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Coming, going

Appointments fill 2 posts, police chief set to retire

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Mayor William Wild has revealed his choices for two department heads and confirmed that Police Chief Daniel Pfannes will retire March 16.

Wild has named Terry Carroll as his community development director, removing Carroll's interim status, and has promoted Kevin Buford to the position of public service director.

Carroll had served in his interim post since early this year. He replaces James Gilbert, former community development director, who took a job in Farmington Hills last October.

Buford, former superintendent of construction, maintenance and motor pool, has moved into the job that became vacant in December when Tom Wilson, former public service director, took a job in Romulus.

Buford will be replaced by John Blevins, who has extensive experience in automotive management from positions he held with Jack Demmer Ford in Wayne, Hines Park Lincoln Mercury in Plymouth and Taylor Chrysler/Plymouth in Taylor.

Wild announced his choice of Carroll, Buford and Blevins on Friday.

"I could not be more pleased with the promotion and hiring of these three individuals," he said in a prepared statement. "All of their previous experience suggests that they are well-qualified to provide the kind of service our residents deserve."

Wild also announced that Pfannes, a married father of two daughters, will retire as police chief after dedicating 25 years to the Westland department, including four years as chief.

Pfannes will be replaced by Lt. James Ridener, a 20-year department veteran who is currently in charge of the detective bureau. Ridener is a married father with one daughter.

"I would like to extend my warmest regards to Chief Pfannes for his years of hard work within

PLEASE SEE CHANGES, A5

Police wait for autopsy results in shooting death

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

A Westland man remained under investigation Friday after his 18-year-old girlfriend of Farmington Hills was shot to death Wednesday in his apartment, police said.

Authorities are seeking a homicide warrant from the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office against the suspect, who reported the woman's death to police as a suicide.

"We are certainly treating this as a homicide investigation," Westland Deputy Police Chief Alan Ramsden said Thursday.

The woman, Candace Marie Marcou, was found shot to death when police went to Woodbridge Pond Apartments about 6 a.m. Wednesday. She died of a single gunshot wound to the head.

The apartment complex is located on Newburgh Road south of Joy, on Westland's northwest side.

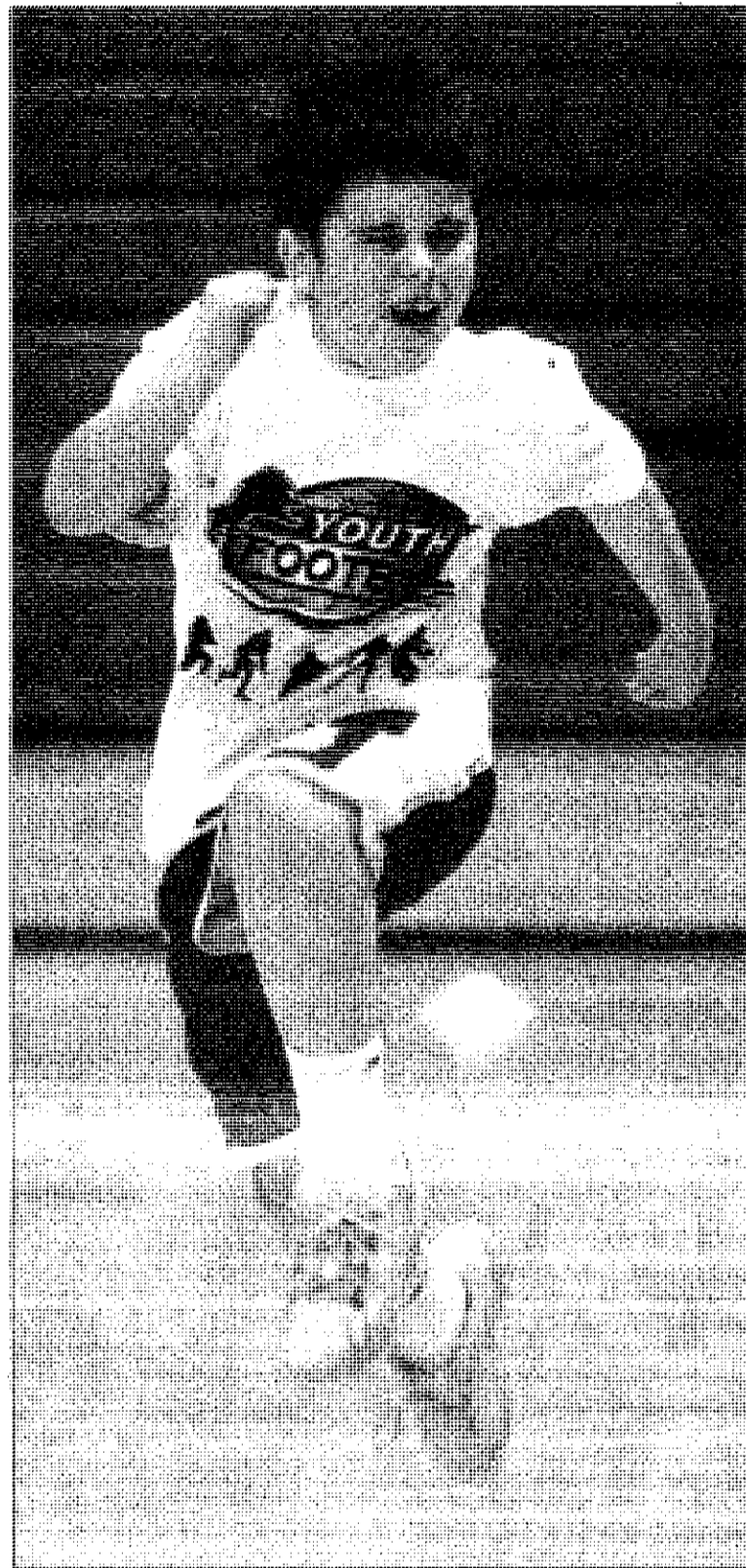
It wasn't known whether the couple had a history of problems. No information was immediately available about a possible motive.

Although the woman was a Farmington Hills resident, she often stayed with her boyfriend at Woodbridge Pond Apartments, Ramsden said.

On Friday, authorities were awaiting a report from the Wayne County Medical Examiner's Office.

Then, he said, the prosecutor's office will decide whether there would be criminal charges.

dclem@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2110



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Taking a break

How did 10-year-old Michael Gossett of Westland spend part of his midwinter break from school? Learning how to play like the pros at the Detroit Lions Youth Football Clinic at the Bailey Recreation Center Wednesday. The afternoon program focused on fundamentals for three positions - quarterback, running back and wide receiver. For more photos, see Page A6.

2nd WW school wins state Blue Ribbon award

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

There will be plenty of celebrating at Walker-Winter Elementary School when students return from midwinter recess next week.

That's because the Canton school has been selected by the state Board of Education as a Michigan Blue Ribbon Exemplary School.

"We're really excited about another Wayne-Westland school being named a Blue Ribbon winner," said Superintendent Greg Baracy. This really illustrates to the community that Wayne-Westland is an outstanding school district and that a lot of wonderful things are happening in it.

"It is a big testament to every teacher and every employee in that building who worked together and supported one another to come to this place," added school board President Frederick Weaver.

Walker-Winter is one of 23 elementaries across the state to receive the Blue Ribbon award for 2006-07. It is the second Wayne-Westland elementary school to be honored. Edison Elementary in Westland received its Blue Ribbon recognition in 2003.

Established in 1982, the Michigan Blue Ribbon Exemplary School Program recognizes schools that demonstrate a strong commitment to educational excellence and significant academic improvement over five years. Schools must complete a comprehensive report of key criteria for school effectiveness that serves as a

basis for an extensive assessment of their building and programs.

"The Blue Ribbon program's selection committee chose these schools as meeting some very tough criteria in delivering quality education to their students," said state Board of Education President Kathleen N. Straus of this year's winners. "All these schools, their teachers, students, parents, and communities should be very proud of their accomplishment."

Straus went on to say that Michigan Blue Ribbon schools "are models of both excellence and equity. To be recognized, a school must demonstrate a strong commitment to educational excellence for all students."

Walker-Winter staff, administration and parent groups worked on the application for more than a year. The application covered such things as student achievement, test scores and teaching strategies. A selection committee also visited the school twice to verify information and to interview parents to validate activities that take place there.

The school also had to make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) as required by the federal No Child Left Behind law and have a grade of A or B on the Michigan Education YES! School Report Card. Walker-Winter has a grade of A.

Baracy sat in on one visit and said the review was "the most comprehensive one I've seen," including those done for North Central accreditation.

PLEASE SEE BLUE RIBBON, A5

Developer sues citizens group over Maida Woods

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Developers filed a lawsuit Thursday claiming that critics of their proposed Maida Woods subdivision trespassed on their property, slandered them and conspired to stall the project.

The suit, filed by attorney Stephen Wasinger for Royal Oak-based developers Kentmoor LLC, claims that damages could surpass the \$2 million mark.

T.J. Andrews, a Traverse City attorney representing a citizens group that opposes the project, blasted the lawsuit as an attempt to muzzle critics.

"This is awful. This is outrageous and frivolous, and there is no basis to the allegations," she said. "These people have a right to speak, and you're not supposed to sue people for speaking. ... It seems to be intended to shut them up, and this is not

what the legal system is for."

Andrews indicated that a countersuit may be filed by the citizens group - the Westland Homeowners Committee for Environmental Conservation and Smart Growth.

"Of course they will defend these allegations vehemently and vigorously," she said.

Wasinger filed the suit in Wayne County Circuit Court just two days after the Westland City Council voted 6-1 to postpone a site plan for the 36-home development, proposed for the south side of Palmer Road between John Hix and Hannan.

The council delayed its decision until a state administrative judge rules on a challenge by the citizens group, which is contesting a wetlands assessment by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality as potentially flawed.

Kentmoor LLC's lawsuit names citizens

Jim Rubasky, daughter Jacqueline Rubasky, Donald Hasse, James Luckett, a citizens-hired environmental consultant Eugene Jaworski, and his firm, J&L Consulting Services. It also names the homeowners committee as a whole.

The suit contends that Kentmoor has been repeatedly advised by Westland officials that the development complies with all city ordinances.

Developers have said they should be allowed to move ahead with their site plan, saying they believe the state administrative judge will, ultimately, rule in their favor. They contend that the delay unfairly costs them money.

The suit accuses defendants of a "scheme to delay and frustrate the development" and claims that citizens are "essentially seeking to deprive Kentmoor

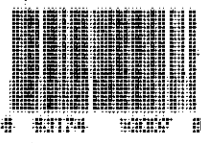
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Westland woman charged with murder in accident

BY LEANNE ROGERS
STAFF WRITER

A Westland woman is scheduled for a March 5 preliminary hearing on felony charges including second-degree murder in a traffic accident that killed a Garden City mother. Julie Meyer, 40, was

arraigned Wednesday in 21st District Court on charges of second-degree murder, which carries a penalty of up to life in prison, and two 15-year felonies — operating while intoxicated causing death and driving with a suspended license causing death. Standing mute at the

arraignment, a not guilty plea was entered for Meyer, who was being held in lieu of \$100,000 cash bond.

At the hearing, Meyer told Judge Richard Hammer Jr. that she was not employed and had quit her job with Livonia Public Schools shortly after the Oct. 12 accident.

Shelly Meplyans, 42, of Garden City was fatally injured after her car, traveling north on Henry Ruff, was struck by a van driven by Meyer, which

was westbound on Maplewood. Police said Meyer was traveling at a high rate of speed and ran a stop sign before hitting Meplyans' car.

"The second-degree murder charge is because of the mitigating circumstances," said Garden City Police Lt. David White. "She (Meyer) had no license to drive in the first place and was drunk. She was speeding, disregarding stop signs and disregarding human life. If she had been only

drunk, she probably would have been charged with manslaughter."

A short time before the fatal accident, Meyer had been involved in a collision at Middlebelt and Warren which was being handled by Westland Police. Meyer had driven away while the Westland officer was preparing an accident report, police said.

When the Westland officer heard a radio call about the accident at Maplewood and

Henry Ruff, he responded to the scene and identified the vehicle as having been involved in the accident he was handling.

Meplyans, a nurse and mother of two, suffered severe injuries in the accident and remained in a coma at the University of Michigan Hospital for a few days before dying after she was removed from life support.

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Teen pleads guilty in Franklin assault

The 17-year-old accused of slamming a Franklin High School classmate head-first into the cafeteria floor has pleaded guilty and he faces sentencing Friday.

The teenager was originally charged as a juvenile with assault with intent to commit murder in

connection with the incident, which occurred before school Nov. 22.

He pleaded to a juvenile charge of assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder, said Brian Morrow, deputy chief of the juvenile division for the Wayne County

Prosecutor's Office. He will be sentenced by Judge Jerome Cavanagh, of the Third Circuit Court Family Division.

Based on the charge, the defendant could be kept under the court's jurisdiction until he is 21, Morrow said. That could include probation or placement outside the home, he said.

A sentencing recommendation has not been set, Morrow said. The court will take into account the type of treatment needed for rehabilitation and his family situation. The defendant was arrested

shortly after the attack but has since been released on bond, Morrow said.

He reportedly punched sophomore Nate Carlin from behind, swung him around and dropped him on his head. Carlin was flown by helicopter to the University of Michigan Hospitals, where he was initially listed in critical condition.

He suffered a skull fracture and spinal injuries but was back in school the following week. Doctors expect a full recovery.

By Rebecca Jones



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Ficano proposes tax-free zone to attract business at Cobo Hall

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER

Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano is asking the state legislature to create a tax-free zone at Cobo Hall to attract more trade shows and conventions. The proposal is part of Ficano's continuing efforts toward renovating and expanding the convention center in downtown Detroit.

Ficano made his proposal Thursday night during his annual State of the County address before several hundred people at Henry Ford Community College in Dearborn.

He said he will ask the legislature and the governor to waive the 6 percent sales tax for purchases made at Cobo Hall.

"Boat and auto dealers could sell their products during the show. A visitor would save hundreds of dollars on the purchase of a new vehicle," Ficano said. "The no tax zone would give Cobo a marketing tool to attract other conventions that wanted to buy and sell their products or services."

COBO PLAN

In December, Ficano proposed a \$425 million renovation and one-million-square-foot expansion for Cobo Hall to be financed by extending hotel-motel and liquor taxes to 2037. Ficano argues that it is essential to renovate Cobo to keep the North American International Auto Show in the city and to attract other major conventions.

"The new Cobo will not raise taxes but will provide hundreds of millions of dollars in economic impact each year to the city of Detroit, Oakland, Macomb and Wayne counties," Ficano said Thursday.

"Momentum is building from Mayor Kilpatrick, Gov. Granholm, the Detroit Auto Dealers, the Big Three, corporations, the media and other stakeholders."



Ficano

County a center for alternative energy production; and creating an aeropolis, centering future county development around the county's two airports, Metro and Willow Run. Thursday Ficano announced plans for a second biodiesel plant in Wayne County.

Advanced Resource Recovery will build a facility in Inkster. The facility will employ 40 people.

Ficano continues to support development of E85 and other alternative fuels.

"In Wayne County, we have converted our entire diesel fleet to biodiesel and have been using biodiesel in our road and salt trucks since last summer," he said.

The county currently has five gas stations offering E85 fuel, including two in Canton.

CHINA TRIP

In November, two days after being re-elected to a second term, Ficano led his second trade mission to China.

Thursday, he played a recorded greeting from Jianong Wu, vice mayor of Chongqing, China. The county has established business, educational and trade partnerships with China, including a partnership with Plymouth-Canton schools.

"We must continue to nurture the business relationships started on these trade missions to capitalize on China's momentum," Ficano said. "To attract and retain companies here, we must have a global market place that is competitive with a level playing field. We cannot repeat the mistakes with China that we made with

Japan. Hopefully, we've learned that foreign companies like Toyota must be encouraged to locate in Michigan. Chinese companies want to locate here and we welcome them."

As another economic stimulus, Ficano proposed an annual tax holiday, to waive sales taxes during a week in August for back-to-school shopping. The tax holiday would extend to clothing, books and supplies priced at \$100 or less per item; computers up to \$2,000; and furniture, small electronics and computer software less than \$500 per item. He said Washington, D.C., and 14 states have tax holidays.

Ficano announced that representatives from communities in the proposed Airport City areas will be visiting airports in the Netherlands and Germany.

"We will look at best practices and experience firsthand what makes an Airport City work well," he said.

As part of this Airport City development, Ficano said more needs to be done to develop mass transit.

"We must have a commuter rail from Ann Arbor to Detroit," he said. "We don't need more studies of polls or opposition. Super Bowl Forty showed us that the lack of mass transit has an adverse effect on this region. We can compete with any area, but in order to do so, we need a better way of getting people where they need to go."

Ficano also cited accomplishments of his administration including balancing the budget for four consecutive years; launching a land bank to provide funding to develop foreclosed and abandoned property; the Nuisance Abatement Program to fix up hundreds of homes; and the county's one-stop business resource center.

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Wish you were here

Georgia Becker (right) holds her Westland Observer while daughter Terri Waterkamp holds her Garden City Observer for a Wish You Were Here photograph on the deck of the USS Missouri in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. According to Becker, it was a small world. Their guide (center) has an aunt and uncle who live on Wildwood in Westland. "Hopefully they will see her picture and know she is doing well," Becker wrote. If you take a trip, take a picture with your Westland Observer and send it to Sue Mason, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150. Be sure to include your name and information about your photo.

Anderson will host Capitol Update show

State Sen. Glenn Anderson, D-Westland, will host Capitol Update, a new cable show that will feature both local and Lansing leaders and events.

The show will debut the last week of February on local public access channels. Individuals may check their local public access channel for airing times, which will vary by community.

The channels include Livonia City Channel 8; Westland's WLND, on Comcast Channel 12



Anderson

and W.O.W. Channel 10; Garden City's GCTV, on Comcast Channel 12 and W.O.W. Channel 18; and Redford Township's government access Channel 8. Subscribers also will be able to view the program on the Comcast community access channels in their communities.

"As elected officials, we have a duty to keep the public informed," Anderson said. "I plan to use this cable show as a good way to reach out to a wide audience in the 6th Senate District."

Anderson's first show features Kevin Epling, father of Matt Epling, who inspired Senate Bill 107, or Matt's Safe School Law, the anti-bullying legislation that was Anderson's first bill in the Senate. It would give students protection against bullying.

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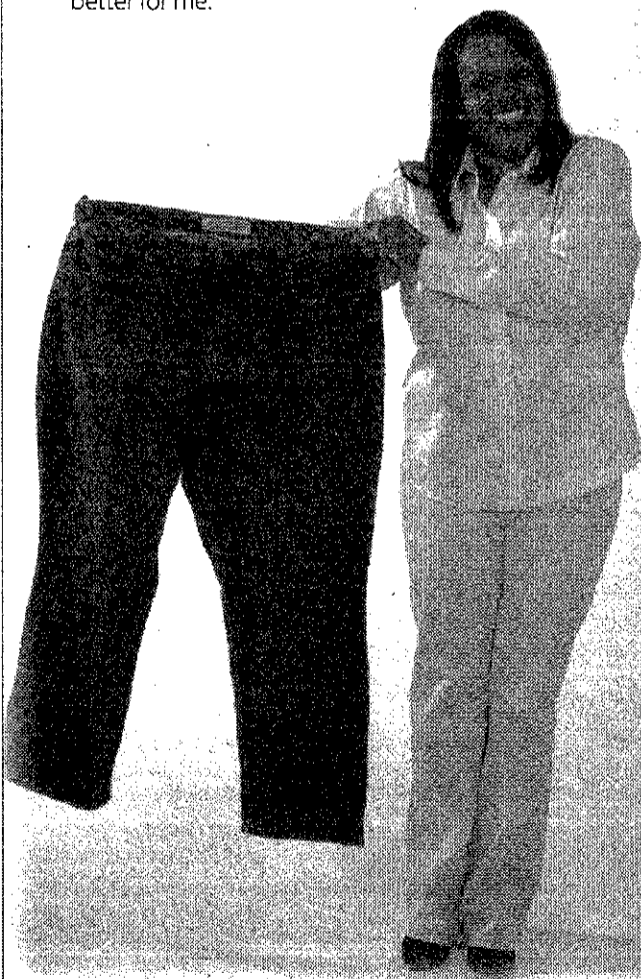
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Students honored

Six students at the Tinkham Alternative High School in Westland were named to the honor roll for the third marking period. Recognized for their academic efforts were Larry George, Ashley Holland, Jevon Lee, Terri Mack, Markeisha Thurman and Vanessa Wilson.

St. Patrick's Day

Join Michigan troubadour Neil Woodward for a family friendly evening celebrating the contributions of Irish folk music 6 p.m. Saturday, March 17, at the Bailey Recreation Center, 36651 Ford, Westland. Sponsored by the Westland Parks and Recreation

Department and the Grange No. 389, the evening includes an Irish style dinner and dessert served during intermission of the 7:30-9:30 p.m. concert. Tickets cost \$12 for adults, and \$7 for children ages 12 and under. Seating is limited. Tickets are available at the Bailey Center.

For more information, call (734) 722-7620 or by e-mail at mmartin@ci.westland.mi.us.

Grand opening

If you're in the area of Warren and Central City Parkway Wednesday, stop by Leo's Coney Island. The restaurant, located in

the Starbucks/Qdoba plaza, will be celebrating its grand opening with a ribbon cutting ceremony at 1 p.m.

Free tests

The Westland Fire Department performs free blood pressure and glucose tests in the lobby of the William P. Faust Public Library, 6123 Central City Parkway, 11 a.m. to noon Wednesday, Feb. 28.

Dems meeting

The monthly meeting of the Westland Democratic Club will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 27, at the Dorsey Center on Dorsey at Venoy between Palmer and Michigan Avenue. This is the club's annual meeting and will include an election to fill vacant board seats - vice president and at-large members. The board meets immediately prior to the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Coffee hours

State Sen. Glenn Anderson will hold two district coffee hours Monday, Feb. 26, in Livonia and Garden City. Anderson, D-Westland, will have information regarding the state's budget crisis available for any interested individuals. The Livonia coffee hour will be 9-10 a.m. at the Livonia Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road. The Garden City coffee hour will be 10:30-11:30 a.m. at Maplewood Community Center, 31735 Maplewood. Constituents who would like to address an issue with the senator, but are unable to attend, can

contact him by mail at P.O. Box 30036, Lansing, MI 48933; by phone at (517) 373-1707, or by e-mail at SenatorAnderson@senate.michigan.gov.

Baseball registrations

The Wayne Ford Civic League, at 1645 N. Wayne Road, Westland, is registering children ages 4-10 years old for its co-ed baseball league 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Saturday through April 14 or until all the teams are filled, which ever comes first. T-Ball players (ages 4-6) and Coach Pitch players (ages 7-8) cost \$65 per player, Mustang players (ages 9-10) cost \$80 per player. There is no residency fee charged for children living outside Westland and no fund-raising requirements associated with this year's program. Managers, coaches and umpires are always needed. Online registration forms can be obtained at www.wayneford.org/youth/youth.html.

