

Columbia Central

Golden Eagles have 12 returning starters for 2026



Columbia Central High School running backs Bauston Pilaczynski (above) and Julian Boardman (at right) will be a tough combination for opponents.

“This is (athletically) the best team we have had in five years... That doesn’t always equal a ton of wins.”
Coach Dylan Zaborowski

Photos, story by Jeff Steers
Exponent special writer
Columbia Central High School finished with a 5-4 record in 2025 but that does not tell the whole story.
CCHS lost on the last play of the game against Napoleon in week nine. A win could have given them a MHSAA playoff appearance with a 6-3 record.
But that is history for the Golden Eagles with 12 returning starters in 2026.
“We return a ton of our skill position guys,” fifth-year Coach Dylan Zaborowski said. “We have the talent to have a pretty special season.”
“We lost a couple really close games last year ... we have to find a way to win those games this upcoming season.”
The combo of running backs Bauston Pilaczynski and Julian Boardman ran for more than 1,500 yards a year ago.
“We are lucky to have two very good backs,” Zaborowski said. “They should be one of the better running back duos

in the area.”
Receiver Trent Troyer is a four-year player for the Golden Eagles and expects to own many of the receiving records at CCHS.
“We are expecting him to have a huge senior season,” Zaborowski said. “He is more than likely going to be a college football player next year.”
Joining Troyer are fellow receivers Elias Losey and Dylan Penix.
Linemen Caden Katt, Derick Beach, Colton Ropp, and Gunnar Wickham look to protect the quarterback and open holes for Pilaczynski and Boardman.
Pilaczynski (LB), Troyer (S), Losey (CB), Beach (DL), Ropp (DL), and Penix (S) are expected to be two-way players for CCHS.
Cyler Neelis (LB) and Liam McMurtry (LB) expect to patrol the middle of the defense for Columbia Central.
Junior Sam Truax is expected to be the starting quarterback for the Golden

Eagles in 2026.
“This is (athletically) the best team we have had in my five years here,” Zaborowski said.
“That doesn’t always equal a ton of wins.”
“We know we have to build toughness up front and get stops defensively.”
Columbia Central has won 13 games in the past four seasons.

Columbia Central Football Schedule 2026	
Aug. 27 (H) Melvindale	7 p.m.
Sept. 3 at Michigan Center	7 p.m.
Sept. 11 (H) Grass Lake	7 p.m.
Sept. 18 (H) Jonesville	7 p.m.
Sept. 25 at Hanover-Horton	7 p.m.
Oct. 2 (H) Addison	7 p.m.
Oct. 9 at Napoleon	7 p.m.
Oct. 16 Cascades Crossover	TBD
Oct. 23 at Skyline	7 p.m.



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Addison Panthers

Ruthenberg takes over Addison football program



Photos, story by Jeff Steers
Exponent special writer
Longtime Annapolis High School football head Coach Casey Ruthenberg took over the Addison program this summer.
Ruthenberg spent 13 years as a head coach at Annapolis in Dearborn Heights and most recently served as offensive coordinator for

East Jackson.
He plans to rebuild the tough identity at Addison.
"We are focused on establishing a tough, physical, and disciplined identity at Addison," Ruthenberg said. "We have a good mix of experienced seniors and young players."
"We are excited to see how this

group develops."
Key returning players include Logan Jewell, Andrew Huston, Michael Beard, Carter Martin, and Carter Heimlich.
"We will be counting heavily on this group for both production and leadership," Ruthenberg said.
The new coach said sophomore Trent Bailey is another young player expected to make an impact in 2026.
Freshman offensive lineman Colt Tison has shown potential early.
The Panthers' motto for 2026 is "one team, one standard."
Addison last won the Cascades Conference in 2023 but has gone 5-14 in the last two seasons.

