

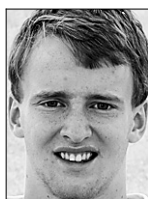
HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL: DETROIT NEWS DREAM TEAM

Exciting season comes to an end as the state's best players are honored

BY TOM MARKOWSKI | The Detroit News

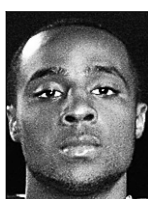
OFFENSE

Ends MATT HOUSTON Lowell, 6-1, 180, senior



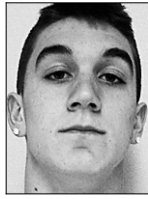
A two-year starter at receiver, Houston helped lead Lowell to the Division 2 title as a junior and to the final this season. "Matt gets separation," coach Noel Dean said. "Not many players are able to do that in high school." Houston had 67 receptions for 936 yards and 11 TDs, and also returned kickoffs.

RAY TILLMAN Auburn Hills Avondale 6-0, 175, senior



One of the most productive players in the state, Tillman had 83 receptions for 1,730 yards and 22 TDs. He also had 471 return yards, four INTs and 72 tackles. "Many teams tried to double-team him and he was still able to make plays," coach Steve Deutch said. "Ray was a true team player whose only concern was the success of the team."

SHANE VAN FLETEREN Utica, 6-2, 185, senior



MVP of the Macomb Area Conference White, Van Fleteren had 74 receptions for 1,231 yards and 11 TDs to lead his team to the division title and its first state playoff appearance since 2005. "Shane made big catches for us all year," coach Tony Smith said. At safety, Van Fleteren had 53 tackles (62 assists), four INTs, one fumble recovery and one forced fumble.

Offensive linemen DEMARCO BISBEE Lansing Sexton, 6-4, 295 senior



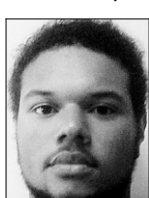
A three-year starter, Bisbee played nose guard and right tackle on offense. Bisbee, who helped Sexton reach the Division 4 regional final, had 45 pancake blocks. On defense, he had 38 tackles and three sacks.

TYLER LEMKE Mount Pleasant, 6-4, 235 senior



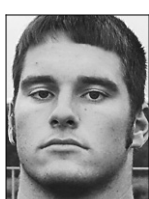
During his three years as a starter, Mount Pleasant went 32-4. "He's physical," coach Jason McIntyre said. "He's got that tenacity about him. He wants to finish the play. He's so intelligent he could fill in as an offensive line coach." On defense, Lemke had 60 tackles.

BLAKE MCGEE Lake Orion, 6-2, 290, senior



A two-year starter at guard, McGee helped lead an offense that averaged 36 points and won the Division 1 title. McGee, the defending power-lifting champion in the heavyweight division, squats 500 pounds, dead lifts 600 pounds and can bench press over 300 pounds. "He's a mauler," coach Chris Bell said. "He's incredibly strong and powerful and he's a great trap blocker. He's so fundamentally sound and he's very athletic in space."

KENNY ROGERS Holt, 6-6, 260, senior



A two-year starter, Rogers played right and left tackle. "He has a great work ethic," coach Al Slammer said. "He has a great upside. He has really good feet. When he locked on, he'd stay right on people." Rogers, who has a 3.57 grade-point average, has committed to Central Michigan.

ANTHONY ZETTEL West Branch Ogemas Heights 6-4, 245 senior



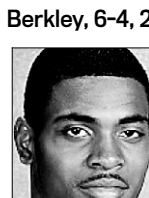
A three-year starter at offensive tackle, Zettel also played fullback and defensive end. He had 85 tackles (28 assists) and seven sacks. "His versatility is one thing," coach Andrew Pratley said. "He has a motor that never quits. He really finishes his blocks."

Quarterback ALEX NIZNAK Ithaca, 6-3, 226, senior



A two-year starter, Niznak led Ithaca to the school's first state title. "His work ethic makes him such a great player," coach Terry Hessbrook said. Niznak set a state-championship record by rushing for five TDs in a 45-35 victory over Monroe St. Mary Catholic Central. He finished 150 for 219 for 2,728 yards, 31 TDs and seven INTs. Rushing, he had 153 carries for 1,173 yards and 21 TDs. Niznak has committed to Central Michigan.

