

Health Water break

Even young athletes need to stay hydrated. Page 15 inside this week's Observer.

'Back to School Bucks'

Win 'Back to School Bucks' from Oakland Mall in the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers Back to School* contest. For contest details, see entry form inside today's newspaper.

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September 7, 2003
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CANTON Observer

Making sense
Priest brings worldly experience to new position at Catholic church. **Observer Life, C1**



VOLUME 29 NUMBER 19

www.hometownlife.com

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Memo

Join the vets

The Plymouth-Canton Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter No. 528, meets at 7:30 p.m. the second Monday of every month at the Plymouth VFW Post No. 6695, on Mill Street, just north of Ann Arbor Road.

If you served in the military between 1964 and 1975, even if not "in country," you are still eligible to become a member. Contact Ted Enright at (734) 453-0157 for more information, or visit the Web site at http://www.geocities.com/ted_enright/PlymouthCantonVVA528.html.

Come one, all

The Canton Homeowner's Council - an advisory group that offers advice to Canton homeowners and to Canton Township - will kick off its new season with a tour of Canton Fire Station No. 1 at 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 8.

The council is where subdivision associations may discuss common problems and concerns. Monthly sessions have focused on how to collect dues and contract for association services such as lawn cutting and snow removal. To contact council president Glen Reimer, call (734) 981-8128 or e-mail ghreimer@msn.com.

Habitat project

Support Habitat for Humanity by participating in a Move-a-Thon fund-raiser ride, walk, scooter, run or blade through Heritage Park and raise money for Habitat for Humanity-Western Wayne County. The event is from 4-6 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 14, at Summit Parkway and Canton Center. Call (734) 459-7744 for pledge forms and information.

Relax and enjoy

The Cherry Hill Summer Entertainment Series continues in Cherry Hill Village at 2:30 p.m. today, featuring Sheila Landis Jazz Trio. Bring a lawn chair.

Canceled

The Plymouth-Canton Community Schools' study session scheduled for 6 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 9 has been canceled. The regular board meeting at 7 p.m. is still planned.

To speak

Michael Flanagan, executive director of the Michigan Association of School Administrators, will speak at noon Thursday, Sept. 11, at the Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth. The luncheon is at Ernesto's, 41661 Plymouth Road. Before joining the school administrators' association, Flanagan was superintendent of the Wayne County Regional Educational Service Agency, which serves almost 500,000 children.

Cost for the lunch is \$11 per person at the door. Contact state Rep. John Stewart, who arranged Flanagan's appearance, at (517) 373-3816.

Witness: He jumped train tracks

Driver of car that struck and killed Canton police officer heads to trial

BY JACK GLADDEN
STAFF WRITER

A front seat passenger in the car that plowed into a Canton patrol vehicle in July, killing Officer Lew Stevens, testified

on Thursday that he and the driver, Kurtis Bragg, had been drinking at two bars a few hours before the accident occurred.

Jeremiah McClure, 25, of Kentucky said he and Bragg were in Michigan

working temporarily at a Ford plant, although they were not working on July 23, the day of the crash.

At the second phase of the preliminary hearing in 35th District Court, McClure testified that they, along with another worker, arrived at the Yacht Club on Newburgh Lake about 11 a.m. that day where they had lunch and drank three beers.

Later, he said, they went to the Silver

Cricket on Michigan Avenue where they had three-four beers and three shots.

On cross examination by defense attorney Joseph A. Simon, McClure said he saw Bragg consume two beers at the Yacht Club. He said he couldn't say exactly how many beers Bragg actually consumed at the Silver Cricket, but he did know he drank three shots of liquor.

PLEASE SEE DRIVER, A7



U.S. Congressman Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, answered questions from the audience at the Senior Summit Wednesday.

Seniors keep in touch

BY JACK GLADDEN
STAFF WRITER

For Ingrid James, 72, and Luke Kremer, 78, both of Canton, Wednesday's first Senior Summit meeting was a chance to keep in touch with what's going on in the community.

While others had concerns over health care, prescription drugs and Social Security, James and Kremer were troubled by imported trash from Canada.

PLEASE SEE SENIORS, A4

Don't hang up: Your thoughts are needed

If you get a phone call 6 to 9 p.m. Wednesday or Thursday this week, don't hang up. The call is from volunteers at the Plymouth-Canton Schools who are conducting a phone survey.

"Their caller ID should show a school phone number," said Frank Ruggirello, district community relations director.

The Plymouth-Canton Schools, Schoolcraft College and the *Observer & Eccentric Newspapers* are partnering to conduct a survey Wednesday and Thursday to determine how those polled feel about the school district and college and what they expect and want from both.

Volunteers will phone from the Plymouth-Canton administrative offices. The survey is expected to take 12 minutes with each resident called, Ruggirello said.

Questions have been developed by

PLEASE SEE THOUGHTS, A7

Rotary rises to occasion for new tower

Rummage sale planned to raise money

BY JACK GLADDEN
STAFF WRITER

This year's annual Rotary Club rummage sale will have a timely theme. Proceeds from the sale will benefit the club's clock project.

The sale will be held at

Mettetal Airport, at Joy and Lilley roads, Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 20 and 21. The club is accepting donations of items to sell. People interested in donating items may call club president Mary Beardsley at (734) 981-2139 or (734) 327-8503.

The clock project began in February when Rotarian Gerald Ebmeyer approached the Downtown Development Authority with a proposal to locate a large clock somewhere in the DDA district, which

stretches from just west of Canton Center Road to the eastern township boundary east of Lotz.

He said the club wanted to become involved in a specific community project and they envisioned a clock similar to the ones in downtown Plymouth and Northville.

He estimated the project would cost about \$30,000 and said the club was prepared to develop and fund it.

"The club is committed to going forward with this, but

we need some direction," he told the DDA at the time.

After studying the project for several months, Rotary members, working with the township, decided a Ford Road location was not practical.

"They found there are already quite a few clocks along Ford Road," said Township Supervisor Tom Yack. "And it was going to be difficult to locate it in the road

PLEASE SEE ROTARY, A4

Bicyclist killed on Michigan Avenue

Death 3rd on thoroughfare in 2003

BY JACK GLADDEN
STAFF WRITER

A 39-year-old Grass Lake man was killed about 2 p.m. Wednesday when his bicycle was struck by a car on east-bound Michigan Avenue just

east of Dewitt Road.

Michael Ray Wise was taken to Oakwood Hospital-Annapolis in Wayne where he was pronounced dead on arrival.

PLEASE SEE BICYCLIST, A4



Michigan Avenue has been the site of three traffic fatalities so far this year. The latest was last week when a bicyclist was killed. This photo shows the thoroughfare heading east at Canton Center Road.

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INDEX

Apartments	E3	Jobs	E5
Automotive	C6	Obituaries	A2
Classified	C,D,E	Observer Life	C1
Classified Index	D3	New Homes	D1
Crossword Puzzle	D5	Service Guide	E11
Health	C6	Sports	B1

LOOKING AHEAD
Cultural icon
In Thursday's Filter, meet Mr. Winkle, and his guardian, Lara Jo Regan, a photographer who grew up in Birmingham.



If it's important to you,
it's important to us.



For totally local news,

Read on...

Summer tax payments are due today

BY JOANNE MALISZEWSKI
STAFF WRITER

Don't panic yet, but your summer tax payments are due today.

"Payments have not been coming in," said Canton Treasurer Elaine Kirchgatter Thursday.

Kirchgatter and her staff were expecting the usual long lines as the deadline for the summer taxes - entirely the school tax portion of the annual property tax bill - neared for Canton residents and businesses.

If today's due date is news to

you, your taxes are either paid through your mortgage, or you forgot. Don't worry. There's a drop box at the rear of township hall in which you may drop your payment.

Before you do that, be sure to include the return portion of the tax bill and your tax identification number on your check. It makes life a lot easier for the treasurer's staff as they process the payments.

Do not pay in cash and credit cards are not accepted. Remember taxes paid after the due date carry a 1 percent penalty per month.

Even if your taxes are paid

through the mortgage holder, you should have received a notice informing you of how much the summer portion is costing you. "It's just a tax notice, an informational copy. It's not a bill. They just look the same," Kirchgatter said.

If you are in the Plymouth-Canton district, your bill will be based on 9.9 mills; Van Buren district, 6.2 mills; and Wayne-Westland, 10.1 mills. If you own a \$400,000 home, valued at \$200,000, you will pay \$1,980 for the summer taxes if you live in the Plymouth-Canton district. If you aren't sure if you paid

your taxes, or want to double-check that your mortgage holder has made the payment, Kirchgatter asks that you do not call the treasurer's office. "This is a really busy time in the treasurer's office," she said. "We are working overtime to make sure the bills are posted in a timely manner."

To find out the status of your payment, you can check Canton's Web site: www.canton-mi.org or call the statewide tax information number, 1-800-846-8725, or hop online to a private organization that keeps track, www.ugotpal.com.

AGENDAS

PLANNING COMMISSION

The Canton Township Planning Commission will hold a regular meeting at 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 8, in the Chestnut Room in Summit on the Park. Agenda items include:

PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Willow Creek Retail Planned Development District Final Plan & Willow Creek Retail site plan. Property is located north of Ford between Haggerty and Lilley roads.

2a. Cherry Hill Village (3 & 4) Planned Development District Amendment #1. Property is located south of Saltz and west of Beck.
2b. Cherry Hill Village Phase 3&4 Site Plan. Property is located south of Cherry Hill between Denton and Ridge Roads.

OLD BUSINESS - SITE PLANS

3. Huron Parkway Private Right of Way. Property is located south of Ford east of Lotz.
4. Maben Woods Site Condominiums. Property is located north of Maben and

west of Canton Center Road.

NEW BUSINESS - SITE PLAN

5. New Towne Plaza Lighting Revision. Property is located north of Ford west of Sheldon Road.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Canton Township Board of Trustees will hold a regular meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 9, in the Chestnut Room at Summit on the Park. Agenda items included:

PUBLIC HEARING

1. Hold the public hearing on the roll and consider adopting resolution #5 for the paving of Lotz Road, south of Michigan Avenue SAD.

GENERAL CALENDAR

1. Consider award of construction for the paving of Lotz Road south of Michigan Avenue to Six-S Inc.
2. Consider authorizing the township clerk to sign the contract with Smith Group JJR to provide professional services on the Fellows Creek Naturalization Project.

P-C BOARD OF EDUCATION

The board will hear reports from Superintendent Jim Ryan on the 2003-2004 testing schedule, enrollment and staffing, elementary building usage and the naming of the Canton High School varsity football field.

OBITUARY

Clyde R. Pickens
Services for Clyde Pickens, 69, of Canton, will be at 11 a.m. Monday, Sept. 8, at the Vermeulen Funeral Home, 980 N. Newburgh, Westland, with the Rev. Charles Ozment officiating. Burial will be in Michigan Memorial Park, Flat Rock.

Visitation for Mr. Pickens will be 1-9 p.m. today at the funeral home.
Mr. Pickens was born Aug. 4, 1934, in Dundee, Mich., and died Sept. 4 in Canton.
He worked at Ford Motor Co. for 39 years in Monroe and Rawsonville, and retired as a supervisor. He enjoyed hunting

and fishing. He was a coach for the Monroe CYO Football Program in the 1960s. He was a graduate of Monroe High School.
He is survived by his wife, Lilian of Canton; sons, Mark (Elizabeth) of Saginaw, Bruce (Rachel) of Monroe, Wendell (Nova) Obcena; daughters,

Julie Pelan of Monroe, and Marjori Obcena of Windsor, Canada; brother, Melvin (Mary) Pickens of Walled Lake.
Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association West Metro Region and the Arthritis Foundation.

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POSTAL PERIODICAL REQUIREMENTS

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*Grand Prize Drawing entries will be accepted September 1 - 30, 2003. No purchase necessary. See official rules of entry on the entry book located in the Charter One Bank lobby located at 285 N. Canton Center in Canton Township.

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Shoppers can't wait to see Von Maur

Laurel Park opens Oct. 18; Briarwood store on Sept. 20

BY STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA
STAFF WRITER

Shoppers at Laurel Park Place can hardly wait to get their first peek of Von Maur - the department store set to fill the vacancy left when Jacobson's declared bankruptcy last year.

"I am waiting for it to open," said Judy Gulian of Livonia. "Hopefully it's going to bring in a lot of people."

Marianne Khoury agreed. She worked at the Jacobson's store in Livonia for 15 years and is anxious to see how the space has been transformed, and to find out just what Von Maur will have to offer.

Jan Watton, also of Livonia, joked she'll be camping out to catch the opening - slated for October 18. "We're all looking forward to it," she said.

Von Maur opened its first store in 1872 in Davenport, Iowa. Now there are 18 locations in the Midwest and two new stores - the company's first in Michigan - are set to open in Briarwood Mall and Laurel Park Place this fall.

The Livonia location will host a grand opening Saturday, Oct. 18, but those interested in checking out the new chain earlier can visit Von Maur's Ann Arbor location at Briarwood Mall beginning Saturday, Sept. 20. Hours will be 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Von Maur is known for its up-scale and brand-name merchandise, antiques, spacious store designs and expert customer service.

The family-owned department store wins comparisons to Nordstrom, another upscale department store at Somerset Collection North in Troy.

Jenny Musselman, manager, has spent her retail career with Von Maur and came to Livonia from Minneapolis specifically to open the Laurel Park Place store.



Store manager Jenny Musselman describes where various departments will be located within Von Maur.

SUBURBAN OPPORTUNITY

Musselman said Von Maur saw an opportunity to purchase space when Jacobson's closed, and took it.

"We're very much a suburban type of store," she said. Shoppers around the community have been curious.

They could be found asking questions at the store's temporary management store front in the mall and trying to sneak an eyeful at the space while it is undergoing renovations.

At close to 150,000 square feet, the Livonia store's transformation is moving along. Reportedly, renovations will cost about \$10 million. Just a year since purchasing the space at Laurel Park, the store includes 44,000 square feet of porcelain tile on the floor, new light fixtures and an airy, open atmosphere.

Ed Nakfoor, a retail consultant from Birmingham, predicted the key to Von Maur's success in Michigan will hinge on educating the public as to what the store is, and what the store is not.

Von Maur will sell apparel for men, women and children, as well as footwear, lingerie, fashion accessories, fine jewelry, and gift and seasonal items.

The store will not have a restaurant or hair salon, Musselman said, but it will carry Godiva chocolates.

Designer names will line the tables and shelves at Von Maur, from Waterford crystal to clothes by Tommy Hilfinger, Sigrid Olsen, Calvin Klein and Liz Claiborne. Merchandise is expected to arrive as early as this week.

Beyond the brand names, Von Maur's signature is cus-

tomer service, according to Musselman. The store offers perks like free gift wrapping, an interest-free credit card, free shipping and transfer of goods to or from another location for convenience. Aisles are made extra-wide, so shoppers can easily to move around.

If an item doesn't fit quite right, customers can take it directly to Von Maur's in-house alterations. Basic alterations, like taking up a hem, are free.

Nakfoor called these special services "almost unheard-of" in retail.

"I think it almost sounds too good to be true," he said. Nakfoor described the store as offering a comfortable shopping experience, one where shoppers can buy "updated basics" but avoid becoming "a slave to fashion."

"There is a place for this type of store," according to Nakfoor. "It's not all about glitz. That can be intimidating. It's not the type of store a lot of folks have seen before. The closest Von Maur is in suburban Chicago."

He commended the company for maintaining its family roots and for growing slowly in a new market.

"The challenge any retailer faces is to cater to tastes in so many different regions," he said.

INVITING, ENTERTAINING

At Von Maur, clothing will be arranged on tables and easy to reach out and touch. "We want people to feel the merchandise," Musselman said.

The space itself will be filled with more than merchandise.



PHOTOS BY JIM JAGDFELD | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

An airy, spacious store, Von Maur will offer two levels for shoppers - featuring everything from apparel and accessories to jewelry and fine gifts.

Shoppers will be treated to live piano music throughout the store, television in the men's department and in the children's department for entertainment. Plenty of comfortable chairs will be placed around the store so shoppers can sit down and rest, or just enjoy the music.

"It's been a great experience," Musselman said. She's had the opportunity to hire - and hand-pick - the staff who

will open Von Maur, and be part of the process from the start.

"We've had a lot of fun doing it too," she said.

When it opens, the store will employ about 180 people. Doreen Murphy, a Westland resident, will be among that group. She has been hired as manager of the boys department at the Livonia store.

"I was interested in working for a very professional organi-

zation," she said. Like her co-workers, she can't wait to see the store once it's set to open.

