HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS SCENE
KEEPING KIDS IN THE NEWS

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CONTENTS

3 | Senior Class Helping Williamston Football Team To Strong Start This Season
4 | New Lothrop Hungry For Another Huge Football Season
5 | Vestaburg Football HS New Coach
6 | Meridian Football Coach Remains Confident
7 | Midland Dow Tennis Team Gearing Up For Another Run At A State Tennis Title
8 | Breckenridge Off To Excellent Start
9 | Carrollton Volleyball Team Off To Hot Start
10 | Lansing Catholic Golfers Off To 29-1 Start
11 | Vestaburg Girls Golf Makes Debut
12 | DeWitt Soccer Team Among Top Squads In The State In Division 2 This Season
13 | Soccer Round Up
14 | St. Patrick Runners Having Strong Season
15 | Cross Country Round Up
16 | High School Football Teams Turning In Big Seasons As Season Reaches Midway Point
20 | HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS SCENE FOOTBALL STATS

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PUBLISHER'S NOTE

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

The high school football season is down to the final few precious weeks, but you wouldn't know the regular season is coming to an end with temperatures still in the 80s.!!!

The hot weather is appropriate as this football season has seen some sizzling action.

Some of the most impressive performances are taking place in Division 7 and 8 where long-time powerhouses Ithaca, Beal City, Fowler and Pewamo-Westphalia are at it again. It will be no surprise to see the area represented again in both Division 7 and 8. Beal City looks to be even stronger than last year's state championship team while Pewamo-Westphalia has a team this year that is reminiscent of past state champions. Ithaca has another powerhouse squad capable of a deep tournament run while Fowler is stocked with quality players as well.

Also in Division 7, Saginaw Valley Lutheran is off to a sizzling start this year.

Moving up to the middle divisions, what a start to the season the Hornets of Williamston have had. Three straight shoutouts to start conference play is some accomplishment in that rugged league. Mt. Pleasant and DeWitt are also off to strong starts in Division 3.

In Division 1, Rockford is again throwing its weight around in the loaded Ottawa-Kent Red Conference. The Saginaw Valley League is also well represented by Davison and Grand Blanc who have both been on a roll.

It's unbelievable to think about it but state tournament season is right around the corner. The boys soccer state tournament is about ready to kickoff while the golf and tennis tournaments are set for regional play.

If you haven't already, get out and enjoy the beautiful weather and take in some exciting high school action.

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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Senior Class Helping Williamston Football Team To Strong Start This Season

Butch Harmon
Sports Scene

Thanks to an outstanding group of seniors, the Williamston football team is off to a blazing start this season.

With the seniors helping to lead the way, Williamston opened the season with five straight wins. Williamston is also third in the state in Division 4 in playoff points average.

"We are off to an outstanding start due to our senior leadership and senior experience," said Williamston coach Steve Kersten. "Many of our seniors have started for the past couple of years. We had a rough season a year ago and our seniors have demanded a new attitude and a new focus. Strong accountability has been seen from our quarterback Kaleb Nielson and our all-state linebacker Miles Keener."

Nielson is one of the leaders of a potent Williamston offense that is putting up 37.6 points a game. Through the first four games of the season Nielson passed for 652 yards and 10 touchdowns.

"Kaleb is playing at a high level," Kersten said. "He is very intelligent and is spending many hours in film study which is showing up on Friday nights in offensive efficiency."

Nielson has plenty of targets to throw to. Tommy Pratt, a 6-foot-5 senior who was also a member of Williamston's school-record 4x100 relay team in the spring track season, caught eight passes for 362 yards and five touchdowns through the first four games. Eston Thorburn has seven catches for 151 yards and a pair of scores while Hunter VanSickler has 10 receptions for 148 yards and a pair of touchdowns.

The Hornet ground game is led by running back Joe Smith who has added 309 yards and five touchdowns.

"Joe is running at a high level," Kersten said. "He is getting tough yards inside and is also using his speed on the edge."

Paving the way for the backs and ends is a deep and skilled offensive line.

"We have a seven-man rotation on the offensive line and their consistency has been critical in our offensive success," Kersten said. "Juniors Shad Fritts and Jude Ide have anchored our offensive line. Anthony Heinritz is a three-year starter and he is playing very physical football. Evan Delp, Hank Palazzolo, Carter Dalyrimple and Gage Chambers are all also having a great start to the year."

While the offense has been productive, the Hornet defense has been extremely stingy this season. Williamston is allowing just 8.6 points per game through the first five games of the season and posted consecutive shutouts against Mason, Fowlerville and St. Johns.

"Our defense has been stout without being scored on in our first three conference games," Kersten said. "Miles Keener is leading our defense in stats, but more importantly in tough leadership. He holds his peers accountable in practice and in games."

Through the first four games of the season Keener has totaled 35 tackles, one sack and three tackles for loss. Defensive end Jamisen Nickolopoulos has 27 tackles, two sacks and four tackles for loss while Hawk Harding has 20 tackles, three sacks, and four tackles for loss from his strong safety position. Parker Friess has added 27 tackles while Steven Bush, Eston Thorburn and Hunter Roland have all intercepted passes. Pratt also adds to the defensive efficiency as he is averaging 39.3 yards per punt.

With five impressive wins to their credit, the Hornets are building momentum. Williamston is closing in on a league title and building for what may be a deep playoff run.

"The momentum and culture in our program is at an all-time high," Kersten said. "Our community is rallying behind our boys and this team. We need to keep improving, staying humble and hungry for more dominant play."

The Williamston football team is off to a strong start this season with wins in its first five games.

Ithaca Enjoys 5-0 Start

John Raffel
Sports Scene

It's looking like a typical season for Ithaca, which is off to a 5-0 start.

It was a thriller in week three with Ithaca winning 42-40 in overtime over Saginaw Michigan Lutheran Seminary.

"After three games, we are happy to be 3-0, but we feel that we have not played our best football yet. We must continue to work and make improvements across the board," coach Jordan Hessbrook said.

"We had a win over a good Lawton team and an exciting overtime win against Michigan Lutheran Seminary to begin league play. We have faced a couple of injuries to varying degrees so far this season."

Key graduates will be Jacob Crawford (RB/LB), Riley Guild (WR/LB), Kenny Daniels (OL/DL), and Tanner Lamey (K). Key returners will include Gibson Rondy (QB/DB), Harper Merchant (RB/LB), Elijah Smith (WR/DB), Devyn Fisher (WR/DB), Greyson Merchant (WR/QB/DB), Connor McMurphy (WR/DB), Broghan Bupp (OL/LB), Gunner McDaid (OL/DL), Benjamin Munro (OL/DL), Aiden Smith (OL/DL), Carsen Shankel (OL/LB), Montie Perez (OL/DL)"

We must make sure that we continue to improve and not make the same mistakes from week to week if we want to accomplish the goals we have set for ourselves this season.

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Lansing Catholic Football Eyes Improvement

John Raffel
Sports Scene

Lansing Catholic football coach Jeremy Norris continues to work with his team which has been bidding for victories and trying very hard to get better.

"We have made tremendous strides and the players are working as hard as they can. We're close. We have not met the expectations we set."

But the team has still had many positive moments.

"Jayce Campbell ran back a 55-yard fumble recovery for a touchdown," he said. "Our kicker is 2/2 for FG with a 40-yard and 47-yard makes, holds school record.

LC was getting hungry for wins midway during the season.

"Our offensive and defensive linemen have been stellar this season. Those players are Noah Farhat, Noah Jungwirth, Jayce Campbell, Elijah Jungwirth, Joe Gulock, Connor Thomson, and Blake Paul."

Key Graduates this year for the Hornets will be Gary Tackett, Noah Jungwirth, Jayce Campbell, Leland VanAlstine, Connor Thomson and Joe Gulock.

Key returners will be Elijah Jungwirth, Blake Paul, Noah Farhat, Kai Mishler, Ryan Pritzlaff and Isaac Gallegos.

Lansing Catholic lines up for a play in a recent game.

New Lothrop Hungry For Another Huge Football Season

John Raffel
Sports Scene

It's no secret how successful New Lothrop has been in football traditionally and Clint Galvas is hoping for more of the same during the 2025 season.

New Lothrop after its first three games, got off to a 2-1 start.

"Opening game win at MCC and avenging the last two losses against Chesaning," has been among the highlights," Galvas said. "Our loss to Durand was tough, but a great learning experience for our young team."

Top athletes have included Karson Agnew, a sophomore quarterback "who has played very well up to this point accounting for 763 yards passing and nine touchdowns as well as 230 yards rushing and six TDs.

"Aaron Wenzlick has been a great boost on offense and Karson's top weapon through the first three games with 208 yards receiving and 5 touchdowns," Galvas said. "Jude Galvas and Evan Ostrander have anchored the defense with 30 tackles for Jude and 24 for Evan."

At the end of the seasons, Tony Ingersol and Mikey Ingram both will be key losses on the OL and defensive line, Galvas said. Key returners will include: Karson Agnew, Aaron Wenzlick, Evan Ostrander, Jude Galvas, Brady Olk, Knox Severn, Anothony Lindner and Marcellus Childress.

"We are a very young team with six sophomores and one freshman starting. We will look to continue to improve each week," Galvas said.c

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Vestaburg Football HS New Coach

John Raffel
Sports Scene

Julian Paksi is off to a hopeful start as Vestaburg's football coach.

The Wolverines losttheir first three games.

"We are a young squad that is transitioning from 11 man. We have improved each week as a group," Paksi said. "Coming into the season, we knew we would take our bumps because of our youth and the transition. But as long as we keep the course, we are building good culture here, bringing in the community and parents. The wins will come."

A key highlight for Vestaburg was bouncing back from a bad loss from week one, to battling to the bitter end, losing in OT in week two. We showed tremendous improvement each week. Our defense has played hard.

"As a coach, I need to be patient. I know that we have athletes, and having to bring up five freshmen, the growth will come."

Key players have been:

Freshman-"Lucas Warczinsky, he has came down with many tough contested catches. He has 12 catches for 237 yards and one touchdown, the longest being a 40 yarder. Defensively he has 17 tackles, 14 solos and 4 TFLs."

- Sr. Logan Griffin- "One of our best OLineman. He has done a really good job as our MLB. He has 18 tackles, 11 of them being solos, and one sack.

- Drew Johnston- 24 Tackles, 1 strip sack

After the season ends, key Graduates will be Logan Griffin and Conner Vowell.

Key returners are Lucas Warczinsky (9), Brehm Warczinsky (11), Trent Hilding(9), Drew Johnston (11), and Blake Rausmussen (10).

The 2025 Vestaburg varsity football team.