Cigar party

Firing Line Indoor Gun Range and Gun Shop in Westland will sponsor its annual fund-raiser to benefit the Westland Police Department's Tactical Response Unit. Doors will open at 5 p.m. Saturday, March 3, at the Hellenic Cultural Center for the fifth annual cigar party fundraiser. The center is located on Joy Road east of Newburgh. The evening will include food, drinks, a silent auction, Vegas-style games, prizes and mock video horse racing, dubbed *A Night at the Races*. Tickets are \$60 and can be purchased by calling The Firing Line at (734) 326-7320, the Westland Chamber of Commerce at (734) 326-7222 or Westland police Officer Jeffery Kavanaugh at (734) 722-9600.

Bowling event

The Westland Chamber of Commerce will hold its 2007 Winterfest Charity Bowling Event 1-5 p.m. Saturday, March 4, at Westland Bowl, 5940 N. Wayne Road, Westland. Four-person teams will bowl alternating every fourth frame. There will be contests and prizes and a buffet dinner at Marvaso's Italian Grille. Tickets cost \$120 per team or \$30 per person. The price includes bowling two drinks and dinner. Registration starts at 12:30 p.m. with the tournament starting at 1 p.m. For more information, call the Chamber office at (734) 326-7222.

Bingo

The Ladies Auxiliary of Harris Kehler VFW Post 3323 will hold a marathon bingo noon-5 p.m. Saturday, March 10, at the post, 1055 N. Wayne Road, Westland. Money raised will go to support the Youth Activities Adopt A Troop project for overseas veterans.

Poker tournament

The Westland Jaycees will hold a Texas Hold 'Em Tournament and Vegas Night on Saturday, March 10, at the Bailey Recreation Center on Ford Road. The tournament will begin at 6 p.m. for a shot at a top prize up to \$1,000. Spots are available at the door and through pre-registration. The pre-registration price is \$50 until March 1. After that date, there will be a \$10 late registration fee. The games in the Vegas Room will include Big Wheel, Blackjack, 7 Card and Let it Ride. Food and beverages also will be available. Call (734) 226-0400 or visit the Jaycees' Web site at www.westlandjaycees.org.

Bingo

The Dyer Senior Center invites residents to play bingo at 1 p.m. Wednesdays at the center, 36745 Marquette, Westland. Call Mary Browe at (734) 419-2020.

Praise and worship

Westwood Community Church holds praise and worship services at 10 a.m. Sundays at 6500 N. Wayne Road at Hunter in Westland. The church also offers a children's church and nursery. Call (734) 254-0093.

Pancake breakfast

The Westland senior Friendship Center holds an all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast second Thursday of the month at the center on Newburgh south of Ford. The cost \$4 per person for buttermilk or multigrain pancakes, coffee, juice, low fat milk, sausage and bacon. Sugar-free syrup will be available. The center holds pancake breakfasts on the second Thursday of the month.

CITY OF GARDEN CITY
2007 BOARD OF REVIEW DATES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO all property owners of the City of Garden City that the Board of Review will meet in session on the following date and time to examine the assessment roll for the current year:

Tuesday	March 6, 2007	9:00 a.m.
---------	---------------	-----------

The Board of Review will meet in session on the following days and times to hear appeals on the 2007 assessment roll:

NOTE: Meetings located in THE GARDEN CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT CONFERENCE ROOM with late night appointments on Tuesday & Wednesday

Monday	March 12, 2007	9:00 am-5:00 pm
Tuesday	March 13, 2007	1:00 pm-9:00 pm
Wednesday	March 14, 2007	1:00 pm-9:00 pm
Thursday	March 15, 2007	9:00 am-5:00 pm
Friday	March 16, 2007	9:00 am-5:00 pm

APPEALS BY APPOINTMENT or WRITE-IN. Write-ins must be received by Monday, March 12, 2007.

Tentative ratios and factors for the 2007 tax year are:

CLASS	PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT RATIO	PROJECTED EQUALIZATION FACTOR
Commercial	49.43%	1.0000
Industrial	47.28 %	1.0575
Residential	49.05 %	1.0100
Personal Property	50.00%	1.0000

Taxes are paid on TAXABLE value, which is the lower assessed value or capped value, unless there is a property transfer. The capped value is based on the CPI (Consumer Price Index), which will increase 3.7% for 2007. As a result, all Taxable Values will increase 3.7% unless there has been a transfer of ownership or an addition to the property.

The 2007 Assessment Roll will be open for inspection from March 7, 2007 through March 9, 2007 in the assessment office from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. And 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m..

ALLYSON BETTIS
TEASURER-CLERK

Publish: February 25, March 1 & 4, 2007

CITY OF WESTLAND
SYNOPSIS OF MINUTES
MTG. 3 - 2/5/07

Presiding: Council President Pickering
Present: Godbout, Graundstadt, Johnson, Kehrer, Reeves, Stottlemeyer

56-Approved minutes of regular mtg held 1/16/07.
-Approved Surplus Vehicle Auction 2-17-07.
-Adopted Ord. 248-A-58, to amend Ord. 248, rezone CB-2 to CB-3, parcel #034-99-0030-005 & part of Parcel #034-99-0030-003 transferred to parcel #034-99-0030-005, nw corner of Wayne & Hunter.
-Adopted Ord., 109-K-B-1, to amend Westland City Code, Chapter 62, Article V, Sections 62-127, -130, -131, -157, -158 and -164, by increasing the potential imprisonment to 93 days, amending Chapter 62, Section 62-126 to specify that the offense of trespassing is punishable by a \$50.00 fine or 30 days imprisonment, and to add Chapter 62, Article V, Section 62-133, to prohibit the embezzlement of property.
-Adopted 2007 Board of Review Mtg Dates.
57-Approved Westland Festival from 6-28-07 to 7-4-07, parade & fireworks.
58-Granted request for Closed Study Session, Bertl v Westland.
59-Confirmed appt. W. Gabriel to the Westland LOCC, term ending 2-3-2010.
60-Confirmed appt. B. Turner to the Westland LOCC, term ending 2-7-09.
61-Confirmed appt. K. Coleman to the Westland LOCC, term ending 11-18-2007.
62-Confirmed appt. C. Hierta to the Westland LOCC, term ending 11-18-2007.
64-Approved checklist: \$1,894,669.41 and Prepaid: \$5,875,417.26.
65- Meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.
Minutes available at the Clerk's office.

CHARLES W. PICKERING
Council President

EILEEN DEHART
City Clerk

Publish: February 25, 2007

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CITY OF WESTLAND COUNCIL AGENDA
City Hall Council Chambers
36601 Ford Road, Westland, MI 48185
Regular Meeting No. 3
Monday, February 5, 2007 - 7:00 p.m.

AGENDA

Call Meeting to Order

Pledge of Allegiance led by Andrew Leming and Ronnia Gale, 5th grade students from Vandenberg Elementary School.

Roll Call

Special Presentation by the Westland Goodfellows.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

CITIZEN REQUESTS 1- Limited to 1/2 hour - Citizens are requested to limit their conversation to 5 minutes in order to give other citizens a chance to speak. Citizens who do not speak during the first 1/2 hour will be heard at the end of the agenda.

All matters listed under Consent Calendar are considered to be routine by the Council and will be enacted under one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council member so requests, in which event, the item will be removed and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda.

Citizen Comments on Agenda

CONSENT CALENDAR

- Minutes of regular meeting of January 16, 2007.
- Approval of Surplus Vehicle Auction to be held on Saturday, February 17, 2007, to be held at the Department of Public Service. (from Harrigan)
- Adoption of Ordinance 248-A-58, an ordinance to amend Ordinance 248, proposed rezoning from CB-2, Shopping Center Commercial to CB-3, General Commercial, Parcel #034-99-0030-005 and that (321.7' X 318.4') part of Parcel #034-99-0030-003 transferred to Parcel 034-99-0030-005, northwest corner of Wayne Road and Hunter Avenue. (PD 1941H) (from Plakas)
- Adoption of Ordinance 109-K-B-1, an ordinance to amend Westland City Code, Chapter 62, Article V, Sections 62-127, 62-130, 62-131, 62-157, 62-158, and 62-164, by increasing the potential imprisonment of each section to 93 days, amending Chapter 62, Section 62-126 to specify that the offense of trespassing is punishable by a \$50.00 fine or a maximum of 30 days imprisonment, and to add Chapter 62, Article V, Section 62-133, to prohibit the embezzlement of property. (from McConnell)
- Adoption of 2007 Board of Review Meeting Dates. (from Elrod)

OLD BUSINESS

- Request from Westland Festival Committee approval to hold their annual carnival from Thursday, 6-28-07 through Wednesday, 7-4-07 from 9:00 a.m. until midnight at City Hall grounds and parking lot, Bailey Recreation Center parking lot, Central City Park/Thomas Brown park in its entirety and Tot Town Park; approval to conduct a parade on Thursday, 6-28-07, at 6:15 p.m., starting at Wayne Ford Civic League, going north on Wayne Road, then west on Ford Road to City Hall; approval to conduct a fireworks display on Wednesday, 7-4-07 behind the Bailey Recreation Center at approximately 10:00 p.m. and to waive all fees except mechanical. (from Pettitioner)

NEW BUSINESS

- Request for Closed Study Session immediately after the meeting to discuss pending litigation, Bertl vs City of Westland. (from Smith)
- Approval of vouchers.
- Citizens Request 2.
- Comments from the Mayor.
- Council Members Requests/Comments.
- Adjournment.

Eileen DeHart
City Clerk

Publish: February 25, 2007

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CHANGES

FROM PAGE A1

our city," Wild said, "and I am confident that Lt. Ridener will make a fine chief of police and continue to excel in his career with the police force."

Wild's announcements came as he continues to reshape his administration after being appointed Jan. 3 as mayor, replacing now-district Judge Sandra Cicirelli. Wild has made his choices without having to fire anyone.

In choosing Carroll as community development and housing director, Wild cited Carroll's related experience with Wayne County in 1992-95. Carroll will oversee the city's Section 8 housing choice voucher program, Community Development Block Grant programs and the home rental rehabilitation program. Carroll is mar-

Wild's announcements came as he continues to reshape his administration after being appointed Jan. 3 as mayor.

ried with three children.

In selecting Buford as public service director, Wild chose a 14-year city employee whose new duties will include managing 84 employees while regulating the city's outside maintenance. Buford is married with three children.

As superintendent of construction, maintenance and motor pool, Blevins' duties will include managing the city's roads and equipment and overseeing various maintenance projects. He is married with four children and two grandchildren.

dclem@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2110

Mayor's pay plan has no raises

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Mayor William Wild has recommended no salary increases this year for 23 employees covered under his latest pay plan.

With little fanfare, Wild's plan has won sweeping approval from the seven-member Westland City Council.

Under the pay plan, salaries can range from \$38,172 for an administrative secretary to \$89,816 for five top-paid department heads, including the police and fire chiefs, public service director, finance director and assessor.

The council accepted the mayor's plan on Monday, just one week before a local commission will engage in talks about potential pay raises for elected officials, including the mayor, city clerk and council members.

Those pay levels will be discussed when the Local Officers Compensation Commission (LOCC) meets at 7 p.m. Monday on the second floor of

Westland City Hall, in the personnel department conference room.

Wild, who was appointed to his job on Jan. 3 after former Mayor Sandra Cicirelli became a district judge, already has said he doesn't want his \$95,974 salary increased.

"In good conscience, I can't recommend a pay raise until I get my arms around the city's budget," Wild told the *Observer* in January.

The newly revamped LOCC, whose members had been depleted before Wild took office, also will discuss possible pay raises for City Clerk Eileen DeHart and seven council members.

According to city administration officials, DeHart's salary is \$89,989, and pay levels for part-time council members are \$13,760 for President Charles Pickering, \$13,137 for President Pro Tem Cheryl Graunstadt, and \$12,515 for the remaining five council members.

It wasn't clear whether Wild's decision to freeze pay levels for his department heads will set the tone as LOCC

members discuss increases for elected officials.

Most LOCC members are new to their duties of setting pay raises for elected officials.

The commission's membership under Cicirelli had been depleted due to resignations and deaths.

In other developments, only four administration officials will continue to drive vehicles at taxpayer expense, according to Wild's pay plan. Those officials include the police and fire chiefs, the deputy fire chief and the public service director.

Sixteen other people covered by the mayor's pay plan - everyone but secretaries - will continue to receive a \$2,000-a-year car allowance.

Under city rules, Wild could choose to accept a car at taxpayer expense. However, like Cicirelli, he has opted to drive his own vehicle and to accept the \$2,000 car allowance.

dclem@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2110

BLUE RIBBON

FROM PAGE A1

"Walker-Winter has consistently been a high performing school," said Baracy.

The award comes just months after Walker-Winter was named a Lighthouse Award winner by the school board in recognition of its academic achievement.

"Personally, I'd like to thank the staff for their diligence and efforts, and I look forward to more and more Wayne-Westland schools reaching that honor," Weaver said. "I especially want to congratulate (Principal) Pauline Koulouberis. Her dynamic leadership has really worked well in the building and responded well to the teachers and students alike."

smason@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2112

MAIDA WOODS

FROM PAGE A1

of the opportunity to use and develop its property" within the law.

As part of the alleged scheme, the suit contends that citizens trespassed on the property, slandered Kentmoor with public statements and made false claims that the project would harm the environment.

Developers have said their site plan complies with a wetlands report from last October that cited 1.5 acres of state-regulated wetlands on the 14-acre site. The citizens group is challenging the environmental assessment.

Andrews said the citizens group has every right to challenge the wetlands study. Moreover, she said she believes the council had the authority to postpone the site plan until the state administrative judge rules on the issue.

Council members James Godbout, Cheryl Graunstadt, Bill Johnson, Michael Kehrer, Dewey Reeves and Robert Stottlemeyer voted to postpone the site plan. Council President Charles Pickering, predicting a possible lawsuit, had sought a decision on Tuesday.

The lawsuit does not name the city or any of its officials.

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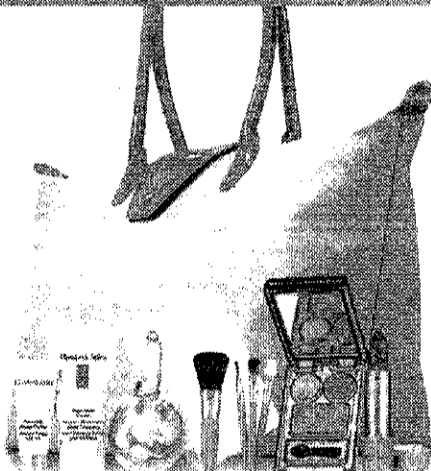
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St. Michael
St. Michael Lutheran Preschool at 3003 Hannan, Wayne, is accepting registration for the upcoming school year. Openings are available for three- and four-year-olds in both the morning and afternoon sessions. For more information or to make an appointment to visit the school, call (734) 728-3315.

Willow Creek
Willow Creek Cooperative Preschool, on Cherry Hill between Wayne and Newburgh in Westland is now enrolling for the 2006-2007 school year. Willow Creek programs include Parent/Tot, 2-

year-old, 3-year-old and 4-year-old year classes. For more information please call (734) 326-0078.

Preschool program
The Wayne-Westland Community Schools district has registration for preschool programs at Stottlemeyer Early Childhood and Family Development Center, on Marquette between Wayne and Wildwood. Included are an early intervention program, Head Start, Kids/Plus Preschool, a preprimary impaired program and Sparkey Preschool. Registration takes place 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Call (734) 419-2635.

YWCA Readiness
The YWCA of Western Wayne County Early Childhood School Readiness Program is available to 4- and 5-year-old children. The YWCA is at 26279 Michigan in Inkster. Call (313) 561-4110.



PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Just like the pros

Jake Hale 12, of Livonia gets ready to launch his football across the gymnasium at the Bailey Recreation Center during the Detroit Lions Youth Football Clinic Wednesday. The clinic was part of a series of activities offered throughout the week by the Parks and Recreation Department for youngsters on midwinter recess from school.



Detroit Lions Director of Youth Football Chris Fritzsching shows youngsters how to follow through when passing.



Chris Fritzsching, director of Youth Football with the Detroit Lions, goes over the fundamentals of three positions - quarterback, wide receiver and running back - that was covered in the mini camp.

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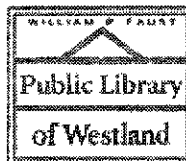
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Highlighted Activities
Understanding Fibromyalgia: 7 p.m. Feb. 26.

Join Dr. Brian Brackney of The DOCTORS' SPEAKER Bureau as he talks about safe, effective and natural alternative methods for addressing Fibromyalgia and chronic pain symptoms.

Independent Movie Night: 7 p.m. Feb. 27. Join us as we screen *Men at Work*, a comedy from Iran. Bring a friend or come by yourself to enjoy an evening of entertainment. No registration is required.

Science Fiction/Fantasy Discussion Group: 7 p.m. Feb. 28.

Join us for a discussion of *The Moon Is a Harsh Mistress* by Grand Master Robert Heinlein. We will compare the Master's work with the book we just read - *Variable Star* - but please come whether or not you read *Variable Star*. Read *Moon*, however. Check our blog at <http://swestlandlib-mius.blogspot.com>.

Information Central is compiled by reference librarian Janet Sowards of the William P. Faust Public Library, 6123 Central City Parkway, Westland. Call (734) 326-6123.

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Removal of county-owned dam would improve fishery

In the early weeks of January, when the thermometer had readings below freezing, I went down to a spot I know on the Lower Rouge River in Canton with my fishing pole.

I just happened to be with Canton environmental engineer Bob Belair, who has led many of the township's efforts to clean up the Rouge River, and a photographer, which you might say is a fisherman's best friend — in this case, *Observer* staffer Bill Bresler.



Kurt Kuban

I had told them both about the rainbow trout I caught a couple of years at this same spot. They, like many others I've told since then, were filled with doubt about the tale. Most people just can't believe that trout, which only inhabit clean running streams, could survive in the Rouge River.

As fate would have it, I made my first cast, and a nice-looking rainbow trout hit my little spinner. With my companions looking on in disbelief, the 8- to 10-inch trout leapt from the water several times before I landed and released it. I cast my line out about 10 more times, landing one more rainbow and losing another that shook the hook loose. Fortunately, Bill was there to take some photos, so this wasn't just another fish tale.

Well, the story doesn't end there.

When I got back to the office, I e-mailed the photo to some people I know that are involved with Rouge River-related activities. You might say the photo kind of took on a life of its own from there. Within a couple of days, I received e-mails from a bunch of other people, including officials from Wayne County, wanting to know if it was really true. The next week, I went to a Canton Township board meeting, and Belair had put the photo in a Power Point presentation about how some of the township's environmental efforts are starting to pay off in a cleaner Rouge River. I've even heard a rumor that Tom Yack might mention it in his upcoming State of the Township address.

There is a specific reason that these trout are able to live, and it is in a pretty small area of the river. The spot just happens to possess the right conditions for their survival. Unfortunately, anglers probably aren't going to catch them elsewhere in Canton.

But I think this story tells a lot about the amount of interest that some people have about the ongoing restoration efforts of the Rouge River, particularly the recre-

ation possibilities that it could offer. An improved fishery is certainly a major goal of not only Canton officials, but those from every community within the Rouge watershed, including Wayne County officials.

If county officials were really as serious as they say about improving the Rouge River fishery, particularly in the Lower Rouge River, they would get serious about removing the Lower's only dam, which is located under the Wayne Road bridge in the city of Wayne.

While it is a somewhat small dam, it creates a barrier for fish to move either upstream or downstream. In essence, it blocks fish that make their way up the river from the Detroit River from getting to smaller headwaters that exist in Canton and further upstream, which are vital breeding areas. Not many people know this, but the river does have a limited run of salmon and steelhead, but only the largest of these fish can get over the dam at Wayne Road. All other species of fish, including pike, bass and forage fish, can't get past the dam.

Many groups, including Friends of the Rouge and even officials with Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Department of Environmental Quality, have advocated the removal of this dam for some time. The dam was built in 1913 and no longer serves any practical purpose. The DEQ doesn't even have it listed in its file of Michigan dams. And in the DNR's most recent fish survey of the Rouge watershed, biologists refer to the dam as "especially devastating, isolating the watershed from the Detroit River (and Lake Erie ecosystem)."

The time has come to remove this dam. The question is who should pay for its removal. Look no further than its owner — Wayne County Parks.

Unfortunately, I was at a recent meeting of the Rouge River Remedial Action Committee (RRAC), which is also advocating the removal of the dam, and a Wayne County official said the county has no money for the project at this time. I had to scratch my head.

What about the Wayne County Parks millage that county voters just re-approved for the third time in 2005? The 0.25-mill brings in about \$11 million per year.

I've always said that the parks millage money should be spent to improve Wayne County Parks properties, and not fund local projects like swimming pools and ice rinks in Detroit, skate parks in Wyandotte, a recreation center in Van Buren, or soccer fields in Wayne — as it has done in the past. Many political figures have also criticized the parks millage, most notably Yack,



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton Observer editor Kurt Kuban displays a rainbow trout he caught in early January on the Rouge River.

because it is seen as a way to reward political allies.

County officials say they have come up with a merit-based, point system on which projects will be funded, but there are always going to be complaints from communities that get left out.

In May, county officials will begin to deliberate about what projects should be funded through the millage during budget discussions. I'm hoping the removal of the Wayne Road dam is part of those discussions.

Most of the people I've spoken to said removing it would not be very costly, and the payback would be tremendous because it would improve the fishery throughout the entire Lower Rouge sub-watershed, which includes Canton, Wayne, Westland, Dearborn and other communities. The county also owns much park land along the Lower Rouge, and an improved fishery would create more recreational opportunities in the Lower Rouge Parkway.

If nothing else, the response to that photo of the rainbow trout I caught has told me there is a tremendous interest in fishing opportunities in the Rouge River. Hopefully, Wayne County Parks officials are listening.

Kurt Kuban is community editor of the *Canton Observer* and an avid fisherman. He can be reached via e-mail at kkuban@hometownlife.com or by phone at (734) 459-2700.

Michigan Lottery makes money, benefits schools

As commissioner of the Michigan Lottery, I would like to clarify a serious error made in a recent letter to the editor. The writer wrongly claimed that "the State of Michigan is losing money on the lottery..." Nothing could be further from the truth. In 2006, we recorded our most successful year since our establishment in 1972.

With record sales of \$2.12 billion, the Lottery contributed an unprecedented \$688 million to the state School Aid Fund in FY 2006. Not only did the Lottery set records in sales and contributions to education, but in other areas as well. Lottery players won over \$1.26 billion in prizes and retailers earned over \$152 million in commissions.

Last year's historic year was our third record year in a row. In FY 2003, total revenues were \$1.68 billion. In 2004, that number increased to \$1.97 billion. For the first time ever, the Lottery passed the \$2 billion mark when in 2005, revenues were \$2.07 billion. In 2006, we continued breaking our own records with \$2.21 billion in sales. This figure represents a 38 percent increase in sales in just three short years.

One hundred percent of the Lottery's profits go to public education in Michigan, and with our outstanding revenue growth, the School Aid Fund has reaped increased benefits. In FY 2003, the contribution to School Aid was \$586 million; in 2004, \$644.9 million, and in 2005, \$667.6 million. Because of our outstanding sales in 2006, we were able to contribute a record \$688 million to the School Aid Fund, a 24 percent increase over 2003.