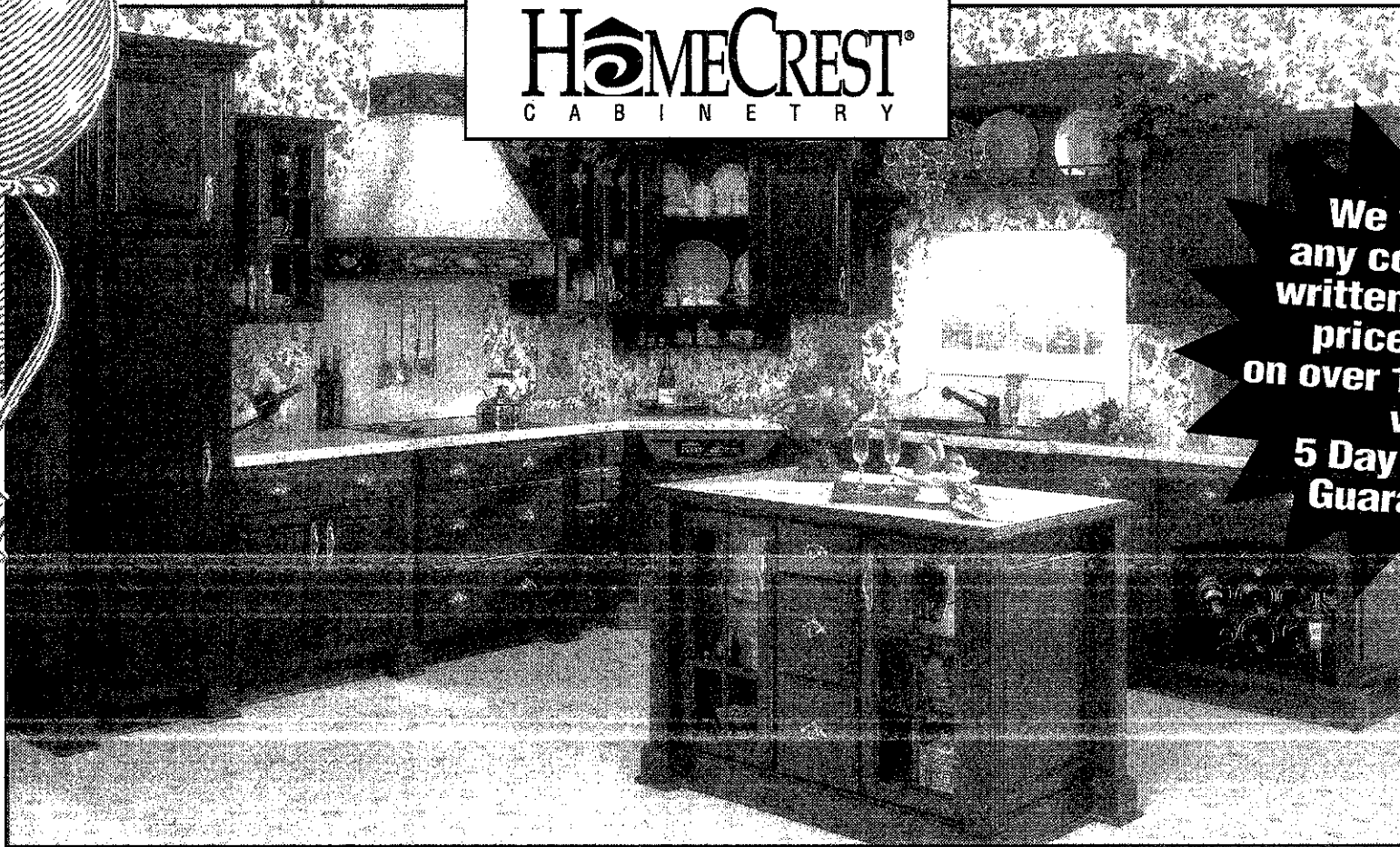
Von Maur is hiring sales associates and seeking pianists. Visit Laurel Park Place, Six Mile and Newburgh roads, to apply.

For more information, check the Web site at www.vonmaur.com.

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EXPIRES 10-15-03

SENIORS

FROM PAGE A1

"All this dumping really bothers me," said James. Kremer, who's lived in the community for 34 years, said he's concerned about the dumping and deep well drilling. "I have four acres on a well," he said. "I can see a few problems there." And Kremer remembers when Canton was much more rural than it is today. "I had five kids grow up here," he said, "and they picked corn right where we are today." Where they were was Summit on the Park and the event, hosted by State Rep. Phil LaJoy, R-Canton, was a way to bring seniors together with various businesses and services in the community

ranging from health care providers to estate planners. The five-hour summit featured sessions on arthritis, long-term care, senior safety, elder law, Social Security and healthy snacking. The lobby and banquet hall was lined with booths from sponsors offering literature, information and many free samples. What did Kremer like best about the summit? "All the freebies," he said. Guest speaker was U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, R-Livonia, who fielded questions from an audience of about 200 people. Neva Miller and Patricia Cowell of Belleville said they didn't have any particular issues on their agenda, but they did enjoy the session on arthritis. "They showed you how to sit

down and exercise," Cowell said. "It's sometimes hard for seniors to do the exercises standing up." Coring Walsh, 79, of Canton said she was interested in learning more about long-term housing. But the registered nurse, who's been retired since 1977, said she wanted to help people out herself. "I'd like to volunteer if I can," she said, "to make use of my time." She's been doing volunteer nursing work at Westland Convalescent Center. "Some people don't have many visitors," she said. "I can just be there and hold their hands." Walsh, a native of the Philippines, is going home in January to celebrate her 80th birthday with her family. Allen Young, 83, of

Plymouth said he read about the summit in the Observer and decided to check it out. "I have arthritis in my knees," he said. "I'm just checking on senior citizen issues, checking different things." Mike Begian, 81, of Canton said he goes to the Summit every day to walk on the track. He used to walk for a hour, he said, but his hip has been bothering him so he cut his walks back to 30 minutes. "Then I go to the senior room," he said, "gab, have some coffee and doughnuts and watch TV." And why did he come to Wednesday's session. "I just like to be with people," he said.

BICYCLIST

FROM PAGE A1

Canton Detective Capt. Alex Wilson said Wise was riding his bicycle east on Michigan Avenue when he apparently swerved into the traffic portion of the road and was struck by an east-bound motorist. That motorist, a 23-year-old Westland man, was in Canton police custody Friday afternoon awaiting results of toxicology tests and a warrant from the Wayne County Prosecutor's office. Wilson said there was an indication that alcohol was involved and other possible charges may be forthcoming. Canton Police Sgt. Todd Mutchler said Wise was working in the Canton area and stayed in Canton during the week. "He had no operator's license," Mutchler said, "and was riding

home on his bike." Mutchler said alcohol may have been a factor in Wise's case as well. It was the third traffic fatality on Michigan Avenue this year. In June, a 35-year-old Nebraska man was killed while he was struck by a pickup truck while walking in the roadway on Michigan Avenue. That accident occurred about 4:20 a.m. on June 25. No charges were sought against the driver, a 36-year-old Plymouth resident. In July, a 56-year-old Canton woman was killed at Beck and Michigan Avenue when she apparently pulled into oncoming traffic on Michigan. She was southbound on Beck when the accident occurred about 6 p.m. July 30. No charges were filed in that accident either.

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 DICKIE ROBERTS FORMER CHILD STAR
 DAVID SPADE SHOWTIMES 9/05 - 9/11
 DICKIE ROBERTS: FORMER CHILD STAR (PG-13) 12:10, 2:30, 4:40, 7:10, 9:30
 FRU/SAT LS 11:30
 CREEPERS CREEPERS 2 (R) 11:50, 2:05, 4:30, 7:20, 9:40
 FRU/SAT LS 11:50
 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: THE CURSE OF THE BLACK PEARL (PG-13) 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:50
 UPTOWN GIRLS (PG-13) 12:00, 2:20, 4:30, 6:50
 OPEN RANGE (R) 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:15
 S.W.A.T. (PG-13) 9:00 FRU/SAT LS 11:30
 FREAKY FRIDAY (PG) 11:45, 1:50, 4:10, 7:00, 9:10
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ROTARY

FROM PAGE A1

right of way." The club decided to locate the clock in Heritage Park, which they see as a gathering place for

the community, he said. And township officials like the idea. "It will be a terrific addition to the park," said Ann Conklin, township leisure services director. When the project, which Conklin said might be finished

by next summer, is in place it will feature pavers and benches, similar to the Veterans Memorial. Yack said the township has offered to help with the site preparation. jgladden@oe.homecomm.net | (734) 459-2700

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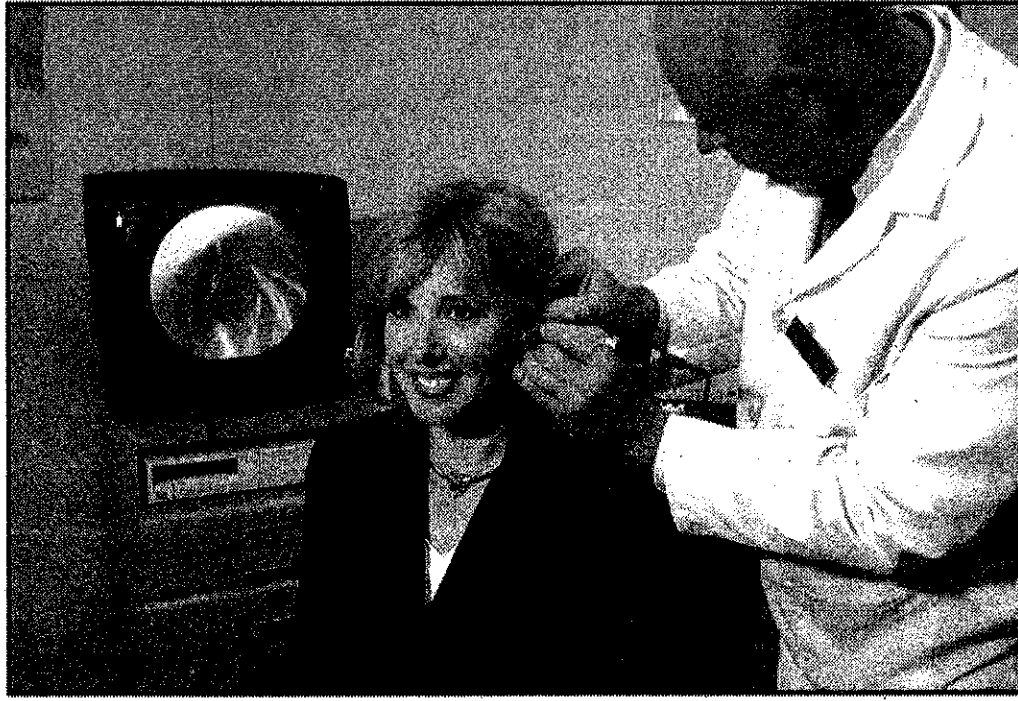
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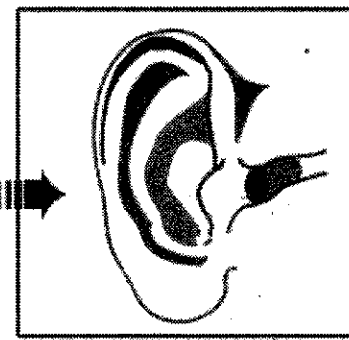
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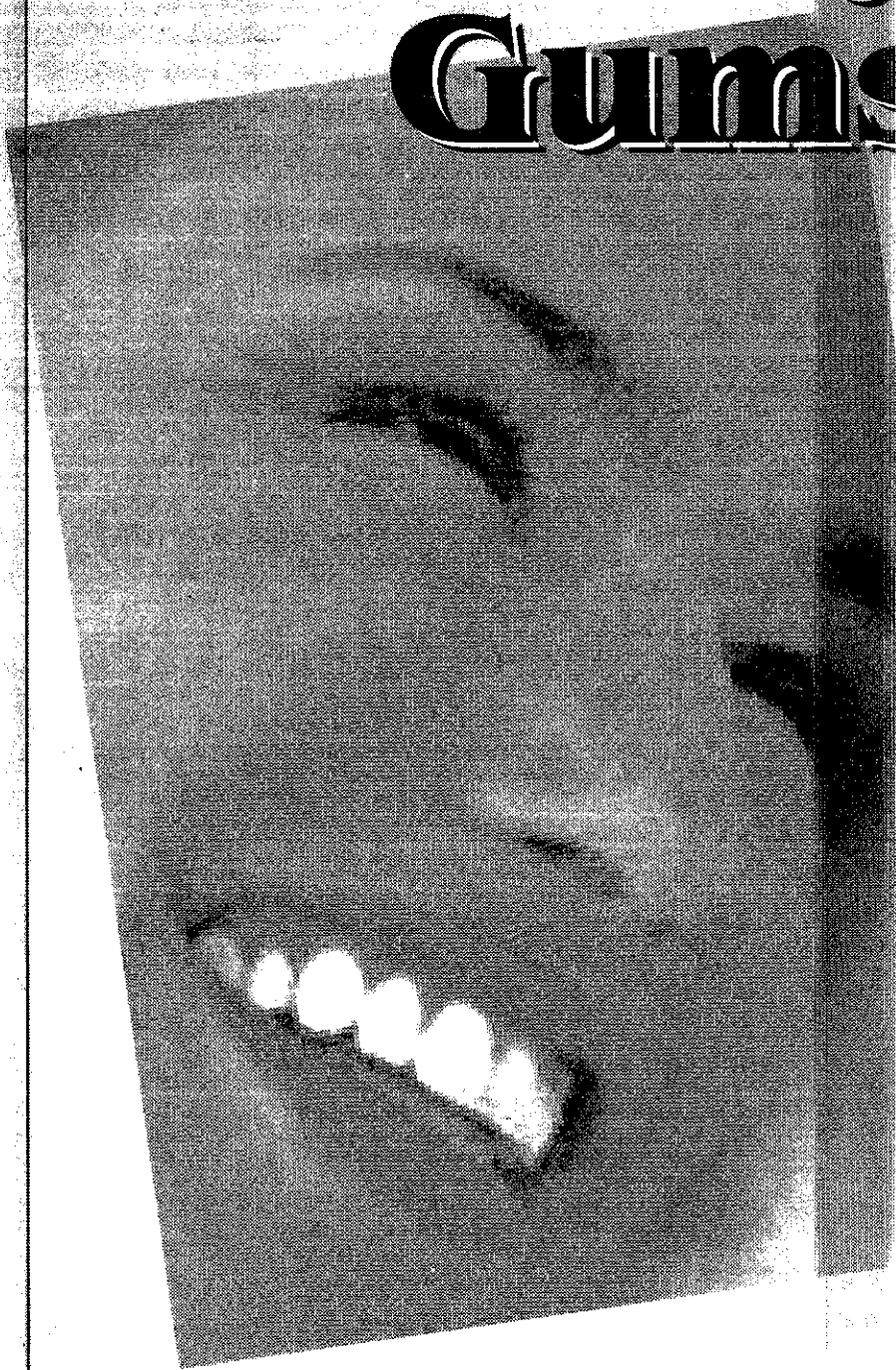
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DRIVER

FROM PAGE A1

"I drank shots with him," he said. "We all three drank three shots at the same time. We weren't trying to get drunk. I wouldn't have gotten in the car with him if I thought that he was drunk."

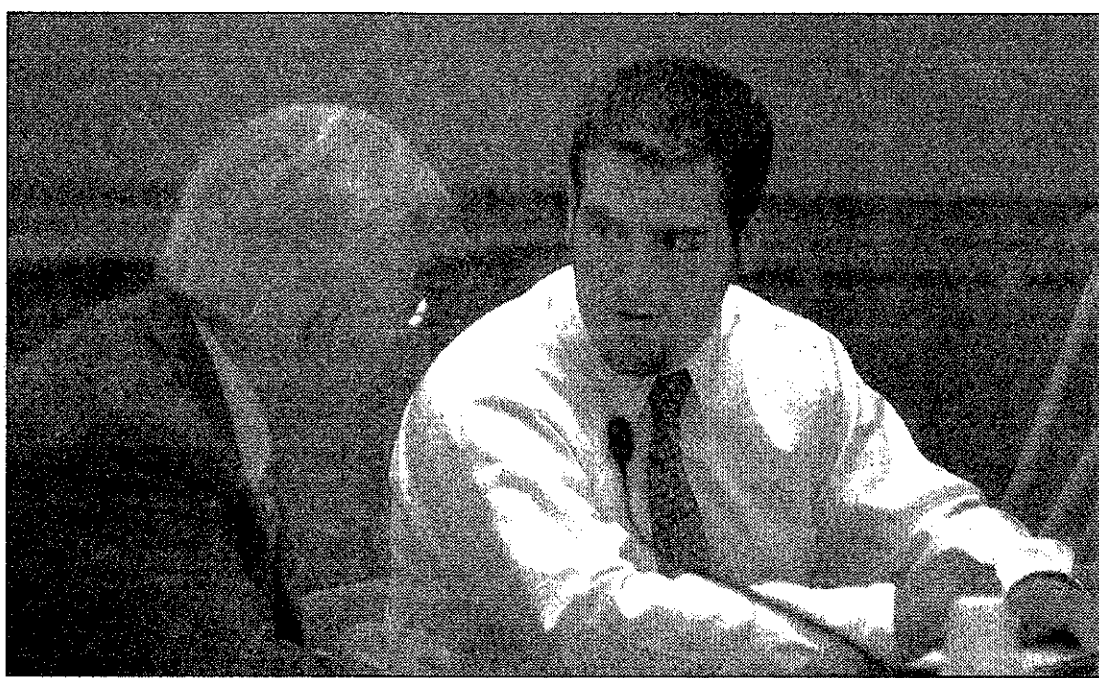
Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Robert Moran stipulated that after accident, Bragg's blood alcohol level was tested at 0.04 - less than the 0.10 considered to be legally drunk.

