

ALLEGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC HIGHLIGHTS

2006-2007



EDUCATIONAL ATHLETICS
AN EXTENSION OF THE CLASSROOM

ALLEGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC HIGHLIGHTS 2006-07

The 2006-2007 season was another exciting year of athletics and much was added to the Allegan athletic history. Teams and individuals competed hard and achieved many goals. Progress was made in several programs and traditions were enhanced in others. There were challenges on and off the field of play and many of those challenges were met in fine fashion. This can only happen with the support in time and effort of the entire Allegan team: athletes, coaches, parents, boosters, administrators and Board members. To each of you "Thank You" for helping make this season a positive experience.

Hope you enjoy this summary of the 2006-2007 season.

*Gary Ellis
Athletic Director*

ALLEGAN ATHLETICS ON-LINE

www.alleganpublicschools.org

Click on: Sports

The Athletic Department website is your best source for Allegan Tiger results, updated schedules and information.

Sign-up for E-Mail Notification and receive immediate notice of schedule changes for any team.

EDUCATIONAL ATHLETICS

**** More than just the score ****

The National Federation of State High School's "Excellence in Education" report acknowledges the value of co-curricular activities in complementing the programs offered during the school day. Special benefits include: better attendance, better retention rates, higher grade point averages and fewer discipline problems.

WHAT CAN CHILDREN LEARN THROUGH PARTICIPATION IN SPORTS?

(Excerpt from *Fair Play... "Let's Get Back to the Game"*)

Fundamental Motor Skills Skills for Recreation and Leisure Social Competence
Moral Integrity Loyalty to a Common Cause Respect for Others
Respect for the Letter and Spirit of Rules Emotional Stability under Stress
Enjoyment of Competition Accepting of Constructive Criticism
Respect for Authority Positive Self-Concept

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT COACHING STAFF

Coaching is a special opportunity to work closely with young men and women as they strive to achieve goals and acquire life skills and as they deal with the joys and the frustrations of athletics and growing up. Coaches challenge and encourage their athletes; celebrate the victories and help pick up the pieces from disappointments. Thank you, coaches, for your involvement in Allegan Athletics. A special thank you to those volunteer coaches who freely gave of their time and expertise to help provide better opportunities for our athletes.

FALL SPORTS

Head Coaches: Jen Aldrich, Holly Billman, Tony Danzig, Scott Evans, Dave Jones, Paula Kangas, Sam Sanders, Kristi Tullis

Assistants: Tim Barrone, Mark Birkam, John Bishop, Chip Clearwater, Jen Conrad, Chad Corbett, Chad Dame, Ryan Dumas, Bria Ebels, Tony Fales, Joe Gardiner, Dave Haas, Matt Hermann, Alan Jeffries, Lisa Kent, Steve Kent, Roger Lambert, Tom Martinic, Alva Morgan, Joe Munn, Alicia Ojeda-Greig, Ron Orr, Craig Pennock, Mike Peters, Murray Rose, Bob Sikkema, Tim Smith, Gavin Snyder, Royal Thompson

WINTER SPORTS

Head Coaches: Jim Baird, Tim Barrone, Holly Billman, Mark Haskamp, Dawn Hoyer, Murray Rose

Assistants: Michele Arthur, Doug Bunting, Tony Danzig, Ryan Dumas, Brandee Ellis, Joe Gardiner, Hailey Heintz, Kelly Hough, Jessica Kelly, Lisa Kent, Roger Lambert, Kyle Lawton, Liz McPherson, Craig Pennock, Ben Raber, Shelly Selzer, Bob Sikkema, Joe Simaz, Travis Spaman, Deb Thorogood, Kristi Tullis

SPRING SPORTS

Head Coaches: John Bishop, Mike Chalupa, Gary Ellis, Scott Evans, Kirsten Fisk

Assistants: Tim Barrone, Mark Birkam, Chad Corbett, Tony Danzig, Mike Davis, Tony Fales, Erin Jeffries, Paula Kangas, Jessica Kelly, KJ Kelly, Alva Morgan, Dana Morgan, Joe Munn, Ron Orr, Craig Pennock, Mike Peters, Jeff Robb, Royal Thompson

TRAINER: Kate Dornbos

ATHLETIC SECRETARY: Karen McElwee

THE REAL SCORE

A coach can never make a great player of a youngster who isn't potentially great.
But a coach can make a great competitor out of any child.
And miraculously, coaches can make adults out of children.
For a coach, the final score doesn't need so many points for my team, so many points for theirs.

