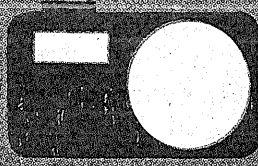


GOING FOR GOLD
Competition drives local doctor
- Hometownlife, C1



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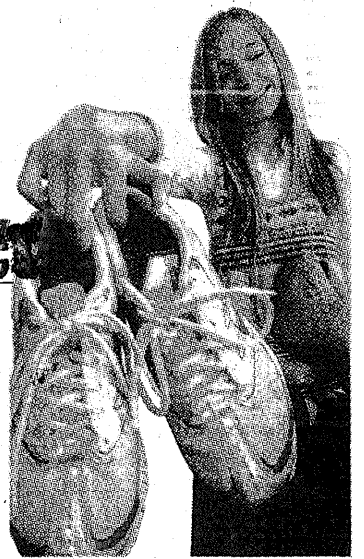


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Penn Grill could lose license

BY TONY BRUSCATO
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Plymouth City Manager Paul Sincock is expected to recommend to the City Commission Monday night that the liquor license of the Penn Grill and Bar not be renewed.

The stance comes after a Monday night fight outside the Penniman Avenue establishment that left a 34-year-old Canton man hospitalized after witnesses say he was punched and kicked in the head numerous times by a 34-year-old Plymouth man he was drinking with for several hours.

Police say Dave Krupin remains jailed on \$250,000 cash bond after being charged with assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder.

Both Sincock and Police Chief Wayne Carroll say the fight was the last straw for owner Billy Farwell, who was warned by them and Mayor Phil Pursell during a meeting last month that 14 drunken driving arrests attributable to the Penn Grill over the past year put the annual license renewal in jeopardy.

"The administrative recommendation for revocation comes after a number of issues that have been discussed with them on numerous occasions," said Sincock, "like drunk driving arrests, assault and battery, public urination and fights. This seems to be a rather high number of issues when compared to other establishments in our city."

Carroll said he has witnesses who saw the two men drinking from about 2 p.m. to just before the fight was reported about 11:30 p.m., describing Krupin as "intoxicated and aggressive." At last month's meeting with Farwell, Carroll said staff has been over-serving patrons, some who have been caught drunk driving with blood alcohol levels of .17 to .21. State law defines being drunk at .08.

Farwell said since he took over from the previous owners more than a year ago, he's continued to make the establishment more of a food destination instead of a bar.

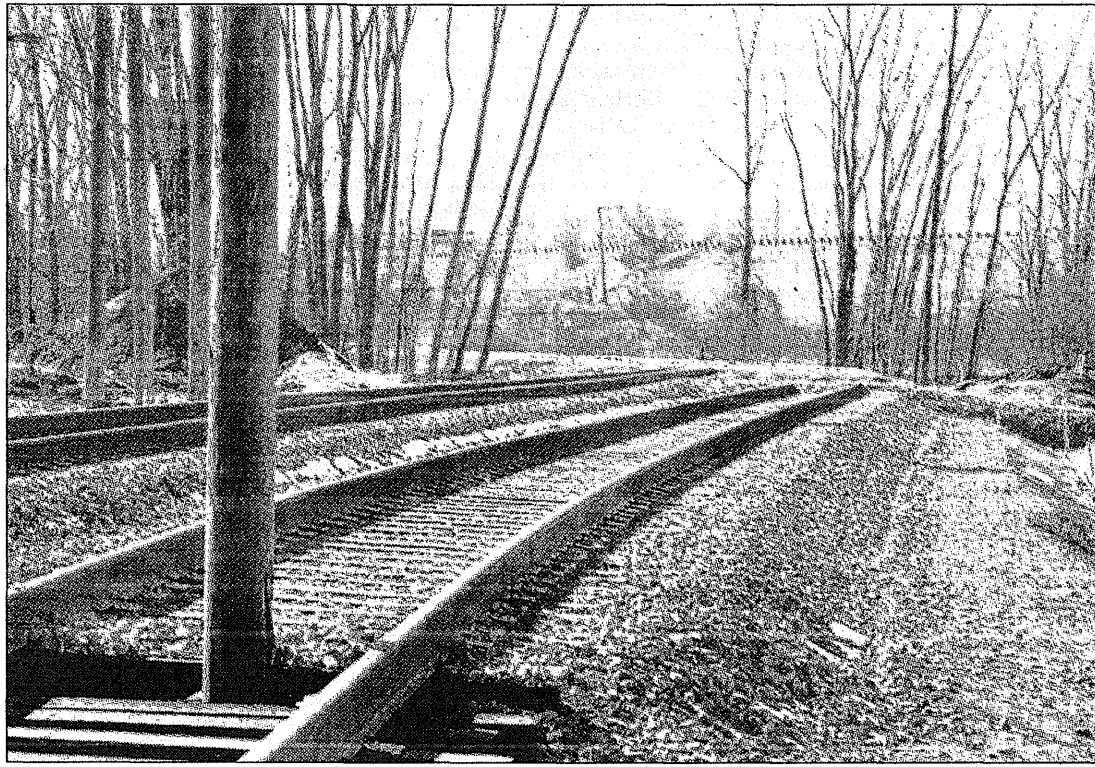
"I've been in business for 27 years and have never seen a city act this way, especially with all the revenue we bring to the city," said Farwell. "I've had businesses in other communities and have never had a major problem."

Day manager Mary Kay Marocco, who worked for the previous owners, admitted there were problems beforehand.

"Absolutely, everybody knew that," said Marocco. "From the time Billy took over it immediately stopped. We've made this into a fun, safe atmosphere for families."

"There are drunk drivers from every bar, but we've been cutting people off," she said. "They're (Farwell and partners Vince Spica and Chris Knight) trying to invest in the city, and the city is fighting them tooth and nail."

tbruscato@hometownlife.com | (734) 459-2700



JAMES R. CUTLER

Pole position

The utility pole in the middle of the CSX railroad tracks at the Sheldon Road underpass project isn't meant to be indicative of the many delays already incurred. According to Assistant Wayne County Executive Alan Helmkamp the temporary tracks for the railroad were laid before DTE Energy could take down the pole, so railroad workers worked around it. Helmkamp said the pole will be removed and the temporary tracks will start being used by CSX later this month. The current tracks will be uprooted until the underpass is completed. Contractors are currently installing a new 36-inch water main at the site, which needs to be installed by April 30 to keep the project moving toward an end-of-the-year completion date. Helmkamp said three wells were sunk last week to rid the giant hole of underground water, which has made it difficult to install the water main.

Task force: Drugs not used at schools

BY TONY BRUSCATO
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Police officials don't deny teenagers are using alcohol, tobacco and other drugs in the Plymouth-Canton communities.

Students, however, don't appear to be among those using them in Plymouth-Canton middle and high schools. That's according to a task force of Plymouth-Canton Schools officials, the Canton Township Public Safety Department and Growth Works Community Intervention.

"We're not saying it's not a problem, what we are saying is that it's not being brought to school," said Canton Township Deputy Police Chief Laura

Golles. "I think the combination of drug sweeps in the (high school) parking lots, the two police officers we have assigned there, as well as the school security and teachers help keep it away from the schools."

"Experience tells us that young people will continue to experiment, and if we curtail our preventative measures or the prosecution of those caught using, the numbers will increase," she said. "This task force approach to prevention appears to be working."

The five PCCS middle schools showed a minor increase in the number of teens caught possessing or using drugs during the 2006-07 school year. Statistics gathered at the three high schools showed a decrease in those areas, as well as alco-

hol use. However, possession of tobacco incidents were up substantially at the high school complex.

Brian Spitsbergen, program director for Growth Works, said the connections developed among schools, law enforcement and human service organizations have made school a less likely place for drug and alcohol abuse. However, teens are still finding places to use illegal substances.

"Kids have learned how to negotiate times and places to use," said Spitsbergen. "When kids skip school, that should be a red flag. That makes their homes a good venue." Spitsbergen also notes that prescription drugs have become the drug of choice over the past three years.

Stage is set for beheading trial

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

With co-defendant Alexander Letkemann having accepted a plea to second-degree murder, Jean Pierre Orlewicz will stand alone in the Wayne County Circuit courtroom of Judge Annette Berry when his trial begins Monday morning.

Orlewicz, of Plymouth Township, faces first-degree and felony murder charges, along with a charge of mutilation of a corpse. If convicted, Orlewicz faces life in prison without parole.

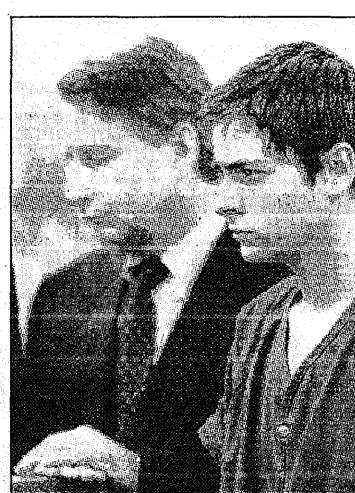
Letkemann, the 18-year-old former Livonia Churchill High School student from Westland,

took a plea Monday and is expected to testify. Letkemann is among more than 80 people who appeared on the prosecution's initial witness list.

Orlewicz defense attorneys James Thomas and Joseph Niskar presented an initial witness list of nearly 50 individual names.

They'll all be taking the stage in a case that has already drawn national media attention and figures to draw more. Court officials said Thursday a crew from the cable television network TruTV (formerly Court TV) is scheduled to be on hand to cover the proceedings.

Please see **BEHEADING, A8**



Jean Pierre Orlewicz with attorney James Thomas at his preliminary hearing back in November.

Students face suspension after bomb hoax at Central Middle

BY TONY BRUSCATO
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Three students face possible suspension after making threatening remarks during a search of student backpacks Friday morning at Central Middle School, the result of a bomb threat that was found written on a bathroom wall Thursday.

"One student was talking to a classmate and said he had a bomb detonator in his pocket and he was sent to the principal's office," said Plymouth Police Chief Wayne Carroll. "A couple of other students made remarks and were also sent to the office."

Plymouth-Canton Schools Director of Communications Frank Ruggirello said all three will be "reviewed for suspension."

Plymouth and Plymouth Township police searched the nearly 900 students as they entered the building. They were then sent to the gymnasium, where Principal Pro-

Tem Steve Vowles talked to students about the seriousness of what turned out to be a prank. Carroll said the search of student bags was orderly.

"The students cooperated and everything went well," said Carroll. "We secured them in the gymnasium and when we got everyone in they were released to class."

The search was necessitated after the threatening message was discovered Thursday morning.

"Somebody scribbled a message on the wall that said a bomb would go off Friday morning at 10 a.m.," said Carroll. "We took our precautions Thursday by sweeping the school with two bomb dogs, one from the DEA (Drug Enforcement

Agency) and one from Michigan State Police. We secured the building until Friday morning, and checked backpacks and other bags as students entered the building."

The approximately 900 students were limited to one front and one rear entrance while entering Central Middle School, at the corner of Church and Main streets.

Ruggirello said the school district took all appropriate precautions in dealing with the threat.

"We take our cues from the police department, and since there was a specific date it was determined there was no point in canceling classes," said Ruggirello. "We're never going to put our kids or staff in a bad situation. If there was any question, we would have canceled school."

A letter written by Vowles and sent home with students Friday afternoon stressed that threats of any kind won't be tolerated.

"Even if the threat is considered a joke, there are consequences for even the most casual remarks that imply violence of any kind," wrote Vowles. "If your student has information that will help us identify those responsible for this situation, please encourage them to see me or a staff member they trust as soon as possible. We will respect their confidentiality as best we can."

"It is important for you to know that once we identify the person(s) responsible for the threat we will move for immediate expulsion," added Vowles in the letter. "We also will encourage the police department to charge the families of the students involved for the cost of their services over the past few days."

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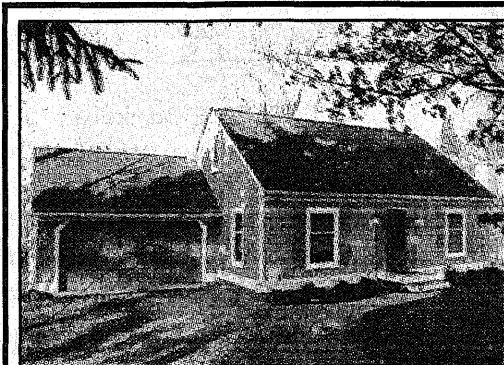
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'The best time we ever had'

Pioneering women ballplayers share tales

BY JULIE BROWN
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

"This was the greatest thing in my life," said Helen (Filarski) Steffes of her six years playing in the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League.

Friend and fellow athlete Mary Moore agrees. "It felt great," Moore said. "That was the best time we ever had."

White Lake resident Moore and Steffes of Harper Woods spoke March 29 at a Women's History Month program at the William P. Faust Public Library of Westland. More than 100 people, including a group of student-athletes, enjoyed the two-hour program. Moore was with the Battle Creek Belles, one of several Michigan teams, while Steffes started with the

Rockford (Ill.) Peaches. "Madonna couldn't come today, she was busy," Detroit native Steffes joked, referring to the movie *A League of Their Own*, about women's baseball, directed by Penny Marshall.

She'd played with her brothers and neighbor boys since she was a little girl. She remembered an angry nun in sixth-grade making her write "Girls do not play ball with the boys" repeatedly. "You should thank that sister because it made your arm strong," she joked about what people later told her.

In high school, the boys coach asked her to play Catholic Youth Organization ball. A girls CYO started up, which she described as getting "our foot in the door."

In 1943, a women's World Series for softball was in Detroit. Steffes was told that "there's a

man here, he wants to talk to you girls." There'd been nothing in the Detroit papers about the women's pro league, started because of a shortage of male players in World War II.

DIAMOND GIRLS

"Do you know what is going on in Chicago?" her mother said, refusing to sign for Steffes when she was underage. Steffes, whose nickname was Fil, waited a year to turn 21 and ended up trying out with 500 young women at Wrigley Field in Chicago.

"I looked at the list and here I was on Rockford," said Steffes who played third base. "I was a hick." Other players were from California and elsewhere and were glamorous. Rockford was filled with California girls and they were good ballplayers.

She and Moore remembered the mandatory charm school to teach players to be ladylike. That had ended by the time Moore played in the early 1950s.

Steffes was caught by her Peaches manager pulling down the fire escape for teammates who were out after curfew and got a "talking to." She later got some of her teeth knocked out during a play in a championship game.

Steffes went briefly to Peoria and then Kenosha, a weak team. She recalled going to Havana,



Mary Moore strikes a pose in the batting circle.

Cuba, for spring training. "We went to Cuba in '47 and we outdrew the Yankees," she said.

Like Steffes, Moore, whose nickname was Sis, grew up playing ball with boys in her Lincoln Park neighborhood. Tigers shortstop Eddie Lake lived nearby, and helped the kids learn.

"I learned how to judge the balls," Moore said.

She graduated from Lincoln Park High in 1950, and was put in touch by her English teacher with an AAGPBL player. The women practiced at the Kronk gym in Detroit, where she met Steffes.

"Jobs were pretty scarce still back then," said Moore, who got a break from one player's dad, a scout.

"Fil took me to South Bend with her that spring. I guess I played good enough."

Moore was on a touring team with 15 players. She played second base. Their travels took them to Yankee Stadium, where they met manager Casey Stengel, Joe DiMaggio and other Yankee greats. "I got to see a lot of the

country plus get paid for it," Moore said.

Her pay was \$25 a week, plus \$21 for meals. The women couldn't wear shorts or slacks in public.

"We had bed check every night, on the bus we had chaperones," Moore said. Moore lost part of her fingers in an industrial accident in the off season

while making auto parts.

"I did go to spring training that year, I was bound and determined," she said. She was sent home, and called up at the end of the 1951 season. "I did get a contract in '52."

Her injury hampered playing and then she hurt her ankle. She "just didn't go back." By then, attendance was dropping as the league ended in 1954. Steffes had left at her boyfriend's urging.

Rookie pay was \$55 a week, "that was how a lot of the girls were able to go to college," Moore said, adding that she took a pay cut when she went to Michigan Bell to work.

MOVIE MEMORIES

The women were peppered with questions about *A League of Their Own*, which they praised and said was 85 percent accurate with the rest of Hollywood. They received letters in 1991 to go to Skokie, Ill., for tryouts for the movie.

The former players, including Steffes and Moore, spent 11 days in Cooperstown, N.Y., "to make that five minutes at the end" of the movie, Moore said. They weren't in the Screen

Actors Guild so older actresses had the speaking parts.

"We did have to show some of them how to play ball," noted Moore, with Steffes drawing laughs with "especially Madonna."

"It was a lot of fun, but I wouldn't want to do it again," Moore said of the filming.

The women have yearly reunions with a cruise out of Fort Lauderdale on tap this year. Moore's the oral historian for the league and has recorded about 180 such histories. "When we're gone, nobody's going to know," said Moore, who threw out the first pitch at a Tigers game.

"I thought it was great," said student athlete Lauren Adlof, 17, of Canton. "I thought it was really interesting." The Huron Valley Lutheran High School-Westland senior plays varsity basketball, volleyball and softball.

The Redford Union High School girls JV and varsity softball players attended and had a group picture taken. They came "to listen to the stories," said freshman Lauren Brenner of Redford, 15, a varsity player who found it "interesting."

The women played an 120-game season in a game that progressed from underhand fastpitch to sidearm to overhand between 1943 and 1954.

"The more you play, the better you get," Steffes told today's young athletes, who sometimes are distracted by other pursuits.

"There has been a lot of crying in baseball," she added, referring to the movie's trademark line of "There's no crying in baseball."

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Pageant perfection

Plymouth teen wins scholarship program

BY BRAD KADRICH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Erin Wheeler has never been a pageant person.

But when her dance teacher came to her with the idea of participating in the 2008 Michigan's Junior Miss Scholarship Program, Wheeler figured, "Why not?"

After all, she's a good student and she dances well, a combination of talents that could hold her in good stead.

The gamble worked. Wheeler, a senior at Ladywood High School in Livonia who turns 18 this week, won the 50th anniversary program, besting 16 other contestants in the event at Washtenaw Community College.

Wheeler, headed to Central Michigan in the fall to study early childhood education with a minor in dance, earned \$3,500 in college scholarship money and will compete for America's Junior Miss in Mobile, Ala., in June.

"It was different," said Wheeler, the daughter of Rick and Patricia Wheeler of



Plymouth's Erin Wheeler was all smiles after being named Michigan's Junior Miss at the annual competition at Washtenaw Community College.

Plymouth Township. "I'm not really a 'pageant' type of person, so it was new to me. But I was excited to do it because it was something different for my senior year."

Cheryl Sulek, the owner of Cheryl's School of Dance in Novi and Wheeler's instructor, has a friend who is one of the directors of the state program. The friend knew of Wheeler's academic performance and her dance ability and recommended her entry.

"She knew I'd been doing well in school and she knows how I dance," Wheeler said of Sulek's friend. "She felt with that combination I would probably do well."

Michigan's Junior Miss is a college scholarship program for high school senior students and contestants are judged on talent,

MICHIGAN'S JUNIOR MISS

- Who: Erin Wheeler of Plymouth
- What: Michigan's Junior Miss
- Where: 50th annual competition at Washtenaw Community College
- Why: She won the physical fitness category and bested 16 other competitors to advance to the national competition in June
- Family: The 18-year-old Ladywood High School senior is the daughter of Rick and Patricia Wheeler of Plymouth

physical fitness, self-expression, interview and scholastic achievement. The seventeen contestants competed for \$9,000 in college scholarship money.

Wheeler, who won the physical fitness category, watched as names of the runners-up were called. As they paraded to the stage, Wheeler and her family wondered, "Do we have a chance?" When the first runner-up was named and Wheeler's name still hadn't been called, she thought, "Maybe I do."

"We had a good feeling after the first-runner-up, because (Erin) was the only one left who'd won any categories," her dad, Rick Wheeler, said. "We were very excited, because she was up against some really good competitors."

Erin Wheeler said she doesn't really remember what thoughts ran through her mind when she finally heard her name.

"I was surprised ... every single person was so different and talented in so many ways, it honestly could have been any one of us," she said. "I couldn't even hear what everyone else was saying. I was kind of in shock."

Raven Rickard of Westland won \$2,500 for her first-runner-up finish. Whitney Askew of Canton won \$500 as the Talent Award winner.

More information on the Michigan's Junior Miss Program can be found on the www.ajm.org Web site or by contacting State Chairperson Lydia Sorosh at (734) 426-4744.

