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THURSDAY  
November 6, 2008

# CANTON Observer



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## Slavens waits until Wednesday to declare victory over LaJoy



BY TIFFANY L. PARKS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

When Dian Slavens finally climbed into her bed in the early morning hours Wednesday after Tuesday's election, she had hope, but no numbers to verify whether she had won the 21st District State House seat.

Slavens

"Someone just called me a while ago," Slavens said Wednesday morning. "I feel very honored. I

feel fantastic."

Slavens, 50, victoriously ran as a Democrat for the seat against Republican Todd LaJoy and independent Brian Cronan.

In the district, which represents Canton, Belleville and Van Buren Township, Slavens captured 27,802 votes — 52 percent — while LaJoy had 24,203 votes — 45 percent — and Cronan got 1,784 votes — 3 percent.

"My whole team worked very hard on this

campaign," said Slavens, a respiratory therapist and political newcomer. "And I'm glad my message resonated with voters."

Slavens, who has said she wants to "work on both sides of the aisle," said she intends to focus on preventative health care measures, bringing jobs to the state and education funding.

Tuesday marked the second time that a.

Please see **SLAVENS, A3**

## New day for township board

Voters oust incumbent, select several newcomers

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

New leadership is coming to Canton.

Tuesday's election of political newcomer Syed Taj to the Township Board left the chief of medicine for Oakwood Hospital almost speechless when asked how he felt about the results.

"Well," he paused.

"Amazed."

Taj, the lone Democrat of six candidates running for four seats on the board, pulled in 20,000 votes.

"I am going to work for Canton," he said, adding that he's proud of the chance to represent the township's growing Indian population. "When I started at Oakwood in 1983, there were hardly any foreign doctors, but it's not like that now and everyone is welcome. Everyone feels at home."

Republicans John Anthony, Pat Williams and incumbent Todd Caccamo also raced to victory. Caccamo was the highest vote-getter with 21,348 votes, Anthony nabbed 20,286 and Williams received 20,009.

Incumbent trustee Karl



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Democrat Syed Taj, who was elected to the Canton Board of Trustees on Tuesday, was out taking down his campaign signs on Wednesday morning.

Zarbo, a Republican, finished with 19,440 votes and Libertarian candidate Charlie Page captured 5,599 votes.

Calling the numbers "topsy turvy," Williams worked some polling locations early Tuesday and added that he had just begun to relax.

"We've done all the work that we could do," he said while standing outside Summit on the Park.

Anthony, who often paired with Williams on the campaign trail, said the race was a great experience.

"I'm encouraged," he said. "I've met some great people and I'm optimistic about serving Canton."

Zarbo, whose business

Please see **BOARD, A6**



Sabiha Hai of Canton and Tonya Miller of Farmington Hills celebrate the announcement of Barack Obama's victory at Burton Manor in Livonia.

## Record turnout

Voting trends, demographics favor Democrats in Canton

BY TIFFANY L. PARKS  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

In a township traditionally run by the right, the left showed up in full force Tuesday.

With a record voter turnout of more than 83 percent, the majority of Canton voters — 56.81 percent — swung toward the Democratic presidential ticket while 41.54 percent supported the Republican ticket.

"The numbers are a part of a national trend," said John Anthony, who won a spot on the township board as a trustee.

And while many have credited the popularity of Barack Obama to the wave of

Democratic support to other candidates on the ballot, Anthony also said, "the demographics have changed over the last eight to 10 years."

Township resident Hilda Partin said she was more than ready to cast her vote for Obama.

"I live in Canton and we're making history," said Partin, whose family is from South America. "I have been looking forward to this and I believe the world will see us a united people."

And thousands of other voters felt the same with 11,666 voters opting for the Democratic straight party option com-

pared to 7,581 voters choosing the Republican straight party option.

"The difference in the percentage is quite dramatic," said Township Clerk Terry Bennett, noting that it's usually Republican voters with the higher number of straight-party votes.

Trustee Todd Caccamo, who won his re-election bid, said he was disappointed by the straight-party numbers because it means voters have painted candidates with a "broad brush" based on their political party and not their individual ideas.

Please see **VOTERS, A6**

### CANTON ELECTION RESULTS

The following vote totals are unofficial totals for how residents of Canton voted. Overall winners are denoted with a

#### U.S. PRESIDENT

John McCain (R) ... 19,076  
 Barack Obama (D) ... 26,089

#### U.S. SENATE

Carl Levin (D) (I) ... 27,491  
 Jack Hoogendyk (R) ... 15,142

#### U.S. HOUSE 11TH DISTRICT

Joseph W. Larkin (D) ... 20,700  
 Thaddeus McCotter (R) (I) ... 21,045

#### STATE HOUSE 20TH DISTRICT

Marc Corriveau (D) (I) ... 3,691  
Jerry Vorva (R) ... 1,490

#### STATE HOUSE 21ST DISTRICT

Todd LaJoy (R) ... 19,315  
 Dian Slavens (D) ... 17,719  
Brian Cronan (IND) ... 1,225

#### STATE PROPOSALS

PROPOSAL 09-1  
A legislative initiative to permit the use and cultivation of marijuana for specified medical conditions  
 Yes ... 27,566  
No ... 16,531

PROPOSAL 09-2  
A proposal to amend the state constitution to address human embryo and human embryonic stem cell research in Michigan  
 Yes ... 25,950  
No ... 18,163

#### 35TH DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

Joe Barone ... 16,602  
 Jim Plakas ... 16,821

#### COUNTY COMMISSION

11th District  
Steve Johnson (R) ... 17,025  
 Kevin McNamara (D) (I) ... 23,774

#### COMMUNITY COLLEGE

A request of the Wayne County Community College millage renewal and reduction of 1.25 mills for 10 years, through 2020 inclusive.  
 Yes ... 2,943  
No ... 2,403

