

Grand Valley State Sports Information

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GVSU Football News

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LAKERS SIGN 36 RECRUITS IN CLASS OF 2009

Allendale, Mich. -- Grand Valley State University head football coach Chuck Martin announced the signing of 36 student-athletes to attend and play football for the Lakers in the fall of 2009.

“Our coaching staff did an outstanding job of identifying talent and then recruiting those kids to be a part of Grand Valley State University and our football program,” said fifth-year head coach Chuck Martin. “We always want to recruit the state of Michigan first and I am extremely happy with what we were able to get from our home state,” added Martin.

Grand Valley State signed 32 players from the state of Michigan, three and from Illinois and one from Indiana.

“I am so impressed with the quality of the student-athlete we are able to recruit to Grand Valley State,” added Martin. “Our name recognition enables us to get in on some players that are being recruited at the Division I level,” added Martin.

GVSU returns 46 letterwinners in 2009, including seven starters on offense and eight on defense. GVSU is 102-6 the last eight years with four NCAA DII National Championships (2002, 2003, 2005, 2006) and five title game appearances (2001, 2002, 2003, 2005 and 2006).

Name	Pos	Ht	Wt	Hometown/High School
Brogan Bibler	DB	5-10	175	Rockford, Mich.
Jake Carra	OL	6-3	270	Traverse City, Mich./Central
Taylor Copacia	QB	6-4	195	Utica, Mich./Eisenhower
DeMarco Donaldson	DB	5-10	178	Southfield, Mich./Lathrup
Nick Duronio	DL	6-4	225	Romeo, Mich.
Dave Fortin	LB	6-0	180	Livonia, Mich./Franklin
Zach Galloway	DB	6-2	185	Tecumseh, Mich.
Brent Geers	Ath.	5-11	170	Grand Rapids, Mich./South Christian
Austin Green	OL	6-3	255	Lapeer, Mich./East
Brandan Green	WR	5-9	155	Linden, Mich.
Isiah Grimes	QB	6-6	218	South Haven, Mich.
Micheal Hatcher	WR/DB	5-10	173	Dearborn, Mich.
Derrell Haygood	OL	6-2	257	Southfield, Mich./Lathrup
Charles Hill	RB	6-0	175	Hazel Park, Mich.
Hersey Jackson	RB	6-0	220	Allendale, Mich.
Lucas Kozuch	DE	6-2	220	Bay City, Mich./Western
Jordan Kaufman	DB	6-3	190	Ubly, Mich.
Eric LaBuhn	OL	6-5	290	Ubly, Mich.
Suave Lavallis	DB	5-9	172	Orchard Lake, Mich./St. Mary's
Andrew Longo	WR	6-0	170	Allendale, Mich.
Kenny McDaniel	DL	6-2	265	Muskegon, Mich./Muskegon Heights
Anthony Mullins	RB	6-0	183	Plymouth, Mich./Salem
Heath Parling	QB	6-2	180	Plymouth, Mich./Salem
Kyle Partlo	QB	6-1	177	Midland, Mich./Dow
Darryl Pitts	WR	6-2	185	Detroit, Mich./Southeastern
Michael Ratay	RB	5-8	186	Geneva, Ill.
Gerrit Rauch	DB	6-1	190	Portage, Mich./Central
Denzel Rodgers	DE	6-2	220	Clinton Twp., Mich./Clintondale
Albert Saleh	LB	6-1	190	Dearborn, Mich.
Billy Seiler	RB	5-7	170	Alsip, Ill./Marist
Ryan Stokes	K	5-9	155	Merrillville, Ind.
Tony Stramaglia	WR	6-1	190	Orland Park, Ill./Carl Sandberg
Ed Vushaj	TE	6-4	219	Walled Lake, Mich./Western
Lavelle Walker	DB	5-10	170	Lansing, Mich./Everett
Reggie Williams	DB	5-9	170	Lansing, Mich./Everett
Donavan Wilson	DB	5-11	170	Detroit, Mich./Southeastern

Brogan Bibler – DB – Rockford

Three-year starter collected 106 total tackles, two sacks, and three interceptions as a senior en route to being named to the *Detroit Free Press* All-State First-Team and All-Area Dream Team by the *Grand Rapids Press*...named 2008 team MVP and was named All-OK Red conference...tallied 222 career tackles and five career interceptions... named to the 2009 MHSFCA All-Star game...also participated in three years of basketball and four years of track...ranked the #170 player in the state of Michigan by Scout.com following his senior season.

Jake Carra – OL – Traverse City Central

Named MVP of the offensive line and team captain, was named All-State Division 2 First-Team by the *Associated Press* and honorable mention all-state by the *Detroit Free Press*...named to the Big North Conference First-Team and the *Traverse City Record Eagle* All-Region Dream Team...nominated for the MHSFCA All-Star game...as a junior, was named honorable mention Big North Conference...ranked the #151 player in the state of Michigan by Scout.com following his senior season.

