60-64 overtime loss to Flint Carman-Ainsworth in the regional semi-finals. Rockford finished the year atop the OK-Red with a 22-3 record overall.

DIVISION 2

Flint Hamady Wins District Championship

Flint Hamady defeated Owasco 69-50 to start the postseason and followed it up with a 78-63 win over Mt Morris to win the district title. The Hawks fell just short in the regional semi-finals with a 46-48 loss to Portland. Hamady finished the year atop the Genesee Area Conference with a perfect conference record and a 16-7 overall record.

Frankenmuth Wins District Title

Frankenmuth started the postseason strong with a dominate 65-32 victory over Carrollton before winning the district championship in a 48-38 win against Bay City John Glenn. The Eagles fell in the regional semi-finals to Freeland 42-73. Frankenmuth finished the season with an 18-7 record and a third-place finish in the TVC-Red.

Freeland Wins Regional Championship

Freeland dominated en route to a regional championship with an average margin of victory of 27 including a 73-42 win over Frankenmuth and a 69-49 victory against Portland in the regionals. The Falcons fell just short of the Breslin after losing a 46-48 nailbiter against Kingsford in the quarterfinals. Freeland finished as runners up of the TVC-Red with a 22-4 record.

Haslett Secures District Championship

Despite having to play an extra game, the Haslett managed to pull off three straight wins for the district title. The Vikings beat Fowlerville in the first round and followed it up with a 48-37 win over Linden before beating Williamston 63-50 for the district championship. Haslett fell



East Lansing defeated defending Division 1 state champion Orchard Lake St. Mary's in the semifinals. Photo Courtesy of MHSAA Photography.

to Lansing Sexton in the regional semi-finals 59-74. The Vikings finished the year with a 20-6 record and a second-place finish in the CAAC-Red.

Lansing Sexton Wins Regional Title

Lansing Sexton secured a district title with wins over Lake Odesa and Lansing Catholic before beating Haslett 74-59 in the regional semi-finals. The J-Dubbs faced off against Chelsea in the regional finals and won a tight game 73-71 for the regional championship. Sexton fell just short of the Breslin after a 41-68 loss to eventual state runners up Romulus Summit Academy in the

quarterfinals. The J-Dubbs finished second in the CAAC-White with a 19-6 record.

Portland Reaches Regional Finals

Portland began the postseason by overcoming St Johns in a defensive showcase 35-33 before securing the district title in another close game against Ionia. The Raiders propensity to win close games continued in the regional semi-finals with a 48-46 victory over Flint Hamady, but their luck would run out in the regional finals as they lost to Freeland 49-69. Portland fished the year atop the CAAC-White with an impressive 22-3 record.



Flint Carman-Ainsworth reached the semifinals in Division 1. Photo Courtesy of MHSAA Photography.

BOYS BASKETBALL DIVISION 3 AND 4 ROUND UP

Butch Harmon & David Cook Sports Scene

DIVISION 3

Beal City Falls In Regional Finals

The Aggies dominated in district play with wins over Sanford Meridian and Pinconning to secure the district title before a 76-51 victory over Alcona in the regional semi-finals. Beal City's run ended with a 56-64 loss to McBain in the regional finals. The Aggies finished the year with a 20-6 record and a second-place finish in the Highland Conference.

Chesaning Secures District Championship

Chesaning dominated in their opening match with a 67-36 win over Montrose and continued that

dominance en route to a district title by beating Hemlock 49-20. Chesaning fell in the regional semi-finals however to Ovid-Elsie 39-44. Chesaning finished as winners of the Mid-Michigan Activities Conference with a 21-4 record overall.

Millington Wins District Title

Millington kicked off the postseason with a 72-59 win over Vassar and followed it up with a 71-57 victory against Reese to win the district championship. The Cardinals lost in heartbreaking fashion in a 61-63 defeat to Flint New Standard Academy in the regional semi-finals. Millington finishes the year with an impressive 22-3 record and atop of the Big Thumb Conference-White.



Photos Courtesy of MHSAA Photography.

Ovid-Elsie

The Marauders came out of the gates strong in the postseason with a 65-48 win over New Lothrop before securing a district title in a 49-46 nailbiter against Laingsburg. Ovid-Elsie overcame Chesaning in a 44-39 win, but fell in the regional finals to Jackson Lumen Christi 48-57. Ovid-Elsie finished the year second in the Mid-Michigan Activities Conference with a 20-6 overall record.

Pewamo-Westphalia Falls In State Semi-Finals

Pewamo-Westphalia fell just short of the title game after losing to eventual champions Riverview Gabriel Richard 45-66 in the state semi-finals. The Pirates dominated on their road to the Breslin with an average margin of victory of 30 points and allowing a game high of 45 points in their toughest test, a 50-45 win over Schoolcraft in the quarterfinals. The Pirates finish the year 24-4 and undefeated conference champions in the Central Michigan Athletic Conference.

DIVISION 4

Fowler Finishes The Season As State Title Runners Up

Fowler's season ended just short in the state championship game, losing a defensive struggle against defending champions Wyoming Tri-Unity 32-49. The Eagles dominated en route to the Breslin thanks to a suffocating defense that gave up 50 points in only one game all postseason, a 60-53 win over Mount Pleasant Sacred Heart in



the regional semis. Fowler finished the year with a 25-4 record and a second-place finish in the Central Michigan Athletic Conference.

Lansing Christian Surprises As District Champions

After a 10-14 regular season finish near the bottom of the Central Michigan Athletic Conference, expectations were low for Lansing Christian in the postseason. Instead of going through the motions, the Pilgrims fought hard and beat Webberville 66-55 in the first round. Their continued perseverance was rewarded after defeating Whitmore Lake 57-40 to win an unlikely district championship.

Lansing Christian's run eventually ended in the regional semi-finals with a 47-65 loss to Clarkston Everest Collegiate.

Mount Pleasant Sacred Heart Secures District Title

The Irish began the postseason with a 56-40 victory over Saginaw Michigan Lutheran before defeating Saginaw Nouvel 50-34 for the district title. The Irish fell short of a return to the Breslin as they lost to Fowler in the regional semi-finals 53-60. Sacred Heart finished the season with an impressive 20-4 record and champions of the Mid-State Activities Conference with only one loss in conference play.

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Fowler Basketball Team Caps Season In Division 4 State Title Game

David Cook Sports Scene

It was a season to remember for the Fowler basketball team as the Eagles reached a state championship game for the first time since 2002.

Fowler went on a trilling state tournament run this season that came to an end against the team it started the season with. The Eagles, who defeated Wyoming Tri-unity Christian in the first game of the year, dropped a 49-32 decision to Tri-unity in the Division 4 state championship game.

Tri-unity struck early in the

game and took an 11-6 lead at the end of the first quarter. The Defenders grew the lead to 28-16 at halftime. Fowler trimmed the margin to 35-25 by the end of the third quarter before Tri-unity salted the game away in the fourth quarter.

Fowler was led in the title game by Jacob Halfmann who scored 11 points to go along with three assists and three steals. Aaron Simon added seven points and four assists while junior center Joe Epkey added five rebounds.

Fowler ended the season with a 25-4 overall record.

The Eagles were led this year by senior starters Jacob and Alex Halfmann, Aaron Simon and Asher Koenigsknecht. The foursome provided the team with great balance all season as Jacob averaged 12.5 points per game, Aaron Simon averaged 12.3 per game, Koenigsknecht averaged 11.7 points per game and Alex Halfmann added 11 points per game.

Fowler began its state tournament run by winning the district title where it turned back Portland St. Patrick 58-46 in the district title game.

At the regional, Fowler de-

feated Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart 60-53 in the semifinals and then won the regional title with a 76-35 win against Muskegon Heights Academy.

Fowler then defeated Bellaire 65-27 in the state quarterfinals to punch its ticket to the Breslin Center and the state semifinals. Fowler defeated Allen Park Inter-City Baptist 59-43 in the semifinals. Simon and Koenigsknecht paced the offense with 15 points apiece. Jacob Halfmann added 14 points and six assists while Alex Halfmann and Epkey led in rebounding with 10 boards each.

Aaron Simon of Fowler goes up for a shot during action in the Division 4 state semifinal game.



Hemlock Boys Coach Pleased With His Season

John Raffel Sports Scene

Hemlock's boys basketball team enjoyed a 13-10 season and a major highlight was Chad Brown scoring his 1,000th career point.

Bauer has been coach for 24

years. The team also enjoyed academic all-state honors.

Brown averaged 18.5 points and 8.0 rebounds a game and was a four-year starter, 1st team all conference, HM all-state.

"Chad never missed a game," Bauer said. "He's a great kid, excellent student, great family."

Wyatt Launstein, a sophomore, averaged 9.4 points and 2.1 steals per game.

Key graduates for Hemlock will be Chad Brown and Dawson Doan. Key returners will be Wyatt Launstein, Gavin Schmidt and Kellan Schultz.

As for next year, "we will

be very young, but should be competitive again. We should be really good again in the next couple of years," Bauer said. "This was definitely not the most talented team I've coached, but they listened, worked hard and had a good season."

Kellan Schultz will be among the key returners next season for Hemlock.



Greenville Boys Win Record 22 Games

John Raffel Sports Scene

Joel Visser enjoyed a remarkable third season as Greenville head coach.

The Yellow Jackets were 11-1 in RCA and was 22-2 overall.

We stayed healthy and played consistent all season meeting expectations to win the RCA," Visser said. "We lost to Muskegon in district

semifinal after beating Reeths Puffer in the opening round; Winning the RCA at home on senior night vs Cedar Springs and cutting down the nets (was a highlight). It was the most wins in a season in school history with 22. We still are striving to get to a district finals and win."

Key players included Michael Lindquist, RCA player of the year and all-confer-

ence.

