

Michtrack Michigan High School Athletes of the Year

Other organizations and media outlets name athletes of the year. It's an important honor and a crucial recognition for the sport. So often, though, these names are lost to history, and we have trouble remembering the best of the best. That's why in this compilation, I have made great efforts to go as far back as possible.

How are these athletes selected? Let me explain as well as I can:

- This recognition is only for track & field. An athlete's cross country exploits are not figured in at all.
- This also only recognizes an athlete's achievements over one season. What they did before or after that is ignored.
- These rankings go beyond the MHSAA season and include summer competition.
- While some rankings, such as MITCA's Mr. & Miss Track, are only for seniors, this is open to any grade.
- These rankings only include outdoor track.
- While an outstanding relay leg may factor in an athlete's selection, a relay team is not eligible.
- I made a big effort not to penalize one-event athletes. A sprinter who can do 3-4 events should not have an advantage here over a pole vaulter, who typically specializes in one event.
- Dominance is key. But that doesn't mean "undefeated," necessarily. There are many undefeated athletes every year. And there are many state champions every year. Currently each year there are 203 boys that can call themselves state champions (including runners on winning relays) and 203 girls. So while being a state champion is a wonderful accomplishment, to make this ranking, one has to go way beyond that, usually.
- One way to evaluate dominance is to take a good look at the athlete's effect on history: state records, all-time lists, and such. That's because an athlete might look dominant in a weak year in that event, but the all-time lists compare the athlete to all the athletes who have ever done that event.
- Another way I evaluated dominance was to look at how the athlete measured against national competition. Basically, all things being equal, it sure does help to do well at one of the big post-season meets.
- Finally, no ties allowed. There were years it was painful to make a choice. There have been people who lost out who would have won the honor nearly any other year. Conversely, there have been years where it was a struggle to come up with a person who stands head and shoulders above the rest. That's the breaks.

Michigan Athletes of the Year – Boys

2017 – Cameron Cooper (Oak Park)

At 800, D1 champ in 1:51.22. Runner-up at NBN (1:51.33). USATF Junior Champion in 1:47.59, the #6 high school performance in U.S. history (1:48.60 in heat). Ran 1:50.00 in the heats of the Pan-Am Junior Champs before being DQed in the final. Won AAU Junior Olympic title in 1:51.96. In other events, placed 2nd in D1 1600 at 4:08.96. Ran a

47.95 to anchor the D1 4x4 champs and a 1:48.66 to anchor the D1 4x8 champs. Ran a 1:47.79 to anchor the national championship sprint medley in a state record 3:20.25, the #2 time in U.S. history.

2016 – Connor Bandel (Oxford)

In the shot, broke the state record at Oakland County (67-2.5), won D1 with another state record (67-5.75) and the Midwest Meet (67-4.25). Broke the state record again at New Balance Nationals with his 68-10.75 for 4th place. Also broke the record for the Junior shot weight (6k) with his 63-8.75 to place 6th at USA Juniors. Moved to No. 2 all-time in the discus with his 204-2. Won D1 (198-11) and New Balance (202-7). Also set a state record with the Junior discus (1.75k) at 202-7 to win the USA Juniors. Ranked #1 in nation in the discus by *Track & Field News*.

2015 – Grant Fisher (Grand Blanc)

The first repeat winner since Dathan Ritzenhein, Fisher won another D1 double, running 4:00.28 (4:01.67 state record for the full mile) and 8:53.41. Repeated as Dream Mile champion (4:01.73) and became the first Michigan prep to break the 4:00 mile with his 3:59.38 in St. Louis. Took 2nd at the Brooks PR 2 mile in a state record 8:43.57. Ranked No. 1 in the United States in the mile, No. 2 in the 2 mile, by *Track & Field News*.

2014 – Grant Fisher (Grand Blanc)

Won the D1 double in 4:10.82 & 9:07.11. Won the Dream Mile in NYC in a state record 4:02.02. Won the Brooks PR 2 mile in 8:51.28 to become NBo. 2 all-time in state history. Runner-up at USA Juniors in the 1500. Ranked No. 1 in the nation by *Track & Field News* in both the mile and 2 mile.

2013 – Cullen Prena (Walled Lake Central)

His 210-1 with the discus at the D1 finals was the No. 1 throw in the United States for the year. He also won the D1 shot at 60-11. Placed 4th at New Balance in shot (61-0) and 10th in the discus (181-2).

2012 – Jaime Salisbury (Marine City)

Won the D2 pole vault at 16-1 before capturing the Midwest Meet of Champions at 16-6, tying for the No. 3 performer in state history. Placed 2nd at New Balance Nationals with a 16-0 leap.

2011 – Dartis Willis (Detroit Country Day)

After jumping an indoor state record of 7-2.25 indoors, Willis leaped outdoor state records of 7-2 twice outdoors and added a 7-1 win before taking the D2 title at 6-11. Ranked No. 2 in nation by *Track & Field News*.

2010 – Omar Kaddurah (Grand Blanc)

After winning his regional 1600 in 4:07.59, the junior won the D1 1600 in a meet record 4:07.67, then placed 3rd at New Balance Nationals with his 4:08.50 over the full mile distance, becoming No. 5 all-time in state history. He became the first in state history to have 3 clockings under 4:08 in one season.

