

Grand Ledge High School's

The
Comets'
Tale



*Saying Goodbye to the
Grand Ledge High School
Class of 2022*

Volume 54 Issue 5 June 2022 820 Spring St. Grand



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Class of 2022

Lansing Community College

Alyssa Shaltry
Manny McCarthy
Riley Fulton
Liam Elder
Lillian Sinke
Brynn Wilson
Amaya Johnson

Darysse Ornevil
Nicole Moore
Emma Sebring
Willow Kludy
Alyssa Costello
Alexis Shoemakmer
Makayla Magoon

Esabella Rivera
Karen Mitchell
Malachi Benjamin
Brija Fradette
Ella Didion
Mitchell Stoakes

Michigan State University

Isabella Nelson
Kaili Heinze
Cole Bennett
Gracie McNeil
Camryn Nauta
Alyssa Navin
Benjamin Cook
Madelyn Prince
Ella Townsend

Charlotte Werth
Olivia Schelling
Maddy Hoyes
Lauren Schelling
Sammy McDiarmid
Jenna Hubbert
Yamene Sathishkumar
Natalia Perrone
Taya Pride

Adam Blue
Emily Crofut
Emma Olds
Kyle Robinson
Alena Damas
Merric Duffy
Kendra Kelly
Derek Fedewa

Central Michigan University

Aaron Moore
Garrett Callison
Ella Bruntjens

Kaedyn Hirschman
Ben Reynolds
Sophia Johnston

Olivia Johnson
Madelyn Marsh

Other Plans

Gracie Miller - Continuing
training through Eaton RESA

Chloe Whiddon - Protege
Academy for Cosmetology

Future Plans

Other Michigan Colleges



Craig Darnell - University of Michigan	Jenna James - Hope College
Sarah Lawrence - University of Michigan	Olivia Buchweitz - Albion College
Jenna Downs - University of Michigan	Khrysta Pardee - Cornerstone University
Jade Friedlis - University of Michigan	Emma Smitter - Davenport University
Ethan McCartney - University of Michigan	Carter Myers - Western Michigan University
Andrew Pham - University of Michigan	Josie Starr - Western Michigan University
Lindsey Zarka - Alma College	Harrison Lantz - Western Michigan University
Collin Neely - Aquinas College	Alex O'Connor - Grand Valley State University
Will Maher - Kalamazoo Valley	Alex Karkau - Grand Valley State University

Out of State Colleges



Leigha Pardee - Olivet Nazarene University
 DaNasia Vaughn Thomas - The Art Institute of Atlanta
 Ethan Harman - Illinois Institute of Technology
 Mackenzie Fitzpatrick - University of Findlay
 Ava Wegenke - Indiana University
 Jackson Horn - University of Notre Dame
 Alyssa Rainsberger - Indiana Wesleyan University
 Megan Reynaert - University of Pittsburgh
 Allie Diller - Mckendree University
 Luc Bennett - University of Miami
 Gaby Hinkle - University of Wisconsin Whitewater
 Kayla Roper - Liberty University
 Hailey Schafer - Arkansas State University
 Brady Smith - Coe College

Top 25 Sch



#1. Jade Friedlis

Parent(s): Lori Friedlis
Academic Achievements: AP Scholar with Honor, CAAC Senior Scholar Athlete, National Honors Society, MISCA All-State Academic Award, Student of the Month December 2019, CHAMP Graduate, CAAC All Academic Award
Extracurriculars: Drum major of the Grand Ledge Marching Band, captain of the swim and dive team, president of French club, varsity tennis, chair of Diversity Club, National Honors Society, Key Club, dance, and roller derby
Future Plans: Major in mechanical engineering at University of Michigan



#2. Alex Matthews

Parent(s): Brian, Angie Matthews
Academic Achievements: National Honors Society
Extracurriculars: Marching Band, French Club, Key Club, Tech Crew, Diversity Club, Eco Club
Future Plans: Major in Spanish and French at the University of Michigan



#3. Issac Hinshaw

Parent(s): Beth Horstmanshof, Christopher Hinshaw
Academic Achievements: NHS, 3x Outstanding Soloist at State Solo and Ensemble, Key Club
Extracurriculars: Marching Band, NHS, Key Club
Future Plans: Attend Michigan State University as part of both the Honors College and the College of Music within the Percussion Studio. Also auditioning for the Michigan State Drumline and hoping to be part of the Spartan Marching Band during college. Majoring in Music Education and plans on also having a Minor, but is undecided on that so far.
Additional Info:
"I was a Snare Section Leader and the Center Snarw for the marching band season this year on drumline."



#7. Craig Darnell

Parent(s): Ellie Darnell
Academic Achievements: N/A
Extracurriculars: Theater with All-of-us Express; D&D Club; French Club
Future Plans: Attend University of Michigan
Additional Info:
"participated in the MSU GATE program for English (ISHALL) during 9th and 10th grade"



#8. Madelyn Marsh

Parent(s): Erin, Todd Marsh
Academic Achievements: Being Secretary of NHS, attending HOBY seminar, attending girls state, All Academic Award
Extracurriculars: Musicals, International Thespians Society president, Peer Assistant Leaders Executive Board member, Dance at Rising Star
Future Plans: Study Data Science at Central Michigan University
Additional Info:
"2 year Madrigals member, news anchor at the high school"



#9. Austin Blackwell

Parent(s): Steve, Julie Blackwell
Academic Achievements: National Honor Society, Academic All-Conference, Academic All-State
Extracurriculars: Grand Ledge Varsity Football, Key Club
Future Plans: Study Computer Science at Lyman Briggs, Michigan State University
Additional Info:
"Mortgage Collector at First National Bank of America"



#13. Johnathon Vukovich

Parent(s): Kristy Churchill, Mark Vukovich
Academic Achievements: National Honors society, AP scholar award
Extracurriculars: Golf, NHS
Future Plans: Looking to become an aerospace engineer and found my own company



#14. Kylee Skutar

Parent(s): Jill, Kevin Skutar
Academic Achievements: NHS, Lions Club Student of the month, Daughters Of the American Revolution good citizen award
Extracurriculars: Marching band, Pals, German club, NHS
Future Plans: Attend Grand Valley for Bio-medical Engineering



#15. Olivia Buchweitz

Parent(s): John, Cynthia Buchweitz
Academic Achievements: Valedictorian, National Honors Society, CAAC Academic All-Conference
Extracurriculars: Varsity Soccer, Marching Band - Drumline
Future Plans: Attend Albion College to play soccer and study biochemistry with a concentration in Neuroscience.
Additional Info:
"I also enjoy coaching, community service events, hosting foreign exchange students, and traveling."