After visiting the two bars, McClure said the trio, with Bragg driving a rented 2002 Pontiac Grand Prix, drove to the Holiday Inn on Michigan Avenue at Lotz Road where they pulled into the parking lot.

In the parking lot, he testified, Bragg asked him: "You ever jumped any train tracks? I said, hell, no. I didn't think he was for real."

McClure said Bragg then pulled out of the parking lot, drove down Lotz Road at "over 50 miles an hour" and approached the railroad tracks. "We jumped the train tracks," he said. "We start coming down and there was a car right in front of us."

After the crash, he said their car kept going and hit a tree. He said Bragg was knocked out. "He woke up and said 'What



JIM JAGDFELD | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Kurtis Bragg of Kentucky (right) consults with his attorney, Joseph Simon. Bragg is accused of crashing his vehicle into a Canton police officer's car. The officer died as a result of his injuries from the collision.

happened?" I said you hit a police car," McClure testified.

Both McClure and Bragg received broken legs in the crash.

Bragg has been charged with second-degree murder and has been held without bond in Wayne County Jail.

After the testimony from McClure, Simon asked the court to reduce the charge against his client to involuntary manslaughter.

Earlier he had asked for a \$200,000/10-percent cash bond.

After listening to a brief debate between the two attorneys over the definition and question of "malice" in relation to the charges, Judge John E. MacDonald rejected Simon's request and ordered Bragg to stand trial in Wayne County Circuit Court on the second-degree murder charge.

He also remanded him to the

Wayne County Jail without bond. A circuit court arraignment has been scheduled for Sept. 18 in the Frank Murray Hall of Justice.

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THOUGHTS

FROM PAGE A1

the school district and college officials.

According to Plymouth-Canton Superintendent Jim Ryan, the questions will probe residents' feelings about everything from the quality of curriculum to the competence of teachers.

The questions will be about what residents want in terms of facilities, curriculum, school sizes and other education-related issues.

College officials hope to glean from the survey things people in the districts from which the college draws students think should be done to improve the

educational environment at Schoolcraft.

Schoolcraft officials will take the data, as will Plymouth-Canton officials, analyze it and develop reports. Schoolcraft considers this survey a pilot for other surveys college officials want to do in other school districts. Ruggirello says he expects the data, and a report, should be available within a month.

Originally, Plymouth-Canton officials wanted a question to be about residents' feelings on potential bond requests. That has been changed. There will be no question on a bond proposal. Instead, the question will be about the school district's budget, Ruggirello said.

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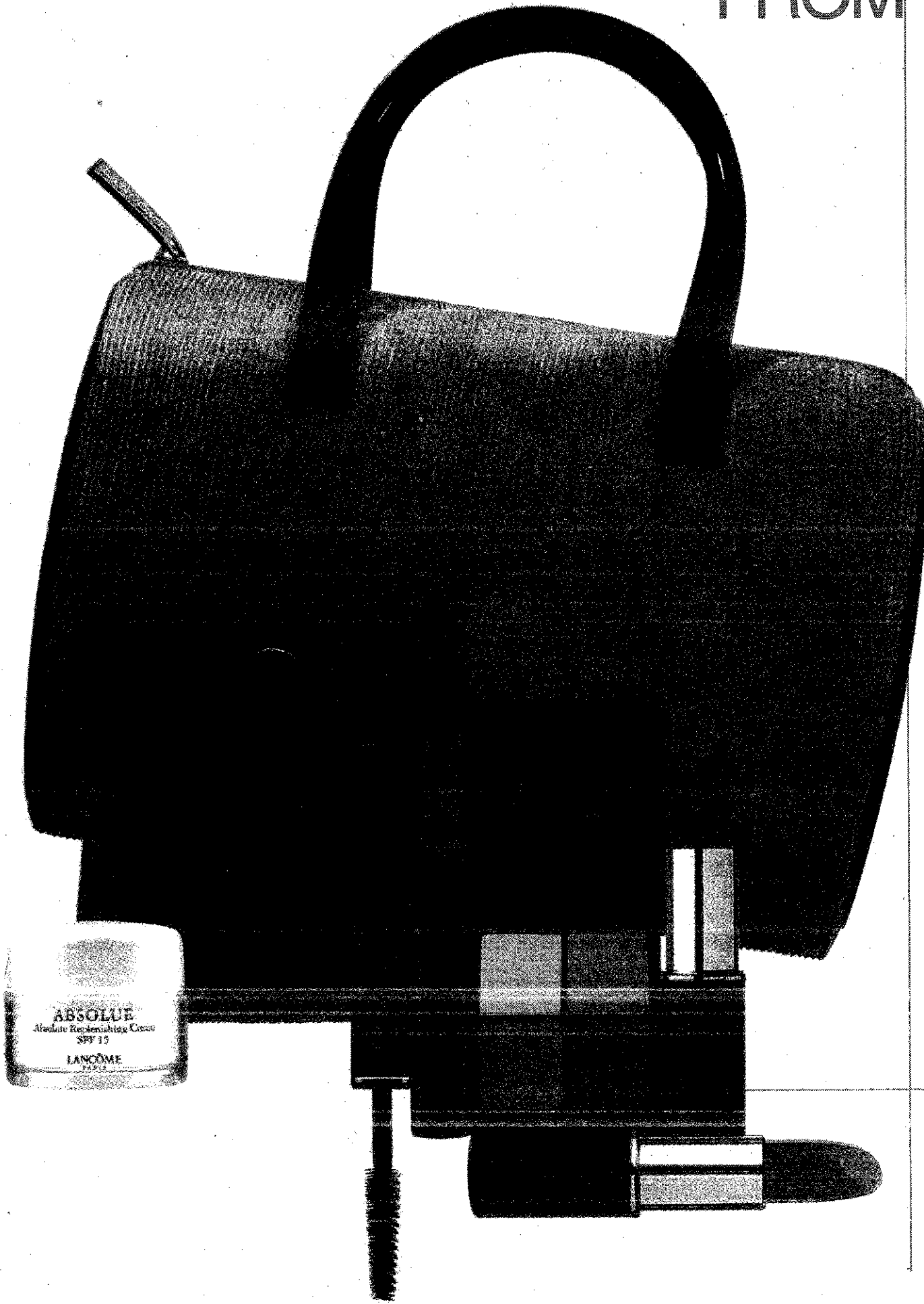
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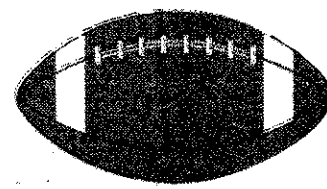
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Sidelines

Power surge

Continuing their off-season pattern of adding size to the roster, the Plymouth Whalers acquired 6-foot-1 defenseman Richard Power from the Kingston Frontenacs for a 5th round draft pick in 2004. All of Whalers General



Manager/head coach Mike Vellucci's pick-ups this off-season have helped improve the team's size at all positions on the ice.

Power, a 19-year-old from Scarborough, Ontario, scored two goals with 15 assists last season for Kingston, after spending two years with the Owen Sound Attack. Power was a first-round draft pick of the Attack in 2000.

"Richard has played 190 games in the OHL, which gives us added experience," Vellucci said. "His leadership skills should help develop our younger defensemen."

Whalers win

The Whalers opened their 2003-04 exhibition season with a 6-2 win over the Saginaw Spirit at Compuware Arena.

Dan Collins scored two goals and assisted on two others, and Nick Vernelli added a pair of goals for the Whalers.

Booster meeting

The next meeting for the Plymouth Wildcat Football Boosters will take place at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 9, in room



401 at Plymouth High School. All parents of current football players are asked to attend this meeting.

Financial reports, fund-raising activities and updates from the coaches will be among the items up for discussion at the meeting.

RU seeks coaches

Redford Union is looking for qualified coaches for the following sports for the 2003-04 school year: Girls varsity volleyball, girls JV volleyball, boys JV basketball and JV baseball.

Interested candidates should send a letter of interest and resume to athletic director Brett Steele, 17711 Kinloch, Redford, MI, 48240 or call the department at (313) 242-4270.

Rec classes

The city of Plymouth is now accepting registrations for its Fall 2003 Recreation Classes.

Youth programs range from gymnastics to ceramics and cooking. Adult and senior programs are also available and include activities like scrapbooking and gardening, among others.

For more information, contact the Recreation Department at (734) 455-6620.



ELIZABETH CARNEGIE | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Plymouth's David Snyder (15) and Robby Emerson (17) of Plymouth Christian Academy battle for the ball in Thursday's soccer match. PCA used a big second half to pull away with a 2-0 victory over the Wildcats.

Chiefs rock Rockets in key grid win

BY RICHARD L. SHOOK
SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

It's not your classic league rivalry yet. But the Canton and Westland John Glenn football programs are working on it.

It isn't a classic rivalry yet because the Chiefs haven't been a league power long enough. But Coach Tim Baechler's squad is working on that.

Canton showed Friday night why

CANTON FOOTBALL

it's emerging as a league power and a state playoff contender with a 20-7 victory over longtime league and state power John Glenn.

"That," said Rockets coach Chuck Gordon, "is a good football team. A very good football team."

Runs of 57, 48 and 4 yards by fullback Chuck Schumacher accounted for all of undefeated (2-0)

Canton's scoring. John Glenn (1-1) was denied the feel of the end zone until Matt Smitherman slipped in from the 1-yard line with 1:41 to play.

The Chiefs did it with a "Three Yards and a Cloud of Rubber" offense on its own brand-new artificial surface, which is the latest version of phony grass but with a generous sprinkling of ground up rubber that typically sprays up when players are sprinting and cutting.

The Rockets went with that time-tested offense, too. It's just that the Chiefs executed theirs a little better.

It was a lot more than the new power trying to usurp the throne of the old. At stake was the early edge in the Western Lakes Activities Association.

"When I first came here," Baechler said, "Walled Lake Western, John Glenn and Farmington Harrison were the bullies on the block. That's where we

PLEASE SEE CANTON, B3

Salem cagers clamp down on Mustangs

BY BRAD MONASTIERE
STAFF WRITER

BASKETBALL

After facing perhaps the state's top team (West Bloomfield), and certainly the state's top player (Samantha Mahoney) in its previous game, the Salem girls basketball team emphatically got into the win column Thursday night.

The Rocks used a suffocating defensive effort to blow out Northville 40-15 in the first game of the Novi High School Tournament. Salem advanced to the finals of the early season tourney Saturday night against the host Wildcats.

Salem's defense was the story, holding the Mustangs to just two points in the first, third and fourth quarters, an amazing effort regardless of the opponent.

"We started with a full-court press and

did a good job with our transition offense," said Salem coach Fred Thomann. "We played very good defense on the ball in the game."

Last Thursday, the Rocks lost a 48-46 heartbreaker to West Bloomfield in its season opener. Mahoney, a favorite for the Miss Basketball Award, sank two free throws with 0.8 seconds left to win the game for the Lakers.

Salem's second game of the season had no such drama at the end. Although Northville outscored the Rocks 9-6 in the second quarter, the Mustangs managed a total of four points in the second half.

Junior Alyssa Guerin led a balanced offensive attack with 13 points and 12

rebounds for Salem. Jamie Siedlaczack added seven while Becky Ward tossed in five. Every player on Salem's roster scored in the game.

"We got a little sloppy in that second quarter, but in the second half we did a real good job of pressuring the ball," Thomann said.

Novi edged Ann Arbor Huron in the other game in the tournament, 38-37.

Cezak dominates

It's not often an individual player outscores an entire team in a basketball game. Then again, it's not often you see players the caliber of Katie Cezak.

The 5-foot-11 junior forward for Canton had a monster game Thursday,

PLEASE SEE BASKETBALL, B2

Turnovers tumble the Rocks in 28-21 loss

BY BRAD MONASTIERE
STAFF WRITER

There's a reason football coaches like to say turnovers are one of the biggest factors in determining the winner of a game. That reason was on display Friday night at Churchill High School.

The host Chargers held a 4-0 edge in turnover differential and played a huge part in the team's 28-21 win over the visiting Salem Rocks. Churchill is now 2-0

SALEM FOOTBALL

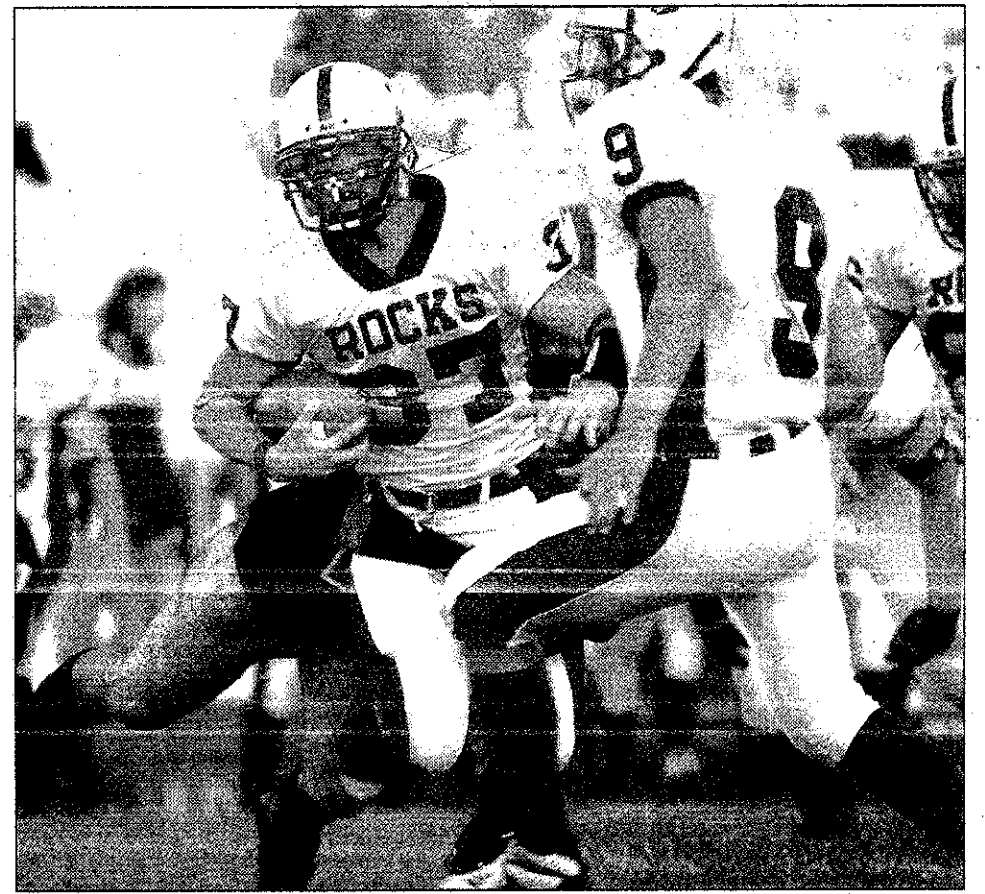
for the second straight season, while Salem falls to 1-1 overall.

The Chargers forced four turnovers — three of them in the second half — to hold off the pesky Rocks. Thanks to the turnovers and effective offense by both teams, there was just one punt in the game, and that didn't happen until 9:08 remained in the fourth quarter.

Churchill coach John Filiatraut said two of the four turnovers were big, because they stopped threatening drives by Salem.

"If we don't come up with those fumbles, it could be a whole different game," Filiatraut said. "It's good we got those tonight because it's something we spend a lot of time on in practice."