Braylon Haist, point guard, set all time assists and single season assists records. He was first team all conference/mBraden Latimer First team all conference. Jaxon Ingles was honorable mention all-conference

Zeke Robinet, Braylon Haist, Sullivan Witt, Jaxon Ingles and Noah Long are key graduates. Michael

Lindquist, Braden Latimer, Kyle Graber, Lucas Lisagor and Emmitt Willhite are key returnees.

For next year, "we have similar goals in that we want to win the RCA and compete to win a district championship," Visser said.



"We return a number of guys who have the ability to score and have a chance

to be good if we make good strides in the offseason towards those goals."

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BIG SCHOOL DREAM TEAM

Tyler Dorsey, Saginaw United, sr. forward
Dorsey is a 6-foot-5 senior who turned in a huge season enroute to being named the Player of the Year in the Saginaw Valley League. A second-team, all-state player in Division 1, Dorsey averaged 22.2 points per game while hauling down 13.5 rebounds and adding three blocked shots per game.

Wilson Huckeby, Freeland, jr. guard/forward
A 6-foot-4 junior, Huckeby played a key part in Freeland's run to the state quarterfinals. A second-team, all-state player in Division 2, Huckeby averaged 19.8 points per game this season. A versatile player, Huckeby also added 5.1 rebounds, 3.3 assists and two steals per game.

Cameron Hutson, East Lansing, sr. forward
A 6-foot-6 senior, Hutson played a key role in East Lansing's drive to the Division 1 state title. The talented forward, who is

headed to the University of St. Louis, averaged 20 points per game this season. Hutson also hauled down eight rebounds per game along with two blocked shots per game.

Keyshawn Summerville, Lansing Sexton, jr. guard
One of the premier shooters in the state, Summerville connected on 46 three-point shots this season, none bigger than the trey at the buzzer from beyond half court that gave Sexton a regional title. For the season Summerville, a second-team, all-state player in Division 2, averaged 19.8 points per game.

KJ Torbert, East Lansing, jr. guard/forward
A versatile, all-around player, Torbert averaged 20.3 points per game this season and hauled down 5.6 rebounds per game. Torbert came up with some big efforts on the big stage including a 16-point effort in the Division 1 state title game and 19 points and six rebounds in the state semifinals.

SPECIAL MENTION

Jake Bascom, Rockford; Jayce Branson, East Lansing; Treyvarious Buford, Saginaw United; Cason Carswell, Mason; Tristan Comer, Freeland; Jaylin Cooper, Saginaw United; Michael Lindquist, Greenville; Seth Mead, Gladwin; Ray Neither, Flushing; Levi Stambaugh, Mason; Derek Thomas, Lansing Waverly; Brad VanSummeren, Midland Dow.

HONORABLE MENTION

Troy Acker, Lakewood-Lake Odessa; Noah Arnold, Saginaw Heritage; Luke Blatter, Haslett; Torrian Burt, Saginaw United; Denzell Calhoun, Bay City John Glenn; Maverick Chapman, Chippewa Hills; Evan Colosky, Charlotte; Easton Day, Mt. Pleasant; Kayden Dickerson, Portland; Wynn Diegel, Lamarion Moore, Bridgeport; Mario Murray, Lansing Sexton; Bryce Pratt, St. Johns; Lemonte Ramon-Wiley, Saginaw Heritage;

BIG SCHOOL DREAM TEAM

Chad Brown, Hemlock, sr. forward
A 6-foot-7 senior who will play baseball in college at Central Michigan University, Brown capped his high school basketball career in a big way. Brown averaged 18.5 points per game and finished his career with over 1,000 points. Brown also pulled down 7.5 rebounds per game and added three assists.

Brody Cherry, Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart, sr. guard
One of the finest shooters in the entire state, Cherry averaged 17 points per game as he shot a sizzling 42% from beyond the three-point arc. Cherry added three rebounds per game and two assists and came up with a big 22-point effort in Sacred Heart's district championship game victory.

Brad Coleman, Millington, sr. guard
Coleman was one of the most prolific scorers in the state this season. The 6-foot-3 senior guard averaged 27.4 points per game and wrapped up his career with 2,058 total

SPECIAL MENTION

Luke Berta, Chesaning; Braden Buckley, Merrill; Jamison Eklund, Pewamo-Westphalia; Drake Gattrell, Beal City; DJ Jenks, Perry; Rahman Kelley, Saginaw Nouvel; Bryson LeBaron, Ithaca; Teegan McDonald, Vermontville Maple Valley; Grady Pieratt, Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart; Ian Roberts, Beaverton; Brady Sager, Chesaning; Aaron Simon, Fowler; Brayden Simon, Portland St. Patrick; Austin Small, Beal City; Arnell Somlar, Bay City All Saints; Tryce Tokar, Ovid-Elsie; Brahm Warczynsky, Vestaburg.

HONORABLE MENTION

Noah Barr, Breckenridge; Parker Billings, Fulton-Middleton; Jason Boge, Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart; Noah Carlson, Montabella; Ethan Damesworth, Lansing Christian; Jared DeVrieze, Coleman; Dominic Driver, Webberville; Logan Glazier, Coleman; Ethan Greene, Montabella; Alex Halfmann, Fowler; David Hall, Lansing Christian; Noah Hecht, Saginaw Valley Lutheran; Lucas Jastrzembowski, St. Charles; Cam Kaul, Saginaw Nouvel; Ian Lampkin, Fulton-Middleton; Carson Litwiller, Ashley; Landon Love, Beaverton; Bryce Martin, Millington; Gibson Rondy, Ithaca; William Saigat, Michigan Lutheran Seminary; Bryson Sattler, Fulton-Middleton; Deacon Skinner, Ithaca; Cole Smith, Carson City-Crystal; Braydon Schwartzkopf, Midland Calvary Baptist; Charlie Thelen, Portland St. Patrick; Max Volk, Chesaning; Dominic Weber, Pewamo-Westphalia; Jack Wilson, Saginaw Nouvel; Noah Zeien, Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart; Garrison Zuker, Beal City.



Jacob Halfmann, Fowler

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Flint Powers Wins Division 2 State Hockey Championship

David Cook
Sports Scene

DIVISION 1

It was business as usual for the Detroit Catholic Central hockey team as the Shamrocks won their sixth consecutive state title.

Catholic Central defeated Howell 4-1 in the state championship game to clinch the title and end the season with a 28-2 record.

Catholic Central reached the finals by defeating Sparta 8-0 in the semifinals.

DEWITT REACHES REGIONAL FINAL

The DeWitt hockey team reached the regional finals of the state tournament where it dropped a 3-0 decision to Howell. The Panthers reached the regional title game by stopping Okemos 3-0 in the regional

semifinals.

DIVISION 2

Flint Powers Catholic won the Division 2 state title as it turned back Livonia Stevenson 3-2 in the title game. Ethan Haley scored the game-winning goal 1 minute and 53 seconds into overtime to provide the winning score.

Powers Catholic, which finished the season with a 25-4 record, defeated Grandville 4-3 in the semifinals to earn a trip to the title match.

MIDLAND ADVANCES TO REGIONAL FINAL

The Midland hockey team capped the season by reaching the regional finals in Division 2 where it dropped a 2-1 overtime decision to Marquette. Midland advanced to the regional title game by stopping Bay City Central 3-2 in the regional semifinals.

Midland had a total of four players earn

Saginaw Valley League honors in Nolan Harris, Ethan Menzies, Remington Lough and Caden Nemeth.

DIVISION 3

Orchard Lake St. Mary's won the Division 3 state championship as it defeated Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook Kingswood 3-0 in the state title game. St. Mary's reached the finals by defeating Alpena 9-1 in the state semifinals.

GLADWIN REACHES REGIONAL FINAL

The Gladwin hockey team capped a strong season by reaching the Division 3 regional finals.

Gladwin finished the season with a 19-5-1 overall record. The Flying G's defeated Freeland 6-1 in the regional semifinals before dropping a 5-1 decision to Alpena in the regional final.

Gladwin featured one of the most



The Midland hockey team reached the regional finals in Division 2 this season.

productive offenses in the state this season led by senior Ike Wheeler who scored 46 goals this season and totaled 70 points. Moe Newman added 24 goals and totaled 35 points on the season.

Alma Basketball Team Optimistic With Future

John Raffel
Sports Scene

Chris Brown has been Alma's head basketball coach four seasons and in his 28th in the program.

Alma was 2-10 in the TVC Red and 10-13 overall.

"We struggled in our conference which is very strong," Brown said. "Freeland and Frankenmuth both won district titles. Freeland made it to the quarterfinals. John Glenn won our league outright. Our lack of size and being a team with little varsity experience hampered us in those games. Our only two non conference losses were against teams that made it to the regional finals.

"We did beat every rival on our schedule with wins over Shepherd, Mt. Pleasant and at Ithaca. When you add our win at Clare to open the season we were 4-0 against teams on US 127. At the end of the day we can hang our hats on beating all of our local rivals and that is extremely important."

A major thrill was beating Mount Pleasant (13-9) for the first time since 2002.

Beating Mt. Pleasant (13-9) for the first time since 2002, was a thrill although they did not play each other from 2012-2022.

"It was a thrill for our players, especially the way it happened," Brown said. "At the end of overtime, Sam Gadde hit a three as time expired to win by one, 51-50. Our win at Ithaca (17-5) was also a grind it out nail biter. In a back and forth game Brennen Palmer hit a go ahead three with under a minute to put us up two. We held off their final minute charge to win 58-55.

"Finally our overtime win at Gladwin (19-4) was a great example of the improvement we made throughout the season on the road against a quality opponent."

Three players especially stood out.

—Owen Seeley, senior, 1st Team All-TVC Red.

"Owen was a consistent threat

in the post the entire season even being outsized by taller and thicker posts in the TVC," Brown said. "He was a three year varsity player who at times dominated the lane. He was a consistent double-double threat and drew many eyes/double teams from our opponents.

