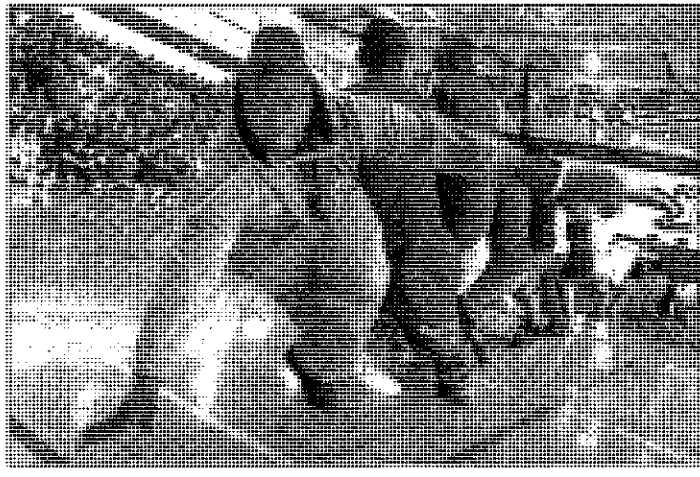




Nathan Byberg has plenty to smile about as Wayne Memorial's 2008 Cominghome King.



Sophomore Clentel McCoy helps his teammates to win a tug-of-war match during Wayne Memorial High School's 'Vegas, The City of Lights' Cominghome pep assembly.

Students pep it up for Cominghome

Who has the most spirit at Wayne Memorial High School? When it comes to last week's Cominghome, it was the juniors who did the best job of plastering their corner of the gym with Class of 2010 posters.

The announcement was only one of several made during a pep assembly. Activities included a slam duck and three-point contests, performances by the Step team and the JROTC Zebra Battalion's drill team perform.

The drill team wowed the audience with their precision work that included Joshua Fletcher, a sergeant first class, performing at the top of a three-step ladder, made of guns held by fellow cadets.

"They've been training for several years and put that together last week," said JROTC instructor Steve

LaHaine.

The classes also squared off in tug-of-war, with the final contest pitting the senior class against the staff. After finishing a dismal last in the spirit wall competition, the seniors proved they had the might to drag the teachers across the line to win the tug-of-war.

Drawing the loudest laughs was sumo wrestling that saw Principal John Albrecht — The Hall Sweep King — challenge teacher and football coach Keith Weber — The Touchdown King. The two men donned body suits and took to the mats in a three-match event that gave the title to Weber who managed to stay on his feet for two of the three events.

"He pulled me down the second time," said Weber, referring to Albrecht's second trip to the mats.

"It's really tiring out there," added Albrecht. "These suits are heavy."

Senior Nathan Byberg elected as Cominghome king. Members of the court included Jordan Dottor, Kenny Ester, D.J. Freeman and Jack Zimmerman.

The enthusiasm at the assembly bode well for Wayne Memorial which defeated Plymouth 83-62 on the basketball court.

— By Sue Mason

SENTENCE

FROM PAGE A1

in the door and demanded money that Shuford had received by selling a Chevrolet Suburban. Hicks ordered Neibert to find the cash even though Shuford wasn't at home.

(In an unrelated case, Shuford has since started serving 9-22 years in prison after pleading guilty to charges of armed robbery, felony firearms and briefly escaping from the Wayne County Jail.)

During Hicks' preliminary hearing, Neibert said he

couldn't find Shuford's money when Hicks barged in, and he said Hicks shot him in the left neck/shoulder area before fleeing. The other two intruders — including one who possibly saved Neibert's life by pushing Hicks' arm and deflecting a second shot — were never arrested, Heater said.

"A second shot was fired with the intent to finish the job," Heater said. "Hicks fired, but one of his associates pushed his hand away, really saving the victim's life. This was clearly a brutal crime that could have been a homicide."

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

Firefighters douse gas station fire

A fire erupted at a gas station at Cherry Hill and Newburgh after a driver lost control of his vehicle just before 6 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 30, Westland Fire Marshal

Chris Szpara said.

The driver had a mechanical problem with his 1989 Ford F-110 and hit a gas pump, causing a fire that also damaged his vehicle, Szpara said.

Firefighters responded quickly to the scene and extinguished the blaze, which occurred on a windy day. No one was injured. "It certainly could have been a lot worse," Szpara said.

QUO VADIS

FROM PAGE A1

drew thousands of hits from people near and far away.

"We put our heart and soul into it," Gurka said.

Nervous and feeling a little self-conscious in their sports jackets and ties, the teens went to a Westland Planning Commission meeting Tuesday night to try to convince city officials and the developers, Lake Bellaire Properties LLC, to spare the Quo Vadis. They took along another friend and Churchill student, 17-year-old Ryan Stevenson, to help them.

The teens lost their battle, but they're not bitter.

"They listened to us, and they were very kind to us," Gurka said. "We respect the developer,

and we don't have any hard feelings."

Gurka and Gizicki recall seeing movies at the six-screen Quo Vadis before it closed in 2002. They had hoped the theater could be restored and possibly used as a teen club or as a performing arts center for live bands and comedians.

The teens had hoped that, at least, the front part of the theater could be restored and incorporated into the fitness center's design. But they were told Tuesday that the building was in such disrepair that it must be demolished, possibly as early as spring.

Gurka and Gizicki chalked up their efforts as a learning experience.

"This is our first time getting involved in anything like this," Gizicki said. "We wanted to do something in our lives — some-

thing with meaning. We wanted to show that teenagers can get out and do something to help their community."

The teens plan to remain involved in community causes. Already, Gizicki has been involved in his school's environmental club, and Gurka has had some involvement in a school philosophy group.

Gurka has said that anyone who has comments or questions about the theater may send him an e-mail at don@savetheqv.org. He said developers have granted a wish to give the teens one last look inside the Quo Vadis to take pictures before it is demolished.

"It's the final chapter for the Quo Vadis," Gurka said, "but we want to take one last walk through."

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

THINKING ABOUT...
A NEW FURNACE?

LENNOX
Innovation never lets us go.

- Affordable Pricing
- 0% Financing Available
- Extended Warranties
- Quality Installation

(734) 525-1930

Our 33rd Year!
UNITED TEMPERATURE
8919 MIDDLEBELT • LIVONIA

ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN DAY SCHOOL

OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, February 10, 2008
2:00 to 5:00 pm
Kindergarten through 8th Grade

St. Peter's offers:

- A Christian based education
- Solid learning environment
- Smaller class sizes
- A long standing parochial school education program since 1947.

NOW ENROLLING FOR 2008/2009

Space is Limited! **PRESCHOOL ALSO AVAILABLE**
2, 3 and 4 Year Old Programs Available
Morning and Afternoon Sessions

1309 Penniman Avenue, Plymouth, MI 48170
734-453-0460

Call anytime to schedule a tour or visit our web site at www.stpeterslutheranplymouth.org



Over 30,000 Traditional Toys & Dolls!

ROLL FOR SAVINGS!

Roll The Die & Save 4 Times The Amount You Roll!

Save Up To 24% (Minimum 10% Savings)

playmobil Earns Automatic 20% Off!

Corolle Schleich Alexander BRIO

The Doll Hospital & Toy Soldier Shop
In stock items only. Cannot combine offers. Complete details and restrictions in-store. Ends 2/23/08
3947 W. 12 Mile Berkley 248-543-3115 Mon-Wed, Fri & Sat 10-5:30 Thurs 10-8:30, Closed Sunday

St. Michael's Parish presents
"ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT" LENTEN FISH FRY

Feb. 8, 15, 22, 29, March 7 & 14
4:30-7:00 pm

- Full Dinners, Expertly Prepared • Carry-out Available
- Choice of Hand-dipped Fried or Baked Cod

Adults: \$8 • Kids 3-11: \$4 • 3 & Under: FREE • Take Out Orders: \$7

11441 Hubbard Rd., S. of Plymouth Rd. • Livonia • 734-261-1455

Don't Miss The Dittrich Family's

Trade-In Event

Every Fur Sale Priced Plus,
Bring in your old fur (any age, style or condition)

Receive A Very Generous Trade-In Allowance Through Saturday

Dittrich
Since 1893
Satisfy Your Fantasy

Detroit • (313) 873-8300
Bloomfield Hills • (248) 642-3000
www.dittrichfurs.com

VOLUNTEER FOR CLINICAL RESEARCH

(DID YOU NOTICE U R MISSING?)

Visit **engage**, the University of Michigan's one-stop online clinical research connection where our researchers find you. It takes only minutes to register your information in our database. When there is a potential match with a clinical research project, you will be contacted to see if you would like to participate.



Go to www.UMengage.org to volunteer today.
1-877-5-engage

Investing, saving may be best use for government check

At a recent investment speech I gave, several people wanted to know my opinion about the economic stimulus package proposed by the president and Congress. Will it work and what should they do with their money?



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

I believe the American people are wiser than the government about their money. Whenever people get more money it generally is a good thing. That being said, there are some issues.

First, no agreement has been reached on the stimulus package. The Senate version is different than the one offered by the president. I am concerned about the "pork" that eventually will be added on to the bill. No matter who's in power, Democrats or Republicans, we all know how they love to spend our money.

I do believe that some economic stimulus package will be passed and a great majority of Americans will be getting money back from the government. It would like us to spend the money in order to stimulate the economy. However, even though that may be good for the economy as a whole that may not be what's good for you or me.

Those who have charge card balances should use the money to pay off debts. The majority of people who have charge card debt are paying 18 1/2 percent interest that is not tax-deductible.

For others, before rushing out and spending the money, consider investing the check. It is not too late to make a Roth IRA contribution for 2007.

Another option for the money you may receive is to your child's or grandchild's college education fund. Fees and tuition are going up as is the number of years it takes to complete a degree. When I went to college, the aver-

age student completed an undergraduate education in four years. In today's world, the average is closer to five years. The Michigan Education Savings Plan (MESPP) is a great way to save. It takes \$25 to open an account and in addition, you can deduct your contribution off your Michigan Income Tax Return. The MESPP is a noncommission investment and it has low management fees. To find out more about the MESPP, go to www.misaves.com.

Paying off debt, saving for your retirement or investing in your child's or grandchild's college education are better than spending the money. Although spending the money is good for the economy it may not be good for your individual situation. We live in a society where we are forced to take more responsibility when it comes to personal financial affairs so we need to take advantage of opportunities when they come along.

One side note, the low-lives in our society already are starting to prey on individuals with regard to these tax rebates. The IRS recently issued a warning that individuals are being contacted either by phone or e-mail requesting information so that they can send you your tax rebates. This is just another identity theft scam.

Never give sensitive information to anyone who claims by phone or e-mail they are with the IRS. The IRS does not correspond with taxpayers through e-mail. If you receive an e-mail claiming they are the IRS, it is bogus. On the other hand, the IRS does sometimes communicate through telephone; however, they do not initiate the contact. If you receive an unsolicited call from the IRS, hang up.

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

DEALS that will make your Heart Pound!

LG Shine
\$99.99*

Sony Ericsson
W580i
FREE!

FREE Activations - For a Limited Time!

BlackBerry
Curve
\$99.99*

Motorola V3
FREE*

AT&T Yahoo High Speed Internet

- Special -
\$100 Cash Back
with U-verse!!
TV Reinvented

- February Special -
Bring in this Coupon for
50% OFF
Any Accessory Purchase (Up to \$20 off)



Available only at:
31335 FORD RD.
(Corner of FORD & MERRIMAN)
(734) 421-8000

*Pricing after Mail In Rebate. A subscription to one of the current Messaging Packages or MEdia Bundles is required. Limited-time offer. Other conditions and restrictions apply. See contract and rate plan brochure for details. Subscriber must live and have a mailing address within AT&T's owned wireless network coverage area. Up to \$36 activation fee applies. Equipment price and availability may vary by market. Early Termination Fee: None if cancelled in the first 30 days; thereafter \$175. Some agents impose additional fees: sim card and restocking fees.

OE0857927

SOUTHERN SMOKE BBQ & GRILL

5926 Middlebelt • Garden City

Located next to Dollar Tree in the Kroger Complex

Hours: Mon.-Thurs 11 am-8pm; Fri.-Sat. 11am-9pm; Sun. Noon-8pm

CARRY OUT, CATERING, WE NOW DELIVER!

Call ahead for fast service!

734-525-1313



At Southern Smoke BBQ & Grill, we do things the old fashioned way. The first thing we do is we season the meats with a special blend of herbs and spices specifically designed for each kind of meat. Then we slow smoke our meats at low temperatures to ensure the most flavor and tenderness.

KIDS MENU

- Pulled Pork Sandwich.....\$4.99
- Fries & Pop
- 2 Bones, Fries & Pop.....\$4.99
- Hot Dog, Fries & Pop\$3.49
- Tenders, Fries, Pop.....\$4.99

FAMILY SIZED B.B.Q.

- Family dinner combos include choice of 4 side dishes and 1 dinner salad.
- Whole Slab and 4 Grilled Chicken Breasts.....\$34.99
 - 2 Slabs for Two\$37.99
 - BBQ Sampler for 4-6 People.....\$44.99

CHECK OUT OUR LENTON SPECIALS -
Fish Fry, Shrimp Baskets & More

February Special
\$4.00 off
Whole Slab
Ala Carte
\$12.99 After Discount
No Coupon Necessary

February Special
\$4.99
Pulled Pork
Sandwich
Add Fries & Pop for \$2.00
No Coupon Necessary

15% off
Any Order of \$30 or more
Save at least **\$4.50**
Valid with coupon only
Expires 3-15-08

Eating raw or undercooked food may lead to food borne illness.