Instead it reads:
So many men and women out of so many boys and girls.
And this is a score that is never published.
And this is a score that coaches read themselves, and in which they find real joy...
When the last game is finally over.

- Anonymous

WOLVERINE CONFERENCE ALL-ACADEMIC TEAM

In an effort to recognize the academic and athletic efforts of the many outstanding scholar-athletes in the Wolverine Conference, the league principals established the Wolverine Conference All-Academic Team, consisting of twenty of the top student-athletes in the conference. Selection is based on the athlete's grade point average and either ACT or SAT test score. The athlete must have earned two varsity letters in his/her final three years of high school.

Allegan was honored to have two of its athletes selected to this year's team. Congratulations to:

Aaron Rogers (Soccer, Swimming, Tennis) Nate VanderVeen (Swimming, Tennis)

~ ~ ~ ACADEMIC ALL-STATE ~ ~ ~

Each year the various state coaching organizations recognize the academic achievements of its teams and individuals. Three Allegan teams received accolades for their successes in the classroom.

Girls Tennis Boys Tennis

CONGRATULATIONS!

MHSAA SCHOLAR-ATHLETE AWARD NOMINEES

The Michigan High School Athletic Association, in conjunction with Farm Bureau Insurance, awards college scholarships to the top male and female student-athletes in the twenty-eight sports sponsored by the MHSAA. Athletes must have a minimum of a 3.5 grade point average and have won a varsity letter in the sport in which they are nominated. They must show involvement in other school and community activities, submit two letters of recommendation and a 500-word essay on the importance of sportsmanship in educational athletics. Allegan's nominees were:

Carleigh Arthur Will Cook Anna Erickson Kristin Forstner	Aaron Rogers Cam Simaz Nate VanderVeen
---	--

ALLEGAN SCHOLAR-ATHLETE AWARD

Each trimester the Allegan All-Sports Booster Club recognizes those athletes who earn at least a 3.2 grade point average for that trimester. Joyce Thompson and Nancy Joliffe compiled the lists and worked to get the recipients either a scholar-athlete t-shirt (1st time) or Tiger Bucks, good for use at the concession stand.

Again this year many of our athletes have achieved a great deal of success in the classroom and were recognized throughout the year by the Booster Club. **SUCCESS IN THE CLASSROOM AND ON THE FIELD OF PLAY DO GO HAND-IN-HAND. GOOD JOB!**

TEAM SUMMARIES

Girls Basketball

Wolverine: 10th (1-17)

Overall Record: 1-20

MVP: Abby Arado

Boys Cross Country

Wolverine: 8th (3-6)

Overall Record: 3-6

MVP: Andy Krcatovich

Girls Cross Country

Wolverine: 9th (1-7)

Overall Record: 1-7

MVP: Samantha Draney

Football

Wolverine: 7th (3-6)

Overall Record: 3-6

MVP: Cam Simaz

Golf

Wolverine: 5th

MVP: Joey Reed

Boys Soccer

Wolverine: 7th (4-5)

Overall Record: 10-9-1

MVP: Matt Kaylor

Girls Tennis

Wolverine: Champions (9-0)

Overall Record: 11-2-1

MVP: Haley Dekkinga

Boys Basketball

Wolverine: 3rd (12-6)

Overall Record: 13-8

MVP: Adam Brown

Boys Bowling

Overall Record: 5-2

Girls Bowling

Overall Record: 1-6

Competitive Cheer

Wolverine: 5th

MVP: Alli Beam

Boys Swimming

Overall Record: 1-7

MVP: Nate VanderVeen

Volleyball

Wolverine: 7th (1-8)

Overall Record: 17-27-9

MVP: Anna Erickson, Carissa Hoyer

Wrestling

Wolverine: Champions (9-0)