While we are obviously very pleased with our success, we are not content with it. We will continue to expand the business practices we have implemented in the past few years, focusing on making our games entertaining and affordable for all our players. We are very proud of the fact that our innovations resulted in Michigan's Lucky Dog game being selected as the best instant game in North America in 2006; that our first Millionaire Raffle, introduced in November, sold out in just 11 days; and that we experienced our largest increase in instant ticket sales in over 10 years in 2006. We expect that our creativity and dedication will lead to yet another record-breaking year and project our sales to be over \$2.3 billion in 2007. In turn, we expect to break the \$700 million mark in our contribution to the School Aid Fund for the first time in our history.

I invite those who'd like to take a closer look at the business of the Michigan Lottery to view our 2006 annual report, which is available at www.michigan.gov/lottery or by calling our Public Relations Division at (517) 373-1237. In addition, visitors who are interested in even more detailed financial reports related to the Lottery will find our 2006 comprehensive annual financial report on the Web site as well. As always, comments are welcome and appreciated.

Since it was created in 1972, the Lottery has generated over \$13 billion in profits by operating games of fun and chance with the highest integrity and standards possible. We look forward to continuing our critical role in funding education in this great state.

Gary Peters is the commissioner of the Michigan State Lottery and a former state legislator.



Gary Peters

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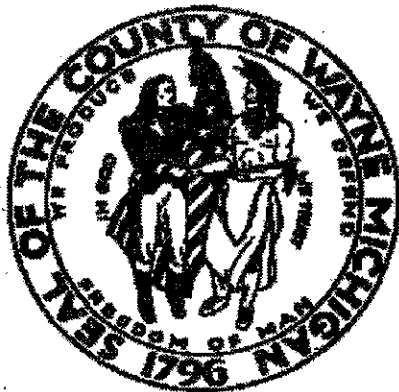
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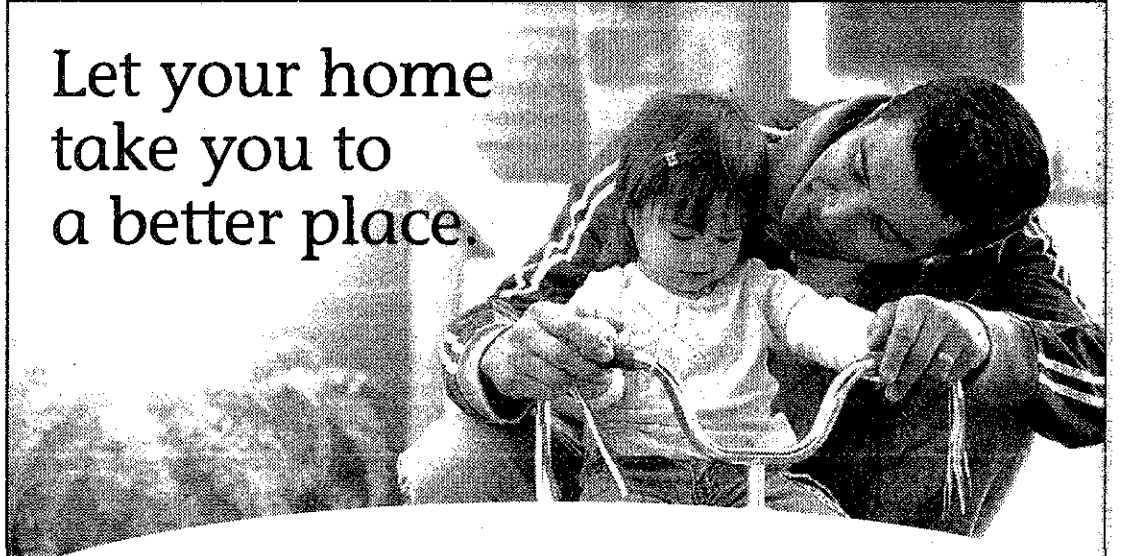
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Roth 401(k) is a good option for employer plans

My employer just started offering the Roth 401(k) plan where they will match up to 5 percent. I am 55 years old and wondering if I should contribute to this new plan or keep my contributions on a tax-deferred basis. Please tell me what you think.

Richard
I love the idea of using a Roth 401(k). I believe that the Roth 401(k) is a tremendous opportunity for investors. In a traditional 401(k) plan, you receive a double tax benefit. First, is that the money going into the plan is pre-taxed money, and secondly, the income generated grows on a tax-deferred basis. Taxes are due when the money is withdrawn. Furthermore, 401(k) plans are subject to minimum required distribution rules which mean that at the age of 70, you must begin taking required minimum distributions. On the whole, the benefits of a traditional 401(k) plan are it allows you to defer taxes on a portion of your wages by deferring into the 401(k) account and you also defer taxes on the growth on those invested dollars. The Roth 401(k) is a relatively new option that many companies are now offering. The great benefit of the Roth 401(k) is that all the accumulations of income are tax free and not tax deferred. The downside of the Roth



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

401(k) is that the money you contribute to the plan is post-tax money and not pre-tax money. Therefore, you end up paying a little higher tax today, however, the great benefit comes down the road when the money is withdrawn. When money is withdrawn from a Roth 401(k) plan there are no taxes due. While in a traditional 401(k), all the money withdrawn is subject to ordinary income tax. Another advantage of the Roth 401(k) is that it is not subject to the Minimum Required Distribution rules. Therefore, you never have to withdraw your money and it can continue to grow tax-free for as long as you choose. In fact, if you should pass away and there is money left in your Roth 401(k), that money transfers income tax-free to your beneficiaries. In a traditional 401(k), there would be income taxes due. On the whole, I believe that in the great majority of situations, people should take advantage of Roth 401(k) plans. In fact, if your employer offers a traditional 401(k) and

does not offer a Roth option that is something I believe you should petition the employer to add on. One last note for employers that do not offer a Roth 401(k) option, my question to them is why not? Good luck!

I am just about ready to retire and I want to know after I retire what should be the proper allocation of my portfolio, and in addition, should I leave my 401(k) at my employer or should I roll it over?

Ralph
I believe the most important area for an investor to concentrate on is the allocation. In fact, when you read the studies the allocation is more important than the individual investments. I believe before an investor should even look at the individual investments, they need to set up an allocation based upon their individual goals and objectives. When I talk about allocation, what I am referring to is the percent of your portfolio that should be kept in cash, fixed income, investments such as bonds and fixed annuities and the allocation to equities such as stock mutual funds. It used to be much easier to set up an allocation because we did not have as many choices as we have today. In addition, our economy is totally different than it was a decade ago. It is

important that investors, in their portfolios, reflect the changing world in which we live. For the stock portion of a portfolio, prior to investing, an investor needs to allocate between a variety of asset classes such as large caps, small caps, international, energy and real estate. The key to have a well-balanced and diversified portfolio is to be in a variety of different areas of the economy. Not all sectors of the economy operate on the same cycle. Thus, by diversifying, you protect yourself. As to the proper asset allocation when someone retires, as far as I am concerned, whether someone is working or retired is relatively immaterial. What is material are their goals and objectives. I do not believe that all retirees are in the same position, and thus without knowing more about your situation, it is impossible to suggest an allocation. After all,

some retirees need income, others do not. I've always said I think it is a mistake for investors to base their portfolios on their age. You base your portfolios upon your individual situation. With regards to whether you should leave your money within the company 401(k) or directly transfer it into an IRA, my general advice for the great majority of people is to transfer the money into an IRA. By directly transferring the money into an IRA, you can better establish a portfolio that fits your individual situation. In addition, you're not subject to the whims of the employer who may change their investment options within the 401(k) plan. Employers are frequently changing their plans and that could have an effect on your portfolio. I recommend that you take the money with you. By directly transferring the money to companies like Schwab or Vanguard, you will

be able to establish a portfolio and implement it using commission-free funds. Both of those companies have a wealth of funds available to implement a portfolio. One last note. Always to remember that when someone retires today, typically they are still young and must think long term. After all, someone who retires in their 60s is far from old and they have to plan on living at least another 30 years. Therefore, in order to guarantee someone a rising income throughout their lifetime, which is essential in today's world, retirees should never forget to have a growth element in their portfolio. Good luck!

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial adviser. *Observer & Eccentric* readers can submit questions at moneyatters@hometownlife.com. For more information, visit his Web site at www.bloomassetmanagement.com. You can hear Rick from noon to 3 p.m. Sundays on WDTK 1400 AM.

Schoolcraft Expo spotlights public safety careers

Explore the possibility of a career in public safety and examine first-hand police and fire vehicles and displays at Schoolcraft College's Public Safety Career Expo. The Expo takes place 4-7 p.m. Wednesday, March 21, at Schoolcraft College's Radcliff Center in Garden City. Potential employers will be on hand to accept resumes and

answer questions about their programs. Those attending include representatives of police, fire and rescue units, the Wayne County Airport Authority, the Michigan State Police Bomb Squad, commercial enterprises, sheriff departments and colleges and universities. Participants also include the U.S. Probation, Marshal and

Secret Service, Henry Ford Hospital security, Huron Valley Ambulance service and the Schoolcraft College Fire and Police academies. For job seekers interested in a public safety career, Expo organizers suggest bringing 30 to 40 resumes to the event. The event is free and open to the public. For information, call (734) 462-4421.

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SPORTS

B

(LW)
Sunday, February 25, 2007

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Brad Emons, editor . (734) 953-2123 . bemons@hometownlife.com

www.hometownlife.com

Canton snaps Glenn winning streak in OT, 55-53

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

Even when he was 2-for-14 from the floor and it was 47-all in overtime, Neil Sharma had the "green light" as far as coach Charlie Paye was concerned.

The 6-foot-3 junior forward stepped behind the three-point line near the top of the key and drilled a shot with 1:47 to go, propelling Canton to a 55-53 boys basketball victory Friday night over host Westland John Glenn in the semifinals of the Western Lakes Activities Association tournament.

Sharma also added two key free throws with 45 seconds left and Josh Butler con-

BOYS HOOPS

tributed two more from the line to sew up the win.

Sharma, who finished with 10 points, struggled during the first half, going 2-for-10.

"Neil's our best perimeter shooter . . . he's capable of that," said Paye of the clutch three-pointer in OT. "Sometimes when it's a big game, he gets too excited and he shoots too quickly, or throws up a shot off-balance. At halftime we talked about slowing it down."

Canton, now 13-6 overall, moves into the WLA championship game, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday at Plymouth, against 18-1 Northville, which owns two victories over the Chiefs this season.

Lakes Division champion Glenn, now 14-5 overall, had its 12-game winning streak snapped.

"No excuses, they beat us, I take my hats off to them," Glenn first-year coach Dan Young said. "That shot by Sharma was huge. They beat us to loose balls. Canton does a good job defensively and they're physical."

The game was nip-and-tuck throughout. Canton led 12-11 after one quarter, but

Glenn forged ahead 23-22 at halftime despite the loss of junior forward Earl Hardison, the Rockets' leading scorer who was forced off the floor with an ankle injury.

Glenn led by as many as seven in the third quarter, 31-24, thanks to a shot by Robert Jones with 4:00 to go. The Chiefs, however, led 35-33 on Butler's shot with 52 seconds remaining in the same period.

Ryan Waidmann, Canton's 6-7 senior center, loomed large with 15 points, 15 rebounds and three assists and he scored a big basket with 2:52 in the game to give Canton a 42-41 advantage.

PLEASE SEE HOOPS, B2



TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Churchill's Phil Wendecker brings the puck in for a shot during Friday's Western Lakes Activities Association first-place crossover game against Plymouth at Compuware Arena's Olympic Rink.

Smooth surface

Chargers skate past Plymouth icers, 4-0, to win 1st-place Western Lakes crossover

BY ED WRIGHT
STAFF WRITER

What do you get when you put Livonia Churchill's NASCAR-fast hockey team on a spacious Olympic-sized ice surface?

VROOM! VROOM! VROOM!

The Chargers opened up their throttles Friday night on the Compuware Sports Arena's larger-than-normal rink and raced past Plymouth, 4-0, in the Western Lakes Activities Association first-place crossover game.

If not for a stand-on-his-head effort from Wildcat goalie Justin Desllets, the Chargers may have flirted with double-digit goals.

"I thought we did a nice job of adjusting to the bigger ice surface," said Churchill coach Pete Mazzoni. "When you don't play on it every day, it's very deceiving. There's a ton of room out there and it looks like you're skating slower than you are."

"I'll tell you what though: I'd love to have this team on that rink on a regular basis."

The victory improved the state's No. 1-ranked Division 1 team to 22-2 heading into Monday night's pre-regional opener against Redford Unified.

Plymouth, which slipped to 14-8-2, will return to action Wednesday against the winner of Monday night's Novi-Livonia Franklin pre-Regional contest.

"I thought our boys played a decent

game tonight, but Churchill has a heckuva good team," said Plymouth coach Chuck Dubois. "They have speed, they're always on the puck and they play disciplined hockey. It wouldn't surprise me at all if they make it all the way to the state finals (in the upcoming state tournament)."

The Chargers outshot their hosts, 39-10, a lopsided statistic that had as much to do with Churchill's hard-checking defensemen as it did with its slick-skating forwards.

Churchill's signature play of the night unfolded at the 10:07 mark of the second period when Charger blue-liner Mitch Carpenter administered a clean - but bone-jarring - check that separated a Plymouth player from his helmet once he slammed into the boards near mid-ice.

"Any time you can get a defenseman to step up, play a tight gap and execute some body checks, it tends to slow the guys on the other teams down," said Mazzoni, in reference to Carpenter's hit.

The winners' offense was paced by first-year senior Dustin Wischmeyer, who registered two goals and an assist.

"Playing on the bigger ice surface was different, but I liked it," said Wischmeyer, a few moments after the Chargers carried their latest piece of hard-earned hardware off the ice. "There's a lot more room to skate and it opens up the passing lanes."

PLEASE SEE HOCKEY, B6

Rocket grapplers denied upset bid Bedford survives, 29-27

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

Oh, so close, but yet so far from Battle Creek.

The Westland John Glenn wrestling team nearly pulled off the upset of the Division I team state tournament as perennial power Temperance Bedford needed victories in the final two matches Wednesday to capture the regional title at Wyandotte, 29-27.

The Kicking Mules, now 24-2 overall, advance to the state quarterfinals this Friday at the Kellogg Center in Battle Creek where they will face 29-13 Romeo.

TEAM REGIONAL

"We had them on the ropes, we wrestled good enough to win," said Glenn coach Bill Polk, whose team bowed out at 15-7 overall. "There were four or five matches where we missed getting one or two points, and we lost the decision."

While Bedford was downing the host Bears in one semifinal, Glenn reached the regional championship by breezing past Dearborn Fordson, 55-12, as Jim Wood (145 pounds), Scott Brown (160), Andrew Hein (171) and Anthony Pavlich (103) all scored pins against the Tractors, who bowed out at 19-15 overall.

The Rockets' James Zerebiny (160) added four points with a major decision, while teammates Zaid Ammari (135), Shamir Garcia (215) and Jared Stephens (119) all won by decisions for three points apiece. Wood (140) then opened the regional final with a 9-4 decision over Bedford's Colin Arnold. Glenn, however, fell behind 22-15, before stringing together three straight wins thanks to a pin by Josh Austin (112) and decisions from Jared Stephens (119) and Jeremiah Austin (125). Bedford cut the deficit to one, 27-26, on 130-pounder Billy Osborne's 14-5 major decision over Nick Shak. Individual district runner-up Dan Clark (135) then pulled out the victory for the Kicking Mules.



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Hands-on approach

Westland Huron Valley Lutheran junior Emily Helwig nails a spike past Inter-City Baptist's Amanda Ison in Thursday's non-conference encounter. See girls volleyball roundup on page B4.

Gym dandies

Livonia Red wins WLA title; Blue squad earns 2nd place

See complete results inside, Page B3.

They were seeing Red and Blue in Thursday's Western Lakes Conference girls gymnastics meet hosted by Walled Lake Central.

Livonia Unified came in as the defending champion, but after the MHSAA forced program to de-unify for the 2006-07 season, Livonia Red (Churchill) and Livonia Blue (Stevenson-Franklin) were split up and still remain at the top, finishing one-two to lead the 12-school field.

Livonia Red wound up with a season-best 146.100 points followed by Lakes Division champion Livonia Blue with 144.100.

GYMNASTICS

Northville placed third with 143.950, while Western Division champion Canton, the only team to defeat Livonia's Red and Blue teams this season, settled for fourth with 143.100. (Division winners were determined by meet averages.)

"It's our high score for the year and I'm so impressed with all the girls' performances," Livonia Red coach Kelly Grodzicki said. "They did an amazing job and we hope they can stay focused for the regionals (this Saturday at Plymouth)."

Livonia Red's Paula Guzik was the all-around winner in Division I with a score of 38.1. She captured the vault (9.6) and uneven parallel bars (9.45). Guzik was also runner-up on floor exercise (9.55) and tied for fourth on the balance beam.

Teammate Andrea Pisani placed third overall in Division I with a score of 37.60. She won the balance beam (9.7) and floor exercise (9.65) to go

PLEASE SEE GYMNASTICS, B3

Sidelines

Clement qualifies

Coe College (Ia.) senior wrestler Brian Clement (Livonia Churchill) has earned a spot in the NCAA Division III National Championships, March 2-3 in Dubuque, Ia., to be hosted by Loras College.

Clement placed third in the 125-pound class at recent Iowa Conference Tournament.

The Westland native picked up a quarterfinal win over Loras' Mark Beatty, 9-2, before being pinned by Luther's Nate Hansen, the No. 1-ranked grappler in the nation, in 1:49.

In the wrestlebacks, Clement decided Simpson's Tony Hager, 12-8, before edging Wartburg's Robert Struthers, 3-2.

Aid CHS swimming

Thomas's Family Restaurant, located on 33971 Plymouth Road, in Livonia, will be staging a fund-raiser for the Livonia Churchill High boys swimming and diving team starting at 3 p.m. today through the close on Thursday, March 1.

Owner Mike Kusczak, Thomas's owner, will donate 20 percent off any meal during the four days. For a coupon, download churchillswim@yahoo.com

Bridges All-WHAC

Canton High's D.J. Bridges was among six Madonna University men's basketball players to receive accolades in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference.

Bridges, a 6-foot-3 forward who averaged 20.2 points per game in conference play, was named first-team All-WHAC.

Senior forward Derrick Mudri (Fowlerville) earned second-team honors, while senior guard Adam Kerfoot (Gaylord) was named to the third-team.

Junior forward Mike Rashad (Wayne Memorial) earned All-Defensive team honor. Kerfoot and Charlie Henry (Canton Agape Christian) were named to the All-Academic team.

Freed's lead way

Brothers Robert and Matthew Freed earned age-group division titles in Friday's MPRA Hoop Challenge Basketball Skills Competition held at the Livonia Community Center.

The event, sponsored by the Livonia Parks and Recreation Department, attracted 75 boys and girls ages 8-15.

Robert Freed won the Boys 14-15 age division with 46 points, while Matthew Freed took the Boys 10-11 with 31. Both hail from Livonia.

Nicholas Malzone of Farmington Hills had the top point total with 47 to win the Boys 12-13 age group. Livonia's Troy Branton took the Boys 8-9 with 14.

Girls winners, all from Livonia, included: Chelsea Williams (14-15), 40 points; Jackie Shields (12-13), 20; Natalie Spala (10-11), nine; and Cori Wilson (8-9), four.

THE WEEK AHEAD

BOYS BASKETBALL
Monday, Feb. 26
 Bishop Foley at Clarenceville, 7 p.m.
 Huron Valley at Taylor Baptist, 7 p.m.
Tuesday, Feb. 27
 Churchill at W.L. Northern, 7 p.m.
 Plymouth at Franklin, 7 p.m.
 Stevenson at Salem, 7 p.m.
 W.L. Western at Wye, 7 p.m.
 Clarenceville at Play, Christian, 7 p.m.
 Det. Urban at Luth. Westland, 7 p.m.
Wednesday, Feb. 28
(WLA Finals at Plymouth)
 John Glenn vs. W.L. Central, 5:30 p.m.
 Canton vs. Northville, 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, March 1
 Luth. Westland at N.B. Huron, 7 p.m.
 Immac. Concept at Huron Valley, 7 p.m.
Friday, March 2
 Clarenceville at Hazel Park, 7 p.m.
 Huron Valley at Taylor Light & Life, 7:30 p.m.
GIRLS VOLLEYBALL
DISTRICT TOURNEY DRAWS
CLASS A
(Friday, March 2)
at LIVONIA CHURCHILL
First round: (A) Salem vs. (B) South Lyon, 4 p.m.; (C) Northville vs. (D) Plymouth, 4 p.m.
Semifinals: Livonia Churchill vs. A-B winner, 5:30 p.m.; Canton vs. C-D winner, 5:30 p.m.
Championship final: 7:30 p.m. (Winner advances to the regional semifinals at West Bloomfield vs. Southfield district champion.)
(Saturday, March 3)
at SOUTHFIELD
First round: (A) Redford Thurston vs. (B) Southfield, 9 a.m.; (C) Redford Union vs. (D) Livonia Franklin, 10:30 a.m.
Semifinals: Farmington vs. A-B winner, noon; Livonia Stevenson vs. C-D winner, 1:30 p.m.
Championship final: 3 p.m. (Winner advances to the regional semifinals at West Bloomfield vs. Livonia Churchill district champion.)
at YPSILANTI
Thursday, March 1: (A) Westland John Glenn vs. (B) Ypsilanti, 6 p.m. (C) Garden City vs. (D) Romulus, 20 minutes after first game.
Saturday, March 3: Belleville vs. A-B winner, 10 a.m.; Wayne Memorial vs. C-D winner, 20 minutes after first game.
Championship final: 20 minutes after second game. (Winner advances to the regional semifinals at Ypsilanti Lincoln vs. Dearborn district champion.)
CLASS B
(Saturday, March 3)
at DETROIT COUNTRY DAY
First round: (A) Bloomfield Hills Kingswood vs. (B) Beverly Hills-Detroit Country Day, 10 a.m.
Semifinals: Livonia Clarenceville vs. Pontiac Notre Dame Prep, 11:30 a.m.; Livonia Ladywood vs. A-B winner, 1 p.m.
Championship final: Approximately 3 p.m. (Winner advances to the regional semifinals at Milan vs. River Rouge district champion.)
CLASS D
at WESTLAND HURON VALLEY LUTHERAN

Tuesday, Feb. 27: (A) Newport Lutheran South vs. (B) Taylor Baptist Park, 5:30 p.m.; (C) Taylor Light & Life Christian vs. (D) Westland Huron Valley Lutheran, 7 p.m.
Friday, March 2: Lutheran High Westland vs. A-B winner, 4:30 p.m.; Wyandotte Mt. Carmel vs. C-D winner, 6 p.m.
Championship final: 7:30 p.m. (Winner advances to the regional semifinals at Auburn Hills Oakland Christian vs. Grosse Pointe Woods University-Liggett district champion.)
BOYS HOCKEY
PRE-REGIONAL DRAWS
DIVISION I
at LIVONIA'S EDGAR ARENA
Monday, Feb. 26: Redford Unified vs. Livonia Churchill, 6 p.m.; Dearborn-Edsel Ford vs. Livonia Stevenson, 8 p.m.
Wednesday, Feb. 28: Championship final, 6 p.m. (Winner advances to the regional final at Dearborn Indoor Skating Center's Kilpatrick Arena vs. Royal Oak pre-regional champion.)
DIVISION II
at NOVI ICE ARENA
Monday, Feb. 26: (A) Novi vs. (B) Livonia Franklin, 6 p.m.
Wednesday, Feb. 28: Plymouth vs. A-B winner, 6:30 p.m. (Winner advances to the regional final at Novi Ice Arena vs. Walled Lake Central pre-regional champion.)
PREP BOWLING
Monday, Feb. 26
 Wayne-Oakland Conference Doubles at Drakestire Lanes, 3:30 p.m.
GIRLS COMPETITIVE
CHEER REGIONALS
Saturday, March 3
 Division II at Allen Park, 10 a.m.
 Division IV at Hudson Park, 10 a.m.
 Division I at Southgate, 11 a.m.
PREP FIGURE SKATING
Saturday, March 3
 District Event at Novi Ice Rink, 8 a.m.
WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Thursday, March 1
(NJCAA-Region 12-District II Playoffs)
 Schoolcraft vs. Lakeland CC (Ohio) at OCC-Highland Lakes, 1 p.m.
ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE
Friday, March 2
 Whalers at Kitchener Rangers, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, March 3
 Whalers vs. Sarnia Sting at Compuware Arena, 7:05 p.m.
Sunday, March 4
 Whalers vs. Mississauga Ice Dogs at Compuware Arena, 2 p.m.
MAJOR INDOOR SOCCER LEAGUE
Sunday, Feb. 25
 Det. Ignition vs. Philadelphia KIXX at Compuware Arena, 4:35 p.m.
Friday, March 2
 Det. Ignition vs. Milwaukee Wave at Compuware Arena, 7:35 p.m.
Sunday, March 4
 Ignition at Milwaukee Wave, 2 p.m.