#### SUPERVISOR

David Marsh (D) ... 19,034  
Phil LaJoy (R) ... 23,282

#### TRUSTEE

Syed S. Taj (D) ... 20,000  
 John Anthony (R) ... 20,286  
 Todd Caccamo (R) (I) ... 21,348  
 Pat Williams (R) ... 20,009  
Karl Zarbo (R) (I) ... 19,440  
Charles Page (LIB) ... 5,599

#### LIBRARY BOARD

Afredo Cordero ... 7,939  
 James Fausone ... 10,454  
 James Gillig ... 12,067  
 Michael Siegrist ... 10,656  
 George Snow ... 12,969  
Ayesha Taj ... 10,440  
 Don Turner ... 11,387  
 Colleen Van Auken ... 13,522

## 14-year state reign ends for marchers

BY DIANE HANSON  
CORRESPONDENT

There is no doubt the 170-member Plymouth Canton Educational Park Marching Band has put in many hours of practice and hard work on this year's colorful, dynamic, and musically delightful competition program, "Kaleidoscope," earning them a number of first-place trophies at local invitationals.

But a 15th straight Flight I championship trophy was not in the cards Saturday.

Instead, the hometown

marchers captured the Flight I third-place trophy at the Michigan Competing Band Association State Finals at Ford Field, ending their 14-year reign as Flight I State Champions.

"We work hard all season, but especially these past couple of weeks, even these past couple of days," said Salem junior Kayla Ragland, one of the three drum majors. "We've been cleaning and fine-tuning. It's been really challenging, and the band rose to the challenge."

Part of the challenge has

been overcoming a bit of a late start when former Band Director Marc Whitlock stepped down for family reasons and new Band Director Martin Montoya took up the reins.

The band has been steadily improving since the competition season began in September, but their score of 84.25 was behind the 89.25 posted by Flight I winner West Bloomfield.

"I really like this show," said Plymouth senior Kelcie Liubakka, who plays the trumpet. "But I think we've been stronger."

Jenifer Leseth, color guard director and assistant marching band director, hopes to rectify that.

"They did a great job. They went out there and did what they had to do," she said.

"The improvement has been constant, but we have a lot more to do. We're looking toward the end goal which is Nationals, and we have two weeks to go. We'll get there."

The hometown marchers will compete at the Bands of America Grand National Championships at the Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis Nov. 13-15.



PHOTO BY DIANE HANSON

Lauren Carnevale (front left), followed by Bruno Yoshioka, Rebecca Paul and Alyssa Myers, along with Kristen Riggs (front right), followed by Julia Beckett and Kaitlyn Tracy concentrate on music and marching during the Plymouth-Canton-Marching Band's State Finals performance Nov. 1 at Ford Field.

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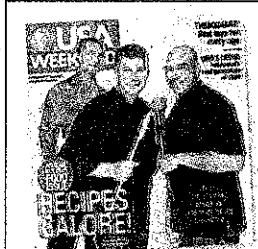
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Coming Sunday:  
Holiday recipes from Iron Chefs  
Bobby Flay & Michael Symon

# Historic presidential election draws voters to polls

BY KURT KUBAN  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Although there were plenty of local and state races as well as several proposals to choose from on Tuesday's ballot, many voters in Canton were attracted to the polls for one reason — the historic presidential election between Barack Obama and John McCain.

Turnout was heavy in Canton, with more than 80 percent of eligible voters casting a ballot, either at the polls Tuesday or by absentee ballot. A total of 49,187 Canton residents voted. It was clear that many had nothing but the presidential election on their minds.

That was certainly the case for Eric Brown, a 44-year-old African-American who is a quality reviewer for Blue



Canton voter Hilda Parton, votes at St. John Neumann Church.

Care Network. Although he has always been politically active, Brown never thought he would see the day America would elect a fellow African-American president.

"I'm proud I was able to see this day and participate in such a historic election," said Brown, who worked the polls at Crescent Academy. "This is a monumental day for our

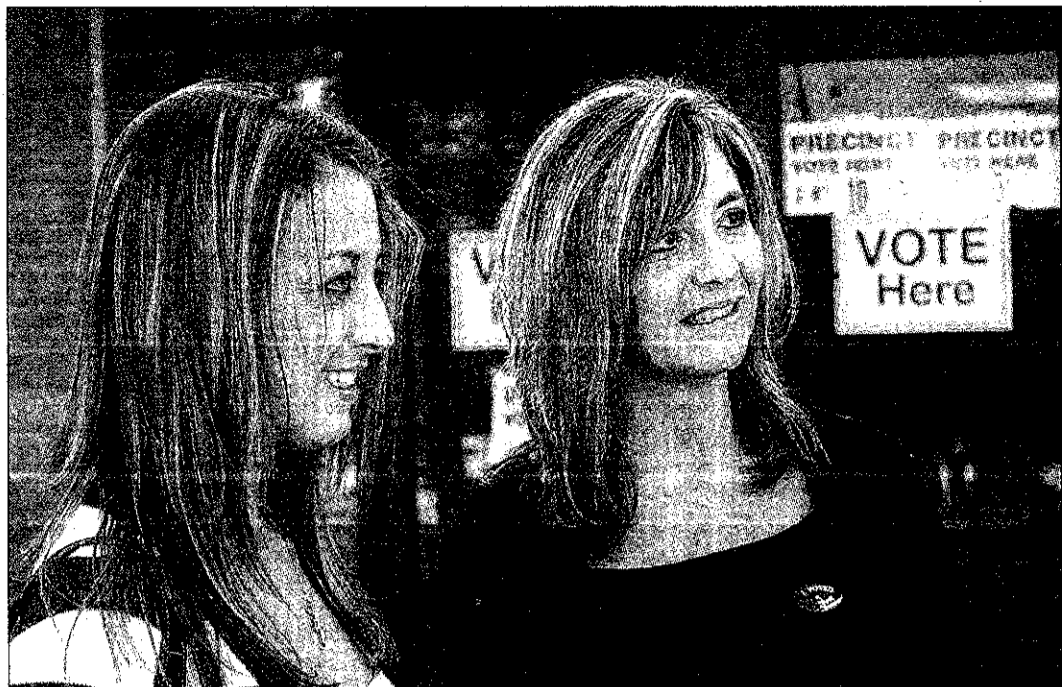
country." Natalie Megison, 38, also acknowledged the historic nature of the presidential race. The mother of two teenagers, she said her children had been badgering her about the need to vote.