Fowler Football Eyes Championship Season

John Raffel
Sports Scene

John Spicer has been football coach seven seasons at Fowler and likes the direction in which his team is headed this season.

Fowler is 2-1 overall and 0-1 in the CMAC.

"We have been improving every week. With so many new starters on both sides of the ball I think the kids are getting comfortable with their roles, Spicer said. "We had a couple of league wins. We had a tough week 1 against a very good Hudson team.

"Trevor Spicer has been the leader of our defense for a few years now, and this year he has taken on a few different roles for us offensively. Joe Epkey is a returning all state offensive lineman that has started the year off strong. Levi Travis has stepped up and made some big plays for us offensively."

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Meridian Football Coach Remains Confident

John Raffel
Sports Scene

Mike Bilina, head football coach for Meridian Early College High School has been coach for 13 years and is confident this can be a good season. The team is off to a 1-2 start.

"We've lost 2 games to solid opponents. We're entering league play healthy and with a chip on our shoulders," Bilina said. "We only have 1 senior playing this year. I'm impressed how quickly our underclassmen are picking things up and how physical they have been playing."

Top athletes have been, along with comments from Bilina:

Robert Edwards- Senior Captain/RB/LB, "He's been great for us both with his play and leadership. Physical athlete."

Trent Bowen- Freshman that plays like a seasoned vet. He's been challenged by our opponents because of his lack of experience. He has great football sense and has proven himself in every game."

Brady Wallace- Oline/dline, "very physical player with a motor.z"

Logan Holzinger- Run/Catch threat, "Defenses try to key him."

Austin Bourassa- Oline/LB "one of the hardest hitters in the JackPine. Super physical."

Bridger Ouderkirk- RB/DB Is fast. Has big play potential everytime he touches the ball.

"We only have one senior able to play, Robert Edwards. We had 16 sophomore log varsity time last season. We expect our guys to play older than they are," Bilina said.

"We have high expectations for our football program right now. We have a good mix of size and speed. We just need to play older than we are. I'm confident we will."

Team captains for Sanford Meridian this season are Robert Edwards (15) and Brady Wallace (64).

Ionia Eyes Strong Second Half Of Football Season

John Raffel
Sports Scene

The first half of the season has started out slow but the Ionia Bulldogs are looking to bounce back strong.

Chad Rhynard is in his sixth year as coach wirh a 21-25 total record.

TOP RETURNERS:

Nolan Hart: SR QB/RB/LB. Wolton Sandborn: SR RB/DE. Kendal Cusack: SR OL/DL. Landen Steffen: SR OL/DL Ethan Wenzel: JR QB/LB

TOP NEWCOMERS:

Roel Lopez: SR OL/DL. Bryce Hoppes: SR OL/LB. Colter Reed: JR OL/DL. Evan Jones: JR OL/DL. Dane Falter: JR TE/LB. Vincent Crippen: JR RB/DB. Drake Whittenbach JR OL/DL. Jaysen Schmidd: SO OL/DL. Cody Waterman: SO WR/DB. Bryce Shattuck: SO WR/DB. Jadyn Dornbos: SO RB/DL.

Ionia has started out 0-5.

"It has been disappointing thus far. Rhynard said. "Injuries have really hurt us, especially with key returning players. Friday (a 33-30 loss to Eaton Rapids) was disappointing. We were up 24-6 in the first half and couldn't close out the game.

"Ethan Wenzel leads our team in rushing and has scored 5 rushing TDs and thrown for another. He's also got an interception for a TD."

The 2025 Ionia football team:

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Ionia Swimmer Having 'Splashing Success' So Far

John Raffel
Sports Scene

Amy Fuller is Ionia girls swimming coach in her 11th season and is enjoying the splashing success the team is having so far.

The team competes in the CAAC Red.

"No league meets so far and we are 3-1," she said. "The girls are working hard, racing well and making progress in the pool. They are working as expected. We had two foreign exchange students join the team, and that has been a pleasant surprise.

"Amelia McGee has four state cuts at this point in the season. Several less experienced swimmers have dropped a lot of time already.We have had a lot of sick girls and some unusual injuries for this early in the season. We only had two new freshmen this year which will hurt our overall team size in the future."

Fuller noted that Amelia McGee is racing well, working on her technique, and pushing herself.

"She takes first in most of the races she swims," Fuller said. "Adah Drown has dropped time in almost all of her events already this year. She worked hard in the off-season, and it shows. Maddie Lemke has stepped up as being a solid, all-around swimmer; I can put her wherever I need her in the line-up.

"Winne Udell is a new freshman on the team, and she's been an unexpected surprise. She has a positive attitude and a strong work ethic. She will be a lead breaststroker for our team this year."

Looking ahead, "Amelia, plus several other seniors, will graduate. Losing a core part of our team will hurt for next year," Fuller said. "Our juniors are our largest class so they will all contribute to the team's success next year."

Ionia swimmers relax during a preseason practice.

Midland Dow Tennis Team Gearing Up For Another Run At A State Tennis Title

David Cook
Sports Scene

Last fall, the Midland Dow boys tennis team came up just short of a third consecutive state title. This fall, the Chargers are looking to regain a state title trophy.

With the state tournament approaching, the Dow tennis team has plenty of success to work from.

"The season has gone better than anticipated for sure," said Dow coach Terry Schwartzkopf. "We are 21-0-1 on the year with the only tie coming due to an injury forfeit at a flight we later one and two flights with subs. We have pulled off some huge wins throughout the year. It's a nice feeling to be in our position, not expected to win but have put ourselves in a position where we have a chance at an upset."

The regular season has provided the team with plenty of highlights.

"The entire season has been a highlight," Schwartzkopf said. "Beating Forest Hills Northern and tying Grosse Pointe South with subs, beating Byron Center 6-2. Having three flights of doubles that are undefeated in Division 2 at the moment. Guys are gelling well. The whole season is just fun."

Balance has been a key to success for Dow and the Chargers have talented tennis players up and down the lineup in both singles and doubles.

At No. 1 singles, Chase Martin, a transfer from Bay City Western, has stepped up big.

"Chase has been a massive surprise," Schwartzkopf said. "He is holding his own against the big boys and being a solid strength for this team."

At No. 2 singles, Yassin Elsaadany has been coming on strong.

"Yassin Started the year with some health issues, but has rebounded and is playing some of the best tennis I have ever seen him play," Schwartzkopf said. "I think he is a darkhorse for the second singles title. Incredible put away shots on short balls."

At No. 3 singles, Sid Venkatesan is a returning state finalist who is poised for a big stretch run.

"Sid has battled through some wrist issues and still has put up some incredible fights," Schwartzkopf said. "His wrist is healing and I think he will surprise a few people at states. Sid is a co-captain and has great leadership skills and confidence, not letting setbacks actually set him back."

At No. 4 singles, Ray Chai has stepped in and has become a force to be reckoned with.

"Ray is a real surprise for me," Schwartzkopf said. "He is an absolute workhorse. He has the perfect game for the four singles flight. He can rip balls or play the moonball when needed. I expect him to be the two seed at states with a legitimate chance to take it all."

Dow is also loaded in the doubles flights with a number of teams capable of making a deep run or winning a state title starting with the No. 1 doubles flight of Matthew McGaugh and Nathan Song who reached the state semifinals last season.

"Matthew and Nathan were semifinalists last year and they have only gotten stronger," Schwartzkopf said. "The are currently undefeated in Division 2 and we have played all the big boys. They are incredibly strong mentally and have a deep desire to finish with a flourish."

The No. 2 doubles team of Ian Koh and Jack Elwell is a rising team to keep an eye on at state.

"They are a sleeper team," Schwartzkopf said. "The have strong groundstrokes and net game. If they can get some of the kinks figured out in time, I think they can make a deep run at states."

The No. 3 doubles team of Sullivan Ladd and Jashwanth Thamminana have also made big strides this season.

"They are a huge surprise," Schwartzkopf said. "They are undefeated in Division 2 and probable the No. 1seed. These guys just find a way to win. They have a bit of everything in their game and when they play consistent, I'm not sure there is a better three doubles team in the state."

The No. 4 doubles team of Vettel Xu and Ethan Clark round out the doubles lineup.

"They are another huge surprise," Schwartzkopf said. "Vettel has a killer forehand and Ethan is a beast at the net. They are undefeated on the year and work really well together. Usually if one dips the other raises and there is nothing that can beat that chemistry."

The success of the team also includes Viktor Pangburn, the number one sub, and assistant coach Mike McGaugh.

"The success of this season would not have been possible without the help of my assistant coach Mike McGaugh," said Schwartzkopf. "Also, my number-one sub Viktor Pangburn has pulled out multiple huge victories when he has subbed in at various positions. We are not undefeated if not for his efforts."

With the talent on hand, the team is looking to have fun and make a run at a state title.

"I have no idea what to expect, I just want to enjoy the ride," Schwartzkopf said. "It is a nice change to be chasing someone else instead of fighting off a target on our own backs. I guess we see what happens when we get to states."

The Dow tennis team will not have to travel far in its quest for a state championship. This year, the Michigan High School Athletic Association has moved all four of the state tennis finals to the Midland Tennis Center. The Division 1 state finals will take place October 17 and 18 at the center.

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Breckenridge Off To Excellent Start

John Raffel
Sports Scene

Mindy Horman is having another successful season as Breckenridge volleyball coach.

"This is my eighth year coaching at the varsity level," Horman said. "I coached two seasons of middle school volleyball before taking the varsity position."

Her Breckenridge team as of mid-September was 19-3-2 overall this season and 4-0 in the MSAC.

"Each season, our players develop individual and team goals and we are continuing to work on meeting those goals. I keep the girls accountable for their goals and my players keep each other accountable too," Norman said.

"Last season, we lost some key seniors who contributed a lot for our team so the remaining players and incoming players knew they had big shoes to fill to have a successful season," Norman said.

"Thus far, we are really happy with how our season has started. We are undefeated in conference play, so that is exciting."

"A top highlight in my opinion is that I have three varsity players (all voted captains this season) who were all varsity starters as freshmen. They have all been key pieces to our success and now all lead our team with their hustle and hard work. "Their names are setter, Madi Aldrich, outside hitter BayLeigh Clapp, and outside hitter Liz McCaw. They all go all the way around, never stepping off the court. They have each put in a lot of time in volleyball, from travel teams to just practicing out of season."

Norman added: "We have had some moments when we have faced challenges in matches. We have finished second in two tournaments that we have led as far as points and were the No. 1 seed in pool play, but have fallen short. We are learning from those mistakes and trying to be better so it doesn't happen again."

Standout athletes and comments from Horman are as follows

Liz McCaw - senior - outside hitter, plays all the way around, leads the team in kills with 219 kills this season and she has 173 digs so far. She plays all the way around. Was on varsity starter as a freshman, team captain.