Overall Record: 39-2

MVP: Cam Simaz

Baseball

Wolverine: 4th (9-9)

Overall Record: 20-15

MVP: Luka Kaliterna, Cody Kokotan

Girls Soccer

Wolverine: 7th (2-7)

Overall Record: 10-9

MVP: Brooke Allen, Andrea Simonds

Softball

Wolverine: 6th (6-12)

Overall Record: 16-15

MVP: Tiffany Graves

Boys Tennis

Wolverine: Champions (9-0)

Overall Record: 10-4

MVP: Nate VanderVeen

Boys Track

Wolverine: 10th

Overall Record: 0-5

MVP: Brad Wentzel

Girls Track

Wolverine: 5th

Overall Record: 2-3

MVP: Samantha Draney

WOLVERINE CONFERENCE ALL-CONFERENCE

Athletes earn all-conference recognition in one of two ways:

Team Sports – selected by the conference coaches in that sport based on conference criteria

Individual Sports – based on finish at the conference tournament/meet

FALL SPORTS

Girls Basketball: Abby Arado (Honorable Mention)

Girls Cross Country: Samantha Draney

Football: 1st Team – Tailer Deal, Cam Simaz, Brad Wentzel

2nd Team – Dan Craig, John Dial, Andre Jackson

Honorable Mention – Will Cook, Adam Lynema, Brock Smalla

Golf: Joey Reed, Tony Sewell (1st Team)

Boys Soccer: Tailer Deal (1st Team), Matt Kaylor (HM), Aaron Rogers (HM)

Girls Tennis: 1st Team – Rachel Cook, Haley Dekkinga, Courtney Diebold, Stevie Fortney, Aly Gorby, Kasey Gorby, Katie Haist, Kelsey Harness, Carissa Hoyer, Erica LaGattuta, Shelby Schulz

2nd Team – Landria Christman

WINTER SPORTS

Boys Basketball: Thom Monroe (1st Team), Adam Brown (HM)

Competitive Cheer: 1st Team – Tara Bouwman, Melissa Miller

Honorable Mention – Lacy Myers

Volleyball: Anna Erickson (1st Team), Carissa Hoyer (2nd Team), Abby Arado (HM)

Wrestling: 1st Team – Greg Courtney, Dan Craig, Andy Krcatovich, Doug Plews, Steve Poffenberger, Brandon Rhodes, Joe Rizqallah, John Rizqallah, Cameron Simaz, Matt Smith

2nd Team – Curtis Cameron, Jacob Wilson

Honorable Mention – Chico Beach

SPRING SPORTS

Baseball: Cody Kokotan (1st Team), Dillon Hileski (2nd Team), Colin Maloney (2nd Team), Curtis Drozd (HM), Luka Kaliterna (HM), Brandon Rhodes (HM)

Girls Soccer: Brooke Allen (1st Team), Raeanna Blank (HM), Andrea Simonds (HM)

Softball: Erika Brower (1st Team) Tiffany Graves (1st Team), Courtney Diebold (HM)

Boys Tennis: 1st Team – Seth Arthur, Cole Hoyer, Brooks Monroe, Travis Pennock, Aaron Rogers, Royce Thompson, Justin vanMelle, Gage Waanders

2nd Team – Tom Burghard, Nate VanderVeen

Honorable Mention – Devin Hileski, Ethan Ketelaar

Boys Track: 1st Team – Brad Wentzel

Girls Track: 1st Team – Samantha Draney (**Outstanding Meet Performer**), Megan Meier

Honorable Mention – Samantha Draney

CHAMPIONS

“Champions arrive early and stay late. They know what they’re there for. They don’t have to be told five times to do something or be given a five-minute lecture on how to do it. You give them the challenge and they get it done.” (Joe Paterno)

ALLEGAN COUNTY NEWS ALL-COUNTY

The All-County teams are selected by the county coaches and the sports editors at the *Allegan County News*.