Wales of an effort: Northville ices Spartans

Brandon Wales tallied a pair of unassisted goals in the final period to break a 3-all tie and lift host Northville to a 5-3 boys hockey victory over Livonia Stevenson in a battle of second place Western Lakes division finishers at Novi Ice Arena.

Northville, 13-8-3 overall, led 2-1 after one period on Ross Riehl's shorthanded goal from Wales at 4:39 and Steve Dawson's unassisted goal at 10:55.

Stevenson's R.J. Kierdorf scored unassisted at 7:09 of the same period.

In the second period, Kyle Zagata tied it for the Spartans at 1:47 from Marcus Voran and Kierdorf. But Northville regained the lead, 3-2, on a five-on-three power play with Wales and Wes Gates at 5:45. Stevenson, however, tied it at 3-all at 7:30 of the same period on Chris Rapp's goal from Mike Jahn and Sean Lerg.

Wales then tallied the game-

PREP HOCKEY

winner at 4:03 of the final period followed by an empty-netter with just 15 seconds remaining.

"It was not the kind of performance we were looking to end the regular season on," said Stevenson coach Mike Humitz, whose team falls to 16-6-2 with the Western Lakes crossover defeat. "A handful of turnovers in our own end, coupled with some undisciplined penalties on our part dictated the outcome."

Stevenson goalie Drew MacEachern made 19 saves, while Northville's Andrew Flynn stopped 22 shots.

"You cannot make plays that are self-destructive against good teams and expect to come on top," Humitz said. "We will turn our focus to the (state) playoffs and come out hard Monday night against Dearborn (6 p.m. at Edgar Arena)."

LADYWOOD 2, ANN ARBOR 1: Ashley Ballarin's goal from Elise Sawarski with 11:11 remaining in the game Wednesday gave Livonia Ladywood (16-2-12, 15-2-1) the Michigan Metro High School Girls Hockey League victory over host Ann Arbor (9-6-1, 9-6-1) at Veterans Arena.

Ladywood, which wrapped up second place in the league, trailed 1-0 after one period on Kristina Harter's power-play goal at 2:04.

Heather Sartorius answered for the Blazers at 7:55 of the second period from Laura Szwed.

All-State goalie Clarice Grantham made 43 saves for Ann Arbor.

Ladywood's Michelle Wymienko stopped 15 of 16 shots.

STEVENSON 8, SALEM 5: Livonia Stevenson (16-5-2) built a 6-0 first-period lead Tuesday before holding off the host Rocks (7-14-2, 1-6-1) in a WLA-Lakes Division game played at the Plymouth Cultural Center.

Marcus Voran led the Spartans with one goal and four assists. R.J. Kierdorf added a goal and three assists, while Zach Roberts had two goals and two assists.

Other Stevenson goal scorers included John Vella, Kyle Zagata, Chris Rapp

and Tim Droze. It was Zagata's first career goal.

Other assists went to Mark Bekkala, Mike Gibbons and Rapp.

Salem, which scored four straight goals within a 4-minute and 38-second span in the second period, was led by Aaron Markwell's goal and two assists.

Joel Cheesman, Kris Brandt and Evan Meibers each contributed a goal and assist. Kurt Driscoll also had a goal at 4:01 of the final period to cut the deficit to 7-5 before Roberts ended it with an empty-netter with 24 seconds to go.

"Except for a 6-minute span in the second period, our guys played pretty well," Stevenson coach Mike Humitz said. "That was a good reminder for us to play 45 minutes of good hockey if we're going to play any amount of play-off hockey this year."

Salem goalie Ralph Asperwall made 26 saves, while Stevenson's Jeff Fashnick had 16 stops.

"Other than that short span, I thought we had pretty good puck movement and speed through the neutral zone," Humitz said. "We were able to spread the ice time around to some different guys tonight and they showed they deserved it."

Indiana Tech's Thomas throws wrench into MU tourney hopes

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

The student cheering section donned T-shirts that said: "Wear Blue, Be Loud."

But it was Indiana Tech and guard Curtus Thomas that made most of the noise Thursday night, spoiling Madonna University's first-ever Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference men's basketball playoff game at home with a convincing 90-78 win.

MU ends its season under third-year coach Chuck Henry at 12-19 overall, while Indiana Tech lived to play another day with a Saturday semifinal game at Cornerstone, and improving to 19-12 overall.

The Crusaders, the fourth seed with a 8-6 conference mark, had won three straight meetings dating back to last year against Tech including victories this season at home (91-82) and on the road (84-76).

But the 6-foot-1 Thomas proved to be major pain for MU.

The senior, who played on an Indiana state championship team at Pike High in Indianapolis with former Notre Dame guard Chris Thomas, scored 19 of his game-high 27 points in the opening half to stake the

MEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS

Warriors to a 52-36 halftime lead. He helped preserve the victory by making eight straight free throws during the final 1:14 to stave off a late MU rally.

Tech, which never trailed in the ballgame, hit 8-of-11 three-point tries during the first 20 minutes, including 5-of-6 from Thomas.

In contrast, MU struggled from the field (13-of-30), even missing a breakaway dunk near the end of the first half.

"Thomas had a great game, we've been waiting for him bust out for quite awhile," said Tech fifth-year coach Jeff Parrish. "He was looking for his shot more tonight than he has the entire season. They (Madonna) shut him down the second half when they tightened things up on him, but he hit some key free throws, which was a huge plus."

In contrast, MU took a total of 40 three-point tries and made 11.

Senior forward Derrick Mudri, playing his final game as a Crusader, finished with 22 points and nine rebounds. Keith Hearn (Livonia Stevenson) added 12 points, while Adam Kerfoot and D.J. Bridges (Canton) contributed

11 and 10, respectively.

The 6-3 Bridges, however, was held well below his 20.2-point per game conference scoring average.

"D.J. had two big games against them, but not that many touches tonight," MU coach Chuck Henry said. "They (Tech) played a lot more zone. They shot the ball well and we didn't. Thomas went 1-for-14 (from the floor) the last game, but he made things tough on us the first half. When you go 8-for-11 from 'the three,' it's tough to beat. They just had too many weapons."

Jonathan Battle came off the bench to add 24 points for the Warriors. Maurice Benson and James Lewis contributed 12 and 10, respectively.

"We were just more focused coming here, every individual on the team," Parrish said. "We did a good job of preparation Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. We'd like to be focused like that for all 30 games, but it's not going to happen. But I'd say overall this was one of our four best efforts."

Parrish designed his game plan around stopping Bridges, the first-team All-WHAC selection. And the strategy worked as the Canton grad was 5-of-10 from the floor and 0-3 from the foul line. He was

also held to five rebounds.

"We wanted to front D.J. the whole game for the most part, and deny that first entry pass," Parrish said. "It turned out to be a huge plus for us. I thought Harold Haynes (eight points) did an outstanding job guarding him."

Henry, despite the loss of three key seniors including Mudri, Kerfoot and Doug Creighton, has aspirations of becoming a WHAC title contender next season.

"This was the first time in school history we finished a playoff game, we hosted in the top half of our conference (8-6) and won three conference games on the road," the MU coach said. "The increments are small, but we hope to make more progress."

"We survived a nightmarish start this season when we had four players out injured and another two coming off another sport. Our record was poor at the start, but we played some (NAIA) Division I schools close. I really felt once we got all six of those guys back and healthy, we could be a pretty good team."

"But to get to that next level, our guys are going to have to work hard and I have to get out and recruit. It's a war."

HOOPS

FROM PAGE B1

The Chiefs led 43-41 on Butler's free throw with just 9.62 seconds remaining, but speedy Glenn junior guard Keshawn Martin (18 points), who made several acrobatic drives to the basket, split two defenders down center of the lane and scored on a corkscrew layup with only three seconds remaining to send the game into OT.

Glenn had only two field goals in the final 4:55, both by Martin, and committed four critical turnovers down the stretch.

Canton hit only 22-of-58 shots from the floor (37.9 percent), but connected on 14-of-17 free throws (82.3 percent).

Ryan Langdon also played a solid floor game for the Chiefs with 10 points, seven rebounds and four steals.

Stefan Marken added 14 for Glenn, while Hardison finished with nine.

"I'm proud of my guys, they flat-out competed," Young said. "They laid it on the line, and we had our chances. But I'm as proud of them as I've been during the whole winning streak."

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Clarenceville's Abbott captures D-2 regional

Livonia Clarenceville's Andrew Abbott couldn't be beaten in Friday's Division II boys bowling regional held at Livonia's Oak Lanes.

The senior led the singles competition with a total pin count of 1,322 on games of 191-247-212-194-246-232 and has qualified for the state finals this Saturday at Nottke's in Battle Creek.

Missing the cut by just nine pins was senior teammate Mark Zupancic with a total of 1,142.

Other Clarenceville finishers included senior Brandon Bentley and freshman Jason Bertera, tied for 21st; and freshman Christian Grates, 44th.

Trojan girls qualify 2
 The Livonia Clarenceville girls

PREP BOWLING

bowling team, 14-0 during the regular season and Wayne-Oakland Bowling Conference champions, will be sending two representatives to the Division II state singles competition on March 3 at Nottke's in Battle Creek.

In Friday's regional at Livonia's Oak Lanes, junior Kayla Barber placed third, while senior Danielle Fesco added a fifth to make the field.

Barber posted a pin total of 1,113 on games of 214-188-194-181-191-145.

Fesco finished at 1,099 with games of 165-191-189-181-207-166.

Clarenceville junior Sara Brown missed the top 10 cut by just one pin. Senior Eric Charboneau contributed a 17th, while junior Elizabeth Sinclair placed 25th.

Rockets O'Hara 5th

Westland John Glenn's Justin O'Hara averaged 221 for six games with a total of 1,326 to place fifth in Friday's Division I boys singles regional held at Drakestire Lanes in Farmington.

O'Hara now moves on to the Division I state singles event Saturday, March 3 at Sunnybrook Lanes in Sterling Heights.

Woodhaven's Doug Mazurco captured the regional with a total of 1,412.

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Minnoy's monster game propels S'craft into final

Nate Minnoy was a tower of strength Friday night, leading the Schoolcraft College men's basketball team to a 115-100 win over Kellogg in the semifinals of the Michigan Community College Athletic Association Tournament hosted by Kalamazoo Valley CC.

Minnoy, a 6-foot-4, 260-pound transfer from Purdue University, finished with a game-high 44 points and grabbed 18 rebounds as the Ocelots pulled away from a 49-all halftime deadlock.

Schoolcraft also earned a

spot in Saturday's championship game against 19-10 Lansing CC, an 80-77 upset winner over Eastern Conference champion Flint Mott (27-3) in the other semifinal.

Schoolcraft made 41-of-70 shots from the floor (58.5 percent) and hit 23-of-39 foul shots (58.9 percent).

Guard Korey Spates, a teammate last year at Purdue with Minnoy, added 28 points and six assists.

Central Michigan University transfer Jon Yeazel had 10

points and 12 rebounds, while Duncan Jones (Westland John Glenn) and 7-foot Brazilian center Gabriel Garcia also scored 10 points apiece.

Toriano Adams led Kellogg (22-6) with 36 points and 11 rebounds. Joseph Young added 31 points and six assists, while Joshua Young finished with 15 points for the Western Conference champions.

Kellogg was just 6-of-18 from the free throw line (33 percent), but made 43-of-78 shots from the field (55.1 percent).

GYMNASTICS RESULTS

WESTERN LAKES CONFERENCE GIRLS GYMNASTICS MEET

Feb. 22 at Walled Lake Central

TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Livonia Red, 146.100 points; 2. Livonia Blue, 144.100; 3. Northville, 143.950; 4. Canton, 143.100; 5. Salem, 142.425; 6. Brighton, 136.975; 7. Howell, 135.875; 8. Walled Lake Central, 131.750; 9. Plymouth, 117.300; 10. Walled Lake Northern-Western, 115.600; 11. Milford-Lakeland, 85.625; 12. Hartland, 54.050.

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS

Vault: 1. Paul Guzik (LR), 9.60; 2. Alyssa Kelley (C), 9.575; 3. Emily Quint (LB), 9.550; 4. Sam Zach (ML), 9.40; 5. Katie Koetting (S), 9.250; 6. Lauren Dilullo (B), 9.150; 7. Cassidy Winter (N), 9.10; 8. Makenna Pohl (N), 9.075; 9. (tie) Meghan Powers (LB) and Andrea Pisani (LR), 9.050.

Uneven bars: 1. Paula Guzik (LR), 9.450; 2. Emily Quint (LB), 9.40; 3. Katie Koetting (S), 9.30; 4. Andrea Pisani (LR), 9.20; 5. (tie) Rachael Page (B) and Hannah Saaranen (WLNW), 9.050 each; 7. Alyssa Kelley (C), 9.00; 8. Sam Zach (ML), 8.950; 9. (tie) Jessie Murray (C) and Sarah Bugosh (S), 8.90 each.

Balance beam: 1. Andrea Pisani (LR), 9.70; 2.

Makenna Pohl (N), 9.675; 3. Autumn Collins (S), 9.60; 4. (tie) Alyssa Kelley (C), Meghan Powers (LB), Paula Guzik (LR) and Katie Koetting (S), 9.50 each; 8. Emily Quint (LB), 9.450; 9. Rachael Page (B), 9.40; 10. Jessie Murray (C), 9.30.

Floor exercise: 1. Andrea Pisani (LR), 9.650; 2. Paula Guzik (LR), 9.550; 3. Lauren Dilullo (B), 9.475; 4. Katie Koetting (S), 9.40; 5. Emily Quint (LB), 9.375; 6. Alyssa Kelley (C), 9.325; 7. Meghan Powers (LB), 9.20; 8. Sam Zach (ML), 9.125; 9. Jessie Murray (C), 9.050; 10. Alicia DiMauro (LR), 9.00.

All-around: 1. Paula Guzik (LR), 38.10; 2. Emily Quint (LB), 37.775; 3. Andrea Pisani (LR), 37.60; 4. Katie Koetting (S), 37.450; 5. Alyssa Kelley (C), 37.40; 6. Lauren Dilullo (B), 36.525; 7. Meghan Powers (LB), 36.50; 8. Makenna Pohl (N), 36.425; 9. Jessie Murray (C), 36.20; 10. Cassidy Winter (N), 35.550.

DIVISION 2

Vault: 1. Julie Foucher (N), 9.350; 2. Laura Nomura (LB), 9.250 each; Tiffany Wysocki (B), 9.150; 4. Monica Cauley (H), 8.950; 5. (tie) Kaitlyn Burns (C) and Katarina Kariotis (S), 8.90 each; 7. Julie Davison (N), 8.850; 8. Magarita Lazarevska (LR), 8.80; 9. Kelly Tapella (LB), 8.70; 10. Michaelle Steslicki (N), 8.650.

Uneven bars: 1. (tie) Julie Foucher (N) and

Brittany Young (S), 9.050; 3. Laura Nomura (LB), 8.650; 4. (tie) Paige Locher (ML) and Amy Reynolds (N), 8.450 each; 6. Mandi Bourlier (LR), 8.40; 7. Amanda Rohkohl (H), 8.350; 8. (tie) Katarina Kariotis (S) and Kelly McKay (WLC), 8.20; 10. (tie) Tiffany Wysocki (B), Andrea Houdek (C) and Monica Cauley (H), 8.150 each.

Balance beam: 1. Brittany Young (S), 9.475; 2. Monica Cauley (H), 9.40; 3. Amy Reynolds (N), 9.250; 4. Alyssa Gonzales (LR), 9.20; 5. Magarita Lazarevska (LR), 9.150; 6. Kylie Leidich (WLC), 9.10; 7. Julie Foucher (N), 9.050; 8. Paige Locher (ML), 9.0; 9. Laura Nomura (LB), 8.850; 10. Kelly McKay (WLC), 8.750.

Floor exercise: 1. Julie Foucher (N), 9.425; 2. Kelly Tapella (LB), 8.975; 3. Paige Locher (ML), 8.950; 4. Monica Cauley (H), 8.90; 5. Laura Nomura (LB), 8.70; 6. (tie) Kaitlyn Burns (C), Kylie Leidich (WLC), 8.60 each; 8. Katie Bridges (LB), 8.575; 9. (tie) Magarita Lazarevska (LR) and Julie Davison (N), 8.550 each.

All-around: 1. Julie Foucher (N), 36.875; 2. Laura Nomura (LB), 35.450; 3. Monica Cauley (H), 35.40; 4. Brittany Young (S), 35.275; 5. Paige Locher (ML), 34.90; 6. Tiffany Wysocki (B), 34.00; 7. Alyssa Gonzales (LR), 33.90; 8. Kylie Leidich (WLC), 33.850; 9. Kaitlyn Burns (C), 33.850; 10. Katarina Kariotis (S), 33.650.

GYMNASTICS

FROM PAGE B1

along with a fourth on bars (9.2) and a ninth-place tie on vault (9.05).

Livonia Blue was led by freshman Emily Quint, who was runner-up to Guzik in the all-around (37.775).

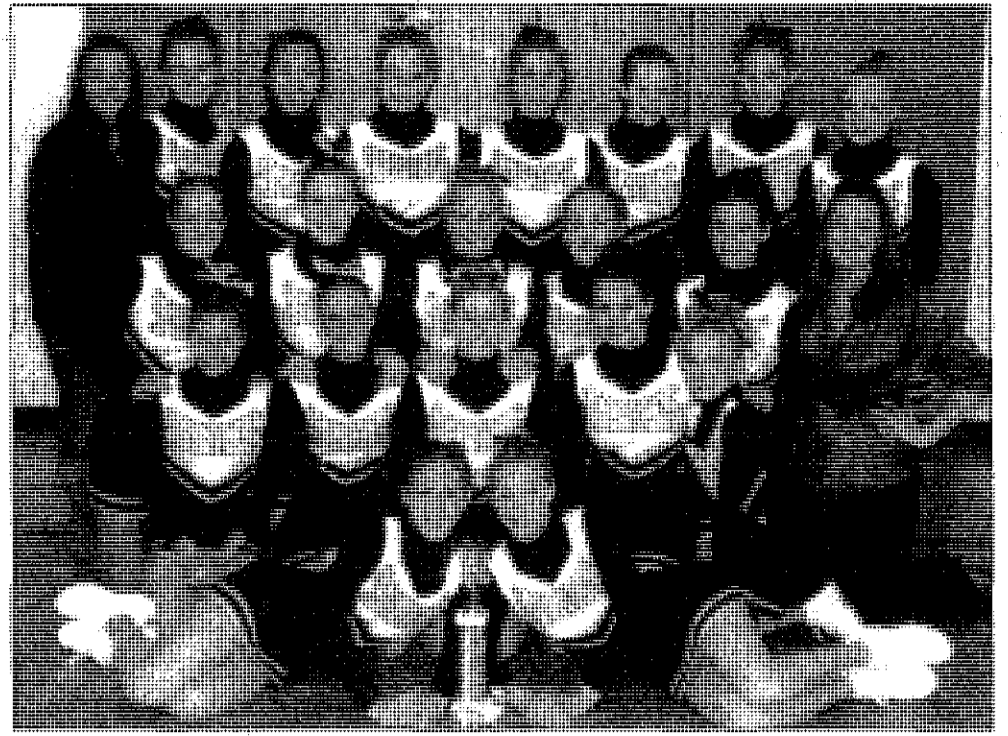
Quint took second on bars (9.4); third on vault (9.55); fifth on floor (9.375); and eighth on beam (9.45).

Teammate Meghan Powers added a seventh in the Division I all-around (36.50) including a tie for fourth on beam (9.5).

In the Division II all-around, Livonia Blue's Laura Nomura (35.45) was runner-up to Northville's Julie Foucher (36.875).

Nomura earned a second in the vault (9.25); third on bars (8.65); fifth on floor (8.7); and ninth on beam (8.85).

Livonia Red's Alyssa Gonzales also garnered a top 10 finish in Division II with seventh in the all-around (33.9).



JV Spartans 1st

The Livonia Stevenson JV competitive cheer squad, coached by Jen Combest, finished first in their division Jan. 27 at the Northville Invitational. Members of the Spartans include: Shelby Plinka, Nikki Yon, Sarah Pappalardo, Leslie Walsh, Lucie Ptasznik, Tiffany Moyles, Amanda Shaltis, Lauren Myres, Hannah Wheeler, Emily Schifano, Lauren Murray, Dara Mahoney, Gabby Mancina, Lauren Zuhlke, Adrienne Coutts, Liz Romatowski, Shelly Zientarski, Lauren Drum, Chrissy Tappen and Mary O'Donohue.

Kellogg CC knocks off Lady Ocelots

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

WOMEN'S HOOPS

It's never a desirable thing to lose a state play-off game.

But Schoolcraft College women's basketball coach Karen Lafata, whose team fell 87-68 Friday to Kellogg Community College, insists it's not as bad as it might seem.

"As we're looking at the (regional) bracket, it doesn't really matter," said Lafata, following the Michigan Community College Athletic Association semifinal defeat in Muskegon. "What we want is still available for us."

The Lady Ocelots (No. 2 Michigan seed) will now face the No. 3 Ohio seed team from Lakeland CC in a National Junior College Athletic Association District H quarterfinal. The contest is slated for 1 p.m. Thursday at Oakland Community College's Highland Lakes Campus.

According to Lafata, Schoolcraft (25-4) just didn't shoot or protect the basketball very well against Kellogg (23-5).

"We didn't play very well, there were too many turnovers," she said. "... They (Bruins) are very athletic and quick, and we didn't execute the way we needed to."