"They've been pushing me. If I didn't vote, they would really get on me," she said.

Megison, who has lived in Canton for five years, said she voted for McCain, then paused and said: "I actually voted for Palin. He's (McCain) old and he's going to die, so we'll have our first woman president," she said after voting at Crescent Academy.

Ray Burchart, an auto body repair man who has lived in Canton since 1991, calls himself an independent, but his mood was very anti-Republican on Tuesday when he voted at Walker-Winter Elementary School shortly before polls closed at 8 p.m.

"I'm tired of all the crap from the Republican Party. I think



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Tara Lang is a first time voter. She voted with her mom, Trina Lang, at St. John Neumann. Both voted for McCain.

McCain would just follow suite with Bush," said Burchart, who voted for Obama. "I don't like the way this country is being run. The whole system is a mess."

Charles Johnson, a 57-year-old retired press operator, also voted at Walker-Winter. It was only the second time he has ever voted (he voted for Bill Clinton in 1992). He voted for Obama on Tuesday.

"After hearing about all these young people who were voting for the first time, I decided to do it myself," he said. "I just wanted to be able to go home and say, even if my guy didn't

win, I could feel good about it."

For Ronald Harris, a 22-year-old African-American, the night was filled with hope. This was his second time voting, and he was thrilled with the opportunity to vote for America's first African-American president.

"I'm very excited. We're all excited," he said.

"This is a very positive thing for our country."

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## Newest judge hopes to hit bench running

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The next 60 days for attorney Jim Plakas will be busy as he prepares to succeed retiring Judge John MacDonald on the 35th District Court bench Jan. 2 following his victory over Joe Barone (unofficially 34,954-31-802) Tuesday.

"The next two months



Plakas

will be very important," said Plakas, who earned a six-year term. "I'm going to meet with (35th District Court judges Ron) Lowe, MacDonald

and (Mike) Gerou next week. I'll also be going to various other courts and observing judges from behind the bench and absorbing every little thing I can.

"I've lived in district court and had my training from the other side of the bench," he

said. "I'll be watching from a different perspective, but at the same time thinking internally 'What would I do?'"

While he'll be gaining tips from his soon-to-be colleagues, Plakas already knows what kind of judge he'll work to be.

"I enjoy judges who engage with attorneys and challenge them, in a respectful way, to convince them your view is the right view," Plakas said. "It's their time to be there that day and I want to hear what they have to say, because when the day ends and a decision is made it's over."

Plakas said all his emotions spilled while watching the vote

totals from the five communities 35th District Court serves while at the Inn at St. John's.

"I saw my wife and we embraced, and I was looking at the screen with the numbers," recalled Plakas. "She was crying into my shoulders and when the final Canton numbers came up I whispered 'We won.'"

"I admit I was crying, and every person I hugged I was crying," he said. "This has been over two years in the making for us, and it's been a lot of stress and disruptive to our law practice, my family and friends."

Plakas said next to getting

married and experiencing the birth of his children, the win was "an amazing emotional experience."

"It's now just hitting me and I'm trying to savor every minute because I know I won't have a feeling like this again," Plakas said.

"I've never experienced a challenge like this, waking up every single day with your feet hitting the floor in competition against quality people. It's a painful thing to live through, amazingly stressful, but — for us — at the end of the day well worth it."

While there has been talk of animosities between Plakas

and Lowe because Plakas ran against the incumbent Lowe two years ago, Plakas down played it.

"(Lowe) showed up at my party which meant a lot to me, that was extending the olive branch," said Plakas.

"I expressed to him that I now know how he felt two years ago, that it's miserable being the hunted. We shook hands and embraced, and he and I knew we would be fine and everyone in the these communities will be proud of this court."

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## SLAVENS

FROM PAGE A1

Slavens and a LaJoy battled for the 21st District seat. Six years ago, Slavens' husband, Mark, was defeated by LaJoy's father, Phil, who is term limited and was elected township supervisor on Tuesday.

LaJoy, who is wrapping up his first term as a Canton trustee, was expected by many to win Tuesday's race and got a narrow victory in Canton with more than 50 percent of the votes to Slavens' 46 percent. Slavens made up significant ground, however, in both Belleville and Van Buren

Township.

"The LaJoy name is well known so I knew I had to work hard," Slavens said. "I thought the race would be decided within 100 votes, so I'm very happy voters wanted a new voice."

As the results of local races began pouring in late Tuesday night, LaJoy referenced the trickle down effect of President-elect Barack Obama's candidacy on local Democrats.

"If it's meant to be, great," he said. "If not, that's the way it goes."

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BY KEN ABRAMCZYK  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

The party was festive, the mood nothing short of euphoric Tuesday night. When Barack Obama's face loomed large on the big screens televising CNN and WDIV at Burton Manor in Livonia with a win in Virginia, the local Democrats cheered.

Moments later, the room erupted when the networks named Obama as the projected winner. High-fives, hugs and Obama chants filled the room.

Standing and watching the results, Derrick Thornton, a black voter from Canton, stood by himself near a table, soaking in the moment of history, seeing the first black man elected president of the United States.

"I want to cry and I'm trying to hold back the tears," Thornton said. "It's a very different feeling. It's the first time we're seeing a black man get to that level."

"(Obama's election) tells me that people in this country are accepting people as who they are."

It wasn't lost on the Thornton, the loud cheers coming from the mostly white audience for a black president, either.

"We're so familiar with each other, rooting for that person to get to that position," Thornton said.

Thornton thought Obama won because "he capitalized on the issues that the small person has."

"He spoke to our innermost feelings," Thornton said.