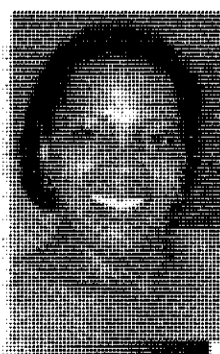
Mason's
Bedroom Savings
Brand-name Quality! Our Low Prices!
REAL SAVINGS OF 30%-60% ON ALL FLOOR SAMPLES

5 Piece Bedrooms
Made in the USA
From
\$1499

With 12 Months Same As Cash!
"We've Got The Good Stuff!"
QUALITY FURNITURE-GREAT PRICES
32104 Plymouth Rd. • Livonia
734-525-1737
Located Next to Bill Brown Ford

Mason
FAMILY
FURNITURE

Parkside DENTAL TEAM WE COME RECOMMENDED!



Deanna was so afraid of the dentist, that she lived with dental pain for years. My face would swell and my whole mouth would throb," she explains. "Then a visit to Parkside Dental Team changed my life."

"As soon as I met the doctors, I knew everything was going to be alright," Deanna continues. "For the first time ever, I actually looked forward to going to the dentist."

Deanna received crowns and bridges and used Dream Dentistry to alleviate her fears. "Parkside was the miracle I had been waiting for," she says. "I felt no pain and I was never afraid!"

Since her treatment, Deanna says her self-esteem has skyrocketed. "I no longer cover my mouth when I smile and I love being photographed! I haven't felt this good in 40 years!"

Deanna recommended Parkside Dental Team to all her family and friends and advises, "If you're suffering from dental pain, don't wait another minute. Give Parkside Dental Team a chance!"



BRAND NEW OFFICE!
36444 W. Warren Avenue
(313) 271-6160
www.parkside-dentalteam.com


Construction almost complete!




 You'll Love Our
Quality & Savings

FLORAL

VALENTINE ROSES \$21.99 dozen

| | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| Beautiful Michigan Crown TULIPS \$7.99 Bunch | Valentine BOUQUETS \$12.99 From | English DAFFODILS \$2.99 Bunch | Now Selling World Famous Boxed Godiva Chocolates  |
|--|---|--|--|

Order Your Valentine Arrangements

VALENTINE SPECIALS FEB. 14 THRU FEB. 17

Pink, Sparkling from Australia
 Fresh, Floral & Fruity
CHAMPAGNE \$10.99 ^{750 ml.}
 Reg. \$12.99
THE CHEESECAKE SHOPPE
 5" Heartshaped
 Cheesecake \$3.99

LOBSTER TAILS

| | |
|--------------|--|
| 4 Oz \$8.99 | 8 OZ \$12.99 |
| 6 Oz \$12.99 | COLD WATER LOBSTER TAIL ALSO AVAILABLE |
| 8 Oz \$16.99 | |

BLAZO'S PIE SHOPPE

Fresh 6" Strawberry Pie \$6.49
 Fruit Pies-All Flavors* \$10.99
 *Available Feb. 7th - 17th

DELI

Boar's Head Low Sodium "POLISH STYLE" **HAM** \$5.39 lb.
 Boar's Head **CAJUN STYLE ROAST BEEF** \$5.79 lb.
 Boar's Head **LACEY SWISS** \$5.79 lb.
 Black Eyed Pea **SALAD** \$4.99 lb. Reg. \$5.99
 Seafood **SALAD** \$6.99 lb. Reg. \$7.49
 Apricot Pecan **WILD RICE** \$6.99 lb. Reg. \$7.99
 All Dietz & Watson **MEATS** \$1.00 off
WINE/BEVERAGES
 Bell's **TWO HEARTED ALE** \$7.99 6 pk. + dep.

PRODUCE

Tall-N-Tender **ASPARAGUS** \$1.99 lb.
 Dole of California Leafy Bagged **ROMAINE** 2/\$4.00
 Crisp, Aunt Mid **CELERY HEARTS** 2/\$3.00
 Fresh, Aunt Mid **CLASSIC SPINACH** 99¢ bag
 Vine-Ripened **TOMATOES** 99¢ lb.

GROCERY/DAIRY

Post **BREAKFAST CEREAL** 2/\$5.00 13 oz
 your choice *Fruity Pebbles *Cocoa Pebbles
 Hidden Valley **RANCH DRESSING** 2/\$6.00 24 oz
 your choice *Light Original *Original *Buttermilk
 Welch **GRAPE JUICE** 2/\$5.00 64 oz
 your choice *100% Grape *White Grape
 Tropicana **Pure Premium ORANGE JUICE** 2/\$6.00 64 oz
 your choice *Original *Grovestand *with Calcium *Grovestand with Calcium
 Land O Lakes **Grade AA BUTTER** 2/\$5.00 1 Lb. 4's
 Regular Only
 All Bareman **MILK** \$2.89 Cal.
 Excluding Chocolate
 Ben & Jerry's **ICE CREAM** 2/\$6.00 Pint
 All Varieties

BUTCHER

GROUND SIRLOIN \$2.99 lb.
 Boneless **ENGLISH ROAST** \$2.99 lb.
 Usda Choice **T-BONE STEAK** \$8.99 lb.
 Usda Choice **PORTERHOUSE STEAK** \$9.99 lb.

SEAFOOD

CATFISH \$4.99 lb.
ORGANIC SHRIMP \$6.99 20 oz bag
 4 Varieties 
ATLANTIC COD \$6.99 lb.
 Pineapple Teriyaki **SALMON FILETS** \$8.99 lb.

Fifteen wines for under \$15

 www.WestbornMarket.com

Watch For Our Lenten Specials
 Congratulations to Alec J, 6-Year-Old of Redford.
 Winner of our Goldfish Contest.
 Call 734-524-1000
 Ask for Bob in Seafood

Specials valid in Livonia only!

LIVONIA 14925 Middlebelt 734-524-1000
BERKLEY Woodward & 11 Mile 248-547-1000
DEARBORN Michigan Ave. & Oakwood 313-274-6100
 Store Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8:30-8; Sat. 8-8; Sun. 8-7

Prices Valid February 7th through February 17th excluding holidays specials



Thinking of that Someone Special?
Come into Joe's for a wide selection of Valentines Day goodies and flowers. Sure to fit every budget.
Valentines Day Roses starting at \$17.99
Valentines Day Bouquets starting at \$8.99

Joe's Catering & Special Events! Introducing professional, full service catering for all occasions! Call Laura Livingston our event coordinator for fresh ideas, custom menus & more information at 248-477-4333

Joe's Valentines Specials!

Broccoli Crowns 99¢ lb.

Jumbo Crisp and Sweet Thompson Seedless Grapes \$1.99 lb. Save \$2.00 a Pound

Fresh All Green Asparagus \$1.99 lb.

Jumbo Crisp and Sweet Flame Seedless Grapes \$1.99 lb. Save \$2.00 a Pound

Roma Tomatoes 89¢ lb.

Billy Bee Organic Honey 2/\$6.00

Dole Golden Ripe Whole Pineapples \$3.99 each

Florida Sun Ripe Grape Tomatoes 2/\$3.00

Driscoll's Crisp and Sweet Blueberries 2/\$4.00

Delallo Artichoke Hearts 2/\$3.00 6oz. jar

Manchego Aged 6 months cheese \$14.99 lb.
Tiger Cheese \$4.99 lb.

Boarshead Black Forest Ham \$5.99 lb.
Honey Maple Turkey \$6.99 lb.
Co Jack Cheese \$5.99 lb.

Joe's Sweetheart Fruit Kabobs w/drizzled pink chocolate \$1.29 each

Dietz & Watson Black Forest Smoked Turkey \$6.99 lb.
Corned Beef \$6.99 lb.
Garlic Cheddar \$5.99 lb.

Joe's Tuna Salad \$5.99 lb.

Lindeman's Framboise Lambic Belgian Framboise Beer \$10.99 + deposit
Delicate Sparkling Beer w/Raspberry infusion. Great with Chocolate Desserts!

Peachy Canyon "Incredible Red" Zinfandel Paso Robles 05' \$13.99
Quiet pepper notes w/ rich dark berries. The Perfect Foodie Wine

Gruet Brut Sparkling Valentines Day Specialty \$16.99
Crisp Green Apple, Classic Champenoise Style "This is Special!"

Cirque du Vin-Paso Robles 05' \$17.99
A mischievous blend of Cabernet, Petite Sirah, Merlot, Syrah & Cab. Franc

Florent DeBrie Rose 'D'anjou 06' Raspberry & Strawberry on the nose. Fresh & Clean Finish \$11.99

Hot Lent Specials! Every Friday

Joe's Salmon Patties \$4.99 each

"Love Birds to Go" Pair of Cornish Hens \$9.99

Joe's Pineapple Ginger Salmon \$14.99 lb.

Joe's Crab Cakes \$3.99 each

Select your own unique Box of Truffles

Romanticize with the freshest Chocolate Dipped Strawberries

Jumbo Valentines Cookies \$7.99 each
Call and personalize your message today.

Mini Cupcakes \$3.99 12 ct.
Petit Fours, Heart Brownies & Heart Rice Crispies priced as marked

Assorted Chocolates and Candies available for your Valentine. Hammonds Handmade Candies, Sanders, Madelines Chocolates

Enriched Rice Dream \$2.99 64 oz. Super Sale!!

Edys Ice Cream 2/\$7.00 All Flavors

Demings Red Sockeye Salmon \$2.99 14 1/2 oz. cans "Hot Sale"

Sargento Sliced Cheeses 2/\$4.00 All Varieties

Delallo Organic Pastas 2/\$4.00 All Varieties

Byrds Choice Meats

"Lent Specials"

| | |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Orange Roughy Fillets..... | \$6.99 lb. |
| Salmon Fillets..... | \$6.89 lb. |
| Catfish Fillets..... | \$3.99 lb. |
| Cod Fillets..... | \$6.89 lb. |
| Large Cooked Shrimp..... | \$6.19 lb. |
| Tilapia Fillets..... | \$3.29 lb. |

Meat Lovers Special

Choice Boneless Sirloin Steak.....only \$6.98 lb.

248-478-8680 • 33066 W. Seven Mile Walking distance from Joe's!
Byrds Hours: Mon-Sat 9am-7pm • Sun 9-5

Get Heart Healthy & Stop By Joe's and pick up your fresh fruits & vegetables. Eating more produce reduces the risks of heart disease & high blood pressure.

Prices Good Through 2/14/08
JOE'S PRODUCE

33152 W. Seven Mile • Livonia
(248) 477-4333

www.joesproduce.com

Joe's Hours:
Mon-Sat 9-8
Sun 9-5

SPORTS

B (LW)

Thursday, February 7, 2008

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

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

www.hometownlife.com

Ladywood reaches another Catholic League final

BY BRAD EMMONS
STAFF WRITER

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Baskets were hard to come by Saturday afternoon as Livonia Ladywood clawed its way to a 37-28 Catholic League Central Division girls basketball win over rival Farmington Hills Mercy.

The Blazers, who beat Mercy for the third straight time this year, improved to 15-2 overall with the semifinal playoff triumph at Novi-Detroit Catholic Central.

The victory also puts Ladywood, winner of 15 straight, in another Catholic

League championship game beginning at 4 p.m. Sunday at the University of Detroit Mercy's Calihan Hall.

Ladywood will be gunning for its third straight Catholic League title against Birmingham Marian, which advanced with a 49-37 semifinal victory against Dearborn Divine Child.

Six-foot-1 senior center Alex Serowoky, bound for Lafayette (Pa.) College, led the Blazers with 14 points. Senior forward Alison Szczypka added 10.

Ladywood had already posted 50-21 and 37-29 victories this season over the Marlins, who slipped to 10-7 overall. But this victory didn't come easily.

The Blazers shot a respectable 41.6 percent from the floor (15-of-36), but committed 21 turnovers and made just 4-of-9 foul shots.

Mercy, however, took only 23 shots from the field, making nine, but stayed in the game by connecting on five 3-pointers. The Marlins had a total of 29 turnovers and shot 4-of-10 from the free throw stripe.

"You don't get a lot of easy shots because we know each

other so well and that makes it hard to execute," Ladywood coach Andrea Gorski said. "I think 36 shots is a low for us. But the difference in the game is that we took more shots than they did."

"We never got into a flow offensively. Mercy did a great job of trapping. It made us timid. We did not take care of the ball and it kept us off-balance."

The two rivals were deadlocked at 9-9 after one quarter before Ladywood outscored the Marlins 14-7 in the second thanks to a triple by Alison Szczypka and Courtney

LaValley.

Mercy pulled to within three points, 25-22, on a basket by Tracy Whalen with 3:39 left in the quarter, but could get no closer.

In the fourth quarter, the Marlins shaved the deficit to 32-28 with 4:22 to go on a triple by Tori Posa, but Ladywood's Jenna Anastos answered with a big shot from the wing with 2:34 remaining to give the Blazers a six-point cushion.