Running backs TERRELL PORTER Berkley, 6-4, 210, senior



A three-year, two-way starter, Porter also excelled at linebacker. He rushed for 1,568 yards on 244 carries, leading Berkley to its first playoff victory since 1994. "He is the best back I've coached in 41 years as a head coach," coach Jim MacDougall said. "He's as good defensively as he is offensively."

VALDEZ SHOWERS Madison Heights Madison, 6-0 178, senior



An exceptional athlete, Showers was also one of the top defensive backs in Oakland County (28 tackles, three INTs). He rushed for 2,024 yards on 222 carries and score 29 TDs. "He's a coach's dream," coach Drake Wilkins said. "He's a 3.5 student and is a kid who was never a problem." Showers has committed to Florida.

Kicker KYLE BRINDZA Plymouth, 6-2, 220, senior



Brindza set the state record for field goals with 18 (25 attempts). He was 6 for 9 from 50 yards or more. Brindza was 41 for 43 on extra point attempts, and had 60 of 62 kickoffs go for touchbacks. He also averaged 43.2 yards on 40 punts. Brindza has committed to Notre Dame.

DEFENSE

Defensive linemen ERIC CRUME Detroit Central, 6-3, 320, senior



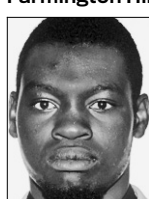
Crume, one of the strongest players in the PSL, helped pave the way for Central's running game. On defense, he had 96 tackles and 21 sacks and returned two fumbles for TDs. "Eric was a dominating player on both sides of the line," coach Eric Smith said. Crume has committed to Syracuse.

JAKE FISHER Traverse City West, 6-7, 265 senior



A three-year starter, Fisher played defensive end and tight end and likely will play offensive tackle at Michigan. On offense, he had 11 receptions for 232 yards and one TD. On defense, Fisher had 68 tackles and two INTs (one returned for a TD). "He has such a huge frame," coach Tim Wooser said. "A lot of kids his size don't move that well. He's athletic enough for us to use him at tight end."

MARIO OJEMUDIA Farmington Hills Harrison 6-3, 220, junior



A defensive and offensive tackle, Ojemudia led the team in tackles (86, 41 assists), and had 12 sacks, 20 tackles for loss, 28 hurries, two fumble recoveries and three forced fumbles and blocked one kick. Harrison allowed 11.6 points, finished 14-0 and won the Division 2 title. "He didn't have a bad game all season," coach John Herrington said. "He's one of the best defensive linemen we've ever had."

FEEROOZ YACOobi Dearborn, 6-2, 225, senior

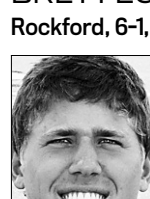


A two-year starter, Yacoobi had 11 sacks, 26 tackles for loss, an INT, two forced fumbles, a fumble recovery, a blocked punt and field goal, and safety. As a tight end, he had seven receptions for 139 yards and a TD. "He's a gifted player, and a truly outstanding athlete," coach Dave Mifsud said.

Coach JOHN HERRINGTON Farmington Hills Harrison

In his 41st season as Harrison's only coach, Herrington guided his team to a 14-0 record and the Division 2 title. It was Harrison's 13th state

Linebackers BRETT EGNATUK Rockford, 6-1, 220, senior



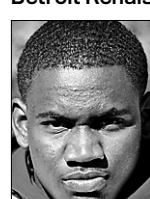
A two-year starter, Egnatuk had 140 tackles, 12½ for loss, 4½ sacks and forced one fumble as Rockford reared the Division 1 semifinals. "He was the heart and soul of the defense," coach Ralph Munger said. "His quickness, agility and spirit are his greatest assets. He's all football. He's a rough-and-tumble guy. He competes all out from sideline to sideline."

MIKE KEITH Warren DeLaSalle, 6-1, 245 senior



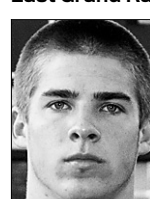
A two-year starter, Keith led DeLaSalle in tackles with 134 total, 32 unassisted, and had 19 tackles for loss, one INT and three fumble recoveries. "He's a tremendous leader and is dedicated year round," coach Paul Verska said. "He's a student of the game."