FALL SPORTS

Girls Basketball: Abby Arado

Girls Cross Country: Sam Draney

Football: Cam Simaz, Brock Smalla

Golf: Joey Reed, Tony Sewell

Boys Soccer: Aaron Rogers

Girls Tennis: Landria Christman, Rachel Cook, Haley Dekkinga, Courtney Diebold, Stevie Fortney, Aly Gorby, Kasey Gorby, Katie Haist, Kelsey Harness, Carissa Hoyer, Erica LaGattuta, Shelby Schulz

WINTER SPORTS

Boys Basketball: Adam Brown, Thom Monroe. Coaches of the Year: Tim Barrone, Travis Spaman

Competitive Cheer: Tara Bouwman, Melissa Miller, Lacy Myers

Swimming: Collin Kelly, Nate VanderVeen

Volleyball: Anna Erickson

Wrestling: Dan Craig, Andy Krcatovich, Steve Poffenberger, Brandon Rhodes, Joe Rizqallah, John Rizqallah, Cameron Simaz, Matt Smith, Jacob Wilson. Coach of the Year: Murray Rose

SPRING SPORTS

Baseball: Luka Kaliterna, Cody Kokotan

Girls Soccer: Brooke Allen, Landria Christman

Softball: Erika Brower

Boys Tennis: Seth Arthur, Tom Burghard, Devin Hileski, Brooks Monroe, Aaron Rogers, Royce Thompson, Nate VanderVeen, Justin vanMelle, Gage Waanders
Coach of the Year: Gary Ellis

Boys Track: Brad Wentzel

Girls Track: Samantha Draney

STATE HONORS

GIRLS TENNIS: Runner-up

State Champions: Carissa Hoyer & Rachel Cook (#3 Doubles)

State Champions: Kasey Gorby & Erica LaGattuta (#4 Doubles)

All-State: Haley Dekkinga, Shelby Schulz & Aly Gorby

WRESTLING: CHAMPIONS

State Champions: Brandon Rhodes, Joe Rizqallah, Cameron Simaz

Runners-up: Dan Craig, Jacob Wilson

BOYS TENNIS: 9th

All-State: Nate VanderVeen, Royce Thompson & Seth Arthur

BOYS TRACK

State Champion: Brad Wentzel (Discus)

GIRLS TRACK

All-State: Samantha Draney

2006-07 WOLVERINE CONFERENCE CHAMPIONS

FALL

Girls Basketball: Dowagiac, Otsego
Boys Cross Country: Three Rivers
Girls Cross Country: Gull Lake, Otsego
Football: Gull Lake, Three Rivers

Golf: South Haven
Boys Soccer: South Haven
Girls Tennis: **Allegan**

WINTER

Boys Basketball: Dowagiac
Volleyball: Plainwell

Competitive Cheer: Three Rivers
Wrestling: **Allegan**

SPRING

Baseball: Gull Lake
Softball: Dowagiac, Vicksburg
Boys Track: Gull Lake

Girls Soccer: Plainwell
Boys Tennis: **Allegan**
Girls Track: Vicksburg

Final Conference Standings

Boys Sports: 5th
Gull Lake

Girls Sports: 6th
Otsego

Overall Finish: 7th
Gull Lake

2006-07 COACHING AWARDS

WOLVERINE CONFERENCE COACH OF THE YEAR AWARDS

GIRLS TENNIS: Jen Aldrich

WRESTLING: Murray Rose

STATE COACH OF THE YEAR

(As selected by their state coaches association)

GIRLS TENNIS: Jen Aldrich

WRESTLING: Murray Rose

TAKING A LEADERSHIP ROLE

The athletic department played an active role in assisting the Wolverine Conference and the MHSAA in hosting league and state-qualifying events. With the cooperation of coaches and volunteers, we put on quality events that allowed the athletes the opportunity to perform at their highest levels. In addition, several of our coaches served on MHSAA state committees.