Schoolcraft committed 26 turnovers, resulting in 31 points by the Bruins.

Another problem for the Lady Ocelots was hitting just 25-of-69 field-goal tries, for 36 percent.

Kellogg, led by sophomore forward Jocelyn Powell (17 points, 10 rebounds) and freshman forward Shante Clark (16 points, nine boards) led 34-27 at halftime.


The Bruins broke it open with a 16-5 run over a 4:30 span during the second half, giving them a commanding 56-41 margin with 11:18 left.

Having another strong game for the Lady Ocelots was sophomore center Maricka Seay, who tallied 13 points and 14 rebounds.

Chipping in with 13 points and 12 boards was freshman forward Janelle Harris, while freshman forward Antoinette Brown contributed 12 points and six rebounds.

"It was a good lesson for us," Lafata said. "Hopefully, we'll learn from it."

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Knochel's 38 cages Zebras

Spartan senior guard red-hot in 58-50 triumph

Hot Hand Luke was at it again Friday night, scorching the nets for a career-high 38 points in Livonia Stevenson's 58-50 consolation round Western Lakes boys basketball victory at Wayne Memorial. The 5-foot-9 senior guard, who had six 2-pointers, five triples and was 11-for-11 from the foul line, scored 22 in the second half to spark a 29-22 Stevenson surge. Knochel, who recently surpassed the 1,000-point mark in his career, is now just 39 points shy of Dave Hall's school-record total. Knochel topped his 36-point effort earlier this month against Livonia Churchill and just missed the single game Spartan record of 39 held by Tom Domako, who went on to become Big Sky Conference Player of the Year at Montana State. "Luke did not miss a shot in the second half," said Stevenson coach Brad Miller, whose team is 5-14 overall. "It was one of the better games for him. They (Wayne) hounded him. They were denying him the ball pretty hard. The last two weeks he's been driving the ball more to

PREP HOOPS

the basket and getting to the free throw line. He did that the first half and he hit some tough shots. Luke's a special player, and he's just stepped up his game a little higher the past two weeks."

Mike Lee led the Zebras (10-9) with 21 points. Robert Woodson added 10. The Spartans limited Wayne's 6-9 junior center Jeremy Lovelady to two points. "He (Lovelady) poses a matchup problem, but I thought Ryan Aneed and Kendal Snow did a phenomenal job on him," Miller said. "Snow is a sophomore and he played his best varsity game." Stevenson was 15-of-20 from the foul line, while Wayne was 15-of-26.

CHURCHILL 44, PLYMOUTH 40 (OT): Despite being outscored 14-6 in the final quarter Friday, host Livonia Churchill (9-10) rallied in overtime to beat the Wildcats (6-13). The Chargers, who missed a tip-in at the buzzer in regulation, outscored Plymouth 6-2 during the four-minute extra session. Andrew Vagnetti's two free throws

put Churchill up by three with 30 seconds to go. Ryan Whittum's free throw with 11 seconds remaining then sealed the WAAA loser's bracket win. The Chargers hit 8-of-14 free throws on the night, including 4-of-6 in OT.

Junior forward Ryan Rosenick led Churchill with 17 points and 10 rebounds, while Whittum finished with 11 points.

Brothers Kulraj and Navraj Sandhu scored 11 and 10, respectively, for Plymouth. All of Navraj's points came in the opening half as the two teams were deadlocked at 18-all.

The Wildcats were 6-of-9 from the foul line.

W.L. NORTHERN 59, FRANKLIN 45: Ryan Bahnmiller scored 16 points Friday to propel Walled Lake Northern (7-12) to a WAAA loser's bracket triumph over host Livonia Franklin (2-17).

Andy Tinkey and Steve Knurick each added 10 for the Knights, who led 28-19 at halftime.

Franklin committed 17 first-half turnovers and made just 12-of-25 free throws on the night.

Sophomore center Gary Cobb paced the Patriots with 11 points, including two dunks, and nine rebounds.

"We had a ton of turnovers, and free throws were an issue," Franklin coach Russ Keberly said. "We played hard, the effort was given, but we struggled to finish and control possessions."



CYO cage champs

The St. Genevieve JV boys basketball team, coached by Roger Cebulski and Al Vega, recently captured the Catholic Youth Organization division title with an 8-2 record. Team members include: Ryan Wilson, Thomas Cwiek, Nolan Bradford, Brendan Tabone, John Magdowski, Frank Suchy, Connor Blair, Albert Jose, Conor Devereaux, Zachary Cebulski and Jonathon McCoy.

Trojans rally past Clawson, 51-39

Livonia Clarenceville came alive during the second half to earn a 51-39 Metro Conference boys basketball victory Friday at home over Clawson.

Sophomores Jamie Stewart and Jeremy Gainer paced the victorious Trojans, now 4-13 overall, with 16 and 14 points, respectively. Gainer also grabbed 12 rebounds in the win.

David O'Connell led Clawson (2-16) with 13 points.

Clarenceville trailed 22-18 at halftime before storming back with runs of 17-9 (third quarter) and 16-8 (fourth quarter).

"We talked about being more aggressive and getting better shot selection for the second half," said Clarenceville coach Corey McKendry. "The second half we didn't take one bad shot."

CAGE ROUNDUP

Clarenceville also was deadly from the foul line, hitting 18-of-19.

"That's got to be a school record," McKendry said.

LUTHERAN N'WEST 65, LUTH. WESTLAND 43: In a Metro Conference consolation game Friday, visiting Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest (8-9, 5-6) cruised past Lutheran High Westland (10-7, 6-5) behind senior guard Jeff Beaugard's game-high 21 points.

The Crusaders, who led 32-16 at halftime, also got 13 points from sophomore guard Matt Rolf.

Senior forward C.J. Garber and sophomore forward Sam Ahlersmeyer each scored seven for the Warriors, who made just 25 percent of their shots from the field, including a frigid 4-for-31 during opening half. The Warriors were 11-of-20 from

the foul line, while Northwest made 12-of-17.

WASH. CHRISTIAN 75, HURON VALLEY 27: Nick Livingston poured in a game-high 37 points to lead Saline Washtenaw Christian (14-4) past Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (1-16) in a non-conference game.

Jesse Pipe and Micah Goss added 15 and 14, respectively, for the Wildcats, who led 55-12 at halftime. Kurt Metzger scored five for the Hawks.

WHITMORE LAKE 46, CLARENCEVILLE 40 (OT): In a non-conference game on Wednesday, host Whitmore Lake (10-7) made 25-of-28 free throws, including 10 in overtime, to beat Livonia Clarenceville (3-13).

Tyler Coker led Whitmore Lake with 19 points, while Greg Oberstaedt added 11.

DeCarlos McDonald and Lonnie Fairfax scored 14 and 13, respectively, for the Trojans, who finished the game with just four players after Eric Jones fouled out. Clarenceville was 10-of-14 from the line.

MAT RESULTS

TEAM REGIONAL PREP WRESTLING RESULTS

DIVISION I

Feb. 21 at WYANDOTTE (Championship final)
TEMPERANCE BEDFORD 29 WESTLAND JOHN GLENN 27

140 pounds: Jim Wood (WJG) decision Colin Arnold, 9-4; 145: Tony Alexander (TB) won by major dec. over Dan McCallih, 11-0; 152: Alex Ortman (TB) dec. James Zerebiny, 15-9; 160: Scott Brown (WJG) pinned Pat Nusbauer, 1:09; 171: Andrew Hein (WJG) dec. Kris Baker, 6-1; 189: Nick Whittanberg (TB) p. Joey Kowitzo, 3:28; 215: Shamir Garcia (WJG) dec. Mason Cole, 10-3; 285: Dakota Pavilka (TB) p. Frank Toarmina, 5:49; 103: Tom Fox (TB) dec. Anthony Pavlich, 7-0; 112: Josh Austin (WJG) p. Dale Hensley, 5:21; 119: Jared Stephens (WJG) dec. Tom Mayer, 9-5; 125: Jerimiah Austin (WJG) dec. James Fisher, 11-7; 130: Billy Osborne (TB) won by major dec. over Nick Shak, 14-5; 135: Dan Clark (TB) dec. Zaid Ammari, 8-5.
Dual meet records: Bedford, 24-2 overall; John Glenn, 15-7 overall.

WESTLAND JOHN GLENN 55 DEARBORN FOROSON 12 (Semifinal match)

135 pounds: Zaid Ammari (WJG) decision Hussein Mansour, 14-12; 140: Dan McCallih (WJG) won by void; 145: Jim Wood (WJG) pinned Lythe Natour, 0:41; 152: James Zerebiny (WJG) won by major dec. over Hassen Berry, 11-0; 160: Scott Brown (WJG) p. Samih Ajami, 3:29; 171: Andrew Hein (WJG) p. Ali Berry, 1:57; 189: Jabreel Naser (DF) dec. Joey Kowitzo, 5-4; 215: Shamir Garcia (WJG) dec. Osama Ayad, 3-2; 285: Youssef Doulani (DF) dec. Frank Toarmina, 6-1; 103: Anthony Pavlich (WJG) p. Ahmed Hashwi, 0:50; 112: Paul Hancock (DF) won by injury default over Josh Austin; 119: Jared Stephens (WJG) dec. Samer Ilayan, 16-10; 125: Steve Shak (WJG) won by void; 130: Jerimiah Austin (WJG) won by injury default over Nezar Abusalah. **Fordson's dual meet record:** 19-15 overall.

DIVISION IV Feb. 21 at ADDISON ADDISON 49 LUTHERAN WESTLAND 20 (Championship final)

171 pounds: Gregg (A) pinned Brian Leferve, 3:34; 189: Schneider (A) p. Mike Schatz, 1:12; 215: Ricchel (A) p. Paul Rockrohr, 0:44; 285: Schroeder (A) p. Kevin Moody, 0:27; 103: Brad LaRose (LW) won by technical fall over Scoby, 16-1; 112: Laith Francis (LW) p. Gietek, 4:38; 119:

Sumner (A) p. Dan Pniewski, 3:36; 125: Elston (A) p. Justin Palka, 1:29; 130: Scheer (A) decisioned Josh Palka, 7-2; 135: Douglas (A) won by major dec. over Steve Cieslik, 11-0; 140: Z. Phillips (A) won by void; 145: Matt Edwards (LW) p. N. Phillips, 2:25; 152: Stephan Kemp (LW) dec. Kratzer, 4-2 (overtime); 160: Marshall (A) p. Nic Yancy, 0:50. **Dual meet records:** Addison, 36-3 overall; Lutheran Westland, 22-3 overall.

(Semifinal match) LUTHERAN WESTLAND 59 RIVERVIEW GABRIEL RICHARD 16

160 pounds: Nic Yancy (LW) pinned Kruso, 0:31; 171: Brian Leferve (LW) decisioned Firlik, 4-3; 189: Mike Schatz (LW) won by void; 215: Paul Rockrohr (LW) p. Yuklans, 0:31; 285: Mullins (RGR) p. Kevin Moody, 2:41; 103: Brad LaRose (LW) p. Mulik, 0:33; 112: Pickert (RGR) won by major dec. over Laith Francis, 10-1; 119: Dan Pniewski (LW) p. Gilnes, 1:22; 125: Justin Palka (LW) p. Felske, 1:25; 130: Josh Palka (LW) p. Wegenka, 0:53; 135: Steve Cieslik (LW) p. Millet, 1:06; 140: Hilliker (RGR) p. Alec Bos, 1:35; 145: Alex Edwards (LW) won by major dec. over Mendez, 10-1; 152: Stephen Kemo (LW) o. Shroeder, 0:11. **Gabriel's dual meet record:** 14-14 overall.

Hawks stumble in non-conference matches

The Westland Huron Valley Lutheran girls volleyball team, Michigan Independent Athletic Conference Red Division champions, have hit a little bit of a late season slump.

On Friday, the Hawks fell to 20-7-1 overall losing in four games to host Saline Washtenaw Christian.

Emily Helwig was Huron Valley's top attacker, while setter Amanda Gruenewald led in assists.

On Thursday night, visiting Allen Park Inter-City Baptist defeated the Hawks in four games, 13-25, 23-25, 25-16, 25-11, 15-8.

Helwig and Sarah Schaffer led in kills with seven and five, respectively. Gruenewald added 20 assists.

"We fell apart in the last three," Huron Valley co-coach Kris Ruth said. "We lost our confidence and stopped hitting, allowing them to gain confidence."

Added co-coach Mike Dest following Friday's 3-1 loss to Washtenaw Christian: "We played a little like last night (vs. Inter-City). We have to get back to where we were and turn the corner."

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Clarenceville prevails

Sophomore setter Katie Blacker recorded 22 assist-to-kills and was 15-for-15 serving with four aces Wednesday as Livonia Clarenceville rolled to a 25-10, 25-18, 25-15 Metro Conference win at Harper Woods.

Shannon McNeilly added six kills and three blocks for the Trojans, now 5-17-1 overall and 3-5 in the Metro.

Jordan Fyffe contributed five kills and two blocks, while Amanda Moody finished with 14 digs and four kills.

Chargers zap Glenn

Kelly Archer had 21 digs and Lauren Krupsky added 18 kills to propel WAAA-Lakes Division champion Livonia Churchill to a 25-19, 25-16, 21-25, 25-16 triumph Wednesday at Westland John Glenn.

Archer also served at 100 percent as the Chargers improved to 43-2-1 overall and 10-0 in the Lakes.

Other statistical leaders for Churchill include Jaclyn

Gribeck, five blocks and two kills; setter Kelsey McKenzie, 32 assists; and Jordan Kerr, 11 digs.

Glenn falls to 2-8 in the division.

Pats lose marathon

It went five games Wednesday as Walled Lake Western avenged a WAAA-Western Division loss earlier in the season with a 19-25, 20-25, 25-23, 13-25, 15-11 over host Livonia Franklin. "Once again it was a hard-fought march," said Franklin coach Linda Jimenez, whose team is 13-16-3 overall.

"Western outplayed us defensively, and when you have two good teams competing, defense will win it most of the time."

Senior Liz Dempsey paced Franklin's offensive attack with 25 kills. Laura Marshall and Jenna Boettcher added 12 and 10, respectively.

Setter Kelly Powers finished with 52 assist-to-kills.

Both teams finished 6-4 in the division, but Franklin earned the second seed in Saturday's WAAA Tournament based on total points scored in the two matches (212-208).

SPORTS ROUNDUP

AAU boys hoops

AAU basketball tryouts for Team Michigan for boys currently in ninth-grade over 15-and-under will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 6 at the Basketball Planet, located on Haggerty Road.

The head coach will be Carlos Briggs. Call Ed Alberts at (248)-867-6931 or e-mail Alberts at copymanned@aol.com.

AAU volleyball

Tryouts for the Thunderbirds Volleyball Organization (TVO) for girls ages 10-18 will be Saturday and Sunday evenings throughout the month of March. Space is limited, but new and experienced players are welcome.

To register for tryouts, call TVO club coordinator Gary Smart at (734) 432-5959; or e-mail smart5959@sbcglobal.net.

Diesels tryouts

Tryouts for the Detroit Diesels, a minor league football team for

ages 18-and-up, will be from 2:30-5:30 p.m. Saturday, March 10 at High Velocity Sports Center, located at 46245 Michigan Avenue, Canton. The cost is \$30 per person.

The Diesels will once again play all their home games at Livonia Franklin High School. Call (313) 294-0890.

WYAA registration

Registration for the 39th season for Westland Youth Athletic Association baseball and softball is underway and runs through March 31 at the WYAA's Lange Compound, 6050 Farmington Road (north of Ford Road).

The WYAA offers programs including: T-Ball (ages 5-6), Coach-Pitch with machine (7-8), Mustang (9-10), Bronco (11-12), Pony (13-14), Colt (15-16), Palomino (17-18), along with girls slow-pitch and fastpitch softball. Call (734) 421-0640 during normal business hours or 10 a.m.

until noon Saturday and 7-9 p.m. Wednesdays; leave a message). Visit www.wyaa.org.

Football signup

Registration for St. Michaels Grade School 2007 Catholic Youth Organization fall football will be from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, March 13 at school's cafeteria, located at 11441 Hubbard (midway between Merriman and Farmington roads, south of Plymouth Road).

Registration is open to boys entering grades 4-8 and is a member of the following parishes or schools: St. Michael, St. Maurice, St. Genevieve, St. Aidan, St. Damian, St. Robert Bellarmine, St. Sabina, St. Thomas a Becket, Divine Savior, St. Theodore, St. Bernardine and St. John Bosco. Call John Widmer at (248) 471-6767, Ext. 11; or e-mail jwidmer@frohmidmer.com.

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Redford Unified freezes Pats in tuneup, 4-2

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

Larry Singer wanted his Redford Unified hockey team to use Wednesday night's game under the bright lights of Edgar Arena as a chance to mentally and physically gear up for Monday's district opener in the same venue.

After a bit of a sluggish start against host Livonia Franklin, Unified bounced back to earn a 4-2 victory and improve to 9-12 overall.

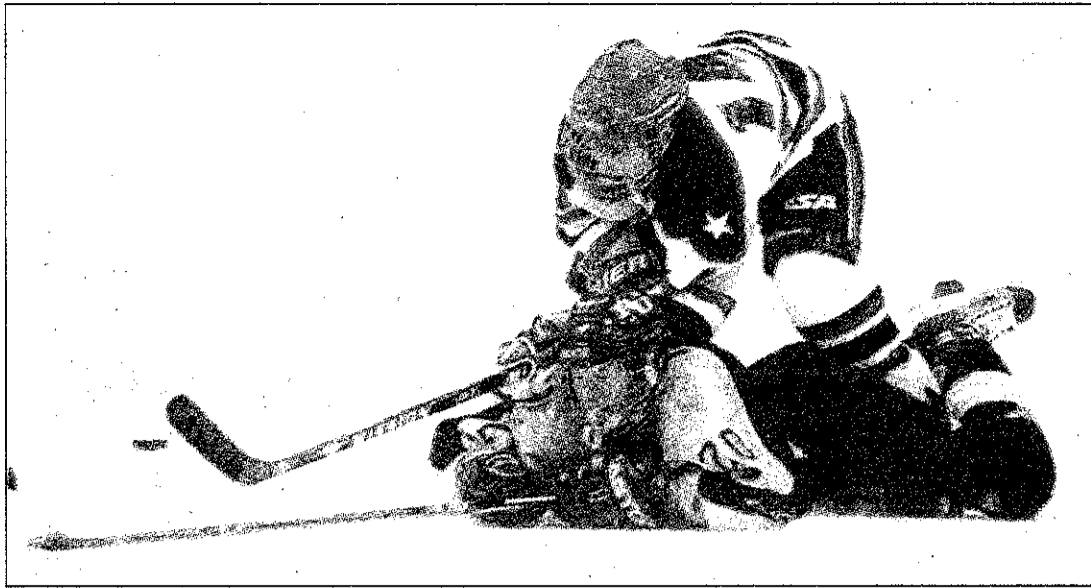
"This arena is important to us," said Singer following the victory. "We've got our first (playoff) game here (6 p.m. Monday against Livonia Churchill, in a pre-regional) and we wanted to kind of feel comfortable here. I'm not sure why we started off so slowly."

Franklin (3-19) also had the same problem, registering just three first-period shots. But one of them, a weak backhand by junior forward Dan Ostrosky, managed to get past Unified junior goaltender Ryan Wagner with 9:32 left in the frame.

Both teams turned it up in the second period, with Unified outshooting Franklin, 15-10.

In the opening moments, Wagner (17 saves) kept his team close when he stacked his pads and stopped a chance by junior forward Brandon Pump.

The equalizer, at the 2:22 mark, came during one of many Unified power plays. A point shot by junior defenseman Nick Bonadeo was tipped into the Franklin goal by sen-



Franklin's Ben Kubiak knocks down Redford Unified's Bill Centnar during the first period of Wednesday night's game.

ior forward Joe Petriches.

Petriches, who Singer said "played a big game for us," came right back just 33 seconds later to give Unified a 2-1 lead. He skated down the left wing and ripped a low, hard shot inside the far post past Mesler.

Unified opened up a 3-1 margin on another power play, when senior forward Ben Piskor swatted in the rebound of a point shot by senior defenseman Collin Franti. Petriches also collected a helper, giving him a three-point game.

But before the period ended, a strange play near Wagner gave the Patriots new life. Sophomore forward Tyler Barnes took a shot on the doorstep that was stopped by Wagner, but the puck went in

off a Unified defenseman, who slid into the crease. Pump drew an assist.

It was Mesler's show early in the third, facing - and stopping - nine shots in the first two minutes alone and 22 in the period. Only one of those shots found the target, and it was a thing of beauty.

Scoring the insurance goal was Unified sophomore forward Alex Scicluna with 5:48 remaining.

He took a long lead pass from Piskor, skated down the right wing, cut into the slot and lifted a backhand into the roof of the net.

Franklin players then began a parade to the penalty box that kept the Patriots from mounting any serious comeback attempt, much to the chagrin of coach Terry Jobbitt.

"We had several players that played outstanding hockey out there today," Jobbitt said.

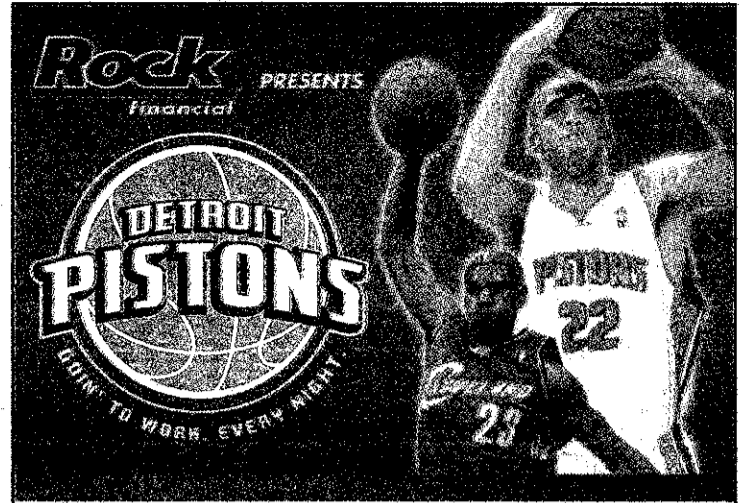
"But we had several players that again, took us out of the game with all their bad penalties. Totally bad penalties.

"Throughout the year - right now it's 11 games - where we've been a man short the entire game."

Jobbitt absolved Ostrowsky, senior defenseman Derek Cripe, sophomore forward Jordan Chisholm, Pump and junior forward Alexander Wypych - in addition to Mesler.

"Austin played a fabulous game," Jobbitt said. "The kids that are playing are playing excellent hockey. They're playing hard hockey."

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HOCKEY

FROM PAGE B1

The Chargers broke the scoring ice mid-way through the first period when Nate Milam slapped a rebound shot past Desilets from a seated position about 12 feet in front of the net. Keith Yackley and Garrett Miencier assisted on

the goal. Churchill threatened to double its lead two minutes later, but Desilets stoned Bryon Niemczak on a 3-on-1 break.

Wischmeyer accounted for both second-period goals. He lit the lamp off an assist from Tony Ross at the 11:57 mark and scored an insurance tally nine minutes later from Ross and Josh Proben.

