



Penn Station Athlete of the Month

Student: Grace Richardson

GPA:

School: Okemos High School

Athletic Director: Ira Childress

Parents: Melissa and Daniel Richardson

Sibling/s: Jacob Richardson

Favorite Penn Station Restaurant: Frandor in Lansing MI

Favorite Penn Station Sandwich: Italian

Extracurricular Activities: National Honors Society, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Year book and Mission work

Favorite Book: Milk and Honey by Rup Kaur- poetry

Role Model: My mom Melissa who played Division 1 basketball and is now a physician - General Surgeon.

Sports Role Model: MSU VB players Rachel Minarik and Autumn Bailey

Greatest Achievement So Far: To this point I would say playing in the State Championship Lacrosse game and scoring a goal in that game.

Plans After High School: I plan to attend Michigan State University to study education with an emphasis on Special Education.

How has participating in high school athletics benefited you? To me sports is so much more than winning or losing a game. It is be part of a team. Part of a group that works together for a common goal. To be a teammate means support each other through good and bad. It is working every day in practice to get better as an individual and as a team. It has taught me to be efficient with my time and studies. I have lifelong friend and memories!

What made you decide to play the sport for which you were named the Penn Station Athlete of the Month?

At the age of 12 I was able to attend a MSU volleyball practice. I was immediately impressed by the skill and strength of the girls. They were tall, athletic, and so



very intense. The power of their hitting and the excitement they had in playing together as a team make a huge impact on me and I was hooked!

Quote from Athletic Director: Grace Richardson has been a member of our volleyball program all four years at Okemos High School. She is an outstanding student and has been a start on the volleyball court for the past two years, this year serving as one of our captains. What may be most impressive about grace is not what she has accomplished on the court or field, but what she has done for our community off the court. She is the epitome of a generous heart. She is a light for others with her service and mission work. She is selfless and has earned the respect of adults and the affection of children that she volunteers with and for. Grace is an amazing young woman and radiates joy and happiness to others!! It has been both a privilege and honor to have coached her! – Jamie Ianni Varsity Volleyball Coach at Okemos High School.

Quote from Principal: Grace Richardson is an outstanding student- athlete. Grace maintains a 3.7 GPA while taking a high rigorous course schedule in a nationally ranked high school. As a strong contributor on our varsity volleyball and lacrosse teams for the past several years, her leadership, athleticism, dedication and tenacity have taken these teams to the next level. Specifically, on the lacrosse field, Grace has led our offense to the regional and state championship games ... She embodies the true spirit of a student- athlete.