#19. Molly Scherer

Parent(s): Sonja, Greg Scherer
Academic Achievements: National Honors Society, DECA states, Student of the Month
Extracurriculars: Marching Band Leadership, German Club President, PALs, Key Club, Diversity Club
Future Plans: Attending Michigan State University in Lyman Briggs to study computational data science or statistics
Additional Info:
"Thank you to my teachers who pushed me to do my best!"



#20. Brodie Tomal

Parent(s): Eric Tomal
Academic Achievements: AP Scholar with Honor, CAAC Senior Scholar Honors roll, 95th percentile SAT score, accepted to MSU, 4.0 GPA
Extracurriculars: Film club
Future Plans: Graduate from MSU with a degree in computer science and pursue a career in software development.



#21. Colson Currie

Parent(s): Robin, Michelle Currie
Academic Achievements: National Honor Society and I was awarded Academic All Conference and Academic All-State for football.
Extracurriculars: Played football all 4 years of high school and was on the Grand Ledge Varsity football team for my Junior and Senior years.
Future Plans: Michigan State University in the fall and majoring in mechanical engineering.
Additional Info:
"Outside of school I enjoy weightlifting, bowling, playing video games and hanging out with friends."

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olars of 2022

PAGE 5 FEATURE



#4. Nolan Jolley

Parent(s): Amy, Kristopher Jolley
Academic Achievements: AP Scholar with Honors, CAAC Academic All Team, CAAC Academic All Conference, Michigan High School Association of Coaches Individual All Academic Award x4, 2021 CAAC Blue Division All-Conference Honorable Mention, National Honors Society,
Extracurriculars: Varsity Soccer, German Club, Key Club, NHS
Future Plans: Attend Lyman Briggs and Honors College at MSU to study Computer Science



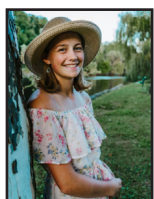
#5. Jackson Raymond

Parent(s): Jodi Wehling, Tom Raymond
Academic Achievements: AP Scholar with Distinction, CAAC Senior Scholar Athlete, National Honors Society
Extracurriculars: Wrestling, Football
Future Plans: Attend University of Michigan for pre-med



#6. Ellie Johnson

Parent(s): John, Karri Allen Johnson
Academic Achievements: AP Scholar Award, Scholarship from the M-Sci Academy at the University of Michigan
Extracurriculars: Girls State Michigan
Future Plans: Graduate from the University of Michigan with a degree in Mathematics. While at the University of Michigan, be a part of the M-STEM communities. Unsure exactly what she will end up doing, but it will be something that she finds fulfilling.



#10. Emily Crofut

Parent(s): Beth, Nick Crofut
Academic Achievements: CAAC Senior Scholar Athlete
Extracurriculars: Gymnastics, marching band, PALS, track
Future Plans: Attend MSU to study Human Biology
Additional info:
"Plans to be an obstetrician"



#11. Duncan Darnell

Parent(s): Ellie, William Darnell
Academic Achievements: NHS, AP Scholar with Honor (on track for with Distinction)
Extracurriculars: French club, NHS volunteering, birdwatching, gaming
Future Plans: Law School
Additional Info:
"I can usually be found playing Dark Souls or Pokémon when I should be studying."



#12. Luc Bennett

Parent(s): Jessica, Derek Bennett
Academic Achievements: Summa Cum Laude. National Honors Society. AP Calculus AB, Language and Composition, Probability and Statistics, Micro Economics, Macro Economics, and Calculus BC scholar. Kendall College of Art and Design student.
Extracurriculars: Key Club President, Environmental club secretary, PALS, Marching Band Leadership, and archery.
Future Plans: Study Architecture at The University of Miami School of Architecture.



#16. Hunter Goodwin

Parent(s): Ann, Bob Goodwin
Academic Achievements: National Honors Society
Extracurriculars: Marching band
Future Plans: College at MSU, studying environmental science.



#17. Gabriel Brewer

Parent(s): Gary, Heather Brewer
Academic Achievements: National Honors Society, AP Scholar with Distinction, and Academic All-Conference
Extracurriculars: Track, football, and German Club.
Future Plans: Study at Michigan State University.



#18. Madelyn Prince

Parent(s): Sue, Ralph Prince
Academic Achievements: NHS
Extracurriculars: NHS, Key Club, Marching Band, Diversity Club, Eco Club, Archery
Future Plans: Study psychology at MSU
Additional Info:
"I also hope to become a published author in the future."



#22. Will Ether

Parent(s): Bill, Tina Ether
Academic Achievements: Awarded by the MHSBCA a certificate of merit for the division one Academic all-district, all region, and all-state baseball team, National Honors Society. Top 25 scholar as well as top 25 GPA.
Extracurriculars: Played the piano for 10 years, worked at the Saint Francis Dewitt Retreat Center for four years, Red Cross blood donor, volunteered to support the military, and Played baseball since he was 8.
Future Plans: Attending Purdue University, College of Engineering.