"When it was 25-22 there were several possessions where

Please see **LADYWOOD, B2**

Saints knock off MU for first place in WHAC, 75-55

Too many 3-point field goals by Aquinas and cold shooting from the floor added up to a 20-point loss for the Madonna University men's basketball team Saturday in Grand Rapids, a 75-55 final in a battle for first place.

With the loss Madonna fell to 14-11 overall and 6-3 in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference, while 16th-ranked Aquinas improved to 19-6 overall and slid into first place alone at 7-2.

MEN'S BASKETBALL After taking a brief 3-2 lead on a triple by D.J. Bridges (Canton),

MU never led again and saw Aquinas knock down eight first-half 3-pointers and take a 45-28 lead into the locker room.

The Saints shot 60 percent from the floor in the opening 20 minutes to just 36 percent for the Crusaders.

Jordan Torres paced the Saints with 18 points, while Jeff Wierzbicki and John Lierman each contributed 16. Lierman also grabbed nine rebounds for the Saints, who led by as many as 27 points in the second half.

Jon Battle (Cleveland, Ohio) led the MU side with 20 points, while Bridges and Cedric Sims (Canton) each added 10.

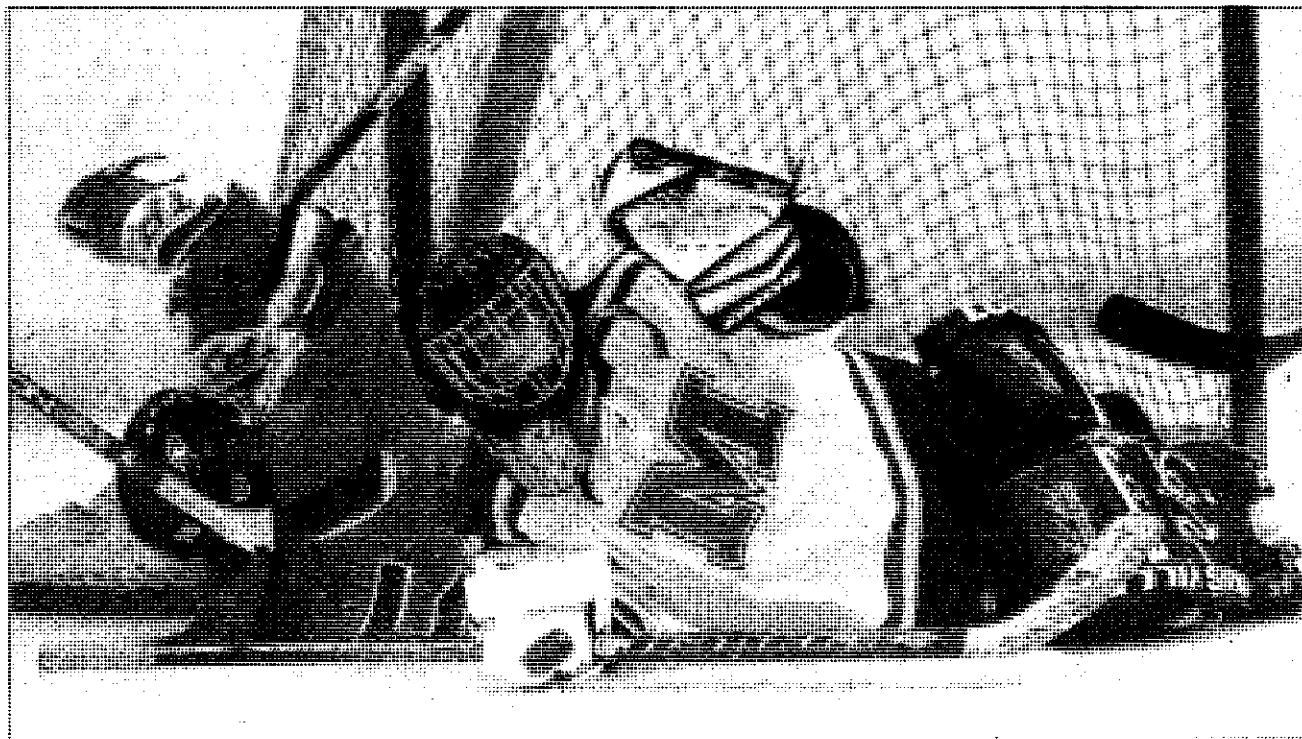
MACOMB CC BS, SCHOOLCRAFT 63: In an MCCA Eastern Conference game Saturday, host Schoolcraft College (2-18, 2-9) dropped its 12th straight game against Macomb Community College (10-10, 6-5).

Anthony Wafer tallied 18 of his 21 in the second half for the Ocelots, who trailed 47-21 at intermission.

Teammate Namer Dudley scored 13 and hauled down 10 rebounds. Ryan Matthews and Eric Henry added nine and eight points, respectively.

Five scored in double figures for Macomb, led by Mark Walker's 17 points.

Others in double figures included Todd Phromm, 13; Deonte Mason, 11; and Cody Edwards and Alan Greason, 10 each.



Mercy goalie Alessi Nehr blocks a shot as Ladywood's Abby Kienbaum crashes into her during Tuesday night's Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League game at Livonia's Edgar Arena.

TOM HOFFMEYER STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Dynamic duo keys Blazers' triumph

BY BRAD EMMONS
STAFF WRITER

Heather Sartorius and Abby Kienbaum proved to be a valuable one-two punch Tuesday.

Livonia Ladywood broke open a close game with four goals in the final period — including three within a 40-second span — to subdue Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League rival Farmington Hills Mercy, 6-2, at Livonia's Edgar Arena.

Sartorius and Kienbaum each finished with a hat trick and two assists. Ladywood, 10-7-1 overall and 10-5 in Division 1 of the Michigan Metro,

was clinging to a 2-1 advantage heading into the final period.

"I was proud of the way they (Sartorius and Kienbaum) came out in the third period and took the game over," Ladywood coach Bruce Peck said.

Emann Freij and Maria Rotondo also drew assists for the Blazers, who outshot Mercy 30-19.

Maura Malone scored both goals for the Marlins, 9-6-1 in Division 2 of the Michigan Metro.

Ladywood goaltender Michelle Wyniemko made 21 saves, while Mercy counterpart Alessi Nehr had 24 stops.

G.P. SOUTH 6, LADYWOOD 1: On Saturday, Erin Shook and Alex Rentz each tallied a pair of goals as Grosse Pointe South (13-0-1 Division 1) took over sole possession of first place in the MMGSHSL with a triumph over Livonia Ladywood (9-7-1, 9-5) at Plymouth's Arctic Pond.

Shook, Kelsey Burgess and Emma Hull each scored a power-play goal, while Rentz had a shorthanded effort.

It was 2-0 after one period and 6-0 after two.

Heather Sartorius' power-play goal with only 13 seconds remaining in the final period spoiled the shutout bid of Blue Devils goaltender C.J. Jarboe, who made 15 saves.

Ladywood netminder Michelle Wyniemko made 20 saves.

Patriot power

Franklin sinks Vikings in WLAA playoff opener

Livonia Franklin overcame a sluggish start on Senior Night to record its ninth straight girls basketball win with a 49-43 triumph over visiting Walled Lake Central in the opening round of the Western Lakes Activities Association playoffs.

Franklin (15-3) travels to face top seed Salem in the semifinals at 7 p.m. Friday.

The Patriots trailed 40-39 late in the fourth quarter before going on a 10-4 run to end the game. The Vikings kept it close by hitting 6-of-6 free throws in the final quarter.

"We did not panic, we kept our composure and protected the ball well," Franklin first-year coach Dave McCall said.

Junior twins Brianna and Brittany Taylor scored 18 and 15 points, respectively, to lead the Patriots. Brittany also grabbed 14 rebounds, while Brianna hauled down 11.

Senior center Ashley Price chipped in with 10 points for Franklin, which made only 15-of-29 foul shots.

Central (9-9) got a game-high 23 points from Brooke Gustafson, who nailed six of the Vikings' nine triples. Kelly Costello added

WLAA GIRLS BASKETBALL

10 points, including a pair of treys.

W.L. WESTERN 45, CHURCHILL 31: Walled Lake Western (16-2) used an efficient offense and stingy defense Tuesday to beat visiting Livonia Churchill in a first-round WLAA playoff game.

Chelsea Hunter paced a balanced scoring attack for the Western Division champions with 10 points. Churchill senior Chelsea Manasian led all scorers with 14.

"They are so patient, they never force any bad shots," Churchill first-year coach Chad Jenkins said of the Warriors. "They move and move it (the ball). And defensively they're relentless. They keep pressuring and pressuring, which led to some easy baskets. They just wear you down."

JOHN GLENN 36, CANTON 28: On Tuesday, Chanel Payne and Brittany Holbrook each tallied 11 points as Westland John Glenn (7-11) downed the visiting Chiefs (4-14) in a WLAA crossover. Baylee Hollowell scored 10 for Canton, which couldn't overcome a 24-12 halftime deficit.

STEVENSON 41, WAYNE 35: Kaylee McGrath and Sarah Smith each scored 11 points Tuesday as host Livonia Stevenson (4-14) broke a 13-game losing streak with a win over Wayne Memorial (3-14) in a WLAA crossover.

Stevenson outscored Wayne 13-6 in

the decisive fourth quarter.

McGrath grabbed 11 rebounds, while Smith went 8-for-8 from the line.

The Zebras played without leading scorer Trenia Barbee. The Henderson (Ark.) State signee was out with a knee injury.

Nastassia Goines led Wayne with 14 points. Chelsea Davis chipped in with nine, while junior center Wendi Foster had six points and 11 rebounds.

Wayne was 6-of-19 from the foul line, while Stevenson hit 14-of-29.

SALEM 57, STEVENSON 38: Alaya Mitchell scored 19 and Chelsea Davis added 10 Monday to lead the WLAA Lakes Division champion Rocks (15-2, 10-0) past visiting Livonia Stevenson (3-14, 0-10).

Kaylee McGrath scored seven points for the Spartans, who trailed 36-15 at intermission.

FRANKLIN 49, NORTHVILLE 28: Livonia Franklin (14-3, 8-2) turned in a stellar defensive effort Saturday afternoon and wrapped up the No. 2 seed in the Western Division of the WLAA playoffs with a win over the host Mustangs (10-7, 6-4).

Junior Brianna Taylor paced the Patriots, who led 26-11 at halftime, with 20 points, eight rebounds and six steals.

Twin sister Brittany Taylor added 10 points and six rebounds, while Allison Trostell finished with six points as Franklin captured its eighth straight.

Erin Hughes led Northville with six points.

Chargers stop Glenn to secure playoff bid

BY BRAD EMMONS
STAFF WRITER

The Livonia Churchill girls basketball team made the cut Saturday, roaring into the upcoming Western Lakes Activities Association playoffs with a convincing 42-26 win at home over Westland John Glenn.

The Chargers, under first-year coach Chad Jenkins, improved to 6-11 overall and earned the fourth seed in the Lakes Division with a 4-6 record.

Darcy DeRoo and Chelsea Manasian each scored 12 points for Churchill, while junior point guard Lindsey Graciak chipped in with six points.

Glenn, eliminated from playoff contention, fell to 6-11 and 3-7.

The Rockets captured the first meeting Jan. 15 between the two teams by a 49-38 count, but Churchill controlled the rematch from start to finish. In that game, Glenn center Brittany Holbrook fueled a 26-13 fourth-quarter run with 13 of her 16 points.

But the Chargers put the clamps on the 6-foot-1 junior and roared out to a 29-16 halftime lead.

"The last time we got in trouble when we matched up with them man-to-man (defensively), they penetrated into the lane and were able to get the ball into the post," Jenkins said. "Our goal was to force them into jump shots and not allow Holbrook as many touches. I thought we also did a good job on the weak side boards and keeping her (Holbrook) from getting second shots."

Glenn did not have a player score in double figures as Nyah McReynolds finished with six and Brittany Brown added five.

"We knew offensively that we had to attack the middle of the floor, make hard cuts and get ball reversal," Jenkins said. "Our girls did a good job finding the lane and getting reversals. We had good ball movement and did a good job of spacing. Our girls played hard."

Saginaw

Mat Spartans 2nd

Seven wrestlers went undefeated on the day Saturday as Livonia Stevenson finished 4-1 in the Okemos Invitational.

In the opening round, Stevenson fell to DeWitt in a 30-30 tiebreaker before going on to beat Eaton Rapids (60-15), Birmingham Groves (75-3), Saginaw Arthur Hill (51-20) and Okemos (69-6).

Going unbeaten for the Spartans were Michael Fobar, 112 pounds; Tommy Myshock, 125; Anthony Mainella, 135; Raz Markosian, 145; Ziad Kharbush, 160; Emanuel Onwuemene, 189; and Matt Greenman, 215.

Austin Micallef (285) and Mitchell Gonzales (130) each finished 4-1 on the day as the Spartans improved to 18-9 overall.

Blazer skiers 3rd

The unified team of Livonia Ladywood and Bloomfield Hills Academy of the Sacred Heart finished third in Monday's Catholic League Downhill Ski Championships held at Alpine Valley.