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Receiving awards as part of the Michigan Junior Miss Program were Adrienne Linsley of Prudenville (front row, from left), Kiana Sledge of Inkster, 2008 Michigan Junior Miss Erin Wheeler of Plymouth, Whitney Askew of Canton, Raven Rickard of Westland (back row, from left), Chelsey Knapper of Clarkston and Katie Ballman of Ann Arbor.

Fitness center debuts with grand opening

Anytime Fitness, the world's first 24-hour fitness, tanning and reciprocal membership franchise, announced it is open for business in the Plymouth Town Center, with a grand opening celebration taking place 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday, April 11.

As one of the only fitness clubs in the area with 24-hour access, Anytime Fitness offers a convenient and affordable exercise option. According to manager James Cox, Anytime Fitness members can workout any time of the day or night, using a security-access key to enter the club, even when it is not staffed.

Once inside, Cox said, members have full use of state-of-the-art strength training and cardiovascular equipment. Anytime Fitness also offers 24-hour tanning and membership reciprocity among its clubs, which allows members to use any of the more than 600 clubs that are currently open across the country.

According to Cox, the layout of each club is designed "for quick and effective exercise." Equipment options at Anytime

BUSINESS BRIEFS

To celebrate its grand opening, Anytime Fitness is offering a 0-percent enrollment fee and iPod give away for four, one-year contract referrals or more.

Cox is very enthusiastic about opening this new club in Plymouth.

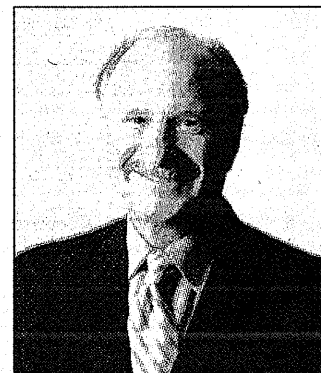
"Anytime Fitness clubs are pared down to the essentials necessary for a great workout," Cox said. "Where we don't cut corners is in our personal service and commitment to our members. We are excited to be in Plymouth and it is our goal to become an active member of the community."

Club tours will be available during the grand opening celebration. Membership information is available at the club, by calling (734) 254-9191 or by visiting www.anytimefitness.com on the Web.

Plymouth Town Center is located on Ann Arbor Road, just west of Haggerty.

Law firm promotion

David Winter, a Plymouth resident since 1986, has been named chief financial officer of Somers Schwartz Law Offices, one of the state's top plaintiff law firms.



David Winter

Winter, who has primarily worked as a medical malpractice attorney, received his law degree from Detroit College of Law in 1978, after graduating from

Eastern Michigan University in 1974.

Winter, 54, is a member of the American Bar, the State Bar and the Michigan Trial Lawyers Association.

Committed to community service, Winter was very active in youth baseball programs, including 15 years (1986-2001) spent as commissioner of a Plymouth youth baseball league. He was also active in youth football and even headed the Plymouth Salem Booster Club in the late 1990s, and is still active with youth sports in the Plymouth community.

Winter had one son who was a baseball player at Plymouth Salem High School and another son who was a member of the high school marching band.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Trainer Rick Burnett and the owners of Anytime Fitness host a grand opening April 11 at the center, located in Plymouth Town Center on Ann Arbor Road west of Haggerty.

Fitness include circuit and cross-training machines, free weights, stationary bicycles, and treadmills. If desired, members can add a tanning option to their membership. Personal training, private showers, locker and dressing areas are also available.

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DIA lecture series

The Plymouth Community Arts Council continues a pair of Detroit Institute of Arts lecture series:

The PCAC presents the Detroit Institute of Arts Speakers Bureau Brown Bag Lecture Series noon Tuesday, April 8, on "Life's Pleasures: The Ashcan Artists Brush with Leisure" depicting objects from the current DIA exhibition.

The Plymouth Community Arts Council together with the Plymouth District Library presents the Detroit Institute of Arts Speakers Bureau Evening Lecture Series. Monday, April 21, at 7 p.m. topic to be announced. Contact the PCAC one week before the lecture to hear the topic. Held at the Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main Street, Plymouth. (734) 416-4278, www.plymoutharts.com

Newcomers road rally The Plymouth Newcomers and Neighbors host their annual Road Rally 4-8 p.m. Saturday, April 26.

During the annual rally, competing teams will race around town to solve clues and puzzles that will challenge your senses and your vast knowledge of the community. The race will end at a secret party destination revealed at the end of the game. Prizes will be awarded to the top teams.

Participants who need to be connected with a team, just send in your registration form and they will be matched up.

Teams consist of 4-6 people per car and you must be 18 years old to participate.

The starting location will be revealed in a clue sent after you register. Cost is \$20, which includes dinner. Registrations must be received by April 8.

To register, contact Robert Keller at robertplusjanet@aol.com or (734) 451-1940.

Appreciation breakfast

The annual Teacher & Staff Appreciation Breakfast, designed to honor those at Salem, Canton and Plymouth High Schools, is set for 6 a.m. Tuesday, May 6, at each of the respective schools.

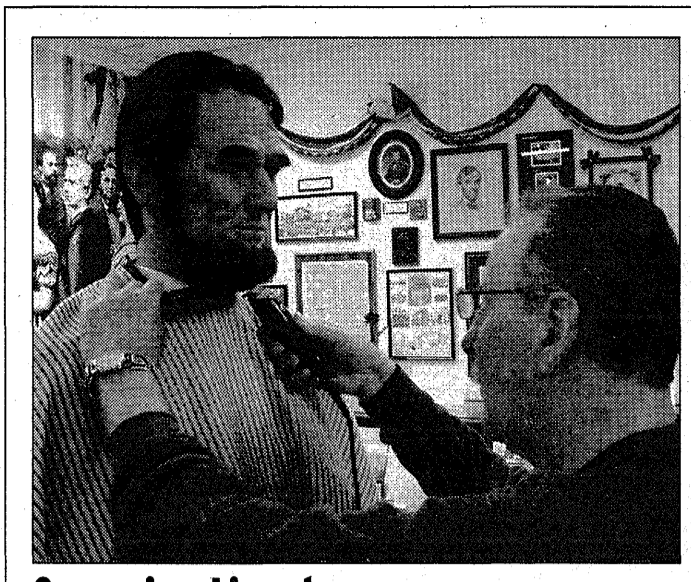
Organizers are in great need of breakfast casseroles, potato dishes, fruit bowls, baked goods, breakfast meats or monetary donations.

Anyone interested in making any type of a donation should contact one of the following chairpersons as soon as possible: Salem High School, Suzanne Zabowski, sunique7@aol.com; Canton High School, Sue Boeve, sboeve@dmcc.org; or Plymouth High School, Kathy Craig, kathycraig13@aol.com

New Morning open house

New Morning School, a pre-K through grade eight parent cooperative, hosts an open house 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 15.

The school provides a foundation through individualized learning methods, a low student-teacher ratio, high parental involvement, and a challenging academic curriculum. New Morning School is a



Grooming Lincoln

A visit to the barber or the hairdresser is on the checklist for most people when preparing for a major birthday. But for Abraham Lincoln, who will celebrate his 200th birthday next February, the barber made a house call. Myron Hopper, a barber at McMullen's Barber and Styling Salon on Fleet Street in Plymouth, came calling at the Plymouth Historical Museum recently, with hair clippers in tow. It seems that Lincoln's beard was a bit shaggy, so Hopper donated his time and talents to make the sixteenth president look more presentable for his upcoming festivities. For more information about the committee, visit its Web site at http://www.milincolin.org/. For more information, visit www.plymouthhistory.org or call (734) 455-8940.

state-certified, nonsectarian, nonprofit school for students in preschool through grade eight. To find out more, or to register for the open house, call (734) 420-3331 or visit our Web site at www.newmorningschool.com

Book discussion

Starting April 16, St. John's Episcopal Church in Plymouth will host a discussion group of the new book 'The Great Awakening' by Jim Wallis.

The church is located at 574 S. Sheldon Rd. The group will meet 6:30-7:30 p.m. through May 28. The discussion will be led by the rector, pastor Dorian McGlannan, and her husband, Joseph Cospito.

Jim Wallis, the founder of Sojourners, a global Christian faith and justice network, has

written several books on the topic of faith and politics.

Contact parish administrator Elizabeth Wilhelm at (734) 453-0190 or via e-mail at ewilhelm@stjohnsplymouth.org for more information and to sign up.

Museum baseball lecture

Author and historian Peter Morris will lecture on "The Pioneer Era of Baseball" at the Plymouth Historical Museum 1 p.m. Sunday, April 13.

Morris, a former English instructor at Michigan State University, is a specialist in nineteenth-century baseball and an active member of the Society for American Baseball Research. He has authored several books on baseball, including his recently released 'But Didn't We Have Fun: An

Informal History of Baseball's Pioneer Era, 1843-1870. He also wrote Baseball Fever: Early Baseball in Michigan, an excellent overview of early baseball in the state.

Admission to the talk is \$5 per person, which includes admission to the museum. No advance tickets are necessary. No passes will be accepted for this event.

The Plymouth Historical Museum is located at 155 S. Main Street, Plymouth. The current exhibit is "Batter Up! Generations of Baseball." Hours are Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday 1-4 p.m. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$2 for children 5-17, and \$10 for families. Membership in the Plymouth Historical Society, which owns the Museum, is \$25 for individuals and \$40 for families, and includes free admission to the Museum and a 10 percent discount in the Gift Shop.

Top volunteers

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce is looking for nominations for the 2008 Volunteers of the Year.

Plymouth service clubs can nominate their outstanding volunteer by filling out a nomination form available through the Chamber of Commerce. The nominees will then be honored at the Showcase and Taste of Plymouth on Monday, May 12, at The Inn at St. John's.

Nominations should be forwarded to the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce, 850 W. Ann Arbor Trail. The deadline to be included is April 18.

For more information, call (734) 453-1540.

Youth center open house

St. John's Episcopal Church in Plymouth hosts the grand opening and open house for its new Youth House 4-7 p.m. Saturday, April 12.

The renovation of the old rectory into a youth house has been an idea since 2003 and the work was started in

fall of 2007. With the help of over 1,250 volunteer-hours the project has been completed. To celebrate, the church will host a variety of activities and celebrations, with appetizers, a strolling open house, a silent auction, a house blessing, a ribbon cutting and much more.

For further information or to find out how to support this event contact Elizabeth Wilhelm, the parish administrator, at by calling (734) 453-0190, Ext. 10.

Charity poker tournament

The Knights of Columbus will host a charity Texas Hold 'Em Tournament to benefit various charities Saturday April 19 at The Shark Club, 42070 Ford Road, Canton. Tournament registration begins at 11:30 a.m., dealing at 12:30 p.m.

Buy in of \$40 includes \$5 bounty chip. One \$20 add-on prior to start of tourney. Cash games will be running before and during the tournament. There will be a full menu and bar available.

For more information and to reserve a tournament seat, visit www.kofc8284.eventbrite.com, or call Tom at (734) 502-7016 or Fred at (734) 765-8739.

Mom-2-Mom sale

The Plymouth-Canton Mothers of Multiples hosts a Mom-to-Mom Sale 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 12, at the Knights of Columbus hall, 19801 Farmington (between Seven Mile and Eight Mile roads) in Livonia.

The sale will feature a bake sale and clothing and baby gear. It'll be department-style shopping featuring infant/kids clothing (preemie to 5T), spring and summer items, lots of multiples items/sets, toys and baby gear and maternity items for moms-to-be.

Admission is \$1; all sales are cash-only and final, no strollers before 11 a.m.

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS NOTICE TO BIDDERS. The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a bid for Sanding & Refinishing of Maple Gym Floor at Canton High School. Specifications and bid forms are available by contacting Dan Phillips in the PCCS Purchasing Department at (734) 416-2746 or for bid documents and technical information, please contact Laura Hagan, PCCS Facilities Construction Director at (734) 416-2953. Sealed bids are due on or before 2:30 p.m., Monday, May 5, 2008 to the E.J. McClendon Educational Center located on 454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, MI 48170. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept and/or reject all bids, as they judge to be in the best interest of the school district.

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS NOTICE TO BIDDERS. The Board of Education of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools invites all interested and qualified companies to submit a bid for Seated Choral Risers with Accessories and Music Posture Chairs for Salem High School. Specifications and bid forms are available by contacting Dan Phillips in the PCCS Purchasing Department at (734) 416-2746 or for bid documents and technical information, please contact Laura Hagan, PCCS Facilities Construction Director at (734) 416-2953. Sealed bids are due on or before 2:00 p.m., Monday, May 5, 2008 to the E.J. McClendon Educational Center located on 454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, MI 48170. The Board of Education reserves the right to accept and/or reject all bids, as they judge to be in the best interest of the school district.

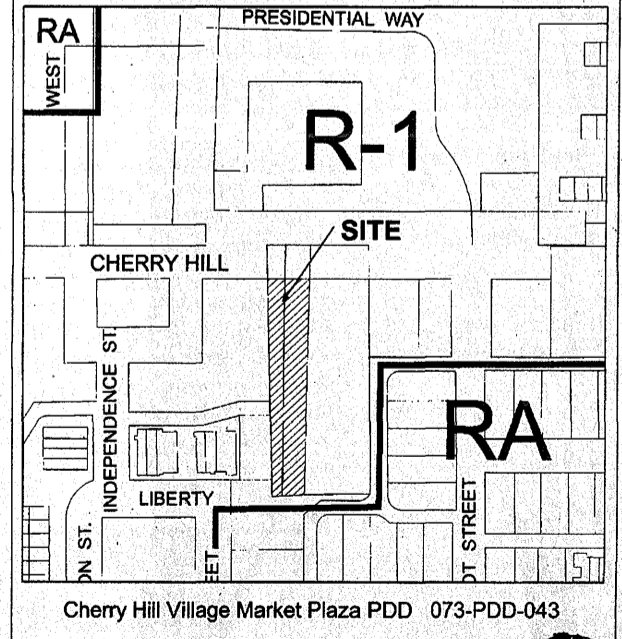
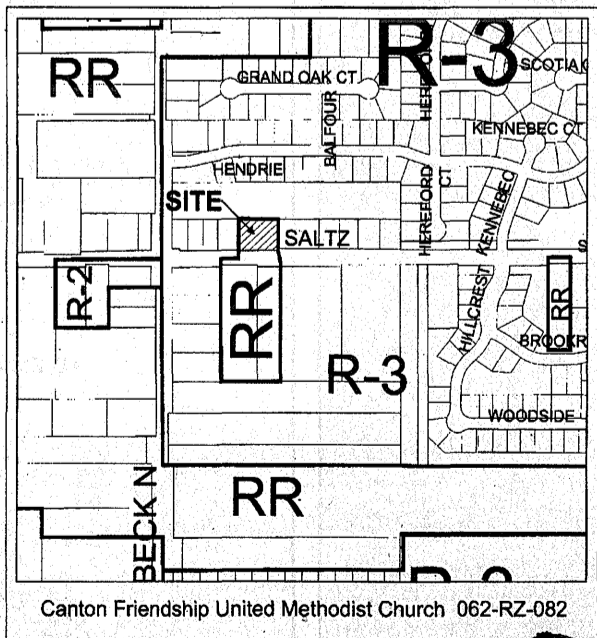
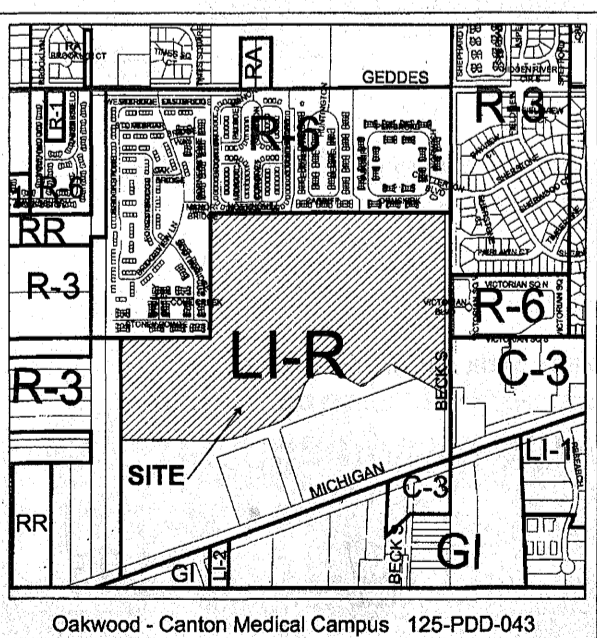
CANTON POLICE DEPARTMENT 1150 S. CANTON CENTER RD. CANTON, MI 48188. The following vehicles have been deemed abandoned and will be sold at public auction, April 8, 2008 at 10:00 AM. The auction will be held at Westland Car Care Towing, 6375 Hix Rd., Westland, MI. 48185. The vehicles will be sold as is, starting bid is for towing and storage.

PLYMOUTH DISTRICT LIBRARY PUBLIC NOTICE. The Plymouth District Library Board will hold its REGULAR April meeting Tuesday, April 15, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. at 223 S. Main Street, Plymouth, Michigan 48170. The Plymouth District Library will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tape of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon seven (7) days notice to the Plymouth District Library. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Plymouth District Library by writing or calling the following: Barbara Kraft, Library Secretary, Plymouth District Library, 223 S. Main Street, Plymouth, MI 48170, 734-453-0750, X217.

PLANNING COMMISSION CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING. PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Michigan Public Act 110 of 2006, of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to the Zoning Ordinance of the Charter Township of Canton that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, April 21, 2008, in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road at 7:00 p.m. on the following proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance: OAKWOOD CANTON MEDICAL CAMPUS PLANNED DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT (PDD) - (PRELIMINARY PLAN) - CONSIDER REQUEST TO ESTABLISH A PDD AS PERMITTED IN SECTION 27.04 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE INCLUSIVE OF PARCEL NO(S). 125 99 0002 707 (47520 MICHIGAN AVE). Property is located north of Michigan and west of Beck Road. Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission should be received at the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 Canton Center S. prior to Thursday, April 17, 2008 in order to be included in the materials submitted for review.

PLANNING COMMISSION CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING. PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Michigan Public Act 12 of 2008, of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to the Zoning Ordinance of the Charter Township of Canton that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, April 21, 2008 in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road at 7:00 p.m. on the following proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance: CANTON FRIENDSHIP CHURCH REZONING - CONSIDER REQUEST TO REZONE PARCEL NO. 062 99 0027 000 (47280 SALTZ) FROM RR, RURAL RESIDENTIAL TO R-3, SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL. Property is located north of Saltz Road and east of Beck Road. Written comments addressed to the Planning Commission should be received at the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 Canton Center S. prior to Thursday, April 17, 2008 in order to be included in the materials submitted for review.

PLANNING COMMISSION CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING. PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON, WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Michigan Public Act 12 of 2008, of the State of Michigan, as amended, and pursuant to the Zoning Ordinance of the Charter Township of Canton that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Canton will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, April 21, 2008, in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road at 7:00 p.m. on the following proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance: CHERRY HILL VILLAGE MARKET PLAZA MINOR PLANNED DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT (PDD) - CONSIDER REQUEST TO ESTABLISH A MINOR PDD AS PERMITTED IN SECTION 27.04 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE INCLUSIVE OF PARCEL NO(S). 073 99 0007 702 (50337 CHERRY HILL) AND 073 99 0008 702. Property is located south of Cherry Hill and west of Denton Road.



Publish: April 6, 2008 Vic Gustafson, Chairman

Publish: April 6, 2008 Vic Gustafson, Chairman

Publish: April 6, 2008 VIC GUSTAFSON, Chairman

Rep. McCotter takes Fed chairman Bernanke to task on Bear Stearns deal

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, and other Republican House leaders met Tuesday with Ben Bernanke, chairman of the Federal Reserve.

McCotter wasn't happy with Bernanke's answers to his questions about recent actions by the Fed.

"He's in a difficult position," McCotter said in a phone interview Wednesday. "I don't think the bailout of Bear Stearns was a good idea."

He said Bernanke was in a "game of poker and he put in way too much."

Last month, the Federal Reserve and the Treasury Department arranged a deal to lend JP Morgan Chase \$30 billion to purchase the investment bank at a greatly reduced price per share. The Fed accepted \$30 billion in mortgage-related assets as collateral.

The investment bank was on the verge of collapse because of mortgage bond investments. According to press reports, Bear Stearns chairman James Cayne sold off his shares in the company in March, lost nearly \$1 billion but still was left with \$61 million.

"People need to know that prices go up and down and someone shouldn't walk away with \$61 million," McCotter said.

McCotter said he asked Bernanke how he could go back to the people of Michigan and explain to them how this deal will help them.

"It just makes others who do what they did say it's all right because the government will bail them out," McCotter said.