2009 – Zack Hill (Allendale)

The senior broke T.J. Duckett's 10-year-old state record in the shot with his 67-0.5 at the West Ottawa Relays and then improved it to 67-1.25 to place 5th at Nike Outdoor Nationals. Put 11 throws into the state's all-time top 20, not counting a 67-11.25 on a sloping field. Won the Midwest Meet of Champions. Threw the discus 186-9.

2008 – Roscoe Payne (Flint Carman-Ainsworth)

The senior won both hurdle races at D1, clocking 13.99w and 37.86. Took 2nd in the highs at the Midwest Meet in 14.07 into a fierce headwind, then rocketed the 300 hurdles in 36.86 to become No. 2 in state history.

2007 – Dan Jackson (Dexter)

Placed 8th at Nike Outdoor Nationals in the 2-mile, his 8:55.50 moving him to No. 3 all-time. Also clocked 8:59.91 for 3200 at the Darby Distance Twilight in Ohio. Double winner at D2 in 4:15.84 and 9:07.38.

2006 - Josh Hembrough (Forest Hills Northern)

The junior clocked a best of 13.82 (No. 5 all-time performer) to win the D2 high hurdles title, was 4th in the 300 hurdles, and placed 5th at Nike Outdoor with a 14.03 into a headwind.

2005 - Ahmad Rashad (Flint Carman-Ainsworth)

As a junior, set a state record of 10.52; won D1 sprint double (10.56/21.51), 4th (10.67, 10.56h) at USA Juniors, and captured the AAU Junior Olympics double (10.65/21.17 – semis 10.52 SR/21.02-No. 2 all-time).

2004 - Zach Burrington (Muskegon Oakridge)

Ranked #4 among U.S. vaulters. Placed 2nd at adidas (15-9), won D3 (15-9.25) and Midwest Meet (16-0). Best of 16-4 ranked No. 5 all-time.

2003 - Joe Hover (Stevensville Lakeshore)

Ranked #4 among U.S. discus throwers. Had four throws farther than the 20-year-old state record, topped by a 204-0. Won D2 (195-6).

2002 - Kenneth Ferguson (Detroit Mumford)

Voted #2 in USA Athlete of the Year balloting; ranked #1 in U.S. in 300/400mH; won National Scholastics, silver in World Juniors with a national high school record 49.38. Clocked state record 35.90 to win D1. Ranked #1US in 110H. Won D1 (13.65), 2nd in USA Juniors (13.85 SR for 42", 3rd in National Scholastics (13.78), 5th in World Juniors (13.91w). Best of 13.61. Also clocked 46.59 for No. 2 all-time at 400m, and ran on 3:12.53 SR for Mumford.

2001 - Dathan Ritzenhein (Rockford)

Voted #3 in USA Athlete of the Year balloting; ranked #1 nationally in 3200 and 5000. Won D1 (8:43.32), placed 11th in USA Championships 5000 (13:44.70 SR—just missing national prep record). Also ran 1:56.4, 4:16.7, 8:11.5 SR for 3K, 8:44.43 SR for 2M.

2000 - Dathan Ritzenhein (Rockford)

Voted #2 in USA Athlete of the Year balloting. Ranked #1 nationally at 3200. His 3200m SR 8:41.10 ranked No. 6 all-time nationally. Won D1 double (4:08.08/ 9:00.63). Won National Scholastic 2M in 8:48.06. Also clocked 1:54.9, 3:52.0 for 1500m (No. 3 all-time), 4:05.9 SR, 8:11.59 SR for 3K, and SR 14:13.80 for 5000.

1999 - T.J. Duckett (Kalamazoo Loy Norrix)

Ranked #1 in U.S. in shot put; 67-0 led nation; had 11 throws past 64-0. Won Class A at 64-0.5. Also clocked 10.7 for 100.

1998 - Geoff Fairbanks (Tecumseh)

Ranked #2 in U.S. in pole vault. Cleared state record 16-8.75 at USA Juniors. Runner-up at National Scholastics (16-0.75). Won B state title (15-4).

1997 - Charles DeWildt (Grand Rapids Catholic Central)

Tied state record of 16-6 in winning GR City League vault. Won B State (15-8), and beat co-record holder Paul Terek to win the Midwest Meet (16-0).

1996 - Abdul Alzindani (Dearborn Fordson)

Ranked No. 1 in U.S. in 3200. Won National Scholastics (9:07.06y). Won Class A double (4:14.11 & 9:26.70). One day double of 4:12.8 & 9:09.6 at Adrian.

1995 - Tony Vann-Spann (Detroit Chadsey)

Won Class A 400 in 48.05, and Midwest Meet in 47.77.

1994 - Aaron Oaks (Vicksburg)

Won B long jump with a 23-1.25, then captured Midwest crown at 24-3.5 (#7 performer all-time).

1993 - Steve Ruffin (Flint Southwestern)

Won Class A long sprint double at 21.80 & 47.41.

1992 - Brett Organek (Grandville)

Won A discus title with a 196-5 (#2 performer all-time). Also International Prep runner-up at 191-5, Midwest runner-up at 189-5.