"He averaged 16.1 ppg and 8.1 rpg. His season high was 27 points, with 20 or more points in 7 games. He had 14 rebounds twice and was in double figures 7 times. He finished the season with 7 double-doubles."

—Sam Gadde, senior 2nd Team All-TVC Red.

"Sam was our quiet and steady floor leader who had a great understanding of the game and an even keel approach," Brown said. "He moved to the point forward position for us midway through the season in order to free up some teammates for shooting and to provide size and stability in setting up our offense.

"He averaged 12.0 ppg, 6.1 rpg, and 3.1 apg. His season high was 24 points, 15 rebounds twice, and 8 assists. He finished the season with 3 double-doubles.

—Koby Shunk, junior Honorable Mention All-TVC Red.

"Koby is a very athletic player



Chris Brown and the Panthers had another competitive season.

who is capable of scoring at all three levels. He is also our best perimeter defender and always matched up with the top guard on our opponents team," Brown said. "He averaged 10.5 ppg and 5.2 rpg. His season high in points was 22 twice and 13 rebounds. He finished the season with 3 double-doubles."

Looking ahead, "We had a number of players earn strong varsity minutes this season even though their roles may not have been major," Brown said. "We are excited about the direction, development, and commitment at each level as we feel like we have quality and

quantity throughout the program that are capable of developing into strong and successful varsity basketball players.

"While our conference win-loss record wasn't as strong as we would like it to be, we competed tough every night and we beat each of our rivals. Our players had great attitudes every day, earned Academic All-State honors, and represented our school and community in a very positive way. We had a great sense of family and we made some great life long memories that our players will never forget.

Lowell Wrestlers Win 12th Consecutive Division 2 State Championship

Butch Harmon
Sports Scene

DIVISION 1

Detroit Catholic Central Makes It Three In A Row

Detroit Catholic Central won a third consecutive Division 1 state championship as the Shamrocks defeated Davison 50-18. The title was also the seventh Division 1 state title in the past nine years for the Shamrocks.

Catholic Central qualified for the state finals by defeating Romeo 64-5 in the quarterfinals and then stopped Clarkston in its closest match of the finals 39-25 in the semifinals. With 10 individual state qualifiers due back next season, Catholic Central will be looking to extend the streak of state titles to four in a row.

DIVISION 2

Lowell Adds To State Title Collection

The Lowell wrestling team made it an even dozen as it captured a 12th consecutive Division 2 team wrestling championship.

The Red Arrows left little doubt that they are kinds of the mountain in Division 2 as they posted three double-digit wins at the finals. Lowell opened the finals by defeating Warren Woods Tower 50-20 in the quarterfinals. The next day the Red Arrows downed Three Rivers 55-19 and in the title match Lowell turned back Fowlerville 52-14. The Red Arrows finished the season with a 30-4 overall record.

Freeland Falls Short In Quarterfinals

The wrestling season for Freeland

came to an end in the Division 2 quarterfinals as the Falcons dropped a 40-29 decision to eventual state runner-up Fowlerville. Freeland ended the season with a 22-4 overall record.

Greenville Wrestling Bows Out In Quarterfinals

For the second consecutive season the Greenville wrestling team made it to the final eight in Division 2. The Yellowjackets saw the season come to an end in the quarterfinal round where they fell to Three Rivers 47-19. Greenville ended the season with a 32-9 overall record.

DIVISION 3

Dundee Extends State Title Streak

While not as long as Lowell's streak of 12 state titles, the Dundee wrestling team is in the midst of an impressive run of state titles as the Vikings won the Division 3 state title for the eighth consecutive season.

Dundee won the title in impressive fashion by allowing just six total points in the three matches at the state finals. Dundee opened the competition with a 75-6 win against West Branch Ogema Heights in the quarterfinals. Dundee then defeated Allegan 72-0 in the semifinals and won the state title with a 74-0 win against Yale in the title match. Dundee finished the season with a 23-0 record and with only one senior in the starting lineup at the finals, the Vikings are primed to add to the string next season.

The Lowell wrestling team added another state title to its banner.



The St. Louis wrestling team reached the Division 4 state semifinals.

Lakewood-Lake Odessa Reaches Semifinals

The Lakewood-Lake Odessa wrestling team wrapped up the season by reaching the final four in Division 3.

The Vikings opened the state final by turning back Whitehall 38-28 in the quarterfinal round. Lake Odessa then dropped a 43-25 decision to Yale in the semifinals. Lake Odessa wrapped up the season with a 40-8 overall record.

DIVISION 4

Hudson Claims Fourth Straight State Title

The Hudson Tigers captured a fourth straight Division 4 team state wrestling with a 45-25 win against Martin/Climax-Scotts. For Hudson, it was the second time in program history it won four consecutive team wrestling state titles. The title was also

the 12th all-time in Hudson wrestling history.

Hudson reached the finals by defeating Roscommon 75-3 in the quarterfinals and then stopped Clinton 47-18 in the semifinals. Hudson ended the season with a 29-5 overall record.

St. Louis Reaches State Semifinals

For the third straight season the St. Louis wrestling team reached the final four in Division 4. The Sharks, who reached the state title match last season, reached the semifinals this season where they dropped a 30-25 struggle against Martin/Climax-Scotts. St. Louis reached the semifinals by defeating Charlevoix 65-9 in the quarterfinals. St. Louis ended the season with a 29-1 overall record.

WRESTLING STATE FINALS GIRLS DIVISION STATE PLACERS

STATE CHAMPIONS

105 pounds Tatianna Castillo, fr. Lowell
125 pounds Cecilia Williams, jr. Mason

BELDING

Madasyn Frisbie, sr., 4th 190

BIRCH RUN

Jasmine Sayan, jr., 7th 100

CHIPPEWA HILLS

Natalie Gibson, sr., 3rd 105

CLARE

AnnMarie Green, jr., 2nd 235

DANSVILLE

Aubree Mayr, sr., 3rd 100

DEWITT

Jamie Cook, sr., 3rd 125

Ryleigh Ruiz, sr. 5th 110

EATON RAPIDS

Mila Dubroja, so., 6th 235

HOLT

Olivia Root, sr., 5th 125

LANSING WAVERLY

Victoria Carter, sr., 6th 170

LOWELL

Veronica Tapia, jr., 2nd 100

Analyze Tapia, fr., 7th 190

MIDLAND

Halle Spears, jr., 2nd 190

MILLINGTON

Emmaleigh Peters, so., 8th 130

OWOSSO

Hannah Hart, 8th 190

PORTLAND

Rylan Johns, jr., 8th 235

SAGINAW HERITAGE

Evangeline Lisik, jr., 5th 100

SHEPHERD

Shai Curtiss, sr., 2nd 110

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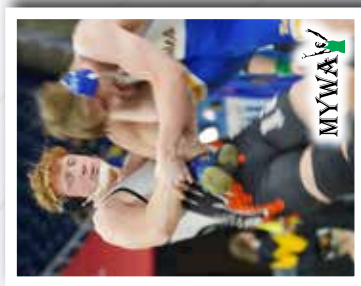
SPORTS SCENES 2025 Wrestling Dream Team

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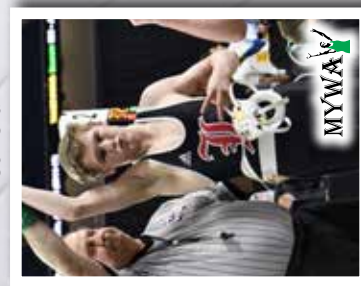
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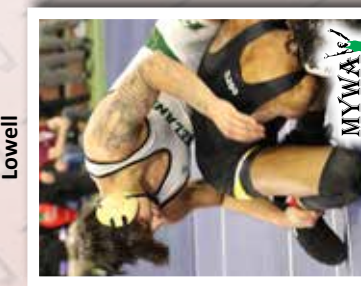
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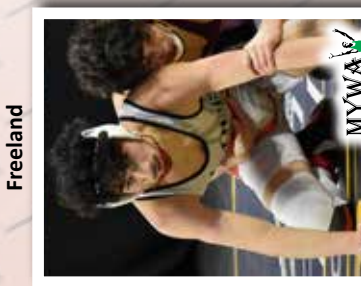
Dylan Granger Mason



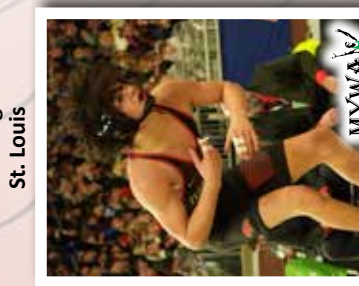
Owen Segorski Lowell



Fabian Facundo Freeland



Alex Rodriguez St. Louis



Quinten Cassidy Cedar Springs

SPORTS SCENES 2025 WRESTLING DREAM TEAM

106 pounds Donovan Quinn, St. Johns: Talented freshman turned in a 30-4 record this season and finished fourth in the state at Division 2 state finals. Won individual titles at New Lothrop and Hudson invites.

113 pounds Jarrett Smith, Lowell: A junior and three-time state placer, Smith was his second straight state championship in Division 2. Smith went 38-3 this season and is a combined 77-4 the past two seasons.

120 pounds Alex Rodriguez, St. Louis: A state champion as a sophomore last year, Rodriguez placed second at 120 pounds at the Division 4 finals this season and finished the season with a 49-5 record.

126 pounds Quinten Cassidy, Cedar Springs: Cassidy turned in a big sophomore season as he placed second in the state at the Division 2 state finals and finished the season with a 44-2 record.

132 pounds Jackson Blum, Lowell: One of the premier high school wrestlers in the nation, Blum capped his career as a four-time state champion. Blum was a perfect 43-0 this season and for his career he compiled a 154-7 record.

138 pounds Trenden Bashore, DeWitt: A four-time state placer, Bashore reached the top of the podium this year as he won the 138-pound title in Division 2. Bashore finished the year with a 55-1 record.