PLEASE SEE SALEM, B3



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salem RB Mike Kerul bursts through the Livonia Churchill defense for an 11-yard gain in the first quarter of Friday night's football game. Despite gaining 66 yards on the ground, Kerul's team lost a 28-21 decision to the host Chargers.

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LaSalle Sandwich can't cut the mustard vs. CC in rout

BY PAUL BEAUDRY
STAFF WRITER

LaSalle Sandwich didn't really live up to its name on Friday night against Catholic Central.

Actually, the visitors from Ontario proved to be more of a Lunchable than a whole sandwich.

The host Shamrocks scored four touchdowns in the first quarter alone en route to a 56-0 win over the Sabres.

How bad was it? The second half was a running clock as the Shamrocks held a 35-0 lead. And CC, the consensus No. 1 team in the state at 2-0, out-gained the Sabres (0-1) on the ground - 420 to minus-47.

On the bright side for Sandwich, it did outgain the Shamrocks in the air, 102-0. So they had that going for them.

Derek Brooks wound up gaining 93 yards on seven carries - with first-quarter TD runs of 29, 27 and 10 yards. Darnell Tyson added a 34-yard TD run on his only carry of the game and Drew Amble's 8-yard scoring run closed out the first-half scoring. Jason Gingell kicked all eight extra points.

CC scored again in the third quarter as reserve quarterback

FOOTBALL

Anthony Sabo went in on a 9-yard run, while Brendan English had an 18-yard scoring run and Ryan McKee closed out the scoring with another 18-yard TD.

Eddie Moore had nine carries for 70 yards, Robert Fragos had 59 yards on nine carries, Eric Vojtkofsky had 53 yards on four carries, Dave Thomas had 38 yards on four carries and English had eight carries for 35 yards.

Defensively, Tyson and Kyle Smith had three sacks each, while Dominique Fischer and Dave Herberholz both had interceptions.

The Shamrocks take to the road next week as the play Detroit DePorres on Saturday, Sept. 13 at Hamtramck's Keyworth Stadium.

Aggies win 1st

St. Katharine/Bishop Borgess coach Werner Blakely knew his team was still banged up from last weekend's game with Cranbrook.

So he ran the one sure play that he knew would work - give the ball to running back Kenny Smith.

And the move paid off as Smith rushed for 224 yards on 31 carries - all but five offensive plays - and added a pair of touchdowns as the Aggies beat host Wyandotte Mt. Carmel/Ecorse, 14-8.

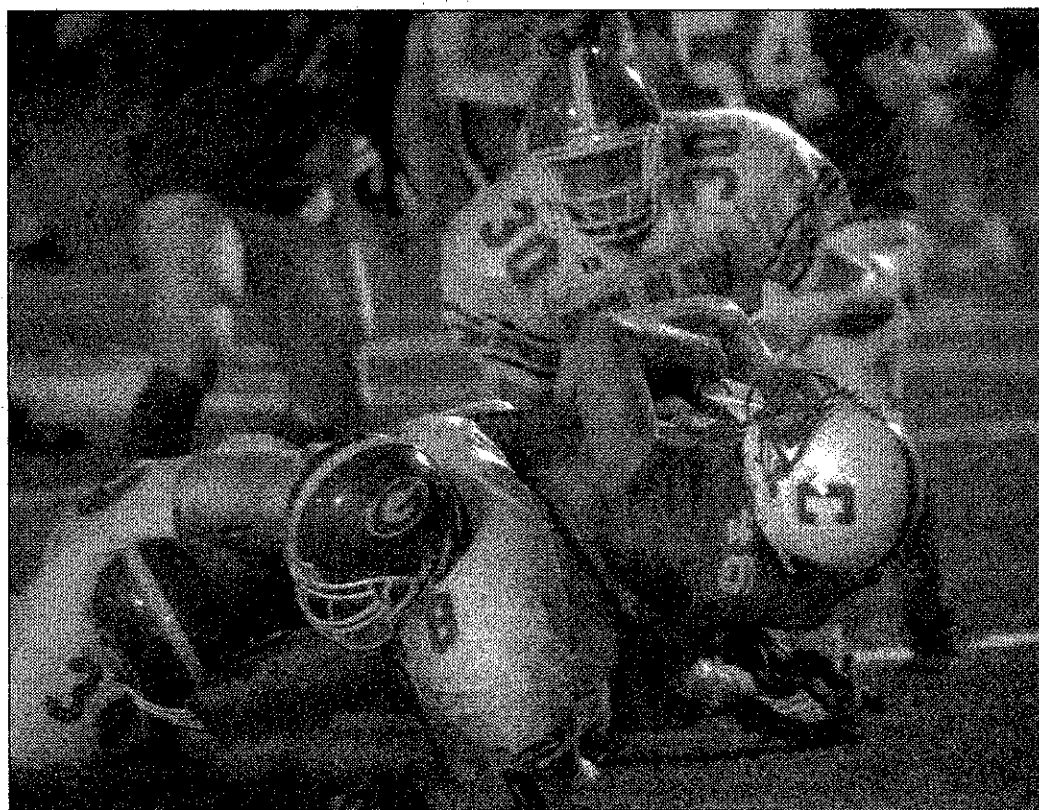
"We pretty much just gave him the ball," said Blakely as his team moved to 1-1 on the year. "(Fullback) Brandon Lee got hurt against Cranbrook, so we just played ball control."

Smith scored both touchdowns in the second quarter, on runs of 3 and 8 yards and added a conversion run. The Aggies' lone pass completion came in the second quarter as quarterback Greg Crooms hit Calvin Brown on a 38-yard gain, setting up the Aggies' first score.

As for stopping the Comets, Blakely had a simple philosophy.

"They had a mobile quarterback, so we played zone and kept everything in front of us," said Blakely. "They had three receivers in a one-back set and so we zoned them. They had a chance to tie it on fourth-and-goal from the 1, but they jumped offside and that was that."

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Canton's full back Chuck Schumacher crosses the goal line for Canton's third touchdown last Friday night over John Glenn. Glenn players Eric Schambers (34), Tim Bingham (8) and Jake FairChild (30).

CANTON

FROM PAGE B1

wanted to be. Well, now that we're one of the bullies, I'm not so sure.

"We do feel that hopefully tradition is coming for us. Our freshmen team and our junior varsity team both win. So our kids are expecting to win when they come here to us. Our freshmen coming in are excited to play football."

John Glenn missed starting junior quarterback Vinnie DeLuca, who is out with a broken foot. Junior Jon McCahill did a nice job filling in, but Canton relied on its backs to cover Glenn's two receivers - and they did. This allowed the Chiefs to load up on the line and keep Smitherman under some measure of control.

Smitherman gained a game-best 171 yards - but it took him 31 rushes to do it. Schumacher gained 161, but on 16 carries.

"The way he can cut is amazing," Baechler said of Smitherman. "We knew he had a sore ankle coming in. Our kids did a good job of not giving up any long runs."

The Rockets loaded up in front of the line, too, but sophomore quarterback Shawn Little was able to connect on 4-of-7 passes for 69 yards, three resulting in first downs.

Loading up to stop the run worked - except for Schumacher's two long touchdown runs. Both times he went through the middle, broke a tackle or two and burst past defenders into the clear.

"I thought we played really hard," Gordon said. "But we've got to play better and get better. But we'll get back at it. That's what we'll have to do."

Both teams played like the entire field was four-down territory. There were only three punts total and both teams gave up the ball on downs three times.

Canton's third possession resulted in Schumacher's 57-yard TD run, giving the team a 7-0 halftime lead.

John Glenn missed a 30-yard field goal try on the first possession of the second half and Schumacher reeled off his second long run two Canton possessions later.

The Chiefs put the game out of reach on their next possession on a 68-yard drive that made it 20-0 with 4:16 left.

And a good rivalry took another step toward becoming a classic one.

SALEM

FROM PAGE B1

Salem coach Bob Cummings agreed, saying the turnovers hurt his team's chances of winning.

"We made a lot of mental mistakes, and Churchill is too good of a team to have turnovers and commit bad penalties on," Cummings said. "But I thought our intensity was not what it should be in the first half. Our defense didn't show up to play in that first half."

Led by senior QB Chris Drabicki, the Rocks tied the game 21-21 in the third quarter and appeared to carry the momentum.

Churchill regained the lead 28-21, but the Rocks were moving the ball well and had three chances in the fourth quarter to tie the game. But all three times, the Chargers forced turnovers, two of those coming inside their own 25-yard line.

"We put the onus on our defensive line to be more competitive in the second half, and they were, particularly in the fourth quarter," Filiatraut said. "Drabicki made us look bad a

few times, so we need to do a better job of tackling."

Churchill appeared to be the more aggressive team to start the game, led by senior QB Justin Grohoski who played a smart, controlled game for the Chargers.

He hit senior WR Larry McDonald with a 43-yard pass on a key 3rd-and-11 play on the game's opening drive that ended when he scored on a quarterback sneak, giving Churchill a 7-0 lead. Grohoski passed 94 yards in the game on just three completions.

The Chargers forced the first turnover of the game when senior lineman Shane Vine recovered a fumble on the Churchill 36-yard line.

The team took advantage of the big play with a methodical 64-yard drive to jump ahead 14-0.

Senior Jonathan Bunzeluk scored from 13 yards out to give the Chargers the two-touchdown lead. Bunzeluk also played a big part in closing out the win, ripping off good runs late in the fourth quarter when the Chargers were trying to preserve the win. He finished with 113 yards rushing on 13

carries.

Drabicki led all players with 148 yards rushing on 15 carries. He tied the game at 21 with a 52-yard touchdown scamper on the left sidelines early in the third quarter. He also completed 6 of 10 passes for 84 yards with two interceptions. Senior RB Mike Kerul added 66 yards on the ground with a touchdown for Salem.

Churchill senior Patrick McFalls was also a playmaker in the game, rushing for 88 yards and two touchdowns and had a 52-yard kickoff return to help set up his second score of the night.

Cummings, who saw his Salem team start the season with a 41-0 win, said he saw some holes in his team's play he intends to try to fill in the coming week.

"We played a much stronger team tonight, so we found some definite things to work on," he said. "We started to get better with our intensity in the third quarter, but the turnovers really hurt us."

Churchill travels to Walled Lake Central next week, while the Rocks host the Northville Mustangs.

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PLYMOUTH HOCKEY

There will be a meeting for all those interested in being Plymouth HS hockey players at 7 p.m. Wednesday in the Plymouth HS gymnasium. If you plan on playing hockey at Plymouth, you must attend the meeting.

For more information, contact Plymouth athletic director Terry Sawchuk at (734) 582-5700.

PUNT, PASS, KICK

The City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation will be staging the 2003 NFL Pepsi Punt, Pass and Kick competition (ages 8-15) from 5-9 p.m. Monday, Sept. 22 at the Bentley Football Field, located on Hubbard between Farmington and Merriman roads.

There is no fee. Age classification is as of Dec. 31, 2003.

Registration will be the day of the event. A parent or guardian must present to sign a permission waiver. No football/turf/cleat shoes allowed. Only gym shoes permitted.

The top finishers from each of the eight age group at the local competition will advance to sectional competition. The winners of sectional competition will have their scores compared with sectional champs. The top five scorers from the pool of sectional champions advance to the 17th annual Detroit Lions team championship to be held at Ford Field.

For more information, call (734) 466-2410.

CHEER KIDS CAMP

The Salem Rocks Cheer Teams are holding a Kids Camp on Saturday, Sept. 20 from 1-4 p.m. at the Salem High School Gym.

The camp is designed for boys and girls grades K-8. The kids will learn the fundamentals of cheerleading, including cheers, jumps, dance, sideline skills and spirit chants.

The Salem High School Cheerleaders, ranked 4th in the nation for 2003 at the USA National High School Cheerleading competition, will coach the youngsters.

Each child will receive a t-shirt and an invitation to cheer at the Salem varsity football game, Oct. 3rd at the P-CEP stadium.

Registration deadline is Sept 15.

Cost for the camp is \$35. Registration forms are available in all P.C.C.S. schools serving kids in grades K-8 or by calling (734) 981-0062

PCJBA REGISTRATION

The Plymouth-Canton Junior Basketball Association will conduct registration for third-through-eighth grade boys and girls from 6:30-8 p.m. on Sept. 8 at East Middle School. This will be first-come, first-served based on school gym space available.

Registration fees are: 3-6 grades, \$110; 5-6 grades, \$120; and 7-8 grades, \$125.

All students in the Plymouth-Canton school district and in Canton Township are eligible. All players will play in each game, but no player will play an entire game. Tryouts will be conducted prior to team selection in order to equalize teams. Players will play approximately 10 games and a tournament, and can keep their jersey.

Parents interested in coaching should register on the same dates.

FALL SPORTS

High Velocity Sports in Canton will offer the following activities this fall:

Adult indoor soccer: The league will run from Sept. 8 through Oct. 26, with a total of eight games. Cost is \$65 for individuals, \$600 for teams.

Soccer clinics: Instructional soccer clinics are running now through Oct. 24, for those three-years old to adult. There are eight classes for each group, beginning with Small Stars (3-4 year olds with parents), Kicks with Kids (4-5 year olds and 6-7 year olds), Goalkeeper Clinic (9-12 year olds), Finishing School (9-12 year olds), Beginning Booters (8-11 year olds) and a Women's/Men's Clinic for adults.

Check www.hvysports.com for dates and times, or call (734) HV-SPORT for more

details.

Roller hockey: This league will run from Oct. 2 through Dec. 23, teams playing 10 games plus the playoffs. Cost is \$135 for individuals (plus a \$20 jersey fee) and \$1,200 for teams.

SOFTBALL TRYOUTS

Canton/Plymouth Thunderbird Softball Incorporated, a fastpitch softball organization, will have tryouts for four age divisions on Sept. 27 on Victory Field at the Canton Softball Center.

The times for the tryouts on both dates are: 14-and-under, 10 a.m.; 16-and-under, 11 a.m.; 12-and-under, noon; 10-and-under, 1 p.m.

For more information, contact the phone numbers listed for the age division: 16-and-under, (734) 737-9968; 14-and-under, (734) 844-2656; 12-and-under, (734) 397-1355; and 18-and-under and 10-and-under, (734) 981-7280.

BASEBALL TRYOUTS

The 11-and-under tryouts will be at 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 14 at Bicentennial Park's Diamond No. 5 in Livonia. For more information, call Scott at (734) 422-4576.

A just-forming 11-and-under travel baseball team will have tryouts for its 2004 team from 2-4:30 p.m. Sept. 6 at the Canton Softball Center. The team will play a 24-game schedule, competing in the Kensington Valley League.

For more information, call Alex Grabsky at (734) 323-6142.

Open tryouts for two 10-and-under travel baseball teams will be conducted from 2-4 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 7 at Fields 1 and 2 at McClumpha Park. Players must be 10 or younger by July 31, 2004 and must be Plymouth-Canton residents or live within the Plymouth-Canton school district. Players should bring their gloves, bats and water bottles to the tryout.

For more information, call Glenn Potter at (734) 844-8981 or Jim Belisle at (734) 844-2117.

SKATING LESSONS

The Basic Skills skating

classes offers those interested the opportunity to learn at every level, from beginning to advanced freestyle. Each class is 25 minutes in length with an additional 25 minutes of practice time, either before or after the lesson (depending on scheduling for that day). All classes will be held at the Plymouth Cultural Center's Ice Arena.

Registration is from 6:30 p.m.-8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 11 at the Plymouth Cultural Center, located at 525 Farmer. Registration will also be accepted at the Recreation office during business hours.

Cost is \$50 for city of Plymouth residents and \$70 for non-residents. There will be a \$5 discount for every additional sibling.

For more information on class times and days, call the city of Plymouth Recreation Office at (734) 455-6620.

ODP SELECTIONS

Three members of the Plymouth Kicks U12 premier soccer team were selected for the Olympic Development Program for 2003-04.

Joshua Gatt, John Krutty and Casey Clark were all named to the team.

LEARN TO SKATE

Starting Sept. 20, the Arctic Edge Ice Arena will offer a fall learn-to-skate program for various levels of instruction. Classes will be from 10-11:45 a.m. on Saturdays through Nov. 13. There will also be Tot classes from 10-10:45 a.m. on Tuesdays and from 12:15-1 p.m. on Thursdays.

Registration begins Aug. 14. Call (734) 487-7777 for more information.

COACHING POSITIONS

There are several positions for coaches for the 2003-04 seasons currently available at Plymouth HS.