1991 - Tyrone Wheatley (Dearborn Heights Robichaud)

Won B State triple (10.67, 13.7w, 23-0), giving Robichaud runner-up honors. Also ran 10.4, 21.63, 13.87 (#4 performer all-time), 24-7 (#3 performer all-time).

1990 - Darnell Hall (Detroit Pershing)

Ran 400 in SR 46.55 to win Midwest Meet. Captured Class A title in 47.56. Also ran 46.78 for 3rd at International Prep. Two hand times under 47.0. Hit 21.53 for 200.

1989 - Brian Grosso (Walled Lake Western)

Ranked No. 1 in nation at 5000m and No. 2 at 3200. Won Class A (8:59.20). Runner-up at USA Juniors in 14:34.8 SR. Won 2M at International Prep (9:03.50y). Best time of 8:56.2 came at Oakland County.

1988 - Rick Gledhill (Mt Clemens Chippewa Valley)

Ranked No. 1 in nation at 800m. Won Class A (1:50.63), International Prep (1:49.33 SR). Fell at finish of Golden West while leading.

1987 - Keith Wheeler (Troy)

Ranked No. 3 nationally in 300 hurdles. Won Class A 400 in 47.3 and 300 LH in 36.23 SR, second in 110H (14.03). Runner-up USA Juniors 400 H (50.72). Also clocked 14.73 (42"), and 37.04 SR (36").

1986 - Keith Wheeler (Troy)

Ranked No. 1 nationally in 300 hurdles. His 51.40 for 400 hurdles was fastest prep time of year for U.S., and a national record for juniors. Never lost to a high schooler in his main event. Clocked 36.1 for the low hurdles and 47.64 at 400, winning Class A in both.

1985 - Joe Applewhite (Grand Rapids Central)

Best long jump of 24-7.75 set state record to win Midwest Meet. Class A champ at 23-2.

1984 - Mike Sargent (Flint Powers)

Set shot state record 66-3.5 to win conference, becoming 4th farthest thrower in nation. Won A State throws double (61-8/174-11). Best discus 179-11.

1983 - Johnny Mitchell (Muskegon)

Ranked No. 1 in U.S. in discus. Undefeated by preps, threw state record 198-5. Placed 3rd at USA Juniors with 168-2 SR for college disc. Won A State (193-3), Golden West (195-5), and International Prep (194-9).

1982 - Thomas Wilcher (Detroit Central)

Ranked No. 1 in the long hurdles nationally. Undefeated by preps. Won Class A low hurdles in 36.3, International Prep (37.0) and Golden West (51.97). Clocked 13.48 and 13.28w for the highs. Won Class A (13.6). Ran 2nd at International Prep (13.5), and 3rd (13.65) at Golden West.

1981 - Thomas Wilcher (Detroit Central)

Ranked No. 1 in the high hurdles nationally. Undefeated by preps. Won Class A (13.5). His 13.60 to win the Junior Olympics was an auto-timed national record. Ran legs on state-winning 4 x 100 (42.1) and 4 x 400 (3:17.9).

1980 - Don Anderson (Detroit Cody)

Junior won Class A 100y (9.7) and tied for win in 440y (48.9).

1979 - Tim Kenney (Detroit Mumford)

Won Class A 880 in 1:52.4y (#7 performer all-time).

1978 - Erik Henrickson (Portage Northern)

Won Class A double (9:04.9y/4:13.5y). Runner-up at International Prep (4:08.5m). Won Midwest title (4:09.9y). Ran 3:50.8 for 1500m at USA Juniors.

1977 - Bill Weidenbach (Grosse Pointe North)

At Class A, runner-up in 2M (9:02.0y) and 3rd in mile (4:20.8y). Recovered to shock at the International Prep Invitational with a brilliant 2M win (8:53.0y SR).

1976 - Randy Smith (Jackson)

Won Class A 100y (9.8). Third in Golden West 100 (9.7) and 4th in 220y (21.4). Bests of 9.4y and 21.3y.

1975 - Steve Elliott (Pontiac Central)

Won Class A mile (4:08.2 SR), International Prep (4:07.4 SR), and was top prep at USA Juniors 1500 (3:48.1 SR twice). Undefeated by preps. Ranked #1 prep miler in U.S.

1974 - Tom Duits (Hastings)

Won Class B mile in 4:13.1y, after winning regional in state record 4:09.4y. Also ran 2M in 9:03.6y.

1973 - Reggie Jones (Saginaw)

Won Class A 100y in 9.3, 220y in 21.1, 4 x 220 (1:28.8). Ran 220y on the straight in 20.8. Best of 21.0 on the turn.

1972 - Nick Ellis (Detroit Cooley)

Won Class A 2M (9:14.8), before becoming first Michigan prep to break 9-minute barrier (8:57.6 at Golden West).

1971 - Marshall Dill (Detroit Northern)

Voted T&FN U.S. Athlete of the Year. At 200m, ranked No. 4 in world among adults. Set national prep records in 100m (10.1 twice; ranked =5 in world), 220y (20.6 tie) and 200m (20.1h/20.39). Won Class A 100 (9.6y), 220 (20.6y), 4 x 220y (1:27.0). Golden West (21.0y). Placed 4th in USA Champs (20.7yw). Won silver medal in Pan-American Games (20.39).