144 pounds Buddy Leonard, Freeland: Leonard wrapped up his career as a three-time state placer after taking second at the Division 2 finals. Leonard turned in a 43-3 record this season and was 135-12 his last three seasons.



Logan Tollison Grand Ledge



Jackson Blum Lowell



Buddy Leonard Freeland



Johnathan Ford Bay City John Glenn



Casey Engle Lowell



Owen Fogel St. Louis



Landen Johnson Lakeview



Donovan Quinn St. Johns

BIG SCHOOL DIVISION 1 AND 2 FIRST TEAM

157 pounds Johnathan Ford, Bay City John Glenn: A sophomore, Ford won the state title at 157 pounds in Division 2. Ford finished with a 38-6 record this season.

165 pounds Gavin Vankirk, Mason: Vankirk ended his high school career with a third-place finish in Division 2 and a final record of 39-2.

175 pounds Michael Baldwin, Saginaw United: After taking third at 165 last season, Baldwin capped his prep career by winning the state title at 175 pounds in Division 1. Baldwin finished the season with a 30-2 record.

190 pounds Logan Hammingh, Rockford: A junior, Hammingh placed fifth in the state in Division 1 and compiled a 44-9 record this season.

215 pounds Case Johnson, Greenville: Johnson ended his high school career by taking fourth in D2 while turning in a 54-3 record.

285 pounds True Warmbier, Bay City Western: Warmbier capped his senior season by qualifying for the state meet and turning in a 41-13 record.

Big School Division 1 and 2 Special Mention

(113) Carson Blum, Lowell; (113) Ruben Rivera, Bay City John Glenn; (126) Logan Welmerink, Rockford; (132) Izak Kukulski, Bay City John Glenn; (138) Liam Patrick, Rockford; (138) Connor Greer, Bay City John Glenn; (138) Carter Moore, Charlotte; (144) Logan Dawson, Lowell; (144) Daniel Rodriguez, Charlotte; (150) Timmy Hubert, Grand Ledge; (150) Christian Bossbach, Bay City John Glenn; (157) Tyler Parmeter, Cedar Springs; (157) Tyler Bashore, DeWitt; (165) Caiden Walker, Flushing; (165) D'marion Erlenbeck, Clio; (175) Ashton Delaney, Grand Ledge; (175) Kurt Freling, Mt. Pleasant; (175) Cedric Jackson II, Lansing Waverly; (190) Ben Grenesko, Midland; (215) Cayden Bell, Lansing Waverly.

SMALL SCHOOL DIVISION 3 AND 4 FIRST TEAM

106 pounds Branlun Simon, Portland: Sophomore placed second at state in Division 3 with a 42-5 record.

113 pounds Owen Fogel, St. Louis: A junior, Fogel won the 113-pound title in Division 4 and finished the season with a 44-2 overall record.

120 pounds Colton Whitaker, Frankenthum: A junior, Whitaker took sixth at state and finished the season with a 44-6 record.

126 pounds Vincent Stamm, Lakewood-Lake Odessa: A sophomore, Stamm placed seventh in the state in Division 3 and finished the season with a 31-6 record.

132 pounds Colin Kuhn, St. Louis: Kuhn capped his career as a four-time state placer. Kuhn took fourth at the D4 state finals and compiled a 51-5 record.

138 pounds Ryan Woods, Belding: Junior placed third in the state in Division 3 and compiled a 51-5 record. Woods has a 105-9 combined record the past two seasons.

144 pounds Bryson Hernandez, Clare: Senior finished fourth in state in Division 3 and turned in a 40-3 record.

Small School Division 3 and 4 Special Mention

(106) Justice Harding, Williamston; (113) Landon Lanz, Portland; (113) Brady Demory, Gladwin; (113) Blake Wendling, New Lothrop; (120) Ethan Palmateer, Gladwin; (120) Deven Wheeler, Clare; (120) Jordan Ovalle, Bath; (120) Eric Larson, Beaverton; (120) Cole Grollmund, St. Louis; (132) Micah Curtiss, Shepherd; (132) Brady Curtis, Frankenthum; (132) Cameron Perez, Lakeview; (138) Luke Paxton, Pottsville; (138) Quinton Everett, Chesaning; (138) Kaelen Harrington, Birch Run; (138) Laythan Haworth, St. Louis; (138) Carter Foster, Leslie; (144) Griffin Overman, Portland; (144) Noah Szwed, Montrose; (144) Daniel Rosales, Alma; (144) Aiden Turner, Perry; (150) Bryson Boucher, Lakewood-Lake Odessa; (150) John Koepf, Chippewa Hills; (150) Martine Wiggins, Shepherd; (150) Tristan Vanthimmeren, Howard City Tri-County; (150) Grason Weber, Leslie; (150) Maddox Cline, St. Louis; (150) Alex Baker, Dansville; (150) Landon Zastrow, Hemlock; (157) Drew Alward, Durand; (157) Ethan White, Birch Run; (165) Blake Peasley, Belding; (165) Lucas Vail, Lakeview; (175) CJ Copeland, Lakeview; (175) Nolan Rowley, Bath; (175) Peyton Ewalt, Carson City-Crystal; (190) Gunnar Williams, Portland; (190) Ethan Wakefield, Michigan Lutheran Seminary; (215) Johnathon Durfee, Sanford-Meridian; (215) Barrett Spitzley, Portland;

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Portland Boys Post Outstanding Season

John Raffel Sports Scene

Coach Dan Graef's Portland boys bowling team had a fabulous season with a 13-1 record in the CAAC league and 15-1 overall. It was his fifth season as coach.

"Overall, I was very happy with our league season," Graef said. "League expectations were met as this was a veteran team.

"Honestly the entire season was a highlight as I have watched this senior group grow and learn this great game. I wish we would have done better during team regionals but it was great to see us have two bowlers make it for individual states.

Four bowlers, Graef said, had great seasons.

Alec McGinnis - "Just a great competitor who loves bowling and has a bright future."

Dre Cross - "A great kid that has his best bowling in front of him as I expect him to continue to compete in tournaments in the coming years."

Eli Dakin - "The most coachable bowler I have had the privilege of teaching. Holds himself accountable for every shot he throws."

Zack McAllister - "A very talented bowler that improved mentally throughout his career."

Academic All-Conference: Camden Calkins,

Ian Hassett, Nate Pierce

All-Conference Honorable Mention: Zack McAllister

All-Conference: Alec McGinnis, Dre Cross, Eli Dakin

Academic All-State: Nate Pierce, Eli Dakin

All-State 1st Team: Eli Dakin

"We lose our top bowlers from this year's team. Alec McGinnis, Dre Cross, Eli Dakin, and Nate Pierce all graduate. Camden Calkins and Zach Edlund will be our key returners next season," Graef said. "It will be a rebuilding



The 2025 Portland boys bowling team.

year for us, but I have faith in our varsity returners as well as several JV bowlers that will step up next season."

Rockford Girls Fall In State Title Game

John Raffel Sports Scene

Rockford won the girls state title in 2023 and was hoping to do it again in 2025.

But Belleville had other plans and scored a 61-48 victory in the state championship game at Michigan State's Breslin Center.

Both Rockford and Belleville were 27-1 entering the Division title game.

Miss Basketball Anna Wypych had a huge title game with 26 points but the rest of Rockford's lineup combined for only 22 points. Sydney Savory had 22 points for the winners. A major moment for Rockford was winning the semifinal game with a 61-42 in over Wayne Memorial. Wypych went down with an injury, proving a major scare for Rockford. But she

came back and had a dominating game with 30 points on 8-of-19 shooting from the floor, 4-of-5 from the three-point arc and 10-10 in free throws.

The season, coach Brad Wilson said, "was an overwhelming success. We finished at 27-2, won the OK Red Conference championship and was a perfect 10-0 in our league this year. We went north and did our regional in Traverse City and was able to win regional. That was our fourth straight time of winning regional.

"We had some experience of going to the Final Four. One of our star players (Wypych) has committed to Butler and was the best player in the state. It was a great accomplishment for her. She averaged 22 points a game and was Miss Basketball, and was all-conference her fourth straight year.



Rockford girls hold the Division 1 state runner-up trophy.

She broke eight different school records and had quite a career."

Kate Higgins was also all-conference and had the school record for most rebounds in a game and season. Addison Wypych, a fresh-

man broke the single season record for assists. Both she and Higgins have college offers. Jordan Mateer, a junior, was also all-conference. Audrey Muterspaugh was honorable mention all-conference.

"We (improved) our schedule and traveled all over the state to play good teams," Wilson said. "To get back (to the finals) was quite an accomplishment."

Area Swimmers And Divers Compete At State Swimming And Diving Finals

Butch Harmon Sports Scene

DIVISION 1

Saline snapped Ann Arbor Pioneer's string of four consecutive state titles as the Hornets totaled 291.5 points to win this year's Division 1 state title. Ann Arbor Pioneer placed second with 263 points while Northville was third with 224 points.

DIVISION 2

University of Detroit Jesuit captured the Division 2 state swim title with 305 points. Byron Center placed second with 256.5 points with Birmingham Seaholm placing third with 207 points.

Midland Dow Swim Places In Top Ten

The Midland Dow swim team finished in ninth place at the state finals with 102 points.

Dow was led at the finals by the 200 free relay team of Henry Ladwein, Eli Buist, Jagger Connelly and Elijah Soderberg who placed fourth with a time of 1:26.84. In the 400 free relay, Dow's team of Buist, Ransom

Kurzer, Ladwein and Soderberg placed sixth.

Buist, a sophomore, also placed 10th in the 200 freestyle and 12th in the 100 freestyle.

Soderberg, a senior, placed sixth in the 200 IM and seventh in the 100 backstroke. Sophomore Henry Ladwein took ninth in the 50 freestyle.

East Lansing Diver Places At State

East Lansing senior diver Jonas Lusic closed out his high school career in a big way as he placed 10th in the diving competition at the Division 2 state finals.