Taylor Copacia – QB – Utica Eisenhower

Completed 114-of-201 passes for 1,550 yards and 16 touchdowns as a senior...Named to the second-team offense by *Macomb Daily* for the Macomb County Tier 1 All-Star football team...earned *Detroit Free Press* All-East second-team honors...named all-league and all-county...completed 192-of-315 passes for 2,038 yards and 14 TDs as a junior...earned all-county, all-league and *Detroit Free Press* All-East honors as a junior...selected to play in the 2009 MHSFCA All-Star game...ranked the #87 player in the state of Michigan by Scout.com following his senior season.

DeMarco Donaldson – DB – Southfield-Lathrup

Collected 25 tackles and four interceptions as a senior while also carrying the ball 38 times for 341 yards and four touchdowns...caught five passes for 74 yards and one touchdown...named All-North honorable mention by the *Detroit Free Press* as a running back and First-Team All-Area by the *Observer-Eccentric* at defensive back...named Third-Team All-Oakland Activities Association Red at running back...ranked the #184 player in the state of Michigan by Scout.com following his senior season.

Nick Duronio – DL – Romeo

Named first-team defense for the Macomb County Tier I All-Star football team by the *Macomb Daily*...recorded 53 tackles, 16 tackles for loss, and six sacks as a senior...ranked the #131 player in the state of Michigan by Scout.com following his senior season.

Zach Galloway – DB – Tecumseh

All-county first-team, First-Team All-Southeastern Conference White, honorable mention all-state, led Lenawee county in rushing yards (1,125), scoring (19 touchdowns), and was among the top receivers with 319 yards...ranked the #125 player in the state of Michigan by Scout.com following his senior season.

Brent Geers – Ath. – Grand Rapids South Christian

Named honorable mention Division 3-4 All-State by the *Associated Press*, three-time All-OK Gold honoree, All-Area Football Dream Team by the *Grand Rapids Press* as a punter, and All-Area South by *Advance Newspapers* after throwing for 1,626 yards and 15 touchdowns, while rushing for 475 yards and 11 scores...also played defensive back and handled kicking duties...averaged 40.7 yards per punt on the season and collected 38 first-hits and 20 assisted tackles on defense.

Austin Green – OL – Lapeer East

Named to All-Flint Metro League team on the offensive line as a senior..was an All-Flint Metro League honorable mention as a junior on the offensive line...ranked the #94 player in the state of Michigan by Scout.com following his senior season...also played basketball and was part of the Mid-Michigan Lakers U-17 team.

Brandan Green – WR – Linden

As a senior, he was named first-team All-Flint Metro League on both offense and defense after catching 60 passes for 1,073 yards and 13 touchdowns...toted the ball 14 times for 110 yards and three touchdowns, while collecting 50 tackles and seven interceptions as a defensive back...caught 30 passes for 721 yards and eight touchdowns while also rushing for 248 yards and three touchdowns on 22 carries as a junior en route to a first-team All-Metro League selection at receiver...caught 19 passes for 383 yards and two touchdowns as a sophomore...selected to play in the 2009 MHSFCA All-Star game...named to the Division 3 All-State teams by both the *Detroit News* and *Detroit Free Press* as a senior...named the #132 player in the state of Michigan by Scout.com following his senior season.

Isiah Grimes – QB – South Haven

Three-year starter who threw for 2,834 yards and 30 touchdowns as a senior while running for 212 yards and four touchdowns...named honorable mention Division 3-4 All-State by the *Associated Press*...set the Wolverine Conference record for touchdown passes and completions, while also setting South Haven High School career records for passing TDs and passing yards...named All-Wolverine Conference twice in both football and basketball...ranked the #86 player in the state of Michigan by Scout.com following his senior season.

Michael Hatcher – DB/WR – Dearborn

Detroit Free Press Division 2 All-State at running back, named All-West cornerback by The *Detroit News*...named all-city, all-league, All-Metro West...had over 300 all-purpose yards and seven touchdowns in playoff game against Walled Lake Western as a senior...started at cornerback and picked off five passes, had seven deflections, and blocked two extra points in addition to 32 tackles...also played quarterback, running back, and wide receiver...had 133 carries for 1,109 yards and 15 touchdowns, caught 25 passes for 388 yards and three touchdowns, and returned 10 punts for 183 yards and one touchdown...returned a kickoff for touchdown and threw two touchdown passes...accounted for a school-record seven touchdowns in one game...recorded 26 tackles and five interceptions on defense as a senior...ranked the #84 player in the state of Michigan by Scout.com following his senior season.