Not only was history made, the pendulum of power now was swinging back to the Democrats.

Kevin Kelley, onetime Redford Township supervisor and currently Wayne County director of senior services, watched results with his wife, Connie Marie Kelley, who was running for



Tanya Miller-Swift of Farmington Hills is overwhelmed with emotion as she calls her mother to give her the news of Barack Obama's victory. Linda Nimpson of Canton applauds the historic moment.



Sunday and David Sudek, of Livonia, react to CNN's projection of an Obama win.

Wayne County 3rd Circuit judge.

"In my 50 years, it is the biggest night I can remember

as a Democrat," Kelley said. "I thought Michigan would be solid, but states like Indiana and Louisiana

would be close. When you see those numbers in the election, I think it bodes well for the Democrats for the next 10 or 12 years."

Kelley thought Bush's foreign policy "overreached" which led to Republican John McCain's and other Republican losses Tuesday.

"I can't believe we sunk that far," Kelley said. "I hope we learn a lesson from them and govern from the middle so we can progress from the middle."

House Speaker Andy Dillon, who was celebrating his re-election and defeat of a recall against him that evening, called Obama's election "a historic day," comparing it to when man landed on the moon.

"It crosses a bridge," Dillon said. "It's a day we'll all remember."

kabramcz@hometownlife.com  
(734) 953-2119

Wayne County Treasurer Raymond Wojtowicz won easy re-election Tuesday in the only competitive race for Wayne County administrative offices.

Sheriff Warren Evans, Clerk Cathy Garrett and Prosecutor Kym Worthy were returned to office after facing nominal opposition. Register of Deeds Bernard Youngblood faced no opposition in the general election Tuesday. The winning incumbents are all Democrats.

Wojtowicz, 79, a Democrat from Hamtramck defeated former Wayne County Auditor General Brendan Dunleavy, a Republican of Plymouth, after surviving a strong challenge from County Commissioner Phil Cavanagh of Redford and others in the August Democratic primary.

Wojtowicz has been Wayne County treasurer since 1976.

During the campaign, Dunleavy said he didn't expect to win in the heavily Democratic Wayne County but that he wanted to raise questions about the accounting and contracting practices of the treasurer's office and about the handling of foreclosed properties.

"I don't think we got a lot of those issues out there," he said Wednesday. "I do intend to make sure the issues to get out. These are complicated issues and we need to find a way to break them down so folks can understand them."

He said that his proposals for handling foreclosed properties helped him win the endorsements of The Observer and the two Detroit dailies.

"Maybe Ray will adopt some of these ideas," he said.

| WAYNE COUNTY ELECTION RESULTS   |         |
|---|---------|
| The following vote totals are unofficial totals for how residents of Wayne County voted. Overall winners are denoted with a <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |         |
| <b>WAYNE COUNTY SHERIFF</b>   |         |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Warren Evans (D) (I) ...  | 562,144 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Taras Hyoriak (R) ...  | 125,913 |
| <b>WAYNE COUNTY TREASURER</b>   |         |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Raymond Wojtowicz (D) (I) ...   | 522,180 |
| <b>WAYNE COUNTY REGISTER OF DEEDS</b>   |         |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bernard Youngblood (D) (I) ...  | 580,760 |
| <b>WAYNE COUNTY CLERK</b>   |         |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cathy Garrett (D) (I) ...   | 537,447 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lennell Buffington (R) ...   | 153,447 |
| <b>WAYNE COUNTY PROSECUTOR</b>  |         |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kym Worthy (D) (I) ...  | 611,493 |
| <b>3RD CIRCUIT COURT</b>  |         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Richard Cunningham ...   | 142,247 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Daniel Hathaway ...   | 209,108 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Susan Hubbard ...  | 173,017 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Connie Marie Kelley ...   | 177,881 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lynne Pearce ...   | 202,239 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> John Sullivan ...  | 146,383 |

Last week, Dunleavy filed a formal complaint with the Secretary of State's office accusing Wojtowicz of purchasing radio ads, signs and other campaign materials with county funds he controls as treasurer.

The complaint also accuses Wojtowicz of violating Michigan's campaign finance act by failing to disclose spending of more than \$150,000 to mail campaign literature.

Dunleavy said he will be focused full time on his financial consulting business.

**Bring in a canned food donation on Wednesday, November 12<sup>th</sup> to help those in need within our community.**

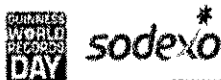
At the same time, you'll be taking part in attempting to set a new Guinness World Record™ for the largest food drive during a single event, nationwide.



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**AROUND CANTON**

**Veterans Day service**

The Canton Veterans Memorial Association will hold a Veterans Day service at 11 a.m., Tuesday, Nov. 11 at the Canton Veterans Memorial located west of the Canton Township Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, MI 48188. For more information, contact John Spencer at (734) 397-8975 or johnscott44@yahoo.com.

**Library to close**

The Canton Public Library will be closed on Friday, Nov. 14 for staff in-service training. Most online services will remain available to patrons, including access to account information, material requests and renewals. The library annually schedules staff in-service for training and service updates. While the library is closed, work will be done on the main doors and handicapped access. Regular business hours will resume Saturday, Nov. 15.

**Township offices to close**

Canton's administra-

tive offices will be closed Tuesday, Nov. 11 in observance of Veterans Day. They will reopen for normal hours on Wednesday.

**Step and dance show**

The African-American Students Association at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park is sponsoring their Autumn Step and Dance Show at 7 p.m., on Saturday Nov. 8 at the Salem High School gym. Step and dance teams from Wayne and Oakland counties will perform.

"We're very excited to host this show," said Brenda Sanders, faculty advisor for the African-American Students Association. "There are some very talented students performing and we would love to have the community come out to see this show."

Trophies and monetary awards will be given to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners.

Tickets are on sale at the Salem, Canton, and Plymouth high school cafeterias during lunch. Tickets will be sold for \$7 at the door.