DeWitt Places In Top 20 At State Meet

DeWitt moved up to Division 2 this season and placed 15th overall with 56 points.

The Panthers were led by a pair of relay teams. The 200 free relay team of Vincent Rose, Jacob Calewarts, Reid Rusthoven and Ben Mion placed seventh while the 200 medley relay team of Grayson Busch, Rose, Mion and Auden Lenneman placed 13th.

Junior diver Carson Reynolds, who placed

in the top five in Division 3 his first two years of high school diving, placed fourth in diving in Division 2 this season.

Rose, a sophomore, also placed ninth as an individual in the 100 breaststroke.

Okemos Swimmers Place At State Meet

The Okemos swim team placed 29th overall at the Division 2 state swim finals with five team points. Okemos was paced by the 400 free relay team of Karim Hussein, Arda Kocas, Kenneil Tucker and Darwin Lu who placed 15th. Tucker also placed 16th as an individual in the 100 backstroke.

DIVISION 3

Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook-Kingswood won the Division 3 swimming and diving state championship for the third consecutive season as it totaled 357 points. Holland Christian placed second with 282.5 points while East Grand Rapids took third with 264 points.

St. Johns Places In Top 20 In D3

St. Johns finished in 19th place at the Division 3 state finals with 28 points.

The Red Wings were led by senior Brayden Hirschman who placed eighth in the 500 freestyle and 10th in the 200 freestyle. Sophomore Marshall Hirschman placed 11th in the breaststroke. In the diving competition, junior Vincent Manas placed 13th.

Eaton Rapids Swimmers Place In Top 20

The Eaton Rapids swim team capped the season by placing 19th with a total of 28 points at the Division 3 state meet.

The Greyhounds were paced at the finals by a pair of relay team. The 400 free relay team of Lucas Sullivan, Cody Benkovsky, Jordan Cochrane and Danny O'Brien placed 11th while the 200 medley relay team of O'Brien, Benkovsky, Sullivan and Cochrane placed

13th. Individually, junior Parker Zaucha placed 11th in the 500 freestyle and O'Brien placed 15th in the 50 freestyle.

Mason Places In Top 25 At State Swim Finals

The Mason swim team finished 23rd at the Division 3 state swimming finals with a total of 25 points.

The Bulldogs were led at the finals by sophomore Landon Voss who placed eighth in the 100 freestyle and 10th in the 50 freestyle. Freshman Bryce Delaney also placed 10th in the 500 freestyle.

Alma Diver Places At State Meet

Alma senior diver Issac Winn placed at the Division 3 state swimming and diving finals. Winn finished in 15th place at the finals. Winn qualified for the state finals by winning the regional diving title at the St. Johns regional.

Charlotte Swimmer Places In Pair Of Events

Charlotte sophomore Adam Rickerd placed in a pair of events at the Division 3 swimming and diving championships. Rickerd placed ninth in the 50 freestyle and took 12th place in the 100 freestyle to score a total of 14 team points for the Orioles.

Bay City Glenn Swimmer Shines At State

Bay City John Glenn junior Henry Schanbeck placed in a pair of events at the Division 3 swimming and diving championships. Schanbeck placed eighth in the 50 freestyle and took 14th place in the 100 freestyle to score a total of 14 team points for the Bobcats.

Ionia Swimmer Diver Places At State Meet

Ionia senior Carl Goeckel capped off his high school career by placing 11th in the 100 butterfly at the Division 3 state swimming and diving finals.

Area swimmers and divers turned in some outstanding times at the state swimming and diving finals.



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Boys, Girls Bowling Teams Compete At Team And Individual State Tourneys

David Cook Sports Scene

Area bowlers competed for titles as teams and individuals at the Michigan High School Athletic Association bowling finals. Following is a look at the bowling champions.

GIRLS BOWLING DIVISION 1

Grandville defeated Holt three games to two in the final round to win the Division 1 team state championship. Grandville edged Holt 158-153 in the deciding fifth game of the finals. Holt reached the state finals by placing second at the Grand Blanc regional. Holt senior Madison Rue and Ram junior Ava Seyfield both reached the round of 16 in the individual state finals.

Novi senior Madeline Gazzarari won the individual title in Division 1 as she turned back Rockford sophomore Sofia DeLuccia.

DIVISION 2

Swartz Creek captured the Division 2 team state championship. Swartz Creek turned back Cedar Springs 3-0 in the final round.

Cedar Springs reached the finals by defeating Bay City John Glenn 3-1 in the quarterfinals and then stopping Flint Kearsley

3-1 in the semifinals. Cedar Springs qualified for the state meet by taking second at the Comstock Park regional. In the individual finals, Cedar Springs junior Phoebe Fisk reached the round of 16.

Individually, junior Kierra Pinter of Tecumseh defeated Carlton-Airport junior Abigail Hill in the individual finals by a score of 403-389.

Mason also qualified for the state finals as a team. The Bulldogs, who placed second at the regional tournament, reached the quarterfinal round at the state finals.

DIVISION 3

In Division 3, Livonia Clarenceville defeated Adrian Madison 3-1 in the finals round to win the state title.

Gladwin qualified for the state finals after placing second at the Cheboygan regional. Gladwin fell in the state quarterfinals three games to against Adrian Madison.

Individually, Standish-Sterling senior Paige Vallad won the state title as she turned back Milan junior Maggie Smith 363-295.

DIVISION 4

Ravenna won the title in Division 4 as it outlasted Bad Axe 3-2.

Byron, which placed second at the Flint regional, reached the quarterfinals at the state finals where it fell 3-2 to Bad Axe. Byron sophomore Kara Chapman reached the semifinals in the individual finals.

Ithaca sophomore Estes Purvis reached the round of 16 at the individual state tournament. Purvis qualified for the state finals after placing fifth at the regional tournament. Ithaca senior Isabel Guild won the individual regional championship with a total of 1,071.

Breckenridge junior Raegyn Mayer placed second at the regional with a 1,028 total while Breckenridge junior Miranda Bloomquist placed third with 984.

Individually, Bronson senior Morgan McConn defeated Reagan Baker of Burton Atherton for the Division 4 individual title.

BOYS BOWLING DIVISION 1

Utica defeated Belleville three games to one to win the Division 1 team state championship. Wayne Memorial sophomore Lyman Derrick III won the individual title as he outlasted senior Dylan Hamden of Utica.

DIVISION 2

Flint Kearsley captured the Division 2 team state title as it turned back New Boston Huron three games to two in the finals.

Individually, junior Jordan Butler of Vicksburg won the individual state title as he held off DeWitt sophomore Griffin Lindemann by a 400-387 total in the finals. Lindemann qualified for the finals by placing fourth at the regional.

DIVISION 3

Standish-Sterling won the Division 3 team state title as it held off Crosswell-Lexington 3-2 in the final round. The individual state

title was won by Almont senior Hunter Ross who defeated Crosswell-Lexington sophomore Joshua Gunderson 377-375 in the final round.

Midland Bullock Creek and Gladwin both reached the final eight in the Division 3 tourney. Bullock Creek defeated Muskegon Oakridge in the quarterfinals before falling to Crosswell-Lexington in the state semifinals. Bullock Creek qualified for the state meet by winning the Sanford regional.

Gladwin fell in the quarterfinal round to Crosswell-Lexington. Gladwin qualified for the state meet by winning the Cheboygan regional.

DIVISION 4

Allen Park Cabrini won the Division 4 team state title as it defeated Jonesville 3-1 in the finals.

Saginaw Nouvel Catholic senior Alex McCarthy won the individual state championship in Division 4. McCarthy defeated Maison Christian of Houghton Lake 499-351 in the finals. McCarthy rolled games of 266 and 233 in the finals.

The Ithaca boys bowling team reached the quarterfinals in Division 4 where it fell to Jonesville. Ithaca bowlers claimed the top three spots individually at the regional tournament as senior Broden Peska finished first with 1,228, junior Neil Anderson was second with 1,217 and senior Bryson Lebaron was third with a 1,207 total.

St. Louis won the team title at the Mt. Pleasant regional. The Sharks were led by senior Michael Mitchell who placed fourth as an individual with a 1,204 total. Sophomore Thailan Raby was sixth with a 1,147 total while sophomore Merick Bartlett was seventh with 1,125.

The Ithaca boys bowling team reached the quarterfinal round at the Division 4 team bowling state finals.



Fowler Emerges As Division 4 State Champions

John Raffel Sports Scene

Fowler was back to a familiar place in the girls Division 4 basketball standings after not being able to make the finals in 2023 and 2024.

Fowler took the title in 2021 and 2022. But after being denied the title the next two seasons, coach Nathan Goerge's team got the job done this season.

Fowler made it to the Breslin Center again and won both the semifinal and title game to emerge as state champions.

The season ended at 27-2 for Fowler.

The team ended Genesee Christian's season at 24-3 with the victory over Genesee. It was tied 11-11 after the first quarter but Fowler erupted to lead 25-13 at half-time

and 41-24 after the third quarter, Fowler had a 26-8 scoring advantage in the final eight minutes.

Fowler had four players in double figures with Brooke Weber at 14 points, Elizabeth Hufnagel with 13, Elizabeth Halfmann with 13 and Paige Thelen with 11.

Thelen and Spicer both had seven rebounds.

This put Fowler in the title game with Ewen Trout Creek, and Fowler prevailed 53-29. Ewen Trout-Creek ended its season at 27-2.

Spicer led Fowler with 17 points followed by Hufnagel and Weber with 10 apiece. Thelen had eight rebounds. Fowler shot an impressive 20-of-38 from the floor and was 5-of-12 in threes.

It was 14-8 after the first quarter and 23-16 at halftime. Fowler put it away with a 19-3 edge in the third for a 42-19 lead.



Fowler girls posed with their their state title trophy in the last five seasons.