Addison High School Football Schedule 2026	
Aug. 27 (H) Perry	7 p.m.
Sept. 3 at Manchester	7 p.m.
Sept. 11 at H-H	7 p.m.
Sept. 18(H) VCL	7 p.m.
Sept. 25 (H) Napoleon	7 p.m.
Oct. 2at Columbia	7 p.m.
Oct. 9 (H) Jonesville	7 p.m.
Oct. 16 Cascades Crossover	
Oct. 23 at Blissfield	7 p.m.

"We have a good mix of experienced seniors and young players. We are excited to see how this group develops."

Coach Casey Ruthenberg



Above: Logan Jewell (3) and Michael Beard (5, photo at left) are two players the Panthers will count on during the 2026 football season.

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Napoleon Pirates

Eighteen seniors have Napoleon excited for 2026 Season



Zavior Skog (22) of Napoleon High School is a two-time 1,000-plus yard rusher for the Pirates.



The Pirates celebrated after their rivalry win against Columbia Central last year. Both the Pirates and Golden Eagles have the October 9 clash highlighted on their calendars again this year.



The Pirates plan to play big boy, smash-mouth football again this year. File photo.

“We are looking to play smash-mouth, physical football.”

Coach Derek Shell

**Photo, story by Jeff Steers
Exponent special writer**

With 18 seniors on the 2026 Napoleon High School football squad, the Pirates have high hopes for this season.

The Pirates were 7-4 a year ago losing to Lumen Christi in the district football final.

Napoleon is hoping getting faster and stronger pushes the Pirates to a conference title and beyond.

Their offense will look familiar – a self-described “fight in a phone booth” according to ninth-year head Coach Derek Shell. There were games a year ago when the Pirates did not pass the football.

“We are looking to play smash-mouth physical football,” Shell said.

Key returnees for the Pirates are Ashton Warner (RB/LB), Zander Weaver (OL), and Zavior Skog (RB/DB).

Ashton Warner led the Pirates in tackles in 2025 and was an all-conference and all-region player.

Weaver earned all-conference honors for his play at the center position for Napoleon.

Skog – a senior – is coming off back-to-back seasons with 1,000-plus rushing yards.

Others expected to make a difference include sophomore Halston Snellenberger (OL/DL), Ryan Lovett (OL/DL), and Carson Warner (RB/LB).

Snellenberger was noted as one of the top underclassmen in 2025, Lovett was all-conference last year, and Warner was the second-leading tackler for Napoleon a year ago.

The Pirates could start as many as nine seniors on both sides of the football according to a depth chart.

Lovett, Ashton Warner, and Isaac Caroffino were chosen as the captains for the Pirates in 2026.

Shell said the defense may look a little different for Napoleon in 2026.

“Look to see an aggressive blitz heavy 3-4 and 4-2-5 (defense) this season,” Shell said.

Napoleon has made the MHSAA football playoffs five-of-six seasons since 2020.

Napoleon High School Football Schedule 2026

Aug. 28 (H) Montague	7 p.m.
Sept. 3 at G.L.	7 p.m.
Sept. 11 at Jonesville	7 p.m.
Sept. 18 (H) HH	7 p.m.
Sept. 25 at Addison	7 p.m.
Oct. 2 (H) M.C.	7 p.m.
Oct. 9 (H) CC	7 p.m.
Oct. 16 Cascades Crossover	
Oct. 23 (H) Onsted	7 p.m.



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LEONI TOWNSHIP

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3

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that at a Leoni Board of Trustees meeting held
on August 11, 2026 at 913 Fifth St. Michigan Center, MI 49254, Chapter
42-153 section (c) number 15 was adopted by a 7 Aye vote.

Approved Amendment Agricultural (AG) Special Land Use:

Sec. 42-153 c. (15) Conditional Use

(a) Permit:
1. Conditional Use Permits (CUP) must be submitted to the township for
approval prior to operation.
2. All applications must include a detailed site plan that meets specific
township requirements.

(b) Permitted Business Operation & Residency
1. Any business activity authorized under a Conditional Use Permit (CUP)
within the Agricultural (AG) Zoning District shall be maintained strictly as
an accessory use to the primary single-family dwelling
2. Business operations are limited to one resident employee (who must live
in the primary dwelling) plus one additional outside employee (maximum
of 2 total workers on site).
3. Business operation is entirely contained within the primary residence
or an accessory building and involves no exterior storage of materials.
4. Business operation must not change the essential residential or agri-
cultural character of the property.