#24. Reese Cordahl

Parent(s): Beth Cordahl
Academic Achievements: National Honors Society, Academic All-Conference, and Academic All-State
Extracurriculars: Grand Ledge Varsity Football and Grand Ledge Musical Theater
Future Plans: Attending the Honors College at Michigan State University and Majoring in Engineering
Additional Info:
"Captain of the Varsity Football Team"



#25. Sarah Lawrence

Parent(s): Julie, Jeff Lawrence
Academic Achievements: Summa Cum Laude, Academic All-Conference, MHSSCA award
Extracurriculars: Varsity Soccer and Marching Band clarinet section leader
Future Plans: Go to the University of Michigan to study pre-med and be a member of the U of M rowing team
Additional Info:
"I am apart of the LINK's peer-to-peer program and Wind Symphony."

#23. Will McNeilly

Will McNeilly politely declined to having his information and picture shared in this publication.

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THE COMETS' TALE

PAGE 6 FEATURE

Saying Goodbye To The



Cole Bennett- Editor In Chief

It has been my privilege to be an editor-in-chief for the paper. I get to read half of the articles being put out for publication. I've gotten to see so many stories and read so much of my peers' work, and I've loved doing it. Newspaper to me is so much more than an English class; it's a team of like-minded individuals with a shared passion for journalism.

Additionally, I've had the opportunity to bring back the Comets' Tale podcast. I've essentially had the privilege of starting up a whole new project, creating a format, editing it all together, and having a fun time with the podcast cast members. The future of the Comet Cast is in very good hands, with Isabella Dionise and Maddy Gooley, our future editors-in-chief, returning, and a new editor, Mayra Cruz Santiago.

This class has been some of the most fun I've had in my high school career. It has also been very educational, and I'm so glad I've had this opportunity.

Future Plans

Cole Bennett
Michigan State University- Film Studies
Megan Reynaert
University of Pittsburgh- Rehabilitation Science
Olivia Schelling
Michigan State Univeristy- Data Science



Megan Reynaert- Editor In Chief

Newspaper is so much more than just a class. Being a part of this staff means having a part in something so much bigger than our high school, even bigger than Grand Ledge. The world of media and journalism has so many different sides to it; being a part of the Grand Ledge High School Newspaper Staff gives you the opportunity to not only learn important life skills but also build both professional connections and personal friendships.

I was involved with journalism for all four years of high school, eventually joining the Newspaper Staff at the start of my junior year. My first year in Newspaper was a special experience to say the least. We couldn't publish a print newspaper, so we leaned further into posting on the website and starting up our social media. I went from being a staff writer, to social media chair, to now being Co-Editor-in-Chief. Being one of the Editors-in-Chief has been one of the best experiences, while also being one of the most stressful things I have ever done.

The experiences and opportunities I have had in Newspaper are something I will remember well in college. Newspaper has made me a better writer, a better leader, and given me some amazing friends.

Carmen Cline
Lansing Community College
Liam Elder
Lansing Community College
Undecided- Track Committ



Olivia Schelling- Co-Editor

Where do I even begin? Thank you, Newspaper. To think that just a year ago, I had no idea what I was doing in this class. I had not taken a single journalism course and was clueless about what it took to be a writer. I was scared and very tempted to switch out of this class.

News flash, I ended up staying with it (otherwise you wouldn't be reading this). Man, can I say that this was one of the greatest choices I made. Not only did I go from nothing to becoming one of the editors (Co-Editor and Features Editor), but I made countless new friends and connections. Newspaper has made me more confident as a person and a leader.

The staff on the team are some of the greatest people I have ever met. The staff never failed to make me laugh or feel special. These relationships are some that I will never forget.

I also want to say how amazing it is to watch how far I've come as a writer. I remember writing my very first article, stressing out about it, and having the editor tell me that it was insanely long and not necessary. I thought I had to have pages and pages of work, but that is certainly not the case. Now, I am constantly writing articles that are short and sweet that I am confident about.

Lastly, I want to say thank you to Ms. Scott. She is one of the most influential people I know and has always been there for me no matter what. Also, thank you to everyone who took the time to read my articles. Good luck to the staff next year!

Comets' Tale Senior Staff



Carmen Cline- Staff Writer

Being on Newspaper has been one of my favorite things at Grand Ledge High School. It's an amazing class that I really loved.

In Newspaper, I always got to hear all kinds of news, opinions, and topics. I got to write articles about very interesting topics, and I learned a lot about different holidays, people, and more. I got to meet a variety of different people on the staff. We all work together to make our newspaper look professional, and I've always loved talking to everyone on the News Staff.

I've always enjoyed the talks we have about current events and planning podcasts together as a group. Knowing everyone on the staff has been a great experience. I feel like I opened up as a person a lot more when I joined the News Staff, and I'm so glad I took the class.

It feels like only yesterday when I first joined the News Staff and knew nothing about writing an article. Now I feel more confident as a writer after taking News Staff. This class has been truly wonderful, and I am going to miss it so much after I leave.

Future Plans

Garrett Callison
Central Michigan University-
Meterology
Ben Lascola
Michigan State University- Finance



Liam Elder- Photo Editor

My dad graduated High School in 1989. Back then they had to use a dark room to develop photos and manually cut and paste lines of text. Nowadays, we take pictures with digital cameras and type our stories on google documents.

A lot has changed, but not everything. Talking with him I realized one thing that never did change, the great environment and people on the newspaper team. I joined Newspaper during the year of virtual learning by happenstance and ever since I have done nothing but enjoy my time.

Working with such a diverse group of people, with different views and opinions, really helps to accumulate a broad view of news in the world. I would like to finish my time in Newspaper to encourage anyone interested in media presentation, or even if you're not, to join Newspaper because it is one of the best confidences that ever happened to me.



Ben Lascola- Staff Writer
Its been real.