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GIRLS BASKETBALL DIVISION 1 AND 2 ROUND UP

Butch Harmon & David Cook Sports Scene

DIVISION 1

DeWitt Wins Regional Title

After a strong regular season where they topped the CAAC-Blue with a 21-1 record, DeWitt was primed for a deep playoff run. The Panthers defeated Grand Ledge and East Lansing to secure the district title and defeated Holt in the regional semi-finals. DeWitt put on a dominating performance on defense in the regional finals with a 41-18 win over Coldwater to win the title. The Panthers' run ended in the quarterfinals in a hard fought 54-59 loss to eventual state champions Belleville.

Holt Wins District Championship

Holt came out of the gates strong to begin the playoffs with a 50-17 dismantling of Jackson Northwest. The Rams' momentum continued in the district finals where they defeated Mason



54-26 for the title. Holt advanced to the regional semi-finals, but were defeated by conference rivals DeWitt 38-57. The Rams finished the season second in the CAAC-Blue with a 17-8 overall record.

Midland Dow Clinches District Title

Midland Dow defeated Mount Pleasant in a 79-72 shootout to begin the postseason and proceeded to the district finals where they beat rivals Midland 58-49 for the title. The Chargers advanced to the regional semi-finals where they lost to Traverse City Central 50-59. Midland Dow finished their year with a 16-9 record.

Rockford Reaches State Championship Game

The Rockford Rams were one of the favorites heading into the playoffs after topping the OK-Red and going 21-1 in the regular season. Their success translated well into the postseason as the Rams cruised through the district and regional rounds before overcoming their toughest test in a 54-49 win over Grand Haven in the quarterfinals. Rockford's first game in East Lansing ended with a 61-42 victory over Wayne Memorial to advance to the state finals. The Rams played hard but were defeated by Belleville in the championship 48-61.

Saginaw Heritage Wins District Title

After finishing second in the SVC with a 19-3 record, Saginaw Heritage kicked off the postseason with a comprehensive 65-16 victory over Saginaw United. The Hawks won the district

Frankenmuth reached the semifinals of the Division 2 state tournament. Photo Courtesy of MHSAA Photography.

championship in a 75-41 defeat of Flint Carman-Ainsworth before taking on Rockford in the regional semi-finals. The Hawks were defeated by the eventual state runner up Rams 31-54.

DIVISION 2

Clare Clinches District Title

Clare defeated Remus Chippewa Hills in their opening match 46-21 to advance to the district finals. The Pioneers faced off against Standish-Sterling where they overcame the Panthers in a 45-37 victory to win the district title. Clare matched up against Fremont in the regional semi-finals, but were defeated 43-67. The Pioneers finished the year second in the Jack Pine Conference 1 with a 16-8 record.

Eaton Rapids Wins District Championship

Eaton Rapids' opening game of the postseason was a thriller as they managed to fight off Lake Odessa in overtime 41-36. The Greyhounds found the district finals to be more manageable as they pulled away from Olivet to win the district title 54-30. Eaton Rapids met Goodrich in the regional semi-finals where they lost to the Martians 22-47 to finish the year with a 13-11 record.

Frankenmuth Falls Just Short Of State Finals Game

Frankenmuth booked a spot in East Lansing after cruising through the district and regional rounds with victories against Freeland and Portland. The Eagles defeated Gladstone 56-36 to reach the Breslin where they faced off against Tecumseh. Despite a strong effort, the Eagles fell to the eventual state champions 43-52 in the semi-finals. Frankenmuth finished as co-leaders of the TVC-Red and boasted a 21-4 record this

season.

Freeland Wins District Championship

After topping the TVC-Red with a 19-3 record, Freeland were expected to make a deep run this season. The Falcons started strong with a 59-33 victory over Saginaw Swan Valley in the opening round and continued their form with a 74-46 win against Alma to win the district crown. Freeland advanced to the regional semi-finals where they faced off against Frankenmuth, losing to the Eagles 44-53.

Haslett Reaches Regional Finals

Haslett defeated Fowlerville in their opening round matchup 51-25 before defeating Williamston 47-38 to win the district title. The Vikings overcame a tough Chelsea team in a thrilling 56-53 overtime victory over the Bulldogs in the regional semi-finals to advance to the finals. It was another nailbiter in the regional finals but the Vikings fell just short, losing to Goodrich 56-58. Haslett finished the year atop the CAAC-Red with a perfect conference record and 22-4 record overall.

Portland Advances To Regional Finals

Portland finished the regular season as winners of the CAAC-White with a perfect conference record and entered the postseason primed to make a run. The Raiders dispatched with Ionia in the opening round before defeating St Johns 64-45 to win the district title. Portland beat Flint Hamady in the regional semi-finals 54-34 to advance to the finals against Frankenmuth. The Raiders lost 27-41 against the Eagles to finish the season 22-4.

GIRLS BASKETBALL DIVISION 3 AND 4 ROUND UP

Butch Harmon & David Cook Sports Scene

DIVISION 3

Durand Wins District Title

The Railroaders dominated on their way to a district title beginning with a 76-39 victory over Burton Bendle in the opening round. Durand secured the title after defeating Brighton Charyl Stockwell Prep 42-25 in the district finals. The Railroaders fell in the regional semi-finals in a 31-53 loss to Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest. Durand finished with a 17-8 record and a third-place finish in the Mid-Michigan Activities Conference.

Evert Wins District Championship

After a 46-3 dismantling of Harrison in their opening round, the Wildcats of Evert defeated McBain 53-42 to win the district title. In the regional semi-finals, Evert lost to Roscommon 33-41. The Wildcats finished the season as the top team in the Highland conference with an impressive 22-3 record this year.

Hemlock Wins District Championship

Hemlock started out strong in the postseason with a 64-24 defeat of Ithaca in their opening round and continued their fine form by defeating St Louis 50-35 to win the district title. The Huskies faced off with New Lothrop in the regional semi-finals where they narrowly lost to the Hornets 38-43. Hemlock finished the year as the winners of the TVC-Blue with a perfect conference

record and a 21-4 record overall.

Millington Wins Surprise District Title

After finishing the regular season 6-16, not much was expected of Millington in the postseason but the Cardinals never gave up. Millington overcame Vassar in a first-round defensive duel 27-12 and followed it up with an upset victory over Otisville Lakeville Memorial in the second round 40-28. The Cardinals capitalized on their momentum to defeat Saginaw Valley Lutheran in a thrilling 40-39 finish to win the district title. Millington's magical run ended in the regional semi-finals in a 46-58 loss to Genesee.

New Lothrop Reaches Regional Finals

New Lothrop defeated Bath and Laingsburg en route to a district title and continued their postseason run with a 43-38 victory over Hemlock in the regional semi-finals. The Hornets faced off with Jackson Lumen Christi in the regional finals where they lost in a tight 34-39 match. New Lothrop finished the year atop the Mid-Michigan Activities Conference with a 22-4 overall record.

Pewamo-Westphalia Advances To Regional Finals

Pewamo-Westphalia started the postseason as state title contenders after a perfect regular season. The Pirates' title trip looked to be on track early with dominating performances against Delton Kellogg and Grand Rapids NorthPointe Christian en route to a district title. Pewamo cruised past Saugatuck 51-23 in the regional semi-finals before facing off with Grandville Calvin Christian in

the regional finals. The Pirates' perfect season came to an end in a heartbreaking 36-39 loss to the Squires. Pewamo-Westphalia finishes the year as winners of the Central Michigan Athletic Conference with a 25-1 record this season.

Sanford Meridian Wins Regional Title

The Mustangs fell just short of a trip to the Breslin after losing to Calumet in the quarterfinals 33-48, but not before winning a regional championship. Sanford Meridian started their postseason run with a dominating 64-15 victory over Pinconning before edging out Beal City for the district title 34-33. After another close win against Hart in the regional semi-finals, the Mustangs defeated Roscommon 37-26 to win the regional title. Sanford Meridian finished the year as the top team in the Jack Pine Conference 2 with a perfect conference record and a 23-4 record overall.



Fowler claimed the Division 4 state title for the third time in the past five years. Photo Courtesy of MHSAA Photography.

DIVISION 4

Fowler Wins State Championship

Fowler capped off their stellar season with a state title after defeating Ewen-Trout Creek 53-29 in the championship game. The Eagles cruised through the postseason, defeating opponents by an average of 35 points including a 64-21 win over Frankfort in the quarterfinals and a 57-32 victory in the semi-finals against Genesee Christian.

Mount Pleasant Sacred Heart Reaches Regional Finals

With a perfect record heading into the postseason, Mount Pleasant Sacred Heart were expected to make some noise in the postseason. They did just that early on allowing just 29 points in their first two games on their way to a district championship. After defeating Onokama in the regional semi-finals 54-29, the Irish's perfect season came to an end in the regional finals losing to eventual state champions Fowler 36-57.

The Sanford-Meridian girls reached the Division 3 state quarterfinals. Photo Courtesy of MHSAA Photography.

Portland St Patrick Wins District Championship

The Shamrocks came out strong to begin the postseason with a 52-21 defeat of Porterville and were able to sneak past Lansing Christian in a defensive struggle 28-27 to win the district title. Portland St Patrick found themselves in another defensive battle, but wound up on the wrong side in a 34-35 loss to Concord in the regional semi-finals. The Shamrocks finished the year with a 17-7 record.

Saginaw Michigan Lutheran Wins District Title

The Cardinals defeated Saginaw Nouvel in their opening round 51-45 and followed it up with a 51-40 victory over Merrill to win the district title. Saginaw Lutheran fell in the regional semi-finals to eventual state champions Fowler 21-62. The Cardinals finished the year 18-7 and second place in the TVC-Blue.

St. Patrick Girls Post 19-Win Season

John Raffel Sports Scene

Michelle Smith was in her first year at Portland St. Patrick as girls varsity basketball head coach, replacing the legendary Al Schrauben who retired.

The Shamrocks were 19-7 overall with a 13-5 league record, finishing third overall in the CMAC.