BayLeigh Clapp - senior - used to be our libero but this year is an outside hitter and plays all the way around, has over 1,000 digs, leads the team in digs with 240, team captain, started on varsity as a freshman.

Madi Aldrich - senior - 438 assists with 98% serving percentage. Madi is the leader on our court. She is one of our team captains, varsity starter as a freshman.

The 2025 Breckenridge volleyball team.

Bonnie Colthorp - senior - middle hitter - has worked her way into a starting position as a senior, does a nice job at the net with her blocking.

Ady Collins - senior - defensive specialist - 144 digs this season

Maddie Breece - junior middle hitter, Maddie was an outside hitter last season but showed that she can be a great prescence at the net this season. 175 digs, 105 kills and 30 blocks.

"Liz, BayLeigh and Madi and Maddie Breece are my key returners. They bring knowledge of the game, power and finesse to the game. They have all been pulled up to varsity early and are all hard workers and geat kids," Horman.

"I am blessed to have a team that puts 100 percent in each day. They hold each other accountable and want to be better as a team. They are a fun group of kids."

St. Patrick Volleyball Building Bright Future

John Raffel
Sports Scene

Nicole Easlick is Portland and likes the direction her program is taking.

"I have been coaching for 10 years, this is my fifth year at the varsity level," Easlick said. "This is a rebuilding and growing year for us. We only have 1 senior and 1 junior, the rest of the team is sophomores and freshmen. Being such a young team has been challenging so far but also rewarding. Every match these girls improve and grow in their skills."

"We knew this year may not have a lot of wins, since we are so young and competing with teams that have more experience at this level. But these girls are exceeding our expectations. We may not be winning, but these girls are only losing by a few points each time and that shows me their talent and hard work."

Some key athletes for St. Patrick have actually been the younger players:

Jordyn Lansdell is a freshman and she is leading the team in kills with 50 and blocks with 11. "She is a strong presence at the net and makes some great plays," Izzy Anthony is not far behind Jordyn with 45 kills, she is also a freshman. She has the best hitting percentage on the team and is the player where if we are in a tough spot, I want the ball going to her.

"Morgan Krieger a sophomore is the libero this year and it is a new position for her. She used to set and hit outside but has stepped into this new role really nicely. The good thing is that we will only lose one player to graduation at the end of the season, so we will have a solid foundation for next year."

The 2025 Portland St. Patrick volleyball team.

"This team is fun to watch and they are eager to sharpen their skills and improve. They will do great things in the next couple seasons."

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Carrollton Volleyball Team Off To Hot Start

John Raffel
Sports Scene

Carrollton's volleyball team is off to a 19-0-1 start and can't wait for the rest of the season.

The team has already taken first place at the Standish Tournament and has a current record of 19-0-1. The teams also took first place at the Michigan Lutheran Seminary Tournament.

Kristin Palmer has 20 years of coaching volleyball and it's her sixth year at Carrollton. She has 440 career winsand 99 wins at Carrollton High School). They play in the Tri Valley Conference.

"We are off to an amazing start ," Palmer said. "The team has done a great job working together and making changes and improvement everyday.Highlights would be two 1st place finishes at tournaments and reaching 19 wins on the season with no losses and only one split.

Key Players:

Aubrey Wood - Setter (just reached 2,000 career assists) - (31 aces, 39 kills, 6 blocks, 388 set assists, and 56 digs on the current season)

Payton LaVigne - Outside Hitter-Defensive Specialist (40 aces, 178 kills, 4 blocks, and 118 digs on the current season).

Amiyah Martinez - 44 aces, 117 service points, 99 kills, 1 block, 12 assists, and 105 digs on the season

Bailey Trijo 10 - 26 aces, 100 service point, 105 kills, and 8 blocks on the season.

The 2025 Carrollton volleyball team for this fall.

MLS Volleyball Building A Solid Program

John Raffel
Sports Scene

Allen Ash is in his eight season as Michigan Lutheran Seminary volleyball coach at the team is 3-6-1 overall, and 0-1 in conference.

"I knew this would be a challenging year with

the number of seniors that graduated," Ask said.

"We beat Merrill in very close sets that could have gone either way. We have had errors that cost us many sets so far.

"Charli Alcorn is a sophomore that is one of my middle blockers. She has 19 block kills and 17 attack kills. Kennedy Koehler is a senior outside hitter with 26 kills and 18 aces. Hanna Manthei is a senior outside hitter with 27 kills and 6 aces. Finally, Olivia Retberg is a sophomore setter with 45 assists and 16 aces."

Key graduates will be Hanna Manthei and Kennedy Koehler. Key returners are Charli Alcorn, Amelia Lamb and Olivia Retberg

"I can't wait to see how much they can grow in skills and together as a team this season," Ash said.

Greenville Volleyball Off To 11-5 Start

John Raffel
Sports Scene

Kaylee Fracker is in her fifth season with the Greenville volleyball team which competes in the River City Alliance.

After 16 matches, the team got off to an 11-5.

"This team is doing some great things and we are all so excited with the work we are putting in and just continuing to work hard each day to keep getting better," Fracker said. "Some top highlights have just been everyone being able to contribute each time we play. Some challenging moments are remembering to play at our level no matter who is across the net."

"All of my players are top athletes and they all contribute in a different way and each of those ways are so valuable to our team. They are their own selves and they all know what each other needs and who it comes from and that has been so unique to watch. We have three seniors this year who all play a big role on our team."

Lansing Catholic Golfers Off To 29-1 Start

John Raffel
Sports Scene

Kim Johnson is head coach at Lansing Catholic High School, a job he has had since 2015, and his squad is off to a 29-1 start.

The team in 18-hole tournaments has had one 1st Place finish, two 2nd place finishes, two 3rd Place finishes, and one 8th Place finish.

"We are having an excellent season so far and expect our team to improve over the next four weeks," Johnson said. "We have not met nor exceeded our expectations yet since we have high goals. We only play one shot at a time and let our process do the rest. We had a first-place finish in the Coldwater Invitational where there were 18 teams in the tournament field with our school being only one of the two Division 4 teams competing. We have three freshmen who are contributing to our team's success this year.

"We face many challenges every time we step foot on the course, but the team does an excellent job in turning challenges/disappointments into great opportunities to grow. Seniors Addi Rule and Ellie Ruddell contribute to the team's success on daily basis with their responsibilities as team captains along with being the No. 1 and No. 2 Seeds respectively in our weekly tournament line-ups. Both have been honored with Top 10 finishes in the various tournaments during the season with our League Championship being played on Wednesday, Sept. where additional honors and awards will be awarded to them."

Johnson said sophomore Anna Robinson continues to improve on a daily basis along with two freshmen, Eryn O'Connell and Harper Smith, who are showing great potential to be major contributors this postseason and for years to come.

"Graduating, our two team captains will leave a void in our team next year, but juniors Olivia Riley, Rylee Barker, and Haven Topham, will be in a great position to take over the leadership duties for this team."

We are excited for the future of the Lansing Catholic Girls Golf program," Johnson said "The unique highlight about this team is that we have thirty-one student-athletes on this year's team. Let me know if you can find another girls' golf team in this state who has more players. We pride ourselves on the special team culture we have developed over the eleven seasons the coaching staff has been leading this team. It really is special group of young ladies."

Lansing Catholic girls have enjoyed tournament success this season.

Pewamo-Westphalia Golfers Having Competitive Season

John Raffel
Sports Scene

Andy Hengesbach is at Pewamo-Westphalia as girls varsity golf coach.

It's is his first year as head coach of the girls program, as he spent the last four years as assistant of the boys golf program at PW.

"We are currently 6-1 in our league with 1 more match to play" Hengesbach said. "I am happy with how we have been playing but there is more work to be done, golf is tough, and you need to work on your game every day. And we are doing that. I like where we are at right now, we are still improving and will continue to improve each day.

"Our girls golf program was started five years ago and one of my girls just set a new 9-hole score for PW girls golf with a 44 on the front nine at Huckleberry Creek Golf Course. Two days later she hit the 44 again along with another teammate. We played our best round of the year on Senior Night at 183. Played in an 18-hole Ryder Cup format and took first place in all categories and first place in total team score."

Hengesbach has 18 girls in his program "so practice can get challenging at times, making sure the girls are doing everything the right way.

Top athletes:

"Ella Thelen/Sr.. is my No. 1 ust steady player, nothing seems to bother her, always a smile on her face," Hengesbach said.

"Summer Wirth/Sr.. set the new score record for girls golf this year.. hard worker. Brenna Thelen/Sr.. just a great/pure golf swing. Maddy Weber and Elyse Thelen.. both seniors. First-year players who had great summer workouts and made the Varsity squad. Reylee Thelen/Jr.. my only under class player.. hard worker/great attitude.. will need her leadership next year. Tied a team score record of 44.

"I am losing eight seniors, five of which start on my varsity squad.. big losses."

Key returners.. Reylee Thelen will be the most experienced girl coming back, have a couple girls that I will look to (Ava Hengesbach and Shelby Anthony) who have some experience and can make that leap."

Hengesbach added: So far it has been a very good year in 2025. We have 18 girls in the program. Working hard to get these girls playing holes and recording their scores so I have some stats to look over in the off season and prepare for 2026. Goals are to finish the season strong and make a run in Regionals."

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Okemos Girls Golf Team Back Among The Top Teams In The Division 1 State Poll

David Cook
Sports Scene

The Okemos girls golf team has been one of the premier teams in the area the past several years, and this year is no exception as the Wolves are again one of the top teams not only in the area but in the state as well.

The strong play by the squad this season has Okemos ranked second in the state in Division 1.

"The season is going very well," said Okemos coach Dan Stolz. "We had 10 events so far and have won all 10. We set the nine-hole school record of 150 on September 2 at Eldorado Gold Course, breaking the old record of 157."

Okemos has enjoyed plenty of success as the season progressed. The Wolves set the 18-hole school record of 308 in the first tournament they played in. Okemos set the new school record when it totaled a 308 at the Okemos Invitational it hosted at Wheatfield Valley. The previous record was a 310.

That record did not stand for long as 17 days later Okemos seta new team record. Okemos totaled a 306 at the Holt Invitational.

Leading the way for the Wolves this season is one of the premier freshman golfers in the state. Patil won medalist honors in eight of the first 10 events she competed in this season. Patil, who is averaging 70.75 for 18 holes, has turned in several noteworthy rounds this season including lows of 66, 68 and 69.

Sophomore Anika Srivastava is also turning in a big season for the team. Along with finishing in the top three in all of her first ten events, Srivastava also finished in first place twice. Srivastava also has a 76.25 average after the first 10 events.