1970 - Kevin Reabe (Waterford Kettering)

Won Class A State 880 in 1:50.9 SR, and Golden West (1:50.6 SR). Also broke record in mile with a 4:11.1.

1969 - Kevin Reabe (Waterford Kettering)

Won Class A State 880 in 1:52.7. Best time of 1:52.5.

1968 - Gary Van Elst (Middleville)

Set state record in shot at 64-10.75, ranking #5 in nation. Won Class C at 63-7.

1967 - Bill Tipton (Pontiac Central)

Twice hurdled 13.4 for a national prep record. His 18.3 for 180-yard low hurdled on a turn also was a national record. Won Class A double (13.9/19.3).

1966 - Ira Russell (Detroit Cass Tech)

Leaped 24-0.5 at PSL to become #2 performer in state history. Won Class A at 23-3.5.

1965 - Rob Johnson (Vassar)

Threw best of 60-3 to win post-season Champions meet. Won Class B at 58-5.5.

1964 - Ron Kutchinski (East Grand Rapids)

Won Class A 880 (1:55.3). Led state at 1:53.7 and 49.5.

1963 - Lou Scott (Detroit Eastern)

Ran state record 4:11.3 for 2nd in Winnipeg's International Festival. Ranked No. 3 in nation. Won Class A in 4:13.2.

1962 - Lou Scott (Detroit Eastern)

Won historic race against Dick Sharkey at PSL meet, 4:13.2-4:13.4 for the 4th fastest time in U.S. Also won Class A in 4:17.4, the first year of the PSL's return after a 31-year absence.

1961 - Henry Carr (Detroit Northwestern)

Won PSL 100y in 10.1. Ran state record 9.5 to equal the fastest time in the U.S., plus a 9.4w. Clocked a wind-aided 20.0 on the straightaway. Best legal was 20.6 (straight).

Also ran state record 47.8 in a dual meet against Chadsey.

1960 - Maurice Pea (Flint Northern)

Won Class A sprint double in 9.8 & 21.3.

1959 - Rex Cawley (Farmington)

Voted T&FN U.S. Athlete of the Year. Clocked 13.9 state record for 39" hurdles (13.6w). In Norway clocked 13.9 national record over 42" hurdles. Also national record 51.5 over 400 hurdles. At the USA Championships (for adults), became the first man in history to place in all three hurdle events: 14.5 for 5th in 110mHH (42"), 23.0 for 3rd in 200mLH, 53.7 for 6th in 400mLH. Selected for U.S. national team and raced during the entire European circuit. Ranked No. 10 in world in high hurdles, No. 8 in world in 400H.

1958 - Remington Purdy (Grosse Pointe)

Won Class A mile title with a state record 4:21.8, a time that made him the No. 6 prep miler in the U.S. that year.

1957 - Willie Prewitt (Willow Run)

Set state record of 24-3.75, ranking #5 in nation. Won Class B (20-5.75).

1956 - Hayes Jones (Pontiac)

Won Class A 120HH (14.4), 180LH (19.4) and long jump (23-8.75 SR). Best time of 14.2.

1955 - Pete Dant (Alpena)

Won the Class A sprint double at 9.8 and 21.4w.

1954 - Joel Boyden (Muskegon)

Class A shot champ at 57-0 ranked in the top 10 throwers in the U.S.

1953 - Gerald Zitny (Dearborn Fordson)

Class A mile win (4:28.8) ranked him in the top 10 nationally.

1952 - John Mackenzie (Detroit Mackenzie)

Won PSL half mile in state-leading time of 1:59.0, more than 5 seconds faster than MHSAA winner.

1951 - Cliff Hatcher (Detroit Central)

Ran state record 48.8 to win PSL, nearly two seconds faster than the MHSAA winner.

1950 - Milton Mead (Bay City Central)

Won high jump (6-4) and long jump (21-5.25) at Class A. Ranked among nation's best in high jump.

1949 - Don Schiesswohl (Saginaw)

Won Class A with a throw of 54-0. Best of 56-4 put him in the top 10 in the U.S.

1948 - Fletcher Gilders (Detroit Northwestern)

Junior pole vaulter cleared 12-7.75 on a steel pole.

1947 - Marvin Cichowski (Saginaw)

The only Michigan prep to earn a top 10 national ranking, clocking 22.6 for the 200-yard low hurdles.

1946 - George Sayles (Detroit Denby)

Hurdled 14.8 to win the Detroit city meet.

1945 - Charles Fonville (Detroit Miller)

Won the Detroit city meet shot at 51-8, nearly 5-feet beyond the best in the MHSAA.

1944 - Garion Campbell (Monroe)

Won Class A hurdles in 15.2 and 22.8, ranking nationally with the latter time.

1943 - David Bernard (Detroit Southeastern)

The MHSAA cancelled its regional and state competitions because of World War II. Bernard won the 100 (10.4), 220 (22.9) and anchored the winning 4x2 (1:34.7) at the Detroit city meet.

1942 - Forrest Naveaux (Monroe)

One of the top prep vaulters in the nation won Class A with a 12-7.5.