LAWRENCE THOMAS Detroit Renaissance, 6-4, 245 senior



A four-year starter, Thomas was named the state's top player in the preseason. He had 85 tackles, 28 for loss, and nine sacks. Thomas also played defensive end, tight end, receiver, running back and punter. He has committed to Michigan State.

TRENT VOSS East Grand Rapids, 6-3, 215, senior



A two-year starter, Voss had 90 unassisted tackles (48 assists), 19 for loss, eight sacks, four INTs (two returned for TDs), and two fumble recoveries. At fullback, he rushed for 690 yards on 113 carries and seven TDs. "He blossomed this season," coach Peter Stuursma said. "At linebacker he has that explosiveness at impact." Voss has committed to Toledo.

Defensive backs ZAK BIELECKI Macomb Lutheran North, 6-0 190, senior



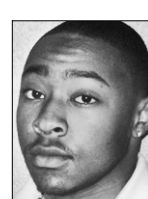
A three-year starter, Bielecki led North to only its second playoff victory in school history. He had 121 tackles and three INTs (two returned for TDs). On offense, Bielecki had 1,473 yards on 191 carries for 19 TDs. He had 25 kick returns for 622 yards and three TDs.

DAVION STACKHOUSE Canton, 5-9, 190, senior



Coach Tim Baechler said Stackhouse was one of the best he's coached in his 18 years. A three-year starter, Stackhouse had 35 tackles and one INT. On offense, he had 1,003 yards rushing on 93 carries and 219 yards on eight receptions. He scored 20 TDs.

KISHON WILCHER Detroit Cass Tech, 5-8, 165 senior



A four-year starter, Wilcher plays defensive back and receiver and returned kicks. He had 1,800 all-purpose yards, six rushing TDs, 14 receiving TDs and one on a kick return. Wilcher has committed to Toledo.

Specialist MATT MACKSOOD Lansing Catholic Central, 5-11, 170, junior



In his first season playing high school football, Macksood was a receiver, carried the ball on jet sweeps, returned punts and kickoffs and played defensive back. He scored five TDs his first game and set the state game record for receiving yards with 370. Macksood had 1,413 yards on 72 receptions for 14 TDs, 781 yards on 78 carries, nine kickoff returns for 293 yards and 11 punt returns for 182 yards. "People would double cover him so we tried to get him the ball any way we can," coach Jim Ahern said.



title in 17 finals appearances. "This was one of the best teams I've had," he said. "They prepared hard for every game. When you have talented kids who get up for every game, it's a lot of fun."

Division 1-2

P	Name	Ht	Wt	Yr	School
E	DeAnthony Arnett	6-1	175	Sr.	Saginaw
E	Taiwan Jones	6-3	215	Sr.	N.B. Anchor Bay
E	Neil VanderLaan	5-11	176	Sr.	Rockford
OL	Bryan Bell	6-5	300	Sr.	Walled Lake Central
OL	John Costello	6-5	250	Jr.	Bay City Western
OL	Parker Ehinger	6-8	285	Sr.	Rockford
OL	Nate Theaker	6-5	295	Sr.	White Lk. Lakeland
OL	Bernard Taylor	6-2	280	Sr.	Macomb Dakota
QB	Tommy Vento	6-1	185	Sr.	F.H. Harrison
RB	Thomas Rawls	5-10	215	Sr.	Flint Northern
RB	Dennis Norfleet	5-9	175	Jr.	Detroit King
DL	Brennen Beyer	6-4	225	Sr.	Plymouth
DL	Darryl Goldsmith	6-0	320	Jr.	Detroit Cass Tech
DL	Ryan Hankins	6-2	260	Sr.	Davison
DL	Jarrell McKinney	6-5	211	Sr.	Detroit Cody
LB	Justin D'Agostino	6-2	220	Sr.	Detroit Cath. Central
LB	Desmond Morgan	6-2	225	Sr.	Holland W. Ottawa
LB	Will Reeves	6-0	230	Sr.	Groves Pte. South
DB	Brandon Bartneck	6-4	190	Sr.	Utica Eisenhower
DB	Kevin Buford	5-10	170	Jr.	Canton
DB	Delonte Hollowell	5-9	170	Sr.	Detroit Cass Tech
DB	Sean O'Brien	6-1	175	Sr.	Greenville
SP	Jared Kujawa	6-1	195	Sr.	Temp. Bedford
K	Evan Fischer	5-10	160	Jr.	Holt