Junior Emma O'Shea is also playing some strong golf for the squad. O'Shea has an average of 88.

Rounding out the squad are junior Anisha Pabbathi who has an average of 90.6, sophomore Zoey McArdle who has an average of 95.5 and freshman Ishi Shah who is averaging 96.

"We are trying to continue to improve our skills and learn to manage the golf course," Stolz said. "Hoping to qualify for States and have a strong finish."

Okemos did just that last year as it came on strong and placed fifth at the state tournament. Okemos was paced by Alena Li last year who won individual medalist honors. Srivastava also turned in a big effort at the state finals last season as she carded rounds of 89 and 81 to place 19th overall as an individual.

This year's Division 1 state tournament will take place October 17 and 18 at Grand Valley State University.

The Okemos girls golf team is led this season by the one-two combination of Anika Srivastava (left) and Saisha Patil (right).

Vestaburg Girls Golf Makes Debut

David Cook
Sports Scene

Stephanie Dailey is coach of the very first Vestaburg varsity golf team.

"The girls have been improving each tournament," she said. "This is first year for girls golf at Vestaburg as our girls have been working hard to learn the game.

"Our top golfer has made great strides, shaving off 10 strokes since last week. Madelyn Jensen has been a quick learner and is making great strides each week.

Kylie Jensen and Calley Bills are also making good strides each week."

The Vestaburg coach is excited for the future.

"With being our first year with Girls golf at vestaburg we had lots to learn and the girls have taken it in. Each week is getting better. I am pleased with their dedication in sticking with it and learning as we go," Dailey said. "I am looking forward to see where they will land at the end of the season.

Picture of the very first Vestaburg varsity football team.

Ionia Golfers Have Exceeded Expectations

David Cook
Sports Scene

Stephanie Dailey is coach of the very first Vestaburg varsity golf team.

"The girls have been improving each tournament," she said. "This is first year for girls golf at Vestaburg as our girls have been working hard to learn the game.

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DeWitt Soccer Team Among Top Squads In The State In Division 2 This Season

The DeWitt soccer team is ranked 15th in the state in Division 2 and will be hosting a Division 2 district

Butch Harmon
Sports Scene

Heading into the soccer season, the DeWitt Panthers knew there were going to be some growing pains after suffering heavy graduation losses. As the state tournament draws near, the Panthers have developed a strong identity as a team and are poised to make a run in the state playoffs.

"The season started up and down," said DeWitt coach Joe Ishraidi, "but that was somewhat to be expected with only returning three starters from the prior year."

While the Panthers entered the season untested, they showed their metal and are now recognized as one of the top teams in the state in Division 2. DeWitt is ranked 15th in the state in Division 2 and has a 9-4-5 overall record with a week to go before the state tournament begins. The Panthers have recorded some impressive wins against the likes of Okemos, Forest Hills Northern and Lansing Christian while also playing to draws against teams like Mason, Grand Ledge, Forest Hills Central and Grand Blanc. Overall, of the teams DeWitt has played this season only three squads have losing records, a testament to the strength of schedule the Panther have played.

One of the strong points of this year's squad is defense. The DeWitt defense has posted 10 shutouts this season.

"The strong point this year has definitely been our defense," said Ishraidi. "Our backline has been led by Vince Rose, Owen Zelski, Cam Starmer, Will Reed and Drew Mion. Owen Zelski, Carson Soltis and Luke Ladd are our team captains and have provided consistent leadership throughout the year."

Rose has been solid in goal this season with eight shutouts. On offense, William Broderick has tallied seven goals while Luke Ladd has added six goals and Carson Soltis five goals. Joe Zubal also has five goals and five assists while Lucas Martinson has eight assists.

DeWitt begins state tournament play October 9 when it hosts Lansing Waverly. If DeWitt can get past Waverly it would play the winner of the Haslett/St. Johns game in the semifinals on Oct. 13 with the district title game set for Oct. 16 at DeWitt.

Continuing to stick to the plan and improving will be key to a long tournament run.

"The keys to us being successful the remainder of the year will be to continue being tough defensively, converting set piece chances and guys continuing to own their defined roles," said Ishraidi.

Okemos Soccer Team Off To Exciting Start

John Raffel
Sports Scene

They love their soccer in Okemos.

It definitely has something to do with how coach Rob Antcliff and his team is starting off the season. How they end it might make it even more exciting.

Antcliff is in his 39th year of coaching. He was the Okemos girls coach from 2000-09. Okemos plays in the Capital Area Activities Conference Blue Division.

"We've played four of the top 15 D1 schools in the state and that's prepared us for a tough league slate and primed for the state tournament," Antliff said. "We have met the expectations so far. Our MPR has ranked at the top or near the top of all divisions and we've faired pretty well."

Losing to top ranked Portage Central has been among the few disappointing moments.

Jackson Farnum "is a senior captain and is the engine that makes us run. He has three goals and three assists from his midfield position," Antcliff said. "We only returned 10 players from a team that went 8-9-1 last season. Kids have bought into our style of play. They work extremely hard and found the fun in playing within this team."

The 2025 Okemos Soccer Team.

Area Soccer Teams Gearing Up For State Tournament Action

Butch Harmon
Sports Scene

The high school soccer state tournament is coming up in mid-October and area teams are geared up for some deep tournament runs.

Following is a look at some of the area teams making an impact this season.

DIVISION 1

Saginaw Heritage is ranked 15th in the state in Division 1 and has enjoyed plenty of success this season. The Hawks have a 19-2 overall record entering the month of October. Defense has been a key for the team as the Hawks have recorded 14 shutouts on the season. Heritage has been tested by some of the top teams in the state as the lone defeats have come against Okemos, ranked No. 4 in the state in Division 1 and league rival Grand Blanc. The Hawks open district tournament play against Traverse City West.

DIVISION 2

Mason is ranked 11th in the state in Division 2 and has been putting together a strong season. The Bulldogs have put together a 10-3-3 record and won the CAAC Red conference championship. Mason also reached the CAAC Gold Cup finals where it fell to DeWitt by a 3-1 score.

Mt. Pleasant came up with a big win when it turned back Bay City Western 5-3 to win the Silver Bracket in the Saginaw Valley League playoffs. Pierce Acles led the way for the Oilers as he tallied three goals. Luke Wirsing added a goal and an assist for Mt. Pleasant at the team evened its record at 7-7-5 for the season. Mt. Pleasant begins state tournament play Oct. 9 against Big Rapids.

DIVISION 3

Alma is turning in a solid overall season. The Panthers have fashioned a 12-5-2 overall record and are ranked ninth in the state in Division 3 as of the end of September. Alma has turned in a number of strong performances including winning the Panther Invitational it hosted where it posted shutout wins against Midland, Big Rapids and Mt. Pleasant. Alma also played to a draw with Elk Rapids, the No. 3-ranked team in the state in Division 3 and dropped a 6-3 decision to Detroit Country Day, the No. 1-ranked team in the state in Division 3.

Frankenmuth turned in a perfect season in the Tri-Valley Conference Red Division as it won the league title with an 8-0 record. The Eagles are 12-4 overall this season and are ranked 11th in the state in Division 3.

Swan Valley is putting together a solid campaign. The Vikings are ranked 13th in the state in Division 3 and have a 10-5-2 overall record. Swan Valley also placed second in the TVC Red Division. Senior Ryder Stipanovich is the offensive leader for the squad with 26 goals and three assists this season. Sophomore Landen Whelton has stepped up with nine goals and 13 assists while goalkeeper Trenton McDonald has had a big season in net.

DIVISION 4

Lansing Christian is again among the top teams in the state in Division 4. The Pilgrims have put together a 15-3 record and are ranked seventh in the state in Division 4. Lansing Christian's three losses have been against some rugged opponents including a 2-0 loss against DeWitt, ranked 15th in the state in Division 2, Lansing Eastern, ranked 12th in the state in Division 2, and a 3-2 overtime shootout loss against Flint Powers, the No. 5-ranked team in Division 3.

The Alma soccer team is ranked ninth in the state in Division 3 and is preparing to make an impact in the upcoming state tournament.

New Lothrop Runners Reaching Their Goals

John Raffel
Sports Scene

Justin Skinner is New Lothrop High School cross country coach and likes what his team has been able to achieve this season.

"We are still working towards our goals. Many runners continue to PR at each meet," he said. "Top 3 girls consistently medal and push each other.

The boys team is working hard each practice to push for the top spot in the league. We had themstomach bug wipe out part of the team for about a week."

Sydney Knieper- freshman, is constantly NL's top girls runner. She took first place in Byron. Ali Hunt and Ava Wenzlick continue to jockey back and forth to round the top 3 girls.

For the boys "Ty Sweers and Marshall Kruske have always battled against each other and continue to push each other with each meet and practice, medaling at each meet," Skinner said.

Looking ahead to next season, "Sean Dammann, Noah Gillett, and Laura Sharpe are all returning to continue to help push other runners on the team," Skinner said.

The 2025 New Lothrop boys and girls cross country team.

St. Patrick Runners Having Strong Season

John Raffel
Sports Scene

Dan Lawless is Portland St Patrick cross country coach in his 16th season.

"The girls team has only three girls so no team score, the boys team has six runners and is

showing potential," Lawless said. "So far the boys are exceeding our season expectations."

On Sept. 17, St. Patrick finished in second place at the first CMAC jamboree, the highest place in school history.vTJ Chanmberlain is the No. 1 runner with a PR of 16:58. Followed by Francis Austen with a PR of 17:38 and Isaac FoxElster with a PR of 17:56.

Top athletes are girls: Marian Davlin with a PR of 21:47, Boys: TJ Chanmberlain is the No. 1 runner with a PR of 16:58, foollowed by Francis Austen with a PR of 17:38 and Isaac FoxElster with a PR of 17:56.

Seniors: TJ Chamberlain and Isaac FoxElster.

The 2025 Portland St. Patrick boys and girls cross country team.

MLS Runners Performing Strong In Conference

John Raffel
Sports Scene

Seth LaBair at Michigan Lutheran Seminary habeen coaching for 26 years but only 13 for cross country.

The boys finished second at our first conference meet. The girls took third at the first conference meet.

"I'm happy with the progress that our team has made so far." Coach Seth LaBair said. "Our guys team has already beaten last year's team time by about a minute. The girls are about 30 seconds aways from last year. I knew that we had a chance to improve on both sides this year but it's hard to tell until we start running and getting into peak shape. We still have a ways to go.

The boys picked up a trophy (small school) at the first Birch Run meet. Our girls earned trophies at the Breckenridge and Chesaning (small school) meets. We've got a long way to go but things are moving in the right direction. We also have a number of runners who are in the mix for all conference recognition."