Garrett Callison- Section Editor

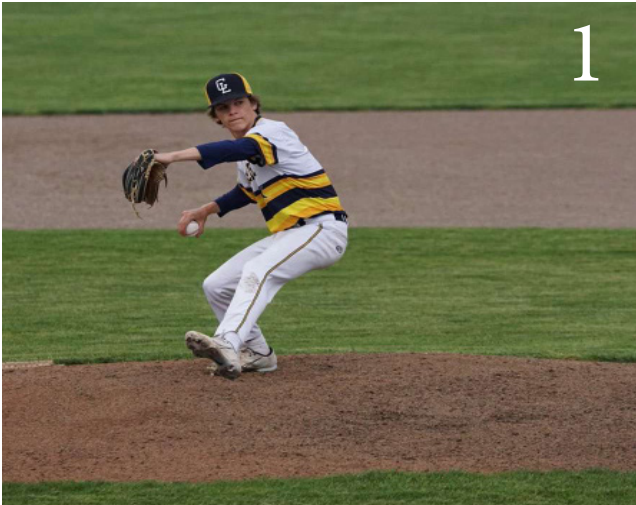
Newspaper was another adventure for me. I did not know what this path of twist and turns would contain. Now I just want the path to continue and not end, but all stories have a conclusion. I have enjoyed these two years I have been in Newspaper, I never even thought I would become a section editor for opinions.

The real thing that kept me going in this class is the amazing people I got to work with. Each one of these exceptional people have their own way of writing and they all have different diverse aspects that only help this paper move forward. I have learned about writing and how to work together as a team. All these people would come together and find the stories that would only add to the student input. I never thought I would learn so much from a class like this, I thought it was just going to be a class where I write to my heart's content. All of us laughed, cried and stayed passionate towards this paper. So many memories are contained within these walls of the classroom and I hope more continue to be made.

Sadly, all paths lead to an opportunity beyond the present. All stories have an ending. All sentences have punctuation, thus mine have to come to and end as well. I just want to say one thing, thank you. Thank you all for being the perfect team of teenagers running a Newspaper staff.

All photos were supplied by Senior staff members.

Senior Athletes



1



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1. Will Maher: Will is attending Kalamazoo Valley Community College with teammate Alex Maguire. Will's favorite memory was the Florida spring break trip with the team.
2. Riley Fulton: Riley will be doing dance at Lansing Community College. Her favorite dance memory is nationals last year.
3. Caden Knight: Caden will be playing basketball at Tiffin University. His favorite sports memory is winning CAAC Blue Conference Championships and proving his haters wrong.
4. Alyssa Rainsberger: Alyssa will be attending Indiana Wesleyan University for swimming. Her favorite high school memory is winning the 400 meter free relay junior year and making it to states when nobody thought they could.
5. Liam Elder: Liam will be attending Lansing Community College with the hope of running at Michigan State University. His favorite memory was the cross country camp during summer.
6. Collin Neely: Collin - in the middle holding his teammate - will be attending Aquinas College for swimming. His favorite memory is the freshman year bleaching party.



Grant Dorland
CO-EDITOR



Liam Elder
PHOTO EDITOR

Head off to College



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7. Sarah Lawrence: Sarah will be rowing at the University of Michigan. Her favorite memory is winning the Bronze Cup.

8. Jenna James: Jenna will be playing volleyball at Hope College. Her favorite memory is winning districts.

9. Olivia Buchweitz: Olivia will be playing Soccer at Albion College. Her favorite memory is winning the Silver Cup her freshman year.

10. Olivia Johnson: Olivia will be running at Lansing Community College and then attending Central Michigan University. She loved every second of track and cross country, saying, "running was the best thing I could have done in High School."

11. Addie Patterson: Addie will be running cross country and track for Cornerstone University. Her favorite memory is meeting her closest friends through track.

Photos provided by Senior athletes

Athletes not pictured:

Adam Blue: Adam will be attending Michigan State University for Track and Field. His favorite high school memory was breaking the school Pole Vault record.

Sophia Johnson: Sophia will be attending Central Michigan University for Cheer. Her favorite high school memory was waving the Grand Ledge flag down the sideline.



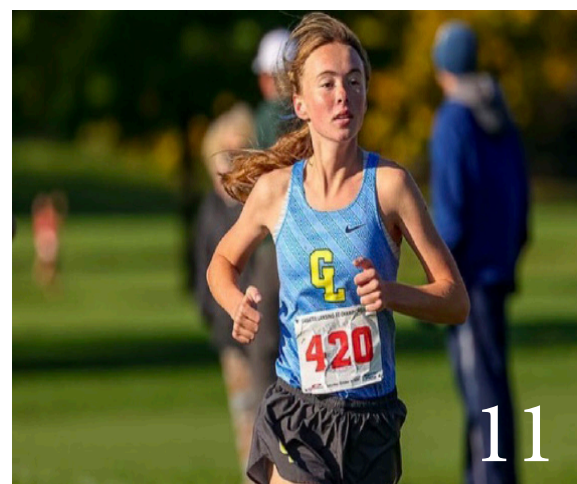
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10