On Wednesday, Bernanke began two days of hearings before a joint Congressional economics committee. He continued to support the Bear

Stearns deal and said it was not a bailout, but necessary to prevent an economic collapse.

MORTGAGES TOP CONCERN

The mortgage crisis was the major concern this week in Washington. Senate leaders announced Wednesday a bipartisan package to help lenders and borrowers in the wake of record foreclosures.

McCotter said that he hadn't seen details, but he expected the plan to include creation of state run credit banks that would provide funding to let people with adjustable-rate mortgages to convert to more stable fixed-rate mortgages. On Wednesday, Gov. Jennifer Granholm signed into law a bill that enables the Michigan State Housing Development Authority to refinance adjustable-rate mortgages into 30-year fixed-rate loans.

"People were taken advantage of and put in this situation by a predatory lending class," McCotter said. "We're not bailing out someone who thought they could afford more than they could."

McCotter said he supports regulatory reforms that would prevent this situation in the future.

"Some people who argue you can't regulate banking have no problem with the government bailing them out when they fail," he said. "In a classic system, you don't regulate something unless it needs to be regulated. How do you look people in the eyes? If you want a free market, accept the consequences."

On another issue, McCotter introduced a bill Tuesday that would restrict all government officials and employees from attending the opening ceremonies of the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing, China. The bill is aimed at preventing President George W. Bush



McCotter

if the president is sitting next to them."

McCotter is a long-time critic of China for its monetary and trade policies and for its violations of civil liberties. China has been widely criticized recently for its military crackdown in Tibet and for its support for the Sudanese government in the Darfur crisis. "The presence of athletes doesn't make a political statement. They all go," he said.

from attending and does not apply to athletes.

"I'm trying to change his mind; he will regret it," McCotter said.

"Nothing is going to change if the president is sitting next to them."

"This is a deviation from the past. No president has attended opening ceremonies in a foreign country before."

McCotter blamed the influence of corporate money.

"They are making a lot of money, but it's a short-term gain," he said.

McCotter had commended House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., for her criticism of Bush's plans to attend the opening ceremony and sought her support for his bill.

WILL HE RUN?

McCotter is expected to announce his candidacy for a fourth term, but Tuesday he said he was still undecided.

"I have to talk with my wife," he said.

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SEMCOG forecasts slow growth for southeast Michigan

Southeast Michigan's forecast is one of slow growth from 2005-2035, according to the 2035 Forecast for Southeast Michigan: Population, Households, and Jobs for Counties, Cities, Villages, and Townships, 2005-2035, just published by SEMCOG, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments.

The region is currently experiencing an extended period of decline in jobs and population, led by significant decrease of manufacturing jobs and increasing out-migration of working-age population. However, in the long-term to year 2035, Southeast Michigan's overall forecast is one of slow growth:

- 3.5 percent population growth by 2035 (to 5.1 million people);
- 9 percent household growth; and
- 7 percent increase in jobs

Households will increase faster than population because the average number of persons per household will decline, and all the increase in households is in households without children. Nearly four in 10 households will have at least one person over age 65 in 2035, this due to the aging of the baby boom generation (who will all be age 70 or older in 2035) as well as longer life spans.

Job growth will be less

robust than in the 1990s. Future job growth depends on more older people staying in the labor force, with many in part-time jobs.

"There are both challenges and opportunities of a slow-growth environment and an increasingly older population," noted SEMCOG Executive Director Paul Tait. "This forecast will help local governments understand and shape the brightest future possible."

This 2035 Forecast will provide a base for SEMCOG's long-range planning.

The report, 2035 Forecast for Southeast Michigan: Population, Households, and Jobs for Counties, Cities, Villages, and Townships, 2005-2035 is available in PDF on SEMCOG's Web site - www.semco.org (under Reports on the home page). To request a printed copy, please contact SEMCOG's Information Center at (313) 324-3362 or infocenter@semco.org. Additional data, in five-year increments, can be found at www.semco.org (under Programs and Projects, Planning, Regional Forecast)

SEMCOG is a regional planning partnership of local governmental units serving 4.9 million people in the seven-county region of Southeast Michigan striving to enhance the region's quality of life.

goodwill sale

ENDS MONDAY!
Stores open Monday until 10 pm

Bring in your donations and earn a **20% off coupon** for every piece of apparel or home textiles you donate.

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take 20% off a single regular or sale price apparel, accessory, fine jewelry, footwear, fragrance or cosmetics item;
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Goodwill Sale prices effective now through Monday, April 7, 2008. Goodwill coupons cannot be used in conjunction with any other coupon or special offer. Coupon must be presented at time of purchase. Duplicates will not be honored. One coupon per item. Coupon excludes Tempur-Pedic, Brighton, Yellow Dot Clearance, Incredible Value merchandise, Bonus Buys, Door Busters, Fine Jewelry special event merchandise, Breast Cancer Awareness merchandise, special orders, gift cards and service departments. Cannot be applied to previously purchased merchandise or mail/phone orders. (15993C)

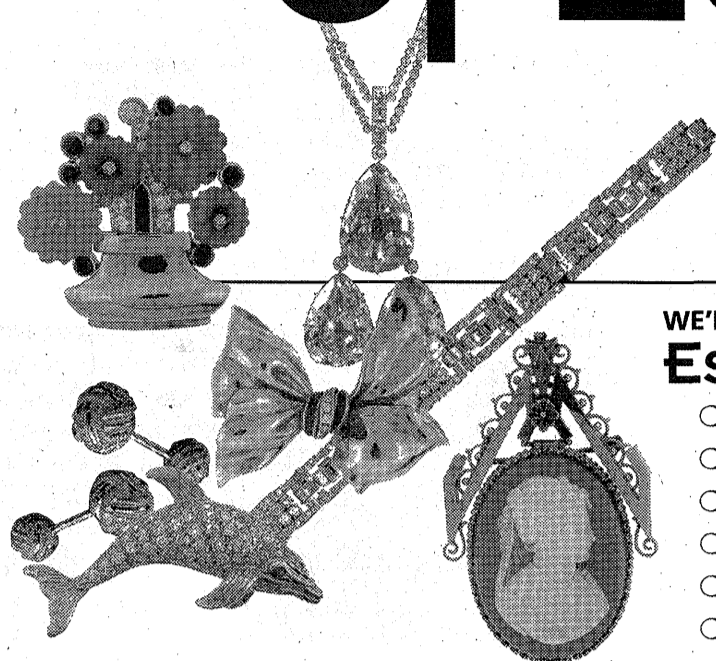
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 - Broken Jewelry, Class Rings, Old Mountings, Dental Gold, Fraternity & Sorority Jewelry
 - Victorian, Edwardian, Art Deco, & Retro Modern Jewelry
- *We usually do not buy costume jewelry*

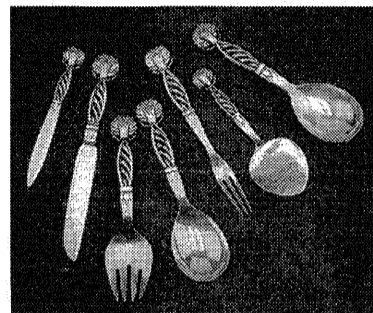
WE'RE BUYING Coins & Currency

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- \$500 & \$1,000 Bills
- All Currency Issued in the Michigan Area



WE'RE BUYING Sterling Silver

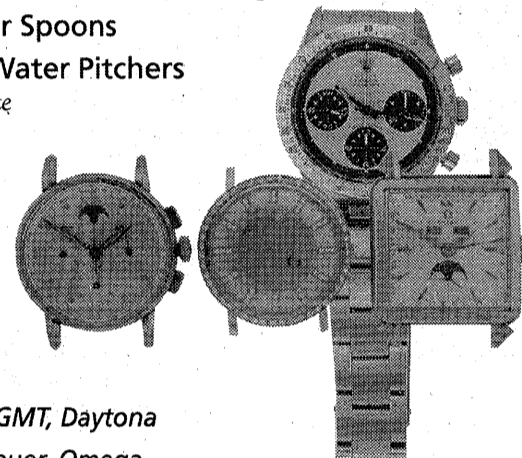
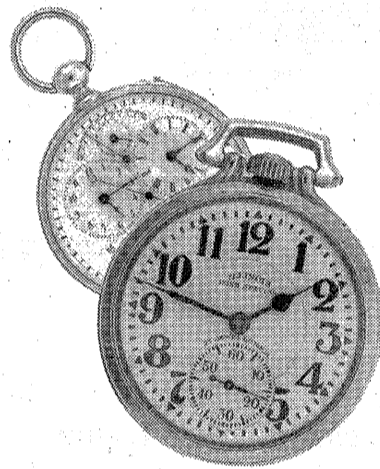
- Tea Sets
 - Holloware
 - Flatware Sets
 - Coin Silver
 - Antique English Silver
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- *We do not buy silver plate*



WE'RE BUYING Watches – Pocket & Wrist

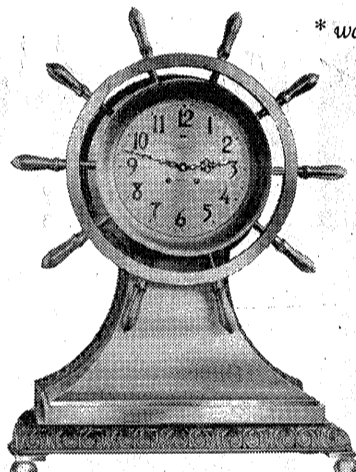
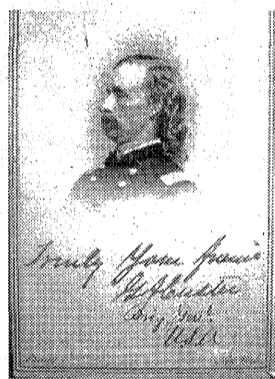
- Pocket**
- All Railroad-Approved Watches especially, Ball, Hamilton, Howard, Illinois
 - All Gold-Cased Pocketwatches
 - Chiming watches
 - Military watches
 - Fancy-Cased Watches (enamel, multi-color gold, diamonds)

- Wrist**
- All Patek Philippe, Cartier, Audemars, LeCoultre, Vacheron
 - All Rolex - especially Submariner, GMT, Daytona
 - All Chronographs - Breitling, Heuer, Omega
 - Ladies Watches With Platinum & Diamonds, Covered Faces
 - Gents Vintage Gold Case - Hamilton, Omega, Longines, Etc.
 - Gents Diamond Dials
- * watches need not be running*



WE'RE BUYING Autographs

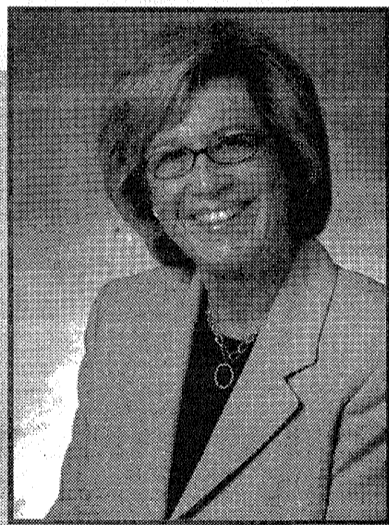
- Famous Americans
 - Land Grants Pre-1831
 - Presidents
 - Historical Figures
 - Signed Photos
- * we typically do not buy modern-day sports figures*



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- Mettlach Beer Steins
- Civil War - Old West - Gold Mining - Photos, Memorabilia
- Militaria - War Souvenirs, Medals, etc.
- Tiffany Art Glass

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— Linda Robin, Owner

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Retiree shouldn't wait to sell house on hope prices will rise

Dear Rick: I have just retired. My plan is to sell my house in Michigan and move south. My problem is selling my house. Does it make sense to sell the house for less than I think it's worth or wait for another year until housing prices are higher?

I don't believe home prices will be significantly higher a year from now. I believe prices in the metropolitan area will remain flat, at best. It is more likely than not, a year from now, that real estate prices will be lower than they are today.

In reviewing your situation, if your decision is whether you sell today or a year from now, I would sell today. Yes, your house is worth less today than it was five years ago. I do not believe, however, that it will be worth more a year from now. Since you will purchase a new house down south, you will get a significant discount on that home. I'm not sure a year



Money Matters
Rick Bloom

from now you would get that same discount. Other parts of the country will recover faster than Michigan. People make the same mistake with their house that they do with their investment portfolio. They look at the account's highest balance and use that as the new base. People do the exact same thing when it comes to their home. They use the highest value of the home as its base. This is a mistake. Just like your stock portfolio, your home value is fluid and to select one arbitrary point in time and use that for value doesn't make sense. If you have a fluid investment such as stocks and bonds or real estate, when you consider the value, you need to look at a

range over a few-year period. This will give you a better picture of the value of your portfolio or your home.

Dear Rick: I am a new investor and I just invested \$50,000 through a financial adviser. When I multiply the number of shares by the share price, it did not equal the \$50,000. When I called my adviser, they said that is a normal charge when it comes to mutual funds. I was stunned at the amount that I paid in fees. Is this right?

You purchased commissioned mutual funds. In commissioned mutual funds, also known as loaded mutual funds, you pay a fee every time you purchase new shares. In your situation, you probably paid a 5.74 percent commission. What this means is that more than 5 percent went right off the top to pay the commissions. I am not a fan of commis-

sioned mutual funds for a number of different reasons. First and foremost is the fact most commissioned mutual funds underperform. If you are a commissioned mutual fund, you have two things to sell — your performance and your commission structure. On the other hand, if you are a commission-free mutual fund, also known as a no-load mutual fund, you only have one thing to sell and that is your performance.

I believe no-load funds concentrate more on what ends up in an investor's pocket than commission-based funds. In fact, all independent surveys say no-commission funds outperform commissioned funds.

Another reason why I am not a fan of commissioned mutual funds is in many cases the commission is hidden. In your situation your financial adviser, or in reality your financial sales person, did not disclose the fees. For them to

take nearly \$3,000 without discussing it is wrong.

I have encouraged investors to be proactive when it comes to fees. Before purchasing a mutual fund, know what it costs to buy, sell and hold the fund.

Every mutual fund, commissioned and non-commissioned, has management fees. No-load funds have lower management fees than commissioned-based funds. In addition, commissioned-based funds also have a variety of other fees that do nothing but erode the return to an investor.

Fees do matter. To be a suc-

cessful investor, one who ends up with more money in their pocket, focus on fees. Whether or not you deal with a professional adviser, never hesitate to ask about costs and fees.

When people use a professional adviser, use one who is a fee-only adviser or who fully discloses fees so there are no hidden surprises.

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

Precautions can save lives in public places

It was a cold November night in Boston in 1942. As usual on a weekend night, the Coconut Grove Night Club was packed beyond capacity with patrons enjoying shows, a relaxed atmosphere, and some good food and some great times with friends.

A fire started in the decorations and quickly spread. The customers in the basement and the main floor dining area crowded to the main entrance/exit. It was a revolving door. Imagine what happened when hundreds of people all pushed to get out on both sides of the revolving door. It didn't move, trapping many of the people within arms reach of clean



Tom Kiurski

air and safety. Within minutes, 492 of the approximately 1,000 patrons had died in the deadliest nightclub fire in American history. This tragedy led the way for safety improvements in businesses throughout America. We tightened building and fire codes in an attempt to better control overcrowding, lack of exits, and the marking of exits in buildings. What can you do to be better prepared in the event of a fire while enjoying dinner, a movie

or shopping? Plenty!

Notice and tell your family about the different exits located within buildings. In larger buildings, a lighted "Exit" sign should be clearly visible. These doors swing outward, and are equipped with panic hardware, so all you have to do is push on the bar on the inside of the door to open it. If you are ever in a building and feel crowded to the point where you feel your safety is in jeopardy, leave! It is not worth the consequences. Tell the management or call our fire prevention division to report any suspected overcrowding situations. In a fire, never use the ele-

vators in a building. They go to the main floor (usually a lobby area) and stay put. Upper floors have stairwells, so locate them before venturing out to explore the rest of the building or head out. If you are going to split from your group, determine an outside meeting place in case of an emergency.

The few moments it takes to come up with a plan may save much pain and suffering later when searching for a loved one. Keep safety a part of the picture while dining, watching shows or while on vacation. What better legacy is there to pass along?

Tom Kiurski is a Livonia firefighter.

Cheer for the hometeam, read today's **SPORTS** section

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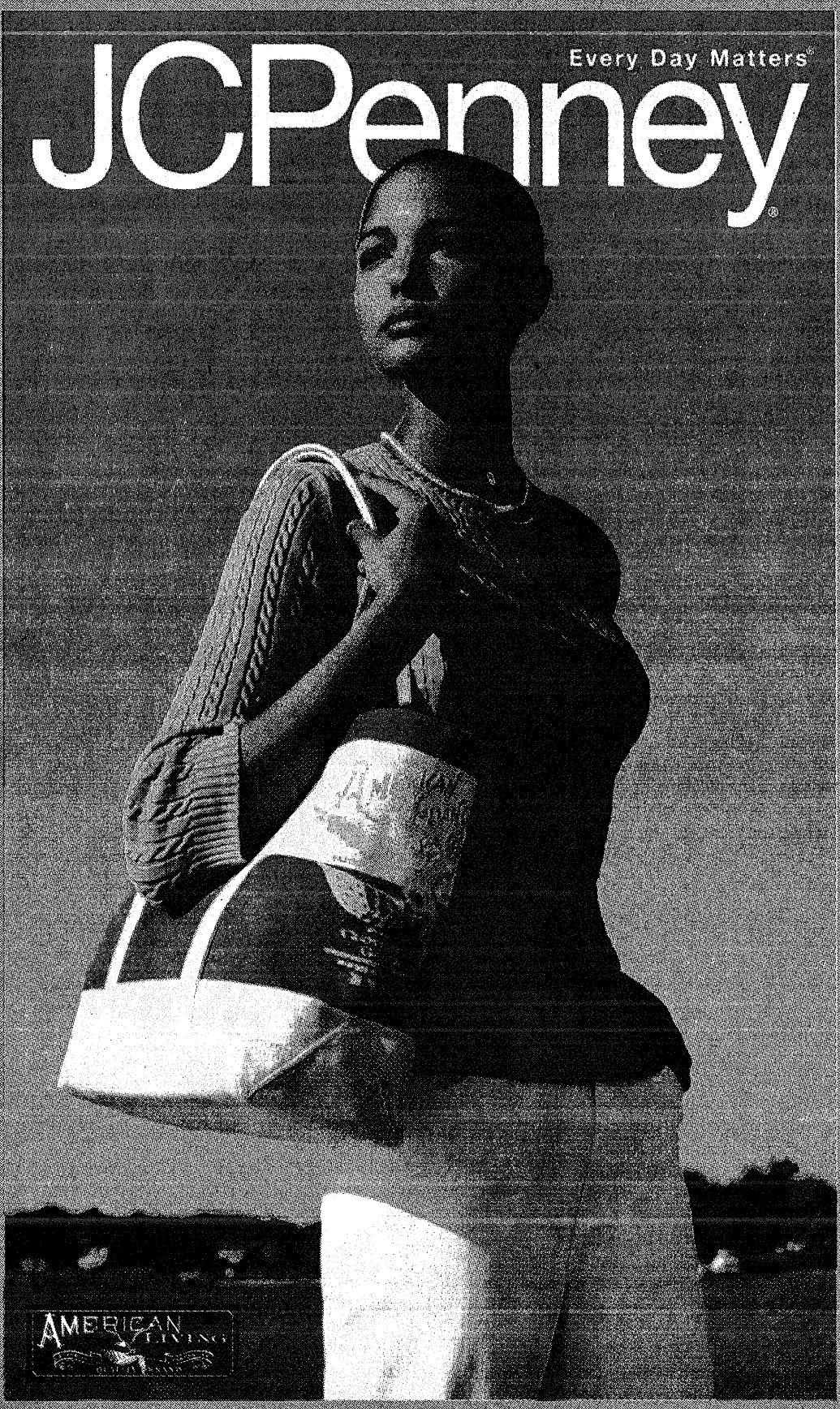
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BEHEADING

FROM PAGE A1

The case centers around the murder, beheading and burning of 26-year-old Daniel Sorensen of River Rouge. Orlewicz is charged with killing Sorensen and beheading him, then, along with Letkemann, dumping Sorensen's body in a Northville Township field, burping it and tossing the head into the Rouge River.

Thomas told Berry in a hearing last week he would use self-defense as a trial strategy, but Berry dealt that defense a possible blow by excluding evidence of Sorensen's criminal past, plus evidence of personal protection orders taken out by four people unrelated to the case.