First: The Wildcats need a hockey coach for the 2003-04 school season. The head coach is responsible for the entire organization of the sport, including supervision of all varsity assistants and junior varsity and freshmen coaches. Also needed: a varsity base-

ball coach for the 2004 season, who will be responsible for the organization of the sport, varsity assistants and junior varsity and freshmen coaches.

Other coaching positions that are open are girls basketball assistant, football assistant, volleyball assistant and boys basketball assistant.

Anyone interested in any of these positions should contact Plymouth athletic director Terry Sawchuk at (734) 582-5702.

LEARN-TO-SKATE

The Plymouth-Canton Hockey Association Mini-Mite instructional program is enrolling new players.

This learn-to-skate hockey program is geared toward beginning players.

It emphasizes skill development with instruction by experienced USA Hockey-certified coaches.

The program runs from September through March. Registration forms are available at the Plymouth Cultural Center or on line at www.pchockey.org.

UPDATE MHSAA RECORDS

The Michigan High School Athletics Association is trying to update its all-time records for all of its sanctioned sports. The MHSAA is calling on reporters, newspapers, coaches, athletic directors or anyone affiliated with high school sports to pass on this information the MHSAA.

Send the MHSAA press clippings, or any other published information about all-area, all-conference, season and career statistics.

You can send this information by mail (preferred option) to 1661 Ramblewood, East Lansing, MI. 48823-7392. You can also reach them by fax at (517) 332-4071.

NOVI HOCKEY LEAGUES

The Novi Ice Arena will offer hockey leagues for fall season 2003 adult teams, including 18-and-over novice on Tuesday nights; 18-and-over on Friday nights; and 30-and-over on Wednesday-Thursday nights; and 40-and-

over on Sunday nights.

The leagues are no checking with focus on fun and competition. Scorekeepers will be provided.

Teams will play a 26-game schedule (including playoffs), one game per week. Games will consist of 15-minute running time periods. No games will be scheduled on Super Bowl Sunday or during Monday Night Football.

For more information, call (248) 347-1010 or visit www.suburbanhockey.com.

24-HOUR GOLF PASS

The Michigan PGA is offering a 24-hour golf pass for \$100.

Program members receive a rate of 50 percent off peak daily rates for greens fees and half a cart at participating golf courses.

Members must call no more than 24 hours in advance. The passes are available through participating course and the Michigan Section PGA office.

You can visit the Michigan PGA Web site at www.michigan.pga.com; or call (734) 522-2323.

ARCHERY RANGE OPENS

The City of Livonia Department of Parks and Recreation archery range, located on Glendale Avenue off Farmington Road (between I-96 and Plymouth Road), will be open 4-10 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays (Sept. through Nov.).

No registration is necessary. Residents can use the range for free. Non-resident fees are \$4 for adults and \$2 for children. Children 17-and-under must be accompanied by an adult.

The range offers several target lanes with one lane specifically for shooting broad heads to tune in hunting bows.

Boy and Girl scout troops interested in earning merit badges should call (734) 466-2410 for more information and arrange a time.

Items for the Sports Roundup may be faxed to (734) 591-7279 or mailed to the Observer, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI, 48150.

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Cathy Standish

Holding on for dear life

It should be a federal holiday. The first day of school, a day that as parents lives in our hearts and our minds.

I used to love having the kids home for the summer. We would spend days as a family. At the lake, taking field trips to the zoo, we would organize play dates and our afternoons would be structured around sporting activities.

We would go to baseball games. We would have picnics in the park and our household would be "up and moving" first thing in the morning. Those were the times we would ride the merry-go-round with the kids, holding onto them for dear life.

Summers used to fly by. It seemed there was never enough time to do everything we wanted to do.

Then, before we knew it, the kids were becoming teens. That is when the rules for the summer seemed to change. Somehow, in our middle age, my husband and I had forgotten what it was to be a teenager.

We didn't seem to remember that teens sleep until the crack of noon, that days consist of lying on the couch,

It completely slipped our mind that being a teen means more about friends and less about family.

chatting on the telephone or computer. We had forgotten about the summers spent driving to this friend's house or that friend's house.

It completely slipped our mind that being a teen means more about friends and less about family.

Long dismissed was the exercise of standing in front of the open refrigerator door peering into it for hours on end. Dreams of having a magic food fairy hand out a specially prepared ham sandwich long since faded. It slipped our minds of the effort it took to ceremoniously slam the door shut while we grumbled that there is "never anything to eat in this house."

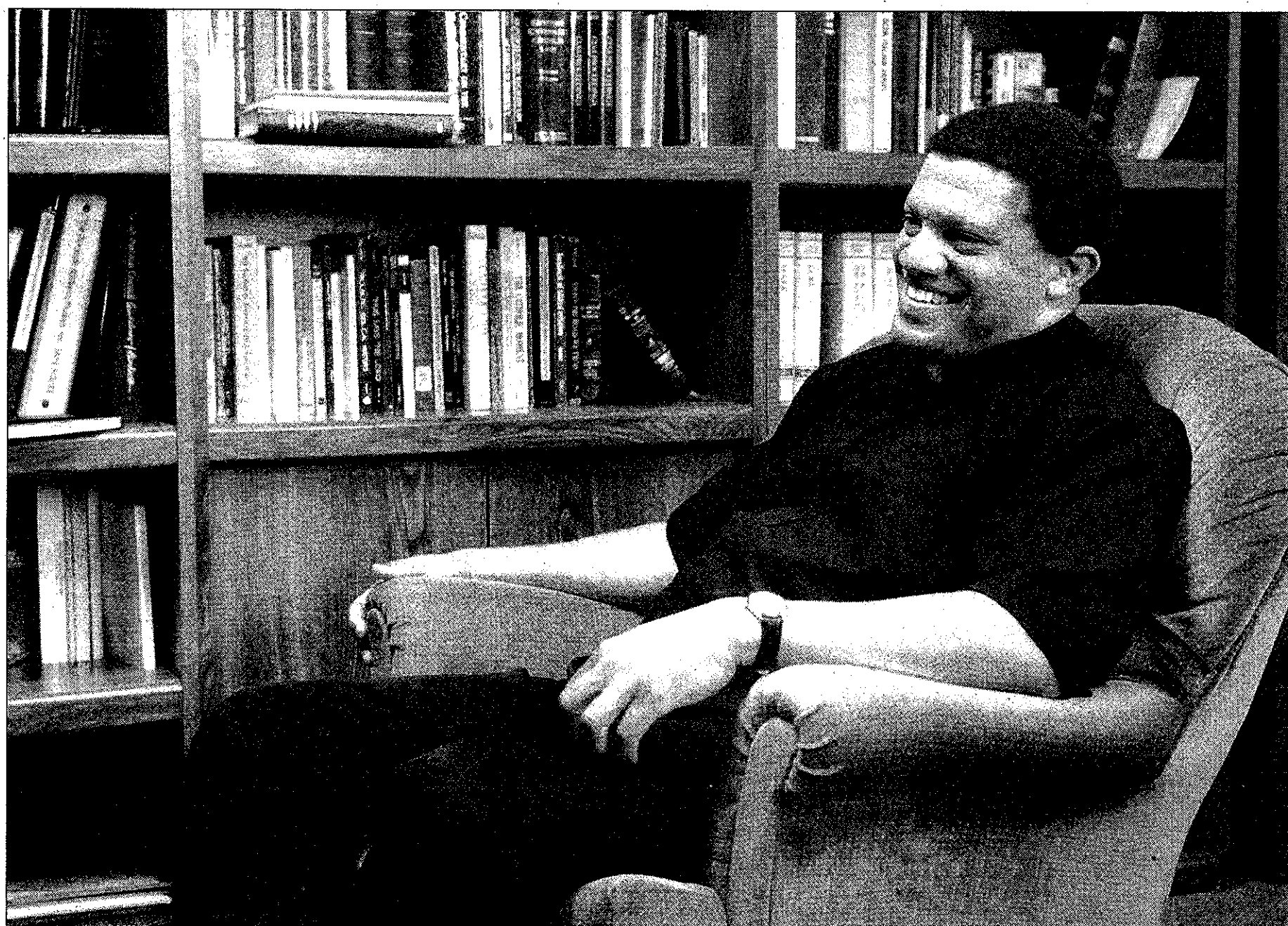
We forgot spending a day with family at the zoo, museum or park was "lame" and that activity of choice for the teen of yesterday and today was the ghastly expensive amusement park.

We just didn't remember that optimal family fun meant letting go of your child as they got off the merry-go-round to instead standing helplessly by as your child rode roller coasters that not only defied death, but also gravity.

How our memories of those days seem to fade as the years slip away.

As a teen, I never thought I would be the mother. My mother, that clueless creature who woke me up in the morning, that woman who fed me, taught me, and consoled me when hormones were high and times were

PLEASE SEE STANDISH, C2



PHOTOS BY JIM JAGOFELD | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Rev. George Williams started at St. John Neumann Catholic Church in Canton on July 1. He has asked parishioners to meet with him individually so he can get to know them and their ideas about the parish.

Priest wants to help make sense of this life

BY JOANNE MALISZEWSKI
STAFF WRITER

The priesthood wasn't something George Williams considered as a younger man. Armed with a degree from the University of Michigan, he became a mechanical engineer.

But God and his desire to work with people always remained with him. During college and after graduation, Williams was involved in the campus ministry. "I'm pretty good at Frisbee." By the time he was 30 though, he realized he was perhaps a bit too old to remain in the college environment.

It was time for a change. "I decided to do it long term," said Williams.

It just felt right. He was ordained in 1996 with a master's degree in divinity from Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit.

"I love serving the church and telling people about God in their lives."

It's not that easy to become a priest. Williams' studies included one year to make up for his non-liberal arts engineering degree, four in the seminary and one year as an intern.

His career took him along a few different roads until it led to St. John

Neumann in Canton July 1. His first parish was St. Paul's in Grosse Pointe as an associate pastor. Then one day Cardinal Adam Maida asked him a question. Did he want to study canon law? "That came as a surprise," Williams said.

Off to Rome he went to face quite a challenge. He had to study in Italian, a language he just didn't know. But living and studying in the historic center of Rome and meeting other priests softened the uneasiness.

When he returned to Detroit, he was a canon lawyer and practiced at the Marriage and Family Tribunal, which involved facets of Catholic married life.

Williams' other career roads took him for one year to St. John's Center for Youth and Family in Plymouth Township. At that time he also spent weekends working at St. Vincent and St. Michael's. His next stop was St. Suzanne's and Our Lady Gate of Heaven in Detroit as administrator and temporary pastor.

Then, at long last he was asked to serve St. John Neumann's.

"I was very happy to have stability," said the Virginia native, who came to Michigan to attend college.



The Rev. George Williams chats with Gene Kijek, pastoral associate.

He brings worldly experience to the Canton church.

"The fact that I went to the U-M and I have been out in the world. I have life experience and work experience."

His greatest joy is serving God and

people. "I enjoy preaching and making the Christian life real and doable for people. I like working with people and

PLEASE SEE PRIEST, C2

Saturday walk to benefit work of Gilda's Club

BY JONI HUBRED
STAFF WRITER

Jacqueline Grekin still remembers the phone call that changed her life 10 years ago.

The Farmington Hills clinical psychologist, in the practice of counseling cancer patients at the time, was asked to join a support group forming for people living with cancer. That group of about a half-dozen women formed a Detroit chapter of Gilda's Club, an organization that provides support for men, women and children who have been touched in some way

by cancer.

Grekin is still active today, a member of the club's board of directors. The two women who founded the club, Ina Kadish and Berniece Gadon, have both since passed away.

"These two ladies were able to put together a group that was so right," Grekin said. "Most of them didn't know one another. We just had the common goal of forming a Gilda's Club."

Founded in New York in 1995, the club was founded in memory of comedienne Gilda Radner, a Detroit native who died of ovarian cancer

in 1989. According to the Gilda's Club Web site (www.gildasclub.org), Radner received so much support during her illness, she wanted to see places made available where everyone touched by cancer could receive that kind of help.

Today, the Detroit chapter serves thousands of people and is undergoing a 3,500-square-foot expansion to provide more space for standing-room-only programs. The club's biggest fund-raiser of the year, a two-mile walk, will be held Saturday, Sept. 13, at Oakland Community College's Orchard Ridge Campus in Farmington Hills.

THE RED DOOR

This year marks the walk's 10th anniversary, even though the Gilda's Club house in Royal Oak has been open only five years. Gilda's brother, Michael, a Southfield resident, said the first walk was organized to provide resources to purchase and renovate the house.

"The walk was one of the first major events to let the community know about it and start raising funds," he said. "That walk and the following ones helped us to open



Gilda's Club."

The social and emotional support provided by a host of programs, seen as a complement to medical care, comes free of charge. Although people often assume the club focuses on women with ovarian cancer — which is what Gilda had — Michael said it's open to anyone whose life has been touched by cancer in any way, shape or form.

"Funds from the community are essential to keep that red door open," he said, referring to the club's trademark. "None of us has to look very far to find someone who is affected by cancer."

PLEASE SEE GILDA'S CLUB, A2



Walkers will again support the work of Gilda's Club with the Saturday, Sept. 13, event at Oakland Community College's Orchard Ridge Campus.

PRIEST

FROM PAGE C1

helping them make sense out of life."

Williams describes himself as a regular guy who enjoys friends, family, tennis, golf and reading. "We are real people. And priests have interests. I maintain the friendships I have always had."

Now two months into his new role as pastor at St. John's, Williams says he is working hard to get to know his parishioners. He has asked them to meet with him and to let him know who they are, are they happy with the parish, why and why not, what would they change and what wouldn't they change.

"I am still getting accustomed. St. John's is a very busy parish with a very enthusiastic staff. I am learning."

He is also faced with a



JIM JAGDFELD | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The Rev. George Williams serves worshippers at St. John Neumann Catholic Church.

church that is in constant change. "We are trying to modernize. We are trying to be more in tune with where the people are. And we want to maintain who we are. We want

to maintain our ancient traditions with a modern face."

jmallszewski@oe.hometownlife.com
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STANDISH

FROM PAGE C1

bad.

Am I am becoming her? I listen to the pounding hip hop beat and holler "turn it down."

I interrogate my kids of the who, what and why of their whereabouts. I refuse to go to bed until everyone is safely home and accounted for.

Yet my mother has told me, sometimes, she wants it all back.

It should be a federal holiday, that first day of school. I sit alone in my study, the kids all gone, and I remember those summers that live in my heart and my mind.

Slowly it comes me. The realization that I am have now truly become my mother.

Like her, sometimes, I just want it all back.

Cathy Standish is a Plymouth resident and frequent contributor to the Observer. You may reach her by e-mail at Cate1956@aol.com.

Canton resident earns Nurse Scholar Award

The shortage of nurses continues to present one of the greatest challenges to health care. Federal, state and local governments are creating programs and providing financial support to help alleviate the shortage of nurses. Botsford General Hospital in Farmington Hills has developed a successful strategy for workforce development.

For two years, Botsford has been offering an unrestricted nursing scholarship to employees who are enrolled in an RV program. One of this year's Botsford Nurse Scholar Award recipients is nurse technician Brandon Buchta of Canton.

Buchta, a student at Washtenaw Community College, likes the job security that a nursing career offers: "I'll never have to tell my wife that I've been laid off. With a two-year degree, the job pays well enough that I'll be able to support my family. Of course, a person couldn't be a nurse without real compassion for patients. I'd like to say thanks for this scholarship; it lets me reduce my work schedule so that I can finish my education."

The Nurse Scholar Award program continues to be supported from the proceeds of a golf outing sponsored by Botsford physicians. Marge Hasler, RN, administrator of nursing services at Botsford, said, "Our Nurse Scholar Award program is a delightful and effective tool for recruiting and retaining RNs in direct patient care positions. I thank our physicians for their generosity and continued support of this fund."

The public may help to support Botsford's effort to ensure access to high-quality care at their community hospital by donating to the Nurse Scholar Award fund. For further information, contact The Botsford Foundation at (248) 442-5045.

GILDA'S CLUB

FROM PAGE C1

The club's 3,300 members see that red door as the key to a warm and welcoming space where people are living with cancer — not "suffering" from it. The three-part program includes support groups for people living with cancer, their family members and friends; workshops and lectures on cancer-related issues and topics like yoga, guided imagery, tai chi and quilting; and social events and parties, program director Joe Perry said.

"We put on a lot of parties that give us a chance to celebrate each and every moment of every day," he said, adding about 250-300 members show up for large events.

The expansion will provide larger meeting rooms and an art room, as well as a lecture room that will hold 150 people.

Perry came aboard six months before the house opened. He started as a student but, like most people associated with Gilda's Club, stayed associated with what volunteers call "a labor of love."

"I love the sense of community here," he said. "I love it so

much because the members love it. You're kind of walking through their cancer with them. There's a tremendous sense of community and support."