(c) Traffic & Parking Management
1. Customer traffic is limited to four vehicles on-site during business hours.
Additionally, two parking spaces must be provided for the residential unit,
in addition to the spaces required for the business.
2. All parking must be provided off-street and kept in a dust-free condition.

(d) Operating Hours
1. Limited business hours. Business hours must be determined prior to
submitting application for Conditional Use.
2. During business hours operation must not disrupt the peace and quiet
of the surrounding agricultural neighborhood.

(e) Business (Accessory) Building Size Limitations
1. Accessory building size shall not exceed: 2 through 5 acres: Max 2,400
sq. ft. Over 5 acres: Max 3,600 sq. ft. (or a cap based on lot coverage).
2. Where an accessory building is utilized for both the authorized business
operation and personal agricultural purposes (including, but not limited to,
the storage of livestock, crops, or agricultural machinery), the size limita-
tions established herein shall apply only to the specific floor area dedicated
to the business operation. The applicant shall clearly delineate the busi-
ness-use area from the agricultural-use area on the submitted site plan to
ensure compliance without restricting legitimate agricultural storage re-
quirements.

(f) Signage & Advertising
1. Limited Roadside Advertisement: One non-illuminated, ground-mounted
sign is permitted.
2. Sign not to exceed six square feet in area and not exceed four feet in
height.

(g) County Approvals:
1. Prior to certificate of business operation, the applicant shall obtain and
provide evidence of all required state and local licenses and approvals.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE: that Section 42-153 (c) (15) Ordi-
nance Amendment will be effective on the 9th day after the publication
date. A copy of the full ordinance may be inspected and obtained at Leoni
Township Office of the Clerk, at 913 Fifth Street, Michigan Center, MI
49254.

Cindy Norris
LEONI TOWNSHIP CLERK

Approved Amendment Sec. 42-153 c. (16) Agricultural District 5-28-
2026.docx Page 1 of 2

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GRASS LAKE TOWNSHIP

SYNOPSIS OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
GRASS LAKE CHARTER TOWNSHIP BOARD
UNAPPROVED
August 11, 2026

3

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Supervisor Lesinski at the Grass
Lake Charter Township Meeting Room. Present: Bray, Wyant, Rentfrow,
Bednarski-Lynch, Harris and Lesinski. Absent: Loveland.

Items approved:
1. Agenda
2. Consent Agenda Items
3. Monthly Bills for General and Fire-including Payroll
4. Tabled Amendments to Short-Term Rental Ordinance
5. Appointed Five Members to Short-Term Rental Committee
6. Hire Wade Trim to Perform an Ordinance Audit
7. Increase of Sewer and Water Connection Fees
8. Increase of Cemetery Headstone Foundation Fees

Meeting adjourned at 8:06 pm.

**Prepared by Clerk Harris.
Approved by Supervisor Lesinski.**

Copies of unapproved meeting minutes will be posted on the Township
Front Door window and Township Website - www.grasslaketownship.gov
within seven days of the meeting and are also available upon request at
the Township Office. Office hours are 8:00 to 4:30 Monday thru Thursday.
Email requests to gailh@grasslaketownship.gov. Approved Minutes can
be requested from the Township Office and reviewed on the Township
Website - www.grasslaketownship.gov.

WOODSTOCK TOWNSHIP

Woodstock Township
6486 Devils Lake Hwy
Addison, MI 49220

3

Planning Commission, Public Hearing Date Posted 8/13/2026

Woodstock Township Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on
Thursday, September 17, 2026, at 5:00pm, at 6486 Devils Lake Hwy.

The Hearing is for the review of Gerken North new quarry Mineral Extrac-
tion License. WDO-114-2050-00.

John Nicholl- PC Chair
Copies of documents are available for review at 6486 Devils Lake Hwy.