Coach: Chris Bell, Lake Orion

Honorable mention

E: John Alandi, Northville; Jake Duzey, Troy Athens; Macauley Hill, P.H. Northern; Connor Bruns, Midland Dow; Alec Smith, Grand Haven; Aaron Burbridge, F.H. Harrison; Jordan Woods, Ann Arbor Skyline; Eric Posavetz, Utica Ford
 LM: Josh Cash, Dexter; Tom Czerwinski, Fraser; Da'Kwan Dillard, Hazel Park; Troy Hinds, SCS Lakeview; Adam Bennett, Romeo; Aaron Cox, Utica Ford; Chris Thompson, Carman-Ainsworth; Joel Maddox, Greenville; Damon Knox, Muskegon; Connor Hart, Brother Rice; Brandon Tammaro, Detroit CC; Danzell Maze, Grand Rapids Ottawa Hills; Derrick Rogers, Thurston; Drake Hoffman, Forest Hills Central; Nick Cadwell, Grand Lodge; Chris Nash, Roseville; Kevin Rubin, King
 QB: Gabe Dean, Lowell; Austin Pichotino, Bay City Western; Mack Sovereign, Traverse City Central; Josh Campbell, Alpena; C.J. Mifsud, Dearborn; Andrew Copp, Ann Arbor Skyline; Keith Moore, Cass Tech; Raphael Dunson, Kennedy; Mark Morris, Dakota
 RB: Aaron King, Portage Central; Marques Stevenson, Lake Orion; Zac Boersma, Holland West; Ottawa; Ryan Burkard, Romeo; David Hughes, U-D; Darryl Flemister, Southeastern; Rabash Beydoun, Fordson
 LB: David Kolanek, Bay City Western; Lyell Simon, Arthur Hill; Jake Georgakopoulos, Fenton; Jerry Westerman, Grand Haven; Zack Collins, Clarkston; Garrett Bryden, Canton; Ed Davis, Detroit Southeastern; William Webster, Redford; Thurston; Brent Zdebicki, Walled Lake Western; Dalton Stenberg, Grand Haven; Justin Zmmer, Greenville; Royce Jenkins-Stone, Cass Tech; Mike Smith, Holt; Collin Ritchie, Okemos
 DB: Chris Laneaux, Portage Northern; Loran Jaddou, Brother Rice; Terry Richardson, Cass Tech; Darien Haack, PH Northern; Brett Johnson, Grand Lodge
 SP: Eric Schwenk, Midland Dow; Jake Vento, FH Harrison; Kishon Wilcher, Cass Tech; Vincent Mercado, Edsel Ford; Drake Johnson, AA Pioneer; Jarret Port Huron; Shane Barron Flint Carman-Ainsworth
 K: Alec Smith, Grand Haven; Lucas Blankenship, Troy; Dylan Mulder, Saline; Bryan Holmes, West Ottawa; Kris Selta, Dakota; Aaron Bartlett, Utica Ford; Derek Schultz, WL Central