Pontiac Notre Dame Prep took the team title with 26 points followed by Birmingham Marian, 90; Ladywood-Sacred Heart, 111; Flint Powers Catholic and Farmington Hills Mercy, 119 each.

In the slalom, Ladywood-Sacred Heart's Amanda Waske was fifth with a combined two-time trial run of 45.51 seconds. Teammate Shannon Corby took ninth in 46.81.

In the giant slalom, Corby took fifth in 38.81.

Baseball signup

The Wayne-Ford Civic League will begin baseball registration for youths ages 4-10 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 9, at the Civic League hall, located at 1645 N. Wayne Road, Westland.

Registration fees are \$65 for T-ball and Coach-Pitch leagues; \$80 for Mustang League.

Registration will continue each Saturday until teams are full.

For more information, call (734) 728-5010; or e-mail Vic Barra at vbarra@comcast.net.

LJAL hoop signup

Registration for Livonia Junior Athletic League Senior Varsity basketball for boys and girls in grades 9-11 will be from 10 a.m. until noon, Saturday, Feb. 9, at the Frost Middle School cafeteria.

Registration is open to residents of the City of Livonia or those who reside within the Livonia Public Schools District.

The cost is \$115 per player. Registration forms will be available on Feb. 9 and online at www.ljal.com.

For more information, e-mail basketball@ljal.com.

THE WEEK AHEAD

BOYS BASKETBALL
Thursday, Feb. 7
Churchill at Franklin, 7 p.m.
Stevenson at Wayne, 7 p.m.
John Glenn at Northville, 7 p.m.
Clarenceville at Harper Woods, 7 p.m.
Canton Agape at Huron Valley, 7 p.m.
(Metro Conference Playoffs)
Luth. Westland at Clawson, 7 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 8
Canton at Stevenson, 5:30 p.m.
Churchill at Plymouth, 7 p.m.
Luth. Westland at Light & Life, 7 p.m.
Ypsi Calvary at Huron Valley, 7 p.m.
GIRLS BASKETBALL
Friday, Feb. 8
Huron Valley at Ypsi Calvary, 5:30 p.m.
Stevenson at John Glenn, 7 p.m.
Canton at Wayne, 7 p.m.
Churchill at Northville, 7 p.m.
(Western Lakes Semifinals)
Franklin at Salem, 7 p.m.
W.L. Northern at W.L. Western, 7 p.m.
PREP HOCKEY
Thursday, Feb. 7
(Michigan H.S. Showcase at Trenton)
Churchill vs. Farmington
at Kennedy Arena (Main Rink), 6 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 8
Ladywood vs. Bloomfield
at Southfield Ice Arena, 4 p.m.
Franklin vs. Plymouth
at Compuware Arena, 7 p.m.
(Michigan H.S. Showcase at Trenton)
Stevenson vs. Novi-Detroit CC
at Kennedy Arena (Main Rink), 8 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 9
Ladywood vs. Ann Arbor
at Plymouth's Arctic Pond, 6 p.m.
Franklin at Taylor Unified, 7:30 p.m.
(Michigan H.S. Showcase at Trenton)
Stevenson vs. Trenton (Main Rink), 4:40 p.m.
Churchill vs. Cranbrook (Teller Rink), 6 p.m.
PREP WRESTLING
Thursday, Feb. 7
Clarenceville at Lutheran N'west, 6 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 9
W.L.A. Tourney at Churchill, 9 a.m.
Metro Conference Tournament
at Lutheran Westland, 10 a.m.
BOYS SWIMMING & DIVING
Thursday, Feb. 7
Salem at Churchill, 7 p.m.
Canton at Franklin, 7 p.m.
W.L. Northern at Stevenson, 7 p.m.
John Glenn at W.L. Central, 7 p.m.
W.L. Western at Wayne, 7 p.m.
GIRLS GYMNASTICS
Saturday, Feb. 9
Canton Invitational, 10 a.m.
PREP BOWLING
Thursday, Feb. 7 (at Novi Lanes)
Wayne vs. Northville, 3:30 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 9 (at Sterling Lanes)
Utica Eisenhower Doubles Tourney, 8 a.m.
PREP SKIING
Thursday, Feb. 7
Divisional Championships at Alpine Valley, TBA.
COMPETITIVE CHEER
Saturday, Feb. 9
PR Cheer Tournament, TBA.
MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Saturday, Feb. 9
Cornerstone at Madonna, 3 p.m.
Flint Mott CC at Schoolcraft, 3 p.m.
WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
Saturday, Feb. 9
Madonna at Cornerstone, 1 p.m.
Flint Mott CC at Schoolcraft, 1 p.m.
ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE
Friday, Feb. 8
Whalers at Ottawa Generals, 7:05 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 9
Whalers at Belleville Bulls, 7:15 p.m.
Sunday, Feb. 10
Whalers at Kingston Frontenacs, 2 p.m.
TBA - time to be announced.

Anderson fuels Rockets' win; Zebras cage Wildcats, 83-62

Junior guard Austin Anderson scored a career-high 24 points and dished out eight assists Tuesday as Westland John Glenn cruised to a 70-56 boys basketball victory over visiting Walled Lake Western. Senior forward Earl Hardison contributed 18 points for the 15-1 Rockets, who bolted out to a 19-8 first-quarter lead. Senior point-guard Keshawn Martin added 14 points, while senior forward Stefan Marken grabbed a team-high nine rebounds on Senior Night. Edison Vushaj (16) and Quintin Cooper (14) paced the Warriors (8-8) in scoring. Glenn continued its hot foul shooting (20-of-26) while Western made only 11-of-22. WAYNE 83, PLYMOUTH 62: Senior guard Mike Lee's game-high 22 points led a balanced scoring attack Monday as host Wayne Memorial

WLAA BOYS BASKETBALL

(13-2, 10-0), the WLAA-Western Division champion, pulled away in the second half to best the Wildcats (4-11, 3-7). Also scoring in double figures for the Zebras were Robert Woodson (16), Martez Abney (11) and Matt Lewis (11). Senior forward Navraj Sandhu led Plymouth with 16 points. Brandon Roberts chipped in with 11. Wayne was 12-of-15 from the foul line, while Plymouth was 6-of-11. SALEM 62, STEVENSON 49: Grant Stone's 22 points carried the Rockets (8-7, 6-4) to the WLAA-Lakes Division triumph Monday over Livonia Stevenson (5-10, 3-7). Ross Davis added 19 for Salem, which wrapped up the third seed in the Lakes Division for the upcoming WLAA playoffs. Bobby Naubert scored a game-high 13 for the Spartans, who were eliminated from the playoffs.

Matt Harris added eight. Salem made 20-of-24 foul shots, while Stevenson hit 6-of-10. W.L. NORTHERN 76, FRANKLIN 72: The sophomore trio of Leroy Jackson, Marshall Harris and Brian Johnston led Walled Lake Northern (2-14) in scoring with 17, 16 and 15 points, respectively, in a WLAA crossover win Monday over visiting Livonia Franklin (4-12). Senior captain Tim Ferenc made it four in double figures with 14 points, which included eight free throws down the stretch; he was 8-of-9 at the foul line. Ferenc also had nine steals and seven assists; Johnston had seven rebounds. Franklin's Jeff Poole scored a game-high 27 points; Ryan Matthey tossed in 14; and Israel Woolfork seven. The Patriots were 15-of-26 shooting free throws, and they also had 26 turnovers to Northern's 10. JOHN GLENN 52, CHURCHILL 40: Despite having its top scorer and rebound-

er Ryan Rosenick out of the lineup with the flu, Livonia Churchill (9-6, 6-4) put up another battle Saturday before succumbing to WLAA-Lakes Division boys basketball champion Westland John Glenn (14-1, 10-0) in a make-up from Friday's snow day. Senior forward Stefan Marken led state-ranked Glenn with a game-high 23 points. Senior forward Earl Hardison chipped in with 17 points, including 8-of-9 from the foul line, to go along with nine rebounds and six assists. Churchill trailed 30-18 at halftime and 35-23 after three quarters before pulling within three in the final period. Junior guard Ryan Woods led the Chargers, now 9-6 overall and 6-4 in the division, with 13 points. Andrew Vagnetti contributed 10. "The kids played hard, they played well and I'm proud of the effort - it was solid," said Churchill coach Jim Solak, who was also missing reserve guard Billy Gutowski. "Playing them

(Glenn) is tough enough, but playing them short-handed is even tougher. But we have no excuses. They (Glenn) are a good team. We just couldn't make a play down the stretch." Glenn made 11-of-13 free throws, while Churchill hit 4-of-6. NORTHVILLE 67, FRANKLIN 48: Greg Hasse scored 16 points and Kyle Asher added 12 Saturday as the host Mustangs (9-6, 7-3) knocked Livonia Franklin (4-11, 3-7) out of the WLAA playoff picture. Franklin and Plymouth tied for the fourth and final playoff berth in the Western Division, but the Wildcats won the tiebreaker based on a victory over No. 3 seed Walled Lake Western. "Northville has a great team, we had trouble scoring against their zone and had difficulty getting to the rim," said Franklin coach Jeremy Rheault, whose Patriots fell behind 26-9 after one quarter. Jeff Poole scored 12 for the Patriots, who made 12-of-21 free throws.

Blazers win 16th in row, 62-33 over Monroe St. Mary

Two contrasting styles collided Tuesday with host Livonia Ladywood getting the best of Monroe St. Mary Catholic Central, 62-33, in a girls basketball encounter. The Blazers, ranked No. 2 in the latest Class A statewide poll, won their 16th straight to improve to 16-2 overall. The loss drops St. Mary CC, which has won 48 straight in the Huron League, to 12-5. Ladywood started slowly against the high-paced Kestrels, who play a Loyola Marymount style of shooting countless triples. The Blazers led 12-6 after one quarter, but took control with a 21-7 second-period surge. "We talked about how we play and we're not used playing teams where they send all five players to the three-point line in transition," said Ladywood coach Andrea Gorski, who team made 25-of-52 field goal tries (48 percent). "We were able to adjust our defense after we got off to a slow start."

GIRLS BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

Jenna Anastos' 14 points paced a balanced Ladywood scoring attack. Caitlin Szczyzka added 10 points and nine rebounds. Alex Serowky added seven points and nine rebounds. Kaitlyn Vitale also scored seven points. Nicole Boggs tallied 13 to lead the Kestrels, who shot only 16 percent from the floor (10-of-61, including 5-of-38 from three-point range). HURON VALLEY 40, AGAPE 38: Katie Kipfmiller's rebound lay-up with less than a minute remaining propelled host Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (11-6, 7-1) to the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference-Red Division win over Canton Agape Christian (4-9, 2-5). "We played the best first half of the year and the worst second half of the year," said Huron Valley Lutheran coach Eric Ruth, whose team led 25-15 at halftime before being outscored 21-6 in the third quarter. Nicole Schaffer led the victorious Hawks, who outscored Agape

8-4 in the final period, with 14 points. Kipfmiller added 11, while Lauren Adlof pulled down 14 rebounds, including eight on the offensive end. Eighth-grader Ayanna Martin pace Agape and all scorers with 21 points. LUTHERAN N'WEST 44, LUTH. WESTLAND 33: Lutheran High Westland (11-5) couldn't overcome a 19-9 first-quarter deficit Monday night in suffering a first-round Metro Conference playoff setback to visiting Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest (8-8). Northwest averaged a 35-34 setback to the Warriors on Jan. 8. Cayla VanGorden and Sarah MacCourtney paced the victorious Crusaders with 13 and 10 points, respectively. Juniors Allyson Yankee and Becca Refenes each scored 10 for the Warriors. Refenes also pulled down 12 rebounds. The Warriors, who trailed 23-19 at halftime, made only 1-of-9 field goal tries in the third quarter while being outscored 7-3. For the game, Lutheran Westland was 13-of-44. "They (Northwest) played a triangle-and-two again," said Lutheran Westland coach Kevin Wade, whose team made only 13-

of-44 shots from the floor and 4-of-11 free throws. "We had good looks at the free throw line and elbow, but we just couldn't convert." KINGSWOOD 46, CLARENCEVILLE 32: Christine Vlastic pumped in a game-high 18 points and Abby Cohen pitched in with 11 Monday as Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook-Kingswood (12-6) downed visiting Livonia Clarenceville (7-10) in a first-round Metro Conference playoff game. Amanda Moody led the Trojans with 17 points, while Ashley Hall added seven. Junior varsity coach Brady Gustafson took over the varsity coaching reins from Julie Patterson, who on Saturday delivered her first child, a girl Kaitlyn-Lindsay, which weighed 7 pounds, 5 ounces. HURON VALLEY 38, MACOMB CHRISTIAN 30: Lauren Adlof scored 17 points and Katie Kipfmiller contributed 13 Saturday as Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (10-6, 6-1) rallied in her second half to beat Warren Macomb Christian (10-5, 4-1) in an MIAC-Red Division game. Kara Tucker scored a team-high 11 for the Crusaders, who led 19-14 at halftime before being outscored 24-11 over the final 16 minutes. Macomb Christian was 10-of-

25 from the foul line, while Huron Valley made 8-of-12. LUTHERAN WESTLAND 52, INTER-CITY 24: Lutheran High Westland (11-4) came on strong during the second half Saturday to win a non-conference game at Allen Park Inter-City Baptist (7-7). Allyson Yankee, a junior guard, led the Warriors with 16 points and six assists. Junior center Becca Refenes chipped in with 15 points and 14 rebounds. Myrian Storck, Katey Ramthun and Rachel Storck contributed six points apiece for the Warriors, who led 21-14 at intermission before blowing it open with a 31-10 second-half run. Amanda Ison scored eight for the Chargers, who shot only 4-of-31 from the floor. The Warriors were 19-of-44 from the field and 14-of-21 from the foul line. "After a slow first half we picked up our defensive intensity and were able to force them into long jump shots and turnovers," Lutheran Westland coach Kevin Wade said. "Offensively, our execution became more precise and we were able to take advantage of our size. Our ball movement was faster and it was just a much better played second half."