LaBair said his numbers are smaller thank in the past.

"One of the tough things for our guys is that we're a little smaller than we've been in recent years. We only have 11 guys, which isn't bad for a D4 team. I've been a little spoiled because we've had so many guys in recent years. Even with the smaller numbers, our guys are still competing at a high level," LaBair said.

"Olive Wakefield (Sr.) has been our top girl this year. Last year was her first year running cross country and she has already beaten her PR (21:19). She is competitive and gives us a good number 1.

"Amos Norder (Jr.) has been our top guy. He was really solid last year and worked extremely hard to get where he is. His new PR (17:12) was great but he's hoping to break 17 this season. The girls are also anchored by Piper Schultz (So.), Natalie Kettler (Fr.), Greta Schroeder (Jr.), and Phoebe Schultz (Sr.). The boys have solid contributors in M.J. Flowers (So.), Logan Whitmer (Jr.), and Simon Norder (Fr.)."

LaBair added:

"We've really been fortunate to have large teams in recent years. It's been fairly common for us to have over 20 girls and close to 15 guys. Our team has gotten new runners each year. We've also lost some to other sports. No matter what, we do our best to be competitive and find as many contributors as we can. Both teams have the ability to accomplish some big things. It also helps that we get to compete against some top D2 and D3 teams during the season

"Our guys have a tough region with Mount Pleasant Sacred Heart and Breckenridge. Sacred Heart has a really good team. They've been ranked in the top five early in the season. Breckenridge has a mix of experience and some top young runners. We're hoping to compete and stay in the top three in the region. If we can do that, it would be our fourth year in a row going to the state meet."

The girls, LaBair said, "are putting themselves in a good position. Last year Breckenridge and Vestaburg had a lot of seniors. I knew that we needed to make a move this year because we have the majority of our girls back from a team that placed fourth in the region. The girls haven't made it to the state meet since 2020. We qualified that year but didn't compete because of COVID. I'm excited about our chances."

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Boys And Girls Cross Country Teams Putting Together Strong Seasons

Butch Harmon
Sports Scene

Area cross country teams have been blazing the trails this fall with several squads ranked among the best in the state.

Following is a look at some of the area cross country teams making an impact this season.

GIRLS DIVISION 1

Okemos is among the top ten in Division 1 as it came in at No. 9 in the latest state rankings. The Wolves are led by one of the top runners in the state in sophomore Rachel Smith. Smith has placed in the top three in all four events she has competed in and has a pair of wins to her credit. She has a top time of 17:06.9 to her credit this season. Senior October Harns has placed in the top ten in three of four meets this season with a top time of 18:12.6. Seniors Elizabeth Schafer and Fiona Whitmyer placed fourth and fifth respectively at the first Capital Area Activities Conference meet of the season.

BOYS DIVISION 1

The **Grand Ledge** boys are ranked fourth in the state in Division 1 and have been making steady progress this season. The Comets won the first league meet and took second at the stacked Shepherd Bluejay Invitational. Senior Benjamin Rottier and sophomore Rylen Richey have placed in the top five in four of five events this season. The duo also placed in the top 20 at Shepherd. Junior Calan Marsh and senior Alex McKennen have also been strong runners for the Comets.

GIRLS DIVISION 2

The **DeWitt** girls are ranked 14th in the state in Division 2. Freshman Brooklyn Takagishi is leading the way for the Panthers this season. Takagishi has placed in the top ten in four events this season highlighted by a first-place effort at the Marauder Invitational. Takagishi has a top time of 20:01.3 this season. Sophomore Aurora Doepker has a trio of top ten finishes and has a low clocking of 19:36.3. Senior Emily Agnew and sophomore Grace Mingerink both have a pair of top-ten finishes to their credit this season.

BOYS DIVISION 2

Alma is back among the top teams in the state in boys cross country as it is ranked third in the state in Division 2. The one-two duo of senior Thomas Larson and Ezekiel Baltierra are leading the way for the Panthers. Lason (eighth, 15:53.7) and Baltierra (ninth, 15:57.3) teamed up to lead Alma to a third-place finish at the Michigan State University invite. Luka Lebron also placed in the top 50 at Michigan State while Samuel Johnson placed 50th. Lason has placed in the top ten in seven of nine events this season while Baltierra has five wins to his credit.

Shepherd is among the top ten teams in the state in Division 2 as it is ranked eighth. The Bluejays are led by talented junior Bryce Cahoon. Cahoon has finished in the top five in seven of eight events this season and has a season-best time of 15:43. Cahoon also placed 12th at the loaded Shepherd Invitational with a time of 15:47.32. Junior Jakin Whitney has four top-ten finishes to his credit this season while junior William McDonald has three top-tens.

GIRLS DIVISION 3

Lansing Catholic sits atop the polls in the state in Division 3. The Cougars feature a team loaded with solid depth. Sophomore Josie Bishop is among the leaders for the Cougars as she has finished in the top ten in all seven events this season. Junior Grace Worch has also placed in the top ten in all seven events and has a pair of wins to her credit. Worch has run a low time of 18:26.8 this season. Sophomore Isabelle Currie has placed in the top ten in all four of her races this year while freshman Anna Drauer has placed in the top ten in all seven of her events.

Pewamo-Westphalia is right behind Lansing Catholic in the rankings in second place. Junior Alyssa Kramer paces the Pirates as she has placed in the top four in all eight of her races and has four wins to her credit. Kramer also has a top time of 18:12.7. Freshman Calista George has stepped up and finished in the top six in all eight of her races with a low time of 19:11.1. Junior Jenna Keilen has placed in the top ten in seven of 10 events with a low time of 20:19.1 while freshman Katherine Schafer has a pair of top ten finishes.

Chippewa Hills is ranked 14th in the state. The Warriors are led by sophomore Dory Simon who has a pair of wins this season and has placed in the top five in three of five races. Simon has a low time of 19:46.1. Senior Quinn Hatfield has three, top-five finishes and a low time of 20:18.2. Sophomore Peyton Nellis has three top-ten finishes.

BOYS DIVISION 3

Ithaca is ranked sixth in the state in Division 3. Senior Jacob Mankeky has finished in the top ten is six of eight races with a pair of wins. Mankey ran a season-low 16:33. Senior Thad Whitmore, junior Evan MacLaren and sophomore Christopher Shemes all have three, top-ten finishes this season.

Central-Montcalm is receiving a big season from senior Gage Hoffman who has helped lead the Hornets to a No. 9 ranking in Division 3. Hoffman has won six events this season and has a season-best time of 15:41.2 that he set a the Saranac Invitational. Seniors Sylus Wilson and Kyler Fertig have both placed in the top three in the first two league meets of the season.

BOYS DIVISION 4

The **Mt. Pleasant Sacred Heart** boys are ranked fourth in the state in Division 4. The Irish are led by junior Brady Edwards who has finished in the top ten six times this season and has a low time of 16:19.1. Senior Jonah Pollatz has five top-ten finishes while junior Wesley Chaffee has four top-tens this season.

Breckenridge is ranked seventh in the state in Division 4. Junior Anthony Rowe is having a big season as he has won three races and finished in the top ten seven times. Rowe has a p.r. of 16:40.4 this season. Freshman Oliver Burt has stepped up with five top-ten finishes this season.

The Alma boys cross country team is turning in a big season and is ranked third in the state in Division 2.

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High School Football Teams Turning In Big Seasons As Season Reaches Midway Point

Butch Harmon and David Cook
Sports Scene

Division 1

Davison is off to a fast start this season as it reeled off five consecutive wins to start the new campaign including a 23-21 win against powerhouse Warren De La Salle in week one. The Cardinals again feature a high-octane offense that is averaging 40.8 points per game. Senior quarterback Jaxson Dosh ignites the offense as he has passed for 451 yards and three touchdowns this season. Dosh has also rushed for 287 yards and scored 10 touchdowns in four games. Running back Jacob Garris leads the ground game with 542 yards rushing and four touchdowns. The Cardinals also boast a solid defense led by Ayden Seybert, Brayden Bundy and Cameron Savage.

Grand Blanc is challenging Davison for supremacy in the Saginaw Valley South Division. The Bobcats are off to a strong 5-0 start highlighted by an opening-game 35-20 win at Muskegon Mona Shores. The Bobcats feature one of the most prolific offenses in mid-Michigan as they are putting up 47.4 points per game. Veteran quarterback Jake Morrow leads the offense as he has passed for 859 yards and 12 touchdowns. The Bobcats also have a productive ground game led by running back Jeremiah Coleman who has rushed for 323 yards and five touchdowns. A week eight showdown at home against Davison will be a game to watch in the second half of the season.

Grand Blanc is challenging Davison for the top spot in the SVL this season.

Rockford began the season slow falling to the top-ranked team in the state, Saline, 37-28. The Rams started slow in that game but finished strong. The Rams have continued to gain momentum since that slow start with four straight wins after the opener. Rockford bounced back in week two with a 30-26 win at Muskegon and followed that win with three wins to kickoff the OK Red Conference season including a 21-14 victory against then undefeated East Kentwood in week four and a 28-0 win against a powerful one-loss Grandville squad in week five. The Rams have a potent offense that is putting up 29.8 points per game. Senior quarterback Brayden Daniels is a veteran passer with outstanding skills. Daniels has some excellent receivers to throw to in Jax Eichbauer and Jackson Cummings. Rockford has a solid ground game featuring running backs Hayden People and Kobe Belcher while Luke Ahern can come in and provide strong running as well. Ahern, a safety on defense and senior linebacker Sam Cummings, lead the stout Ram defense. The Rams have a tough test coming up in week six against league powerhouse Hudsonville.

Grand Ledge is off to a strong start this season as the Comets reeled off wins in the first five weeks of the season. The Comet offense is in top gear as it is averaging 38.4 points per game. Grand Ledge opened the season with a big road win as it edged Holland West Ottawa 30-27. The Comets also turned in a big effort in a 30-24 win against rival Holt. The second-half of the season will provide some rugged tests for the Comets as they travel to undefeated DeWitt in week seven and then head east to take on undefeated powerhouse Detroit Catholic Central in week eight.

Holt is setting its sights on a possible playoff berth as it opened the season with a 3-2 record. The Rams feature a solid offense that is putting up 29.5 points per game. Running back LaDn Hatcher is turning in a big season running the football with 381 yards rushing and seven touchdowns through the first four games of the season. Holt is also dangerous through the air as quarterback Ethan Melville has passed for 477 yards and four touchdowns.