Township Clerk Terry Bennett reminded John Chew, who is volunteering for Karl Zarbo, of the restrictions on interacting with voters at one of the polling stations Tuesday.

**Poll worker accosted by man during election**

An unidentified man started a ruckus at St. John Neumann Tuesday afternoon when he took a cigarette away from an election worker, who was on a break, and stated that smoking is "disgusting."

The man, who then harassed another campaign worker, left the church before police officers arrived.

He did not vote. "It's our first rumble," joked Township Clerk Terry Bennett, who had made her way to the Warren Road parish to make sure the incident was over.

It was said that the unidentified man had confronted the same poll volunteer about smoking during a previous election.

-By Tiffany L. Parks

**VOTERS**

FROM PAGE A1

And although the majority of voters in Canton supported Obama, Sen. John McCain still had many in his corner, including first-time voter Tara Lang.

Lang, who voted alongside her mother, Trina Lang, said McCain solidified her support after the presidential debates.

"I feel like McCain is more honorable," she said. "I think Obama is in some shady stuff."

Bennett said interest in the presidential

race was extraordinary with more than 450 voters requesting an absentee ballot on Monday.

On Saturday, about 76 percent of the township's 13,500 absentee ballots had been returned. That figure had jumped to 93 percent by Monday evening.

And with all of the talk surrounding the election of the first African-American president and the possibility of having selected the first female vice president, 12-year-old Angeil Shrive said it would have been neat if she were old enough to cast a vote in the historic race.

"No matter who is in charge, I think

**BOARD**

FROM PAGE A1

background brought a wealth of experience to the board, said he had a "great ride" as a trustee.

"All good things come to an end," he said.

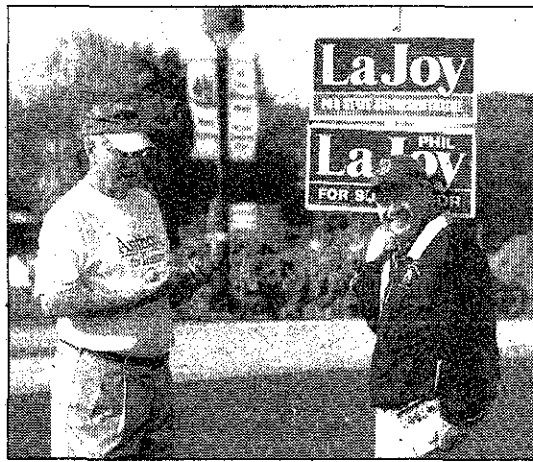
In the other township races, state Rep. Phil LaJoy defeated David Marsh for the township supervisor post. LaJoy, a Republican, pulled in more than 23,000 votes to

the 19,034 that were cast for Marsh.

"I love my community and I am excited about the opportunity to see it prosper," said LaJoy, who will succeed long-time Supervisor Tom Yack. "I want to grow on (Canton's) success."

Running unopposed, both Clerk Terry Bennett and new Treasurer Melissa McLaughlin coasted to victory.

Bennett got 27,331 votes and McLaughlin received 26,209.



BILL BRESLER STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

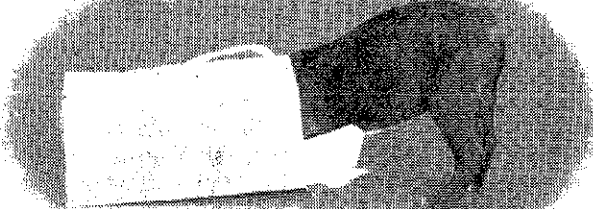
Trustee candidate John Anthony and supervisor candidate Phil LaJoy wait during a mid-afternoon lull at St. John Neumann Church in Canton. Both men won Tuesday.

**KNOW THE SCORE:** Check out the numbers in today's Sports section



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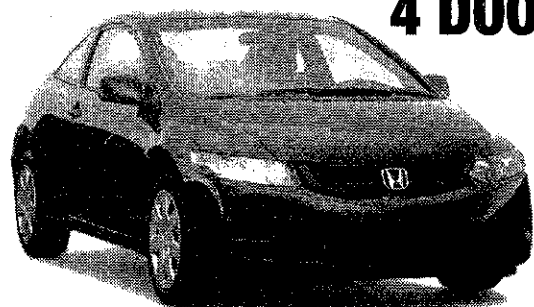
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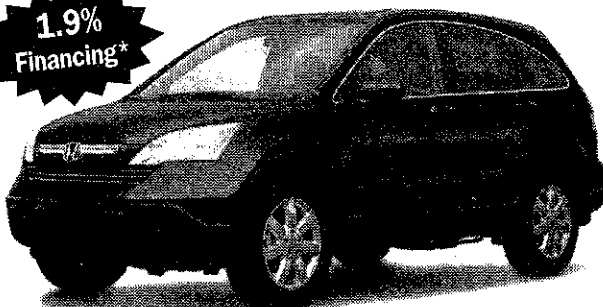
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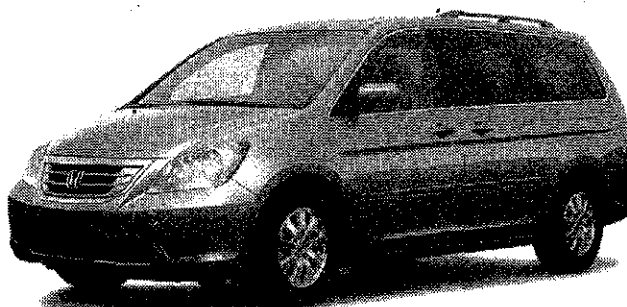
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# McCotter will face a changed, more Democratic Washington

BY HUGH GALLAGHER  
STAFF WRITER

When Thaddeus McCotter goes to Washington in January for the opening of the 111th Congress, he will face a dramatically changed political environment.

The Livonia Republican won re-election to represent Michigan's 11th congressional District in the House of Representatives Tuesday, but his party took a hit. By early Wednesday morning, Democrats were expected to add to their majority in the House by at least 18 seats. In the Senate, Democrats were expected to add to their majority by at least five seats, bringing them to 56 seats, with four seats still too close to call.