11



Best Laugh:
Darby Wilson
Carson Winans

Best Artist:
Averie Cooper
Jenna Downs

Most Likely to be a Soccer Parent:
Mitchell Carlson
Olivia Buchweitz

Most Likely to Sleep in Class:
Peter Foran
Eli Mull

Worst Car Parker:
Ava Wegenke
Paul Woods

Next Grand Ledge Teacher:
Amelia Diaz
Alyssa Shaltry

Most Spirited:
Kaedyn Hirschman
Sophia Johnston

Daddy's BFF:
Owen Smith
Jenna James

Momma's BFF:
Alyssa Keck
Carsen Piper

Class Clown:
Elysia Azzi
Justin Odlum

Gold Digger:
Sydni Bois
Emma Sebring

Biggest Flirt:
Alex Karkau
Sharan Kaur

Best Eyes:
Amaya Johnson
Carter Myers

Should Have Dated:
Elysia Azzi & Aidan Brockwell

Best Eyebrows:
Isaiah Garcia
John Pastras

Best Facial Hair:
Cole Mance
Reilly McCrackin

Most Likey to be ID'd at 30:
Tennille Wirtz
Manny McCarthy

Best Dressed:
Avery Anthony & Jackson Horn

Most Innocent:
Emily Crofut & Garrett Callison

Social Butterfly:
Kaili Heinze
Suji Sathiskumar

Busiest:
Emma Olds
Luc Bennett

Best All Around:
Ethan McCartney
Thomas Kerrigan

Most Athletic:
Taylor Piper
Nathan Edlin

Biggest Ego:
Alex Maguire
Ella Townsend

Best Ride:
Isaiah Bailey
Max Hedberg

Best to Take Home to Parents:
Zion Jones
Andrew Pham

Biggest Heart:
Ella Clements
Isabella Ruedise

Most Likely to be Famous:
Amina Vakili
Leo Ackerman

Most Likely to be on Broadway:
Maria Perez
Aaron Moore

Class Parent:
Ben Cook
Camryn Nauta

Most Likely to be a Millionaire:
Austin Blackwell
Mitchell Stoakes

Attached at the Hip:
Alyssa Navin & Kaedyn Hirschman

Best Hair:
Sydney Weiler
Reese Cordahl

Best Smile:
Charlotte Werth
Ella Didion

Best Dancer:
Kyson Dukes
Mackenzie Martinson

Cry Baby:
Olivia Strayer
Kaylee Payne

Biggest Change:
Xavier Sheerin
Ayla Holm

Most Sarcastic:
Grace Buffin
Cole Bennett

Most Likely to Cure Cancer:
Caleb Curry
Duncan Darnell

Best with the Aux:
Jackson Collier
Cade Tackett

Most Optomistic:
Emersyn Truong
Gracin Patterson

Scariest Driver:
Kyle Robinson
Taya Pride

Most Likely to be Mistaken for a Celebrity:
Hallee Morgan
Maddy Yang

Most Likely to Trip while Accepting this Award:
Natalie Perrone
Ben Reynolds

Best Shoe Game:
Kaiden Knight
Anthony Fent

Exchange Student of the Year:
Elle Henry
Audan Saeterno

Most Likely to go to Harvard:
Madelyn Marsh
Nolan Jolley

Most Likely to be a Family Vlogger:
Caylee Blake
Hailey Schafer

Cutest Couple:
Brady Smith
Ella Clements

Most Likely to Join a Fraternity/Sorority:
Adam Blue
Preston Lowell

Most Spirited:
Dr. Wright

Most Likely to Come Back and Visit:
Ms. Taylor

Best Storyteller:
Mr. Shaltry

Teacher of the Year:
Mr. Krumm

Community Member of the Year:
Mr. Sub

Next Newton:
Jade Friedlis

Next CEO:
Max Hedburg

Next President:
Tennile Wirtz

Next Frank Sinatra:
Maria Perez

Greatest Impact:
Madelyn Marsh

A Night at the Oscars



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1. Amina Vakili accepts her Oscar for Most Likely to be Famous. Her award was one of the categories that her fellow seniors voted on.
2. Aaron Moore and John Pastras emcee the event. The emcees gave commentary and helped entertain the crowd.
3. Audan Saetero gives his speech for the Exchange Student of the Year award. Elle Henry also took home an Oscar in this category.
4. Cole Bennett and Amanda Gatewood announce the award for Most Likely to Be a Soccer Parent. Mitchell Carlson and Olivia Buchweitz won this award.

Photos by Grant Dorland/The Comets' Tale



Isabella Dionise
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Grant Dorland
STAFF WRITER





***Congratulations to
Brayden Bartlett and the
entire Class of 2022!***

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PAGE 13 FEATURE

A Blast Through The Past



Carmen Cline
STAFF WRITER

The Class of 2022's Favorite Memories from GLPS

As the year comes to a close, the Seniors reflect on all the memories they went through. A poll was sent out to the Class of 2022 asking them about their favorite memories at Grand Ledge Public Schools. It is fun to look back on the memories that Seniors have accumulated over the years they've spent at Grand Ledge. Grand Ledge has a very diverse and inclusive community in its schools, with many different activities offered in each school.

Ben Lascola
STAFF WRITER



Photo provided by Olivia Schelling/The Comets' Tale



Photo by Olivia Schelling/The Comets' Tale



Photo provided by Olivia Schelling/The Comets' Tale



Photo by Olivia Schelling/The Comets' Tale



Photo by Olivia Schelling/The Comets' Tale

1. Memories such as the field trip to Greenfield Village are notable, a trip that all elementary schools went to in the 5th grade. Greenfield Village is a historic village, with American history being the highlight of its existence. It shows what the founding of America was like in Michigan. Greenfield Village is located in Dearborn, Michigan with trains from the time period and houses from the period it was built. The field trip had the kids tour all around the village, and see how interesting the time period was in Greenfield Village.
2. COVID-19 had a huge influence on life at school, for all schools and grade levels. Online school persisted for an entire school year, with students not allowed to be inside the buildings. Distance-learning ended completely at the beginning of the current school year, with students returning to school with masks being required. About half-way through the school year, the mask mandate was removed allowing students to go to school without masks.
3. Sports are very popular in any school district, and many people start out young in their respective sport. Sports such as football, cheerleading, basketball, volleyball, lacrosse, and soccer all start out young. Youth sports may not get as much coverage, but they are very important to start out a journey to become a great athlete in any given sport.
4. This year's Junior and Senior dances were excellent. The prom venue was a gorgeous rustic farm property and the dance was held in an open barn. For most Seniors, this was the only prom that anyone had attended due to COVID-19 restrictions in the past years. The dances consisted of students and teachers alike who all enjoyed the music and confections that were provided. There was even an ice cream truck in the back with a wide variety of flavors to enjoy at prom. Overall it is agreed that Junior and Senior dances were the climax of high school.
5. One of the most memorable and favorite staff members is the one and only Mr. Delayne. When AP exams came up for AP Economics, he waited early in the morning to give a speech to the students as an extra boost. He also waited in the parking lot for two and a half hours until the test was done just to congratulate everyone for their efforts. After the exams the following week, he decided to have a monopoly tournament with the whole class. The winners were awarded gift cards to Chick-fil-A and the movie theater.