Division 3-4

P	Name	Ht	Wt	Yr	School
E	Courtney Williams	6-3	225	Sr.	Melvindale
E	Jaylen Staten	6-0	156	Sr.	G.R. Christian
E	Allen Robinson	6-3	190	Sr.	O.L. St. Mary's
OL	Darius Brownlee	6-1	280	Sr.	Warren Fitzgerald
OL	Kelby Latta	6-4	290	Jr.	Battle Creek H. Crk.
OL	David Brown	6-0	245	Sr.	Detroit Country Day
OL	Ethan Wirth	6-6	290	Sr.	Williamston
OL	Jerrel Tait	6-0	265	Sr.	Detroit Crockett
QB	Ryan Elble	6-0	190	Sr.	East Grand Rapids
RB	Jodeci Mays	5-9	175	Sr.	Carleton Airport
RB	Brad Horling	6-1	200	Sr.	Zeeland East
DL	Jim Joski	6-2	250	Sr.	Kingsford
DL	Brad Bosman	6-2	210	Sr.	Riverview
DL	Kyle Fisher	5-11	210	Sr.	Linden
DL	Jake Detamore	6-0	195	Sr.	Marine City
LB	Colin Wilson	5-11	195	Sr.	St. Johns
LB	James Ross	6-1	217	Jr.	O.L. St. Mary's
LB	Trent Braggs	6-1	205	Sr.	Detroit Douglass
LB	Derek Sievers	6-2	225	Sr.	Byron Center
DB	Raymon Taylor	5-10	185	Sr.	Highland Park
DB	Ashton Gaines	5-11	180	Sr.	Detroit Crockett
DB	Dreg Scott	5-9	170	Sr.	Lansing Sexton
SP	Anthony Scarcelli	6-0	177	Jr.	Marine City
K	Joe Dunn	6-0	216	Sr.	Milan

Coach: Peter Stuursma, East Grand Rapids

Honorable mention

E: Mike Weeks, Cadillac; Sebastian SanMiguel, Alma; Stanley Longmire, Old Redford Academy; Dylan Monette, Williamston; Mason Borders, Chelsea; Max Powell, Linden; Jordan Johnson, DeWitt; Devin Bell, East Lansing
 LM: Connor Gould, Harper Creek; Aaron Fox, Battle Creek Pennfield; Alex Davis, Divine Child; Robert Pennell, Spring Lake; Thomas Winne, Marine City; Cody Boucher, Potosky; Ramadan Ahmeti, Lansing Waverly; Stephen Colby, Edwardsburg; Jalen Schachter, Corunna; Adam Koon, Fowlerville; Tyler Tucker, East Lansing
 QB: Caleb Higbie, DeWitt; Andrew Buskirk, Paw Paw; Travis Bryant, Bay City John Glenn; Austin Young, Escanaba; Cooper Rush, Lansing CC; Rob White, Grosse Ile; Mitch Robinson, Avondale; Crosswell Johnson, Adrian; Gary Silvers, Cadillac; Thad Kenney, Linden; Ryan Fabrizi, Crosswell-Lansing
 RB: Alex Horton, Mt. Pleasant; Anthony Garland, Farmdale; Brandon Hall, Orchard View; David Drummond, E. Grand Rapids; Chris Anderson, SCS Lake Shore; Tyler Bradshaw, Alma; Andre Davis, Grand Rapids Christian; Jamal Abrams, Marine City; Wade Wood, Goodrich; Saylor LaVail, Mason
 LB: Josh Blanton, Zeeland East; Corey Ware, Sexton; Connor Holbrook, Mason; Jackson Lewis, Lamphere; Bilal Collins, Crockett; Marquez Gollman, Ypsilanti; Keegan Denuy, Zeeland East; Kelsey Heinrich, Potosky
 DB: Kevin McCarthy, Crockett Park; Marcus Gil, Paw Paw; Shane Dembinski, St. Clair; Jacob Higbie, DeWitt; Ryan Heeke, Mt. Pleasant; Jamal Hughs, Highland Park
 SP: Austin Young, Escanaba; Tanner Kain, B.C. John Glenn; Sean Wren, Mason; Mitch Kozlowski, Lamphere; Jalen Massenberg, Detroit Central; Rayshawn Nance, Warren Woods Tower
 K: Mike Stepanek, Unity Christian; Andrew Fulan, Divine Child; Jesse Boul-nemour, Vicksburg; Brett Scanlon, Dowagiac; Bobby Aardema, E. Grand Rapids; Isaac Joseph, Lapeer East