"The season was truly a team approach; with a young roster of just two seniors and many underclassman, the girls battled through tough competition and we competed in each and every

game. The highlight of the season was winning the District title for the

first time since 2019," Smith said. "We met our own expectations this season but probably exceeded the expectations of others. "Finishing third, in a very tough CMAC conference with the young team we had was a big accomplishment. In addition, winning the District title and narrowly missing out on a Regional championship also proceeded many expectations. I am very proud of this team's accomplishments and efforts this season. What were some top highlights for the team? Highlight was winning the District title against a very good Lansing Christian team in the final seconds of the game."

Top athletes were as follows;

•Gracelyn Rockey- Sophomore and three-year starter (who started as

an 8th grader). "She led our team in all categories, averaging 15 points, nine rebounds, three assists, and 4.5 steals per game. Her

Field goals percentage on the season was an outstanding 43 percent, she shot 42.1 percent

from the floor, 30.1 percent from the 3 point line, and 70 percent from the free-throw line. Gracelyn was named unanimously 1st team all CMAC this season and for the second year in a row. I expect additional All-State awards will be coming her way as well."

•Mattie Honsowitz is a junior and two-year starter. She sat out the first few games of the season recovering from an ACL tear," Smith said. "Mat-

tie is a 5-11 center and averaged 10 points, 8 rebounds, and 3 blocks per game. Mattie was named second team all CMAC this season for the second year in a row and I expect additional awards for Mattie this year."

Looking ahead, "Bella Russman will be a key graduate. She was a strong rebounder and we will miss her physical presence on the floor. Key returners will be Gracelyn Rockey, Mattie Honsowitz, Macie Smith, and Lily Sandborn," Smith said. "We are looking forward

to having 4 starters return next season with a little more experience under their belts. We will have just 2 seniors once again, but the younger girls have gained valuable experience and we will lean on that to help us make a deeper run in the State tournament next season."



Portland St. Patrick girls get ready for a game during the season.

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Rockford Point Guard Is Miss Basketball

John Raffel Sports Scene

Anna Wypych is Rockford 6-0, point guard who led her team to the state title game in Division I and is now going to playing Division I college basketball at Butler University in Indiana. Her profile published by Basketball Coaches association of Michigan points out she averages 22.6 points, 3.6 rebounds, 2.7 assists and 4.5 steals.

BCAM noted her biggest area

of improvement is consistent perimeter shooting and her best move is that she comes off a ball screen, uses a hesitation in-and-out dribble and explodes to the basket. Her favorite athlete is Caitlin Clark.

Wypych is considered the best player in school history. She established herself as a player of consequence as a freshman in the D-1 semis. As a sophomore, she scored a game-high 20 points in helping Rockford win the state title. She had another 20-point game last season in an

overtime semifinal loss. She is hitting 44 percent of her 3-point shots and is able to finish strong at the basket when she is isolated in the paint against guards.

She admits one of her goals was to be considered for the Miss Basketball honor.

"I knew it was something I could achieve," Wypych said. "When coach (Brad) Wilson of Rockford came over to tell me I won it I was in complete shock. My mouth dropped open. I was kind of speechless. I didn't know

what to expect. I was so happy and so grateful."

Being able to get to the championship game "meant so much," Wypych said. "Not many teams get to say they get to do that. It's something super incredible. It was a year I was super happy with."

Wypych broke the 1,000 points total her first game of the season. She broke the school assist record and points career record and steals and free throws in a season and career.



Rockford's Anne Wypych stands with her Miss Basketball Trophy.

Alma Girls Rack Up 16 Wins

John Raffel Sports Scene

Ray Fron has coached for more than 35-plus season but this was his first for girls basketball at Alma.

It was a season he won't soon forget.

Alma was 16-8 overall and 8-4 in the conference.

"Recordwise, we did OK but I would have liked to have won a couple more games," Fron said, "and we fell short of a district championship goal. We lost in the district finals. Overall, I was very proud of how our girls battled

every game and never quit and put themselves in position to play in the district championship. We beat some really good teams but with two state-ranked teams in our conference, it's a demanding schedule. Add the fact that our group had to learn a new system, and it took a few games to get going.

Alma had three all-conference players. Senior Gracie Mellinger averaged 18.5 points, 2.4 assists per game and had 42 total triples while making all-TVC first-team honors.

Senior Kendall Town was second team all-TVC. She averaged 10.5 points and 12.5 rebounds per

game. "Kendall was our other co-captain," Fron said. "Kendall did an exceptional job picking up the system and learning to work hard in the post, yet able to pop out and shoot the three. She was our second leading scorer and our leading rebounder. Kendall had two double/doubles this year birth a few rebounds away from a handful more."

Junior Lauren Seeley averaged 8.2 points and 5.0 rebounds per game.

"Lauren was our third leading scorer, second in rebounds and second in assists. She is coming off of knee injuries and found a way to contribute each game," Fron said. "She was a great complimentary role player who had two double/



The 2024-25 Alma girls basketball team.

doubles on the year. Lauren's athleticism and versatility was in

play as she was able to play the 2 through 5 positions."

St. Johns Girls Basketball Posts Memorable Season

John Raffel Sports Scene

Coach Rondi Fillwock enjoyed a fabulous season as St. Johns varsity girls basketball coach.

The team played in the CAAC Red and had a 17-7 record overall and 7-3 in the league for second place.

"We exceeded expectations as we were expected to tie for third in the league and be closer to 500 overall," Fillwock said. "We were Reed City Holiday tournament champions, beat Williamston for the first time in 10-plus years, and

had the 1,000th point career mark hit by senior Jocelyn Kotowicz."

Jocelyn Kotowicz: Senior star who is going to play at LCC next year. Excellent dynamic guard who led the team in points, rebounds, assists, and 3s. All-conference honors and will likely be all-state or at least all area. MVP and Effort Award.

Paityn Chant: Senior who was top 3 on most stats. All-Conference.

Rowan Matic: Freshman, stat leader, top number of steals on the team, Defensive Player of the Year:

Rachel Jackson: Junior guard, great shooter, strong rebounder, leader

Scoring: Jocie Kotowicz (344/15.64ppg), Rowan Matic (186points/8.45ppg), Paityn Chant (183points/8.32ppg), (Total points / points per game)

Rebounds: Jocie Kotowicz (198/9), Paityn Chant (105/4.8), Rowan Matic (75/3.4)(Total rebounds / rebounds per game)

Assists: Jocie Kotowicz (97/4.41), Paityn Chant (34/1.55), Rowan Matic (29/1.32), (Total assists / assists per game).

Steals: Rowan Matic (67/3), Jocie Kotowicz (63/2.86), (Total steals / steals per game)

Made 3-pointers: Jocie Kotowicz (33), Rowan Matic (22), Rachel Jackson (22)



The 2024-25 St. Johns girls basketball team.

"It will be tough losing Jocelyn Kotowicz and Paityn Chant along with all of the seniors.

Rowan Matic, Rachel Jackson, and Abby Tisdale will be a few of the top returners," Fillwock said, adding that next year.

"We will need some underclassmen to work in the offseason to be ready to step up and continue to compete at the high level we did this year. Jocelyn was the primary point guard so we will be looking for a strong leader to step up and fill that role."

Hemlock Girls Post 21-4 Season

John Raffel Sports Scene

It was another banner season for Hemlock's girls basketball team and coach Scott Neumeyer.

The girls were 21-4 overall and 10-0 in conference.

"Overall, I think we had a very successful season," Neumeyer said. "Any time you get to 20 wins, you've had a tremendous season. The team had the goal of getting back to the Breslin Center, and once you've been there, any time you don't get back there, it's a bit of a disappointment.

However, that shouldn't take away from all of the accomplishments this year's team had. They went undefeated in the conference for the third year in a row and won a district championship. I know sometimes people take that for granted with the success we've had in recent years, but that's something that the players should be very proud of. They also set numerous program records along the way, particularly on the defensive end of the court.

"Considering the talent we lost from last year's team, I think we maybe overachieved a little bit. I knew that we were going to be a very athletic team as well as a very good defensive team. For the most part, I think that held true. Finding consistent and balanced scoring

was a concern heading into the season, and that was something that we struggled with at times during the season. However, we still found a way to put up a lot of points on many nights. Losing freshman Kinsley Conger to a knee injury halfway through the season hurt us. She was our second-leading scorer and 3-point shooter at the time that she went down with her injury.

Neumeyer added:

"Going undefeated in our conference for the third year in a row and winning a district championship after falling short the year before have to be the highlights of our season on the court. The other highlight to me as a coach was how well the team gelled and worked together throughout the course of the season. The girls had tremendous attitudes and work ethics, and a lot of that credit has to go to our seniors. They modeled it. The players made it fun to come to practice each day, and I can honestly say that it was one of the most enjoyable seasons of my career.

"Probably the biggest disappointment was losing freshman Kinsley Conger to a season-ending knee injury in January. Not only was she an integral part of our team, but she is also an elite track and softball athlete, and to know that she is going to have to miss those seasons as well is both sad

and disappointing. She has a great attitude, though, and I know that she's going to come back and have an outstanding athletic career at Hemlock. I would also say that losing in the regional semifinals was a disappointment as well. The girls, particularly the seniors, would be the first to admit that. We didn't play well offensively, but New Lothrop's defense had a lot to do with that. We felt that we were just as good as any team left in the tournament and to not play well enough to get the opportunity to move on and continue playing was frustrating."

Hemlock's top offensive player this season was junior Victoria Hauffe. She led Hemlock in scoring at 18.4 ppg while shooting 49% from 2-pt. range and 35% from 3-pt. range. She also shot 82% from the free throw line.

"She was also excellent for us defensively as she averaged 5 steals per game," Neumeyer said. "She was named a first team all-conference selection for the second year in a row. She really grew as a player this season. She was pretty much a standstill three-point shooter her freshman and sophomore years, but this year she really attacked the basket and became more of a multidimensional offensive player. Seniors Klaira Salo and Carly Siler were also key players for us. Both earned first team all-conference selections. Carly was

our second-leading scorer and provided valuable ballhandling for us.