Division 2

Lansing Everett is off to a quick start with four wins to its credit. The Vikings are putting up 23.6 points per game on offense while the defense is allowing 19.4 points per game. Everertt's first three wins were all by 10 or more points including a big 24-14 win against rival Sexton. Everett also came out ahead in a close one when it edged Battle Creek Central 36-29. The second half of the season will be a major challenge as the Vikings have games against powerhouse DeWitt and a big conference showdown with Grand Ledge that may have major playoff implications.

Midland needed to do some retooling after graduating a number of key players from last year's squad. So far the results are looking positive as the Chemics opened the season by winning three of its first five games. On offense, Midland is putting up 23 points per game while the defense is allowing 19.6 points. Gaining experience is key for the Chemics who face a rugged second-half of the season with games against Traverse City Central, Mt. Pleasant and Midland Dow remaining on the slate.

Midland Dow is scoring points in bunches this season as the Chargers have raced out to a 4-1 record this season. Dow is averaging 39.8 points per game this season and scored 39 points in its lone loss when it fell to Mt. Pleasant 63-39 in a score that looked more suited for a basketball game. Defensively, the Chargers are allowing 24.6 points per game.

Division 3

Mount Pleasant is looking to be a major factor in the Saginaw Valley League this season as the Oilers reeled off five consecutive wins to start the season and have the highest playoff point total in the state in Division 3. The Oilers, who are putting up 43 point per game on offense, turned in their best offensive showing of the season in a 63-39 point-fest against Midland Dow. The Oilers also claimed a big 28-13 win against Traverse City Central. Defensively, the Oilers are allowing 15.8 points per game. The Oilers have some major hurdles remaining including Traverse City West and Midland.

Rockford is on track for a deep playoff run.

DeWitt was hit hard by graduation last spring but the Panthers are showing signs that the newcomers to the starting lineup are doing just fine. DeWitt is off to a 5-0 start this season and is again one of the top teams in the state in Division 3. The DeWitt offense is displaying plenty of firepower this season as it is putting up 43.2 points per game. Igniting the Panther offense is senior quarterback Trav Moore. A dangerous dual threat, Moore has passed for 319 yards and seven touchdowns this season and has rushed for 540 yards while scoring five touchdowns. Fellow running backs Channing Ridley and Cooper Chambers have combined for over 600 yards rushing and have crossed the endzone a combined five times. On the defensive side of the ball DeWitt is allowing 13.6 points per game while going up against some high-powered offenses like Haslett and Gallowak (Ohio) Westland. Max Holtz, Brendan Mensing, Noah Deneen and Miller Wing are among DeWitt's leading tacklers while Lucas Brandell and Jadon Bender have both intercepted a pair of passes.

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DeWitt is led again by a high-scoring offense.

Lowell is turning in a big season and is among the top ten in the state in Division 3 in playoff points. The Red Arrows have been putting up some big number on offense as they are averaging 38 points per game. The Lowell defense is also proving stingy surrendering 18 points per game. Lowell sent a message that it will be a force to be reckoned with this season with a 40-7 win against long-time rival East Grand Rapids in a big non-league game early this season.

Cedar Springs is one of the top teams in the rugged River Cities Alliance Conference and scored a big league win with a 35-28 victory against Lowell in week five. Cedar opened the season winning four of its first five games. The Red Hawks are potent on offense as they are putting up 37.6 points per game. On defense, Cedar Springs is allowing 25 points per game. Look for the Red Hawks to gather momentum down the stretch and be a big factor come playoff time.

Owosso started the season with three consecutive wins for the second straight year and won four of its first five games overall. The Trojans feature a productive offense that is putting up 32.2 points per game. Veteran quarterback Liam Patrick is leading the attack as he has passed for 337 yards and five touchdowns through the first three games this season while he has rushed the ball for 365 yards and three more scores. On the defensive side of the ball Owosso is allowing 21.2 points per game.

Bay City John Glenn opened the season with a big 24-17 win against South Lyon East and has built from that win. The Bobcats are putting up 35.4 points per game while the defense is allowing 11.6 points per game. Quarterback Blake Boch leads the offense as he is passing for over 120 yards per game. John Glenn fell to Swan Valley in its only loss this season. The second-half of the schedule has some major hurdles with Frankenmuth and Freeland remaining.

Division 4

Williamston began the season strong and has been building momentum since. After opening the season with a pair of big wins against Lansing Catholic and Hastings, the Hornet defense stepped to the forefront with shutouts against Mason, Fowlerville and St. Johns. Williamston is putting up 37.6 points per game this season while the defense is allowing 8.6 points per game. Quarterback Kaleb Nielson is pacing the offense as he has passed for 860 yards and 13 touchdowns. Running back Joe Smith has added 376 yards rushing. Receivers Tommy Pratt and Hunter VanSickler have combined to catch eight touchdown passes. The solid start has the Hornets third in the state in Division 4 in playoff points.

Big Rapids started the season strong with wins in its first five games. The Cardinals are eighth in the state in Division 4 playoff points. Big Rapids opened the season with a big 19-7 win against Paw Paw and has been gaining strength since. The Cardinals won a key Central State Activities Association-Gold game against Reed City with a 40-13 victory and have a tough non-league tilt remaining in week eight against Coopersville of the Ottawa-Kent Gold Conference. Big Rapids is averaging 43.4 points per game while the defense has been especially stingy allowing 6.6 points per game.

Portland has been a powerhouse in Division 4 for years and this season is no different. The Red Raiders have reeled off five impressive wins to begin the season including a 30-6 win in the opening game against Detroit Country Day. Offensively, Portland is putting up 30.2 points per game. The defense has been even more impressive as the team has allowed just 3.6 points per game this season and are working on a string of three consecutive shutouts.

Haslett is ranked in the top ten in playoff points in the state in Division 4 as it opened the season with wins in four of its first five games. After falling to undefeated Division 3 powerhouse DeWitt in week one, the Vikings have strung together four consecutive wins. Haslett has proved tough in close games as it edged Fenton 15-14 and defeated Mason 21-14 in overtime. Haslett is putting up 21.6 points per game this season and also boasts a strong defense that is allowing 13.8 points per game.

Freeland entered the season with high expectations and so far the Falcons are collecting plenty of wins. Freeland won four of its first five games with the lone loss coming against Swan Valley. Freeland has been potent on offense putting up 38.4 points per game. On the defensive side of the ball the Falcons are allowing 10.2 points per game. Freeland has some major hurdles coming up in the second half of the season with games against Bay City John Glenn in week eight and a trip to Frankenmuth in week nine.

St. Johns opened the season on a roll with a four-game winning streak. A 22-14 win against Hamilton in week one set the tone and the Redwings added three more wins before running into undefeated powerhouse Williamston in week five. St. Johns is putting up 28 points per game while the defense is allowing 19.8 points per game. The second-half of the schedule has several major hurdles including Mason in week six and Haslett in week seven along with Gaylord in week eight.

Clio is in the middle of a landmark football. The Mustangs opened the season reeling off four consecutive wins. That season-opening win streak was the longest since 1972 when Clio opened the season with six consecutive wins. The 4-1 start also matched the best start since the 1996 squad opened 4-1. Clio is scoring points in bunches this season as it is averaging 35.2 points per game.

Division 5

Frankenmuth is rounding into top form after opening the season with a tough 17-14 loss against Goodrich. The Eagles have strung together four straight wins since the opening-night loss including an impressive 21-14 win against league rival Swan Valley. Ranked 10th in the state in Division 5 in play-

Owosso has enjoyed a strong start to the season.

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off points, Frankenmuth is averaging 42.8 points per game. Quarterback Lleyton Hoard leads the Frankenmuth offense as he has passed for 547 yards and seven touchdowns while rushing for 351 yards and four scores. The Eagles also boast a stout defense that is allowing 11.8 points per game.

Swan Valley is off to a big start this season. The Vikings faced an extremely challenging front-loaded schedule and came through the gauntlet with a 4-1 record. While Swan Valley dropped a 21-14 decision to Frankenmuth, the Vikings rebounded with big league wins against Freeland (31-7) and Bay City John Glenn (28-7). The Swan Valley offense is humming with 34 points per game while the defense is solid an is allowing 15.9 points per game. Quarterback Keller Bedford has passed for 600 yards and eight scores. Senior Jamison Pelt is turning in a big season on both sides of the ball with 306 receiving yards and three touchdown receptions on offense and three interceptions on defense.

Clare enters the second half of the season with a 3-2 record and the Pioneers are looking to close out the regular season on a roll. Clare reeled off three straight wins to begin the season before coming up short against league rivals Gladwin and Ogema Heights. The Pioneers, who traditionally have a potent offense, are averaging 35.4 points per game this season. Clare has a pair of tough matchups looming in the second half of the season including games against Shepherd and Petoskey.

Shepherd is on a mission to make the state playoffs after missing out the past two years. The Bluejays have made plenty of progress in that goal as they opened the season with wins in four of their first five games. Defense has been a strong point for Shepherd as the Bluejays recorded shutouts against both Sault Ste. Marie and Standish-Sterling. The Bluejays have also proven to be able to win close games as they claimed a big 35-34 win against Bullock Creek. Shepherd is averaging 27.4 points per game this season while the defense is allowing 18 points per game.

Midland Bullock Creek is looking to make it back to the playoffs after missing out last season. The Lancers have fashioned together a 3-2 record at the midway mark but have some major challengers awaiting them in the second half of the season. Offensively, Bullock Creek is averaging 29 points per game. The Lancers have been solid in close games as they defeated Sanford Meridian 18-12 in overtime in the season opener and then topped Standish-Sterling 20-13 in overtime in week four.

Howard City Tri-County opened the season strong with wins in four of its first five games. The Vikings have been prolific on offense as they are averaging 35.4 points per game. The schedule, however, is stacked in the second half of the season with games against Reed City, Kent City and Ludington still on the slate.

Division 6

Central Montcalm is in the hunt for the title in the Central State Activities Conference Silver Division. The Hornet started the season strong with four consecutive wins before falling to Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port in week five. Offense has been a strong point for the Hornets as the team is averaging 33.6 points per game. The conference title may be on the line in week seven when Central Montcalm takes on conference rival Kent City which has opened the season with a 5-0 record.

Montrose is near the top of the playoff points leaderboard in Division 6 with the fourth-best total in the state. The Rams opened the season in a big way with three consecutive shutouts. Defense has been a big part of the success story for Montrose as the team is allowing just 4.8 points per game. Montrose, which is 5-0 overall, also picked up a big conference win with a 14-10 win against Ovid-Elsie in week five. The Rams also feature a prolific offense that is putting up 36 points per game.

Belding is off to another strong start this season. The Black Knights are tied for fourth in playoff points with Montrose in Division 6. Belding rebounded in a big way from an opening-night loss against Reed City with four consecutive wins. Belding is putting up 35 points per game while the defense is allowing 14.4 points per game. Twice this season the Belding offense has eclipsed the 60-point mark on offense.