While there are some sad times — including the deaths of five of the eight founding members — Perry said even those have moments of brightness, created by the way members support one another.

Grekin said anyone who sees what goes on at the club on a day-to-day basis will understand why it's so important, and why the upcoming fundraiser is critical to maintain free services to the men, women and children who need them the most.

"When you go into the Noogieland room and see a mother with her head wrapped in a turban, a child with no hair at all or a mother and child sitting and playing together, you know what it's all about," Grekin said.

"It's the one place associated with cancer look forward to going to," Michael Radner said. "People stop me all the time and say, 'I don't know what I would do without this.' They come and they come back because it's having a positive influence on their lives."

THE WALK

Saturday's fund-raising walk will go on, rain or shine. Onsite registration begins at 8:30 a.m. A kickoff rally will be held at 10 a.m., followed by the walk at 10:30 a.m. The entry fee is \$30; there is no charge for children under 10.

"We look forward to another exciting walk," said Lynne Merrill Aldrich, executive director of the local Gilda's Club. "Each year, this event has been very successful and very enjoyable for participants. Everyone has a good time and leaves with the wonderful feeling that they have helped to support cancer patients with a variety of programs."

The walk will follow a beautiful landscaped route on the campus and will feature food and entertainment. Participants do not have to walk the entire route.

Participants are asked to seek pledges of at least \$100 from relatives and friends. Those raising more than \$250 will be eligible for awards and will be invited to a special celebration party at Gilda's Clubhouse.

For more information, contact Victoria Musto at (248) 577-0800, Ext. 14.

jhubred@oe.hometownlife.com | (248) 477-5450

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fuqua-Randall

Charisa Rachelle Randall of Livonia and Jason Keith Fuqua were married June 21 in Ward Presbyterian Church before the Rev. David Loewen and Rev. David Randall, father of the bride.

Charisa is the daughter of David and Connie Randall of Livonia. She is a graduate of Livonia Stevenson High School and graduated magna cum laude from Belmont University with a bachelor's degree in business management. She is employed in the personnel and payroll department at R & D Enterprises in Northville.

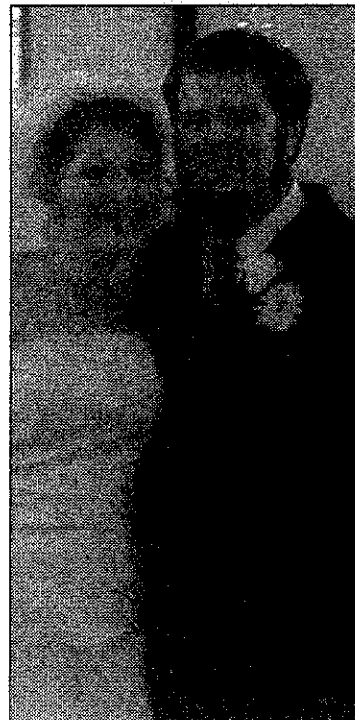
Her husband Jason is the son of Keith Fuqua of Farmington and Dolores Fuqua of Westland. He graduated from Garden City High School and from William Tyndale College,

Farmington Hills. Jason is employed at R & D Enterprises also.

Attending the bride were her sister, Catherine Randall, as maid of honor. Bridesmaids were Caryn Vermiglio, Cara Barger, Sandy Severn, Jennifer Ritzler, Laura Kelley and Lindsay Fuqua. Flower girls were her niece, Rebekah Randall, and friend, Rebekah Raitz.

Attending the groom were Neal Ingram, Jacob Varty, Dave Skiber, Kevin Brace, John Fitchett and Matt Bone. Ushers were Stephen Randall, Timothy Randall, Phillip Randall and Evan Karzynow.

A reception was at Hawthorn Valley in Westland. The newlyweds spent their honeymoon in Aspen, Colo., and are making their new home in Plymouth.



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Adrian College

Brianne M. Harcourt, daughter of Leslie and Kristin Harcourt of Canton, a sophomore majoring in biology, and a 2001 graduate of Plymouth Canton High School, is among the 319 students named to the 2003 Spring semester Dean's List at Adrian College.

Grand Valley State University

The following local students have earned their bachelor's or master's degrees from Grand Valley State University in April. From Canton, the students are, Melissa R. Bacynski, M.P.A.; Jason M. Gourieux, B.S.; Andria M. Johnson, B.B.A.; and Rebecca A. Markavich, B.S. From Plymouth is Randolph S. Brown, B.B.A.

Hope College

The following local students have been awarded the Presidential Scholarship to Hope College. They are selected in recognition of broad academic achievement with superior academic records as well as demonstrated leadership abilities. The students are Stephanie Harrier, daughter of Phillip and Theresa Harrier of Canton and a Salem High School graduate; and Kathryn McLean, daughter of the Rev. John and Diana McLean of Canton, and a graduate of Canton High School.

Massanutten Military Academy

Massanutten Military Academy announced that Cadet David Cook successfully completed the 2003 Summer Cadet Program. He received the Good Conduct Ribbon and was a member of the Honor Company. Cadet Cook is the son of Mr. and Mrs. David Cook of Canton.

Michigan Society of Professional Engineers

The Michigan Society of Professional Engineers announced the winner of the Auxiliary Grant \$2,000 Grant Scholarship. This year's recipient is Crystal Miranda of Canton. She attended Ladywood High School. She is attending the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor in the fall 2003 class, entering the College of Engineering.

United State Achievement Academy

The U.S. Achievement Academy announced that Tatiana Imamura of Plymouth, has been named a United States National Award Winner in History and Government. Tatiana, who attends Plymouth High School, was nominated for this award by Ann Nora Hiram at the school. Tatiana will appear in the U.S. Achievement Academy Official Yearbook, which is published nationally. Tatiana is the daughter of Nich and Jennifer Imamura of Plymouth.

University of Michigan-Dearborn

The University of Michigan-Dearborn named 85 part-time students to the Dean's List in the College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters for the fall 2002 and winter 2003 terms. Among the students are Peter Neuroth of Canton, a sophomore majoring in psychology; and Kelly Alhajal of Canton, a sophomore.

Marquette University

Heather L. Franke of Canton has been placed on the dean's list for the spring, 2003 semester.

Northwestern University

Nicole Reitz, daughter of Dennis and Cheryl Reitz of Plymouth, has received a bachelor of science degree from the Northwestern University Robert R. McCormick School of Engineering and Applied Science. Reitz, a graduate of Plymouth Salem, was a chemical engineering major. She participated in the Honors Program in engineering and law. She was named to the dean's list. She was also active in Omega Chi Epsilon as president, National Society of Collegiate Scholars, Rho Lambda and Order of Omega. She was active in Alpha Delta Pi as president, Panhellenic Exec Board as risk management chair, Society of Women Engineers, and Robotics Design competition as second place winner. After graduation, she plans to work in Lincoln Financial Group's Professional Development Program in Hartford, Conn.

Washtenaw Community College

The following students from Plymouth are graduation candidates for April and June 2003. They are Joseph K.

Buentello, Thomas Christopher Flores, Crystal Ann Haggner, Sarah Jane Hermans, Joelen Elizabeth Kersten, Sara Jane McLain, and Eric Scott Sadek. For Canton, Ivonne E. Alvarez-Marrero, Farhan Azeez, Nathan Eric Besonen, Lynnette R. Bridges, Ethan Michael Cowling, Michael Allen Hageman, Jr., David C. Hendershot, Jennifer Lynn Kosarue, Chelsea Leigh Lewis, Roberta Kay Pererson, Brandon N. Robinson, Megan Faith Sielaff, Robert John Troia, Christina Marie Vega, Sarah C. Walters, and Wendy S. Woudstra.

Western Carolina University

Erin Lynn Roedema of Canton graduated cum laude with her bachelor of science degree in sport management during May commencement.

Western Michigan University

Angela Sillmon, daughter of Mel and

Anna Sillmon of Plymouth, is a senior majoring in computer information systems. Sillmon has been named to the dean's list and been a standout on the volleyball team, starting for three years and winning such honors as being tapped for the 2002 All-Mid-American Conference Honorable Mention team. She is a member of the Phi Chi Theta co-ed professional business fraternity and Multicultural Business Students Association. Sillmon also was the student representative on WMU's Presidential Search Advisory Committee, which recently recommended Judith I. Bailey as the university's seventh president.

The following students from Canton have received degrees in April at the end of the spring session of the 2002-03 academic year. They are Jason A.

Bennett, son of William Bennett, graduated magna cum laude with his bachelor of science degree in aviation flight science, Kurt Alan Berlin, son of Edwin and Linda Berlin, received his bachelor of science degree in industrial design, Brendan E. Bernacki, son of Frank Bernacki, graduated magna cum laude with his bachelor of arts degree in theater, Lisa M. Esser, daughter of John and Sherre Esser, received her business administration degree in finance, Rick Eva, son of Richard and Mary Eva, received his bachelor of arts degree in theater, Kim Panko, daughter of Richard and Margo Panko, received her bachelor of science degree in psychology, Lauren A. Patterson received her business administration degree in human resource management, Michael Shull received his business administration

degree in human resource management, Krista R. Skillman, daughter of John and Debra Skillman, received her bachelor of arts degree in English, Lauren Annette Teal received her bachelor of arts degree in public relations, Kirk C. Walker received his bachelor of science in engineering degree in construction engineering, and Robert Alan Welch received his bachelor of arts degree in economics. From Plymouth, the students are Christian M. Dueweke, son of Thomas and Kerry Dueweke, received his business administration degree in Integrated Supply Matrix, Marcie L. Emerick, daughter of Kenneth and Ruthann Emerick received her bachelor of arts degree in public law, Jared Fordyce, son of James and Kathleen Fordyce, received his bachelor of science degree in biology, Patrick Geary

received his business administration degree in management, Jason Lieser received his business administration degree in computer information systems, Karyn McKey, daughter of Aaron and Vivian McKey, received her bachelor of science degree in industrial design, Kristen B. McKey, daughter of Aaron and Vivian McKey, received her bachelor of science degree in industrial design, Nathan Piwowar, son of Gerald and Priscilla Piwowar, received his bachelor of science degree in physical education, Andrew Powers graduated summa cum laude and received his bachelor of science degree in biology, and Kate Szubeczak graduated cum laude, and received her bachelor of science degree in Family Studies Interpersonal Communication

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Read Taste
Thursday

ANNOUNCEMENTS**ANNA RENEE GRADY**

Adam Grady and Kristina Young-Grady of Van Buren Township announce the birth of their daughter, Anna Renee Grady, born Aug. 23 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor.

Anna is the granddaughter of Lynn and Sindy Young of Garden City.

Rx Briefs

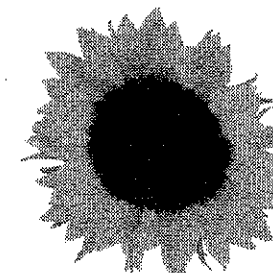
Weight Control

The Westside Weight Control Support group holds its second meeting 5 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 9, at New Horizons Medical Center, 19335 Merriman, Livonia. For more information, call (248) 474-4900 or (734) 729-3729.

The group is intended mainly for people who previously had or are scheduled for or interested in the Lap Band or other bariatric surgery. Everyone with an interest in weight control is welcome to attend, but the primary goal is to provide support for people who have had or are considering some type of bariatric surgery.

Arthritis

Attend a free reception to meet other gardeners living with rheumatoid arthritis and learn from a master gardener how you can design an arthritis-friendly garden



6:30-8 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 16, at Cranbrook Gardens, 39221 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills. No charge. For reservations, call (877) 992-2636.

Also, a rheumatologist will discuss the disease and the latest treatment advances, and an occupational therapist will talk about the physical and psychological benefits of gardening and provide information on arthritis-friendly gardening tools.

Cooking demo

Since most people don't have hours and hours to cook for their families, what foods can be quickly prepared that are both nutritious and tasty?

To find out, register for the "Quick and Healthy Cooking Demo" at the Botsford Center for Health Improvement in Novi. Call (248) 477-6100. Available dates: Sept. 23 or Oct. 23; class begins at 6 p.m.

While you're there, do some taste testing. You'll be convinced that quickly prepared meals can be both good for you and delicious.

Water breaks are an essential part of fall sports

BY JENNIFER KENNEDY
CORRESPONDENT

Believe it or not, there was a time when water breaks were considered punishment for kids at their sports practice; or the time taken to get a drink was too much time away from drills and plays.

Although times have changed and we have learned that kids of all ages need more than three seconds at the water fountain, it is vital to recognize dehydration, heat-related illnesses and the preventative measures parents, coaches and kids can take to stay in the game.

"Most often, heat-related illnesses are preventable," said Dr. Stephen Knazik, medical director of the Emergency Center at Children's Hospital in Detroit. According to Knazik, there are three types of heat-related illness: heat cramps, heat exhaustion and heat stroke.

Some symptoms of all three can overlap, but exist on a continuum of severity. Kids may experience heat or muscle cramps, either at rest or during exercise, which tends to be the first stage of the illness, however, the least severe. Heat exhaustion is the second phase and includes such symptoms as thirst, elevated heart rate, lightheadedness, confusion or fainting, said Knazik.

Joe Cimino, certified athletic trainer, and coordinator of the Sports Medicine Department at Bon Secours Cottage Hospital, Grosse Pointe, added that kids may experience more-than-normal fatigue with heat exhaustion, a headache, heavy sweating, and the inability to keep up.

"The higher temperatures and humidity this time of year can cause kids to experience heat exhaustion, especially football players," said Cimino. He is also the athletic trainer for sports teams at Grosse Pointe South High School.

Football players are largely at risk due to the time of the year and the equipment they wear, which holds the heat close to their bodies.

"The plastic pads on their bodies and helmets on their heads enclose the heat. The kids are already set up not to cool," said Knazik.

Heat exhaustion can rapidly progress to heat stroke, the most severe case of heat-related illness. Heat stroke includes more acute symptoms such as extreme dehydration, nausea, cardiac irregularities, body temperatures above 104 degrees, hallucination and inability to continue playing. The child's skin may appear pale and clammy; they are lethargic and too disoriented to drink water.

At this level, the body is unable to overcome the illness and the child should be transported to the hospital.

PREVENTION

To avoid the onset of heat-related illness, young athletes should drink plenty of water before, during and after exercise.

"Kids should have sufficient water breaks every 20 minutes during exercise, and should have unlimited access to water," said Cimino. "With the younger, elementary-aged kids playing football or soccer at a field, water may not be as accessible, so parents should be sure their kids go to practice or a game with at least one full water bottle. Otherwise, they may not be drinking any fluids."

According to the Sports Science Institute, young athletes should con-



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Football players need to regularly replenish with water during practice sessions.

sume two glasses of water or sports drink two to three hours before practice, and eight to 12 ounces of water immediately before practice to be adequately hydrated, said Knazik. He also added kids should drink eight to 12 ounces of water every 20-30 minutes during exercise.

Sports drinks can be a good source of minerals and potassium to replenish fluids kids lose from sweating during exercise, but water is still the most important to consume because of the high sugar content in sports drinks, said Cimino. Coaches or parents can dilute the sports drink with water, he said.

The sugar content varies in each sports drink, so check the label before you buy it. The sports drinks that contain glucose or sucrose are recommended because the intestines can absorb the sugars, said Knazik. The sports drinks with fructose, cornstarch or corn syrup are not as effective because they are not absorbed well.

"The body has to expend too much energy to absorb those types of sugars, and when the body is stressed during exercise, especially in the heat, the sugars just sit in the intestines," said Knazik. The sugar can draw water into the intestines and away from the rest of the body, increasing the risk of dehydration.

WATER IS BEST

Water is still the best source of hydration. If a child is thirsty, he or she has waited too long to drink.

"The best way to tell if kids are getting enough water is the color of their urine. It should be the color of light or weak lemonade," said Knazik. "If the urine is

dark yellow or brown, they are dehydrated."

To be more aware of the individual child's water loss during sports, Knazik suggests kids get weighed before and after practice. For every one and a half pounds lost during practice, they should consume 40-48 ounces of water to adequately replace fluids they have lost.

Heat-related muscle cramps can be treated by simply having the child drink water or sports drink to re-hydrate, and rest.

"With heat exhaustion, get the kids out of the sun, have them sip on liquids and take their wet gear off. They may feel nauseous, but as long as they are sweating and able to hold water down—that is good," said Cimino. He also noted to keep them stable for 25 minutes and have them stop activity for the remainder of the day. They should be evaluated and monitored each day after because they are more susceptible to the heat-related illness once they have experienced it.