A Goodbye Letter From Your Editors-in-Chief

Dear Grand Ledge High School Students and Staff,

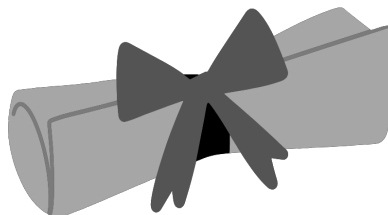
We want to start off by giving a huge thank you to everyone who provided interviews, posed for pictures, or simply read and appreciated the work of the Newspaper Staff over the past year. Everyone on the staff has worked so hard to produce these articles for you all, and we couldn't be more proud of how this final publication has turned out.

To our fellow Seniors on the staff, Olivia Schelling, Garrett Calison, Liam Elder, Carmen Cline, and Ben Lascola, thank you for all your hard work and dedication, and we wish you all the best in the future.

We know we are leaving the newspaper in the most capable hands, with Isabella Dionise and Madeline Gooley taking over as Editors-in-Chief. We can't wait to see everything they accomplish next year, but for now, enjoy our Senior Edition, and Congratulations to our fellow members of the Class of 2022!

Best,

Megan Reynaert and Cole Bennett, 2021-2022 Editors-in-Chief.



A Letter From Your NEW Editors-in-Chief



Dear Grand Ledge High School Student Body and 2022 Graduates,

First, we would like to say thank you to the 2022 Seniors of Newspaper for all of their hard work and dedication. Thank you for showing us how important the Newspaper is to you and the school community. Congratulations on graduating, and we hope to stay in touch with you!

We have spent the last year learning and working hard to make the best newspaper we can for you, the student body. As incoming Editors-in-Chief, we are so grateful to be a part of this newspaper. We are excited to keep the traditions of the newspaper alive, while bringing in some new ideas too! We want to thank you for taking time out of your day to read our work and what everyone has contributed to improving this newspaper, because we write for you.

This year was amazing, and we hope to make next year just as great! We want to continue to work for a better newspaper, expand our podcast, improve our website, and make news more accessible to students around the school.

We have learned what it means to be a hard worker and we have learned so much more about ourselves. Looking forward to next year wouldn't even begin to describe our excitement!

From,

Next year's Comets' Tale Editors-in-Chief, Isabella Dionise and Madeline Gooley

Guess The Graduate!

Class of 2022 Edition

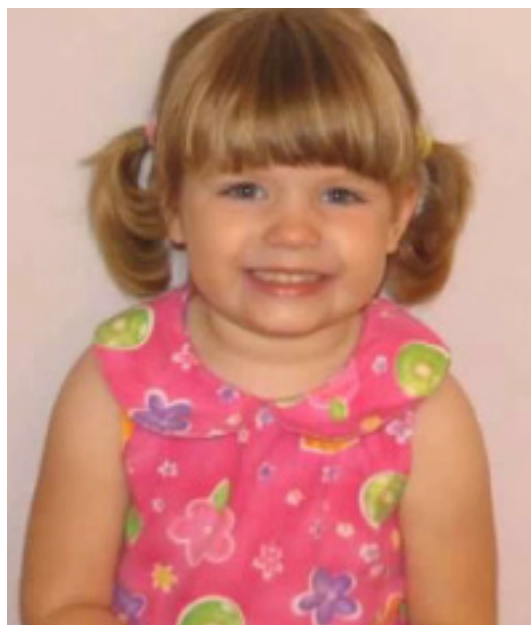
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8



- ANSWERS**
 1. Kaylee Payne
 2. Evan McLaren
 3. Ella Townsend
 4. Aaron Moore
 5. Jenna James
 6. Demetrius Mills
 7. Alyssa Costello
 8. Alyssa Navin

The BIG Dance

Grand Ledge High School Juniors and Seniors enjoy an enchanted night in the forest



Braelyn Jackson-Pointer
STAFF WRITER

The BIG dance commenced on Friday May 6 at Hidden Creek Farms. With an ice cream truck, snacks, games and music, students were thoroughly entertained. This year

was the first year that prom was like it was before COVID-19, with no masks, no social distancing and a very fun time.

Before the dance even started, there were weeks spent planning one of the most important events of the school year. The hard work and preparation Student Council put in really paid off.

"I think the hardest part about planning prom was figuring out the decorations we wanted and didn't want while trying to keep the cost down," Alyssa Navin, a Senior on Student Council said.

Not only was Student Council putting in a lot of preparation, students who attended also did. Trying to find the perfect dress or suit could prove to be a challenge. Some students got their outfits just a few days before the dance.

"I found my dress the night before prom and it was very stressful because I couldn't find the 'Perfect Dress' after going to many stores," Junior, Kate Vang, said.

Preparation for such a big day can include hair, nails, makeup, lunch, and dinner plans. Some students spent a lot of their day doing these things to make sure that they looked perfect for prom.

"I hung out with my friends, ate sushi and did self care to prepare for prom," Senior, Emily Crofut said.

Another big part of prom night/day is pictures. Picture location is very important. A popular spot

was the Opera House in downtown Grand Ledge.