Berry also granted a prosecution motion prohibiting the testimony of three mental health professionals because Orlewicz isn't claiming the

insanity defense, didn't raise the issue of competency to understand his Miranda rights and there's been no request for a competency hearing.

While a slew of police officers and medical professionals dot the prosecution's witness list, Letkemann and another of Orlewicz's friends, Isam Ayyash (who friends call Izzy), figure to provide the key testimony. In a statement played in the preliminary hearing, Letkemann told Canton police Orlewicz lured Sorensen to the garage of his grandfather's Canton home and killed him.

Letkemann, in his conversation with police, said he entered the garage first, followed by Sorensen, with Orlewicz bringing up the rear.

"(Orlewicz) shut the door behind us and then just did it," said Letkemann, who said in a written statement that Orlewicz cut Sorensen's throat from behind, then stabbed him. "I don't know why he killed him."

Ayyash testified at the preliminary hearing he got a phone call from Orlewicz to come to the garage and help load Sorensen's body into a truck.

The hearing also featured the first public appearance of "Izzy," the third "person of interest" Worthy mentioned at her press conference.

"Izzy" is a nickname for Isam "(Orlewicz) asked me to come to his grandfather's house because he needed help lifting a body into a truck," Ayyash testified. "I walked in and asked, 'Is this a joke?' and they said, 'no.'"

Ayyash, granted immunity by the Wayne County prosecutor for his involvement, testified Orlewicz asked him to give him his clothing. When asked why, Ayyash testified, "Because his were covered in blood."

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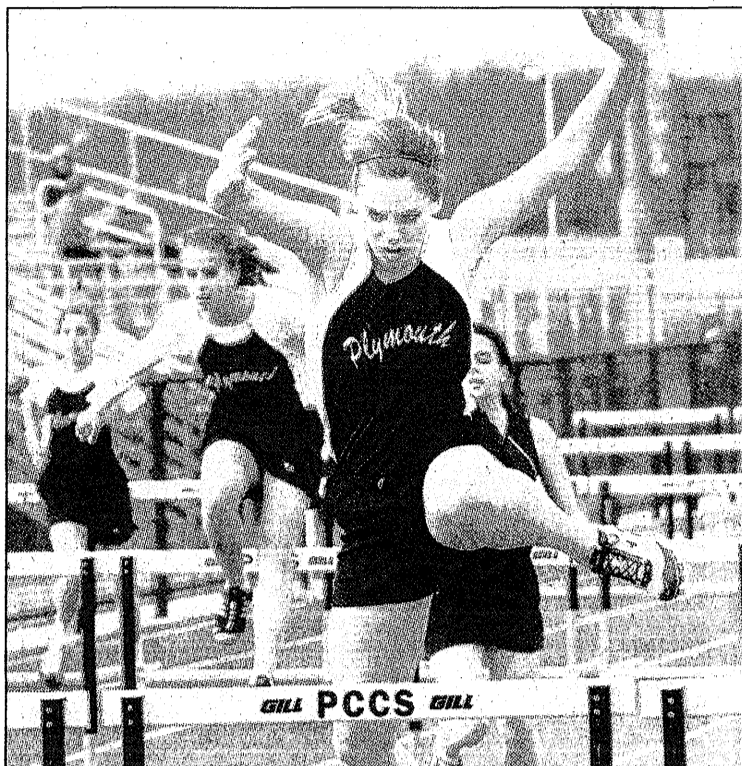
Sunday, April 6, 2008

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Ed Wright, editor . (734) 953-2108 . ewright@hometownlife.com

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Prep track & field athletes spring into action



Plymouth's Mandy McManus cruises over the hurdles during Thursday's meet against visiting Walled Lake Central.



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth's Matt Lewandowski, pictured above finishing the 1,600-meter run, was a big-time contributor to the Wildcats' slim victory over visiting Walled Lake Central Thursday afternoon. At right, Corey Gomoll tossed the shot 41 feet, 9 inches to finish second in Thursday's dual meet against Walled Lake Central.

2-FOR-'WON' SPECIAL

Plymouth girls and boys edge WLC

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Tight and tighter. That would be an appropriate description of the Plymouth boys and girls track-and-field dual meets against visiting Walled Lake Central Thursday afternoon at the PCEP junior-varsity stadium oval.

The Wildcats girls nipped the Vikings, 70-66, in an encounter that wasn't decided until the second-to-last event of the meet when Molly Slavens and Lauren Ahearn finished 1-2 in the two-mile run.

The boys followed suit by edging Central, 69-62, in a contest that came down to the meet-concluding 1,600-meter relay, which Plymouth won thanks to strong efforts from Kenneth Lomske, Connor McKinney, Matt Lewandowski and Mike Hanchett.

"Connor and Matt aren't normally 400 guys, but we

asked them to run the four-by-four because the meet came down to it, and they came through along with Kenneth and Mike," said Kurt Britnell, who is the head coach of both the Plymouth boys and girls squads. "It was a very entertaining meet. Our guys scratched and clawed for every point, and it turned out we needed every point."

Britnell was forced to improvise his line-up at the last minute after receiving some discouraging news.

"I found out about two hours before the meet that one of my top sprinters was academically ineligible, so I had to shuffle the line-up around a little bit," he said.

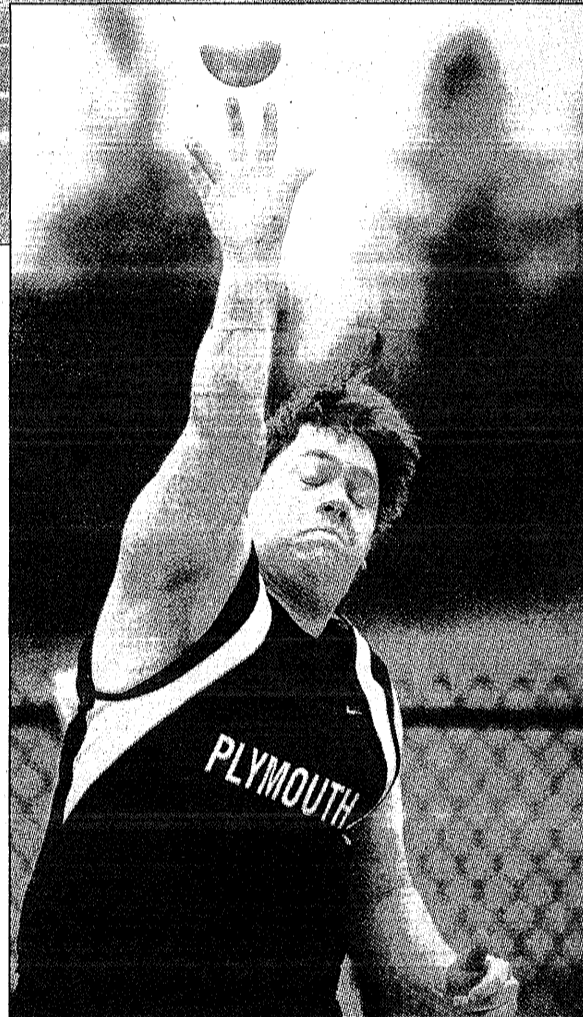
The shuffling produced a handful of aces in the end.

The winners' most valuable performers were junior sprinter Malik Rich, who won the 100- and 400-meter races; McKinney, who took gold in the long jump; and

Please see **TRACK, B2**

'Connor (McKinney) and Matt (Lewandowski) aren't normally 400 guys, but we asked them to run the four-by-four because the meet came down to it, and they came through along with Kenneth (Lomske) and Mike (Hanchett).'

KURT BRITNELL, head coach of both the Plymouth boys and girls squads



Sidelines

Fund-raising run

On Saturday, July 26, at 7:30 a.m., the Dirt Road Divas & Dudes, along with the Post-Partum Support Group of Ann Arbor, will be hosting the "Fourth Annual Pounding Pavement & Dirt 4 Post Partum Depression Training Run/Walk at Independence Park in Canton.

Distances are 5K, 10K and a 15-mile training loop, along with a kids fun run sprint.

Great food, refreshments and entertainment will be provided by area businesses.

Each participant will receive a finisher's medal and children will receive ribbons.

All proceeds will be donated to the Post Partum Support Group of Ann Arbor and UMHS Maternal Services Department.

To participate or make a contribution, visit www.dirtroaddivas.com. On-line registration is available at www.active.com.

Umpires needed

The Plymouth-Canton Little League is searching for individuals who would be willing to umpire games for the 2008 season, which runs from late April to June.

The umpires are compensated on a per-game basis.

There is no age limit for the positions.

For more information, call Jason Hunt at (734) 564-5242.

1st things 1st

Ignition surges to top of standings

The Detroit Ignition forged a first-place tie with Milwaukee at the top of the Major Indoor Soccer League standings Friday night with an 18-11 victory over the Wave in a game played before a sellout crowd at Compuware Arena in Plymouth Township.

Both teams are now 21-8 with one regular-season contest to play.

Brazil native Hewerton Moreira led the winners with eight points in the Ignition's final regular-season home game.

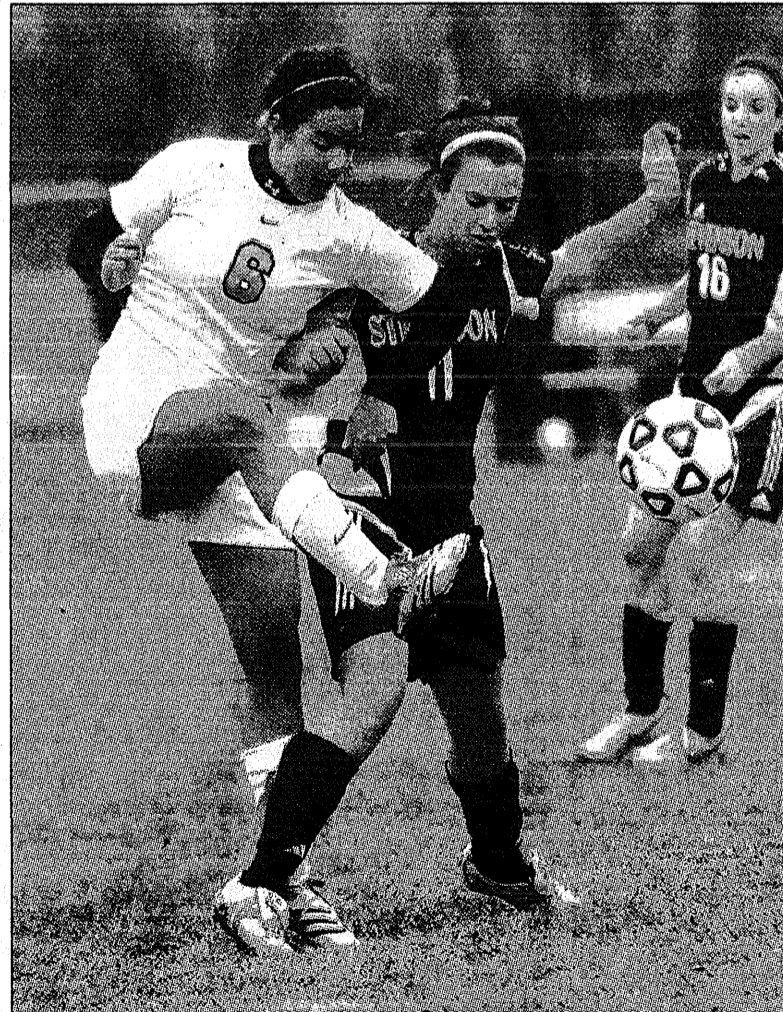
It didn't take Hewerton (pronounced Ever-Ton) long to make his presence felt as he ripped a three-point shot past Wave goalie Nick Vorberg just 56 seconds into the game for his 150th career point. Hewerton made it 5-0 a short time later with a two-pointer assisted by Jamar Beasley.

MISL scoring leader Greg Howes put Milwaukee on the board at 3:51 of the second stanza with a triple.

Royal Oak native Nate Craft scored his first goal of the season at 13:26 of third, a three-pointer off a give from Hewerton. Twenty seconds later, Dusosky countered with a three-point goal for the Wave off an assist from Howes.

Just over seven minutes into the fourth quarter Hewerton netted his third goal of the night — a two-night score with an assist from fellow Ze Roberto. Doug Rice and Ryan Mack added goals to put the Ignition up, 14-5.

The Ignition closed out their season Saturday at Baltimore (see www.hometownlife.com on Tuesday for results). A victory would give Detroit the No. 1 seed in the MISL playoffs as it holds the tie-breaker over Milwaukee.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Canton's Laura Daniels (6) battles Livonia Stevenson's Stephanie Gutkowski for possession of the ball during Friday night's match at Canton. The Chiefs won, 3-0.

Canton's Staub stars in victory over Stevenson

Canton's Megan Staub supplied the offensive punch Friday to knock off visiting Livonia Stevenson, 3-0, in a Western Lakes Activities Association girls soccer crossover.

Staub, a junior forward, had a pair of goals and Tracey Rymph, also a junior forward, added the other to catapult the Chiefs to the victory.

Assists went to senior Rachel Kain, senior Laura Daniels and junior Lisa Pierce.

Canton scored at the 10-minute mark of the first half and led 1-0 at the intermission.

The Chiefs added their second goal at the 55-minute mark when the Stevenson back line was caught out of position and the Chiefs played the ball through to the middle to a cutting forward. Canton put it away with another goal at the 65-minute mark.

Senior goalkeeper Bryanne Bellovary, who made four saves, posted the shutout for Canton.

"It was kind of a back-and-forth game, but Canton created more offensive opportunities, and finished when they needed to," said Stevenson coach Chris Pinta, whose team dropped to 1-2 overall. "We didn't create much offensively and really struggled on the grass to connect with one another."

Coaches: Please call in results

Area high school spring sports coaches are encouraged to call in results of their respective teams' games to Observer Sports Editor Ed Wright so that the local prep athletes receive the recognition they deserve.

Results can be phoned in on week-nights between 6 p.m. and midnight to Wright at (734) 953-2108; e-mailed to ewright@hometownlife.com; or faxed to (734) 591-7279.

The deadline for Thursday editions of the Observer is midnight Tuesday; the deadline for Sunday editions is Friday at midnight.

Parents are encouraged to ask their son or daughter's coach to call if results are not appearing in the Observer.

THE WEEK AHEAD

PREP BASEBALL

MONDAY, APRIL 7
 Agape at Light and Life Christian, 4:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, APRIL 8
 PCA at Huron Valley Lutheran, 4:30 p.m.
 Pont. Acad. of Excellence at Agape, 4:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, APRIL 10
 Kalamazoo Central at Canton, 4 p.m.
 Lutheran Westland at Agape, 4:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 11
 Canton at W.L. Northern, 4 p.m.
 Plymouth at Churchill, 4 p.m.
 Wayne Memorial at Salem, 4 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 12
 Trenton at Canton (DH), 4 p.m.
 Oakland Christian at Agape, 11 a.m.
 Salem at Plymouth (DH), 1 p.m.

PREP SOFTBALL

TUESDAY, APRIL 8
 Pont. Acad. of Excellence at Agape, 4:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, APRIL 10
 Lutheran Westland at Agape, 4:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 11
 W.L. Northern at Canton, 4 p.m.
 Churchill at Plymouth, 4 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 12
 Oakland Christian at Agape (DH), 11 a.m.

BOYS AND GIRLS TRACK & FIELD

THURSDAY, APRIL 10
 Wayne Memorial at Canton, 3:30 p.m.
 PCA at Lutheran Westland, 4:30 p.m.
 Plymouth at W.L. Western, 3:30 p.m.
 Salem at John Glenn, 3:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 12
 Canton at Pirate 9/10 Relays, 10 a.m.
 PCA vs. Shrine at Ladywood, 1 p.m.

GIRLS SOCCER

MONDAY, APRIL 7
 W.L. Central at Plymouth at PCEP Turf Field, 7 p.m.
 Rochester at Salem, 7 p.m.

TUESDAY, APRIL 8
 PCA at Oakland Christian, 4:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9
 Canton at W.L. Northern, 7 p.m.
 Plymouth at Salem, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, APRIL 10
 PCA at Clarenceville, 5 p.m.
 Saturday, April 12
 Livonia Ladywood at Salem, 2:30 p.m.

PREP LACROSSE

TUESDAY, APRIL 8
 Tecumseh at Canton at JV Stadium, 8 p.m.
 Belleville at Plymouth at JV Stadium, 6 p.m.

THURSDAY, APRIL 10
 Canton at Salem at JV Stadium, 8 p.m.
 Brighton at Plymouth at JV Stadium, 6 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 12
 Royal Oak Kimball at Plymouth at PCEP Turf Field, 3 p.m.

GIRLS TENNIS

FRIDAY, APRIL 11
 Canton at Plymouth, 4 p.m.
 Northville at Salem, 4 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 12
 Canton at Monroe Tourney, TBA

MEN'S COLLEGE BASEBALL (ALL DOUBLE-HEADERS)

SUNDAY, APRIL 6
 Madonna at St. Xavier (Ill.), noon.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9
 Madonna at Concordia, 1:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 12
 Indiana Tech at Madonna, 1 p.m.

SUNDAY, APRIL 13
 Madonna at Indiana Tech, 1 p.m.

WOMEN'S COLLEGE SOFTBALL (ALL DOUBLE-HEADERS)

TUESDAY, APRIL 8
 Madonna at Saginaw Valley State, 3 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9
 Madonna at Rochester College, 3 p.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 11
 Indiana Tech at Madonna, 3 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 12
 Concordia at Madonna, 1 p.m.

SUNDAY, APRIL 13
 Madonna at Indiana Tech, 1 p.m.

INDEPENDENT WOMEN'S FOOTBALL LEAGUE

SATURDAY, APRIL 12
 Detroit Demolition vs. Columbus Phantoms at Livonia Franklin H.S., 7 p.m.



Unbeaten Black Sharks

The Canton Black Sharks U8 girls soccer team recently captured first place in the U8 Division of the Winter 2 session at High Velocity Sports in Canton with a perfect 8-0 record. Pictured are (front row from left) Devann Anderson, Lauren Bowling, Kristen Wiseman, Amanda Lopez, Kaitlyn Harries, (second row from left) coach Tony DeRuvo, Sidney Breach, Anna Havener, Alex DeRuvo, Mary Ross, Serena Wang, Lindsey Burger and coach Bill Lopez.

Chiefs split with Huron in opening doubleheader

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

PREP BASEBALL

Canton's pitching staff "reigned" on Ann Arbor Huron's hit parade Wednesday afternoon in a season-opening doubleheader for both teams.

The Chiefs' moundsmen limited the host River Rats to five hits combined in the two games to earn a split of the twinbill, dropping the opener 2-1 before bouncing back to claim the darkness-shortened nightcap, 3-1, in five innings.

Seniors Ben Vaughn (three innings, four strikeouts) and Erik Wright (two innings, four strikeouts) no-hit Huron over the first five innings, yet the hosts led 1-0 thanks to an unearned run in the third.

Visiting Canton knotted

the game at 1-all in the top of the sixth when Dan Stoney walked, stole second and scored on Alex Dixon's fielder's choice.

Huron pushed across the game-winner in the bottom of the sixth on a bases-loaded walk.

The Chiefs nearly pulled off a seventh-inning rally, however, the potential game-tying run was gunned down at the plate with two outs on a strong throw by a River Rat outfielder.

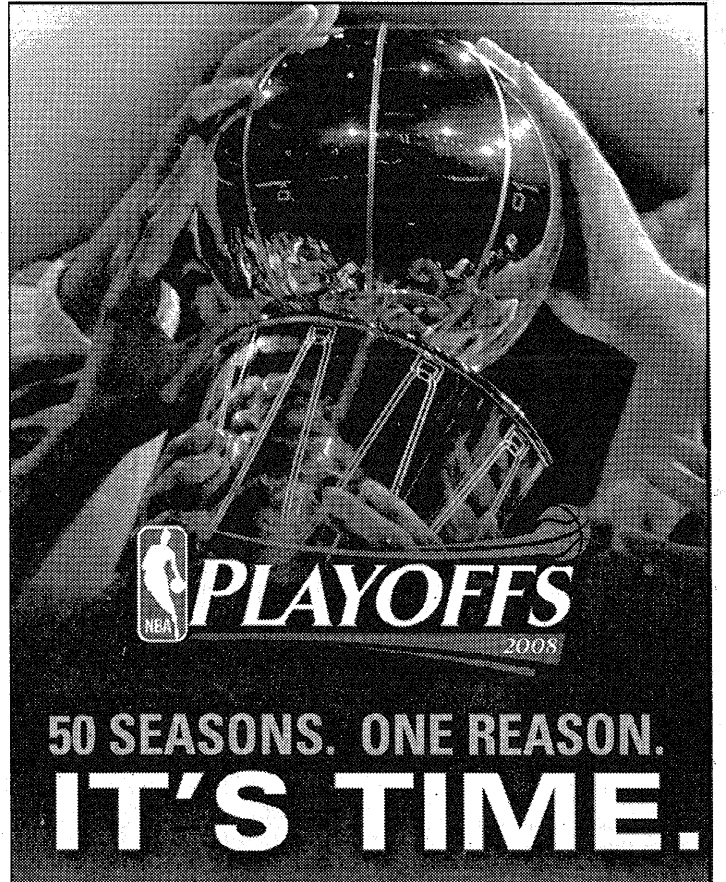
"I thought Ben and Dane (Staples) pitched well," said Canton coach Mark Blomshield. "The story was we had a couple scoring opportunities we didn't capitalize on

and they did. I liked the way our pitchers threw, though."