BOYS SWIM RESULTS

WAYNE MEMORIAL 100, JOHN GLENN 58
Feb. 5 at Wayne
200-yard medley relay: 1. Wayne (Steven Ogg, Adam Karson, Jordan Holland, Kevin Erdmann), 1:51.67; 2. John Glenn (Billy Lyons, Dennis Knight, Cody Roe, Paul Gutu), 2:05.99.
200 freestyle: 1. Jacob Barnes (WM), 2:03.38; 2. Jacob Schofield (WM), 2:17.97; 3. Josh Higgs (WM), 2:28.87.
200 individual medley: 1. Ogg (WM), 2:18.76; 2. John Burgess (WJG), 2:41.22; 3. Patrick Kemp (WJG), 3:31.18.
50 freestyle: 1. Holland (WM), 24.14; 2. Erdmann (WM), 25:24; 3. Karson (WM), 25.68.
1-meter diving: 1. Roe (WJG), 140.40 points.
100 butterfly: 1. Ogg (WM), 1:03.7; 2. Mike Gabriel (WM), 1:14.93.
100 freestyle: 1. Holland (WM), 54.51; 2. Erdmann (WM), 55.5; 3. Lyons (WJG), 59.92.
500 freestyle: 1. Barnes (WM), 5:46.23; 2. Higgs (WM), 6:31.0; 3. Aaron Sabal (WJG), 7:25.39.
200 freestyle relay: 1. Wayne (Holland, Barnes, Karson, Ogg), 1:41.16; 2. John Glenn (Burgess, Gutu, Roe, Lyons), 1:50.55.
100 backstroke: 1. Schofield (WM), 1:14.05; 2. Gabriel (WM), 1:14.76; 3. Aaron Snyder (WJG), 1:31.62.
100 breaststroke: 1. Kemp (WJG), 1:15.21; 2. Karson (WM), 1:17.55; 3. Kemp (WJG), 1:28.47.
400 freestyle relay: 1. Wayne (Barnes, Erdmann, Gabriel, Schofield), 3:58.29; 2. John Glenn (Burgess, Sabal, Ryan Boes, JaCory Frowner), 4:57.89.
Dual meet records: Wayne, 1-6 overall; John Glenn, 1-7 overall.

Kruger helps Lutheran Westland snap losing streak

Lutheran High Westland ended two months of frustration Tuesday with a 52-50 Metro Conference boys basketball victory at home over Harper Woods. Junior guard Josh Kruger continued his hot shooting for the Warriors with a game-high 27 points. Senior forward Rob Seltz chipped in with 16, while junior center Sam Ahlersmeyer added 14 for the Warriors, who earned their first victory since the

BOYS BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

season opener Dec. 4 against Plymouth Christian. With the win, Lutheran Westland improved to 2-12 overall and 1-7 in the conference. "Defensively we came through, we played good defense throughout the game," Lutheran Westland coach Brandon Bekius said. Vincent Bright scored 23 points for the Pioneers, who

slipped to 9-7 overall and 3-5 in the Metro. Quentin Lewis added 14. CLARENCEVILLE 53, LUTHERAN N'WEST 27: Junior swingman Jamie Stewart poured in 23 points and Darryl Whitaker sparked the defense as Metro Conference leader Livonia Clarenceville (13-1, 7-0) bounced visiting Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest (7-7, 4-4). Whitaker also scored nine points for the victorious Trojans, who led 29-16 at halftime. "He did a great job defensively igniting our presses," Clarenceville coach Corey

McKendry said. "We're playing pretty good defense right now." Steve Miscovich tallied eight for the Crusaders. LUTHERAN NORTH 40, LUTH. WESTLAND 43: In a Metro Conference make-up game Saturday, host Macomb Lutheran North (9-5, 6-1) broke a close game open in the second half to subdue stubborn Lutheran High Westland (1-2, 0-7). Drew Dennison and Brian Budchuk pace the victorious Mustangs. Sam Ahlersmeyer and Josh Kruger tallied 14 and 10, respectively, for the Warriors, who were tied at halftime 28-all.

HURON VALLEY 55, MACOMB CHRISTIAN 48: It was a happy homecoming Saturday as Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (3-10, 1-5) avenged a Michigan Independent Athletic Conference-Red Division setback to Warren Macomb Christian (3-12, 1-6). Free throws proved to be the difference as the Hawks made 14-of-17, while Macomb Christian made just 9-of-17. Junior Kyle Tacia led Huron Valley with 14 points, while senior guard Ryan Jones added 11. Joel Battjes scored 11 for the Crusaders.

GYMNASTICS RESULTS

LIVONIA RED 135.05, HARTLAND 77.25
Feb. 4 at Livonia Churchill H.S.
Vault: 1. Sidnee Mattison (Red), Katina St. Pierre (Red) and Brittany Swazey (Red), 8.6 each; 4. Courtney Simpson (Red), 8.5.
Balance beam: 1. Salley Osentoski (Red), 8.7; 2. Margarita Lazarevska (Red), 8.45; 3. Taylor Jayne (H), 8.0; 4. Sidnee Mattison, 7.45.
Uneven bars: 1. Paula Guzik (Red), 9.45; 2. Sarah Parkin (Red), 7.95; 3. St. Pierre (Red), 7.55; 4. Meghan Lark (Red), 7.55.
Floor exercise: 1. Alicia DiMauro (Red), 9.1; 2. Lazarevska (Red), 8.7; 3. Brittany Swazey (Red), 8.4; 4. Osentoski (Red), 8.0.
All-around: 1. Pierre (Red), 30.50; 2. Jayne (H), 30.20; 3. Jordan Krebichi (H), 29.30.
Livonia Red's dual meet record: 5-4 overall.
LIVONIA BLUE 134.75, HARTLAND 77.25
Feb. 4 at Livonia Churchill H.S.
Vault: 1. Kelly Charniga (Blue), 9.0; 2. Cassie Morford (Blue), 8.55; 3. Jordan Krebichi (H), 8.3; 4. (tie) Carley Lukas (Blue) and Kelly Tapella (Blue), 8.25 each.
Balance beam: 1. Meredith Albers (Blue), 8.65; 2. Dalia Shafie (Blue), 8.5; 3. Morford (Blue), 8.05; 4. Taylor Jayne (H), 8.0.
Uneven bars: 1. Shafie (Blue), 8.75; 2. K. Charniga (Blue), 8.4; 3. Morford (Blue), 8.15; 4. Allison Gilley (Blue), 7.8.
Floor exercise: 1. K. Charniga (Blue), 8.95; 2. Tapella (Blue), 8.8; 3. Meghan Powers (Blue), 8.6; 4. Morford (Blue), 8.3.
All-around: 1. Morford (Blue), 33.05; 2. Jayne (H), 30.20; 3. Jordan Krebichi (H), 29.30.
Livonia Blue's dual meet record: 8-1 overall.

Chargers regroup for 7-2 victory

Seven different players scored Saturday as Livonia Churchill rolled to a 7-2 boys hockey victory over host Walled Lake Central at the Lakeland Ice Arena. Nate Milam, Mike Woynick and Tyler Cotter each had a goal and two assists for the victorious Chargers, who improved to 16-3 overall and 5-1 in the Lakes Division of the Western Lakes Activities Association. Kody Strong, Kyle Burke and Travis Satkowiak also chipped in with a goal and assist, while Scott Sunberg scored the other Churchill goal. Other Churchill assists went to Keith Yackley and Dan Bostick. Central led 2-1 early in the second period on Corbin

BOYS HOCKEY

Titus' second goal of the game. Woynick's power-play goal from Yackley and Cotter tied the game at 10:18 of the second period and Milam notched his 35th of the season at 14:03 of the third from Cotter for the game-winner. Churchill outshot the Vikings, 54-9. "With two days off and our first game back from the disappointment of the (Livonia) Stevenson game (a 5-1 loss on Jan. 30), I was pleased with the way we finished," Churchill coach Pete Mazzoni said. "It took us awhile to get going." Churchill used two goals, Greg Wirick and Aaron Crouse.

Central's Brett Malbin made a total of 47 saves. STEVENSON 4, SALEM 2: Mike Moran had two goals and two assists to lead No. 1-ranked Livonia Stevenson (18-0-1, 5-0-1) to a WLAA-Lakes Division win Saturday over the visiting Rocks (6-12, 1-5) at Edgar Arena. Sean Lerg added a goal and assist for the Spartans, who led 1-0 after one period and 3-1 after two periods. Jake Harbowy had the other Stevenson goal, while R.J. Kierdorf chipped in with two assists. Ian Barnaby scored twice for the Rocks. Richie Dumphy went all the way in goal for the Spartans, stopping 15 of 17 shots, to earn his second victory. Stevenson outshot the Rocks, 36-17.

LADYWOOD

FROM PAGE B1 we did not score," Mercy coach Gary Morris said. "That was a key time of the game. We were playing well enough defensively, but we didn't execute well enough offensively. "We tried to come up with a few different things this time. Some things worked and some didn't." Whalen and Danica Verderbar each scored eight for the Marlins, while Jordan Mueller chipped in with seven. "To beat a team like that,

we had to have more people playing well for us," Morris said. "But we competed hard for 32 minutes; which we hadn't done the previous two times." Ladywood, meanwhile, gets four days preparation for Sunday's championship final at Calihan. "It's never an easy thing, but we'll take it," Gorski said of the semifinal win. "We'll have to play better. Today we got the ball to our scorers in spots they're not used to getting it. We hope to be more mentally prepared on Sunday."



CHARTER ONE HIGH YIELD SAVINGS ACCOUNT
4.00% APY
BALANCES OF \$10,000 OR HIGHER
FDIC INSURED
Security and flexibility. Together at last.
To open an account, visit your nearest branch or call 1-877-TOP-RATE.

Charter One Member FDIC. High Yield Savings Account Annual Percentage Yield (APY) based on collected balances for new personal accounts. 4.00% APY for balances greater than \$50,000. 4.00% APY for balances of \$10,000 to \$49,999. 1.00% APY for balances up to \$9,999. Fees may reduce earnings. See a banker for FDIC coverage amounts and transaction limitations. Accounts cannot be accessed using ATM or Debit Card. \$10,000 minimum opening deposit is required. Minimum transaction of \$10,000 for withdrawals. Nonqualifying transaction fee of \$95 cash for any withdrawal under \$10,000 in a statement period. All accounts and services subject to approval. APYs accurate as of publication date and may change before or after account opening. Personal accounts only. \$5,000,000 maximum deposit per customer. Offer valid in Michigan only. This offer is subject to change and may be withdrawn at any time. Charter One is a division of RBS Citizens, N.A.

HARLOW
AUTO SERVICE

"The Name To Trust"

- Tires
- Brakes
- Shocks
- Struts
- Front End Alignments
- Tune Ups

\$20 OFF!
Any service work or purchase of \$50.00 or more

1 per household with coupon

1849 N. Wayne Road
Just S. of Ford Road • Westland
734-722-TIRE (8473)

Your Hometown Flooring Store!

World of Floors
http://worldoffloors.info

TARGET
Sheldon Rd.
Ford Rd.
43711 Ford Road
Canton
734.844.6100

12 Mile
Orchard Lake Rd.

GREAT LOOKING BERBER NOW ONLY! 79¢ SQ. FT.
Up To 12 Colors To Choose From

LAMINATE FLOORING NOW ONLY! 99¢ SQ. FT.
3 Colors To Choose From

SOLID OAK HARDWOOD NOW ONLY! \$3.99 SQ. FT.
Nothing Seen Like A Hardwood Floor

NO PAYMENTS & NO INTEREST FOR 12 MONTHS!!!

LOWEST PRICES GUARANTEED
World of Floors guarantees it's prices to be the lowest and will beat any competitor's advertised price & promotion. If you find a lower advertised price on an identical flooring item, and provide confirmation of that total price World of Floors will beat their price.

29321 Orchard Lake Road
Farmington Hills
248.324.8700

See store for details. Cannot be combined with any other offer.

THOMSON'S
Automotive

- Automotive Detailing
- Window Tinting
- Windshield Chip Repair
- Line-X Spray on Bedliners
- Painless Dent Removal

New Year's Special!
Your Choice! Pick One or Pick Them All!

25% OFF
Line-X Spray on Bedliner
Any Auto Detailing
Window Tinting Services
Cannot be combined with other coupons
Expires 2/28/08

8726 Middlebelt Road
Westland • South of Joy
www.tmotiva.com
734-525-9733

Open: Mon-Fri 7 am - 6 pm
Sat 9-2 pm Closed Sunday

FINAL RESULTS

PROS!
CONTEST

GRAND PRIZE: TRIP FOR 2 TO LAS VEGAS!