Any written comments relating to these meetings can be forwarded to:

Woodstock Township Attn. Planning Commission 6486 Devils Lake Hwy
Addison, MI 49220

Or emailed to woodstocktownshipzoning@gmail.com

Matthew SeGraves,
Zoning/Ordinance Administrator



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FILE NO. 26-693-DE

3

Estate of **GLORIA JEAN KOBOS**, deceased, born 11/12/1945 **Notice to creditors:** The decedent, **Gloria Jean Kobos**, died 04/10/2026. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate, will be forever barred unless presented to KennethKobos, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 312 S. Jackson Street, and the personal repre-
sentative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Ryan L. Phillips P73731
180 W. Michigan Ave., Suite 906
Jackson, MI 49201
517-796-3907

Kenneth Kobos
631 Lane Drive
Jackson, MI 49201
734-320-0703

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NORVELL TOWNSHIP

Synopsis of Regular Meeting-July 20, 20263

Present:
Andrew Haystead, Supervisor, Sharon Pero, Clerk, Deserre Sauers, Treasurer, Terri Curtis, Trustee, Zachary Panak, Trustee, Norvell Township, Jackson County

The Regular Meeting of the Norvell Township Board was called to order by Supervisor Andrew Haystead at 6:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Items Approved:
Agenda
July 6, 2026 Special Meeting minutes
Consent Agenda
Payment of Bills
Third Quarter Budget Adjustments
Large Gathering Permit-Hollerfest
Resolution 2026-13 Election Inspector Wage Increase
Resolution 2026-11 Public Safety Millage
LRS Contract Renewal
Resignation of Amelia Kukla from the Planning Commission
Resignation of Wayne Appleyard from the Zoning Board of Appeals
Appointment of Wayne Appleyard to the Planning Commission
Appointment of Jeff Oswalt to the Zoning Board of Appeals
Adjournment at 6:56 p.m.

Sharon Pero,
Township Clerk

Minutes approved at the August 17, 2026 board meeting

WOODSTOCK TOWNSHIP

NOTICE OF ADOPTION
TOWNSHIP OF WOODSTOCK
LENAWEE COUNTY, MICHIGAN3

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-08.10
NOISE ORDINANCE

At its regular meeting held on August 10, 2026, the Woodstock Township Board adopted Ordinance No. 2026-08.10, known as the Woodstock Township Noise Ordinance.

The ordinance prohibits excessive, unnecessary, repeated, prolonged, or unusually loud noise that unreasonably disturbs or affects the comfort, health, safety, or peace of others. It establishes standards concerning vehicle horns, amplified sound, yelling and shouting, animals, exhaust noise, loading and unloading, construction, business operations, heavy equipment, racetracks, and similar activities during specified hours.

The ordinance provides exceptions for emergency vehicles and activities, authorized warning devices, certain public works, lawful firearm use, and farm equipment used during normal agricultural operations.

A violation is a civil infraction punishable by a fine of up to \$500 for each offense. Each day a violation continues constitutes a separate violation. The ordinance repeals Ordinance No. 03-87, the Anti-Noise and Public Nuisance Ordinance.

The ordinance was adopted by the following vote:

YEAS: Supervisor Anderson, Clerk Wilson, Trustee Hassett, and Trustee Wheaton
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Treasurer Perry

Ordinance No. 2026-08.10 becomes effective 30 days after publication. A complete copy of the ordinance is available for inspection from the Woodstock Township Clerk.