Sophomore southpaw Alex Dixon earned the mound victory in Game 2 as he tossed the first three innings before giving way to senior Will Tidwell, who earned the save with two strong innings of relief. The offensive sparkplugs for Canton were Ryan Neu (hit and a run), Dixon (run) and Matt Barylski, who delivered a hit and a run. Junior Nick Tomilenko and Dixon both ripped doubles while freshman catcher Seth Tschetter contributed a sacrifice fly.

Canton scored a pair of runs in the second and one in the fourth. Huron's lone run came in the first.

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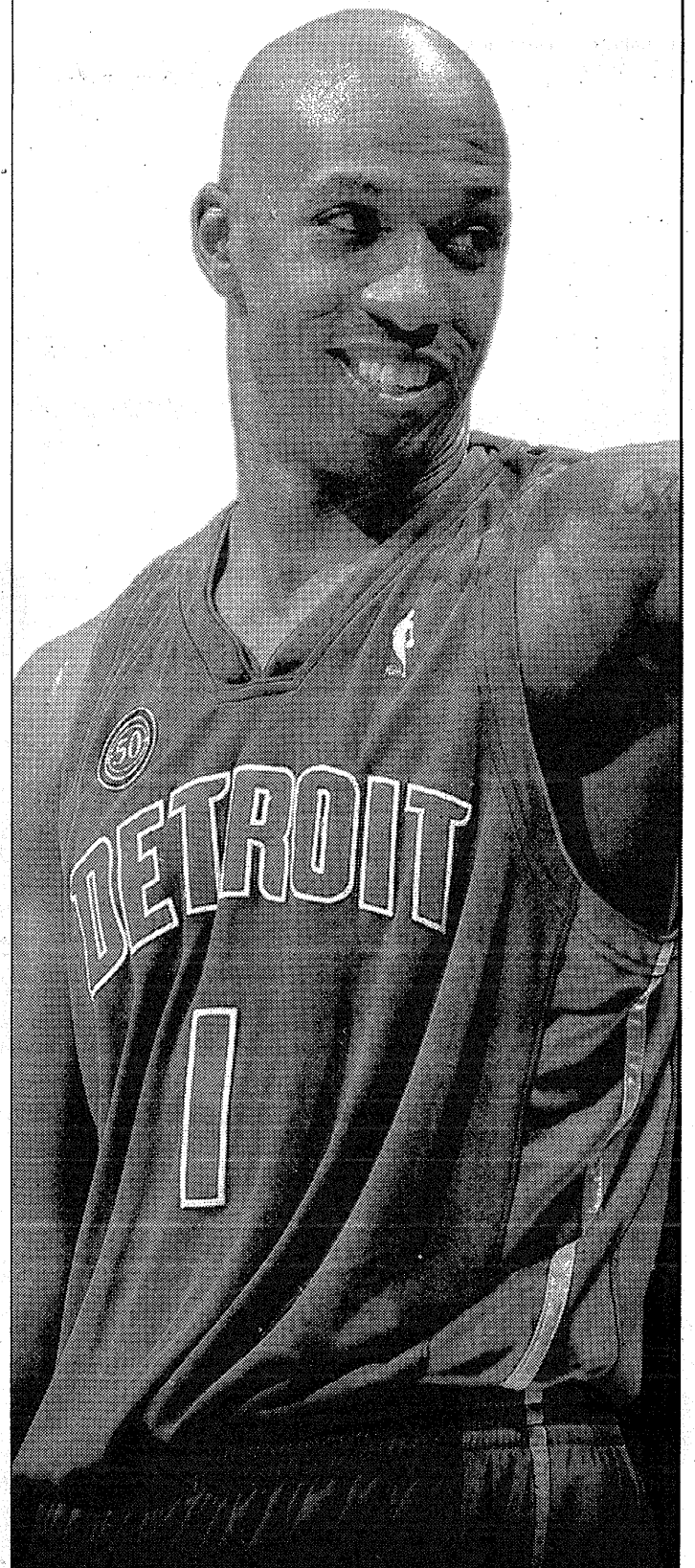
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SPORTS BRIEFS

Plymouth Wildcat baseball

The Plymouth High School baseball team will be hosting its annual Spring Training Baseball Camp Saturday, April 26, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the school's baseball complex.

The camp is open to the first 100 kids in grades third through eighth that register. The fee is \$50, which includes a camp T-shirt and lunch.

The camp is designed for aspiring young players who are looking to improve their skills for the 2008 season and beyond. It will focus on age-appropriate skill development in a positive, fun and learning environment.

Camp attendees will receive instruction from the Plymouth coaching staff and players.

Among the topics covered will be mental preparation and plate discipline; base running; and infield and outfield play.

There will also be controlled scrimmage games.

For more information, call John Nadratowski at (734) 844-3212.

Fellows Creek fund-raiser

The Friends of Fellows Creek and Canton Leisure Services are offering commemorative benches or brick pavers at Fellows Creek Golf Club.

Each paver is 4-by-8 inches in size and can include up to three lines of inscription with 14 characters per line, including spaces.

Brick pavers can be purchased for \$100 and are 100 percent tax deductible. Call (734) 728-1300.

Local kickers prepared for successful '08 campaigns

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The Plymouth and Salem girls soccer teams can relate to the Major Indoor Soccer League's Detroit Ignition thanks to nearly a month of practicing their sport indoors due to Mother Nature's wrath.

"Our practice field is like a swamp, so we've had only two or three practices outside," said Wildcats head coach Jeff Neschich, whose team opened its season Wednesday with a 2-0 setback to Livonia Churchill (see related story). "We can only run four-on-fours in the gym, so it will be nice to be able to get outside again."

Salem coach Joe Nora would almost assuredly second that opinion as his team has suffered the same weather-fueled fate.

Following are brief looks at the Rocks and Wildcats, both of whom figure to be in the mix for Western Lakes Activities Association honors this spring — weather permitting, of course.

PLYMOUTH

Don't let the Wildcats' youth fool you.

Although they have just one active senior on their roster — another 12th-grader, Lindsay Jewett, will miss the season due to a leg injury she suffered in an indoor game in February — Neschich's squad has plenty of returning experienced players back from last year's 9-7-1 team.

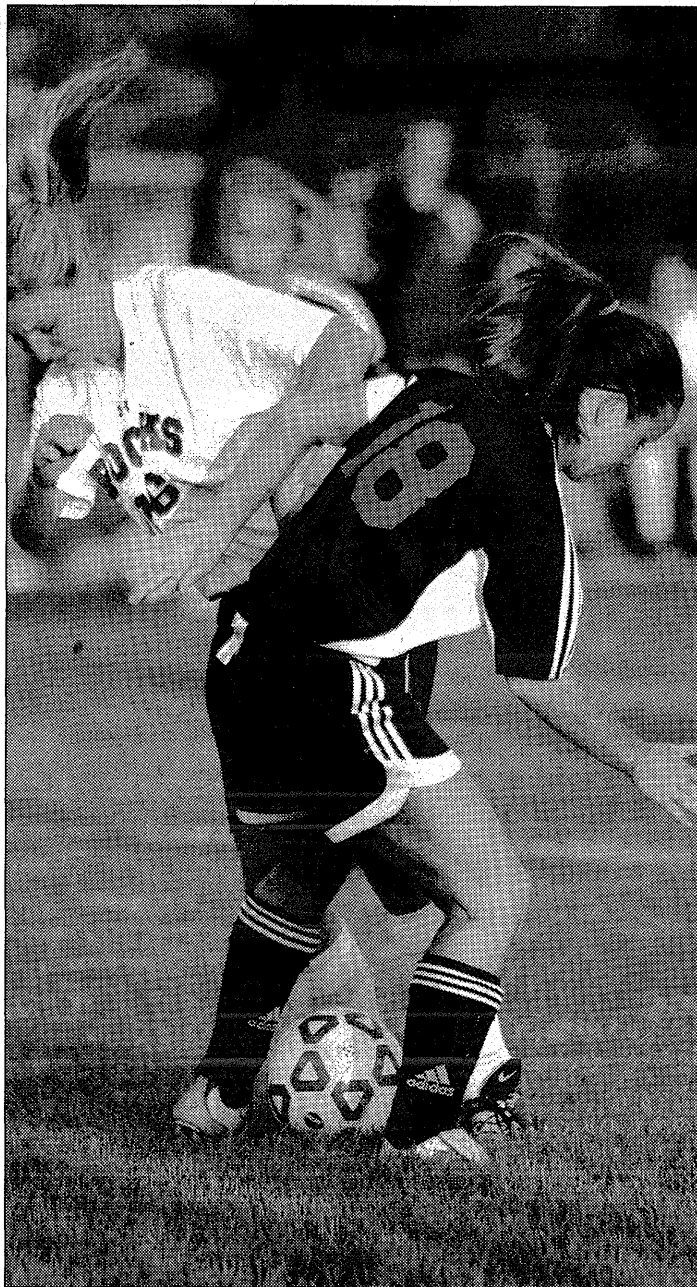
"We have five freshmen and only one senior, so we're definitely young," said Neschich. "But a lot of the young girls we have saw a lot of time last year.

"We're very solid in spots. I think we'll be strong defensively. Our biggest problem right now is that we're not quite in game shape yet because we haven't been able to practice outside much."

A pair of junior mid-fielders will serve as the Wildcats' captains: Kasey Webb and Megan Quinlan.

"Kasey has very solid skills and is a smart player," said Neschich. "Megan is greatly improved since last season and played great in our first game against Churchill."

Plymouth's goal-keeping duties will be handled by freshman Marissa Williams and junior Tara Jasewicz. Williams solidified her



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem junior Jill Behrman (white jersey) will play a key role in the Rocks' 2008 season, according to coach Joe Nora.

standing as the team's clear-cut No. 1 goalie with a strong performance against Churchill.

The Wildcats' defense will be anchored by sophomores Katie Krajewski and Meghan Hughes; and Carlee Barackman, the lone senior.

"Even though they're sophomores, Katie and Meghan played every minute of every game last year, and Carlee is a four-year varsity player, so our defense should be strong," said Neschich.

Junior Kasey Webb will anchor the Wildcats' mid-field along with Liz Koet, Quinlan and freshmen Vittoria Miller, Jennifer Babcock, McKenzie Hengesh and Katie Moss.

Sophomore Julie Forster will headline a stellar forward unit along with junior Alyssa Dykes and junior

Kelly Dobbs.

Other key contributors include Jessica Heck, a sophomore defender; Carley McQuiston, a sophomore defender; Jenna Livingston, a junior defender; Emilie Guglielmo, a junior defender; and Lauren Scott, a junior mid-fielder.

Neschich praised the way Jewett handled her season-ending misfortune.

"She's still one of our emotional leaders even though she can't play," he said.

SALEM

Nora will rely on a blend of underclassmen and veterans this season.

Nearly half of the squad's 22-player roster consists of ninth- and 10th-graders.

"We're very young; we had a lot of turnover from last year's team," said Nora, whose contingent posted a

PREP SOCCER PREVIEWS

6-11-1 mark. "We have four freshmen and six sophomores, so it may take some time for the team to gel and play our best soccer."

Nora didn't hesitate when asked what his team's strength would be this year.

"We have a lot of quickness," he said. "We'll be able to get up and down the field."

Senior mid-fielder Rachel Gizicki and junior mid-fielder Sarah O'Leary have been named the Rocks' captains.

"Rachel can play in the middle or on the outside — she's very versatile," said Nora. "She never stops working. She's one of our older players, so she'll be like a role model to the younger players."

"Sara plays extremely hard every minute she's on the field. She's very into the game, very focused. And she inspires her teammates to play the same way. Off the field, she's very easy going, but once the game starts, she's all business."

Senior Kristen Dondzila will handle most of the goal-keeping duties for the Rocks. She'll be backed up by junior keeper Ashley Tucker.

"They're both very dependable back there," said Nora.

The Rocks' defense will be spearheaded by O'Leary, sophomore sweeper Lauren Booth freshman Lindsey Newton, freshman stopper Tori Kaye, third-year defender Maggie Huls and senior Amanda Krause.

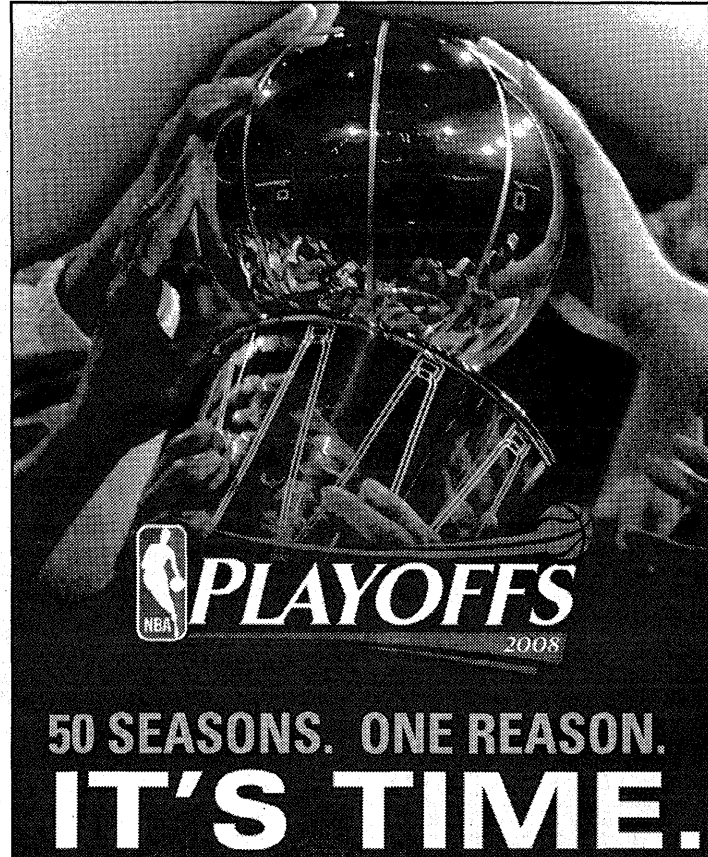
Senior Katie Shull — the team's leading scorer in 2007 — returns to lead a solid mid-field unit that includes Gizicki, Abbi Giaier, Kaylyn Brzys, Mackenzie Rogers, Taylor Burgoon and Cally Brooks.

Junior Jill Behrman, sophomore Kristen Thompson, junior Ariel Dews and freshman Kristina Klusek make up a formidable group of forwards.

"Our league should be as strong as ever," said Nora, when asked about the race for the WLAA top spot.

"Northville's a powerhouse as always, Canton will obviously be strong as well as Plymouth, Churchill and the Walled Lake teams. There are no easy games in this league."

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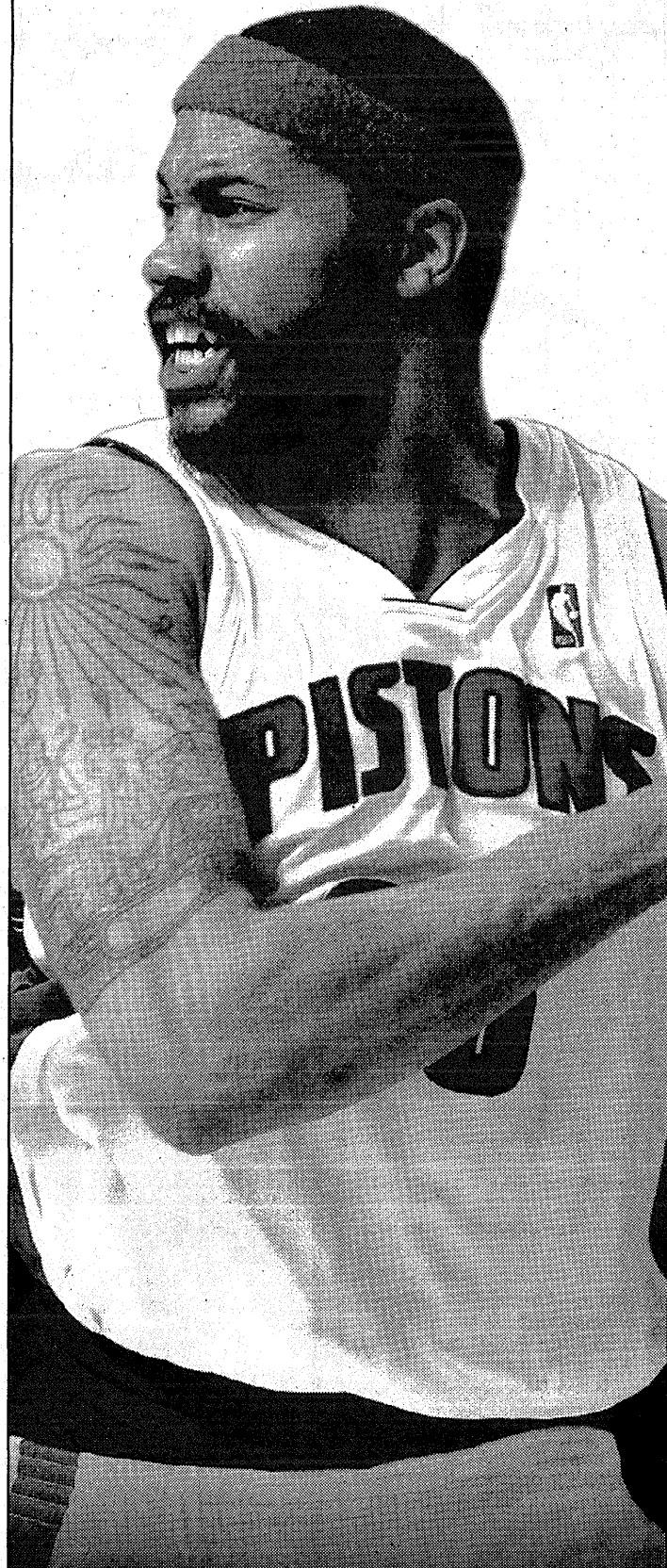
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Mustangs gallop past Rocks, 6-0

BY ED WRIGHT
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The juggernaut that is the Northville girls soccer team was in mid-season form during Wednesday night's season-opener against visiting Salem.

The Sarah Stern-led Mustangs raced to a 5-0 half-time lead before claiming a 6-0 triumph on a chilly, early-spring night.

"It just didn't seem like we played up to the speed we needed to play at tonight, especially in the first half," said Salem coach Joe Nora. "After they scored their first goal 90 seconds in, we started playing well and we combined on some passes. But they put together four more before the half, including one right before the buzzer, that hurt. We played a lot better the second half."

Nora said the score was not representative of the way Salem net-minder Kristin Dondzila played.

"We kind of left her out to dry in the first half," said Nora.

"Four of their goals came on uncontested shots between four and 18 yards out, so she played better than the score would indicate."

Stern registered a hat-trick for the winners.

Nora praised the effort of senior center-mid Katie Shull.

Salem returns to action Monday at home against Rochester. The opening kick is slated for 7 p.m.

LIVONIA CHURCHILL 2, PLYMOUTH 0:

On Wednesday at the PCEP soccer stadium, the Chargers prevailed thanks to goals from Hannah Otto and Callie Mack.

Following a scoreless first half, Otto found the back of the net three minutes into the second stanza. Mack's goal came with 12 minutes left in the contest.

Plymouth coach Jeff Neschich had high praise for freshman goal-keeper Marissa Williams, who he noted made "several nice saves."

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11:45, 2:15, 4:30, 7:00, 9:15

THE RUNS (R)
11:10, 1:15, 3:20, 5:25, 7:30, 9:35

SUPERHERO MOVIE (PG-13)
1:40, 3:40, 5:40, 7:40, 9:40

SHUTTER (PG-13)
2:05, 4:10, 9:10

TYLER PERRY'S MEET THE BROWNS (PG-13)
12:05, 2:25, 4:45, 7:05, 9:25

DR. SEUSS' HORTON HEARS A WHO (G)
12:30, 2:40, 4:50, 7:10, 9:20

10,000 B.C. (PG-13)
11:25, 6:45

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Madonna's Scott Boyer (right) is congratulated by a teammate after homering in Thursday's 18-0 victory over Rochester College at Ilitch Ballpark in Livonia.