CONGRATULATIONS! To All Of Our Weekly Winners!

1st Place Matt Prentice
\$50 GIFT CERTIFICATE
PLUS EMAGINE 2 MOVIE PASSES FOR TWO

2nd Place Ron Ledford
\$50 GIFT CERTIFICATE

WINNER!
Cheryl Edwards
Garden City, MI

See Complete Rules & Details At <http://www.hometownlife.com>

NEW PROGRAMS JUST ANNOUNCED!!!
DON'T PASS UP THESE DEALS

ALL NEW
ABS, PW/PL, 6-airbag protection, 6-disc CD/MP3, power seats, steering wheel radio control.

ALL NEW
Front, side & canopy air bags, MP3 ready, V6, pwr windows/locks, 17" alum wheels, tilt, cruise.

| | | |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| '2000 DUE | '1000 DUE | '0 DUE |
| \$156* | \$199* | \$215* |
| 24 Month Lease | 24 Month Lease | 39 Month Lease |

| | | |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| '2000 DUE | '1000 DUE | '0 DUE |
| \$216* | \$258* | \$289* |
| 24 Month Lease | 39 Month Lease | 39 Month Lease |

ROYAL OAK 248-548-4100
royalookford.com
11 1/2 MILE & WOODWARD

OPEN SATURDAYS
• SALES
• SERVICE
• PARTS
• BODY SHOP
• RENTAL CAR

*Payments based on A Plan pricing for Ford Employees and eligible family members. 10,500 MPY with Tier 1 approved credit or better FMCC. Plus Tax, title, plates. Leases based on 24 to 39 months. Retail slightly higher. Qualified applicants will be required to supply A-Plan PIN. Vehicles pictures may not represent actual vehicles sold. Prices may vary subject to incentive changes. Must qualify for all rebates. All rebates to dealer. Offer subject to change. **Must qualify for \$500 owner loyalty.

PICK THE PROS!
CONTEST

Play Online & You Could Win The Grand Prize Of A Trip For Two To **LAS VEGAS**

Courtesy of Bob Neugebauer Travel

When the CHIPS are down, you can count on Bob Neugebauer Travel!

From Weekend Getaways To Exotic Vacations
(586) 77-VEGAS • (586) 778-3427
www.77vegas.com

ADVERTISERS' SEASON STATISTICS

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7-5 159-105 | 5-7 164-100 | 3-9 162-102 | 4-8 166-98 | 3-9 155-109 | 8-4 165-99 | 4-8 167-97 | 4-8 162-102 | 3-9 149-115 | 4-8 154-110 | 3-9 163-101 |

THANK YOU FOR PLAYING!

Tennyson CHEVROLET

SILVERADO BLOWOUT!

AWESOME LEASE DEALS - GREAT REBATES - CALL FOR DETAILS

32570 PLYMOUTH ROAD • JUST E. OF FARMINGTON RD.
LIVONIA • 734-425-6500
WWW.TENNYSONCHEVY.COM

AN AMERICAN REVOLUTION

2008 GMC ENVOY
\$199*

ALL REMAINING 2007 MODELS
0% FOR 60 MONTHS*

\$1705 DOWN | 39 Months 10K

CLARKSTON
LAKESHORE
LIVONIA
ROCHESTER
SOUTHFIELD
WATERFORD

AUBURN PONTIAC
500 S. Opdyke
(800) 850-2961
auburnpontiac.com
Mon & Thurs 9-8
Tues, Wed & Fri 9-6:30

JACK DEMMER
Winter Special!

WORKS \$29.95*
FUEL SAVER PACKAGE

- ✓ Genuine Motorcraft® Premium Synthetic Blend Oil and filter change
- ✓ Rotate and inspect four tires ✓ Check air and cabin air filters ✓ Inspect brake system ✓ Test battery ✓ Check belts and hoses ✓ Top off all fluids.

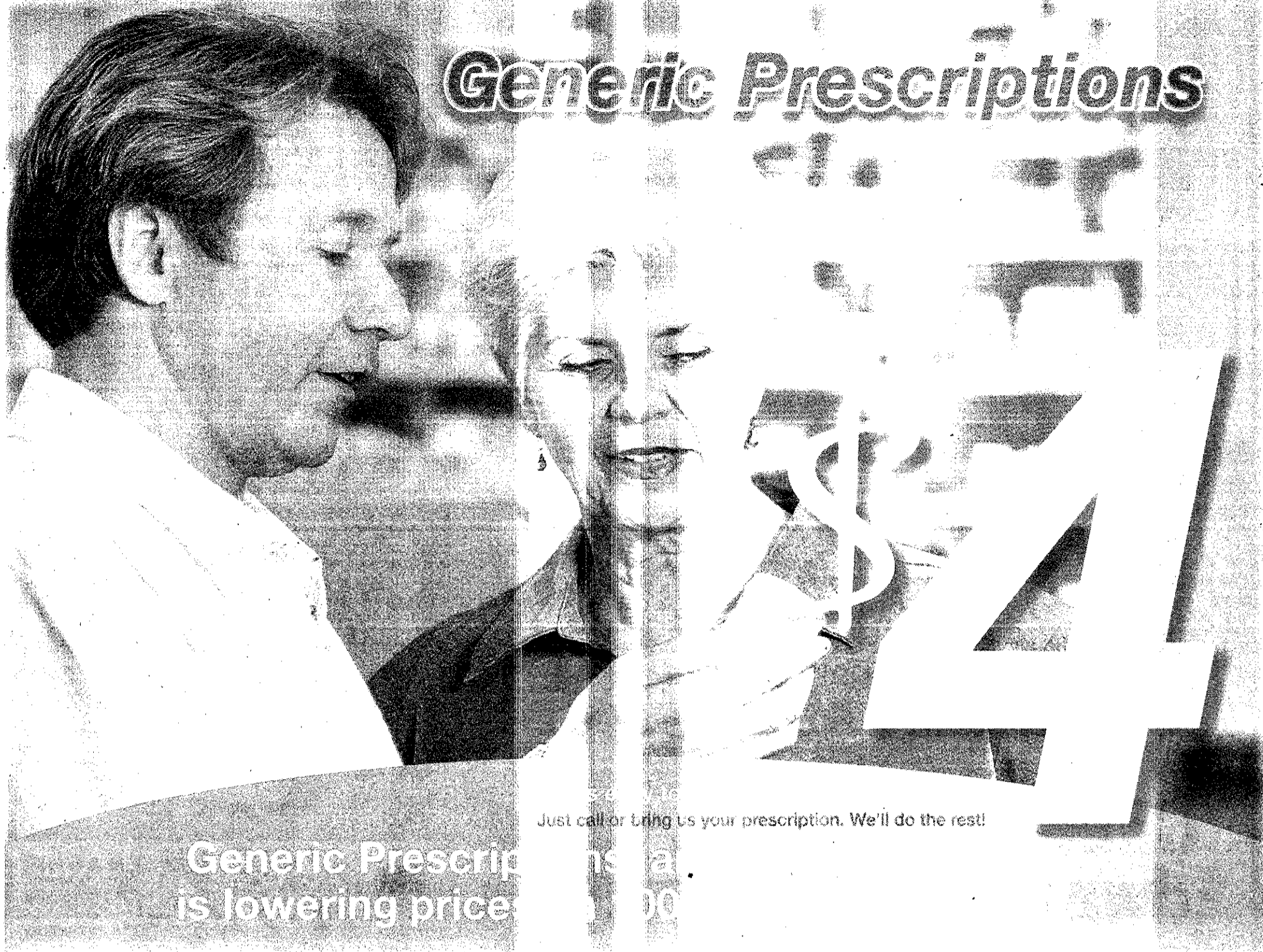
Up to five quarts of Motorcraft® oil. Taxes and diesel vehicles extra. Hybrid high voltage battery test not included. See Service Advisor for details. Offer valid with coupon. Expires: 2/29/08. Disposal fees not included.

Free Shuttle Service
Courtesy Vehicles Available

Servicing Ford and Lincoln-Mercury!

37300 Michigan Avenue
Just E. of I-275 in Wayne
(734) 721-2600

Generic Prescriptions



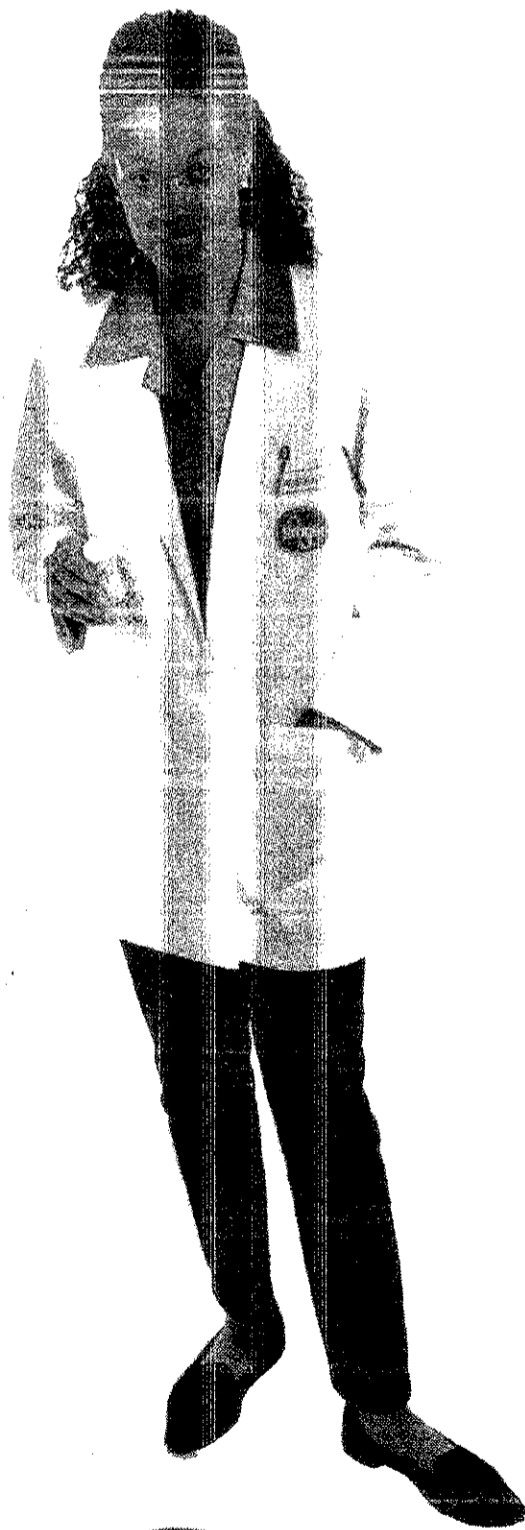
Just call or bring us your prescription. We'll do the rest!

Generic Prescriptions are a...
is lowering prices... \$4.99

FREE Prescription Delivery.



Kroger accepts competitors' pharmacy coupons.



Kroger matches competitors' prescription prices.



Many convenient locations.



Ask Your Pharmacist...
www.kroger.com/generics

A chocolate primer

Pastry chefs offer insight into the divine dessert



Tribute's pastry chef, Greg Stroker, presents 'Chocolate Blackberry.' The dessert is made with chocolate mousse, hazelnut cake, apricot puree, and blackberry sorbet.

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER

Smooth, sweet, silky chocolate. What is its strange allure, its seductive power, and why do we go so crazy over it?

In 2005, the U.S. consumed \$1.4 billion of cocoa and cocoa products, according to the Chocolate Manufacturers Association.

Long considered an aphrodisiac, chocolate was a status symbol in Europe due to its richness, rarity and exotic origins, according to the *Encyclopedia of Food and Culture*.

"The very history of chocolate is lent to its mystique," said Joe Decker, certified master pastry chef and instructor at Schoolcraft College in Livonia. "Cortez and Columbus discovered it from the Mayans. The upper aristocracy in Europe kept it for the upper class and it wasn't until the mid-1800s that it was available to the middle class."