With heat stroke, the child may stop sweating and have chills. The extremely high body temperatures are dangerous and it is suggested the child be transported by ambulance to the hospital, said Cimino.

Heat stroke is more common in the older, high school-aged kids because they tend to push themselves harder due to peer pressure, expectations of them-

WHAT TO AVOID

"Kids should avoid drinking beverages with caffeine, especially energy drinks with ginseng. These types of drinks are diuretics which increase output of fluids through urination and attribute to dehydration," said Cimino. High school athletes tend to drink the energy drinks thinking they will get them geared up for competition when they are actually doing themselves harm.

Taking stimulants to lose weight, more common among high school students wanting to shed a few pounds for the season, is also harmful to kids because they impair the body's ability to accommodate stress, said Knazik. Blood circulation helps perspiration, but stimulants don't allow the body to get the same blood circulation or perspire, which can also attribute to heat-related incidents.

Cimino suggests educating kids on the importance of hydration and proper nutrition by inviting a health or medical professional to speak to them before the season begins.

"You can lead a horse to water, but you can't make him drink," said Knazik. If kids don't replace the fluids they lose, let them know they are compromising their athletic performance, as well as their health. It can be a challenge getting kids to drink water because most of them would rather drink something that tastes better, but it doesn't hurt to keep reminding them."

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LEG PAIN BUT NOT ARTHRITIS

Knowing what something isn't, may be just as important as identifying what it is. For example, not all leg pain comes from arthritis.

The most common cause from another source is sciatica. In most instances, this condition announces itself with a numbness and tingling that starts in your low back and runs to your foot.

However, sciatica does not always begin this way. Instead, you may experience a sharp pain that shoots into your knee or ankle, or to both joints. In such a case, the similarity to arthritis is close.

Another instance of leg pain imitating joint pain is in anserine bursitis. That pain resides just below that knee joint on the inside or the leg. The bursitis is worse on walking and relieved by rest, similar to what happens in knee arthritis.

Trochanteric bursitis is another example where your pain could lead you to believe you have a joint problem. In this case, hip arthritis. However, hip disease cause groin pain, while in trochanteric bursitis pain comes from the outside of your hip area and radiates to the low back or down to, but not below, the knee.

These conditions that look like joint pain have features that allow your doctor to distinguish them from a joint problem. That is why he listens carefully to what you tell him about your discomfort, and watches closely how you walk when the pain is present. Correct diagnosis is important since each condition has its own treatment.

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Celiac disease affects millions

BY M.B. DILLON
CORRESPONDENT

As a child, Julie Trescott of Redford was thin and constantly tired. "Our doctor said I had an underactive thyroid," she said. "My Dad would give me Ovaltine for extra energy."

It wasn't until she was 38 that Trescott, now 44, was diagnosed with celiac disease, an auto-immune disorder that makes it impossible to digest gluten. Found in wheat, barley and rye, gluten is a protein that gives dough its tough, elastic quality.

"My Dad meant well, but now I know that Ovaltine contains malt, and that malt is made from barley," said Trescott, mother of four and a medical technologist.

Gordon Glidden, 47, began showing celiac symptoms at age 20.

"I had unexplained pains in my bowels. I wasn't able to leave the house sometimes.

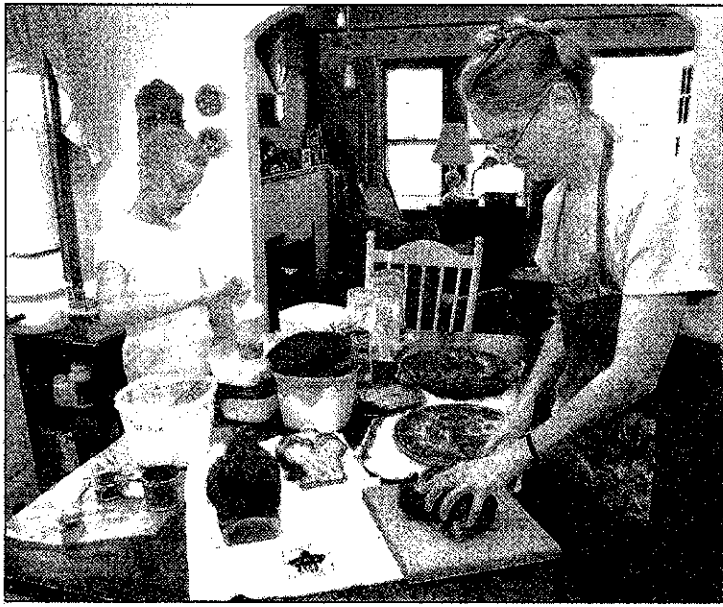
CELIAC SUPPORT

What: Tri-County Celiac Support Group, accessible at (866) 645-8836 (86-NO GLUTEN) or www.tccsg.com.

Services: Monthly meetings; information on restaurants serving gluten-free meals; stores carrying gluten-free foods, and gluten-free shopping guides and recipes. The annual "food fair" attracts vendors from across the country.

When: The first meeting of the season is set for 7 p.m., Friday, Sept. 12.

Where: First Presbyterian Church of Farmington on the northwest corner of Farmington and 11 Mile at 26165 Farmington Road in Farmington Hills.



JIM JAGDFELD | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Laura Trescott and her mom, Julie. Laura is measuring ingredients into a storage tub for future baking needs. Julie is slicing gluten free bread just out of the oven. Also shown are two pizzas made for that night's supper.

The only relief was to sit in the hot shower," said the home inspector from Huntington Woods. "But that would take hours. Nobody could figure out what it was until it a gastroenterologist diagnosed it seven years ago."

Celiac disease tends to run in families. Symptoms can range from horrific diarrhea and constipation to anemia, osteoporosis and malnutrition.

Some gluten-intolerant patients develop dermatitis herpetiformis, a skin disorder characterized by an itchy rash.

In a person with a celiac disease, gluten wears down the villi, or finger-like projections lining the small intestine, and food isn't properly absorbed.

There is no cure for celiac other than adhering to a life-long, strict diet. The good news is that villi regenerate in the absence of gluten.

It's come to light recently that as many as 1 in 133 Americans suffers from celiac disease; far more than previously thought. "That means there's five million of us in the U.S.," said Glidden.

Unfortunately, medical students are still taught that celiac is rare, say Trescott and Glidden.

"The word needs to get out. Proper labeling and better labeling of food products

Symptoms can range from horrific diarrhea and constipation to anemia, osteoporosis and malnutrition.

would help us and people with allergies too," said Trescott. Ingredients as seemingly harmless as modified food starch and caramel color can contain gluten and cause incredible pain, she said.

Trescott turned a malady into a learning opportunity for her children. Using rice, potato starch and tapioca starch, she makes her own gluten-free flour.

"I sometimes have the kids help me measure up large amounts of different mixtures so that I have ingredients ready to go, much as someone else would use all-purpose flour," said Trescott. "We use it as an opportunity for them to learn math."

Trescott and Glidden speak highly of the 1,000-member Tri-County Celiac Support Group, formed to assist and support those with celiac disease adjust to a gluten-free life.

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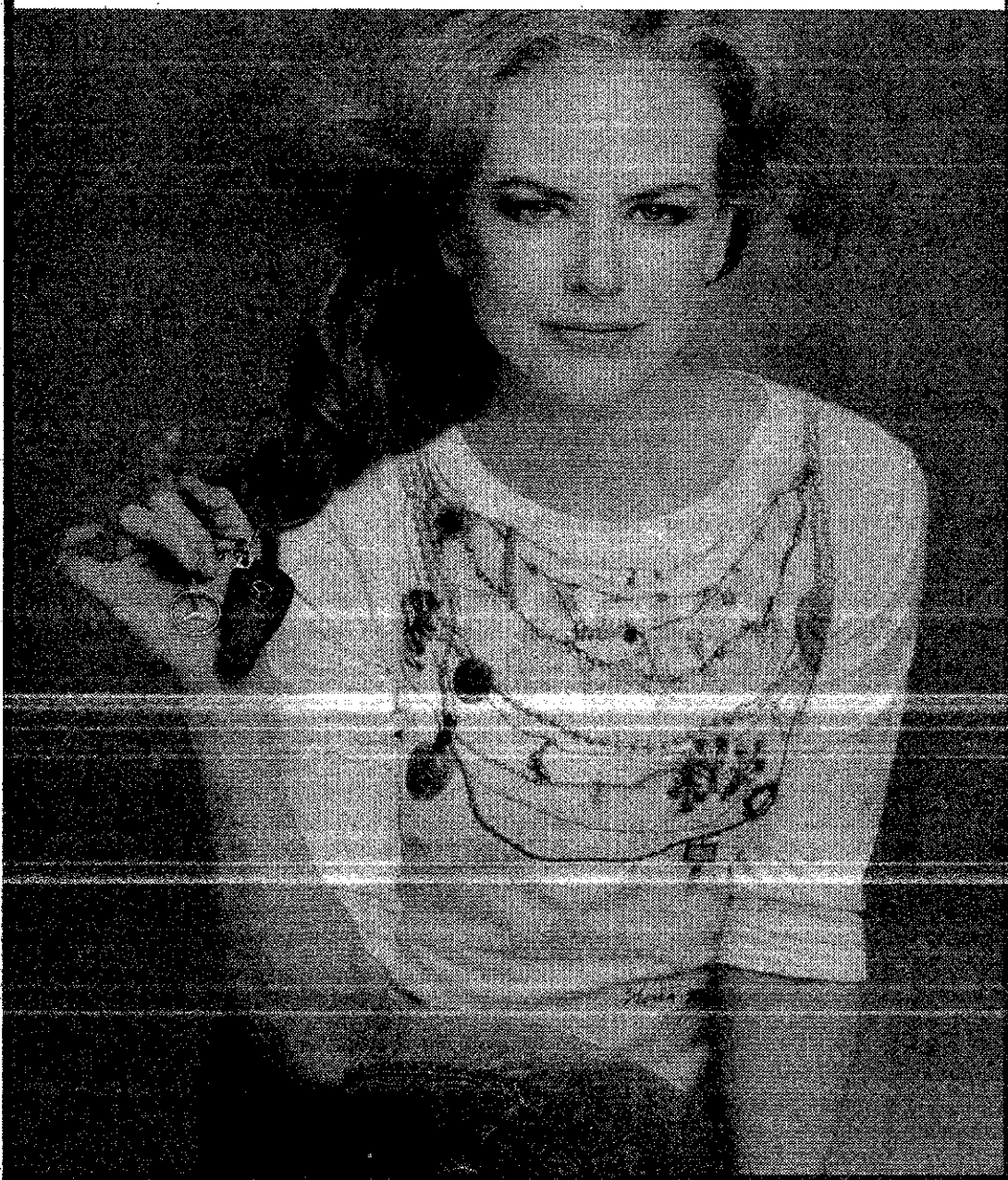
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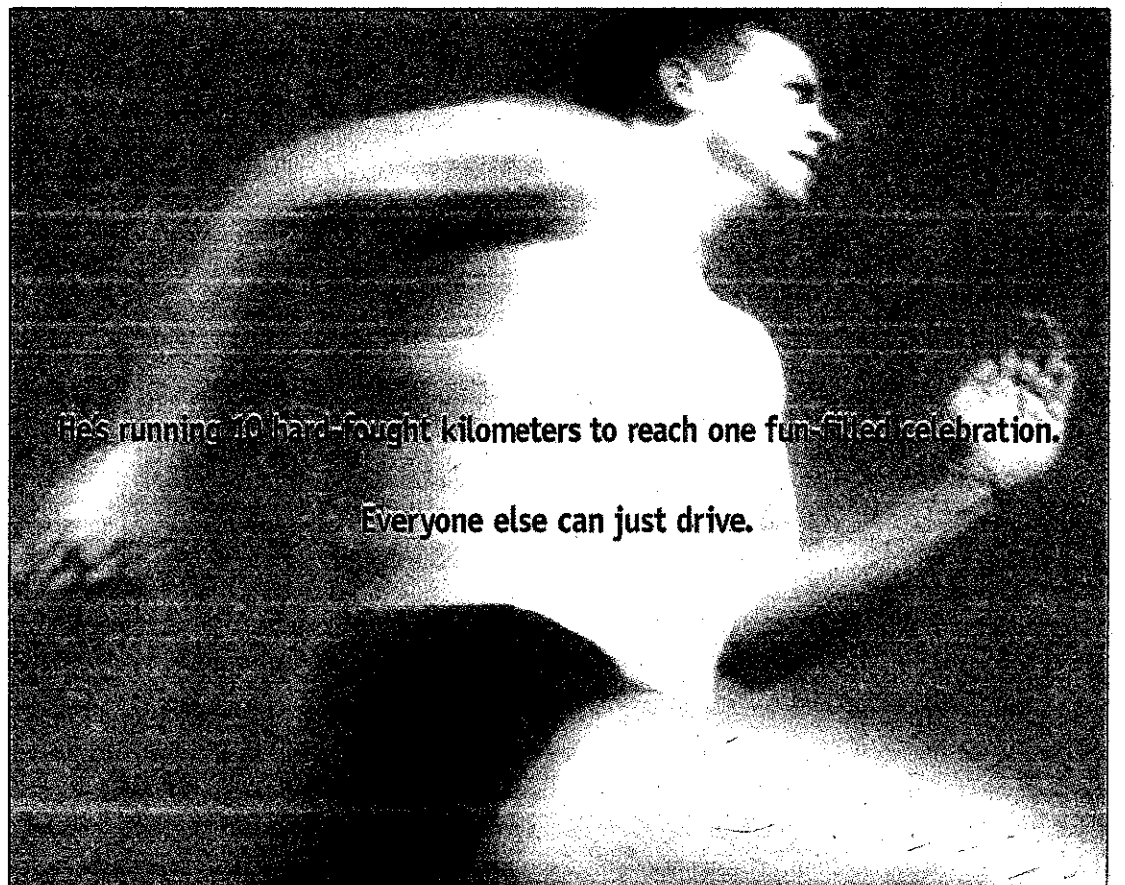
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Auburn Hills - September 13



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Live the golfing life - in a condominium

BY BARRY JENSEN
CORRESPONDENT

The Ponds at Gateway condominiums in Romulus are all about the golfing lifestyle. "Not everybody here plays golf, but it's a nice lifestyle," said builder Ron Benivegna.

The price is nice, too. The least-expensive condo goes for \$150,000.

The public Gateway Golf Club sets the theme for the condominium development. The 18-hole course is nearly 330 acres in size. The course wraps around the development so that some condos are along the fairways.

"Having the lush green backdrop of a golf course, this place has a resort atmosphere. Coming here is like being on vacation," Benivegna said. "The best thing about these condos is we have homes at \$150,000 that are right on the golf course. You can't buy anything like it anywhere else. You can have a whole home here on a golf course for what you might pay for just a lot elsewhere."

All the condominiums are pairs. One condo is a ranch-style. The other is a story-and-a-half. That means you share just one wall with another condominium.

Benivegna said his company decided to build around a golf course because of his longtime friend, Salvatore Cottone. "He's developed a number of golf courses."

"The golf course opened its first nine holes a couple years ago," said Jill Gallagher, sales manager at the Ponds at Gateway. "Now it's a full 18-hole course."

Seventy-six sites will be built in the first phase of the Ponds at Gateway. So far, eight of the first 24 condos have been sold. The entire project will entail 186 condos.

The ranch-style condominium is called The Club.



The Ponds at Gateway condominiums are pairs. That means you share just one wall with another condominium.

The story-and-one-half condo is called The Crest. Models of each are open and have been decorated, showing what each floor plan might look like.

The Club has two bedrooms and two full bathrooms totaling 1,215 square feet. The base unit sells for \$149,900.

The Crest has three bedrooms and three full bathrooms totaling 1,450 square feet. The base unit sells for \$162,900. Lot premiums will apply.

STANDARD FEATURES

Among the standard features are vaulted ceilings, a marble surround on the fireplace, fiberglass tub and shower surrounds in the bathrooms, no-wash vinyl flooring in the foyer, kitchen, nook, baths and laundry room, wall-to-wall carpeting throughout, and polished brass hardware.

Each condo contains a snack bar off the kitchen, a stainless steel double-bowl kitchen sink,

mirrors that run the full length of all bathroom vanities, a master suite with a walk-in closet and full bath.

Each unit contains a first-floor laundry room, dishwasher, and electric range, two built-in telephone jacks, two built-in cable jacks, and a choice of oak or maple cabinets in the kitchen and bathrooms. Other standard features are a two-car attached garage, vinyl siding, two weatherproof electrical outlets, two outside hose bibs and a sump pump.

Included as standard are a full basement of poured-concrete, with a white spray-coat finish, copper water lines, vinyl windows and doorwalls, a gas outlet for a clothes dryer and 100-amp electrical service.