Ashley Wilson
Woodstock Township Clerk

CAMBRIDGE TOWNSHIP

CAMBRIDGE TOWNSHIP
RESOLUTION #2026-093
SET SEWER RATES AND CHARGES
FOR THE VINEYARD LAKE SEWER DISTRICT (VLSD)

WHEREAS, Cambridge Township has an obligation to pay for the treatment of sewage within the VLSD per its contract with Leoni Township; and

WHEREAS, Township Ordinance #04-03, as amended, which is known as the Sewer Connection, Use and Rate Ordinance (The "Sewer Ordinance"), provides that the Township Board shall establish from time to time, various Sewer Rates and Charges for use of the Public Sewer System.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1.Effective October 1, 2026:

a.User Charges provided for within the Sewer Ordinance shall be the following amounts per unit, per quarter in the VLSD:

Leoni Treatment Fee\$108.15
Columbia Twp. Oper. & Maintenance\$39.00
Contract Services-Oper., Maint. & Repair\$26.49
Cambridge Twp. Oper. & Maintenance\$22.85
Capital Improvement Rev.\$18.51
Administration Fee\$ 6.00

Total User Charge per Quarter:\$221.00

2.All resolutions and part of resolutions in conflict herewith shall be and the same are rescinded.

3.Effective Date: This Resolution shall become effective thirty (30) days after publication.

Motion by: Higgins, supported by: Richardson to adopt the foregoing Resolution.

The following was the roll call vote on the Resolution:

AYES: 4 MEMBERS: Higgins, Richardson, Kissel, Garrison

NAYS: 0 MEMBERS: None

ABSENT: 1 MEMBERS: Hubbard

The Supervisor declared the motion passed and the Resolution adopted at a regular meeting held on August 12, 2026.

Rick W. Richardson, Clerk

CERTIFICATE OF CLERK

I, Rick W. Richardson, the duly elected and acting Clerk of Cambridge Township, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Cambridge Township Board at a regular meeting held on Wednesday, August 12, 2026, and that the meeting was conducted in accordance with the Open Meetings Act of Michigan.

Rick W. Richardson,
Clerk

CAMBRIDGE TOWNSHIP

TOWNSHIP OF CAMBRIDGE
RESOLUTION #2026-103
SET RATES AND CHARGES
FOR THE WAMPLERS LAKE SEWER SYSTEM

WHEREAS, Cambridge Township Code of Ordinances, Chapter 32, Article III, Division 3, Section 32-381, provides that the Township Board shall establish from time to time, various Sewer Rates and Charges for use of the public sewer system.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

Effective October 1, 2026, the user charges provided by Section 32-381 of the Ordinance shall be as follows: one hundred forty five and no/100 dollars (\$145.00) per quarter per unit, consisting of: \$114.00-O&M fees to Lenawee County Drain Commission, \$25.00-Capital Improvement Fund-Cambridge Township, \$6.00-Admin. Fee-Cambridge Township. These charges may be amended from time to time by resolution of the Township Board to reflect changes in the actual costs of debt service, operating, maintaining and administering the System, or to permit the Township to comply with any obligation, limitations, or conditions contained in any agreement between the Township and any entity pertaining to the debt service, operation, maintenance and administration of the System.

In all other respects, the provisions of Chapter 32, Article III, Division 3, as amended, shall remain unchanged and shall remain in full force and effect.

Effective Date: This Resolution shall become effective thirty (30) days after publication.

Higgins moved for adoption of the foregoing Resolution which was supported by: Kissel.

Upon roll call, the following was the vote on the Resolution:

AYES: 4 MEMBERS: Higgins, Richardson, Kissel, Garrison

NAYS: 0 MEMBERS: None

ABSENT: 1 MEMBERS: Hubbard

The supervisor declared the motion passed and the Resolution adopted at a regular meeting held on August 12, 2026.

Rick W. Richardson, Clerk

CERTIFICATE OF CLERK

I, Rick W. Richardson, the duly elected and acting clerk of Cambridge Township, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the Cambridge Township Board at a regular meeting held on Wednesday, August 12, 2026 at the Cambridge Township Hall and that the meeting was held in accordance with P.A. 267 of 1976, as amended (the Open Meetings Act of the State of Michigan).

Rick W. Richardson,
Clerk

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Doug's Sudoku

PUZZLE TIME!