"As our point guard, Klaira was our glue on the offensive end of the court. Her improved ballhandling and leadership on the court were invaluable as well. She was also a phenomenal defender, particularly on the ball. Seniors Izzy Curry and Izzy Krueger were also important contributors for us. Both are elite athletes who were big parts of making our defense work. Both were also improved offensive players and brought a great deal of leadership to the team."

Who will be some key graduates?

"We lose five very talented seniors that we will miss very much: Klaira Salo (4-year varsity player), Izzy Curry (3-year varsity player), Ava Graham (2-year varsity player), and Carly Siler (2-year varsity player). They have been a big part of some

of the most successful years in our program's history," Neumeyer said.

Looking ahead:

"Victoria Hauffe, a junior, will return for us next year," Neumeyer said. "We also return another



junior, Addison Stockford, who improved tremendously throughout the season, and whom we expect even bigger things from next season. We also return a couple of sophomore post players in Lia Hoffmann and Taryn Pratt who gave us valuable minutes this season and improved greatly throughout the course of the season. With continued hard work in the off-season, I think that they can step up and have big junior seasons for us. We also hope to get freshman Kinsley Conger back at some point next season. She's a very talented player and has a bright athletic future ahead of her.

"We lose a lot of leadership and athleticism, but there is talent coming back. We also have some talented incoming freshmen that we're excited about. I don't think we'll be the defensive team that we were this year, but we may be a little more balanced offensively if everyone commits to working hard in the off-season and we can develop some of our young guards."

Ithaca Finishes Very Strong In League

John Raffel Sports Scene

Ithaca girls basketball coach Khris Nevins was very impressed with how her Yellow Jackets ended up this season; They were 6-4 in the TVC Blue and were 8-16 overall

Nevins has been coaching for 10 seasons.

"Last year, we were young, no seniors but it means everyone

will be back next season," Nevins said."My expectations were to win more than eight games this year, we lost some close games by less than five points. We struggled with game management at the end of games this year.

"We did meet our development expectations we set as a coaching staff this year with a young team. We had lots of growth from all of our girls."

A key highlight was "winning

the game against Saginaw Valley Lutheran in overtime," Nevins said. "Riley Skinner (freshman) was able to hit a 3-pointer to put us up, and then Libby Maurer (junior) iced the game by hitting five free throws in overtime. We had some injuries throughout the season which were challenging, but I was proud of how we responded as a team.

"Libby Maurer (Junior), had another stellar year. MVP for our second year in a row, and voted first

team All-League for the second year in a row. She averaged 14.5 points a game, and heading into her senior season she only needs 158 points to be the fifth player in school history to 1,000 points"

Nevins said sophomore Alyssa Polash was a Co-MVP for us this year, and was voted honorable mention all-league. She averaged 8.5 points per game and 8.5 rebounds per game. "Alyssa is a great post player who is very athletic and

strong," Nevins said;

There are now juniors and everyone is returning.

"We should be experienced next year, nine girls averaged double digit minutes this year getting lots of experience. We will have 5 seniors next year, with very talented underclassmen returning," Nevins said. "The girls are already working to get better for next year in the weight room."

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Presenting



2025 Girls Basketball Dream Team

BIG SCHOOL DREAM TEAM

Jordyn Egger, Mt. Pleasant, sr. guard

This talented senior guard earned second-team, all-state honors in Division 1 this season and helped lead the Oilers to a 15-9 record. A versatile player, Egger averaged 17.6 points per game this season along with hauling down 7.3 rebounds and adding 4.3 steals on defense.

Joslyn Ode, Saginaw Heritage, fr. forward

This talented freshman made a memorable debut to high school basketball as she helped lead Heritage to a 21-4 record this season. Ode earned second-team, all-state honors in Division 1 as she averaged 13.9 points per game along with 6.8 rebounds, 4.7 assists and 3.9 steals per game.

Allie Stockton, Midland Dow, so. guard

This sophomore guard turned in a big season as she earned second-team, all-state honors in Division 1 and

helped Dow turn in a 16-9 record this season. A versatile, all-around player, Stockton averaged 16.2 points per game along with 7.1 rebounds, 3.5 steals and 2.5 assists per game.

Madi Uyl, DeWitt, DeWitt, sr. guard

One of the top players in program history, Uyl finished her career with 1,058 total points. A first-team, all-state player who is headed to Grand Valley State University, Uyl averaged 12.4 points per game this season along with four rebounds and 2.4 assists per game.

Anna Wypych, Rockford, sr. guard

Wypych capped a glittering high school career by being named Miss Basketball for the state of Michigan. An outstanding all-around player who will play in college at Butler University, Wypych is a prolific outside shooter who connected on 85 three-point shots and averaged 21.8 points per game this season.



DeWitt seniors Tara Kurncz and Madi Uyl, flanking coach Bill McCullen, both finished their careers with over 1,000 total points. McCullen also has over 500 career wins.

SPECIAL MENTION

Sydney Black, East Lansing; Clare Conzelmann, Frankenmuth; Christina Dixon, Haslett; Karie Keefer, Freeland; Tara Kurncz, DeWitt; Jayla Laster, Saginaw Heritage; Allison Metzger, Holt; Lilly Thelen, Portland.

HONORABLE MENTION

Ellee Arnold, Midland; Audrey Ball, Essexville-Garber; Sophia Beland, DeWitt; Izzy Bernthal, Frankenmuth; Abby Brannan, Williamston; Grace Brenner, Frankenmuth; Paitlyn Chant, St. Johns; Dalton DeBoer, Midland Dow; Carly Dennis, DeWitt; Macy Donovan, Frankenmuth; Danica Dwyer, Owosso; Hadley Fox, Big Rapids; Nalayla Fricke, Big Rapids; Nuray Fricke, Big Rapids; Nandi Gordon, East Lansing; Jaiden Griffith, Williamston;

Bree Hamilton, Saginaw Heritage; Avery Hannah, Haslett; Sydney Hutson, East Lansing; Kaitlyn Johnson, Haslett; Melanie Kolnitys, Midland Dow; Jocelyn Kotowicz, St. Johns; Josi Lator, Mason; Elle Lorente, Eaton Rapids; Kaiya Mahabir, Midland; Zariya McCrary, Saginaw Heritage; Gracie Mellingier, Alma; Payton Palmer, Midland; Ava Petrino, Mt. Pleasant; Alexis Raska, Grand Ledge; Aaleigha Roberson, Portland;

Elizabeth Schafer, Okemos; Alexis Schlatter, Bay City Western; Xandaija Scott, Lansing Waverly; Addie Seemann, Freeland; Summer Stopczynski, Portland; Natalia Suddath, Lansing Waverly; Logan Thomas, Ionia; Kendall Town, Alma; Alexis Turner, Haslett; Kayla Weber, Portland; Kiara White, Chippewa Hills; Aubrey White, Ionia; Rylee Winkelman, Eaton Rapids.

BIG SCHOOL DREAM TEAM

Elly Bengel, Pewamo-Westphalia, jr. guard

This junior guard played a key role in Pewamo-Westphalia winning conference and district championships and fashioning a 25-1 record. A first-team, all-state player in Division 3, Bengel averaged 12 points per game this season while adding 4.3 rebounds, 2.6 steals and 2.6 assists per game.

Kyrah Gray, Ewart, jr. guard

A first-team, all-state player, Gray helped Ewart win district and conference titles this season. A versatile athlete who will play college softball, Gray averaged 18.2 points per game along with 7.5 steals, 6.6 rebounds, 3.7 assists and 1.9 blocked shots per game.

Halen McLaughlin, Sanford-Meridian, sr. guard

McLaughlin piled up the points during her prep career as she finished with 2,192 total points. Headed to Lake

Superior State to continue her career, McLaughlin averaged 28 points per game along with eight rebounds enroute to earning first-team, all-state honors in Division 3.

Katie Spicer, Fowler, sr. guard

A two-time, first-team all-state player, Spicer helped Fowler to a third state title in the past five years. A versatile guard, Spicer averaged 12.6 points per game this year along with dishing out 4.5 assists, pulling down 4.5 rebounds and averaging 3.1 steals per game.

Karis Terwilliger, Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart, so. forward

This talented sophomore earned first-team, all-state honors in Division 4 as she helped Sacred Heart turn in a 21-1 record. A force on both ends of the floor, Terwilliger averaged 20 points, six rebounds, five steals and three assists per game.

SPECIAL MENTION

Maddie Breece, Breckenridge; Lydia Brogan, Lansing Christian; Reese Gohsman, Millington; Myah Hubble, Beaverton; Selah Meeuwes, Big Rapids Crossroads Academy; Gracelyn Rockey, Portland St. Patrick; Katelyn Wendling, New Lothrop.

HONORABLE MENTION

Charli Alcorn, Michigan Lutheran Seminary; Karissa Brady, Ashley; Jolie Bryan, Webberville; Jaci Canfield, Fulton-Middleton; Kaya Canfield, Fulton-Middleton; Ellyanna Carman, Ovid-Elsie; Abigail Cochrane, Perry; Ellie Drummond, Ashley; Adrianna Eklund, Pewamo-Westphalia; Kerin Gardner, Michigan Lutheran Seminary; Victoria Hauffe, Hemlock; Brooklyn Holm, Laingsburg; Sophie Hauck, Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart; Elizabeth Hufnagel, Fowler; Jenna Lycos, Webberville; Libby Maurer, Ithaca; Kaitlyn Miros, Saginaw Nouvel; Olivia Parker, Saginaw Valley Lutheran; Klaira Salo, Hemlock; Carly Siler, Hemlock; Lily Smieska, Leslie; Alonna Thelen, Pewamo-Westphalia; Mattie Tiedt, Ewart; Aubri Torok, Bath.

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