Sanford-Meridian is atop the standing in the Jack Pine II Conference with a perfect league record. Overall, the Mustangs are 3-2 and are looking to get back in the state playoffs after a two-year absence. Sanford-Meridian is led by an offense that is putting up 27.4 points per game while the defense is allowing 18.4 points.

Ovid-Elsie is off to a solid start with wins in three of its first five games. After falling to Howard City Tri-County in the season opener, the Marauders won three straight games before dropping a 14-10 decision to league rival Montrose in week five. Ovid-Elsie is putting up 27.4 points per game this season while the defense is allowing 16.8 points. The Marauders are looking to finish the season strong and are poised to make a run in the state playoffs.

Durand has missed the playoffs the past two seasons but a strong start has the Railroaders poised for playoff activity this season. Durand opened the season with a big win as it outlasted Gladstone 28-22 in overtime. The Railroaders split their next four games with the two defeats coming against league leaders Montrose and Ovid-Elsie. Durand is putting up 30.4 points per game on offense this season.

Division 7

Pewamo-Westphalia is putting together a huge season. The Pirates kicked the season off with a 35-6 win against North Muskegon and have been in overdrive since. With the fourth-highest playoff points total in the state in Division 7, the Pirates have a prolific offense that is putting up 49.4 points per game. The Pirates have a balanced offense led by quarterback Ty Thelen who has tossed 15 touchdown passes. Brandon Anthony, Caleb Blythe and Trent Piggott have combined to catch 13 of those touchdown passes. Thelen has also rushed for 381 yards and eight touchdowns while Alex Nurenberg has ran for 287 yards and a pair of scores. P-W has an equally stingy defense that is allowing just 2.4 points per game. The Pirates have allowed just two touchdowns all season. P-W is gearing up for a week seven showdown with rival Fowler with the conference title up for grabs.

Ithaca is off to a strong start to the season thanks to a high-powered offense and a solid defense. On offense, the Yellowjackets are putting up 49.4 points per game with an offense that can put up points in a variety of ways. Sophomore quarterback Greyson Merchant has passed for 454 yards and four touchdowns. Merchant has also run the ball for 319 yards and eight touchdowns. The Ithaca defense is also turning in a solid year allowing 10.6 points per game. Junior Broghan Bupp leads the defense with 45 tackles while senior Jaco Crawford has added 35 tackles. Ithaca also proved it can win the close games as it outlasted Michigan Lutheran Seminary 42-40. The schedule ramps up down the stretch with games against Valley Lutheran, Fowler and defending Division 8 state champion Beal City in week nine.

Saginaw Valley Lutheran ended a playoff drought last season and this season the Chargers are picking up where they left off. Valley Lutheran opened the season with five straight wins including a pair of shutouts. The Chargers also posted big wins against Saginaw Nouvel (27-20) and Michigan Lutheran Seminary (31-21). The Chargers are putting up 32.8 points per game on offense while the defense is allowing 9.8 points per game.

Millington is coming off a state championship season and the Cardinals are collecting wins against this fall. Millington opened the season with three consecutive wins before falling to Cass City 17-14 in overtime. Millington is averaging 34.2 points per game while the Cardinal defense is surrendering 12.6 points per game. The second half of the schedule is daunting with games against unbeaten Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port, Leslie and Harbor Beach on the docket.

Harrison reached the playoffs last season and the Hornets are working on making a return trip this fall. Harrison opened the season with wins in four of its first five games.

Beal City has its sights set on a return to Ford Field.

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The Hornets turned back Leroy-Pine River 30-24 in a week one thriller. Harrison is putting up 33.5 points per game this season and have a defense that is allowing 16 points per game.

Leslie is putting together a solid season. The Black Hawks opened the campaign with four straight wins before falling to unbeaten Michigan Center 36-32 in a Cascades Conference East battle of unbeatens. Leslie is scoring points at an impressive rate as it is racking up 38.4 points per game. On the defensive side of the ball the Black Hawks are allowing 17.6 points. Leslie is primed for a strong second half of the season against a schedule that includes defending state champ Millington.

Saranac opened the season with three wins in its first five games. The two losses, however, were against D7 powerhouse Pewamo-Westphalia and D8 power Fowler. Saranac is turning in a strong season on the offensive side of the ball as it is averaging 22.6 points per game.

Division 8

Beal City is coming off a season that saw it win the Division 8 state championship and if the early results are any indication the Aggies may well find themselves back at Ford Field on Thanksgiving weekend. Beal City has reeled off five impressive wins to begin the new season. The Aggies are explosive on offense averaging 40.6 points per game and have a shutdown defense which has allowed only 3.4 points per game. After defeating Ravenna 15-2 in an opening-game struggle, the Aggies have been on overdrive. Beal City wraps up the regular season with a major test against Division 7 power Ithaca.

Fowler is turning in a solid season and is among the top ten teams in the state in Division 8 in playoff points. After falling to Hudson, the top team in playoff points in the state in Division 8 in the opening game of the season, Fowler has been on a roll. The Eagles are putting up 39.6 points per game while the Fowler defense is allowing 12.8 points. The schedule is loaded in the second half with the annual showdown against Pewamo-Westphalia coming up in week seven and a battle with Ithaca on the slate for week eight.

New Lothrop missed out on the playoffs for the first time since 1999 last fall. The Hornets are well on their way to returning to the playoffs this season as they won four of their first five games this season. The Hornets opened with a 35-7 win against Muskegon Catholic Central before falling to Durand in week two. New Lothrop is averaging 35 points per game on offense. New Lothrop still has games remaining against Montrose and Ovid-Elsie.

Michigan Lutheran Seminary has played a loaded schedule during the opening half of the season. While MLS is 2-3 overall, the three losses have come against Ithaca, Saginaw Nouvel and Saginaw Valley Lutheran, three teams who have a combined record of 14-1 through the first five weeks of the season. MLS is averaging 31.4 points per game this season and is primed to string together some wins during the second half of the slate.

Saginaw Nouvel has started the season strong with wins in four of its first five games. The Panthers kicked off the season with a 14-0 win against Sandusky and then turned back Detroit Loyola 41-6. Nouvel's lone loss came against Valley Lutheran. The Panthers are averaging 33.2 points per game and have a big test remaining in week seven when they host Ithaca. Nouvel is paced on offense by quarterback Ian Ziegelmann who has passed for 590 yards and six touchdowns. Owen Vance leads the ground game with 471 yards and nine touchdowns.

St. Louis has opened the season with a 2-3 record while facing a rugged schedule. The Sharks fell against Ithaca and Saginaw Valley Lutheran who have combined to go 10-0 so far this season. St. Louis got on track with wins against Pinconning and Farwell. St. Louis is led on offense by Karson Tweh who has rushed for 541 yards while Merrick Brock has rushed for four touchdowns. On the defensive side of the ball Xander Brock has 48 tackles and Karson Tweh has 44 tackles. The Sharks are looking for a strong finish in the second half of the season to qualify for the playoffs.

Farwell is also looking to finish strong and earn a playoff berth. Farwell won three of its first five games this season. The Eagles kicked off the season with wins against Hesperia and Detroit Osborn.

8-Player Division 1

Blanchard-Montabella is among the leaders in the Central Michigan 8-Man Blue with a 3-0 conference record. Overall, the Mustangs have a 5-0 record and have been as impressive as any 8-man football team in the state. The Mustangs have scored 52 or more points in all five wins and are averaging a whopping 57.2 points per game. Montabella is also playing stingy defense as it is allowing 11.6 points per game. The regular season ends with a pair of big hurdles with league co-leader Merrill in week eight and 8-man, Division 2 powerhouse Portland St. Patrick in week nine.

Merrill is keeping pace with Blanchard-Montabella at the top of the Centrl Michigan 8-Man Blue Division with a 3-0 league record. Overall, the Vandals have a 4-1 record and are in the top ten in the state in playoff points in Division 1. Merrill features a potent offense that is putting up 34.8 points per game. After dropping its opener to Portland St. Patrick, the Vandals have reeled off four straight wins. The end of the regular season will present some major challenges with Montabella in week eight and Fulton in week nine.

Fulton-Middleton started the season strong with a 3-2 record. The Pirates have been scoring points in bunches as the offense is averaging 37.6 points per game. The Pirates have lost to two of the premier Division 2 teams in the state in Portland St. Patrick and Morrice and still has a big league battle with Merrill on the schedule.

Breckenridge opened the season with wins in three of its first five games. The Huskies are putting up 22.8 points per game. Breckenridge came up short against league leaders Montabella and Merrill but are looking to close the season strong and nab a playoff berth.

Bay City All-Saints is on track for a playoff berth with wins in three of its first five games. The Cougars have been solid on offense averaging 28 points per game while the defense has proven to be strong and is allowing 11.4 points per game.

8-Player Division 2

Portland St. Patrick is turning in another huge season in Division 2. The Shamrocks have a perfect 5-0 and lead all Division 2 teams in the state in playoff points. A high-scoring offense has been a key for the Shamrocks wo are averaging 48.4 points per game. St. Patrick also boasts a strong defense that is allowing just 9.4 points per game. St. Patrick has a big 14-7 win against Morrice to its credit and faced Division 1 powerhouse Blanchard-Montabella in week nine.

Morrice is ranked in the top ten in the state in Division 2 in playoff points and has a 4-1 record. The Orioles are putting up 39 points per game on offense while the defense is allowing 13.6 points per game. The Orioles fell short against league rival Portland St. Patrick in a defensive struggle but rebounded with a big win against Fulton. Morrice reached the Division 2 state championship game last season and the team has the talent to make a return trip this season.

Pewamo-Westphalia if putting up big offensive numbers this season.