Universal Crossword

Edited by Aidan Deshong August 16, 2026

ACROSS

- 1 Sixteenths of a pound
7 Breathe it in!
10 Islamic leadership role
14 "That's time I'll never get back"
16 Costa ____
17 "Enough excuses!"
18 College entrance exams scored out of 36: Abbr.
19 "____ wears high heels, I wear sneakers" (Taylor Swift lyric)
20 Hairstyling goo
21 Opposite of nay
23 2016 Olympics host city, for short
24 Summer toy that bursts
27 Aggressively confront
30 They're well-funded!
31 Nonkosher breakfast entree
33 Narrow opening
34 "It's gonna be ____ from me"
35 ____ Paulo, Brazil
36 Vietnamese New Year
39 Sacred promise
41 Texas-to-Iowa dir.
43 "Smile!"
46 Slow as ____
49 Viewpoints, metaphorically

- 50 What someone with a singular focus has
52 Talk-based anxiety treatment, for short
53 Singer/activist Yoko
54 Gibbon or bonobo
55 Best bond rating
58 Savory dish of chopped meat and potatoes
60 Wearable mementos for alumni
63 Pond scum organism
64 Passing judgments?
65 Opening in a schedule
66 Change.____ (online petitioning platform)
67 Cease and

DOWN

- 1 Has
2 "nervous gulp"
3 Datum on a dating app profile
4 Exec overseeing AI usage
5 Sensations from amazing songs
6 Beverage associated with the South
7 Sch. with a Tempe campus
8 Teeny-weeny

- 9 Close second?
10 Savings plan initials
11 Reheats, as some leftovers
12 Martial artist's stance
13 Brick-and-mortar workers?
15 Skilled enough
22 ____-weekly newspaper
24 Court romantically
25 Eggs on some sushi
26 Seat at a bonfire, perhaps
27 Clicking sound?
28 Exclamation before making a big splash
29 "We need to get moving!"
32 Pale
37 Completely overshadowed

- 38 "How dare they!"
40 Filmmaker Anderson
42 Grab a bite
44 Pose a question
45 Finale
46 Chocolate coffee orders
47 "There are no seats left" sign
48 Don Quixote squire ____
51 What kilograms measure
55 Prefix meaning "opposed to"
56 Gets older
57 Aide, for short
59 Beret or beanie
61 National Black Business Mo.
62 Apple software platform

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

N	O	B	L	E	G	A	S	E	S		S	S	N	S
I	H	E	A	R	I	T	T	O	O		T	T	O	P
C	A	R	B	O	L	O	A	D	S		E	A	S	E
E	R	E		S	E	L	L		M	A	T	E	D	
	E	T	C		A	L	L	S	M	I	L	E	S	
			H	B	D				T	E	X	T	S	
C	A	C	A	O		B	E	E	N	T	H	E	R	E
O	R	A	L	B		I	M	P		A	M	A	N	A
P	O	L	K	A	D	O	T	S		P	O	L	A	R
			L	A	T	E	R			L	E	D		
	H	E	R	E	W	E	A	R		E	P	S		
S	O	R	T	A			S	O	A	R		E	T	A
W	W	I			N	A	P	T	R	A	P	P	E	D
A	I	D	S			I	M	C	O	N	F	U	S	E
P	E	S	T			T	E	A	R	S	T	R	I	P

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UNIVERSAL
Sudoku Puzzle

			8		4	6		
		5		3				2
	7			5		4		
7		9			1			
1				9				8
			3			1		6
		2		6			3	
9				8		5		
		8	9		2			

8/16

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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Complete the grid so every row, column and 3 x 3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

Today's puzzle solution

1	9	7	2	4	6	8	9	3
4	2	5	3	8	1	7	9	6
6	3	8	7	9	5	2	1	4
9	6	1	8	7	3	4	2	5
8	7	2	5	6	4	9	3	1
5	4	3	1	2	9	6	8	7
3	8	4	6	5	2	1	7	9
1	2	6	9	3	7	5	4	8
7	5	9	4	1	8	3	6	2

8/16 Themeless Sunday 195 by Rafael Musa and Rebecca Goldstein

1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14						15					16			
17											18			
19				20			21		22		23			
			24				25				26			
27	28	29					30							
31						32					33			
34				35			36	37	38		39		40	
	41		42			43	44				45			
46				47	48				49					
50								51						
52				53				54				55	56	57
58			59		60		61				62			
63					64									
65					66				67					

Vandercook Lake

Jayhawks look to improve with 10 returning starters

Story, photo by Jeff Steers
Exponent special writer

Vandercook Lake has 10 returning starters from a team that went 3-6 a year ago.