In addition, Democrat Sen. Barack Obama of Illinois won a convincing victory in the presidential election over Republican Sen. John McCain of Arizona and will be setting the agenda for the next Congress.

Two of McCotter's fellow Republicans in the Michigan

## UNOFFICIAL VOTE TOTALS

- Thaddeus McCotter-R (I)172,282
- Joseph Larkin-D 147,530
- John Tatar-L 5,756
- Erik Shelley-G 4,829



McCotter

House delegation were among the defeated. Democrat Mark Schauer defeated Republican incumbent Tim Walberg in the 7th District and Democrat Gary Peters defeated longtime Republican Congressman Joe Knollenberg.

In the Michigan Senate race, longtime Democratic Sen. Carl Levin easily defeated state Rep. Jack Hoogendyk with more than 60 percent of the vote.

McCotter had a relatively easy time defeating Democrat Joseph Larkin, a political newcomer. McCotter won by more than 20,000 votes in the Oakland County section of his district, but according to unofficial vote totals early Wednesday morning he was only ahead of Larkin by about 3,000 votes in Wayne County. Also on the ballot were Green Party candidate Erik Shelley and Libertarian John Tatar.



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Joseph Larkin at the Democratic Party gathering at Burton Manor in Livonia.

"The fundamental goal if re-elected is to serve your constituents whether it's a President Bush, a President McCain or President Obama, you look at the interests of the district and if some things are good, you vote for them and if some things are bad, you oppose them," McCotter said Tuesday. Larkin offered his congratula-

tions to McCotter.

"He was the incumbent and had name recognition and money. If I had had the monetary support that Mr. (Gary) Peters had, I might have won," Larkin said.

Larkin said he was excited by the election of Sen. Barack Obama.

"I look forward to his presidency. He is for many of the things I ran for," Larkin said. "Investment in energy and alternative energy, ending the war in Iraq and bringing the savings back from that so we can use them to rebuild our economy."

McCotter held his victory party at Laurel Manor in Livonia. He and his brother, Dennis, entertained the attendees with some hard-charging rock and roll as background music for what would turn out to be the disappointing news for Republicans being broadcast on a big screen by the Fox News Channel.

McCotter is taking a wait and see attitude on what kind of cooperation there will be between the Democratic majority and Republicans.

"It's going to depend on the size of the majority they bring in," he said after completing his musical set. "The House is obviously dif-

ferent from the Senate. The will of the majority is designed to prevail there, so we have less relevance. The rights of the minority in the Senate are more powerful, so it depends on what number we get of Republicans and I think the Senate will determine the starting point."

On Wednesday morning, Democrats were short of the 60 votes needed to quash a filibuster. McCotter said that might determine whether Democrats will feel a need to work with Republicans.

He said he didn't want to pre-empt the Democratic leadership in the House, though he has been critical of House Speaker Nancy Pelosi in the past.

"We need to see the size of what happened, there could be a mandate here, a mandate from the people to do certain things and they'll be justified in doing them whether they work with us will be up to them," he said.

He said the atmosphere will also depend on the new president.

"It depends on Sen. Obama, he's talked about being more of a uniter and I hope he is," McCotter said.

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OUR VIEWS

## Election winner? It's the voters

So, we must ask, did you vote on Tuesday? If so, pat yourself on the back. You're the winner in this election.

Why? Because you voted. Whether you stood in long lines at the polls, or voted by absentee ballot, you helped make history.

For many, the lure was the presidential race. The once-every-four-years event always brings out more voters than in the off years.

The fact that so many registered voters in Canton cast their votes in Tuesday's election is good news. But it would be even better if every registered voter in the township had done so. It's a clerk's dream come true to one day report that there was 100 percent participation.

We can only speculate as to why so many people don't take an interest in who is running their township, state and national governments. And we can only hope that one day they will see the light and get involved in the election process.

As for that process, it happens because of the township clerk (Terry Bennett) and an army of election workers that work from the wee hours of the morning until late night, making sure everyone who shows up to vote does and that every vote gets counted. We can grouse all we want about the long wait, but it is these election workers who keep those lines moving.

These workers at township hall and at all the polling places are the backbone of an election. They make sure everything is done right. They deserve a big thank you for what they did on Tuesday.

To all the people who decided to run, the incumbents and the challengers, we say thank you. Our election process works when people get involved. Running for an elective office is no easy job. We appreciate that those who did face challengers stuck to issues and ideas and left the mud-slinging to others.

To all the people who took the time to vote, we also say thank you. Sorting the wheat from the chafe of political rhetoric, especially at the national level, was no easy task. You have spoken.

But we ask you to remain involved in the election process. Don't wait another four years. There's plenty of elections between now and then for you to express an opinion at the ballot box. Let's aim for 100 percent voting each and every election.

## Don't aid the emerald ash borer by moving firewood

Since it first appeared in southeast Michigan in 2002, the emerald ash borer has spread across the state at an alarming rate.

More than just a pest, this exotic bug from China has devastated our state's ash trees. It is estimated that the metallic green insect has damaged or killed more than 25 million ash trees in Michigan and at least five other states, with southeast Michigan being the epicenter of the infestation and the hardest hit.

Most of us in metro Detroit have seen the damage firsthand. Many neighborhood streets once lined with stately ash trees now stand bare. Parks and golf courses have also been hit hard. In fact, there aren't many ash trees left in the original six-county quarantine area of southeast Michigan.

It is clear, based on how quickly it has spread, that the emerald ash borer is pretty adept at moving on its own. Unfortunately, it has been aided by careless or ignorant people who have transported dead ash materials, usually in the form of firewood, to other parts of the state (and nation).