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HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS SCENE FOOTBALL STATS

PASSING YARDS
(Min. 400 yards)
Aidan Anderson, Evart 1,445
Connor Greif, Saginaw Heritage 1,138
Karson Agnew, New Lothrop 1,054
Joel Cranmore, Leslie 870
Jake Morrow, Grand Blanc 859
Madix Gorleski, Vassar 747
Tyger Whitbeck, Perry 745
Kaleb Nielson, Williamston 652
Liam Patrick, Owosso 624
Keller Bedford, Swan Valley 600
Jaxson Dosh, Davison 595
Ian Ziegelmann, Saginaw Nouvel 590
Andrew Miller, Michigan Lutheran Seminary 584
Noah Sandecki, Stockbridge 576
Lleyton Hoard, Frankenmuth 547
Blake Burke, Okemos 495
Ty Thelen, Pewamo-Westphalia 484
Ethan Melville, Holt 477
Mason Henry, Caro 473
Greyson Merchant, Ithaca 454
Ethan Colosky, Charlotte 435

PASSING TOUCHDOWNS
(Min. 4 tds)
Ty Thelen, Pewamo-Westphalia 15
Connor Greif, Saginaw Heritage 13
Karson Agnew, New Lothrop 12
Jake Morrow, Grand Blanc 12
Aidan Anderson, Evart 11
Joel Cranmore, Leslie 10
Kaleb Nielson, Williamston 10
Keller Bedford, Swan Valley 8
Liam Patrick, Owosso 8
Noah Sandecki, Stockbridge 8
Mason Eisenberger, Shepherd 7
Mason Henry, Caro 7
Lleyton Hoard, Frankenmuth 7
Trav Moore, DeWitt 7
Andrew Miller, Michigan Lutheran Seminary 7
Blake Lane, Almont 6
Noah Sandecki, Stockbridge 6
Ian Ziegelmann, Saginaw Nouvel 6
Blake Burke, Okemos 5
Evan Colosky, Charlotte 5

Jaxson Dosh, Davison 5
Madix Gorleski, Vassar 4
Ethan Melville, Holt 4
Greyson Merchant, Ithaca 4
Tyger Whitbeck, Perry 4

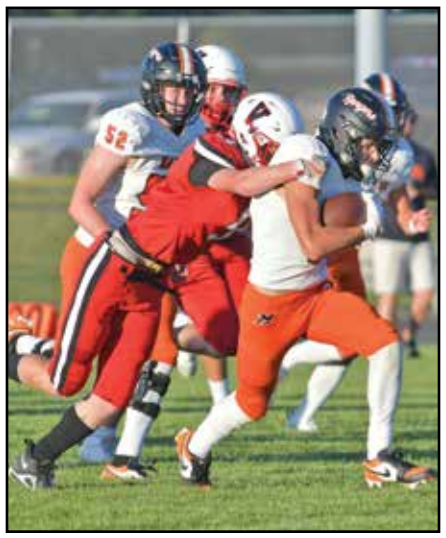
RUSHING YARDS
(Min. 300 yds.)
D'Marion Erlenbeck, Clio 736
Traverse Moore, DeWitt 726
Brody Corneau, Almont 568
Kyle Greiner, Hart 556
Jacob Garris, Davison 542
Karson Tweh, St. Louis 541
Noah Sandecki, Stockbridge 481
Owen Vance, Saginaw Nouvel 471
Channing Ridley, DeWitt 438
Matthew Bacholzky, Almont 416
Boston Beougher, Swan Valley 390
LaDon Hatcher, Holt 387
Liam Patrick, Owosso 385
Ty Thelen, Pewamo-Westphalia 381
Joe Smith, Williamston 376
Jayden Kohn, Clio 357
Lleyton Hoard, Frankenmuth 351
Parker Lentner, Freeland 333
Evret Laguire, Charlotte 332
Greyson Merchant, Ithaca 319
Tyler Enos, Caro 314
Andrew Miller, Michigan Lutheran Seminary 314
Jaxson Dosh, Davison 310
Tyanthony Lewis, Davison 310
Jeremiah Coleman, Grand Blanc 307
Cooper Chambers, DeWitt 301

RUSHING TOUCHDOWNS
(Min. 3 tds)
Jaxson Dosh, Davison 12
D'Marion Erlenbeck, Clio 12
Trav Moore, DeWitt 10
Owen Vance, Saginaw Nouvel 9
Greyson Merchant, Ithaca 8
Ty Thelen, Pewamo-Westphalia 8
Brody Corneau, Almont 7
LaDon Hatcher, Holt 7
Gibson Rondy, Ithaca 7
Joe Smith, Williamston 7
Karson Agnew, New Lothrop 6
Matthew Bacholzky, Almont 6
Kyle Greiner, Hart 6
Greyson Merchant, Ithaca 6
Andrew Miller, Michigan Lutheran Seminary 6
Andrew Morales, Potterville 6
Jeremiah Coleman, Grand Blanc 5
Tyanthony Lewis, Davison 5
Noah Reif, Michigan Lutheran Seminary 5
Noah Sandecki, Stockbridge 5
Jase Behmlander, Saginaw Heritage 4
Merrick Brock, St. Louis 4
Tyler Enos, Caro 4
Brandon Hamlett, Stockbridge 4
Lleyton Hoard, Frankenmuth 4
Parker Lentner, Freeland 4
Boston Beougher, Swan Valley 3
Halen Boos, Hart 3
Deegan Carter, Reese 3
Tommy Collins, Clio 3
Evert Laguire, Charlotte 3
Liam Patrick, Owosso 3
Channing Ridley, DeWitt 3

RECEIVING YARDS
(Min. 200 yds.)
Willie Ray, Evart 813
Kingston Wright, Saginaw Heritage 553
Alex Rockafellow, Perry 516
Braydin Johnson, Leslie 490
Aaron Wenzlick, New Lothrop 419
Jacob Adkins, Perry 375
Jase Behmlander, Saginaw Heritage 361
Kam Reynolds, Swan Valley 327
Kade Morgan, Evart 326
Jamison Pelt, Swan Valley 306
Jayson Conant, Stockbridge 302
Lucas Warczinsky, Vestaburg 302
Parker Kingsbury, Saginaw Nouvel 290
Sean Foley, Saginaw Nouvel 280
Noah Rief, Michigan Lutheran Seminary 280
Micah Kemp, Grand Blanc 279
Toby Bigford, Roscommon 269
Tommy Pratt, Williamston 248
Caseton Sendry, Grand Blanc 245
Cortez Porter, Davison 239
Hunter VanSickler, Williamston 220
Braden Reed, Owosso 218
Law Danek, Chesaning 209

RECEIVING TOUCHDOWNS
(Min. 3 tds)
Willie Ray, Evart 9
Braydin Johnson, Leslie 7
Aaron Wenzlick, New Lothrop 7
Kingston Wright, Saginaw Heritage 7
Trent Piggott, Pewamo-Westphalia 6
Jayson Conant, Stockbridge 5
Micah Kemp, Grand Blanc, 5
Tommy Pratt, Williamston 5
Caleb Blythe, Pewamo-Westphalia 4
Riyu Deal, Frankenmuth 4
Sean Foley, Saginaw Nouvel 4
Simeon Kober, Michigan Lutheran Seminary 4
Kam Reynolds, Swan Valley 4
Caseton Sendry, Grand Blanc 4
Jacob Adkins, Perry 3
Brandon Anthony, Pewamo-Westphalia 3
Jaden Bender, DeWitt 3
Toby Bigford, Roscommon 3
Xavier Ford, Okemos 3
Connor McMurphy, Ithaca 3
Jamison Pelt, Swan Valley 3
Alex Rockafellow, Perry 3
Braeden Romero, Leslie 3
Hunter VanSickler, Williamston 3

TACKLES
(Min. 35 tackles)
Ben Rizzi, Okemos 65
Alex McEwan, Perry 55
Robbie White, Clio 55
Johnn Carlson, Saginaw Nouvel 54
Christian Lopez, Saginaw Nouvel 54
Owen Marcus, Clio 53
Johnny McConnell, Perry 52
Brayden Bundy, Davison 49
Melchizadek Washington, Saginaw United 49
Xander Brock, St. Louis 48
Keegan Bennett, Potterville 47
Colton Carey, Charlotte 47
Andrew Morales, Potterville 47
Colten Karbel, Almont 46
Mason Nosis, Perry 46
Ayden Seybert, Davison 46
Broghan Bupp, Ithaca 45
Kane Romano, Dansville 45
Jamaris Graham, Okemos 44
Karson Tweh, St. Louis 44
Jude Galvas, New Lothrop 43
Noah Beauregard, Stockbridge 42
Cohen Ferqueron, Almont 42
Lane Moore, Charlotte 42
Miles Keener, Williamston 41
Sam King, Shepherd 39
Halen Boos, Hart 38
Jack Davy, Charlotte 37
Robert Giles, Grand Blanc 37
Noah Rief, Michigan Lutheran Seminary 37
Luke Ward, Potterville 37
Landon Crawley, Clio 36
Anthony Fries, Saginaw Heritage 36
Chase Barker, Okemos 35
Braden Burtch, Chesaning 35
Jacob Crawford, Ithaca 35
Logan Griffin, Vestaburg 35



SACKS
(Min. 2 sacks)
Alex McEwan, Perry 6
Xander Brock, St. Louis 4.5
Gavin Martin, Frankenmuth 4
Griffin Clontz, Frankenmuth 3
Kolton Rockwell, Hart 3
Wyatt Smith, Vassar 3
Robbie White, Clio 3
Liam Buckley, Swan Valley 2
Blaine Cochran, Charlotte 2
Tommy Collins, Clio 2
Everett Cooper, DeWitt 2
Brock Foster, Charlotte 2
Allen Frank, Grand Blanc 2
James Gandy, Holt 2
Madix Gorleski, Vassar 2
Amare Harrison, Saginaw United 2
Blake Hollern, Potterville 2
Drew Johnston, Vestaburg 2
Morgan Laupichler, Michigan Lutheran Seminary 2
Kody McCoy, Evart 2
Brendan Mensing, DeWitt 2
Seth Ousley, Charlotte 2
Kolton Sanderson, Charlotte 2
Cameron Savage, Davison 2
Aiden Smith, Ithaca 2
Cooper Thompkins, Holt 2

INTERCEPTIONS
(Min. 2 ints)
Michael Aimery, Holt 4
Jadon Bender, DeWitt 4
Brody Corneau, Almont 4
Keaton Pratt, Roscommon 4
Lucas Brandell, DeWitt 3
D'Marion Erlenbeck, Clio 3
Brady Hale, Frankenmuth 3
Greyson Merchant, Ithaca 3
Jamison Pelt, Swan Valley 3
Kam Reynolds, Swan Valley 3
Zach Scharr, Michigan Lutheran Seminary 3
Ty Thelen, Pewamo-Westphalia 3
Zander Wheatley, Freeland 3
Brendon Cordero, Stockbridge 2
Greg Croze, Potterville 2
Cruz Diaz, Holt 2
Brandon Hamlett, Stockbridge 2
Evan Hunter, Owosso 2
Braydin Johnson, Leslie 2
Brendan Magnusson, Evart 2
Johnny McConnell, Perry 2
Kade Morgan, Evart 2
Dalton Oliphant, Almont 2
Christian Paige, Frankenmuth 2
Parker Sandecki, Stockbridge 2
Cash Tedford, Frankenmuth 2

Mid-Michigan coaches, statisticians, school administrators. Feel free to contact us with any updates or football statistics you have. Send any updates to greg102300@yahoo.com . HSSS will be updating the football stats page on a daily basis.
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