1941 - Horace Smith (Jackson)

Won Class A hurdles in 14.6.

1940 - Britton Lux (Detroit Cooley)

Won the Detroit city mile in 4:26.6, a time just 5.4 seconds slower than the national prep record.

1939 - Mac Umstadd (Detroit Northwestern)

Ran SR 1:56.6 to win the Detroit meet, missing the national prep record by just 2.2 seconds.

1938 - Floyd Bates (Flint Central)

Had the best jump in the U.S. with his 6-5.75 to win the CMU Relays. Leaped 6-4 at regionals and won the Class A title at 6-2 7/8.

1937 - Ted Tyrocki (Lansing Eastern)

Set state record in long jump with 23-1.75 leap at regionals. Won Class A at 22-9.

1936 - Randall Pittman (Detroit Northwestern)

Leaped 6-1 to win the Detroit city meet.

1935 - Bill Watson (Saginaw)

Won a field event triple at the Class A meet, high jump 6-1.25, long jump 22-4, shot put 53-10 5/8.

1934 - Bernard Lucas (Detroit Eastern)

The junior was one of nation's best high jumpers. Won triple at Detroit city meet: high jump (6-4.75), long jump (21-8), and high hurdles (16.0—college height).

1933 - J. Nelson Gardner (Hastings)

Won Class B mile in 4:34.6, then captured the Chicago Interscholastic title (the de facto Midwest championships) in 4:28.4.

1932 - William Dailey (Detroit Cass Tech)

Won city mile in 4:30.8.

1931 - Willis Ward (Detroit Northwestern)

Set national prep record with 6-6 leap. Won three city title with 6-4 high jump, 13.2 for 120yLH, 15.2 for 120yHH (college height),

1930 - Willis Ward (Detroit Northwestern)

Junior set national prep record in high jump at 6-4.5. Clocked 13.0 in the low hurdles to win the city league. Won the high hurdles at Detroit city meet (15.8), Ann Arbor Interscholastics (15.9) and Class A (16.1). Won the 220 hurdles at Ann Arbor (25.9) and Class A (26.1). Won high jump at Ann Arbor (6-1.75).

1929 - George Huber (Detroit Northwestern)

Throwing the college-weight discus, Huber set meet records at the city meet (122-3.5) and Class A (127-0). The latter mark was a state record.

1928 - Eugene Beatty (Detroit Cass Tech)

At the City meet, won the 120LH, the 120HH (16.2), the long jump (21-8), and anchored the 4x2 (1:30.8). At State he won the highs (16.5), 220LH (25.9), long jump (21-3), and 4x2 (1:33.5).

1927 - Eddie Tolan (Detroit Cass Tech)

At the City meet, won the 100 (10.3), 220 (22.6). He set a national prep record of 9.8 to win the Class A dash. He also won the A 220 in 21.9.

1926 - Eddie Tolan (Detroit Cass Tech)

The junior won the sprint double at the city meet (10.4/22.5) and at Class A (9.9/22.2).

1925 - Bill Loving (Detroit Cass Tech)

At the city meet, the junior won the 120HH (16.1), high jump (5-7), and 4x2 (1:32.3). At State he won the 120HH (16.3), 220LH (24.8), and tied in the high jump (5-10).

1924 - Edward Spence (Detroit Western)

Won city 120HH (16.4). At Class A, won 120HH(16.0-record) and 220LH (24.6 SR).

1923 - George Hester (Detroit Northern)

Again dominated Detroit with his 10/6/22.6 double. Then he won both at Class A in record time: 9.8 and 21.7.

1922 - George Hester (Detroit Northern)

Canadian citizen won both the sprints at the city meet in 10.2 & 23.2. At Class A, he won the double in 10.2 & 22.1, also anchoring the 4 x 2 to a 1:33.3 win.

1921 - George Hester (Detroit Northern)

Won Class A sprint double with times of 10.2 and 22.6.

1920 - William Weekes (Battle Creek)

Won MAC Interscholastic 440 in 53.0, and also captured the 880 in 2:04.8.

1919 - George Walker (Gobleville)

At MAC Interscholastic meet, won 100 (10.4), 220 (23.2)

1918 - No selection because of too little data – no state meet held.

1917 - Russell Cowan (Pontiac)

Defended his MAC title in the 100 at 10.8.

1916 - Guy Houston (Grand Rapids)

Junior won the MAC Interscholastic 440 in a record-tying 52.4, and ran on the winning 4 x 220 (1:36.0).

1915 - George Kimball (Muskegon)

Won all three throws at the MAC Interscholastic finals: shot (47-4.5), discus (114-1), and hammer (#2 all-time).

1914 - Herbert Henry (Detroit Eastern)

Won 100y dash at the MAC Interscholastics in 10.0.

1913 - Earl Sheldon (West Branch)

Set state record in mile (4:33.6) to win at the Michigan Interscholastics; also captured the 880 in 2:04.5.

1912 - Carman Smith (Bay City Eastern)

Captured three events at the Michigan Interscholastics, held at Bob-Lo Island in the Detroit River. Won the 100 (10.2), 220LH (27.4), and long jump (20-0.5).