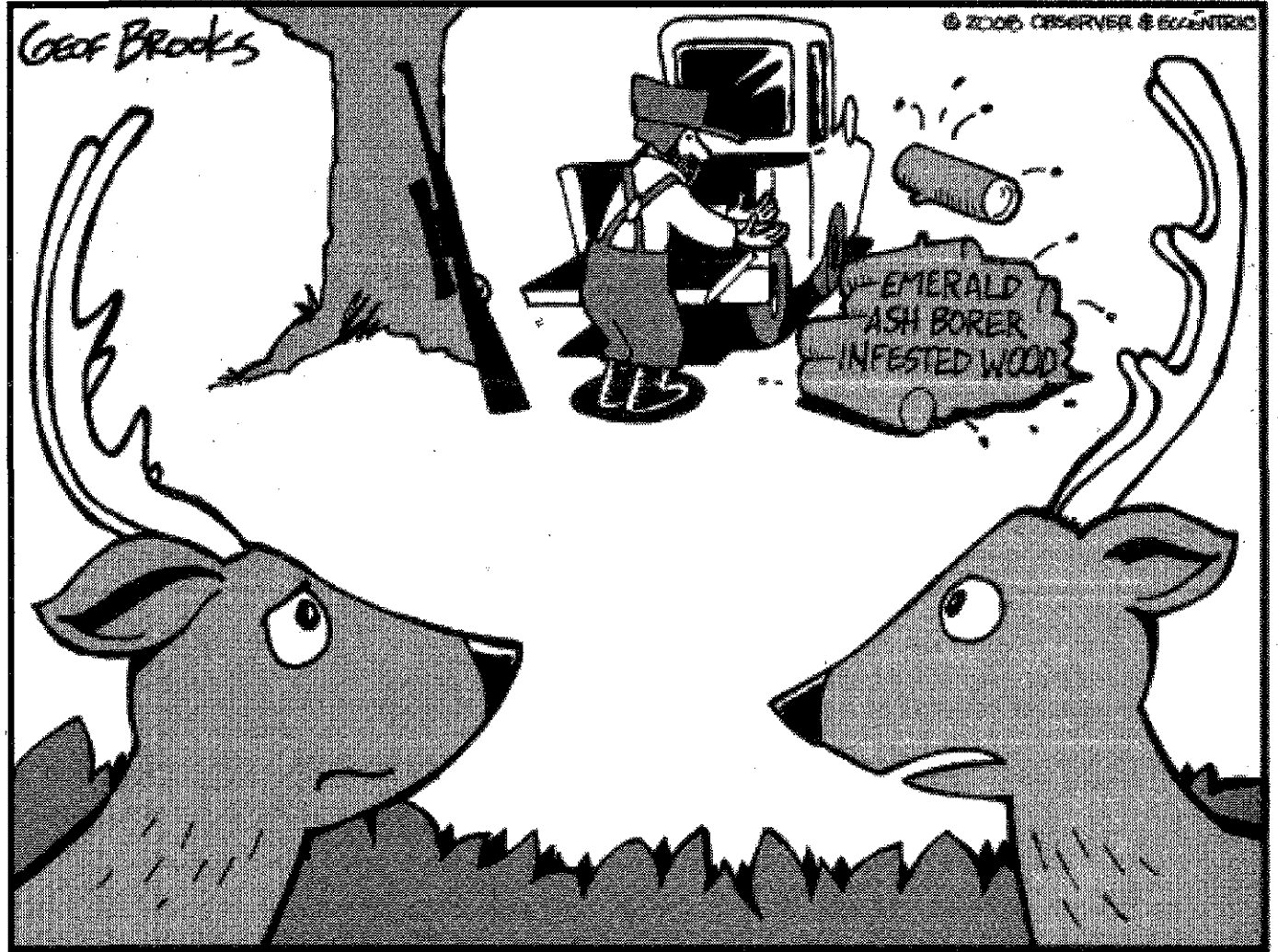
Just last week, state agricultural officials confirmed an isolated emerald ash borer infestation in the Upper Peninsula's Schoolcraft County. Schoolcraft is now the fourth county in the UP to have confirmed cases of the destructive pest. State officials believe all the cases are a result of transported firewood.

Because of its rapid spread, the state has continuously expanded its quarantine area, which makes it illegal to transport any hardwood firewood or other hardwood materials out of the area. The Level I quarantine area includes 21 contiguous counties of southeast Michigan. The Level II quarantine area, which includes the remainder of the Lower Peninsula, means people can only move hardwood materials into the Level I quarantine area.

Individuals or businesses found violating the quarantine are subject to fines ranging from \$1,000 to \$250,000 and jail time of up to five years.

With the firearms deer hunting season right around the corner, downstaters will be traveling north to their hunting camps. Many might be tempted to take their firewood with them. If you're thinking about it, don't do it. The millions of ash trees in northern Michigan are at risk, and state officials are doing everything they can to stop the spread of this destructive insect, including cracking down on those who violate the quarantine.

Don't move firewood. Buy firewood when you reach your destination and burn it all on site. There are no more excuses.



"His rifle used to scare me, but now it's his firewood!"

LETTERS

### Stop the malfeasance

An article was published in the *Canton Observer* written by Kurt Kuban sufficiently detailing the results of a meeting held in Canton Township where a proposed ordinance was reviewed to transfer tax money from an inflated county parks millage back to other political communities. A few sensible comments were made by Wayne County Assistant Executive Alan Helmkamp, who said the "proposed" ordinance was illegal, because it would constitute a different purpose than what voters approved, and that proponents of the new law should expect a lawsuit. Keith Williams, a commissioner, noted the potential of a slippery slope, which may equate to an ice trail.

Common sense people are known to ask a lot of questions to derive truth and justice. A comprehensive top down audit of the bloated Parks bureaucracy should yield another political scandal. Historically, those who insist in remaining in the dream world state of past radical empiricism and refusing to budge one iota aided by a mass of confused and hoodwinked followers should expect full restitution from the oppressed public. How long will political malfeasance be permitted?