Ex-Chief Little homers in Madonna rout

BY TIM SMITH
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

On Thursday morning, the Madonna baseball team participated in extra hitting drills to recover from getting blanked by Aquinas in Wednesday's second game of a Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference doubleheader.

Those swings paid off in quick order Thursday afternoon, as the Crusaders rattled 19 hits around Ilitch Ballpark in an 18-0 mercy-rule shortened victory over Rochester College.

The game was called midway through the seventh.

"It's great to bounce back," said MU head coach Greg Haeger, whose team is traveling to Chicago, Ill. for a weekend set against St. Xavier. "We were really disappointed in how the team played yesterday, especially at (our) house. We don't want to

play like that here at home.

"I'm happy with the way we swung the bats and we pitched reasonably well. The results were what we were looking for."

The Crusaders (17-7) scored five runs in the first and three in the second to set the tone and give starting pitcher Richard Hammer (Garden City) a comfortable lead to say the least.

But Hammer struggled with control (he walked four and hit a batter) and was replaced in the third by Canton native Carl McDevitt, who pitched two scoreless innings and picked up the victory. Finishing the shutout with an inning each were Eric Wendling, Pat Kenny and Bret Spencer (Northville).

Rochester (0-7) managed just two hits, by Jordan Ackerman and Mark Albertson. Madonna really broke things open with a six-run fifth, to make it 16-0.

"Just about everyone in the lineup swung

it," Haeger said. "If they didn't get multiple hits they were on base all day long."

Sparking the attack were Farmington junior first baseman Kevin Zerbo (3-for-4, three runs), senior third baseman Kenny (3-for-3, two runs, four RBI) and junior outfielder Scott Boyer (3-for-4, four RBI).

Chipping in with a single, double and five RBI was senior John McCracken while senior Dave Herrick (Westland/Livonia Churchill) went 2-for-3. Junior outfielder Zack McMillin went 2-for-3 and drove in a pair.

Homering were McCracken, Boyer (who also doubled) and freshman outfielder Shawn Little of Canton. Little went 2-for-4 and scored three times.

On Wednesday, Madonna divided a twinbill with Aquinas to fall to 6-2 in the conference (Aquinas improved to 7-10, 1-1).

SPORTS BRIEFS

'Y' soccer

The Plymouth Family YMCA is accepting registrations for Spring Soccer for children between the ages of 4 and 11.

Practices begin the week of April 7 and games start Saturday, April 19.

There will be eight practices and seven games. The fee is \$70 for program members or \$102 for community members.

All participants will need to purchase a YMCA youth sports reversible jersey for \$15. The registration deadline is March 31.

If you are interested in participating or coaching your child's team, call (734) 453-2904 for more details or visit out www.ymcadetroit.org.

Northville Recreation

Following are leagues offered this spring and summer by the Northville Parks & Recreation Department:

- Adult women's and co-ed softball leagues are set to begin Tuesday, May 6. The entry fee is \$445 per team for an 11-game schedule.
- An adult open morning softball league will commence the week of June 16. The proposed game times are 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday (game day has yet to be determined). The entry fee is \$445 per team for an 11-game schedule (based on an eight-team league).
- A men's spring basketball league is set to tip off April 21 (approximate).
- Games will be played on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.
- The per-team entry fee is \$375 for eight games.
- For more information on all of the leagues, call (248) 449-9947.

Volleyball camp

The annual Plymouth High School Volleyball Camp will be held Monday through Wednesday, July 28-30, in the school's gymnasium.

The camp will run daily from 1-4 p.m.

The camp is designed for girls in fifth through 10th grade (as of fall 2008). The cost is \$65.

For more information, contact Kelly McCausland at mccausk@taylor.k12.mi.us.

Cheer for the hometown, read today's **SPORTS** section

SPOTLIGHT ON:

YOUR DENTAL HEALTH

Presented by **Andrea S. Vivian, D.D.S.**

MORE THAN JUST A SMILE

There is much more to oral health than simply having a nice smile. Left untreated, oral diseases and conditions can adversely impact the overall quality of one's health. In fact, periodontal (gum) disease has been linked with stroke, heart disease, and pre-term and low-birth-weight infants.

There is also research to show that infections inside the mouth can affect major organs of the body. In addition, poor oral health can alter the digestive process, leading to intestinal problems. Moreover, because more than 90 percent of systemic diseases show signs in the mouth, the dentist may be the first health professional to alert patients of their presence. Thus, patients should look at a dental examination as more than a "tooth checkup."

Our bodies speak to us on many levels about their needs, and we can teach you how to listen. Your body will give you lots of good years of service if you take care of it. This holds true for all parts of your body, and perhaps nowhere more obvious than your mouth. Whatever your oral concerns, from dealing with gum disease to cosmetic dentistry to fillings and dentures, our procedures cover a broad spectrum, and we welcome your call for a consultation at 734-453-9413. We're located at 496 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Ste. 201, Plymouth.

P.S. An important part of any dental examination involves looking for oral cancer, which usually begins in the tongue and floor of the mouth.

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Cooking methods affect nutrients of vegetables

Carol from Ferndale recently read that a microwave oven can cook vital nutrients right out of vegetables. Is this true?

Carol, you are probably talking about a recent study on cooking broccoli in microwaves. Researchers cooked 2 cups of broccoli along with 10 tablespoons of water using various methods. They included steaming, pressure cooking, boiling and of course the microwave. They then compared the flavonoid content in the cooked broccoli. (Flavonoids are antioxidants that are proven disease fighters.) The final results were pretty amazing: steamed broccoli lost 11 percent of its flavonoids, pressure cooked broccoli lost 54 percent, boiled lost 81 percent and the microwave broccoli lost an incredible 97 percent of its flavonoid content! They found that water exposure is a key factor. The less exposure the broccoli had, the more flavonoids remained. Frozen broccoli usually requires little or no added water and retains high levels of most nutrients.

Mike from Harper Woods emails that progress with his bench press workout has stalled. He is looking for some help.

Mike, the answer to your problem may be taking a dip and I don't mean in a pool! Try adding parallel bar dips to your workout. The dips can build deltoids, triceps and fore arm muscles, all areas that are critical for a successful bench press workout. Begin the exercise in the upright position on the bars supporting your weight with arms fully extended. Lower yourself to mid chest level, then push back up to the starting position. The exercise is even more effective when you hang weights from your workout belt for maximum resistance. You will get a boost in your bench press if you do 3 sets of 5 to 8 reps per day, using as much weight as you can. As always, don't over do it! Start with a little weight and work your way up.

If you have a health or fitness question you would like answered in the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, e-mail Peter through his Web site www.peternielsen.com. Contact him Peter Nielsen's Personal Training Club in West Bloomfield or Nielsen's Town Center Health Club in Southfield.

Charity gala to provide AEDs to high schools

Randall and Sue Gillary are determined that another parent never go through the pain of losing a child because an automated external defibrillator (AED) wasn't available to save their life.

The Gillarys' 15-year-old daughter, Kimberly, died of cardiac arrest in April 2000 in a water polo game at Groves High School in Bloomfield Hills. Kimberly had an undetected heart condition which took her life. She may have survived if the school had been equipped with an AED.

Since her death the couple has raised more than \$883,000 and donated more than 400 AEDs to high schools in Michigan through the Kimberly Anne Gillary Foundation.

On Friday, April 11, they'll host Kimberly's Gift Gala so they can raise enough money to provide AEDs to the 68 schools still remaining on their waiting list. The charity event runs from 6-10 p.m. at the Detroit Athletic Club and features guest speaker Jiri Fischer, a former Detroit Red Wing. Fisher suffered a cardiac arrest during a Red Wing's game at Joe Louis Arena in November 2005. He survived because medical personnel were trained to use an AED and saved his life.

Proceeds from Kimberly's Gift Gala will be used to provide Michigan high schools with at least one automated external defibrillator (AED) and staff trained in CPR and the use of an AED.

For more information, send e-mail to rgillary@gillarylaw.com, call (248) 528-0440 or visit the Web site at www.kimberlysgift.org. All administrative costs of the Kimberly Anne Gillary Foundation are paid by the Law Offices of Randall Gillary in Troy. 100-percent of the donations from the public are used to purchase AEDs and training. Tickets for the charity event are \$150 and include a cocktail hour, gourmet dinner and dessert, open bar, and live and silent auctions. The Detroit Athletic Club is at 241 Madison Ave. Deadline for reservations is Wednesday, April 9.

Taking steps

Walk to raise money for cure

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
O&E STAFF WRITER

Madison Elkow isn't standing still while waiting for a cure. The 15-year-old Mercy High School student is leading the way to raise awareness about the digestive diseases collectively known as IBD (Inflammatory Bowel Disease).

TAKE STEPS

What: Walk to raise money for Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America, Michigan Chapter for research, education and support programs

When: 4 p.m. (registration begins), walk at 5:30 p.m., Saturday, May 17

Where: Camp Dearborn, 1700 General Motors Drive, Milford

Information: To register, sponsor or volunteer for the walk, visit www.cctakesteps.org, call (248) 737-9000 or send e-mail to michigan@ccfa.org

Elkow was only 9 years old when doctors diagnosed her ulcerative colitis after she started having severe abdominal pain and stopped growing. On Saturday, May 17, Elkow gathers her Camp Oasis team for the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation's Take Steps Walk at Camp Dearborn in Milford. The group consists of kids who attend the CCFA summer camp and the 18 girls on her synchronized ice skating team at the Detroit Skating Club in Bloomfield Hills.

Elkow has been participating in the walk since it began raising money for research, education and support programs for the Michigan Chapter of the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation in 2003. Medication made it possible for the Farmington Hills girl to recently travel to Sweden to compete with her ice skating team without worrying if she'd have a flare-up. Three years ago it took 11 months to control the ulcerative colitis after Elkow began hemorrhaging. Today, she's able to train 14-hours a week and teach catechism at Our Lady of Sorrows in Farmington Hills while remaining on the honor roll at school. Elkow also speaks about colitis for the Foundation.

"I really think it's important to find a cure so other people don't have to go through what I went through or the kids that go to the camp," said Elkow.

Laura Elkow, Madison's mother, is especially grateful for research which continues to develop new drugs.

"Once they found a medication that worked she grew 7 inches in about 6 months," said Laura Elkow. "She's never let it get her down."

Dr. Michael Duffy is hoping for an even brighter future for patients with ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease. The gastroenterologist has been treating IBD for about 25 years. He serves on the Foundation board.

"There's been dramatic improvement. Diagnostically we now have better imaging techniques, blood tests, but the biggest advance is in therapy. There are a number of new drugs to modify disease and pre-



Madison Elkow, 15, of Farmington Hills proudly displays some of the interests in her active lifestyle after recent advances in the medical field helped control her ulcerative colitis.

TOM HOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

vent some of the complications," said Duffy who is on staff at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak and practices at Gastrointestinal Specialists in Troy. He regularly sees patients suffering with the diarrhea, abdominal pain, weight loss, and rectal bleeding which are symptoms of IBD.

"They're considered chronic diseases. The goal is to keep people healthy, get them in remission and keep them there. Crohn's is the most difficult one which sometimes requires multiple surgery and leads to complications," said Duffy. "Drugs in the last 10 years have dramatically improved the approach to these diseases. There's a tremendous amount of research into genetics, a number of new compounds."

So far scientists don't know what causes the inflammatory diseases, but suspect genetics and the immune system play a role.

"As we understand the immune system and the abnormalities better we'll be better able to target therapies," said Duffy of Bloomfield Hills. "I don't think they'll cure these diseases, but we'll have more effective therapies. In the last 10 years we've had one or two new drugs come out. The outlook in the next 10 years is an additional 10 or 15. I think there's a lot of hope in that regard."

Last year's walk raised \$200,000 to fund research at the University of Michigan and Michigan State University as well as CCFA education programs. On May 6, the Foundation coordinates a live teleconference with Dr. Edward Loftus, Jr. on the lat-

est medication from 8-9:15 p.m. Loftus is associate director of Irritable Bowel Disease at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn. For information, visit www.ccfa.org.

On Sept. 13, the Foundation presents an education program in conjunction with the U-M Medical Center at St. John's Conference Center in Plymouth. Call (248) 737-0900.

This year's Camp Oasis for kids ages 7-17 takes place July 13-19, at Camp Copneconic in Fenton. The list of CCFA services goes on and includes support groups which meet throughout the state. That's why the walk is so important. This year the event is moving from Maybury State Park to Camp Dearborn to accommodate the growing number of walkers. bd's Mongolian Grill in Novi is donating the food once again. Any walker who raises \$100 receives a free T-shirt.

"The walk is really a fun day," said Bernie Riker, Executive Director of the CCFA Michigan Chapter in Farmington Hills (www.michiganccfa.org). "We have a Kiddie Corral with games and activities. We have 90 teams signed up so far. There's still plenty of room. On April 8 we're having a kickoff party at bd's Mongolian Grill beginning at 6 p.m. It's open to anyone who is registered to walk. There's no charge. We'll be having dinner and a lot of fun. If you haven't registered yet it's not too late."

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MEDICAL DATEBOOK

APRIL

Bocce for Bucks

A fund-raiser for Visiting Nurse Association of Southeast Michigan 2-6 p.m. Sunday, April 6, at the Palazzo di Bocce in Orion Township. Featuring indoor bocce tournament play, Italian dinner fare, folks songs by the Italian American Cultural Society's Coro Italiano, silent auction and more. Prizes will be awarded to top teams. Tickets are Guest \$100; Patron \$150; and Benefactor \$200. Call (248) 967-9600 or visit www.vna.org.

Divorce support group

Group discussion 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, April 8, Attorney Patricia Kasody-Coyne will also be available to answer questions on a first come, first served basis, in the Women's Resource Center (room 225) of the McDowell Center, Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia. Call (734) 462-4443.

Ovarian cancer

One-to-One Ovarian Cancer Support Group for women with ovarian cancer 4-5:30 p.m. Thursday, April 10, at Beaumont Cancer Center, first floor classroom, 3601 W. 13 Mile, west of Woodward, Royal Oak. For informa-

tion, call (248) 597-2710.

Cure gala

The 16th Annual Commitment for a Cure Gala presented by the Joint the American Diabetes Association 6-10 p.m. Thursday, April 10, at the The Ritz-Carlton Dearborn. Gala tickets \$200 per person. For more information, contact Kelli Dobner at (888) DIABETES, Ext. 6688 or kdobner@diabetes.org.

Sarcoidosis support

Meets 1 p.m. Saturday, April 12, at Beaumont Hospital, Administration Building first floor conference dining rooms A & B, 3601 W. 13 Mile, west of Woodward, Royal Oak. For information, call (248) 545-0320.

Genetically modified foods

Allergies, digestive problems, headaches, personality changes, and other unexplained health problems may be caused from genetically modified foods (GMO's). Find out which foods in your cupboard have been genetically modified at a workshop 3 p.m. Friday, April 18 with Dr. William Karl, D.C. at the Alfred Noble Library, 32901 Plymouth Rd., between Meriman and Farmington Rd. To reserve a seat, call (734) 425-8588.

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All-Observer gymnasts vault to head of class

EMILY QUINT, SOPH., LIVONIA BLUE: The sophomore enjoyed an outstanding individual state meet with a third in the Division I all-around (37.65) along with a second on floor exercise (9.55), third on vault (9.6) and fifth on beam (9.475).

At the regional, Quint was runner-up in the all-around (37.65), first on floor (9.625), second on vault (9.4), third on beam (9.55) and fifth on the uneven parallel bars (9.075).

"Emily has a great attitude when she's in the gym," Livonia Blue coach Lisa Fierk said. "She's always smiling and showing off her hip-hop dance moves. She's very important to our team and is willing to improve on each event to get her team where they want to be at the end of the season."

Her top performances for the season included vault (9.625), uneven bars (9.5), beam (9.55) and floor (9.7).

"She knows she's a team player and she gets along with all her teammates," Fierk said. "I have high hopes for her the next two years."

PAULA GUZIK, JR., LIVONIA RED: The senior was sixth all-around at the Division I state individual finals in Division I along with taking a fourth on vault and a fifth on floor.

"Paula is an amazing gymnast and fantastic leader," Livonia Red coach Kelly Grodzicki said. "She has determination, which she uses to challenge herself further each year. She shows extreme focus in her gymnastics and does not lose concentration. She'll be returning as a senior and captain next year. She acts as a great role model in the gym and out."

Guzik was regional all-around champ, while taking the vault, uneven bars and balance beam. She added a six on floor.

In the WLAA meet, Guzik finished first all-around. She earned a first on bars; second on vault; third on beam; and fourth on floor.

Her high scores for the season included: all-around (38.025); beam (9.7); floor (9.65); vault (9.575) and bars (9.55).

"Balancing her studies, softball and gymnastics, Paula has proven to succeed in all," Grodzicki said. "Positive energy and motivation are the characteristics Paula demonstrates to the other athletes."

MEGHAN POWERS, JR., LIVONIA BLUE: The junior earned an eighth on floor exercise at the Division I individual meet.

Her top performances this season included 36.875, all-around; 9.7, beam; 9.475, floor; 9.4, uneven

bars; and 9.2, vault. At the regional, Powers was third all-around; second on beam; fifth on floor and vault.

"When Meghan puts her mind to something there is no stopping her," Fierk said. "She shows great determination and drive. She had been fighting a knee injury and sickness throughout the season, but that did not stop her from competing at any meets."

"She's a real motivator to her teammates and herself. Meghan's unique character always brings fun and smiles into the gym. Next year she's going to be one of our captains."

ALICIA DIMAURO, JR., LIVONIA RED: The junior earned Division I state qualifying berths in both the vault and beam after placing eighth at the regional in both events.

In the WLAA meet, DiMauro was sixth all-around after taking fourth on vault; sixth on floor; eighth on beam and ninth on bars.

"Alicia is a quiet and consistent gymnast," Grodzicki said. "She could always be counted on to step up when we needed her. Alicia does not give up and her motivation for success shines."

"She'll be a senior next year, as well as captain."

DiMauro's top scores for the year include: all-around (35.65); vault (9.325); floor (9.25); beam (9.0); and bars (8.85).

"She demonstrates positive characteristics in the gym and is very encouraging," Grodzicki said. "Alicia remains focused on her studies and achieved Scholar-Athlete in her third year. Alicia has shown great promise and will continue to do so."

LAURA NOMURA, JR., LIVONIA BLUE: The junior was a Division II state qualifier who took third on floor, fourth on vault and 12th in the all-around.

At the regional, Nomura finished first on beam (9.3) and was second all-around (35.55). She also added a third on bars and fourth on vault.

"At 'states,' Laura tried a new floor tumbling pass and stuck it like she was doing it all season long," Fierk said. "Her coaches were so excited for her."

"Laura always came to practice ready to try new skills and improve her old ones. She is already thinking about what skills she wants for next season."

Her top scores for the season included a 9.55, vault; 8.8, bars; 9.3, beam; 9.5, floor; and 36.75, all-around.

"She has been a great captain this year and always knows how to motivate her teammates," Fierk

said. "She was voted Most Valuable Gymnast this season."

MARGARITA LAZAREVSKA, SR., LIVONIA RED: The senior earned Division II state individual qualifying spots after placing second on the beam and sixth on the vault at the regional.

She added a second in the vault at the WLAA meet with a personal best 9.05.

Her other high scores for the fourth-year letter winner and three-time Scholar-Athlete included a 9.25 (beam) and 8.8 (floor).

"Margarita brings a lot of energy to the gym," Grodzicki said. "She's a dynamic leader and a focused gymnast. It was thrilling to see her add her back-tuck to her beam routine for the finals."

"She shows strength and poise in her athletics. She definitely completed her best year in gymnastics and I'm confident Margarita will continue to succeed as she plans to attend the University of Michigan-Dearborn."

JESSIE MURRAY, SR., CANTON: The senior's extraordinary career was capped off in fine fashion when she was named the state's "Senior Gymnast of the Year" by the Michigan High School Gymnastics Coaches and Judges Association last month. The team captain placed ninth in the all-around at the 2008 Division I state meet and set a school record on the balance beam with a score of 9.7.

"Jessie was first team varsity the first day she walked in the gym as a freshman," said Canton coach John Cunningham. "She's been a 36-point all-arounder all four years. She was one of the team leaders even last year when she was a junior and we had seven seniors. Jessie's been a big part of this program for the past four years and she will be missed."