But that does not tell all of the story for 2025 as the Jayhawks won three-of-four games to start the season.

The meat of their conference season eventually wore them down.

Coach Dan Midena begins his fourth season with high hopes.

“We have a solid senior class ... (with) kids who have played varsity football since their sophomore year,” Midena said. “We are returning a senior quarterback but a junior quarterback is pushing him for the starting job.”

Seniors Justin Barnes (QB/LB) and Micah Crenshaw (RB/DE) earned first-team all-conference a

year ago for the Jayhawks.

Barnes is a four-year captain for the Jayhawks and can play numerous positions on the field.

“He is another coach on the field,” Midena said.

Midena said Crenshaw is the most athletic player on the team.

“He dominated some games last year off the (defensive) edge,” Midena said.

The sack-happy senior had two sacks and two fumble recoveries against Sand Creek in 2025.

Other returnees for the Jayhawks include Deshawn Roper (RB/LB), Davion Bradley (RB/WR/LB), D.J. Bramlett (OL/DL), Ethan Walker (OL/DL), Carter Richmond (OL/DB), Noah Monroy (OL/DL), Eadon Briston (OL/DL), and Hunter Kurzynowski (DB).

Landon Holloway is a junior quarterback for the Jayhawks.

Midena says staying healthy and continuing to get better each day are high on his priority list for 2026.

Vandercook Lake is 5-13 since returning to 11-man football three years ago.

Midena coached most of the current varsity players in junior high football.

Vandercook Lake High School Football Schedule 2026

Aug. 27	at Laingsburg	7 p.m.
Sept. 3	(H) H-H	7 p.m.
Sept. 11	at Leslie	7 p.m.
Sept. 18	at Addison	7 p.m.
Sept. 25	(H) M.C.	7 p.m.
Oct. 2	at Grass Lake	7 p.m.
Oct. 9	(H) Manchester	7 p.m.
Oct. 16	Cascades Crossover	
Oct. 23	(H) Perry	7 p.m.



Vandercook Lake got off to a strong start last year, but had trouble holding up as the season wore on. Exponent file photo.

“We have a solid senior class...with kids who have played varsity football since their sophomore year.”

Coach Dan Medina



Vandercook Lake High School quarterback Justin Barnes is a two-time all-conference football player for the Jayhawks.



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Grass Lake Warriors

Warriors look to rebound in 2026 football season



Camron Prater (3) of Grass Lake High School returns a punt during a home game last year against Napoleon.



Grass Lake High School defenders attempt to keep Napoleon out of the end zone during a game last year.

Photos, story by Jeff Steers
Exponent special writer

Grass Lake High School football had an uncharacteristic 2-7 record in 2025.

The Warriors have been perennial playoff contenders having made the

Michigan High School Athletic Association playoffs 19 times since 2000 – including a trip to the Division 7 state finals in 2006.

Longtime head Coach Randy Cole begins his 27th season at the helm for the Warriors.

Cole said the Warriors have eight starters back on offense and seven on the defensive side of the ball.

“We have a good number of returners who are hungry to change this around from last year,” Cole said in a preview.

Starting quarterback Kaline Wescott is being challenged by sophomores Wesley Reul and Grady Kromrei for the head of the offense. Wescott was 5-for-6 passing for 124 yards and one score for GLHS in a close loss to Jonesville a year ago.

The starting quarterback will have receivers Gavin Killinger, Braden Snyr, Camron Prater, and Noah Orban back this season. Snyr was an all-conference performer for the Warriors in 2025.

Offensive linemen Julius Russel, Aiden Judson, and Tyler Spence are returning linemen for Grass Lake.