Derrell Haygood – OL – Southfield-Lathrup

Named First-Team All-Oakland Athletics Association Red conference at offensive line...named to the All-North second-team by the *Detroit Free Press* on the defensive line...ranked the #145 player in the state of Michigan by Scout.com following his senior season.

Charles Hill – RB – Hazel Park

Named All-Oakland Athletics Association Blue First-Team as a senior and named to the second-team as a junior...also named honorable mention for the All-County Football Dream Team by The Oakland Press...ranked the #191 player in the state of Michigan by Scout.com following his senior season.

Hersey Jackson – RB – Allendale

Rushed for a combined 4,147 yards and 60 TDs during prep career...Averaged 8.8 yards per carry...Named to the *Lansing State Journal Catch 22 Team*...Missed final eight games during senior year with an achilles injury...Rushed for 1,500 yards and 18 touchdowns as a junior and 1,800 yards as a sophomore...two-time all-state selection...two-time member of the *Grand Rapids Press All-Area Dream Team*...ran the 100 meter dash in track in 10.89 seconds to win a state title as a junior...ranked the #58 running back in the country by Scout.com before his senior season...ranked the #47 running back in the country by Rivals.com...ranked the #25 player in the state of Michigan by Scout.com following his senior season.

Lucas Kozuch – DE – Bay City Western

Recorded 63 solo tackles and nine sacks as a senior...first-team all-state and First-Team All-Saginaw Valley League conference as a defensive end...ranked the #89 player in the state of Michigan by Scout.com following his senior season.

Jordan Kaufman – DB – Ubly

Four-year starter who was named to the All-Greater Thumb Conference team three times as well as the *Detroit Free Press Division 7 All-State* team as a defensive back following his senior year...named First-Team *Associated Press All-State* as a quarterback as a senior...Passed for 789 yards and 13 touchdowns, while rushing for 1,695 yards and 24 touchdowns...totalled 3,332 career rushing yards...tallied 69 tackles and four interceptions as a defensive back during senior year...earned all-conference honors at quarterback, defensive back, and kicker in 2008...also played three years of basketball and baseball...ranked the #134 player in the state of Michigan by Scout.com following his senior season.

Eric LaBuhn – OL – Ubly

Paved the way for a stout Ubly offensive attack which garnered 4,991 yards and 625 points his senior season...also recorded 74 tackles at defensive end...named First-Team All-Thumb on offensive line and defensive line by the *Thumb Sportswriters Association*...named first-team all-Greater Thumb Conference at both offensive and defensive line...named First-Team *Associated Press All-State* at offensive tackle in 2008...ranked the #104 player in the state of Michigan by Scout.com following his senior season.

Suave LaVallis – DB Orchard Lake St. Mary's

Recorded 49.5 tackles as a defensive back and caught 21 passes for 475 and four TDs as a senior...Picked off 12 passes and returned five punts for TDs during his career...Named to the Detroit Catholic All-League team for the Central division...ranked the #106 player in the state of Michigan by Scout.com following his senior season.

Andrew Longo – WR – Allendale

Caught 23 passes for 550 yards and six TDs as a junior...moved to quarterback as a senior due to injuries and led team to an 8-2 record...rushed for 375 yards on 75 carries as a senior..completed 75 passes for 457 yards...Honorable mention All-Area Dream Team by the *Grand Rapids Press* as a senior...earned All-OK Conference plaudits as a junior and senior.....ranked the #136 player in the state of Michigan by Scout.com following his senior season.

Kenny McDaniel – DL – Muskegon Heights

Had four forced fumbles and an interception return for touchdown as a junior...called “one of the hardest hitters I’ve coached” by high school coach Tommie Elliott...named Division 5-6 Special Mention by the Associated Press at linebacker...ranked the #68 player in the state of Michigan by Scout.com following his senior season.

Anthony Mullins – RB – Plymouth Salem

Named to the All-Kensington Lakes Athletic Association conference team...earned an honorable mention all-area team by *The Ann Arbor News*...also named as an honorable mention All-West team by the *Detroit Free Press*...ranked the #109 player in the state of Michigan by Scout.com following his senior season.

Heath Parling – QB – Plymouth Salem

Named to the All-Kensington Lakes Athletic Association conference team...ranked the #79 player in the state of Michigan by Scout.com following his senior season.

Kyle Partlo – QB – Midland Dow

Named Saginaw Valley League conference honorable mention...threw for 879 yards and rushed for 404 yards as a junior...ranked the #138 player in the state of Michigan by Scout.com following his senior season.

