



PULSE

FEBRUARY 2023

A MONTHLY DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

TODAY'S LEARNERS, TOMORROW'S LEADERS

HIGH ROLLERS



NEYS, PICKETT REACH STATE FINALS; BOTH GIRLS AND BOYS TEAMS ALSO QUALIFY



SEASON CONTINUES THIS WEEKEND

To say this has been a successful season for our Boys and Girls Varsity Bowling teams could be a huge understatement.

The adjective VERY needs to be added in front of successful when you talk about the 2022-23 campaign for those two teams.

- Our Boys Team qualified for the State Finals for the first time since 2010.
- Our Girls Team qualified for the State Finals for the first time in school history.
- Our Boys Team finished the regular season ranked No. 2 in the state for Division 3.
- Both teams went undefeated winning MAC Gold Division league and tournament titles.
- Shaylyn Neys and Myron Pickett each qualified for the Individual Finals.

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INSPIRE AND EMPOWER ALL LEARNERS

BOWLERS

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When you talk to any competitive bowler it all comes down to this ... hitting your marks and staying focused.

That's something Neys has done consistently at the right moments as she's now qualified for the state finals each of the last two seasons.

"I just need to concentrate," Neys said "Last year I was extremely nervous going to the finals because it was my first time going but now I know what it's all about so I will concentrate more."

Things didn't start out well in practice for Neys last Saturday at Flat Rock Lanes as a few of her shots found their way into the gutter which led to her not having a good feeling about qualifying this year. Then she rolled a 200 in her first game and her confidence level grew from that point. "That made me extremely happy," Neys said. "Then I stayed consistent with my 160s and then I shot a 191 in game five." Neys added that when the pace of bowling is quick and not dragging her scores are way better.

"I just get in a groove," Neys said. "That leads to strikes, spares and consistently hitting your spot."

Ney's placed 55th at last year's finals at JAX 60 in Jackson with a six-game pin all of just 836.

"I just want to finish better than 55th this year," Neys said. "I want to make my coach proud."

Ney's said she has not looked at the other qualifying scores heading to the finals because she's only going to focus on her game.

Pickett was dialed in at regionals finishing with a six-game pin count of 1,171 to finish eighth.

"I need to focus on myself," Pickett said. "If I hit my mark they can't beat me. If I'm not missing my mark and picking up the spares I should be fine."

"I'm going to aim high," added Pickett when asked about where he'd like to finish Saturday. "I need at least a 200 each game or better. I'm shooting for top three all the time."

The bowler that won the regional - Blissfield's Blake Terrill - had a 290 in Game 4. To get that total you spare in the first frame and strike out from that point.

"You can't let that get to you," Pickett said. "That was a crazy game. You just need to refocus and try and bowl your own 290 to catch up or do even better."



Myron Pickett's teammates congratulate him after bowling a 300-game earlier this year against New Haven.



Shaylyn Neys has reached the Division 3 Individual Bowling State Finals for a second time. She placed 55th last year and aims on improving on that finish.

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HAZEL PARK'S GOT TALENT

DUDLEY SET TO PERFORM AT THE DETROIT CLUB

Who needs America's Got Talent or American Idol?

A strong performance at the Hazel Park High School's Talent Show can land you some important gigs as well.

That's just what happened to HPHS senior George Dudley.

Dudley's first-place performance of Green Day's "Time of Your Life" at the Talent Show was seen by the Assistant General Manager of The Detroit Club, Jennifer Thomason, and she immediately began trying to get in touch with Dudley to get him to perform at the Detroit Club.

"I've seen several social media posts of his music and most recently his talent show performance caught my attention," said Thomason, a Hazel Park High School graduate. "Mr. Dudley is such a talented young man I couldn't pass up the opportunity to have him perform at The Detroit Club. Not to mention the kid has an awesome taste in music! Growing up in Hazel Park myself, the city and the amazing individuals have a special place in my heart."

Dudley is hoping this is something that could lead to bigger things.

"Just to be able to live off of being a musician is the dream," he said.



Hazel Park High School senior George Dudley will perform Friday at The Library inside the Detroit Club.

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STATE FINALS

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If there's a bowler that could do that it's Pickett, who bowled a 300 earlier this year in a league match against New Haven.

"What an amazing time," Pickett recalled. "That's old now. I'm trying to get another one. I've got to lock it back in and keep getting better."

Pickett gives a lot of credit to where he's taken his game to his coach, Eric Gregory.

"He's helped out a lot of people," Pickett said of his coach. "If you look at how we were at the beginning of the season compared to now he's done so much to get us to where we're at today. He's coached us up. He's giving all the right tips and keeping us focused on hitting our marks each and every time."

Neys also gave a lot of credit to her coach.

"He's done such an amazing job coaching us," Neys said. "He's helped me over the years become a better bowler. He's done that with everyone, that's why we're where we're at today. He's just an amazing coach. He knows when to keep it light and when to keep it focused. He does give us the best laughs."

PROMISE ZONE FUNDRAISING DINNER IS THIS MONDAY

The Hazel Park Promise Zone's annual fundraising dinner will take place on Monday, March 6, 2023, from 5:30 to 8:00 pm.

Tickets are \$75 per person.

Proceeds from this dinner event will benefit the Hazel Park Promise scholarship program, which guarantees a tuition-free path to an associate's degree (or its equivalent) at Oakland Community College for graduates of Hazel Park Schools who reside in the school district.

Proceeds will also go to programs that help support students to and through college.

The emcee for this year's event will be State Representative Mike McFall and Congresswoman Haley Stevens will be our keynote speaker.

There will also be some fabulous items up for auction during the event as well. Cash and card will be accepted.

For more information, please call Moussa Traore at 248-658-5080 or e-mail moussa.traore@myhpsd.org.



DUDLEY

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Dudley will perform three, 45-minute sets in The Library at the Detroit Club. Each set will consist of 11 songs followed by a 15-minute break before the next set begins.

"I've had little appearances on a bunch of different things but nothing like what will be happening Friday," Dudley said. "I was only playing a song or two, nothing like being up there for three hours."

Dudley's performance will be covers from some of his favorite alternative rock bands, including Nirvana, the Foo Fighters, and Pearl Jam.

"With those songs, they all have some deep meaning and some incredible backstories," Dudley said. "That's what I really love. That's how I want to make music. I want my songs to have meaning and resonate with people and be relatable."

Dudley got assistance from his dad to help form his playlist for the set Friday.

"He's my outside perspective," Dudley said. "He knows what songs will work for the crowd I'm playing in front of."

Dudley is a self-taught musician but does credit local guitarist Sammy Boller for helping him take his talents to a new level with the lessons he was given.

Dudley, who has a couple of original songs he's written a couple of years ago and plans to write more in the near future, has a YouTube channel where he posts a new music video to it every Monday.

"It's kind of weird, I was more anxious about the Talent Show but I think that was because the people I was performing in front of I see every day," Dudley said. "I feel with this gig it's going to be more natural and kind of come to me."