Judson earned first-team all-conference honors for Grass Lake in 2025. Aryn Hensen and Will Ford are two players who will see action this season on offense.

Defensively, Judson, Orban, Snyr, Killinger, and Prater are expected to see double duty for the Warriors.

Gage Salts returns as a linebacker and Grass Lake will have Ryder Boteler in the defensive backfield.

The Warriors will play in the newly formed Cascades Conference North Division along with Michigan Center, Leslie, Manchester, and Vandercook Lake.

“We have a lot of returning players from last year’s young team and look forward to seeing their improvement,” Coach Cole said.

Grass Lake has four home games in its first six contests and could host six regular-season home games in 2026.

“We have a good number of returners who are hungry to change this around from last year.”

Coach Randy Cole

Grass Lake High School Football Schedule 2026

Aug. 28	Madison at Grass Lake	7 p.m.
Sept. 3	Napoleon at Grass Lake	7 p.m.
Sept. 11	Grass Lake at CC	7 p.m.
Sept. 18	Manchester at Grass Lake	7 p.m.
Sept. 25	Grass Lake at Leslie	7 p.m.
Oct. 2	Vandercook Lake at Grass Lake	7 p.m.
Oct. 9	at Michigan Center	7 p.m.
Oct. 16	Cascades Crossover	TBD
Oct. 23	Grass Lake at Milan	7 p.m.

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Onsted Wildcats

Gillies takes over Onsted football



Connor Kish ran for a school record 320 yards during a game against Madison last year. File photo.

“Our schedule starts with our first four opponents all winning district titles in 2025, so being competitive in the beginning is our No. 1 goal.”

Coach Joe Gillies

Photo, story by Jeff Steers
Exponent special writer

The pursuit of wins won't be easy for Onsted High School football this season.

The Wildcats kick off their season against Michigan Center, Hudson, Ida, and Clinton – all four teams advanced at least to the regional round of MHSAA football playoffs in 2025.

But that is the challenge for first-year head Coach Joe Gillies.

Gillies is familiar with the program having served as an assistant coach at Clinton for more than a dozen seasons. “We will work tirelessly to ensure the program’s values and work ethic become our foundation,” Gillies said. “I’m excited to build this program from top to bottom and bring everyone together as one family.”

Gillies is a lifelong resident of Lenawee County and a former LCAA athlete.

The Wildcats may have to rely on younger players as there are eight seniors and eight juniors on the team according to the team’s preview.

Connor Kish is the top returning player for the Wildcats having ran for nearly 1,000 yards and scoring 11 touchdowns. He ran wild last year against Madison with 320 yards on 39 carries. The 320 yards in a single game is a school record.

He has already received an offer to play college football at Adrian College.

Cade Symington and Jacob Ohlman both hope to be the starting quarterback for Onsted.

Carson Garrison and Colton Chamberlain expect to be starting offensive linemen for Onsted.

Other players expected to make impacts this season are Trent Leyland, Parker Paquin, Carter Gillean, Mason Reilly, Brody O’Neil, Gianni Harger, and Levi Fisher.

Onsted has won just 14 games since advancing to the MHSAA state semifinals in 2019.

“Our schedule starts with our first four opponents all winning district titles in 2025 so being competitive in the beginning is our No. 1 goal,” Gillies said.

The Wildcats have home games in four-of-six contests to start the season but are on the road the last three weeks of the season.

Onsted High School Football Schedule 2026

Aug. 27	Michigan Center at Onsted	7 p.m.
Sept. 3	Hudson at Onsted	7 p.m.
Sept. 11	Onsted at Ida	7 p.m.
Sept. 18	Onsted at Clinton	7 p.m.
Sept. 25	Blissfield at Onsted	7 p.m.
Oct. 2	Hillsdale at Onsted	7 p.m.
Oct. 9	Onsted at Madison	7 p.m.
Oct. 16	Onsted at Dundee	7 p.m.
Oct. 23	Onsted at Napoleon	7 p.m.



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