ROBYN PIWOWAR, FR., CANTON: The ninth-grader burst onto the local gymnastics scene this season and made an immediate impact on the Chiefs' fortunes as she was the lone freshman to finish in the top 10 all-around (she tied for 10th) at the Division I state meet.

"Robyn was out of club gymnastics for about a year-and-a-half before this year, but she re-learned everything very quickly," said Cunningham. "The one event she feared the most at the beginning of the year — the vault — proved to be one of her best by the end of the year as she placed fifth at the state meet with a 9.55 against a very good group of girls."

KATIE KOETTING, JR., SALEM: Koetting enjoyed her third consecutive strong season for the Rocks' gym-

nastics team, closing the year by placing tied for 10th in the all-around at the Division I state meet. Koetting, who is also one of the area's best divers in the fall, placed sixth in the vault at the state meet with a score of 9.525.

AUTUMN COLLINS, SR., SALEM: Collins polished off a stellar career for the Rocks by placing 34th in the all-around at the Division 2 state meet. Her best event was the balance beam as she placed 18th with a 9.20.

BRITTANY YOUNG, SR., SALEM: Young combined with Katie Koetting and Autumn Collins to give the Rocks a solid 1-2-3 punch. She placed 16th in the all-around at last month's Division 2 state meet where she placed 11th on the uneven bars.

JORDAN BRODEHL, SR., PLYMOUTH: The senior captain will graduate as the school's best all-around gymnast. Brodehl, who has starred for the Wildcats since her freshman year, placed sixth on the uneven bars at last month's Division 2 state meet.

LISA FIERK, LIVONIA BLUE, COACH OF THE YEAR: The second-year coach guided the squad made up of Stevenson and Franklin high gymnasts to a third-place finish at the state teams with a score of 144.725.

Livonia Blue also captured the Plymouth regional with a season-best 145.625, along with the WLAA meet (142.5). Fierk also led her squad to a 10-1 dual-meet record, as well as a first-place finish at the Troy Athens Invitational and a pair of thirds at the Farmington and Canton invitationals.

"The girls have worked hard this season to achieve all the goals that they set out for themselves," Fierk said. "As their coach, I'm extremely proud of how united our team is. All the girls were improving their skills throughout the season to improve the team score and the chance to be top three at 'states.' I'm proud of the team and excited to see what the gymnasts bring next year."

The 24-year-old Fierk never competed as a gymnast, but fell in love with the sport while working at the YMCA. She is currently majoring in math, reading and elementary education at Eastern Michigan University.

"When a coaching opportunity opened up, I stepped in not knowing much about the sport, but willing to learn," said Fierk, who has been coaching at the Y for four years. "Coaching is a big part of my life. I would do anything for the gymnast to ensure that they have a safe and enjoyable environment to practice in."



Emily Quint Franklin



Paula Guzik Churchill



Meghan Powers Franklin



Laura Nomura Stevenson



Margarita Lazarevska Churchill



Jessie Murray Canton



Robyn Piowar Canton



Katie Koetting Salem



Autumn Collins Salem



Brittany Young Salem



Jordan Brodehl Plymouth



Coach Lisa Fierk

2007-08 ALL-OBSERVER GYMNASTICS TEAM

Emily Quint, Soph., Livonia Blue
Paula Guzik, Jr., Livonia Red
Meghan Powers, Jr., Livonia Blue
Alicia DiMauro, Jr., Livonia Red
Laura Nomura, Jr., Livonia-Blue
Margarita Lazarevska, Sr., Livonia Red
Jessie Murray, Sr., Canton

Robyn Piowar, Fr., Canton
Katie Koetting, Jr., Salem
Autumn Collins, Sr., Salem
Brittany Young, Sr., Salem
Jordan Brodehl, Sr., Plymouth

Coach of the Year
Lisa Fierk, Livonia Blue

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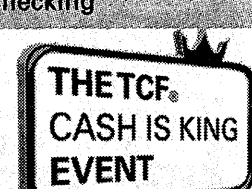
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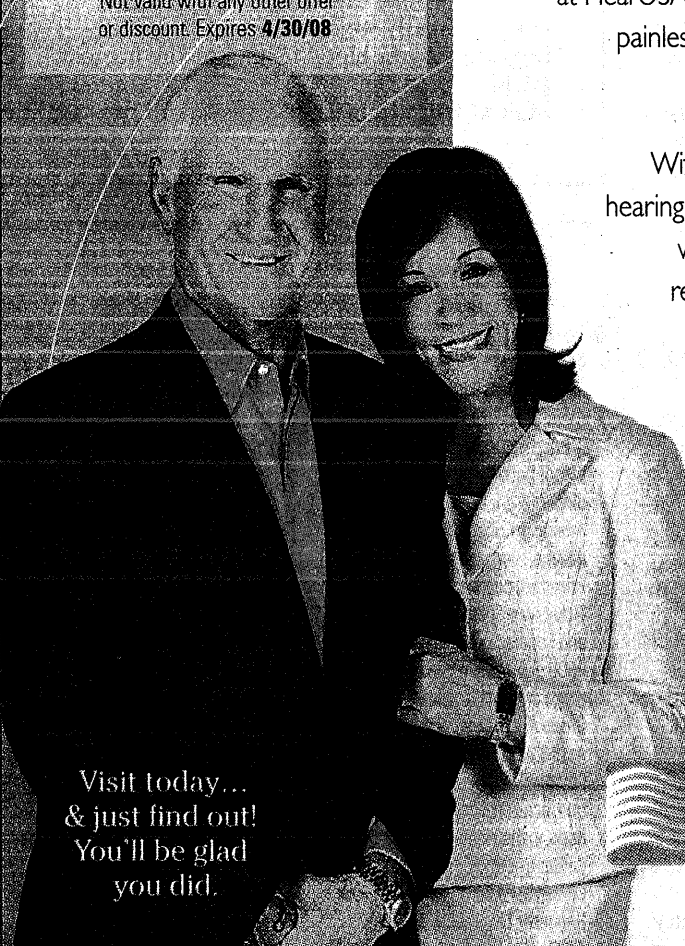
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We so often resist change that we need

Do I want to change or not? This is a question I hear all the time in my psychotherapy practice. Actually the way it more often is shared it comes out "I don't want to change, but I don't like the way things are." But most often what brings an individual or couple or family to our agency is the awareness that the way that things are cannot continue the way they are.



Chat Room

Paul Melrose

There is too much emotional or psychological or spiritual pain in the family. It is expressed by verbal, and in some cases, physical fighting, sadness at being home or with yourself, change in pattern of normal behavior, a malaise. Sometimes a request for therapy comes from someone who reports that a friend or spouse sees them as "not there" somehow.

There is at the root of this struggle a fear of change. Regardless of how bad things are at least the present pattern is familiar. There is an acceptance of what is; it is predictable and there are no surprises, or not too many.

Besides, you say, I can handle this on my own. As one therapist has formulated the question, "Have you ever resolved to 'do better,' only to find yourself reverting to familiar destructive patterns?" The fear of change is in conflict with the need to change. What aids in this struggle is if a person can achieve a balance between the seeking change part of you and the resistant part of you. When a reasonable balance is arrived at a person, or couple or family find they can consider enough change to adapt and grow and alter the present situation but not change so much as to make themselves unrecognizable to self and others. A person will survive as who that person is.

Change is not about becoming such a new person as to un hinge you from your roots and history. What may happen though is that through the therapeutic process one can find out that there was more to him/herself than was known so that this one can feel like a new person.

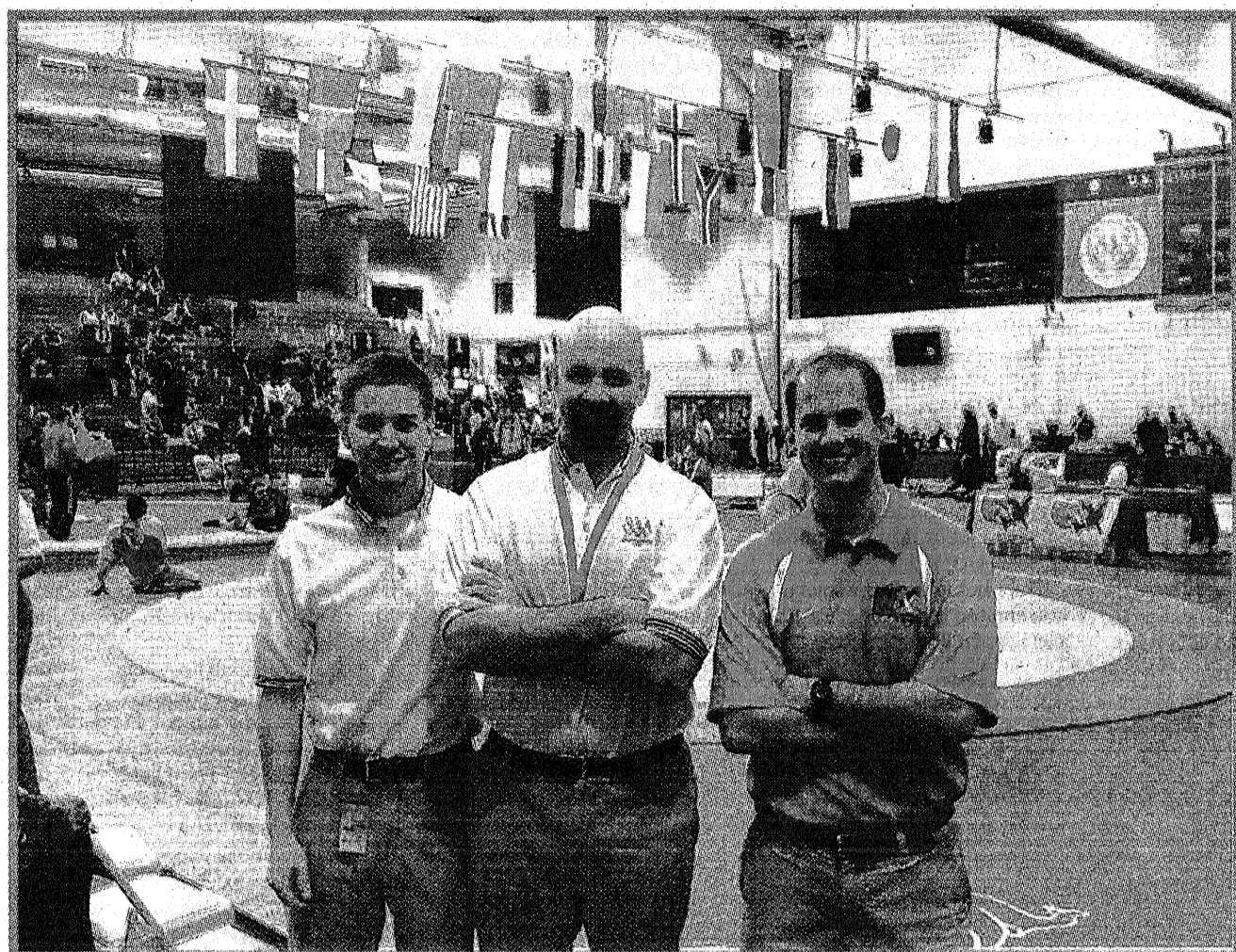
Change is a process. I referred to a balance above, a balance between seeking and resisting change. It can happen that if these two forces are out of balance not enough change might occur or there could be too much change too soon and failure might occur. That is why therapy is a process. So that the kind of change one is looking for, needs, and hopes to find can be worked with enough until a reasonable balance is found.

One writer sees the therapeutic process as including becoming aware that change is needed, coming up with a plan for change, and acquiring new skills and techniques. Some of the ways that a client in therapy will start to become aware that change is occurring might include: motivation and readiness ("I was desperate to get back to my old self"); tools and strategies ("It's the changes in behavior that I learned"); learning ("I would take a lot of stuff home to read about assertiveness"); interaction with therapist ("...they don't judge your character or think they know you"); perceived aspects of self ("I am a strong person mentally"); and the relief of talking ("Let me get everything out, let me relieve myself of everything").

Understand that writing about a process of change is not as dynamic as the process itself.

Often the above ways just listed are not sequential but the therapy pro-

Please see MELROSE, C3



Dr. Steven Karageanes (center) and Olympic trainers Joe Cygan (left) and Jody Hill (right) at the Dave Schultz Memorial International Wrestling Invitational, one of the largest wrestling tournaments in the world. Wrestlers from 21 countries competed in the competition in February.

Going for the

Competition at heart of physician's life

gold

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

Competition is at the heart of Dr. Steven Karageanes' life whether it's treating athletes at the Olympics Training Center in Colorado Springs or going for the gold at the Cannes Film Festival in France. It won't be long until the Plymouth resident is on the road again this time to have his first short film, *American Piety*, screened at the Monaco Charity Film Festival and then at Cannes in May.

In early February Karageanes took the

first step toward winning a spot on the team of physicians who care for the wrestlers, weight lifters, swimmers and competitors in a variety of sports including gymnastics at Olympic Games. For two weeks he treated back injuries, knee sprains, and an outbreak of flu that hit the German wrestling team at the Olympics Training Center in Colorado, one of three in the country. Karageanes has a nearly 10-year history of caring for patients in the area of sports medicine at Annapolis Hospital in Wayne and the

Please see GOLD, C7

Violinist focuses on spirit of music

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

Yehonatan Berick delves deep inside when playing classical music. It's no wonder the Evening Recital Series Committee selected the Ann Arbor violinist to share his talents in an all-Brahms program April 18 at Schoolcraft College in Livonia.

Berick was born in Israel and came to America when he was barely 22. He is an award-winning violinist who has performed throughout North America, Europe and Israel.

"Violin for me is the range of expres-

sion coupled with the potential to be mesmerizing and touching," Berick said. "It's one of the most versatile instruments. You can play fast notes or long and beautiful. It's almost like being an actor when you play the music. You forget you have hands, eyes, and use the violin as your vocal chord."

Although Berick began playing violin at age 6, the instrument was not his first love. Berick wanted a piano, but there was no room in the 750-square-foot home he shared with four other family members. Eventually, he picked



Spirit is very important for Yehonatan Berick when it comes to playing classical music. On Friday, April 18, he performs an emotion-filled recital at Schoolcraft College.

up the violin, following in the footsteps of his father. Later, when he was

Please see VIOLINIST, C2

SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE EVENING RECITAL SERIES

What: Continues with Yehonatan Berick, violin, and John Ellis, piano, performing Brahms' sonatas
When: 7:30 p.m. Friday, April 18

Where: Presentation Room in the VisTaTech Center at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia
Tickets: \$20 (\$10 student), available at www.schoolcraft.edu/foundation/events or by calling (734) 462-4403.

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Club to host critiques by award-winning artist

From 7-9 p.m. Monday, April 7, Three Cities Art Club members will have an opportunity to have their work critiqued by an expert - award winning artist Elbert (Al) Weber of Canton. The free event takes place in a lower level meeting room at Canton Township Hall, 1150 Canton Center Road S., south of Cherry Hill Road. Enter via the southeast entrance and the attendant will direct you to the room.

Each member is encouraged to bring several pieces that they have questions about or would like a fresh viewpoint on. Weber will answer questions, point out the work's strong points and try to make suggestions to make the piece

stronger where applicable. Everyone who attends will benefit from the helpful tips that Weber provides as his insightful analysis of a variety of styles of art. They will also have the opportunity to vote on their favorite artwork submitted by members in the club's monthly Popular Vote competition.

Weber uses watercolor, acrylic, pen and ink, and mixed media to create landscapes, florals, and paintings of automobiles and people. Weber has had solo exhibits at the Scarab Club, Southfield Cultural Center, Dearborn Chamber of Commerce, Shiawassee Arts Center, Livonia Civic Center Library Gallery,

Coach House Gallery, Plymouth Community Arts Council, and the Village Theater in Canton. Weber studied at the Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, California; Purdue University and Indiana University, and has taken many watercolor workshops. His work is in collections throughout the United States, Brazil, Canada, England, Scotland and New Zealand.

If you are an artist or a want-to-be artist, you will find this to be an informative event. For more information, contact Marilyn Meredith weekdays at (248) 557-3800 ext. 123 or by e-mail at threecitiesartclub@hotmail.com.

VIOLINIST

FROM PAGE C1

required to serve his one year in the army, Berick was happy to learn the general, a decorated war hero, shared his passion for music. Berick completed his army stint playing in a quartet. Today, he is an associate professor of violin at the University of Michigan School of Music.

On April 18, Berick and John Ellis, also an associate professor at U-M, perform Johannes Brahms' complete cycle of sonatas for violin and piano.

"It's a beautiful set of works," Berick said. "Brahms is probably my second favorite composer. Bach is my favorite - never a note out of place. It's like a diamond - it's perfect. Brahms captured the meticulousness of Bach, but combined it with emotion. Spirit for me is very important. I like to put my heart into my music, not craftsmanship."

Committee members Carol Bonamici and Gail Mondry are especially looking forward to being drawn into the music.

"I want to see a performer pull me into the music," said Bonamici of Livonia.

Mondry and Donald Morelock, who leads the recital series committee, heard Berick play at Kerrytown in Ann Arbor last summer.

"He's fabulous," said Mondry of Franklin. "My middle son, a music theater major, was very moved. He had some tears in his eyes. Yehonatan's playing brought some emotion in him."

Mondry is a strong supporter of classical music. She and her husband, Ira, donated pianist

James Tocco's performance fees to kick off the Schoolcraft College Evening Recital Series last fall. Gail also serves on the board of the Great Lakes Chamber Festival, which held a fund-raiser that featured the Tocco performance as an auction item. Mondry continues to support the Evening Recital Series. Last week, Mondry turned over \$1,400 in checks she collected from friends to purchase future concert tickets for senior citizens and music students. Mondry's youngest son, Nathan, 15, has studied piano with Morelock for five years.

"The more we can support each other the better, especially since I have three children who are so artistic. I want to see this grow and prosper," Mondry said.

Morelock is "extremely pleased" with the success of the 2007-08 series so far. The series features only internationally acclaimed artists.

"The performers have enjoyed being here and there's been a good turnout with an afterglow to meet performers," said Morelock, chairman of Schoolcraft's music department. "There's going to be an afterglow so people get a chance to informally chat with the performer and get to meet other people in the community, people who share a common interest. We wanted the series to be an opportunity in the community to hear performance of this caliber."

The Friday Night Recital Series concludes May 9 with pianist Angela Cheng.

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Michigan Jazz Society presents evening to remember

The Michigan Jazz Society presents the All About Jazz Café featuring the Tony Ruda Quartet 8 p.m. Saturday, April 12, 2008, at the Village Theater at Cherry Hill, 50400 Cherry Hill at Ridge Rd., Canton.

Bring your axe, pipes, and dancin' shoes. Tickets are \$12 adults, \$20 couples, and available at the door. For more information, contact Tony Ruda at acruda@comcast.net or Edwin Bugai at (734) 394-0148. The Michigan Jazz Society was created by Bugai of Canton and is open to anyone who

enjoys interesting people and exciting music, and especially for those who appreciate vintage jazz and Big Band. The Society features discussion topics such as the partnering of our youth with local jazz artists and the development of benefit concerts for local hospitals and assisted living facilities.

Bugai was born of Polish immigrants and grew up on Detroit's west side where he attended St. Andrew's grade school and Chadsey High School. At Chadsey, his interest in individual jazz and Big Band was sparked. He studied saxophone with Ernie Anderson and Larry Teal, Sr., and played for many Polish weddings and other cultural events. He later moved

to northwest Detroit where he attended Cooley High School. He formed a Big Band called Buddy Bruce which played for dances and parties and later, larger fraternity dances. While employed as a record distributor in the late 1940s, he found the Jazz in Detroit Theater at the Alvin Theater with Robin Seymour.

The Detroit club hosted jazz musicians such as Tommy Flanigan, Kenny Burrell, Pepper Adams, Rudy Rutherford, W. Anderson, Lucky Thomson, Todd Rhodes, Candy Johnson, and Huckelbuck Williams. Now retired, Bugai has become a student of jazz history and devotes his time to preserving this timeless music.



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MRI captures both bone and surrounding tissue. Sometimes it sees too much, uncovering abnormalities that are irrelevant to your case. Also, MRI is very expensive, costing \$1200 or more. Your doctor decides how to proceed on imaging based on his understanding of your problem and the likelihood a particular from imaging will prove valuable.