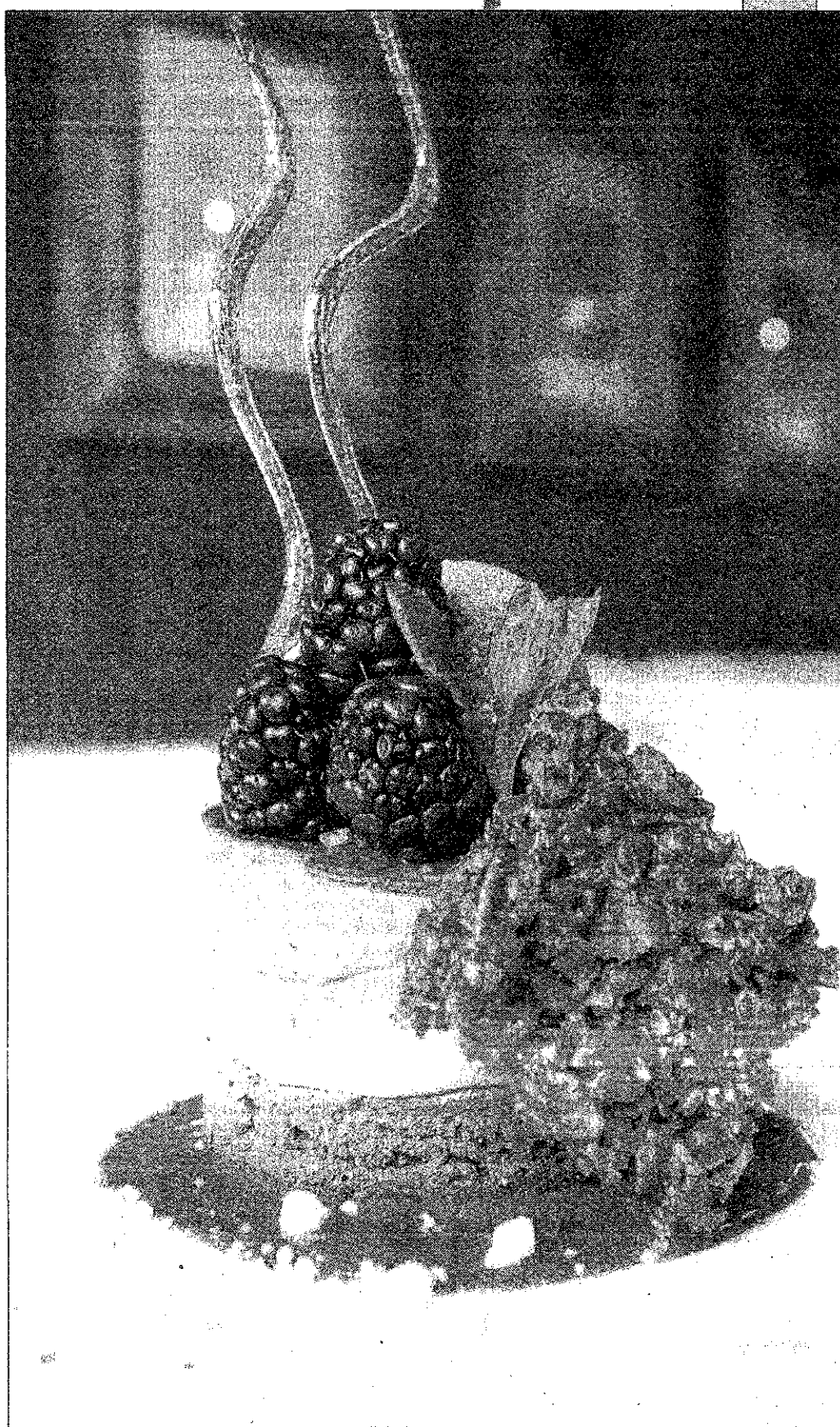
The history of chocolate starts about 2,000 years ago when the delicious secret of the cacao (kah KOW) tree was discovered in the tropical rainforests of the Americas by ancient Mayans. The tree's pods contain seeds that can be processed into chocolate.

Most texts base its origin in Amazon or Orinoco river basins of northern South America, but it also took on a role as an important economic exchange for peoples of that continent.

Today, chocolate is enjoyed everywhere with a variety of tastes and flavors — bitter chocolate, milk chocolate, dark chocolate, couverture, and white chocolate. Baby boomers particularly enjoy the finer aspects of chocolate, says Decker.

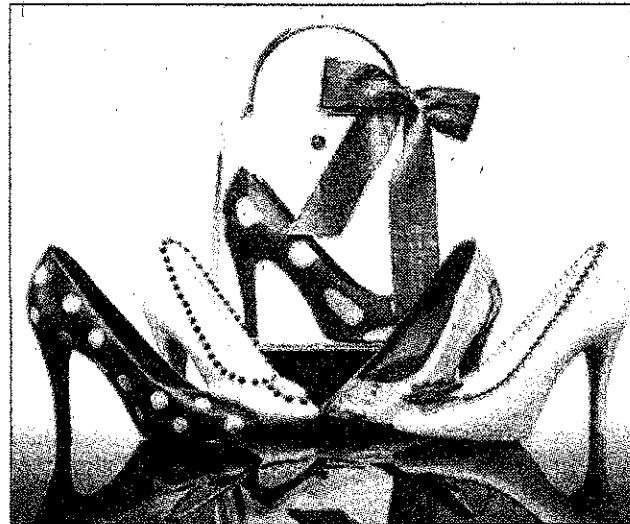
"Today you see events like chocolate tastings, where people come in and taste chocolates, and they'll get an explanation about each chocolate. It's like going to wine tastings," Decker said.

Please see **CHOCOLATE, D2**



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Tribute's 'Chocolate Blackberry' is chocolate mousse, hazelnut cake, apricot puree, and blackberry sorbet.



Chocolate shoes from Gayle's Chocolates, \$40.

Readers quash spam their way

My recent column on junk e-mail (a.k.a. spam) generated lots of reader response. Seems like everyone has a different approach for keeping spam at bay.

Susan Rugenstein of Beverly Hills echoed my appreciation of Gmail as a spam filter but didn't like the Web-based inbox. Thus, she went back to Cloudmark (cloudmark.com), an anti-spam service that integrates with Outlook and Outlook Express.

"I have used Cloudmark with Outlook for several years," Rugenstein wrote, "and it's the best \$39.95 I spend." (The service requires an annual subscription.)



Tech Savvy

David Emerling of West Bloomfield swears by SpamBayes (spambayes.sourceforge.net), an open-source (read: free) spam filter that can integrate with Microsoft Outlook or intercept and filter mail via a Web-based interface.

Rick Broida

Just one problem: It's rather complicated to set up, so only advanced users

need apply.

Mike Roberts of Rochester Hills, an AT&T DSL customer, relies on Yahoo for spam filtering. "My e-mail goes directly to Yahoo Mail, and then my Yahoo inbox is forwarded to Outlook," he said. "All of the spam stays in Yahoo's Spam folder."

That's just the way I do it, but with Gmail instead of Yahoo. In fact, I think I've figured out a near-perfect spam-filtering solution that doesn't cost a cent.

(Gmail, in case you're unfamiliar with it, is Google's free Web-based e-mail service. It offers some of the best spam filtering I've seen anywhere.)

Instead of trying to integrate my personal domain (Broida.com) with my existing Gmail account, which mixed all the mail together in one jumbled, incomprehensible mess, I created a new Gmail account that I now use expressly for spam filtering.

Here's how it works in a nutshell: After setting up the Gmail account, I configured it to fetch mail from my domain. (This would also work with ISPs like Comcast; you just need to get the POP3 settings and supply your account username and password.)

The immediate result is that when Gmail retrieves my mail, it automatically routes all spam into an eponymous folder. The rest lands in my online inbox.

Next, I set up Outlook to download mail from that Gmail account. Because it pulls only the contents of the inbox, I rarely see any spam on my PC. All the junk stays at the Gmail end, which is just how I like it.

In fact, this helps with virus protection as well, because Gmail virus-checks all e-mail attachments. Infected files never get the chance to attack my PC.

Meanwhile, outbound mail still looks to the receiver like it came from my domain, not from Gmail. That's really important to me.

And let's not forget the added benefit of Gmail's anywhere access: I can now read and compose e-mail in any Web browser on any PC (or Mac). My account is also easily accessible on my cell phone.

Did I mention this arrangement doesn't cost a cent? The only way you can do likewise with Yahoo, as described earlier, is by signing up for Yahoo Mail Plus, which costs \$20 per year.

That's a reasonable price, and Yahoo Mail on the whole is quite impressive, but I'd rather keep my \$20.

Finally, several readers proposed an

Please see **TECH SAVVY, D2**

Valentine's Day presents myriad wine options

Aphrodisiacs have been known to spark romance. Romans used oysters to rouse passion, and it's said that the Greeks believed figs inspired desire. We suggest, however, that you evaluate all your wine options for Valentine's Day this year!



Focus on Wine

Ray & Eleanor Heald

of its lightly robust personality. Elegance is exemplified by its pale pink color and fragrant fresh

fruity character. From J winery in Sonoma County's Russian River Valley comes Brut Rosé \$35. Dazzle your sweetheart with the aromas and flavors of strawberries, juicy red apples and nectarines in this bubbly. Both are lovely alone, with shellfish or paired with a red fruit dessert.

PINK IS THE NEW RED

Rosé still wines are not just summer sippers. In winter months, they match well to Mediterranean specialties, so take your sweetheart's taste buds to Provence with the following:

Clos du Bois 2006 Sonoma County Rosé \$14 (76 percent Syrah) brims with the aromas of fresh strawberries kissed with bright cherries. Raspberry flavors are highlighted in the mouth and

through a long finish. Vinavera 2006 Napa Valley Dry Rosé \$15 is also Syrah based. Strawberry and cranberry aromas lead to bright red berry flavors and an enjoyable fruit-laden finish. Grilled salmon makes a good match.

PERFECTLY NAMED WINE

Your next option is one of three perfectly named cabernet sauvignons from Terra Valentine winery in the Spring Mountain District of Napa Valley.

Terra Valentine 2004 Spring Mountain District Cabernet Sauvignon \$38 was picked from 14 different vineyard blocks. A dark fruit profile is highlighted by brown spices and notes of dark chocolate in a well-structured wine.

Wild berries and anise aromas complement black cherry flavors ending with hints of chocolate in 2004 Terra Valentine Wurtele Vineyard Spring Mountain District Cabernet Sauvignon \$58. Terra Valentine 2004 Yverdon Vineyard Spring Mountain District Cabernet Sauvignon \$70 showcases dark fruits and toasty aromas highlighted by a melange of fruit and spices with hints of dark coffee beans. This is the big brother of the three.

(For merlots, see related box.)

LOVE POTION

We say lovers. You say Italians. Consider these love potions: 2006 Ajello Majus Bianco (native varieties catarratto and grillo from Sicily) \$10, 2005 Ajello Majus Rosso (nero d'Avola

from Sicily) \$10, 2004 Fattoria La Valentina Montepulciano d'Abruzzo \$13, 2005 Aia Vecchia Lagone (Bordeaux-style blend from Bolgheri) \$15 and 2006 Li Veli Salento Rosso "Passamante" (negroamaro from Puglia) \$16.

And then there's Primo Amore (first love) Romeo (red) and Juliet (white), at \$7.

Both are aromatic, slightly sweet, low in alcohol and lightly effervescent — about as serious as first love and as much fun! Serve both well chilled.

LUSH AND LOVELY

Merlot's lush character, lively aromas and flavors put it in contention for your attention. Seek these out:

Picks of the pack: 2004 Stags' Leap Winery Napa Valley Merlot \$31; 2005 Shaffer Merlot \$46; and 2005 Duckhorn Napa Valley Merlot \$52.

Moderately priced: 2004 Clos du Bois Reserve Merlot Alexander Valley \$22; 2005 Kenwood Vineyards Jack London Vineyard Merlot \$25; and 2005 Sebastiani Alexander Valley Merlot \$24.

Wallet friendly: 2006 McManis Family Merlot \$10 and 2005 Gallo Family Reserve Merlot \$15.

Eleanor & Ray Heald are contributing editors for the internationally respected Quarterly Review of Wines and Troy residents who write about wine, spirits, and restaurants for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Contact them by e-mail at focusonwine@aol.com.

TECH SAVVY

FROM PAGE D1

ingenious solution to the spam problem: disposable e-mail addresses.

It works like this: Sign up for a free e-mail account from Gmail, Yahoo, or another service, then use that address for things like newsletter subscriptions, Web-site registrations, and so on.

Meanwhile, you keep your personal e-mail address largely private, sharing it only with friends and family. That should keep spam to a minimum.

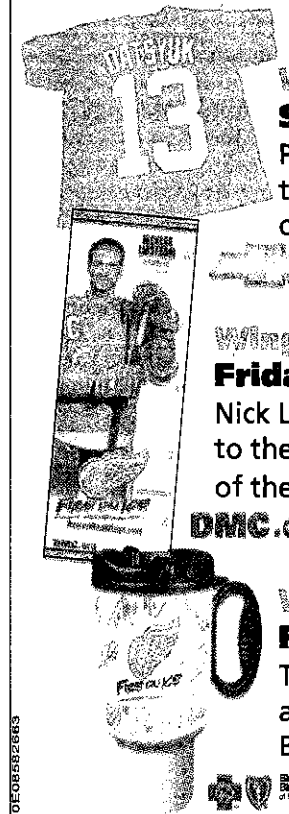
Your disposable address may collect some junk, but who cares? You can always ditch that account and sign up for a new one.

Way to go, readers! You've proven once again that you're smarter than the average bear — or columnist.

Rick Broida writes about computers and technology for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Broida, of Commerce Township, is the co-author of numerous books, including *How to Do Everything with Your Palm Powered Device, Sixth Edition*. He welcomes questions sent to rick.broida@gmail.com.

VISIT HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

HOT HOCKEY COOL GIVEAWAYS



Wings vs Ducks
Sunday, Feb. 10, 3:30pm
Pavel Datsyuk Player T-shirt to the first 5,000 kids courtesy of Chevrolet.

Wings vs Blue Jackets
Friday, Feb. 15, 7:30pm
Nick Lidstrom Growth Poster to the first 5,000 kids courtesy of the DMC.
DMC.org

Wings vs Sharks
Friday, Feb. 29, 7:30pm
Travel Coffee Mug to all fans courtesy of Blue Cross Blue Shield.