Darryl Pitts – WR – Detroit Southeastern

Caught 43 passes for 753 yards and 11 touchdowns as a senior while also collecting 32 tackles and six interceptions on defense...named to the second-team All-Detroit by the *Detroit News* as a defensive back...earned all-city and all-state...helped lead team to the best season in school history after advancing to the regional finals of the state playoffs...ranked the #62 player in the state of Michigan by Scout.com following his senior season.

Michael Ratay – RB – Geneva

Named all-state in Class 7A, Illinois' highest football division, as both a junior and senior, after gathering 2,855 yards and 45 touchdowns rushing his senior season...also caught 18 passes for 266 yards and three touchdowns...named to the all-area team by the *Geneva Republican* where he was also named the player of the year...named to the *Kane County Chronicle* all-area first-team offense...also named *Kane County Chronicle* Player of the Year as a junior and senior...named All-Western Sun Conference and was MVP of the league.

Gerrit Rauch – DB – Portage Central

Played at quarterback and safety as a senior...named to the *Detroit Free Press* Division 2 All-State team as a defensive back, also named all-conference as a junior and senior...passed for 501 yards and four touchdowns while also running for 891 yards and 14 touchdowns and had 52 tackles and two interceptions on defense as a senior...was also being recruited by schools for baseball, where he hit .438 and drove in 44 runs as a junior...ranked the #155 player in the state of Michigan by Scout.com following his senior season.

Denzel Rodgers – DE – Clintondale

Named honorable mention Division 3-4 All-State by the *Associated Press*...collected 97 tackles, six sacks, recovered a fumble, and blocked a punt as a senior...also caught 18 passes for 409 yards and six touchdowns as a tight end...named Second-Team All-Metro East and also All-County Tier II at defensive end by the *Macomb Daily*...ranked the #96 player in the state of Michigan by Scout.com following his senior season.

Albert Saleh – LB – Dearborn

Recorded 87 tackles and picked off three passes as a senior...also caught 24 passes for 458 yards and four touchdowns as a tight...two-time all-city and all-league performer...Notched 63 total tackles as a junior...named all-city, all-league, and All-Metro West...Two-year starter.

Billy Seiler – RB – Marist

Carried the ball 228 times for 1,359 yards and 14 touchdowns while catching 28 passes for 242 yards and three touchdowns as a senior...led Marist to their first playoff appearance in 12 years...two-time all-conference selection...All-Area as selected by the *Southtown Star Paper* and *Regional Reporter Paper*...All-area honorable mention by the *Chicago Sun Times*.

Ryan Stokes – K – Merrillville

Set school records for career field goals (28), PATs (166), and consecutive PATs (40)...first-team all-state honoree as a junior and earned second-team honors as a senior...three-time all-area honoree and named all-conference as a junior and senior...ranked the #15 kicker in the country by ESPN.com.

Tony Stramaglia – WR – Carl Sandburg

Hauled in 47 receptions for 689 yards and eight TDs as a senior...earned First-Team All-Southwest Suburban Blue Conference, all-area and all-region honors as a senior...caught 22 passes for 385 yards and rushed the ball 54 times for 437 yards and six touchdowns as a junior...ranked the #247 high school wide receiver nationally by Scout.com.

Edison Vushaj – TE – Walled Lake Western

Had 76 tackles, seven sacks, two fumble recoveries, and two interceptions as a junior...Recorded 27 tackles and 5.5 sacks as a senior...Missed time senior year with an injury...also ran the ball 12 times for 146 yards and a touchdown, while catching 11 passes for 124 yards and a touchdown as a tight end...ranked the #36 player in the state of Michigan by Scout.com following his senior season.

Lavelle Walker – DB – Lansing Everett

Tallied 86 tackles, three interceptions, five pass break-ups and four sacks as a senior...scored two TDs on defense and six on offense...Earned *Lansing State Journal* Dream Team honors as a cornerback...named special mention all-state...First-Team All-Capital Area Athletics Conference Blue team, while earning the team MVP and captain's award...was the only four-year letterwinner for an Everett playoff team...nominated to the 2009 MHSFCA All-Star game.

Reggie Williams – DB – Lansing Everett

Rushed for 600 yards and passed for 1,600 yards and 16 TDs as a senior...named to the All-Area Dream Team by the *Lansing State Journal*...honorable mention all-state honoree...nominated for the 2009 MHSFCA All-Star game...ranked the #58 player in the state of Michigan by Scout.com following his senior season.

Donavan Wilson – DB – Detroit Southeastern

Ran the ball 129 times for 1,037 yards and 10 touchdowns, while catching 11 passes for 240 yards and three touchdowns as a senior...also recorded 30 total tackles and two interceptions on defense...ran for over 100 yards in all three games as a senior against rival Cass Tech...named Second-Team All-Detroit by the Detroit News...ranked the #120 player in the state of Michigan by Scout.com following his senior season.