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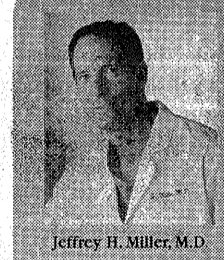
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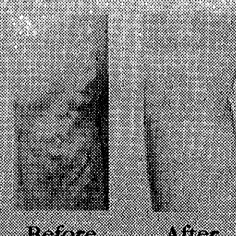


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JOIN THE MOVEMENT

Greenmead hosts spring events

If you haven't been to Greenmead Historical Park lately it's time to revisit the past. The staff and volunteers are presenting two upcoming events related to years gone by.

A Victorian Tea takes place 3-5 p.m. Saturday, April 12, at the Simmons/Hill House in the village located at the crossroads of Newburgh and Eight Mile in Livonia.

Tickets are \$25 per person and available in advance only.

The tables at Hill House are being set with the fine china, good silver and vintage linens. A menu of delicious tea sandwiches, mouth-watering scones and irresistible desserts is planned to delight the senses. Spend a relaxing afternoon with friends at the Tea.

On Tuesday, April 15, the historical park hosts the second of three lectures, the History of the 17th Michigan, at 7 p.m. in the Alexander Blue House. Gary Pritchard talks about the 17th Michigan Civil War Re-enactors for the informative program. Space is limited so call to reserve a seat. Donations accepted.



Greenmead Historical Village hosts another of its popular Victorian teas Saturday, April 12.

For more information about either event, call (248) 477-7375.

A New Volunteer Orientation is scheduled for 1-4 p.m. Saturday, April 26, for anyone interested in helping to

preserve Livonia's legacy for the future. The programs and events at Greenmead offer a variety of ways to share time and talents.

To register for the volunteer orientation, call the Greenmead Office at (248) 477-7375.

MELROSE

FROM PAGE C1

ness is a journey in and back and through and amongst these areas, and maybe others, until the right balance for that person, couple, family is achieved.

When you experience such a conflict between whether or not change is needed in your life that may be a good time to talk to a professional, so that you can assess whether the kind of change you are looking for requires therapy, a good book, a self-help group or some other means. Don't stay stuck where you are. You may just be giving into the fear of change when something new in your life is needed and will make your life fulfilling.

Dr. Paul J. Melrose is executive director of the Samaritan Counseling Center of SE Michigan. He can be reached at www.paulmelrose.com or through 248-474-4701. The Staff of the Samaritan Counseling Center can be reached through www.samaritancounselingmichigan.com or through 248-474-4701.

Exhibitors wanted for Northville Art in the Sun

Artists are being sought to display their work in Northville Art in the Sun 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, June 21, and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, June 22.

The juried arts festival is now celebrating its 20th year of featuring all mediums of art and lively music throughout the festival. A highlight of the festival are the murals visitors can paint.

Afterwards the works will be donated to St. Mary Mercy Hospital.

More than 20,000 visitors will enjoy the sights and sounds of this popular event showcasing over 100 juried fine artists. Prizes are awarded for Best in Show and Runner Up.

For an application, log onto www.northville.org. The First Round Jury is April 18. For more information, visit the Web site or call the Northville Chamber of Commerce at (248) 349-7640.



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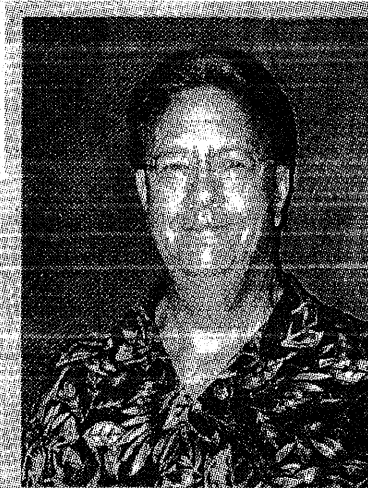
~ Jen W. ~

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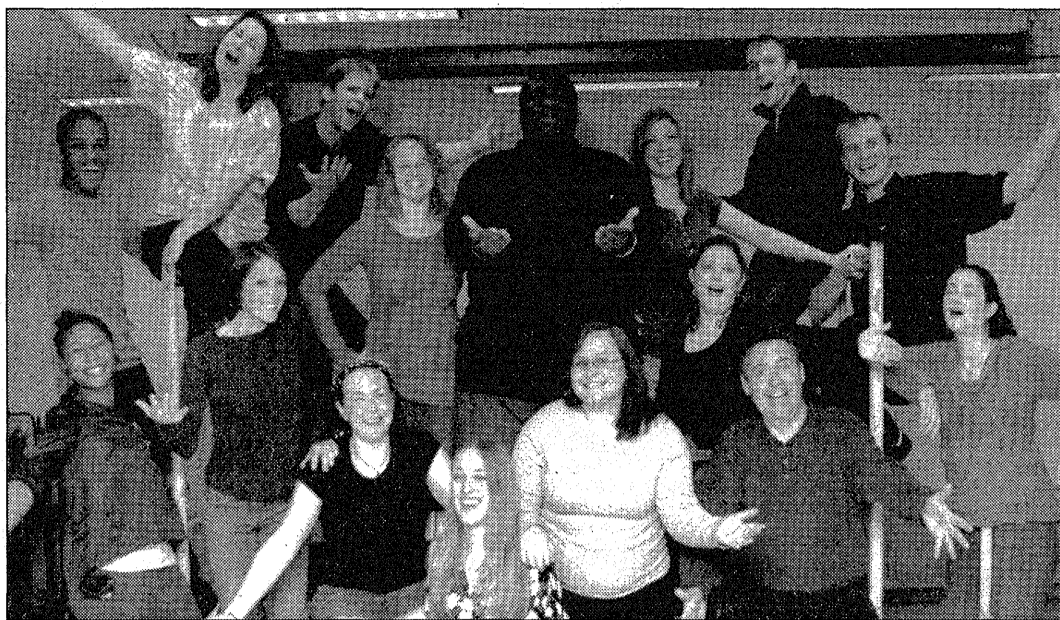
Dr. Dan holds both a Fellowship and a Diplomate in Chiropractic Pediatrics through the International Chiropractic Pediatric Association.

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The Madonna University Lyric Theatre Performers present an updated version of *Godspell* April 12-13, in Kresge Hall.

Production updates '70s musical

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

The 1970s musical *Godspell* fit the bill perfectly when Barbara Wiltsie was looking for a spring production for the Madonna University Lyric Theatre Performers last September. All she had to do was make it relevant to the lives of today's audiences.

New Orleans sprang to mind. A troupe of evacuees, volunteers, rescue workers, residents, and tourists would gather to learn the teachings of Jesus as they rebuild the city. Wiltsie set the story line in the Lower 9th Ward and French Quarter, and splits the stage in half for the performances Saturday-Sunday, April 12-13, at Madonna University.

Act I opens in the immediate aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. The cast is comprised of students and actors from the community. Members include Errin Brooks of Detroit as Jesus; Danielle Desmond, Westland; Amy Loskowski, Livonia; Lawrence Kallie, Plymouth; Steven Mexicotte, Canton; and Kelly Ryan, Farmington Hills.

This is the first time the university's Lyric Theatre Performers are doing a full show with licensing rights since Wiltsie began the program six years ago.

"I chose it mainly because it's a type of show that can be put into present time. The message never changes of the parables, of spreading good will and learning moral and ethical values," said

GODSPELL

What: The Madonna University Lyric Theatre Performers present an updated version of the 1970 musical by John-Michael Tebelak and Stephen Schwartz
When: 7:30 p.m. Saturday, April 12, and 4 p.m. Sunday, April 13
Where: Kresge Hall, Madonna University, 36600 Schoolcraft at Levan, Livonia
Tickets: \$5. For information, call (734) 432-5715

Wiltsie, a Madonna University voice teacher and director of The Lyric Theatre Performers.

"I had seen the movie years ago, but it was not a favorite of mine until now because of being able to approach it outside of the box, setting parables in the everyday life of New Orleans."

Jordan Herbert wasn't born when the original production opened off-Broadway. The Madonna University nursing major plays the dual role of John the Baptist and Judas.

"It was written that way," said Herbert, 21, who lives on the Livonia campus but is originally from Lapeer. "Jesus has these beloved friendships with John when he blesses him and built this friendship and later becomes Judas. It took a lot of research. I had to brush up on parables, even though I grew up going to church."

"I had never seen this before, although I've seen the movie."

The setting is awesome. It brings a very different feel to it. At the time of Hurricanes Katrina and Ivan I was living in Pensacola, Florida, and it kind of hits home. I was at Pensacola Christian College at the time and the school set up an alternative spring break to go to Louisiana. We did roofing, went through and volunteered to clean up glass."

One of the most touching moments in the production is a New Orleans-style funeral. During one of the songs audience members can donate to a fund so Madonna University students can return to the Gulf Coast in 2009 to help with recovery efforts. Any checks should be made payable to Madonna University. Earlier this year, Madonna University's Gulf Coast Service-Learning Fund made it possible for 32 students and two staff members to go to Biloxi, Miss., to work through the Diocesan Office of Long Term Recovery to repair five homes, deliver furniture and supplies, and help maintain files for the DOLTR which has a case load of 700 families still waiting for housing, according to Kevin West, the university's director of Service Learning.

"It will be during We Beseech Thee, the gospel song we'll go through the audience with hats collecting funds. If they want to make a contribution those funds will go to help New Orleans," said Wiltsie.

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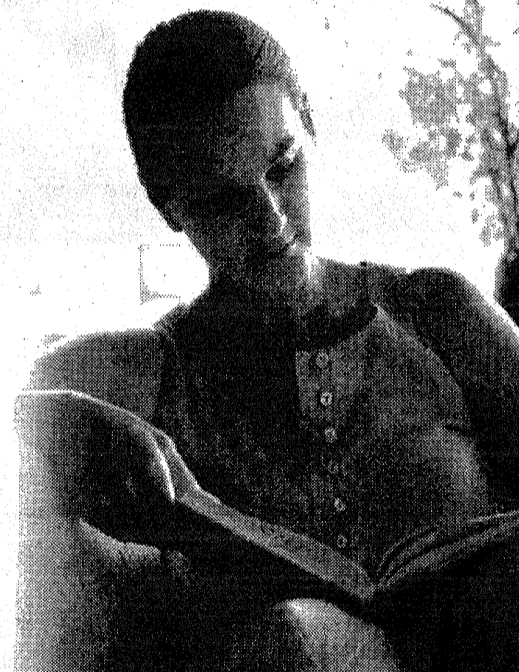
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GOLD
FROM PAGE C1

Oakwood Healthcare Center in Canton. He is team doctor for Wayne State University where he oversees the health of about 380 students in the athletics department. Before that he was team physician for the Detroit Tigers for a couple of years.

Karageanes was responsible for the medical care of about 500 Olympic athletes in Colorado including those wrestling in an international tournament with competitors from 21 countries.

"I put my name in several years ago and they go through all the applications and select a handful a year. It doubles as an audition to do more work with the Olympic team. You're actually graded. They tell me I did very well."

Karageanes worked in the clinic a minimum of 12-hour days.

"It was fun for me. They're going through a lot of transition as far as organizing sports medicine, but the most interesting aspect was that no matter how elite the athlete is, they're top in their whole sport in the country, they still get hurt and sick like everybody else does. They're so dedicated and determined they'll do anything to get better."

The weirdest highlight of his trip according to Karageanes was watching the women's ribbon gymnastics, a very feminine sport, in the same arena and at the same time as men's boxing.

"It gets pretty heated with all these boxers. With gymnastics it's classical music and Kenny G and blaring so loud while these guys are sparring," said Karageanes. "I was kidding with one of the boxers you want to dance. It was so wild, they can't focus."

Karageanes said he hadn't

'I put my name in several years ago and they go through all the applications and select a handful a year. It doubles as an audition to do more work with the Olympic team. You're actually graded. They tell me I did very well.'

DR. STEVEN KARAGEANES

relived his college dorm experience in 19 years, but the cafeteria was nothing like those earlier days. He stayed on the same floor as the boxers where he heard a lot of Rocky Balboa-like yo's exchanged in the halls.

"In the cafeteria they have executive chefs who made the most delicious food, the most nutritious food. All the milk is hormone free from special farms, extremely healthy. They had crab legs and filet mignon for Valentine's Day. The athletes burn a lot of energy and need certain foods," said Karageanes who uses a lot of calories chasing his son Miller, 8, and daughter Isabella who's almost 5. His wife Cynthia is very proud of him but Karageanes said the two weeks she spent alone with the kids was really a challenge.

While Karageanes won't be volunteering at the Olympics in Beijing, China in August, he may be asked to care for athletes at the Pan Am or future Olympics Games in Vancouver in 2010 and London in 2012.

"With the Olympics you're gone more than a month. It's a large commitment, but it's definitely a positive experience," said Karageanes. "I was a little wary before but it ended up being a great experience. I recommend it to other doctors."

Right now, Karageanes is too busy concentrating on his award-winning film to even think about the Games. *American Piety* premiered

in March in Royal Oak. At 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 22, the comedy will be part of CinemaSlam, a monthly independent film showcase (cinemaslam.com) at the Michigan Theater in Ann Arbor. From there *American Piety* will be shown at The Indie Spirit Film Festival in Colorado Springs. Karageanes then travels to Monaco and Cannes for the festivals in May.

"It's pretty surreal right now," said Karageanes who wants to make more films. "I don't have much of a social life, but gladly gave it up cause it's a fun thing to do."

"Cannes is huge. In Monaco they're showing only nine short films and it's up for best short film. It's definitely made me more confident about submitting (to film festivals)."

Karageanes not only wrote the screenplay, which has won awards, but directed, produced, composed the music, and even played a Buddhist monk in the film. *American Piety* was shot almost entirely on location in Plymouth and shows Kellogg Park, his backyard, and the exterior of the former Daisy Gun factory. The story revolves around a man who is hit by a car and ends up in purgatory where he is made to choose a religion, either Islam, Buddhism or Christianity.

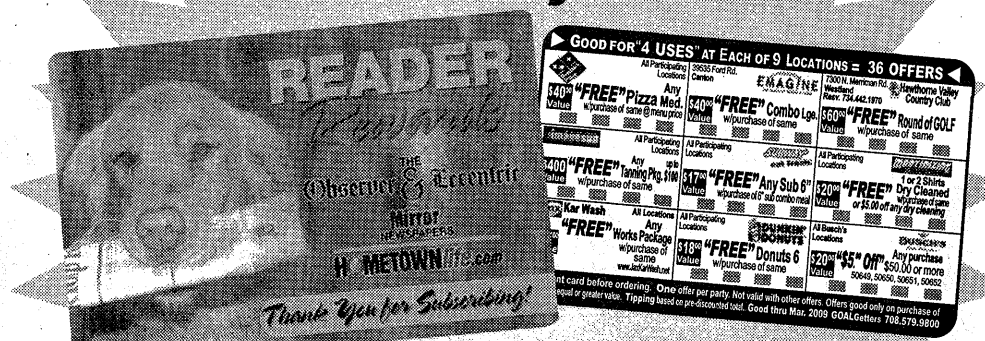
"It was filmed on virtually no budget," said Karageanes. "It tells a solid story with a good message at the end. The goal was to make a comedy without insulting religions. I went to De La Salle (Collegiate Catholic) High School (in Warren) so I researched it so if you pay close attention the basic tenets of each religion is in the dialogue. I wanted to handle it in a comic way. That's probably why it's been accepted."

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Back in the 'D'

Music Hall director honored by high school

BY SUE BUCK
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

With Vince Paul's accomplishments and recent return to the metro-Detroit area, he was considered the "perfect choice" for North Farmington High School's Distinguished Alumni award. There's only one recipient each

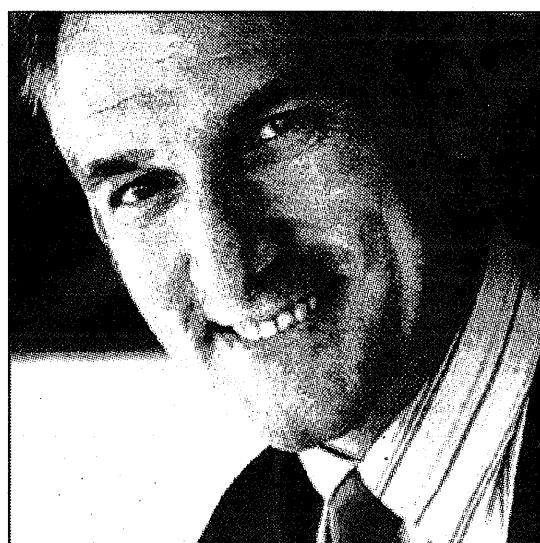
year and Paul, who now resides in Grosse Pointe, will be recognized at the 5 p.m. Sunday, June 8, graduation ceremony at Compuware Arena in Plymouth Township.

"He fit perfectly with this year's interdisciplinary study, "Our Town Detroit — There's no Place Like Home," said Principal Rick Jones. The North Farmington High School students have spent this year studying the strengths of Detroit and how famous people and events have affected the entire metro-Detroit area.

At age 44, Paul, a 1981 North Farmington graduate, is considered one of the country's outstanding performing arts managers.

He now serves as President and Artistic Director of the Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts in downtown Detroit. He is experienced in the artistic and operational sides of the business. Paul earned his theatrical arts degree from Michigan State University before moving to New York City. He spent more than 20

years working on Broadway shows and world-recognized dance companies. He has traveled to more than 40 countries and to all 50 United States. He is devoted to maintaining Music Hall's position as a national leader in jazz and contemporary dance and runs eight performing arts educational programs that engage more than 35,000 students annually. Paul said that he is honored with the alumni award.



Vince Paul, a 1981 graduate of North Farmington High School, will be honored with the school's Distinguished Alumni award in June. Paul, 44, works as the president and artistic director of the Music Hall Center for Performing Arts in Detroit.

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Michigan Eye Doctor Helps Legally Blind

Dr. Sheldon Smith fits special glasses to help those with macular degeneration and other eye conditions keep reading and driving.

By Elena Lombardi

Most of us take things like reading, watching TV or playing cards for granted. But poor vision from conditions like macular degeneration, glaucoma, diabetes or cataracts makes these tasks difficult or even impossible. When people have insufficient vision to do the things they want to do, they have low vision.

Today Michigan Optometrist Dr. Sheldon Smith has the answers many of these people have been seeking. Dr. Smith, a Low Vision Specialist, helps people with these types of eye diseases see better. A Fellow of the International Academy of Low Vision Specialists, Dr. Smith is one of a select group of doctors serving the visually impaired.

"People don't know there are experienced doctors who can help them with specialized low vision care," says Dr. Smith. "Many people are told by their own doctors that nothing more can be done for their eye condition, but there are ways to improve vision" says Dr. Smith. "We fit special devices to help patients meet their various visual goals."

Patients often end up using weak, clumsy hand-held magnifiers trying to help themselves see better. Conversely, Dr. Smith prescribes hands-free devices that are easier to use. "We use the same telescopic devices surgeons use during operations," says Dr. Smith. "That's how powerful and convenient they are. Special prismatic reading glasses and microscopes help make reading a little easier. Telescopic glasses primarily focus on distance objects like TV, passing neighbors or scenery. Telescopes can also be adapted to closer tasks like playing cards or computers. "Telescopes can even help people meet the driver vision requirement" Dr. Smith explained.

Michigan is one of 46 states that allow bioptic telescopic glasses for driving.

Mr. Leo Hakola, age 85 of Livonia, Michigan saw Dr. Smith last May. Macular degeneration, cataract, stroke and double vision were causing reading and driving problems. Dr. Smith prescribed a complete low vision system which included telescopic glasses for driving and special prismatic glasses for reading. The entire cost was \$2789. Leo said "the telescopic driving glasses really help me see traffic lights and street signs down the block. And reading is much easier and single now with these special reading glasses. I am glad I found you, Dr. Smith."

In addition to the spectacle vision aids, Dr. Smith offers training to help people accomplish their daily activities. Visual aids help patients use their remaining vision to its fullest capacity while rehabilitative training improves the patient's

ability to carry out necessary independent activities. And of course safeguarding present vision levels is crucial. Sun filters and nutritional supplements can improve vision and prevent further loss.

"Each patient has a unique amount of vision and their own goals," says Dr. Smith. "I am committed to helping patients do what matters most to them and improving their quality of life."

Special reading glasses start at \$600 and custom telescopes can cost from \$1800 to \$2,500.

If you or someone you know is struggling with their vision, call Dr. Smith to find out how low vision care can help. There is help available. You just need to know where to find it.

You can reach Dr. Smith and Suburban Low Vision of Michigan at **1-877-677-2020**. Dr. Smith has offices in Livonia, Warren, Shelby Township and the Lansing area.

Visit Suburban Low Vision of Michigan at suburbaneyecare.com or find out more about the International Academy of Low Vision Specialists at ialvs.com.

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