1911 - William Howard (Croswell)

Won the 440 (54.0) and long jump (21-0.5) at East Lansing, then a week later improved to 52.6 at the Michigan Interscholastics.

1910 - Art Kohler (Lansing)

This time, Kohler tripled at the MAC Interscholastic, with records in the shot (51-6.75) and college weight discus (119-8), and a 164-10 defense in the hammer. At Ann Arbor he threw 49-9, 118-5 DT, and 156-7 HT.

1909 - Art Kohler (Lansing)

Junior thrower won state titles in the shot (46-7) and hammer (state record 165-9) at the MAC Interscholastic. At Ann Arbor he tripled (42-4.5, 106-5 DT, 170-3 HT—a state record that still stands),

1908 - Eddie Hannivan (Detroit University)

Won the mile at Ann Arbor in a record 4:40.0. Earlier he had won at Cornell in 4:49.2. Also clocked 2:08.8.

1907 - Joe Horner (Grand Rapids)

The multi-talented Horner captured the Michigan Interscholastic pole vault in a record 11-3, and also hit a record 50-4 in the shot.

1906 - John Neal "Pinky" Patterson (Detroit University)

Won the Michigan Interscholastic high jump in a record 6-1.25, after earlier capturing DIAL meet with a 5-11.

1905 - Joe Malcomson (Detroit University)

Clocked a state record 25.8 in the 220y low hurdles at the Michigan Interscholastic.

1904 - Earl Smith (Detroit Central)

Won the hurdle double at the Michigan Interscholastics with times of 16.8 and 27.2

1903 - Frank Nicol (Detroit University)

With a switch in high schools, Nicols repeated his heroics, winning the highs in 17.0 and the lows in 26.4.

1902 - Frank Nicol (Detroit Central)

Captured both hurdle events at the Michigan Interscholastics, running 16.4 over the college highs (42") and 26.4 for the 220y low hurdles.

1901 - Martin Daane (GR)

Won the Michigan Interscholastics mile with a state record 4:48.4.

1900 - Lyman Bennett (Michigan Military Academy)

Winner of the Michigan Interscholastics sprints (all classes) in 10.4 and 22.8.

1899 - Roy Ellis (Detroit Central)

Ellis repeated his performance in the Michigan Interscholastics, with performances of 11.3, 23.0, 20-8... and this time he added the high jump win (5-3).

1898 - Roy Ellis (Detroit Central)

In the first Michigan Interscholastic meet (long before the advent of the MHSAA), Ellis won the 100 yards (11.0), 220y (23.6), and long jump (20-6).

Michigan Athletes of the Year – Girls

2017 – Anavia Battle (Wayne Memorial)

At 100, won D1 (11.95), Midwest (11.93) and the AAU Junior Olympics (11.70). Also clocked 11.64, moving to #3 in state history. Broke 11.90 eight times. At 200, D1 runner-up (24.27), Midwest Runner-up (24.17), Junior Olympic champ (23.60, after a 23.55 heat that made her #4 in state history). Broke 24.00 five times.

2016 – Chloe Abbott (Northville)

The senior's 53.10 D1 win made her the ninth-fastest prep in the United States and No. 2 in state history. Placed 3rd at New Balance Nationals in 53.38. Also won the D1 200 title in 24.03. Led the 200 list with her 23.77 at New Balance.

2015 – Mackenzie Shell (Port Huron Northern)

State record of 13-9 in the pole vault helped rank her No.4 in the USA by T&FN. Won D1 (12-0) and the Midwest Meet of Champions (13-3). Placed 3rd at New Balance Nationals (13-3.5) and 6th at USA Junior Champs (13-5.25).

2014 – Audrey Belf (Birmingham Seaholm)

Won the D1 3200 in 10:17.08. Placed 5th in the adidas Dream Mile in NYC in 4:45.37, moving to No. 5 all-time. The next week moved to No. 2 all-time in the 2-mile with her 10:11.24 4th-place run at Brooks PR. Won 1st in the 5000 at the USA Junior Champs with her 17:01.75 for No. 4 all-time.

2013 – Kendall Baisden (Detroit Country Day)

Shattered her own state record at 400 with a 52.03 runner-up finish at the USA Junior Nationals and ended her prep career with the top 16 performances in Michigan history. Won the silver medal at the Pan-Am Junior Championships with her 52.59 (=2 all-time) and earned gold on the 4 x 400. Ranked No. 1 in USA at 400 by T&FN.

2012 – Hannah Meier (Grosse Pointe South)

Won D1 titles at 800/1600 in 2:08.57/4:43.05. Earlier had moved to No. 4 all-time at 800 with her 2:06.8 conference win. Placed 2nd in the 1500 at the USA Junior Championships in a state record 4:18.44, which converts to a 4:37.49 for 1600. Competed in the World Junior Championships, placing 10th in her heat.

2011 – Kyra Jefferson (Detroit Cass Tech)

Won sprint double at D1 in 11.72 (No. 3 all-time) & 23.87. At New Balance Nationals, placed 3rd in the 100 (11.88) and won the 200 title (24.18). Placed 6th at USA Juniors in 23.75 after moving to No. 3 all-time with her 23.53 heat.