Proben closed out the scor-

ing - and put the exclamation point on an outstanding night for the Wischmeyer-Ross-Proben line - when he found the back of the net with 5:40 remaining.

"It was nice to see that line have a good night because they've worked hard all year," said Mazzoni. "They're not the fastest guys out there, but they know where each other are and they pass well."

Churchill goalie Scott Lewan's shutout was highlighted by a dazzling glove save of a whistling Nick Rieckhoff shot with 3:33 left in the second period.

"Winning this game means a lot to this team," said Mazzoni. "Just to get to this game we had to get by Stevenson, which isn't an easy task. Plymouth has a very good team and their goaltender is excellent."



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Sunday, February 25, 2007
The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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Tag, you're it: Labels breed hate in high school

In this world where what's popular is what matters, everything is given a label — even people. Prep, punk and geek are just a few of them.

Teenagers feel compelled to give their peers labels that say that they're depressed, snotty, or just going against the crowd.

"Why must they do this" you ask?

I say that it forces kids into cliques. "You can't hang out with him, he's gothic." Teenagers name themselves to say something, to insult others, and to keep the popular from mixing with those that



grace anderson

have fallen off the social ladder.

It's the 21st century's way of separating tribes, except instead of preventing war, it fuels it.

Friends who have been together forever can get separated when they enter high school.

They discover that one of them wears a little too much black to hang out with the other, who likes Hello Kitty. Friends fall into groups of kids who are more like them, and they may never see their former friends again.

When our forefathers created this country they intended for immigrants to come in and bring their ideas and culture. What happened to the great American melting pot?

We reject each other's styles and degrade our peers' ideas. Labeling can cause racism and hatred for the simple fact that one group of people is different from another.

"Labels act to limit people; they make them one-dimensional which no one really is," said Kristy Marshall, a 16-year-old student at Garden City High School. "We all have originality, and labels steal that."

I have to agree. Labeling forces you to bottle up your creativity into one area, when you should be letting it bloom in many different ways.

Labeling is another way of stereotyping. If you can't place a label on someone, you can't control them.

Where's the love, people? I'll walk down the hallway in my school and see a kid being beat up because he called a girl a "poseur." Then she laughs and calls him a gothic moron. I'm fed up with the way people treat each other and labeling is just the tip of the iceberg. If teenagers keep doing this, we'll never achieve world peace.

Do you really want to live in fear of war anymore?

Share the love, Pass it on!

Grace Anderson is a Garden City High School sophomore and a member of the Observer's Teen Journalist program.

LABELING UNCOVERED: A DICTIONARY

Emo: Depressed, wears somber colors, tight jeans and hair might swing into the face covering at least one eye. They are considered shy, sensitive, and often quiet.

Gothic: Wears mostly black, likes heavy metal music, anime, and/or horror movies. May act depressed. Some are prone to manic outbursts.

Punk: Wears black or vivid colors, strong patterns, and shiny things. They enjoy punk rock and like to go against the crowd. Kick over a garbage can, jump to a slow song, shout "Attica" in school — that's punk.

Prep: Wears light colors and form-fitting clothes. Boys and sometimes girls wear popped collars. Considered snobbish or rude.

Jock: Popular boy or girl that likes sports. Can be a bully. Closely related to a prep.

Valley girl: Wears expensive, often revealing clothes. Usually uses the words "totally" and "like". Thought to be spoiled or snotty.

Ghetto: Boys wear baggy clothes and chains, girls wear decorated jeans and tight shirts.

Poseur: This a label for someone who doesn't have a label but follows everyone else. Their style changes frequently and they are never seen alone or at the front of a group.

Labeling can be insulting. It's a way to stereotype others, and it's not based in fact.

— By Grace Anderson



Dan Gagnon shows off his growing collection of thrift-store jackets.



Caitlin Riblett, 18, found this casual dress for just \$3 while thrift shopping.

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■ **Value World**, 34460 Ford Road, Westland, call (734) 728-4610.

■ **Community Thrift Store**, 29270 Plymouth Road, Livonia, call (734) 522-5252.

■ **Tried & True Thrift Store**, 35004 Michigan Avenue, Wayne, call (734) 728-9777.

8 tips to thrift-shopping success

BY EMBERLEY NEIDHARDT

Some might say "The clothes don't make the man." Chances are, most teenagers will disagree.

High school students' choice in outfit can make them or break them within their group of friends. While keeping up with the high-paced fashion world can be exhausting and costly, there is an alternative that is easier and much, much cheaper. Those in the know call it as thrift shopping.

"My favorite thing about thrift stores is, I can find a really nice jacket and the only thing wrong with it will be it's missing a button," said Dan Gagnon, an 18-year-old Garden City resident. "Most people would overlook it since it's damaged, but I'll snatch it up for a dollar and sew a new button on. Can't

beat that!"

Thrift stores exist in every downtown, whether hidden in a strip mall or proudly displayed on a main road. Some get their clothes from donations and some will pay for contributions. Some are ordinary shops, and others fuel humanitarian efforts. One thing is certain — they will all house an overwhelming amount of clothes, shoes, bags, hats and all kinds of goodies.

Caitlin Riblett, 18, of Garden City found a casual dress for just \$3 while thrift shopping. "I like thrift stores because of the hot buys and cool threads," she said.

The trick is having a system and knowing how to take it all in. Here are a few tips:

■ **Leave no section unchecked** — The best finds can be hidden where you least expect them, so be sure to look through every rack. Devote a lot



Scouring area thrift shops, like Westland's Value World, can lead to a great vintage find, for a low price.

of time to scouring over a store to be sure that you'll see all that it has to offer.

■ **Don't expect too much** — The downside of thrift stores is that they don't carry every size and style. Have an open mind, and consider everything. If you come looking for a dress, don't underestimate the shoes. You never know what you're going to find.

■ **Be prepared for the worst** — Another sad but true downside is that not all stores will be equipped with a dressing room. For a day of thrift shopping, be sure to dress lightly or wear layers that you can remove to try on a prospective item over your others.

■ **Keep an eye out for vintage** — Thrift stores are havens for authentic vintage clothes at very low prices. Some items may be right out of the '50s, '60s, or '70s, and some may even be handmade! Always look for that one-of-a-kind vintage piece that will make an outfit stand out.

■ **Avoid variety shock** — No doubt, there will be very unique items in stock. Before buying that neon green plaid jumper, try to think of pieces you already own that will complement it. The worst thing you can do is get caught up in an item, get it home, and find that you have nothing to wear with it.

■ **Watch for sales** — Be sure to check your local paper around the holidays; a lot of thrift stores will offer coupons. There are also good



Buy jeans on-the-cheap at area thrift stores.



Thrift shopping takes time for shoppers seeking that special pair of shoes. Sizes are limited.

sales after Christmas, before Halloween, and on New Year's Day. Also, pay attention when you first enter the store. Most thrift stores offer deals like "Half off all hats" or "Half off all blue-tag items" every day.

■ **Brand names**: Since most of these stores thrive from donations, there are often huge supplies of once-expensive designer dresses, jeans, shoes, and more. Looking for a dress to wear to the big dance? Chances are, someone just donated a good one that you can buy at a fraction of

what they paid.

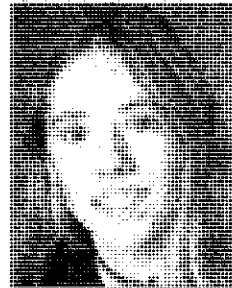
■ **Not just clothes** — Thrift stores also carry a variety of inexpensive furniture, electronic equipment (although a bit outdated), records, cassette tapes, CDs, movies and books. Got an old car that only plays cassettes? You can cultivate an eclectic collection of tapes for roughly 50 cents each. Now, that's a deal!

Emberley Neidhardt is a Garden City High School senior and a member of the Observer's Teen Journalist program.

Hooray for Harry

As Harry Potter series comes to a close, readers remain as faithful as ever

BY LAUREN ANTHONY



lauren anthony

On Dec. 21, author J.K. Rowling gave her many devoted fans an early Christmas present — the title of her seventh and final Harry Potter book. On Feb. 1, the writer revealed the news they've been waiting for for over a year — a release date. The highly-anticipated

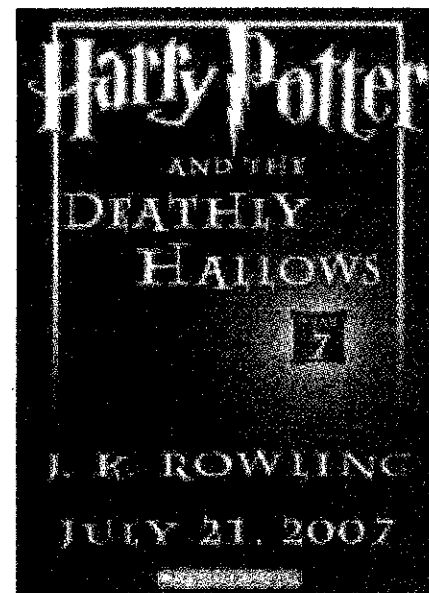
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows is due in stores July 21.

This summer also marks the release of the movie adaptation of *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*, the fifth book in the series. It's due in theaters July 13.

With a new book and movie coming out almost simultaneously, Harry

Potter-mania has reached an all-time high. Message boards are crammed with people swapping theories and rumors for the new book, discussing how they think and hope the new movie will turn out, and just how they'll feel when the series finally comes to a close. Rowling has been

PLEASE SEE POTTER, C3



How is it Between Us?

A teen looks at relationships between kids and their parents

All relationships come with the promise of road blocks and pitfalls. Nowhere else is that more prevalent than in the relationships between parents and their teenagers.

And rightfully so. The generation gap is becoming harder and harder to bridge.



ashley j. trombley

One must wonder – is establishing common ground between adults and adolescents only a pipe dream? I don't

think so.

Let's face it. Most teenagers are happiest when our parents leave us alone. Or are we? In a recent survey by *Family Circle* magazine 70 percent of teens said they were happy with how much attention they get from their parents.

And, as cited on www.connectwithkids.com, nearly a quarter more wished they and their parents could spend – ready for this – more time with each other.

But perhaps the first question is "How is that 'quality time' thing done?"

Adults and teens aren't so different. Chances are that everything I'm going through, my mother and father have gone through, as well.

So now that we know that most teens, in spite of their rebellious nature, want to spend more time with their moms and dads, what are some ways to ensure that their relationship is maximized to its greatest potential?

Here are a few ideas:

■ **Eat dinner together** – studies have shown that kids who eat dinner with their families are less likely to be influenced by drugs or alcohol.

■ **Plan a movie night** – find something you all like and watch it.

■ **Make time** – perhaps the most effective way to spend time together and learn from one another is to just sit down and chat.

Distractions might be the ultimate reason why parents and teens don't hang out together as much as they could, or should. And with all the time spent listening to iPods and watching TV, going to work, or doing homework, it's a small wonder.

Maybe if we slowed down a little and made some time for each other, we could really learn something.

In the end, the relationship between today's parents and teenagers is bound for some rocky roads, but if we grow closer, those bumps might smooth out a little bit.

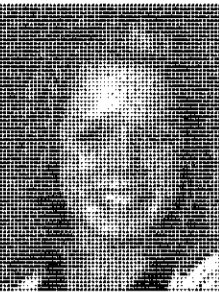
Ashley J. Trombley is a member of the Observer's Teen Journalist program and a sophomore at Garden City High School.

School lunch standards raise concerns

BY CLAIRE SLOMA

"You guys don't have any tuna today, right?"

"OK, then can I have bosco sticks?" asked James Hodges, a senior at Redford Union High School.



claire sloma

The question of how healthy and affordable school lunch is has become an issue for many students like James who

feel they don't have the availability or the money to eat healthy. The healthier foods, such as salads and sandwiches, tend to be more expensive and limited compared to less healthy choices, such as french fries and bosco sticks – which are basically baked cheese sticks.

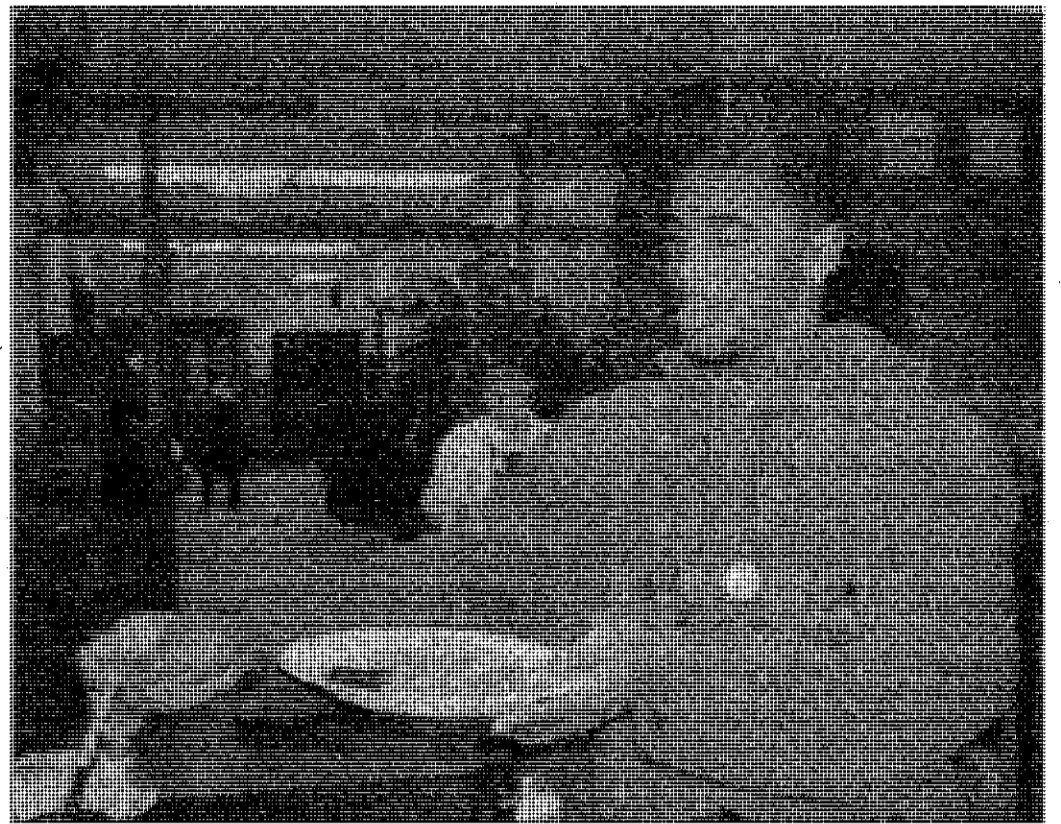
Ashley Hale, also a senior at Redford Union, said, "If I buy lunch, I buy a pretzel with mustard, which yes, I know is definitely not a balanced meal, but I buy it anyway because it's more affordable."

When walking through the cafeteria, there are four main areas to choose from to purchase food. Two lunch lines offer the day's menu, while the snack line sells slushies, pretzels, chips and more. Another spot offers a menu of fries, bosco sticks, pizza, and a few salads and sandwiches.

The majority of students buy drinks from pop machines, and choose food like Hale does, because it's more reasonably priced.

Other area school districts offer a similar lunch, but are working to promote a healthier environment, selling a wider variety of fruits and vegetables.

Food Director Kathy Norred, of South Redford Schools, said the district has started to introduce well-balanced and nutritional foods beginning at the ele-



For Redford Union student Joseph Corder, price is a factor when choosing what to eat for lunch.

The healthier foods, such as salads and sandwiches, tend to be more expensive and limited compared to less healthy choices, such as french fries and bosco sticks – which are basically baked cheese sticks.



Redford Union student James Hodges skips the salad at lunch.

mentary level, which she believes will be most effective in the long run.

To Norred, an education on health is the most important thing to have, especially when it's combined with reasonably priced food. She said the district has made noticeable improvement and is leading by example.

Claire Sloma is a senior at Redford Union High School and a member of the Observer's Teen Journalist program.

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Balancing act

With work, school, sports, teens try to do it all

BY LUCY ZAHOR

Today's high school students can have pretty busy schedules. Their days may be filled with school, sports, work or clubs.

Students - like Garden City High School's Nick Habbert, Lindsey Clem and Megan Krulikowski - participate in these activities because it's what they love to do, but that can make for a hectic schedule.

Being on a team takes a lot of time and dedication. Students arrive to school in the early morning hours and sometimes don't leave until the late evening. Juggling schoolwork along with a nonstop schedule can be tough. Being involved takes effort, but students said, it can have a positive effect on your body, grades and self-esteem.

"You keep in great shape and you meet a lot of new people in your activities," said Habbert, a junior. "Also, while in activities, you strive to get good grades." Habbert keeps busy with vari-

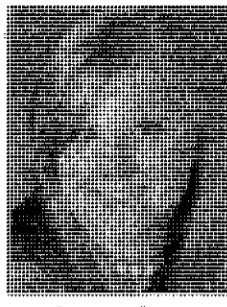
ty football, wrestling, track, and Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD).

Being involved in sports and other activities can be a way to stay out of trouble and meet some great people.

"When you're involved and active, you get to know people," said Clem, also a junior. "I've made a lot of friends through teams and sports. When you're active in school activities you stay busy and out of trouble."

Clem is a varsity soccer player along with being a student council member and part of the school's newspaper staff.

Student athletes, like Lindsay, have an added incen-



lucy zahor

tive to work hard. To play sports, students must maintain a high grade point average.

With new state graduation requirements for high school students in Michigan, students will have to work even harder to stay active on sports teams or involved in other activities.

Leisure time may become more scarce in the lives of teens.

"In my spare time I do my homework, watch television, and hang out with my friends," said Krulikowski, a junior and a member of both the tennis and soccer teams.

With so many activities, time management is the key.

According to Grace Fleming, an online contributor to homeworktips.about.com: "Good time management skills can help students increase their grades and improve their overall school work performance."

Lucy Zahor is a Garden City High School junior and member of the Observer's Teen Journalist program.

Symphony offers special ticket price for families

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

Carl Karoub is excited about a special pass for families to hear and see the Livonia Symphony Orchestra at an upcoming concert. The French horn player doesn't want anyone to miss the program when players like himself will be spotlighted during Principals Night Out 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 3, in Louis Schmidt Auditorium at Clarenceville High School, 20155 Middlebelt, south of Eight Mile, Livonia.

Tickets are \$17 adults, \$5 children and students, but for \$17 an entire family can enjoy the concert. For more information or tickets, leave a message on the LSO Hot Line at (734) 421-1111.

"We introduced the special family pass so they can get familiar with our orchestra," said Carl Karoub, principal French Horn player. "We don't want to keep it a secret."

LSO president Tom Bjorklund expects the concert to be an interesting one. Orchestra member Lanny Robbins is scheduled as guest soloist for Concerto for Bass Tuba by Ralph Vaughan-Williams, an early 20th century composer. The selection is sponsored by DTE Energy.

An added attraction is Britten's Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra narrated by Livonia Mayor Jack Engbretson.

"We have a very active music committee. They come up with interesting themes," said Tom Bjorklund. "We had Mayor Engbretson narrate a couple of years ago. The mayor has a deep resonating voice and he enjoyed doing it so we invited him back for an encore."

"The young person's guide is good for any age to show off all sections of the orchestra," added Karoub of Livonia. "The harp is displayed. It's a wonderful piece of music."

Rounding out the program is Oberon Overture by Weber which is chamber music for a smaller orchestra. Sonata for Five Strings by Rossini, and Antiphonal Music by 16th century composer Gabriela for brass players.

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POTTER

FROM PAGE C1

working on the Harry Potter series for 17 years now. The first book, *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*, debuted in London in 1997. It came to the U.S. in 1998, followed by two more books the next year.

Since it was unveiled, the series has encouraged children to read and has opened their minds to reading other books as well.

According to the Kids and Family Reading Report, 51 percent of Harry Potter readers said they have started reading for fun since reading Harry Potter. The report also stated that 65 percent and 76 percent of the parents surveyed have noticed an improvement in their own reading habits or their children's performance at school.

"Since reading Harry Potter, I've liked reading a lot more. I've also got much more of an imagination," said Jessica Self, a 15-year-old Garden City High School student.

What sets the Harry Potter series apart from other novels?

"It's so addicting, you just can't stop reading. I also love

how (Rowling) mentions things subtly and then it becomes much more important four books later," said Kristin Vasas, a 15-year-old Garden City High School student.

Just what is in store for Harry and his friends in the final leg of their journey? Until July, only Rowling and her editor will know, but there is much speculation among her fan base.

"Harry will kill Voldemort, for sure," predicted Cathy Stradtner, a 16-year-old Garden City High School student. "After that the world won't be perfect, but it'll definitely be a lot better. Also I think something miraculous will happen."

Rowling has said *Deathly Hallows* is her favorite book in the series, and she's pleased with how it's turned out. As for the series coming to a close, Rowling has mixed feelings of joy and sadness at finally finishing the seventh book.

"Even while I'm mourning, I feel an incredible sense of achievement," she noted on her Web site Feb. 6.

Lauren Anthony is a student at Garden City High School and a member of the Observer's Teen Journalist program.

Teenagers talk about depression

BY JUSTIN SMITH

With the lack of sunshine and constant snowfall, it is no wonder that teenagers are feeling depressed. Although depression can be simply

caused by a change in environment, as in Seasonal Affective Disorder, sometimes it can be caused by issues going on in a teenagers life.

But depression can affect every single person.

According to KidsHealth.com: "Some people with depression do not take their illness seriously."

Depression can be brought on by a vast amount of things - from the pressure to achieve perfection, to events at home, school, in dealing with

romance or pondering the future.

"When I am alone or not talking to my friends, that is when I feel depressed," said Christina Davis, age 15. There is nothing to distract me from myself."

Some local teenagers said being alone can lead to feelings of anger or depression, as can the end of a romantic relationship.

"Depression is considered to be a psychological condition," said Michael Philips, 19. "Doctors think that love is just an emotion. It all ties in."

When a relationship ends, teens may feel helpless, as if they are losing control in life.

The stress of school can also be a factor. Getting good grades and participating in extracurricular activities may be hard to manage.

"I actually feel sad when I realize that I want something done and I know it won't ever be done," said Amanda Wylie, 16. "It just seems like a waste of a dream to me."

That image of "perfection"

has been burned into teenagers minds. Dealing with such stress and sadness can be handled in many ways.

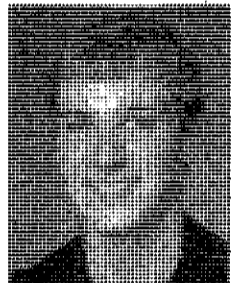
Talking to friends, parents, counselors or other people, even writing may be healthy, helpful ways of dealing with sadness or the onset of depression.

"I talk to my friends, most of the time they can help me," said Paul Randazzo, 18. "But if all else fails, just crying seems to make everything better."

Unhealthy ways of dealing with depression include: Cutting, drinking, drug use, smoking cigarettes, and shutting people out of your life.

Feelings of depression are best addressed by consulting a counselor or therapist.

Justin Smith is a student at Garden City High School and a member of the Observer's Teen Journalist Program.



justin smith

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FOX THEATRE

Livonia Symphony is offering special ticket price for families

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

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Rounding out the program is Oberon Overture by Weber which is chamber music for a smaller orchestra, Sonata for Five Strings by Rossini, and Antiphonal Music by 16th century composer Gabriela for brass players.