MHSAA DISTRICT COMPETITION: Volleyball

MHSAA REGIONAL COMPETITION: Boys Tennis, Team Wrestling

WOLVERINE CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS: Girls Tennis

MHSAA RULES MEETINGS: Basketball Football

MHSAA STATE COMMITTEES

Baseball/Softball Rules – John Bishop

Competitive Cheer – Holly Billman

Scholar-Athlete Selection – Gary Ellis

Tennis Rules – Jen Aldrich

Boys Tennis State Seed Committee – Gary Ellis

Girls Tennis State Seed Committee – Gary Ellis

Wrestling Rules – Murray Rose

SENIOR AWARDS

Each year the Allegan Athletic Department has the opportunity to recognize several of the top student-athletes involved in our program. This year, there were many who represented Allegan High School well in athletic competition and, as a result, those who were selected to receive our top honors were certainly outstanding young men and women as well as outstanding athletes. Congratulations to this year's recipients.

~ ~ ~ THE VAN MELLE AWARD ~ ~ ~

This award, named in honor of Willam vanMelle and established in 1947, is given to a senior male athlete based on coachability, dependability, athletic ability, leadership, participation and sportsmanship. This year's male "athlete of the year" award recipient was:

CAMERON SIMAZ
(Football, Wrestling, Baseball)

~ ~ ~ ALLEGAN COUNTY NEWS AWARD ~ ~ ~

This award, sponsored by the Allegan County News and established in 1973, is given to a senior female athlete based on coachability, dependability, athletic ability, leadership, participation and sportsmanship. This year's female "athlete of the year" award recipient was:

SAMANTHA DRANEY
(Cross Country, Track)

~ ~ ~ ACKERMAN SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD ~ ~ ~

This award, named in honor of Bernard "Bernie" Ackerman, is given to a male and a female athlete who has displayed outstanding sportsmanship throughout his/her athletic career at Allegan High School. This year's recipients were:

ERIKA BROWER
WILL COOK
DAN CRAIG

MILITARY SERVICE SCHOLAR ATHLETE AWARDS

United States Marine Corps Distinguished Athlete Award: Kristin Forstner, Cam Simaz
Army Reserve Scholar Athlete Award: Anna Erickson, Aaron Rogers

ADDITIONAL SENIOR AWARDS

Detroit Free Press Scholar Athlete Award: Nate VanderVeen
Wendy's High School Heisman Award: Will Cook, Kristin Forstner

ALLEGAN TRIPLE THREAT

As a result of a suggestion by a member, the Booster Club established the Allegan Triple Threat award that is given to athletes who compete on a team in each season of their four years in high school. It takes a great deal of commitment by an athlete to achieve this feat. The following seniors have contributed a great deal to the athletic program over their four years at Allegan High School. The Booster Club is very pleased to recognize the efforts of our Triple Threat winners from the Class of 2007.

Will Cook: Football, Golf, Basketball, Baseball

Jerry DeBoer: Football, Basketball, Baseball

Brandon Rhodes: Football, Wrestling, Baseball

Cam Simaz: Football, Wrestling, Baseball

Andrea Simonds: Basketball, Volleyball, Soccer

**CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU FOR THE EXCITEMENT YOU PROVIDED OVER
THE PAST FOUR YEARS.**

ALLEGAN ALL-SPORTS BOOSTER CLUB

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Sandy Savage
VICE-PRESIDENT: Misty Angle
SECRETARY: Paula Martin
TREASURER: Barry Forstner

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

PUBLICITY: Kami Fleckenstein
CONCESSIONS: Vickie Sherwood
STUDENT-ATHLETE: Nancy Joliffe, Joyce Thompson
HALL OF FAME: Sandy Savage

This year, as in year's past, the Booster Club contributed so much to the athletic program and to our athletes.

- Provided grants to teams that needed items to supplement the athletic budget
- Coordinated and helped provide workers for the concession stands
- Helped coordinate athletic physicals at a low cost to athletes
- Recognized athletes who excelled in the classroom with the Scholar-Athlete Award
- Provided funds for team awards – most valuable, most improved, etc.
- Provided funds for training room supplies
- Provided funds for letters, numerals, pins, etc.
- Sponsored the Allegan Athletic Hall of Fame banquet
- Provided college scholarships for three senior athletes: **Holly Angle, Kristin Forstner, Cam Simaz**
- Provided half the cost for patches for athletes on conference, district, regional and state championship teams
- Provided team plaques of conference championships teams for display at the school

PARENT REPS

Each year parents volunteer to serve as Parent Representatives to the Booster Club and to coordinate parent assistance to the various high school teams. The role of the Parent Rep varies from one sport to the next. Some responsibilities taken by parent reps include: attend Booster Club meetings to keep the team abreast of BC activities and to offer input in BC decisions, and assist with parent night activities, end of season events, team pictures, concession sales and workers, record-keeping and other paperwork needs, team fundraisers and much more. Whether you did a lot or did just a little, your willingness to step forward and help is greatly appreciated. Parents DO make a difference.