2010 – Megan Goethals (Rochester)

Destroyed her own state record for 2-miles by 17 seconds with her 10:03.2 at the Oakland County Champs (10:00.15 @ 3200). Captured the distance double at D1 in 4:47.37 & 10:22.75. Won the 1600 at the Midwest Meet of Champions in 4:43.05, the No. 2 time in state history. At New Balance Nationals, her 10:01.16 took 1st place and her 3200 splits of 9:58.1 made her the first in state history to break the 10-minute barrier. She ranked No. 1 in the U.S.

2009 – Bridgette Owens-Mitchell (Southfield)

The junior hurdled 13.87 to take 2nd at Nike Outdoor Nationals, moving to No. 4 all-time in the event. Earlier she had won D1 in 14.13 and captured the Caribbean Scholastic Invitational in Puerto Rico in 13.95.

2008 – Rebecca Addison (Grand Haven)

Ranked No. 4 in the U.S. after a season that saw her run the No. 2 800 in state history with her 2:05.61 runner-up finish at Nike Outdoor Nationals. She won the 800 (2:13.75) and 1600 (4:50.80) at D1. Her 1600 time ranked her No. 7 in state history.

2007 – Shayla Mahan (Detroit Mumford)

The Mumford senior ranked No. 1 in the nation at 100m with victories at State, Midwest Meet of Champions and a runner-up finish at the USA Junior Championships (11.38, after an 11.29w heat). Her 11.37 at Midwest MOC broke her own state record of 11.53. She won the D1 double with 11.76 & 24.11 into headwinds, also running on the winning 4x2. Earlier that day she had run 23.89 in the heats, a time bettered only by herself in state history.

2006 - Shayla Mahan (Detroit Mumford)

Set state records of 11.53, 23.49. Won D1 sprint double (11.54 SR/23.74 SR). Won 100/200 at USA Youth Championships (11.63/23.54/23.49h SR). Had seven times in 100m better than old state record. Seven times in 200 bettered old state record.

2005 - Geena Gall (Grand Blanc)

Undefeated Nike Outdoor Champion in 2:05.05 SR, ranked #2 at 800 in nation. Won Midwest meet.

2004 - Geena Gall (Grand Blanc)

Won D1 800 (2:10.45), runner-up at National Scholastic (2:08.59, #4 all-time), won USA Youth Champs (2:10.26). Also ran 25.5, 56.7.

2003 - Candice Davis (Ann Arbor Pioneer)

Set state record of 13.66 into a headwind to win the D1 hurdle. Won Midwest Meet (13.94). D1 runner-up at 100 (12.34) and 300H (43.10). Also clocked 12.31, 26.32,

2002 - Candice Davis (Ann Arbor Pioneer)

Ranked No. 2 in U.S. in 100H; set state record 13.69 to win D1 hurdles. Placed 3rd at USA Juniors (13.51w). At 200, D1 runner-up (25.03). Placed 4th in D1 300H (46.25). Ran on D1 champion 4 x 100 (48.18). Also ran 12.22, 11.93w, 44.0.

2001 - Stephanie Teeple

Set state record in pole vault at 12-6. Four meets over 12-0. Won D2 (11-4).

2000 - Becky Breisch (Edwardsburg)

No. 3 all-time shot putter in state history with 48-2.5. Won D3 (46-4.75). Nine throws over 45-0. Won D3 with 156-11 in discus, No. 3 performer ever.

1999 - Tanisha Williams (Ypsilanti)

Won Class A long jump (18-10.75) and 100 hurdles (14.27). Had best leap of 19-7 (#3 all-time), also ran on runner-up 4 x 100. Also hit 12.3 and 5-7.

1998 - Bethany Brewster (Saginaw Valley Lutheran)

Won Class C triple in 2:18.24, 5:07.11, 11:12. At Midwest Meet, won 1600 in 4:56.86; filled in as last-minute substitute in 3200, winning in 11:01.02. Won National Scholastic Mile (4:50.43 SR), undefeated by preps, 2nd at USA Juniors 1500 (4:32.42, #5 all-time).

1997 - Sharon Van Tuyl (Portage Northern)

National Scholastic 2M champion in 10:25.59 SR; ranked No. 5 nationally. Ran 3rd in NSO mile (4:52.79y). Won D1 double (4:57.62/10:31.16). Also clocked 2:15.3 and SR 9:41.6 for 3000.

1996 - Sharon Van Tuyl (Portage Northern)

Sophomore won Class A double at 4:54.00 and state record 10:25.76. Clocked 17:28.69 SR in USA Junior 5000, placing 5th.

1995 - Charnell Lynn (Willow Run)

Won Midwest Meet sprint double at 12.01, 23.98 SR. Earlier had captured the B state title at 200 in 25.70, and at 400 in 57.45.

1994 - Kelly Smith (Petoskey)

Won B State double in 2:12.0 / 4:48.41. Improved to 4:48.37 (#2 performer all-time) to win Midwest title.

1993 - Erika Shepard (Detroit Cass Tech)

Won Class A 800 in 2:15.61. Had best of 2:14.7. Captured Midwest win in 400 in 54.88 (#3 performer all-time).

1992 - Vania Nelson (Ann Arbor Pioneer)

Won Class A sprint double at 12.34/25.85. Won Midwest double in 12.18/25.04.