All homes are fully landscaped with sod and sprinkler system. Utilities will be brought into the condos underground.

Options include bay windows in the kitchen/nook and master

bedroom, window well in basements, air conditioning, a home security system and upgraded appliances.

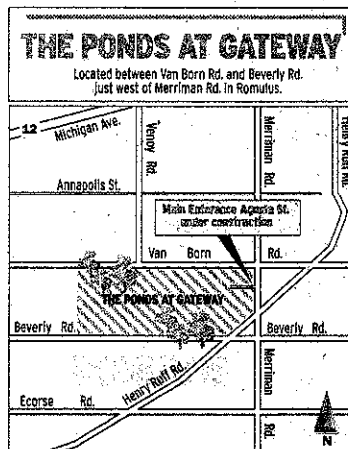
Students who live in the condominiums will attend in the Romulus Community Schools. Cory Elementary School is just south of the condominiums.

All the streets are concrete, and all have been completed. Each condo will have concrete sidewalks, but the sidewalks are not yet installed in front of the unbuilt condos. "We've only been open three months," Gallagher explained.

The association fee will run about \$100 per month. This fee will cover lawn maintenance, snow removal, and insurance on the structure.

Last year, property taxes on a condominium costing \$150,000 would have been \$3,600.

The Benivegna Building Co. is a second-generation builder. Some of the developments



going up are The Fairways at Gateway in Romulus, Green Hills Pines in Farmington Hills and Mystic Forest in Commerce Township.

Tony Benivegna founded the company in 1940. His son, Ron, is president of Benivegna Building Co. Inc. of West Bloomfield.

NEW RESIDENT

Norma Holt will be one of the first people moving into a condominium at the Ponds at Gateway. Holt hopes to be in her new condo by the end of September.

Holt will be moving from a house into a story-and-one-half condo. "I'm single and I work a lot, and the upkeep of a house was too much," she said.

"I decided to move down into that area to be near my family and friends. A lot of them are moving there. I like the area."

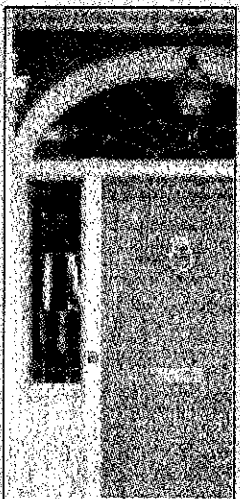
"When I heard about those condos, I did some research and decided I liked it," Holt said. "I like the idea of only two condos in a unit - whatever condo you buy, you've got an end condo. It was a great price, too."

For more information, call Benivegna Builders, (734) 727-0840, 1-6 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Friday, or noon to 5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday.

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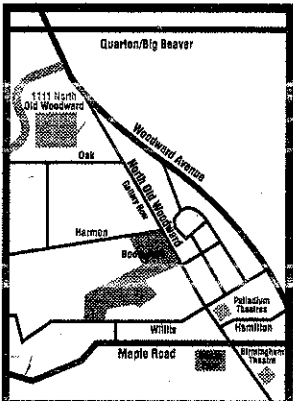
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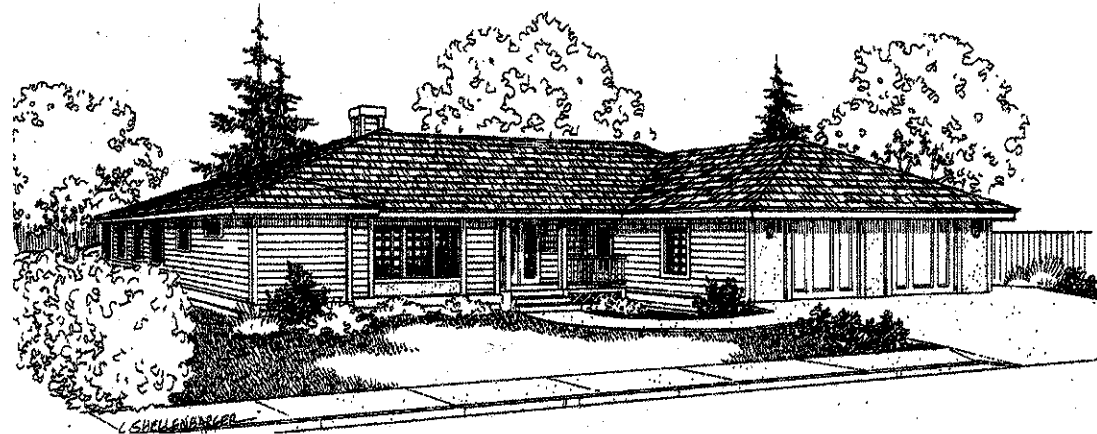
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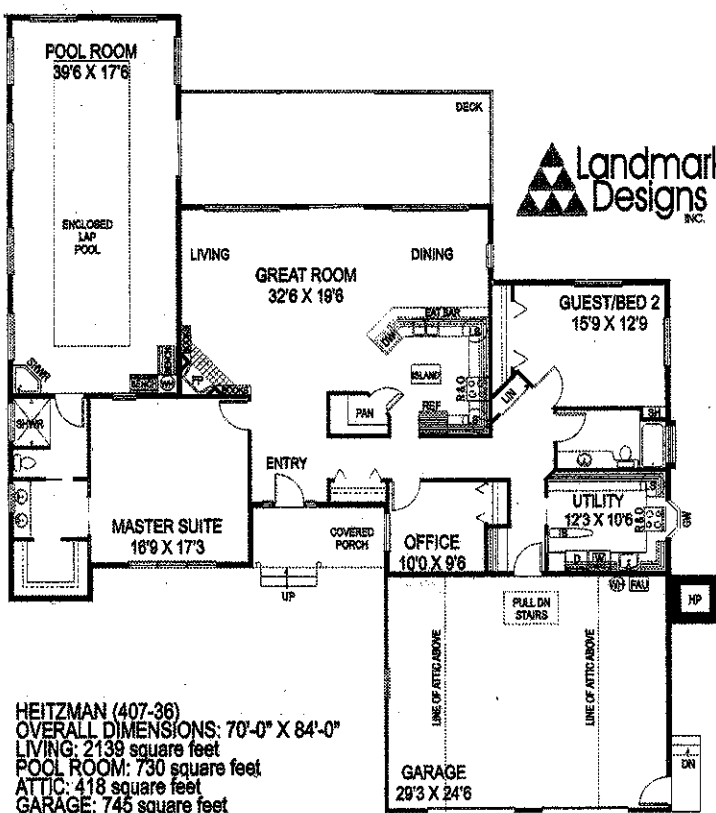


Heitzman has pool room, along with other surprises

The Heitzman has a deceptive contemporary exterior that hides a glamorous interior. Outside, the home has many windows, a narrow covered porch, and a two-car garage. Inside, there are many amenities that make this home different from other homes of its style.

Entry into the Heitzman brings a visitor into a large foyer facing the great room. To the left of the entry is the master suite. It is a large open room with a full master bath to the left. Access to the bath is through two pocket doors. This area contains the sinks with the walk-in closet to the left and a shower to the right. A door opens into a very large pool room that is designed to contain a lap pool. Another shower is in the corner for swimmers to use. Two built-in benches surround a water heater in the opposite corner. Patio doors on the right side of the pool open onto the large deck in the rear running parallel to the great room.

The great room has two large sets of windows on each side of a patio door. In the corner is a fireplace surrounded by bookshelves. The room is open and has the kitchen in front corner. A walk-in pantry separates the kitchen from the entry. The C-shaped kitchen has a work island in the center and a considerable amount of counter space along the wall. Two Lazy Susans have been added in the corners for ease of reaching dishes and spices. An eating bar runs along the counter facing the



HEITZMAN (407-36)
OVERALL DIMENSIONS: 70'-0" X 84'-0"
LIVING: 2139 square feet
POOL ROOM: 130 square feet
ATTIC: 418 square feet
GARAGE: 745 square feet

dining room. To the right of the entry is an office that is large enough to double as another bedroom if needed. In the rear corner is a guest suite with a long wall closet, large windows, and a full bath just outside the door. A linen closet is also in the hall adjacent to the guest room door. At the end of the hall next to the garage is a large utility room with a washer/dryer, sink, range/over (for canning or use by someone in the guest suite) with a garden window

over, a lazy Susan in the corner, and a built-in ironing board. The garage has an attic overhead as a bonus area with pull down stairs. A forced air unit and a water heater are inside while the heat pump is outside on a concrete slab.

For a study plan, including scaled floor plan(s), elevations, section(s), and an artist rendering, send \$24.95 to Landmark Designs, 33127 Saginaw Road E., Cottage Grove, OR 97424. Please specify plan name (HEITZMAN) and the number (407-36).

Textured coatings provide alternatives to house paint

BY DAVID BRADLEY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Homeowners trapped in an endless cycle of house painting should put down their brushes and sprayers long enough to check out an alternative known as textured coatings.

Textured coatings look like paint when applied to siding but the similarity ends there. Residential versions of commercial coatings last indefinitely, offer UV ray protection, resist fading and can span small cracks.

According to a firm that manufactures home-use coatings, most homeowners aren't aware the coatings are an option. "People paint and repaint their homes every few years because paint doesn't last very long," said Jay Haines of Textured Coatings of America, the provider of textured coatings to The Home Service Store's network of pre-qualified contractors. "Coatings are their way out of this labor intensive cycle."

Textured coatings contain far less water than latex paints and once applied are five to 10 times thicker when dry. Haines says typical latex exterior paints are two to four millimeters thick and up to 70 percent

water. In contrast, textured coatings are 17 millimeters thick and contain 60 percent to 70 percent solids.

This high concentration of solids is key to the durability of textured coatings. "It's the amount of solids that matter because the greater the solid volume, the longer results last," said Haines. "Consumers don't recognize the high amount of water and low solid ratio in off-the-shelf paint."

According to Haines, most consumers are attracted to the emphasis paint companies place on color choices and ease of application. Many homeowners don't consider the labor-intensive surface preparation and the need for frequent repainting. The very nature of thin high water volume latex paints means that it is easily applied by do-it-yourselfers.

In contrast, the thicker nature of the resins and solids in the textured coating make for a product consumers cannot apply with a brush, roller or standard sprayer. Haines says the heavy coatings require the higher-powered sprayers used by professionals. Such sprayers jet the liquid on at a pressure of 2,600 pounds-per-square inch, nearly double the

pressure of sprayers available to homeowners.

Consumers can pick from the same array of color choices made available in paint products but pigments are custom mixed at the plant rather than at a local store.

The cost of textured coatings applied to a home is about one-third more than paint. Specialized material and labor account for most of the increase, but reduced homeowner labor over the long term is a trade-off many consumers see as worth the difference. Textured coatings seldom need reapplication, won't flake, peel or fade, are impervious to UV rays and are warranted while most paints are not. Some coatings also provide your home with additional insulation.

"For the homeowner who doesn't want to scrape and paint every couple of years, textured coatings are the way to go," said Haines. "These coatings have been around a long time in both the residential and commercial markets."

The Home Service Store manages home maintenance, repair and improvement tasks in more than 130 markets nationwide. For more information, call (866) HSS-6060 or visit www.TrustHSS.com.

Habitat home seen as friendly to earth

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

It has a solar roof, low-flush toilets and showers, an organic garden and it will be the first of its kind in Mississippi. It's an environmentally friendly home.

Mississippi State University's School of Architecture, Habitat for Humanity and the Mississippi 2020 environmental group have teamed up to build the new house in Jackson. The price tag is \$59,000, which is about \$19,000 more than the typical Habitat home.

A federal grant is providing

startup funding. Habitat homeowners pay a typical mortgage for their home's construction.

While such green homes may remain a rarity in Mississippi, Kim Quinn can't wait to move into the three-bedroom Habitat house with her three children.

"It's a new adventure," said Quinn, a 33-year-old cosmetologist. "I like nature and watching God's creations grow and change. I'm a front-porch type girl."

The Jackson native is asking relatives and friends to volunteer to help build her home on

weekends.

Quinn said she hopes to see an eventual reduction in her utility bills of up to 40 percent.

The house is expected to be completed later this year.

Christopher Dorin, 28, a Mississippi State architecture graduate who helped design the home, hopes the green home changes the way future houses are built. So do leaders with Mississippi 2020.

"The construction materials will be chosen for their lowest negative effect on the environment and for longevity and low maintenance," said Mississippi 2020 director Bob Kochitzky.

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NOVI - Fab end unit townhouse, 2 bed, 1.5 baths, bsmt, garage. \$975.

BIRMINGHAM - In-town, 3 bed home, bsmt, yard, hardwood floors. 1750 sq. ft. \$975.

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Real estate listings categorized by location (Homes For Rent, Southern Rentals, Vacation & Resort Rentals, Living Quarters To Share, Rooms For Rent) and features (e.g., 3 bed, 2 bath, appliances, pool, garage).

Observer & Eccentric Jobs and Careers

5000's Jobs and Careers. 1-800-579-SELL. List of job openings with brief descriptions and contact info.

Help Wanted General 5000. APARTMENT MAINTENANCE. Westland Senior Citizen community seeks skilled maintenance person.

Help Wanted General 5000. Assistant Permit Coordinator. Centex Homes is seeking a full-time assistant permit coordinator for the Detroit Division.

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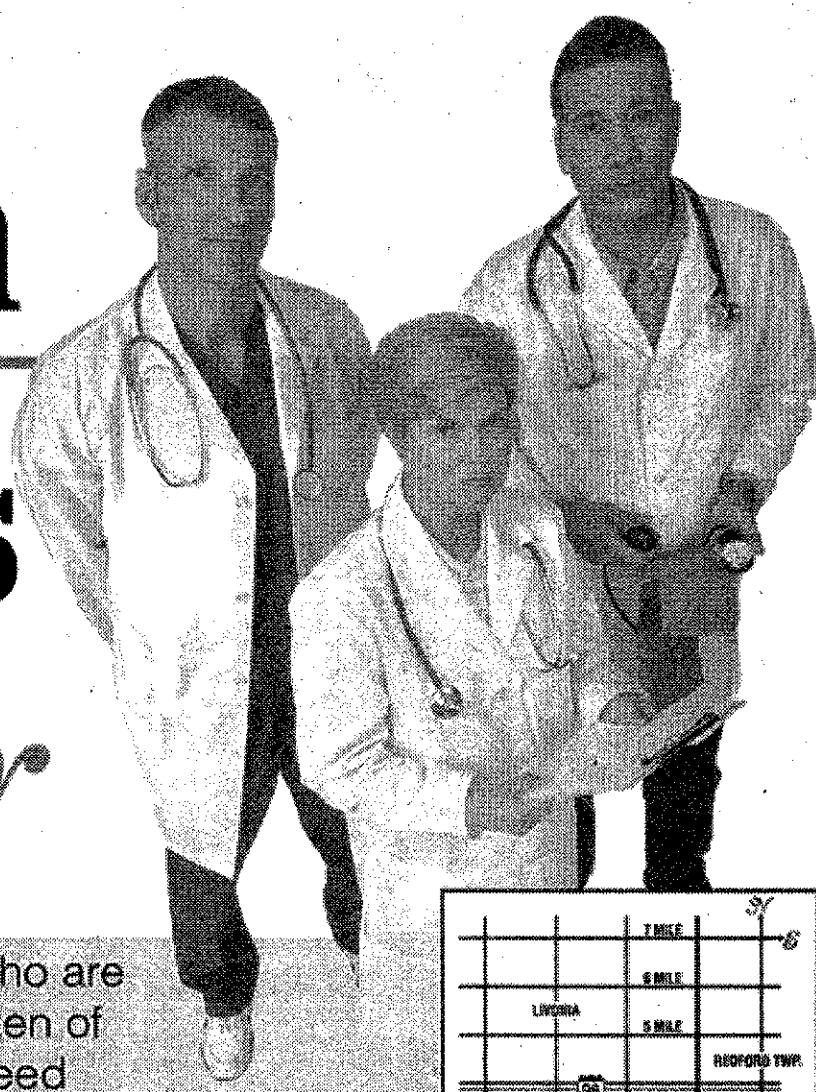
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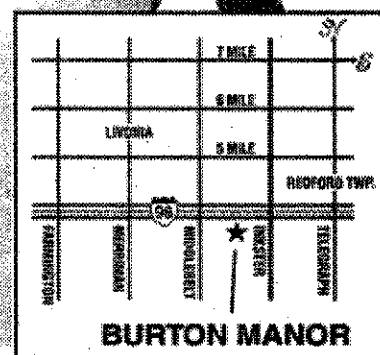
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