"I got my haircut and makeup done for prom before I went home and did some touch ups before I left for pictures," Senior, Brija Fradette said.

The night started off with a backed up parking lot and walking through the mud. The parking lot was small for how many people were there, but they somehow made it work for the people who got there early.

"The parking lot was bad, I thought that my car was gonna get stuck," Junior, Andy Gutierrez, said.

When students got through all the mud (since it had rained earlier) they walked to the extremely long line to get in. The downside was that the barn was on the smaller side and it was packed.

"I liked the location but there wasn't much space," Sophomore, Marissa Whetter, said.

Prom had a new vibe then the other school dances from this year. While they still stuck to the classics like "What Makes You Beautiful" by One Direction, the new DJ also played a variety of things.

He played "First Day Out" by Tee Grizzley, some Daddy Yankee, Cardi B's "Up," and a crowd favorite "Starships" by Nicki Minaj. The dance floor was very crowded with people dancing, jumping and singing everywhere. Especially, when "First Day Out" and "Mo Bamba" came on. Students went crazy.

The dance circle had everyone hyped and moving for whoever was in the middle. There were backflips and a variety of Tik Tok dances. Students even started a crowd surf that was quickly shut down by school officials present.

After everyone had their fill of dancing, snacks and ice cream, the dreaded parking lot came back into

Madison Bartlett
STAFF WRITER



play. Now, at 10 p.m. it was even colder walking through the mud when it was pitch black outside. "My car got stuck in the mud and had to be pulled out by a tractor," Junior, Morgan Bagneschi, stated.

To say the least, leaving Prom was a struggle since everyone left at the same time. It quickly got chaotic. Despite that, everyone made it home to participate in their after prom activities, whether that be an after party or just going home and having a sleepover with friends.

The Seniors, Juniors, and a few Sophomores were able to have a great time at the last dance of the school year. Even though some parts of the prom were questionable, everyone seemed to have a good time, parking and all.

Below Left : A prom guest does a backflip in the middle of the dance circle. The crowd was in awe after watching this guest do a backflip.

Photo by Madison Bellet/The Ledge Yearbook.

Below: Ben Lascola and Kyson Dukes lead the dance circle by starting a kickline. Everyone around the dance circle hyped the kickline up.

Photo by Braelyn Jackson-Pointer/The Comets' Tale



Seniors Take Off

Seniors finished off their last day of high school on May 27 by having a field day with their class.



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1. Jade Friedlis, Alex Matthews, and Alena Damas fight together in a tug of war! The exciting game began at noon and lasted all day.
2. The final group photo of the Senior class is taken before getting rained on. Farewell Class of 2022!
3. Noel Dymond and Lynn Smith smile for the camera. These two Seniors rocked their leis at the Hawaiian themed party.
4. Jourdan Girven, Demetrius Mills, and Roshan Fitzpatrick pose for a picture. Many Seniors were happy to be outside with their friends.
5. Elizabeth Smith draws a pink flower during the chalk drawing contest. The winner recieved a \$10 gift card.
6. Levi Reeves prepares to catch a beach ball. Reeves and his friends were quick to play one of the games at the event.
7. Seniors participated in a potato sack race. The players tried to reach the finish line for the win!
8. More Senior friends play an intense game of catch. This game was played right before the big rainfall that ended the event.

Photos by Marisol Macias and Mayra Cruz Santiago/ The Comets' Tale



Marisol Macias
STAFF WRITER



Mayra Cruz Santiago
STAFF WRITER



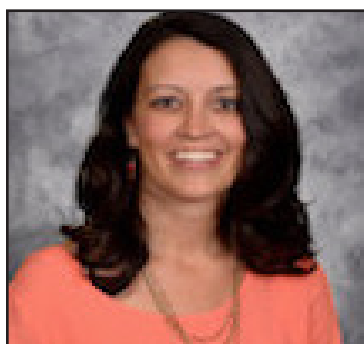
Miss Christenson

"Always remember to remain true to your values. Be kind. Practice integrity. Don't allow another person's opinion of you to define your own self-worth."



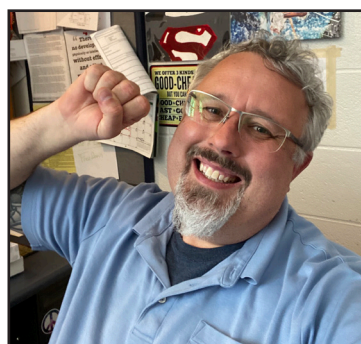
Señorita Corby

"STUDY ABROAD! Just do it! You will have an amazing experience and meet a lot of new people and get out of your 'little bubble'. I promise that you will have the time of your life and make so many new memories!"



Ms. Dohm

"Get involved in intramural sports and activities, travel and study abroad, and do not take your mental health and physical health for granted. Self-care is important, ask for help when you need it. Shine bright Comets!"



Mr. Heany

"Do not rush the tattooing process. When you have an idea for a tattoo, sit with that idea for a year. If you still have that idea after a year contact an accomplished artist. Be willing to travel to receive the best experience. Be willing to wait even longer; the best artists open their appointment books only once or twice a year. Take the time to save up the money to pay for an artist that you deserve. Be patient, you have a lot of life ahead of you and the world does not need another crappy tattoo."



Mrs. Heriford

"Keep a learning attitude! There's still so much to learn."



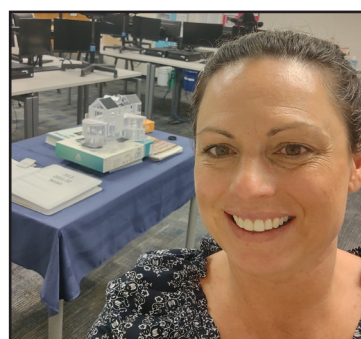
Mrs. Hoffman

"Be honest, be your best, and be you! Stay true to who you are and from where you came."