Dates and times subject to change.

ORDER TICKETS NOW

DetroitRedWings.com
Joe Louis Arena Box Office
ticketmaster
248-645-6666



CHOCOLATE

FROM PAGE D1

Greg Stroker, pastry chef at Tribute in Farmington Hills, said it's all personal preference when it comes to creating your own desserts. "It's not always necessary to use (more expensive chocolate)," Stroker said. "There's so much out there, you could sit there for days, tasting the stuff."

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

There's more than one grape in fine wines. There's also more than one bean used in making chocolate, Decker said.

Today, chocolate is enjoyed everywhere with a variety of tastes and flavors — bitter chocolate, milk chocolate, dark chocolate, couverture, and white chocolate. Chocolate is made from cacao beans, roasted and ground, which results in chocolate liquor, approximately 1/2 nonfat solids (cocoa) and 1/2 cocoa butter.

What chocolate should you use? That depends, Decker said.

Dark chocolate contains chocolate liquor, sugar, cocoa butter, vanilla and lecithin. Sugar, added in varying degrees, affects the flavor intensity or flavor profile of the chocolates.

"The higher the cocoa mass, the more intense the flavor," Decker said.

Couverture chocolate, a good quality dark chocolate used by bakers and confectioners, contains at least 30 percent cocoa butter.

Milk chocolate contains dry milk solids, and must contain 10 percent chocolate liquor, 3.39 percent butterfat and 12 percent milk solids. It has less chocolate taste (but is sweeter) than dark chocolate. White chocolate contains cocoa butter, and generally milk and sugar, but not chocolate liquor. It is flavored by vanilla and other ingredients, and does not have a chocolate flavor.

OK ... so which do you use? "For mousses and creams, you want chocolate with a higher (cocoa) mass content," Decker said, at least 60 percent. If you're dipping strawberries, milk chocolate or sweeter dark chocolate is fine. Today's technology has launched chocolate into a

whole new flavor realm.

"It has a luxurious sense about it," Decker said. "Modern technology and artistic craftsmanship have elevated it to an ingredient of elite status, similar to unique fine wines, giving it its own personality."

"You say 'chocolate,' and it's like saying 'wine,' it's like saying 'gold,' it has its own personality."

GAYLE'S GOODS

Michael A. Smith, marketing director for Gayle's Chocolates in Royal Oak, has a simple explanation for chocolate's appeal.

It's delicious. "And those who don't like chocolate know someone who does," Smith said. "It's the universal gift."

While it isn't known as a health food, chocolate does have flavinoids and antioxidants, Smith said. "But really it's that they just love the way it tastes. That's the reality."

Chocolate can be creative, too.

The most popular item sold at Gayle's is the \$36 high-heeled chocolate shoe, consisting of 14 ounces of dark chocolate, milk chocolate, pink chocolate (white chocolate with strawberry flavoring) or the Mule version with dusting on the shoes. That item was linked to a Web site (aboutshoes.com) and Gayle's now gets orders from all over the country, Smith said.

PERSONAL PREFERENCE

Stroker prefers Cacao Barry, which isn't readily available to the public, but he has used more common chocolates (Nestle's) in his previous pastry gigs before he arrived at Tribute.

"I'm a firm believer that you should stick with what you know. Go with the middle of the road," Stroker said.

"I'm not going to use the most expensive," Stroker said. "With mousse, you're adding the liquor, eggs and cream, and it's hard to tell the difference."

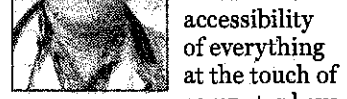
What's Stroker's favorite? "I really enjoy chocolate and raspberries," Stroker said as a dessert pairing. "You can also use chocolate and strawberries of course, and you can do mango, blueberries, apples and pears."

Don't be afraid of appliance repair

There are many consumers who have never attempted to do their own repair of a major home appliance and just as many who wouldn't think about calling a technician.

For this reason we can always be assured that repair companies will continue to prosper, and so will the concept of do-it-yourself repair outlets.

With the accessibility of everything at the touch of computer keys today you can learn so much about the world of major home appliances.



Appliance Doctor

Joe Gagnon

There are websites where you can get breakdowns on products, wiring schematics, order tools and even call to talk in person with a technician.

The challenge of repairs comes to you in different ways, sometimes you're simply not going to wait several days for a technician to arrive, or you just can't afford to spend the money. Many times it's just a puzzle you feel like conquering to develop your own sense of pride.

There are some basic principles that I would like to point out for some of you potential do-it-yourselfers. Let's start with electricity. You would be surprised at how many homeowners have to fork over the cost of a service call to have someone either plug in the appliance or reset the circuit breaker.

You can call that an expensive oversight and I guarantee you will find it an embarrassing moment. Many people will replace the timer on the product because it doesn't advance to the next cycle not knowing that in many cases other components must be working properly before the timer will move. Keep in mind that when you purchase an electrical replacement part there are few places, if any, that will give you a refund on anything that is electric.

The reason for this policy is simple. Let's say you hooked up a new timer incorrectly and you burnt out one of the electrical contacts inside the timer, which cannot be seen. That timer would then be defective. How could a parts company sell that timer to another cus-

The challenge of repairs comes to you in different ways, sometimes you're simply not going to wait several days for a technician to arrive, or you just can't afford to spend the money. Many times it's just a puzzle you feel like conquering to develop your own sense of pride.

tomers with any confidence of it being a good operational component? Besides it is against the Michigan Consumers Protection Act to sell a part professed to be new when it is not.

Thinking of timers, my friend Tom Ross (of MSU Hockey Hall of Fame) called me to say that his daughter is living in his condo in Florida and she has to pull the plug on the kitchen range every time she uses it.

It makes a buzzing sound, which never stops, and Tom is going to fly down to Florida for a visit and repairs. He was going to purchase a timer before he left this area and I told him not to. I suggested that because the range was 20 years old and the timer would not doubt be expensive it might not be worth the expense of repairing it. I told him to take the back off the stove, which covers the mechanism off the timer.

He will see a little cloth-covered coil the size of half a finger and about the same thickness. Cut one of the two electrical wires going into that coil and the buzzing sound is all finished.

So is the timer, but at least you can use the stove and purchase a \$5 household timer at the local hardware store. Oh Tommy, don't forget to pull the plug before you cut the wire on the timer. The Red Wing Alumni team still needs you to play several more games this year.

Joe Gagnon can be heard on Talk Radio WAAM 1600 at 8 a.m. Saturdays. He is a board member of Spectrum Human Services and the Society of Consumer Affairs Professionals (SOCAP). His phone number is (734) 971-1600, Ext. 28. Do you have a question about an appliance or a problem you have with an appliance? E-mail your question to wvonn@hometownlife.com and it will be forwarded to Joe Gagnon.

Our Selection is Worth the Drive.

Compositions Sofa \$1,999

Luxurious all silk sofa
8 Way Hand tied
Down blend cushions
Superior construction
Lifetime warranty on frame & seats ensuring heirloom quality.

20,000 Sq. Ft. Showroom • 150 Major Manufacturers

Family Owned 69 Years

GARDELLA FURNITURE

Color & Style

2306 Gratiot Ave • Detroit, MI 48207 • 313.567.7470
Near Tiger Stadium • Fenced Parking with Video Security
Hours: Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri, Sat 10 am-6 pm
www.gardellafurniture.com

Visit us online at
hometownlife.com

Check out our new 2nd floor showroom at 12 Oaks Mall!

KITCHEN REFACING

- Factory Direct
- Costs Much Less Than Replacing
- Available in Solid Oak, Maple & Cherry
- References In Your Neighborhood
- FREE ESTIMATES

The Leader in Cabinet Refacing
West 734-421-8151
North-East 586-751-1848
www.cabinetclinic.com

LIKE NUMBERS?
there are a pile of them in today's SPORTS Section

Serving The Community for 33 years!

32777 W. Warren
Just East of Venoy
Garden City
734-421-1510

Amantea RESTAURANT

We cater Funeral Luncheons!

Hours:
Mon.-Th. 4 pm-10 pm
Fri. & Sat. 4 pm-11 pm
Sun. 1 pm-9 pm

Take Your Sweetheart to Amanteas for Valentines Day!

Try Our Lenten Seafood Selections:

- Lake Perch
- Swordfish
- Salmon
- Haddock
- Stuffed Flounder

FRIDAY SPECIAL

English Style Fish & Chips \$8.95

Includes: Vegetable or Spaghetti, Soft Bread Sticks and Choice of Potato, Cole Slaw or Salad

BBQ RIBS DINNER FOR TWO COMPLETE DINNER \$17.95

Includes: Salad or Cole Slaw, Rolls and Butter, Choice of 2: Spaghetti, Potatoes or Vegetables.
One coupon per couple.
May not be combined with any other offer. Expires 2-29-08.

\$5.00 OFF

Your next purchase of \$25.00 or more

Coupon per table/party. Max. 3 coupons per table. Not valid with other offers. Valid Sunday-Thursday. Expires 2-29-08.

www.amantea.com

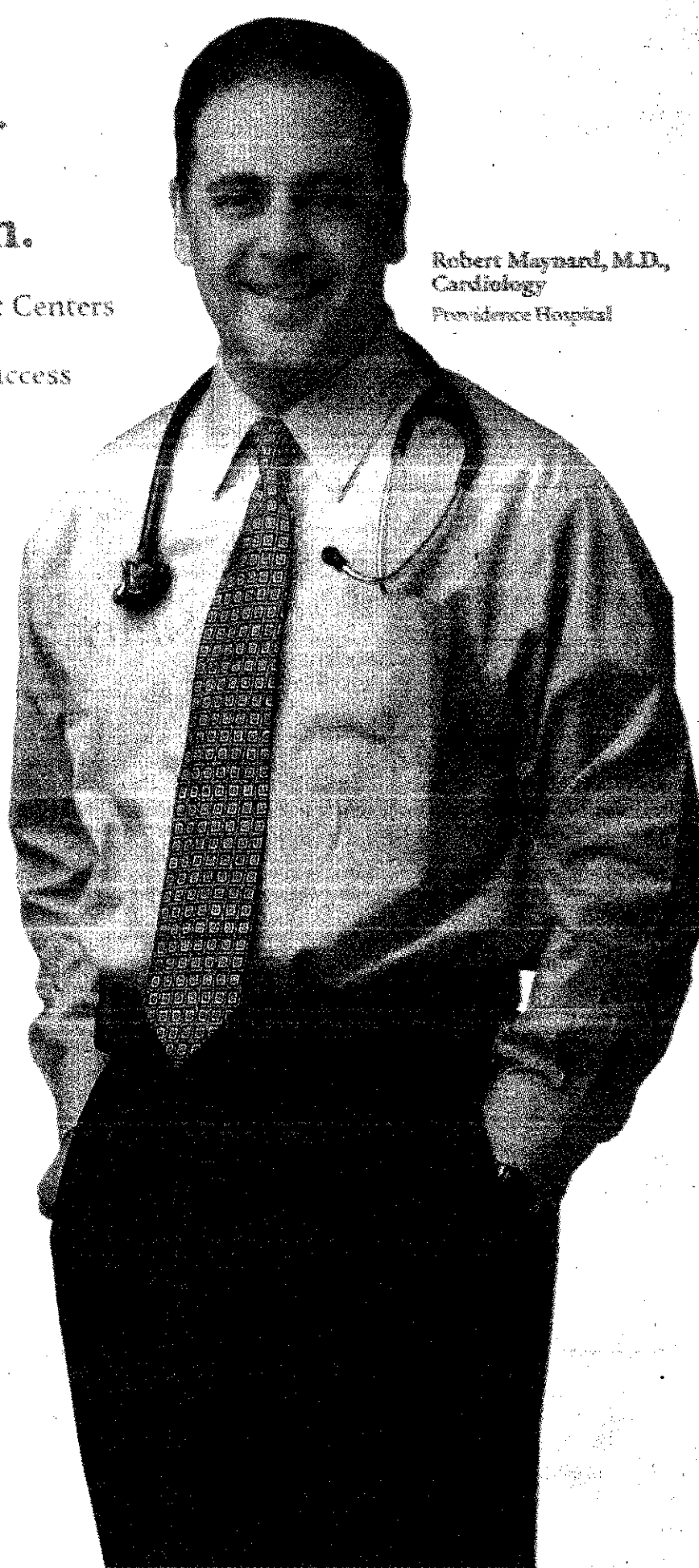
Our Cardiac Experts Triple Bypass The Competition.

We have three Cardiac Centers of Excellence—the most in Michigan.

When all three of your heart hospitals are designated Cardiac Centers of Excellence, it's a proud moment. When you discover your success rates are among the best in the nation, it's even better. When your passion and commitment help you save thousands of lives, it's the greatest achievement of all.



Providence Hospital is proud to be the only Southeast Michigan hospital ranked nationally as a Top 100 hospital for heart care seven years in a row. To learn more, visit stjohn.org/SJHheartcare.



Robert Maynard, M.D.,
Cardiology
Providence Hospital

A P A S S I O N f o r H E A L I N G

OUR CARDIAC CENTERS *of* EXCELLENCE

Providence Hospital • St. John Hospital & Medical Center
St. John Macomb-Oakland Hospital