This year's Parent Reps as reported to the Booster Club by the coaches are:

Girls Basketball: Lorrie Scofield (Var), Rhonda Cochran (JV), Joann Smith (9th), Stacey Parker (7th grade)

Sideline Cheer: Cindy Harrington, Lori Barber (JV)

Cross Country: Michelle Krcatovich (HS), Amy Pegg (MS)

Football: Kami Fleckenstein (varsity), Vickie Sherwood (JV)

Boys Soccer: Kathy Coopmans and Joyce Thompson (varsity), Kim Arthur, Mary Kasprzyk (JV)

Girls Tennis: Dawn Hoyer, Melissa Dekkinga (varsity), Chris Gorby (JV)

Boys Basketball: Jon Cook (varsity), Jodi Byers (freshman)

Competitive Cheer: Kathy Coopmans (varsity), Patti Dobias (JV)

Swimming: Michelle Greenway, Bridget Waanders

Volleyball: Kim Arthur (varsity), Rhonda Cochran (JV), Tammy Gorby (freshman)

Wrestling: Michelle Krcatovich, Annette Simaz (varsity), Kami Fleckenstein (JV)

Baseball: Craig Sewell (varsity), Vickie Sherwood (JV)

Girls Soccer: Amy Christman, Trish Tremaine (varsity), Piper Raab (JV)

Softball: Brenda Weed (varsity), Shari Wilson (JV)

Boys Tennis: Kathy Coopmans, Mary VanderVeen (varsity)

Track: Jill Bentley

HOW TRUE! HOW TRUE!

According to research conducted by the Institute for the Study of Youth Sports "The bulk of the parents we have talked with buy into the educational athletics philosophy and want to support their coach and athletes in positive ways. In fact, research shows that parents are absolutely essential for helping young athletes develop.

HALL OF FAME - CLASS OF 2007

The Booster Club inducted its eleventh class into the Allegan High School Athletic Hall of Fame on May 19.

MELISSA FLEMING (ELLIS)

Graduated from AHS in 1985 after earning eight varsity letters – cross country and track. She held several Allegan HS records and was the Allegan County News winner her senior year. Melissa continued to excel in her chosen sports at the collegiate level at Hope College.

JOHN IRWIN

Graduated from AHS in 1964 after earning nine varsity letters – football, basketball, baseball and track. An all-state in basketball, John chose to play two years of football at the University of Michigan. He was the VanMelle Award winner in 1964.

LARRY LUTZ

Served in many coaching capacities at Allegan High School and each of his teams saw a great deal of success – golf, football, girls basketball and middle school boys basketball. While his successes on the scoreboard were many, his lasting achievement was the impact he had on his players and the coaches he mentored.

BOOSTER CLUB DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS

The Booster club recognized three individuals with the Bob Terry Distinguished Service Awards for their outstanding effort and contributions to the Booster Club and the athletic department over the years through their willingness to give of their gifts of time, energy and talent.

KEN FORSMAN

BRAD HAMMON

ANNETTE SIMAZ

One student was also recognized for her service to the Booster Club and athletic department and received the Booster Club Student Distinguished Service Awards

CARLEIGH ARTHUR

HONORARY LETTER

One individual was selected by the Booster Club to receive an honorary “A” in recognition of his longtime support of Allegan athletics

BOB HOYT

~~~THE LESSONS OF SPORT ~~~

It’s being around friends and learning together. It’s developing friendships that last a lifetime. It’s developing character and leadership skills for use in the “real world.”

It’s not about winning and losing. It’s about what you gain from the experience of going through both.

---Marc Vieau (Cadillac News)