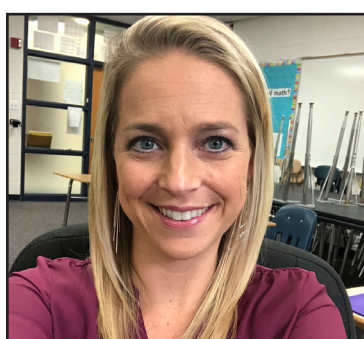
Mrs. Howard

"It's ok to fail! If it were easy then you'd already be where you are supposed to be. Life is tough but it is also pretty amazing. Enjoy the ride, make new friends, keep some old and set goals. Goals can be tiny or grand, just keep working towards them."



Mrs. Schroeder

"Strive for perfection in everything you do. Take the best that exists and make it better. When it does not exist, design it."
—Sir Henry Royce, English engineer and car designer



Ms. Westen

"Graduate high school: Check!
Next on the to do list: Live your life to the fullest!
Things to remember: Always think about where you'd like to be a decade down the road, and do what you need to in order to get there. But as you do, don't let life pass you by. Enjoy the journey; it'll make the destination that much better!

Congratulations, GLHS Class of 2022!"



Mrs. Zeko

"Know that everyone's path is different, and may not be straight. Each curve, bump or detour offers you a chance to learn and grow and find out more about yourself. Define success for yourself, and never lose sight of the dreams you have. You may take longer to get there, you may have lots of scut work on your path, but you WILL get there. Be kind to yourself and others. All of the kindness you put out into the world comes back in a million little ways that are unpredictable!
You are amazing young adults and it has been my honor to know you and work with you!"

Unsolicited Advice From A Senior

Tips and tricks for the incoming classes of Grand Ledge High School students



Cole Bennett
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

High school. The so-called scariest place on earth. This stigma surrounding the high school years is something for bad movies and anti-vaping ads.

In reality, it's not as terrifying as some would have you believe. You just have to find your stride, and I, Cole Bennett, am here to give you some pointers on how to do just that. So all you incoming Freshmen, Sophomores, and even you cocky Juniors that think you've got it all figured out, you better listen up.

Step 1: Find your people. Friends are hands down the most important part of school. Knowing people is how the world turns, and making it through high school is no exception. I'm a naturally social person, but I know that's not the life for everyone. Regardless of social comfort level, I still believe it is important, crucial even, to establish friendships and positive relationships with your peers. I know it can seem daunting, but most people are in the market for new friends. People aren't opposed to positive relationships right off the bat. If you put yourself out there, you will find people who want to spend time with you, and those people are the ones who will get you through high school.

Step 2: Live a little. Grades are important. They're the metric that your high school education is measured by. That and SAT scores, I guess. But that's just your education. The high school experience is so

more than sitting in a classroom and learning.

The school provides plenty of outlets for what I would consider living a little. Clubs, groups, teams, etc. Grand Ledge High School has everything from an anime club to a water polo team. Whatever your interests are, there's a decent chance that the school has you covered. We've got all sorts of sports teams (Football, Basketball, Marching Band, Gymnastics, Volleyball, Tennis, etc.), we've got all sorts of associations (Student Council, National Honors Society, Newspaper, Yearbook, PALS, LINKS, etc.) and clubs out the wazoo (Womens' Equality, Women in Literature, Gender and Sexuality Alliance, Anime, Robotics, and my personal favorite, Film Club, plus many more). These clubs, groups and sports teams are a great place to find some like-minded individuals and pursue interests that you have.

Another step in the process of living a little is getting to hang out. Get out with your friends and have a good time. I can tell you a long, long, near endless list of good memories I have from spending time with the friends I've made in high school. Whether that be at lunch, in class, during a club, or outside of school. The weekend is a break, not a time to hole up in your room and do a bunch of homework. I mean, do homework if you have it, but don't let it get in the way of having a good time. Get out, go for a walk on the Ledges with your pals, get some ice cream and do some (acceptable/legal) stupid stuff! Go sledding in the winter and biking in the spring. Catch a movie at the (hopefully reopening) Sun Theater. These are your golden years or whatever, get out and live 'em.

Step 3: Don't get overwhelmed. This one is tricky,

but from my experience, and lack of general preparation, planning, or time management skills, I think this is an important step. High school can feel like a lot. Classes upon classes, friends, drama, extracurricular activities, the whole package. But here's the thing; it only seems like a lot. In reality, with some planning on the part of the students, high school can be a fairly smooth journey.

Part of this process has to do with classes. Make your schedule manageable. If you have it in you to take five AP classes, more power to you. But that is not for most people, and that is perfectly okay. Try not to feel pressured to take difficult courses. Education is important, but in my opinion, it loses its value if it comes along with a lot of undue stress, and a lot of free time lost. I tried my hand at AP Bio, and it wasn't for me. The workload for that class was a whole lot to handle, and it ended up becoming too much for me. So, before it got worse, I dropped it and took Creative Writing, a class that, as a writer, has taught me a lot. This past trimester has been a lot more enjoyable and a lot less stressful because I changed courses, and changed the course of my year as a result.

So yeah. I think that about does it. Find your stride, have some fun, and try not to get overwhelmed. I promise all of you, high school is a breeze. It'll be over before you know it, so make the most with what you have, and have a good year! I'm out, see ya.

Senior Cole Bennett poses one last time in front of GLHS. Cole was an editor-in-chief for The Comets' Tale Newspaper this year.

Photos by Mayra Cruz Santiago/ The Comets' Tale



Congratulations Caden! We are so very proud of you! Love you more, Mom, Dad, Conner and ALL those in your corner! We love you!!!



ct

THE COMETS' TALE PAGE 20 ADVERTISEMENT



CONGRATULATIONS

Grand Ledge High School Class of 2022!



Call **Nick Cypher** today!

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