"The whole concert is interesting," said Karoub. "Antiphonal Music is for two brass choirs on each side of stage. It was the first use of stereo back in Venice."

"Brahms Festive and Commemorative Music is for a brass choir of about 10 musicians, and Petite Symphony (Gounod) features seven woodwinds and two French horns."

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Mary Nelson of Redford works on the animal mask she'll wear in Noah, The Musical.

Youth theater presents musical about Noah

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

The kids are still working on their animal masks, but before long they'll be heading two by two to the ark. About 33 members of the Motor City Youth Theatre and 10 of the adults with Grantland Street Players are preparing to present the U.S. premiere of Noah, The Musical on weekends from March 9-25, at the Grantland Street Playhouse, 27555 Grantland, one block west of Inkster, Livonia.

Curtain times are 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, and 2 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$10-\$15, all seats reserved. For more information, call (313) 535-8962 or visit www.mcyt.org.

Director Nancy Florkowski describes the production as an ensemble effort featuring a cast from age 5 on up.

"All the children are animals," said Nancy Florkowski of Redford. "We had a special mask making workshop on a Saturday taught by Mary Copenhagen who's on the teaching staff and a costumer for productions of the Wayne State University Theater Department."

"They're 3-D masks not flat, unicorns, tigers, horses. The adults are high school age and older and do most of the dialogue. The kids do singing and dancing."

Written by Ian Gower and



Members of the Motor City Youth Theatre rehearse for Noah, The Musical opening March 9, at the Grantland Street Playhouse in Livonia.

Rob Alderton, the story revolves around Noah, played by Thomas Elliott. The Northville resident grew up in Motor City Youth Theatre programs. His brothers in real life, Andy and Zack Elliott, play Noah's sons along with Scott Crossman. Patricia Tait tells the story.

"It starts out with a storm and how bad the world is," said Florkowski. A symbolic rainbow does eventually appear sort of like the script did.

"I just got it (the script) by chance," said Florkowski. "Playwrights send their work out and ask if anybody would like to do it. We started e-mailing back and forth."

The production as well as the Grantland Street Playhouse is a work in progress. Members

recently built a stage and are trying to bring the facility up to code. Florkowski, who retired as a teacher from Pierce Middle School in South Redford three years ago, says she's busier than ever before. In July, Florkowski, who founded the Motor City Youth Theatre in 1990, holds a summer program.

"We work from show to show trying to make improvements," said Florkowski. "There's so much more to do and so much more money is needed."

"We have the Producers Circle, a support group that helps financially, at shows and with fundraising. Amy Helman is president and has four children in program which is year round."

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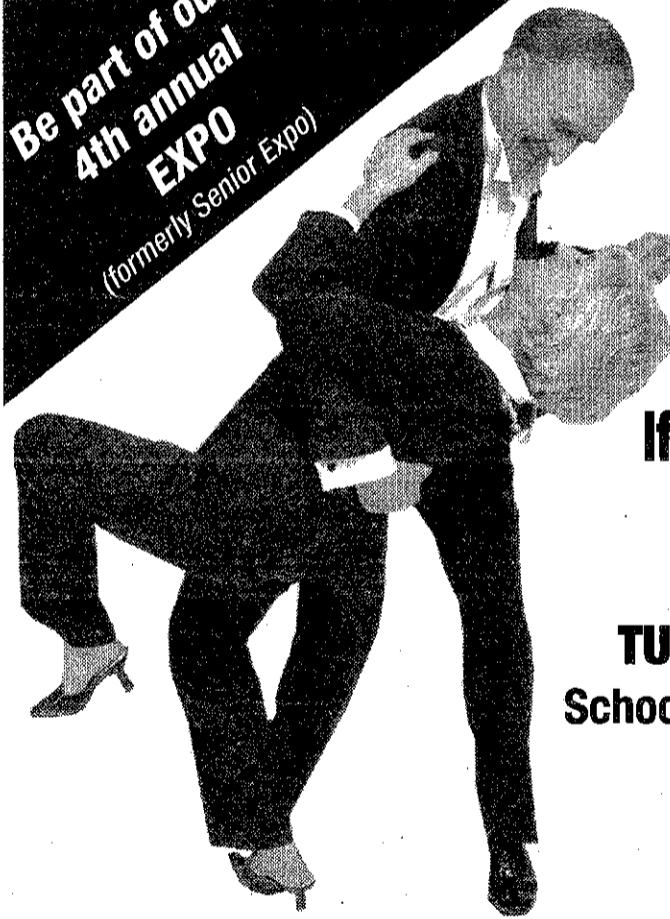
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REUNIONS

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Bishop Borgess Class of 1987

A 20-year reunion, Sept. 15, 2007, at the Livonia Marriott. Contact borgess87@hotmail.com for more information.

Dearborn Fordson Class of 1977

A 30-year reunion, Friday, Aug. 3 to Sunday, Aug. 5, 2007. Contact Val Schulte (Wrenbeck) at msgrad81@cox.net with your current address and phone number.

Dearborn Edsel Ford Class of 1967

A 40-year reunion 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 4, 2007, at Doubletree Hotel, Dearborn. Hors d'oeuvres and cash bar, approximately \$35. For information, call Cheryl Riske Brown at (313)336-0192 or e-mail efnhs67@yahoo.com

Detroit Chadsey Class of 1957

A 50th Reunion is being planned for Sept. 29, at Weber's Inn in Ann Arbor. Looking for January, June and Summer '57 graduates. If interested in attending or know of the whereabouts of other classmates, contact Pat Gorski-Zielinski, (989) 366-9288.

Detroit Western Class of 1962

A 45-year reunion will be held in September 2007. Seeking information on classmates from that year. All other classes welcome. Contact Judy Hull Rakowski at (734) 459-3832 or Judy Spiro Scranton at jscranton@yahoo.com

Detroit Southwestern Class of 1957

A 50-year reunion is being planned for September 2007. Looking for January and June graduates. If interested in attending or know of the whereabouts of other classmates, contact Angie (Conz) Maccani at (313) 532-4379 or Ken Sunki at (313) 291-5450.

Epiphany Grade School Class of 1966

A 40-year reunion is in the planning stages for the summer of 2006. Contact Dorothy at (248) 477-9478 or dzsnyder@hotmail.com.

Ferndale Lincoln High Class of 1947 January and June

60th class reunion, Aug. 3, 4 and 5 at The Hilton Hotel on Crooks Road in Troy. For information or details contact: Treva (Powell) Hamill, 248-667-1601, bobtrv9@aol.com or, Dick Reising, 248-623-9060, dreising@sbcglobal.net

Fordson High School Class of 1969

Planning a reunion for 2007. Please contact Kathy Nison at (248) 363-5679 or e-mail: kayninilu@aol.com or Kathy Shoebridge at Klivingson@nu-core.com.

Garden City High School Class of 1987

Searching for all class of '87 Alumni for a 20-year reunion. Need to find current information on alumni (name, address, phone, email, etc.). Contact GCHSClassof87reunion@comcast.net or call Sheryll (Pietryka) Catton at (734) 367-0898.

Class of 1997

A 10-year reunion is planned for June 9, 2007, at the Crowne Plaza in Romulus. For more information and to update your address, visit the reunion

website at www.gchs97reunion.com.

Grosse Pointe North Class of 1991

Call (800) 677-7800, visit www.taylorreunions.com or e-mail: info@taylorreunions.com.

Ladywood High School Class of 1967

A 40-year reunion in planned for June 9-10, 2007. Headquarters at Courtyard by Marriott, Laurel Park, Livonia. Call Liz at (248)681-7768 or email LHS67@comcast.net for further information.

Livonia Bentley High School Class of 1957

A 50th reunion Saturday, June 9, at St. Mary's Cultural Center, 18100 Merriman Road, Livonia. Doors open 6 p.m., dinner at 6:30. Cost \$45 per person due May 1. For information, call Janice Sue Fernandez, (734)427-1288.

Livonia Churchill Classes of 1971-2007

Alumni Summer Bash 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, June 16, Nankin Mills Park, Ann Arbor Trail and Hines Drive. No fees but accepting donations. All proceeds over and above costs are being donated to the Western Wayne Skill Center. For more information, call Chris (Don) Nicholson at (734)658-5296 or Chris@ChurchillAlumni.com or Gayle Napolitano Nicholson at (734)728-0393 or Gayle@ChurchillAlumni.com.

Livonia Franklin Class of 1969

A reunion is in the pre-planning stages for 2007. For more information, contact Kathy Nison at (248) 363-5679 or e-mail: kayninilu@aol.com.

Our Lady of Sorrows Class of 1966

Aug. 17, 18 and 19. For more information, call Pat Ormsby LaPlante at (248)476-0634.

Redford Thurston High School Classes of 1957, 1958

A 50-year reunion is planned with several events Sept. 14-16 at Embassy Suites, Livonia. For information, contact Ron Beller at (989)652-9724 or e-mail at Admiral741@yahoo.com or Marian Keegan Hierholzer at (248)349-2697 or e-mail at Marnia@comcast.net

Roseville High School Class of 1956

A 50th reunion in fall of 2006. The reunion committee is searching for classmates. For information, call Shirley at (586) 677-2709; Alice at (586) 792-7757 or e-mail at alijune1939@sbcglobal.net or thehermans2002@comcast.net.

Royal Oak Dondero High School Class of June-Jan. of 1959

Seeking classmates for Aug. 4 reunion. Include name, address and e-mail address to: Jean (Eliotte) Palmer 248-435-7875, TJPalmer73@aol.com, or Mike Soule 248-853-7483.

Southeastern (Detroit) Class of 1987

A 20-year reunion is being planned for summer 2007. Looking for graduates of June 1987. If interested in attending or know of whereabouts of graduates, contact Terri Banks-Faison at (313)220-4769 or tntfaison@aol.com

Southfield High School Class of 1977

A 30th Reunion on Sunday, Sept. 2, 2007. For further information, contact MDur2@aol.com or MeneSilvermanAbrinSHS1977@comcast.net

St. Anthony Elementary All classes

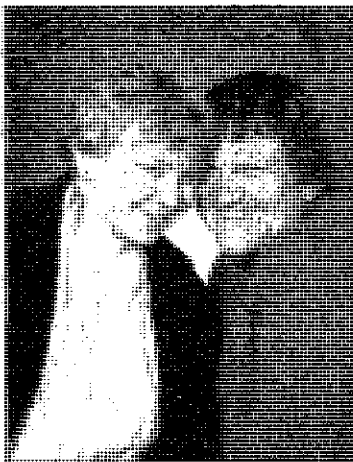
Reunion on Oct. 6, 2007 for the Detroit school at 25th and Vernor. Email mrkf4@yahoo.com or call (734)995-9243 for further details and to give us your contact information.

St. Philip Neri Class of 1957

A 50th anniversary, 1-6 p.m. Sunday, June 24, at Marinelli's Restaurant, 4924 Rochester Road, Troy, just south of Long Lake Road. If you have information on classmates contact Harold Pryor at (734)462-5996.

Utica High School Class of 1981

A 25th reunion is being planned for the fall of 2006. Please send updated address information and inquires to: Todd Richter (trichter26@comcast.net).



Stalker-Smith

Sarah Elizabeth Stalker of Brooklyn, New York, and Nicholas Richard Smith will be married June 2007 at the Matthaei Botanical Gardens in Ann Arbor.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Sue Stalker of Ann Arbor and Terry Stalker of Saline. She is a 2005 graduate of Eastern Michigan University with a degree in women's studies. She is employed with Icarus Project in New York City as a radical mental health advocate.

The prospective groom is the son of Richard Smith of Garden City and the late Rebecca Smith. He is a graduate of the University of Michigan-Dearborn. He is currently a graduate student at New York University.



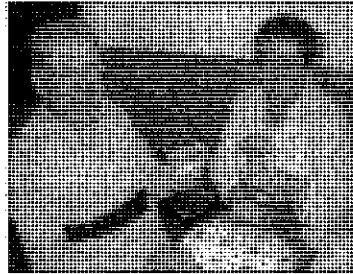
Flevaris-Lloyd

Dr. Carole A. Flevaris and Anthony D. Flevaris, of Farmington Hills, announce the engagement of their daughter, Lisa Ann Flevaris, of Chelmsford, Mass., to Edwin Lloyd, of Bellingham, Mass., son of Harvey and Margaret Lloyd, of Dedham, Mass.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Northeastern University and the Rochester Institute of Technology. She works for the U.S. Department of Labor.

The groom-to-be is a graduate of the Rochester Institute of Technology and works for Eastman Kodak.

The couple plans an October 2007 wedding in Sharon, Mass. They plan a honeymoon in Aruba and they'll make their home in Franklin, Mass.



Roberts celebrate 50th anniversary

Clyde and Lucy Roberts of Garden City celebrated their 50th anniversary Feb. 14.

The Roberts were married in Italy on Feb. 14, 1957.

They have three children, Frank Roberts of Canton, Mike Roberts of Canton and Jessica Chase of West Bloomfield.

They have six grandchildren. The couple have lived in Garden City for 43 years. Clyde Roberts has been retired from General Motors for 19 years. He served 30 years in the Navy.

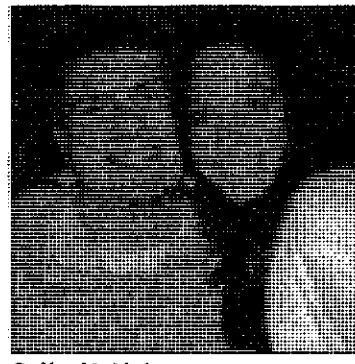


Ellen Grace Tomlinson

Jeff and Kelly Tomlinson of Florence, Ky., announce the birth of their daughter, Ellen Grace, on Dec. 4, 2006. The Tomlinsons are former residents of Livonia.

Grandparents are John and Luanne Woodley of Livonia, Len and Cindy Gallagher of Clarkston and Mark and Monica Tomlinson of Plymouth.

Great-grandparents are Pat Hope of Livonia, Ilsa deArmas of Redford and Pat Cardinal of Livonia.



Seitz-McMahon

Frederic and Mary Seitz of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Laura M. Seitz, to Daniel R. McMahon.

The bride-to-be is an elementary school teacher.

The prospective groom is the son of Richard and Patti McMahon of Livonia. He is employed at the Salvation Army headquarters in Southfield.

A July wedding is planned for Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church with the Rev. Hal Edmonds officiating.

They will make their home in Canton.



Rutecki-Dainty

William Rutecki of LaVerne, Calif., and Barbara Rutecki of Plymouth announce the engagement of their daughter, Nicole Geneva Rutecki of East Lansing, to Ryan James Dainty of Mishawaka, Ind.

The bride-to-be is a 2006 graduate of Michigan State University and is currently teaching in East Lansing.

The prospective groom is the son of Jim and Helen Dainty of Cookeville, Tenn. He is a 2004 graduate of the University of Tennessee. He is a master of divinity student at the University of Notre Dame.

An Aug. 4 wedding is planned at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church in Plymouth followed by a reception at Plymouth Manor.

The couple will make their home in South Bend, Ind.



Howard-Peterson

Angela Peterson of Westland and Thomas Howard of Inkster were married June 10, 2006 at Christus Victor Lutheran Church in Dearborn Heights.

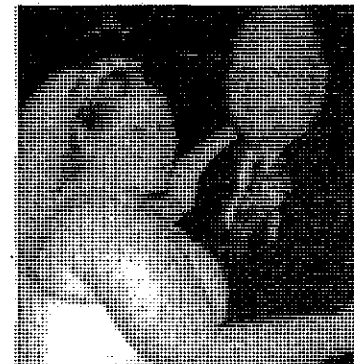
The bride is the daughter of Doug and Chris Peterson of Westland. She is a 2001 graduate of John Glenn High School in Westland and a 2004 graduate of Central Michigan University with a degree in broadcast and cinematic arts. She is employed by WNEM-TV in Saginaw as a health and traffic reporter.

The groom is the son of Tom and Laura Howard of Inkster. He is also a 2001 graduate of John Glenn High School. He is employed by Raiserve Inc. in Midland, Michigan.

Attending the couple were: Keith Oliver, friend and Kim Brandt, friend; Brian Peterson, brother and Nicole Blan, friend; Randy Sinnot, friend and Sara Plescow, friend; Mike Hiltanen, friend and Brandi Howard, sister; Nick Peterson, brother and Nicole DeRuiter, friend; Jeff Drotar, friend and Melissa Nichols, maid of honor, friend. Ushers were Curtis Burke, cousin and Paul Dalton, friend.

A reception was held at Karas House in Redford. The couple honeymooned in Jamaica.

They are making their home in Saginaw Township.



Lamb-Adams

Christine Rose Lamb and James Gilbert Adams were married Oct. 13, 2006, at St. Maurice's Church in Livonia with the Rev. Robert Weiss officiating.

The bride is the daughter of David and Rosanne Lamb of Livonia. She is a 1997 graduate of Churchill High School and a 2003 honors graduate of Eastern Michigan University with a bachelor's degree in emotional impaired teaching. She teaches middle school in Redford at Keeler Day Treatment Center. She is pursuing a master's degree in learning disabilities a Madonna University.

The groom is the son of Vicky Adams of Taylor and the late James B. Adams. He is a 1997 graduate of Taylor Center High School and a 2003 graduate of Eastern Michigan University. He is a purchaser.

The bride was attended by Sally Snider, maid of honor and best friend of bride; Wend Warren, maid of honor and best friend of bride; Sarah Adams, bridesmaid; sister of the groom; Emily Lamb, junior bridesmaid, niece of bride; and Sarah Lamb, flower girl, niece of bride. The groom was attended by Benjamin Lamb, best man, brother of bride; Michael Hetra, best man, best friend of bride and groom; Craig Lamb, groomsmen, brother of bride; and Alex Lamb, nephew and godson of bride, ring bearer.

A reception was held at Burton Manor in Livonia. The couple honeymooned in Florida. They will make their home in Livonia.

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DOROTHY JANE NORRIS JENSEN

Born February 11, 1920 in Green Bay, Wisconsin, raised in Rockford, Illinois, lived in Birmingham, Michigan and ultimately, Vero Beach, died peacefully surrounded by some of her family on February 18 at Florida Baptist Retirement Center Vero Beach, Florida where she had been a resident for seven years. Dorothy's entire focus throughout her life was centered on her family, home and her many friends in Rockford, Birmingham, and Vero Beach. Her talents seemed endless: an expert seamstress who could copy designer dresses, needlepoint, knitting, gardening, music, dancing, cooking, and decorating - all achieved with mastery and grace. Her instant smiles and twinkle welcomed friends and strangers alike. She was a member of the Rockford Country Club, Junior League of Rockford and Birmingham. The Village Women's club in Birmingham, Community House, Oakland Hills Country Club, The John's Island Club, IRMC Auxiliary and member of the first Presbyterian Church of Birmingham and Community Church in Vero Beach. She was predeceased by E.C. "Clem" Jensen, her husband of 58 years, in 1999. She is survived by her four children, David Jensen of Birmingham MI, Chris Loftus and Cathy Dusseau of Vero Beach, FL and Jim Jensen of Benticia, CA. She was also the beloved "Grammie" to Meredith Rivers Burkitt, David River, Kate Dusseau Whitney, Matthew Rivers, Scott Jensen, Lindsay Dusseau and 3 precious great grandchildren, Sam, Luke and Joe. The family requests in lieu of flowers, memorials be sent in celebration of her life to Florida Baptist Retirement Center 1006 33rd Street, Vero Beach, FL 32960. The family extends their deepest gratitude for the love, care and support of their mother these past years by the incredible staff of Florida Baptist. There will be a Memorial Service in the Grace Chapel of the Community Church of Vero Beach on Sunday February 24 at 11:00 am. A guest book may be signed at www.seawindsfh.com/obit.php

How to submit announcements

Local engagement, wedding, anniversary and birth announcements run in the Sunday editions of the Observer.

There is no charge to submit an announcement.

To obtain a copy of our forms for engagements, weddings, anniversaries and births email Hugh Gallagher at hgalagher@hometownlife.com.

Or send the following information to Hugh Gallagher, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia MI 48150:

For engagement announcements, include:

■ Names, addresses and cities for the bride, groom and both sets of parents

■ Where bride and groom attended (or attend) high school and college and years graduated

■ Where bride and groom are

employed

■ Wedding date

■ Wedding location

■ Daytime phone number and e-mail address in case we have any questions.

For wedding announcements, include:

■ All of the above, plus

■ Clergy's name

■ Names and cities of all attendants

■ Reception location

■ Honeymoon location

■ City where couple will reside

Please send photos in a vertical format. If you are e-mailing a photograph, please send it as a "jpeg."

Photographs may be picked up after publication; or enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

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Changing technology

Preliminary study shows CT scan cuts diagnosis time

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER



A patient undergoes a 64-slice CT scan at William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak. CT has been used since the mid-1970s to visualize areas of the body slice by slice.



Dr. James Goldstein

The result of a new study is changing the way William Beaumont Hospital emergency room physicians treat low-risk patients with heart attack-like symptoms.

Dr. James Goldstein says hypothetically if he were suffering chest pain, he could be back at his desk by 4 p.m. after seeking medical attention around noon. That's presuming the 64-slice CT scan revealed his arteries weren't blocked. The coronary CT (computed tomography) angiography has become the preferred diagnostic tool used to detect fatty blockages or pockets of rock-hard calcium in arteries that may be causing the pain.

As lead author of the study appearing Feb. 27, in the *Journal of the American College of Cardiology*, Goldstein worked with Beaumont's ER staff to recruit 197 patients deemed to be at low risk — patients at risk for heart disease, but with no previous known heart disease. According to Goldstein, director of research and education in the cardiology division at Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak, "over 50 percent of patients who present with chest pain have a significant likelihood of having normal arteries."

The standard testing procedure for low-risk patients takes about 15 hours and involves initial blood testing and an ECG (electrocardiogram) then repeating both four hours later. In the study, all of the patients' tests to detect a heart attack and damage were normal. Researchers then assigned half of the patients randomly to have a CT scan, the other half to standard diagnostics including more blood testing and ECGs, as well as a nuclear scan that uses radioactive material to evaluate blood flow to the heart at rest and during stress. Nuclear scans take several hours as physicians usually like to observe patients in the ER for at least eight hours before stressing the heart with medication or exercise. It then takes several more hours for the radioactive material to pass through the body.

In the study, coronary CT angiography reduced the diagnosis time for chest pain patients by 75 percent and more than 95 percent of the time accurately detected if arteries were clear or clogged with mild to severe blockages without cardiac catheteri-

zation. Costs were reduced as well, since patients were able to leave the ER sooner with a diagnosis without being admitted or having to return for testing.

CT scans require patients only to lie still on a table as it moves slowly through an X-ray system. Cardiac catheterization is invasive as it involves the insertion of a catheter into a chamber or vessel of the heart.

"The CT was more definitive," Goldstein said. "I think it's going to reduce the numbers of patients who have to come back for further testing."

Coronary CT angiography has come a long way since Goldstein began to do research at the University of California-San Francisco in 1979. Computer technology has enabled the 64-slice CT scanner to overcome the movement of the heart so it's able to take nearly 200 images per second. Goldstein says that when the 64-slice became available 2½ years ago, he was amazed at the clarity of the images of arteries which could previously only be seen with invasive catheterization.