1991 - Kelly Oberlin (Grant)

Won C high jump at 5-8, then leaped 5-9 for 3rd at International Prep. Had best of 5-10 (= #3 performer all-time).

1990 - Gwen Wentland (Grand Blanc)

Cleared 5-10 for Class A high jump win. Leaped SR 6-0 to win Can-USA meet. Also set state record in heptathlon at 4315.

1989 - Crystal Braddock (Ann Arbor Pioneer)

Won Class A sprint double (11.84/24.90); anchored winning 4 x 400 (3:58.4). Doubled at Midwest Meet (11.85/24.26).

1988 - Sarah Neely (Bath)

Best shot put of 44-10. Won C State (44-0) and Midwest title (43-1.75).

1987 - Kris Salt (Dearborn Edsel Ford)

- Won Class A double (4:53.6/10:49.7).

1986 - Sonya Payne (Ann Arbor Huron)

Ranked No. 1 in U.S. at the shot put. Her state record 48-8 was the nation's longest throw that year. Won Class A (44-10.5).

1985 - Laura Matson (Bloomfield Hills Andover)

Ran 4:39.4 SR (and U.S. leader) to win Oakland County. Won Class A double (2:12.02/4:45.20).

1984 - Paulette Bryant (Southgate Aquinas)

Won Class B state 100 (11.7), 100H (14.5), 300H (44.0). Won Midwest 100 (11.75--#2 in state history).

1983 - Carolyn Ferguson (Benton Harbor)

Won Class A 300H in SR 43.0. Junior also did relay duty for 47.8 SR, 1:40.1, and 3:53.9.

1982 - Chris Boehmer (Lapeer West)

Won Class A long jump with a 19-6.25. Broke state record with a 19-9.5.

1981 - Vivian Fischer (Pontiac Central)

Won Class A shot (43-3.5). Her 45-0.5 best at Oakland County made her the #2 Michigan performer ever.

1980 - Ellie Hayden (Capac)

Won Class C high jump (5-11.25 SR) and Midwest Meet (5-10).

1979 - Annette Bohach (North Muskegon)

Junior ranked No. 1 in U.S. in shot put. Led the U.S. at 47-9 SR, and won the USA Junior title. Won C State at 48-6 (8lb), 2nd in discus (134-4).

1978 - Delisa Walton (Detroit Mackenzie)

Won Class A double (54.5y/2:07.7y SR). Best one-lap time came in PSL win (54.1y). Ran 2:08.22 at USA Juniors.

1977 - Rochelle Collins (Detroit Immaculata)

Won Class B 880y (2:12.5y) and 440y (56.8y). Also ran on 3rd-place mile relay (4:08.0).

1976 - Josephine Hobbs (Detroit Central)

Won Class A sprint double in 11.0y/24.5y.

1975 - Rochelle Collins (Detroit Immaculata)

Soph won Class A/B double in 58.0y/2:16.9y. Ran 2:10.09 in Junior Olympics, becoming #2 performer all-time.

1974 - Anita Lee (Detroit Cass Tech)

Won Class A/B 80-yard hurdles (10.7), long jump (17-0.75), 800 medley (1:49.0y SR), second in high jump (5-6). In Junior Olympics leaped state record 19-5.

1973 - Sue Latter (Clarkston)

In first year for MHSAA competition, Latter won a double at the all-class state finals (57.1y/2:17.7y).

1972 - Sue Parks (Ypsilanti)

Sophomore ran state record mile at Drake Relays (4:54.7). Ran 800 in 2:09.2 at Tom Black Classic in Knoxville. Set records in 800 (2:07.9) and 1500 (4:29.4). Competed in Olympic Trials (4:30.5 heat).

1971 - Debby Lansky (Taylor Center)

Clocked 13.9 state record for 100 hurdles (33") at Show Meet.

1970 - Theresa Rullison (East Lansing)

Senior ran 2:12.4 to win the Junior Olympics.

1969 - Leona Mathis (Detroit Northwestern)

Motor City TC sophomore won the 100y (11.1) and 220y (25.6) at the AAU State meet. Also clocked a 25.2 for 200m in Canada.

1968 - Sandra Blount (Detroit Cooley)

Junior ran 54.7 at the USA Championships, setting a state record. Won Hayes Jones meet in Pontiac in 57.6y. Won state girls title in 58.0.

1966 - Louise Gerrish (Livonia Franklin)

Senior competed in many national meets in the javelin, setting a state record 163-10. Won the state AAU women's title with a 155-10.

1965 - Francine Kraker (Ann Arbor)

Set Michigan AAU records in the 440 (58.4), 880 (2:12.6) and 1500m (4:53.4).

1964 - Karen Dennis (Detroit Chadsey)

Sophomore set Michigan AAU records in the 100 yards (11.2), 220y (25.3) and 200m (25.2).

1961 - Dalaine Brandon (Flint)

Clocked an 11.4 state record for 100 yards.

1928 - Frances Anderson (Highland Park)

Set Detroit high jump record of 4-9.

1926 - Florence Wolf (VVV Girls Athletic Club - Detroit)

Placed 4th in discus at AAU Women's Championships.