Division 5-6

P	Name	Ht	Wt	Yr	School
E	Steve Enos	6-4	200	Sr.	Grayling
E	Kyle Bryson	6-2	175	Jr.	Leslie
E	Anthony Root	5-10	165	Sr.	Montague
OL	Brendan Cook	5-8	263	Sr.	Muskegon Oakridge
OL	Cody Gorman	6-4	248	Sr.	Clawson
OL	Frank Clark	5-11	239	Sr.	Hemlock
OL	Tyler VanderSyde	6-3	275	Sr.	Hopkins
OL	Reggie Vanhook	6-3	250	Jr.	Flint Beecher
QB	Willie Snead IV	6-0	185	Sr.	Muskegon Heights
RB	Ben Bregg	5-11	183	Sr.	Hopkins
RB	Michael Creameans	5-10	175	Sr.	Jackson L. Christi
DL	CJ Lingis	6-3	259	Sr.	Menominee
DL	Patrick McCarthy	6-1	220	Sr.	G.R. West Catholic
DL	William Meadows	6-0	220	Sr.	Ypsilanti Willow Run
DL	Dylan Neff	6-1	280	Sr.	Manchester
LB	Zane Brugger	6-1	226	Sr.	Byron
LB	Paul Kuoppala	6-1	215	Sr.	Iron Mountain
LB	Aiden Keilty	6-0	210	Sr.	Suttons Bay
LB	Tyler Havens	6-1	240	Sr.	Marley-Starwood
DB	Jamie Potts	6-3	202	Sr.	Muskegon Oakridge
DB	Mike Pannone	5-8	180	Sr.	Monroe St. Mary CC
DB	Danny Pittman	6-0	180	Sr.	G.R. West Catholic
SP	Elliot Clark	6-0	180	Sr.	Maple City Glen Lake
K	David Brown	5-9	165	Jr.	Ithaca

Coach: Terry Hessman, Ithaca

Honorable mention

E: Erik Hines, Menominee; Cole Walderzak, Standish-Sterling; Brandon Shank, Farwell; Deontae Hudson, Mus. Heights; Nate Dreslinski, Clinton; Josh Blades, Manchester; Jake Hovingh, Allendale; Brandon Tucker, Sandusky
 LM: Stephen Coble, Edwardsburg; Dustin Craig, Buchanan; Griffin Dean, Grayling; Cameron Hobbs, Sanford-Meridian; Tyler Croton, Kingsley; Ryan Armstrong, Leslie; Jake Baumgartner, Perry; John Ror, Portland; Cody James, Olivet; Dominic Busen, Stockbridge; Lucas Hagen, Reese; Connor Cocking, Elk Rapids
 QB: Jeff O'Brien, Stockbridge; Bryan Kuntz, Buchanan; Kyle Dinkins, Ecorse; Travis Cockerill, Montague; Deon Butler, Dundee; Hayden Craig, Clinton; Nate Bossory, Manchester; Wes Leonard, Fowlerville; Carl Roscoe, Wyoming Kelloggsville
 RB: James Hartley, Birch Run; Noah Ryeil, Suttons Bay; Justin Pettenger, Freehold; Kyle Tikkanen, Colliet; Shawn Tucker, Constantine; Derek Santieri, Elk Rapids; Jared Briggallio, Swan Valley; Tyler Larson, St. Charles; James Henderson, Bullock Creek; Travis Smith, Clara; Shayne Carlson, Hartford; Chris Versalles, Burton Bendle; Deshaun Phillips, Chandler Park Academy; Tyler Hanks, Marley-Starwood; Chris Mays, Union City; Josh VanderWilde, Northpointe Christian
 LB: Isaac Bjorn, Calumet; Markis Walker, Flint Beecher; Mark Ward, Michigan Saginaw Nouvel; Nick Huchakbay, Montrose; Ron Fancher, Constantine; Anthony Watkins, Ecorse; Mike Nicolas, Grant; Justin Kruthoff, Kent City
 DB: Mitch Kirk, Lake Fenton; Danny Pittman, Brandon Shank, Farwell; Denell Carithers, Ecorse; David McKee, Capac; Luke Capen, Ithaca
 SP: Danny Larkins, Madison; Dan Veer, Ithaca
 K: Mitch Bredberg, West Catholic; Brent Speer, Marlette; Cody Lehman, Clawson; Ryan Jenkins, AA Gabriel Richard; Juan Perez, Hartford; Michael Augustine, Jackson

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Basketball preview: Come back to detnews.com next week for our boys basketball season preview.