CT has been used since the mid-1970s to visualize areas of the body slice by slice.

"Based on this and other research and clinical experience, we're using CT as the preferred diagnostic strategy in low-risk patients," Goldstein said.

In the 1980s, Beaumont researchers performed the first randomized study that established angioplasty as a primary heart attack treatment. In the next couple of months, Goldstein will begin recruiting at Beaumont for a larger trial of the CT scanner involving 750 patients in 15 U.S. hospitals. The result of the research could possibly change the standard of care.

Chris Simpson was happy to be part of the first study of 197 patients at Beaumont Hospital in March 2005. That's when the Troy woman began noticing symptoms she considered odd. Because her father died of his fourth heart attack at age 41, Simpson knew the warning signs to look for. After exercising for a short period, she would get jaw pain or sometimes for no reason a pressure would start at her collar bone and radiate up the neck.

"I was feeling a little spacey for no reason. All of the symptoms were very mild and didn't last," said Simpson, who immediately made an appointment to see her physician. After describing her symptoms, the internist sent her directly to the emergency room, where she was asked to participate in the study. She "had the CT scan a few hours later and the following morning was told a lesion had been found." A cardiac catheterization revealed her right coronary artery was 99 percent blocked.

"It's (CT scan) a good test for those who are at lower risk with no known heart disease," said Simpson, a 59-year-old instructional designer for a Troy-based corporate training company. "I had angioplasty; they put in a stent. Since then, I've had two more catheterizations and three more stents."

"Even before I was living a very healthy lifestyle, taking baby aspirin every day, trying to avoid cholesterol-laden foods, and was exercising four days a week, going to Curves and walking on the off-days. Because of my family history, I had always known I would develop heart disease."

lchomin@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2145

Veggies reduce risk of cancer



Mike from Redford e-mails asking about a diet for cancer survivors.

Mike, the proper diet is critical for good health after a bout with cancer. Think in terms of more plant, less animal!

Research shows that 20 percent of cancers would have never happened to begin with if everyone ate five servings of vegetables per day. When choosing veggies, use pigment as your guide. The darker the vegetable, the more likely it is to have beneficial cancer fighting substances.

Foods high in fat should be used sparingly. Medical experts recommend covering two-thirds of your plate with plant-based food and one-third with meat and dairy products. Fat derived from some fish can also be beneficial when it comes to cancer survival.

Consult your doctor for more information.

John from Royal Oak suffers from diabetes. He e-mails for natural tips on controlling the disease.

John, help may be as close as the nearest spice rack. A recent study finds that cinnamon may help Type 2 diabetics improve their ability to stabilize blood sugar.

Researchers find that cinnamon helps fat cells recognize and respond to insulin. Insulin is the hormone that removes excess sugar from the blood. In fact, cinnamon appears to increase the metabolism of glucose by a factor of 20. Other reports show that a compound in cinnamon makes fat cells more responsive to insulin. It does this by activating the enzyme that causes insulin to bind to cells.

Tired of sugar? Feel free to sprinkle plenty of cinnamon on your oatmeal, cereal, even in your coffee. Not only is it delicious, it just might help stabilize your blood sugar.

If you have a health or fitness question you would like answered in the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers*, e-mail Peter Nielsen through his Web site www.peternielsen.com.

Stay safe during spring break

For many college students, spring break at the beach is the reward for months of study during the long, cold winter. As irresistible as it may seem to overindulge in sun and fun, don't break up the party with a trip to the emergency department.

Dr. Brian Keaton, president of the American College of Emergency Physicians, says emergency physicians see many serious injuries during spring break, and advance planning and common sense should be as essential to a student's travel plans as a bikini and a boogie board.

"The fastest way to ruin a good vacation is to overdo it, whether that means excessive sun exposure, sports injuries or overindulgence in alcohol," said Keaton. "Every year, emergency physicians treat college students who have left good judgment behind along with their textbooks."

So don't let the pleasure turn into pain. If you are under the legal drinking age, don't drink alcohol. If

you are of legal drinking age, drink responsibly and never combine alcohol with driving, boating or swimming.

Do not get into a car with a driver who has been drinking.

The abuse of drugs and other illegal substances is always a bad idea.

Wear a life jacket at all times when boating.

Wear sunscreen with the maximum level of sun protection, and plan outdoor activities for before 10 a.m. and after 3 p.m.

Drink plenty of water especially when in the sun or perspiring heavily.

Take it easy with athletic activities after an inactive winter and get training from a professional, particularly for water sports such as surfing, water-skiing and scuba diving.

Swim with a buddy even if you are very experienced; be aware of any rip tides in your area and learn how to swim out of one should you get caught.

Get enough sleep. Many bad decisions are the result of sleep deprivation.

The best protection against sexually transmitted diseases and unintended pregnancies is abstinence. If you do have sex, use a condom. Your vacation may only last a week, but parenthood, HIV and herpes are forever.

If traveling with a group, resist the urge to "go along to get along" if risky activities are suggested.

Don't visit unfamiliar areas by yourself, especially at night.

Take medications and proof of insurance with you.

Program your cell phone with I-C-E (in case of emergency), and identify a person and phone number that emergency medical services can contact just in case you do end up at the hospital and cannot speak for yourself.

"Emergency physicians were all college students too at one time," said Keaton. "We just want you to enjoy your vacation without a trip to the hospital."

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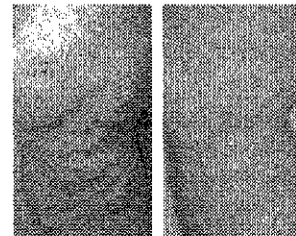


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Before AFTER

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Guidelines help prevent heart disease

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

Dr. Shukri David is glad the new guidelines for preventing cardiovascular disease in women were released today. The cardiologist has been telling patients they should be exercising 30 minutes three to four times a week. The 2007 guidelines from the American Heart Association recommend 60 to 90 minutes, preferably on a daily basis for women who need to lose or sustain weight loss.

Published in a special women's health issue of *Circulation* - Journal of the American Heart Association, the updated guidelines emphasize a woman's lifetime risk for developing cardiovascular disease (CVD) and provide direction for health care professionals on not only physical activity but nutrition, and the use of aspirin, hormone replacement therapy and dietary supplements in treating and preventing heart disease and stroke. David says most women believe their greatest risk is for breast cancer.

Heart disease is the number one killer of women as well as men.

Nearly all women are at risk for CVD, the authors wrote, that's why a heart-healthy lifestyle is important. The guidelines recommend controlling blood pressure and weight; eating fresh fruits, vegetables and low-fat dairy products; drinking alcohol in moderation, and restricting sodium. Saturated fat intake should be less than 7-percent of calories if possible.

WOMEN AS WELL

"One of the misconceptions is that heart disease has always been a man's disease so clinical trials from the 1970s to 1990s have primarily focused on men," said David, chief of cardiology at St. John Providence Hospital in Southfield, and a former president of the American Heart Association

board for the Greater Midwest Affiliate based in Southfield. "The volumes of participation of women were low and couldn't come up with consistent recommendations. Now we have more data coming in. The information is rather important for those at risk or those who have CVD. More women die of CVD than the top five killers. Almost four in 10 women end up dying of heart disease."

David believes the more than 30 million women with documented heart disease are just the tip of iceberg. He says women are much more stoic than men and rarely slow down to complain even if they do suspect a problem. Others are financially unable to afford screening for heart disease, or are too busy taking care of others to take care of themselves.

"They usually don't have typical symptoms such as pressure or pain in the chest like men," said David. "They have fatigue or arm or jaw pain, or their stomach is upset."

David says women need to pay attention to their symptoms and to seek medical attention. They also need to stop smoking. The 2007 update offers a complete list of current clinical recommendations for preventing CVD in women 20 and older at www.americanheart.org.

"The guidelines let doctors know they should pull the trigger quicker on nicotine replacement therapy," said David. "We're not just talking about quitting smoking but recommending nicotine replacement therapy."

"They're recommending that women take supplemental omega-3 fatty acids. In the past this hasn't been pushed among women, for women with heart disease to take up to one gram a day, women with high triglycerides 2 to 4 grams a day."

The guidelines do not recommend women take hormone replacement therapy and selective estrogen receptor

modulars (SERMs) for the sole purpose of preventing heart disease.

NO DATA ON ANTIOXIDANTS

Antioxidant supplements such as vitamin E, C and beta-carotene should not be used for prevention of CVD. David says there's no data that antioxidant supplements reduce coronary artery disease.

The 2004 guideline recommendation that folic acid be considered for use in certain high-risk women has been reversed. Folic acid should not be used to prevent CVD.

"Women over age 65 should probably take a baby aspirin every day, regardless of risk status, and for women who are at high risk to use a higher dose of aspirin of 325 milligrams per day," said David.

"Very high risk women with heart disease should lower their LDL (bad cholesterol) to less than 70 milligrams and may require medications to do that."

David is concerned because the guidelines don't give health care professionals direction for heart disease screening. Yet, there are recommendations for mammography and colonoscopy.

"If a woman is 40 or 50 and has a family history or risk factors, I would recommend a stress test before beginning any physical activity," said David.

For more information on heart disease and stroke, call 1-888-MY-HEART or visit goredforwomen.org. The American Heart Association urges Congress to make the No. 1 killer of women a national priority by passing the HEART for Women Act this year. The HEART for Women Act is bipartisan federal legislation that would improve the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of cardiovascular disease in women. For information, visit www.heartforwomen.org.

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FEBRUARY

Eating disorders awareness

In recognition of Eating Disorders Awareness Week Beaumont Hospital presents a two-part program. Eating Disorders are Serious Illnesses, Not Choices, 7-9 p.m. Monday, Feb. 26 and Wednesday, Feb. 28, in the auditorium, Royal Oak. No charge or pre-registration. Weekly support groups take place 7-8:30 p.m. Monday at Beaumont Hospital, 3601 W. 13 Mile, west of Woodward, and 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesday at Garden City Hospital, 6245 Inkster Road. Meetings open to all persons with anorexia, bulimia, binge eating, compulsive eating, etc. No registration required.

Support groups for family and friends meet 7-8:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of every month, and for parents only on the fourth Wednesday of the month, at Beaumont Hospital. For information, call (734) 324-3089.

Thyroid disorders

7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 26, Dr. William Karl, D.C. presents Treating Thyroid Disorders Naturally at the Civic Center Library, Livonia. If you suffer from hair loss, cold hands or feet, stubborn weight gain or unwanted pain, there may be help. Learn safe, natural, effective alternatives. No charge. To register, call (734) 425-8588.

Half hour to health

Dr. Daniel Laframboise, chiropractor, presents Half Hour to Health Workshops at 6:15 p.m., in his office at 18444 Farmington Road, Livonia. Feb. 27 topic is How to Increase Your Immune System 300-percent, and March 6 The Best Kept Health Secret. No charge. Seating limited. To register, call (248) 474-5252.

Women's lecture

Shari Maxwell, M.D. takes an informative and intimate look at issues surrounding women's health 5:30-7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 27, at Henry Ford Medical Center-Plymouth, 14300 Beck Road. The obstetric-gynecologist discusses topics such as birth control, fibroids, incontinence, menopause, and issues surrounding abnormal Pap smears, and the importance of yearly screenings. To register, call (800) HENRYFORD (436-7936).

Informational meeting

The nation's largest, most successful non-profit event, the American Cancer Society's Relay For Life, is coming June 16-17 to Lahser High School, Bloomfield Hills. More than 4,600 communities have already taken up the fight to end cancer. Activities include a cancer survivor celebration and victory lap as well as a luminaria ceremony to help honor and remember everyone touched by the disease. Anyone interested in learning more should attend an informa-

MEDICAL DATEBOOK

tional meeting 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 27, at Gary Doyle Center, 7275 Wing Lake Road. Contact Lauren Konchel at (248) 483-4308 or visit www.acevents.org/relay/mi/bloomfieldhills.

Divorce support group

Group discussion 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 27, gaining financial control of your divorce, Jacqueline Gold-Roessler and her partner David Roessler discuss financial aspects of divorce and how to plan for your future following divorce, in the Women's Resource Center at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, between Six and Seven Mile, Livonia. For more information, call (734) 462-4443.

Mental health forum

Luncheon and interactive forum for clergy on mental illness and addictions noon to 4 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 28, at St. George Greek Orthodox Church Cultural center, 43816 Woodward, north of Square Lake Road, Bloomfield Hills. Tickets \$15. For information, call Cathy or Sue at (248) 338-1299. Keynote speaker is Phillip Dwyer, clinical director of psychology at Garden City Hospital and an addictions counselor and adjunct professor at Oakland University. The program is designed to provide information, answer questions supply referral resources for pastors, priests, Stephen ministers, parish nurses and other spiritual leaders. Participants will also have the opportunity to attend discussions on suicide prevention, children and adolescent behavior, healthy boundaries, relationship of substance abuse to mental illness, dementia, and family violence.

Bone and joint disease

A free seminar 2:30-4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 28, at St. John Providence, Fisher Auditorium, 16001 W. Nine Mile, Southfield.

Learn about bone and joint disease, arthritis-diagnosis and treatment, causes and treatment for bursitis and tendonitis, typical causes of hip and knee pain and treatment options, the joint replacement process. Resources and refreshment provided. Call (888) 440-7325 to register. Free self-parking at Medical Bldg, South Lot.

Health screenings

Meijer is offering health screenings geared to uninsured or underinsured patients but anyone may attend, includes cholesterol testing (\$30) full lipid panel, liver function (\$15), fasting blood glucose (\$4), and hemoglobin A1C testing (\$30) includes A1C and fasting blood glucose test. Patients receive all test results within 15 minutes. Cholesterol or fasting blood glucose test patients must fast for at least 10 hours and 8 hours respectively but may take their medications in the morning. The other two tests do not require fasting. Clinic hours are 8 a.m. to noon, Feb. 27, March 27, April 24, May 22, and June 26, at 4200 Highland, Waterford, (248) 738-7833; March 22, April 19, May 17, and June 14, at 28800 Telegraph, Southfield, (248) 304-9533; March 15, April 12, May 10, and June 7, at 1703 Haggerty, Commerce Township, (248) 926-3133; March 6, April 3, May 1, May 29, and June 26, at 20401 Haggerty, Northville, (248) 449-5733; March 13, April 10, May 8, and June 12, at 6001 Highland, White Lake, (248) 889-6810; March 2, March 30, April 27, May 25, and June 22, at 49900 Grand River, Wixom, (248) 449-8533; March 16 at 1005 E. 13 Mile, Madison Heights, (248) 307-4910; March 20 at 900 N Lapeer Road, Oxford, (248) 236-8010, and March 28 at 3175 Rochester Road, Rochester Hills, (248) 853-2180, and 800 Brown, Auburn Hills, (248) 393-5110.

Arthritis Today

JOSEPH J. WEISS, M.D. RHEUMATOLOGY
18829 Farmington Road
Livonia, Michigan 48152
Phone: (248) 478-7860



WHAT ACHING ALL OVER MEANS

Aching in all your bones and joints has meaning to your doctor as it is a symptom of a limited number of conditions. The list includes viral infections, experiencing the after effects of prolonged and hard physical labor, fibromyalgia and polymyalgia rheumatica.

Another reason to ache all over is having arthritis of the knee or hip. The single joint arthritis disrupts your gait, and interferes with ability to arise from a chair, car or the commode. In time, the strain includes the other leg, the arms, back and torso.

What the conditions in this list have in common is that questioning and examining you can rule out any one of them as being likely or not. Each has distinct features. For example, polymyalgia identifies itself by the profound intensity of its ache, and that it occurs suddenly, at times, coming on overnight. In contrast, fibromyalgia is present for months or years, often presented in the past, then disappearing only to return again. Fatigue, sensitivity to touch, and fleeting migratory, but daily pain are its characteristics.

In some instances of aching all over, a simple treatment confirms the diagnosis. If the cause is a bad knee with a gait disturbance, injection of steroids into the knee will end the all over aching. The reason is not that the steroid is a miracle injection, but that return of normal walking relieves the strain on your whole body.

Don't be reluctant to say you ache all over. To your doctor that is a clue to your problem, not a distraction from it.

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Young volunteers needed for scholarship competition

Kohl's will reward nearly 1,600 kids nationwide for their volunteer efforts in 2007 by awarding more than \$200,000 in scholarships through its Kohl's Kids Who Care Scholarship Program.

Kids ages 6-18 are eligible for scholarships. To nominate a young volunteer, visit www.kohls.com/scholarship and submit nominations by March 15.

The rising cost of college tuition is no surprise, but the results of a recent study might be. Kohl's commissioned Impulse Research, a full-service public opinion and marketing research firm, to develop and conduct the study. The survey was conducted online with a random sample of 1,025 parents of children ages 6-18. The 2007 survey revealed that nearly 95 percent of parents consider the cost of college a concern, yet more than half are currently saving no money for their child's tuition.

To help cover the rising cost of

tuition, 75 percent of parents hope to tap into scholarship funds as a resource with a full 70 percent counting on scholarships to cover at least 25 percent of tuition costs.

Parallel to the rising cost of tuition is the rising trend of youth volunteerism in the U.S.

Whether they're donating time, fundraising or organizing benefits, young adults are tackling an endless list of community service opportunities.

Today's teens also find that community service is an important factor when considering college. According to the 2007 survey, more than 60 percent of parents are aware that volunteering can actually improve their child's likelihood for success in college admissions and 65 percent of families perform volunteer activities at least once a year.

Last year there were 12,000 nominations of great young volun-

teers for the Kohl's Kids Who Care Scholarship Program. This year two nominees from each of Kohl's more than 800 stores will win a \$50 Kohl's gift card. Store winners then compete for one of 170 regional scholarships worth \$1,000 toward post-secondary education.

Regional winners are then eligible for one of 10 national prizes worth \$5,000 toward post-secondary education. National winners also receive a \$1,000 donation to the charity of their choice courtesy of Kohl's. National winners will be announced in July.

The Kohl's Kids Who Care Scholarship Program is part of the company's Kohl's Cares for Kids program.

Special Kohl's Cares for Kids merchandise is sold year-round with 100 percent of the net profits funding children's health and education opportunities nationwide.

DETROIT SCHOOL REUNIONS

Detroit Coody Class of 1957

A 50th reunion at the Embassy Suites, Livonia Oct. 5, 2007. Cost is \$90 per person, complete with dinner, open bar, memory book, CD, champagne toast and much more. This invitation is to all 50s' graduates. Deadline is June 25. Call 800-859-9502 or email loreit@wideopenwest.com for details.

Detroit Cooley Classes of 1967, 1968

Reunion 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Sep. 29, 2007, at Laurel Manor, Livonia. Discounted tickets before March 1. Contact Dave Junquist at (810)667-9131. Website www.geocities.com/cooleyreunions67. All classmates are encouraged to register for inclusion in memory book at www.classreport.org/usa/mi/detroit/cooley/1967

Detroit Denby Class of 1957

A 50th reunion is planned for Sept. 7, 8, and 9, 2007, at the Thomas Edison Inn, Port Huron. Seeking lost graduates, January/June classes. If you are not yet on the mailing list, please email

maroonfowl@aol.com or call (248) 642-0249.

Detroit Girls Catholic Central Class of 1967

Searching for classmates of the class of 1967 for a 40th reunion this summer/fall. Contact Diane Kangas (Krok) at (586)446-9011 or Mary Mezzardi (Winowiecki) at mmezzardi@hotmail.com.

Detroit Henry Ford Class of 1967

A 40th reunion will be held 6:30-11:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 8, at Laurel Manor Special Event Center in Livonia. Seeking January, June and summer graduates from 1967. For information, call Ellen (Neihoff) VanderRoest at (248)684-7705 or email chuckandelvan@comcast.net.

Detroit Holy Redeemer Class of 1957

A 50-year reunion. Oct. 12, 2007, at O'Kelley KofC Council, Dearborn. In interested in attending or know the whereabouts of former classmates, contact John Duff at oliverlynn@aol.com or phone (734)261-3346.

Detroit Mackenzie Class of 1957

Looking for graduates to attend a reunion scheduled for Oct. 19, 2007. Call Eleanor at (734)425-8278.

BABY 2006



Alexia Fiona Cutler
Born August 11, 2006
Providence Hospital
Proud Parents:
Josh and Lisa Cutler
FARMINGTON HILLS



Jaxon Knight Ketterman
Born April 6, 2006
Beaumont Hospital
Proud Parents:
Curt and Michelle Ketterman
TROY



Emily Roswitha Telnors
Born January 22, 2006
Providence Hospital
Proud Parents:
Harry and Jodi Telnors
LIVONIA



Reed Joshua Schuyler
Born August 26, 2006
Beaumont Hospital
Proud Parents:
Josh and Amy Schuyler
BERKLEY



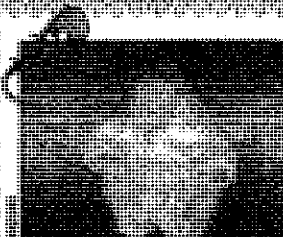
Malana Maria Mentier
Born March 3, 2006
Beaumont Hospital
Proud Parents:
Frank and Anna Mentier
ROCHESTER



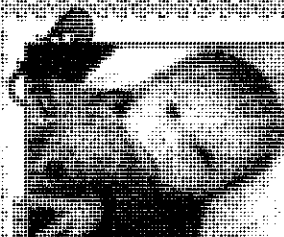
Owen Michael Pinta
Born April 11, 2006
Providence Hospital
Proud Parents:
Chris and Stephanie Pinta
LIVONIA



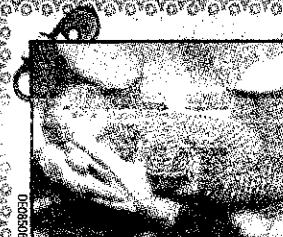
Emery Sage Stiteler
Born November 30, 2006
St. Joseph Mercy Hospital
Proud Parents:
Jake and Brienne Stiteler
PLYMOUTH



Jack Michael Diamond
Born December 30, 2006
Lutheran Hospital - Indiana
Proud Parents:
Michael and Susan Diamond
FORT WAYNE, INDIANA



Jack Michael Diamond
Born December 30, 2006
Lutheran Hospital - Indiana
Proud Parents:
Michael and Susan Diamond
FORT WAYNE, INDIANA



Eric Matthew Pate
Born November 5, 2006
Sinai-Grace Hospital
Proud Parents:
Sara Smith and Chris Pate
WESTLAND



Charlotte Grace Moon
Born April 26, 2006
St. Mary's Hospital
Proud Parents:
Jeff and Christina Moon
LIVONIA



Colin James Fidler
Born January 18, 2006
Lapeer Regional Medical Center
Proud Parents:
Jason and Laura Fidler
OXFORD



Amanda Pearl Hampton
Born September 8, 2006
St. Mary's Hospital
Proud Parents:
Lonnie and Rebecca Hampton
LIVONIA



Joseph Robert David Laird
Born July 11, 2006
Guatemala City Hospital
Proud Parents:
Todd and Deb Laird
CANTON



Sage Dianne Franko
Born March 29, 2006
Providence Hospital
Proud Parents:
Stefan and Keera Franko
REDFORD



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Grandma Messer of Canton \$50

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