Tom Yack, the elected Canton supervisor who envisions himself as the CEO of Canton, likes the proposed tax rebate offered by the commissioners and would accept it as money in the offering bowl for his spendthrift and unwise employees to blow wildly. He inferred in the meeting that Wayne County mathematicians use slot machine formulas for their math programs. History however proves his tribal members are very adept in creating various random number generator formulas. So, no real evidence exists between donkey or elephant party theories. Rational evidence should dictate major changes are in order for the decision-making process to include listening to citizens with more humbly matured intelligence who may be better equipped at employing rationalism, realism, and sound judgments.

The current trustees may be praying the e-mail scandal and past poor decisions go away. Political power rests in the citizens known as "We ye people."

Charlie Page  
Canton

### Make high school start early

I am of the opinion that Plymouth-Canton high schoolers should have school start the latest, rather than elementary schoolers. Scientific studies have shown that teenagers are instinctively inclined to sleep later and stay up later. On the other hand, they need more time after school for after-school jobs and sports. What do you think?

Meg E. (13 years old)  
Canton

### Illogical move

I guess I just had to comment on the move of the *Observer Newspapers* to downtown Detroit. It seems incongruous to me that a suburban newspaper would move into the city. I'm sure the city is delighted, but what a huge loss for Livonia. The mere identity of the newspaper group with the suburbs makes this move seem illogical to

me. I bet if I follow the money, as they say, it's probably a strategic move in that direction.

Nancy Austin  
Canton

### Downtown move opposed

I was surprised and saddened to read in the *Observer Newspapers* several weeks ago that the editorial employees housed in the Livonia office for 37 years will be relocated to a downtown Detroit office.

The news of the upcoming move saddens me for several reasons. One is that as an *Observer* community editor for more than 33 years before retirement, I know firsthand that the newspaper builds its strength on the relationships it has with institutional leaders, ongoing contacts and typical readers who depend on the newspaper for information that can't be found anywhere else.

By relocating the reporters, editors and photographers to a distant location some 25 miles away from its current location could be damaging on a direct and indirect basis. Will readers see the *Observer* as its "hometown newspaper" when its phone number is in a different area code and represent a toll call for local residents? While many contacts may continue to communicate by computer, it's not the same as knowing the reporter or editor is just a short drive away if personal contact is required.

The damage will be psychological as well as real.

I hope the management reconsiders the relocation on a financial basis as well as an editorial one.

By providing reporters, editors and photographers with lap tops and cell phones, it would less cost than reimbursing them the reimbursed mileage and parking fees.

That method would allow editorial employees the opportunity to spend more time interacting with readers, news sources and the community at large instead of driving 45 minutes each way to a downtown office (longer during rush hours and inclement weather). Such a move downtown would create a further emotional distance between the newspaper and the community it wants to represent.

I also read in the relocation story that the Oakland County editorial employees will remain in their current offices near downtown Birmingham. If saving money were the key issue in the relocation, why not transfer those persons to the downtown Detroit office?

Over the summer, the company had a large sign outside its Livonia office that it intends to relocate within the community. I find it hard to believe in this period of economic hardships and numerous office vacancies that the *Observer* couldn't find a local office location at a reasonable cost closer to home for most of its employees and readers.

Hopefully the newspaper I had worked for more than a third of a century will continue to represent the needs and wants of the community instead of corporate bean counters. But I am not optimistic.

Leonard Poger  
Westland

Editor's note: Leonard Poger was editor of the Westland and Garden City editions of the *Observer*. He retired in 2000.

### Legalize marijuana

I was pleased to see Phil Power write an article in the *Detroit News* (Oct. 22) calling for a state of Michigan spending decrease in order to get its financial house in order.

Phil has long vexed me with his support of increased government taxation and I feel as a private business owner that he should know our politicians have been on a drunken spending binge.

In addition, state Rep. (Marc) Corriveau called me and I read him the riot act for his support of the large tax increase last fall. This tax increase did nothing but allow our indecisive governor to dole out more money for continued educational dollars that end up as compensation for teachers and the school administrators who only work a fraction of the hours of the private sector and yet enjoy golden-plated wages and benefits compared to the rest of our society given the limited hours they work.

Michigan educational employees enjoy wage and benefit packages in the top 5-10 percent of the nation compared to their national counterparts. In addition, the slimy way that MESSA is allowed to continue to obfuscate its costs is indefensible and should be legislatively stopped. They must have a link with ACORN.

The illegal Westland school teacher strike should have given the governor cause to fire them just as Ronald Reagan had the courage to do with PATCO, but then she let Kwame slide so why expect any different behavior? In addition, government employees are continuing to get raises and enjoy defined pensions and benefit packages that most of the rest of society can't imagine.

Lastly, I suggested Rep. Corriveau submit legislation to legalize marijuana usage in the same way that we as a society have legalized alcohol and gambling. It would be a great tax increase and probably 90 percent of the people who are reading this note have used this product. Let's keep the high school doobie-smokers out of jail and worry about paying our bills.

I do not use or want to use this product and I have never spent a nickel in a Michigan casino, either. However, since it is a behavior tried by the vast majority of our population I am calling upon Sen. (Bruce) Patterson and Rep. Corriveau to reach across the aisle and use this as a source of positive funding for the state.

Kevin A.C. Lambert  
Plymouth

### SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

We welcome your letters to the editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask that your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content.

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QUOTABLE

**"With all the homeland security issues and our attempts at keeping our schools safe we'll be closed. It's not to say voters pose a threat, but there are people who take that opportunity."**

- Plymouth-Canton Schools Deputy Superintendent Ken Jacobs, on why district officials decided to close schools Tuesday for the election (several polling locations are at district schools)



# Corriveau: 'Back to work' in state House

BY TONY BRUSCATO  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Just like two years ago, state Rep. Marc Corriveau, D-Northville, won't have time to bask in the limelight of Tuesday's election-night victory.

Corriveau is back to work now in Lansing, representing the 20th House District after a solid (30,393-20,662) win over Republican Jerry Vorva of Plymouth. But, said Corriveau, who earned his second term, this time it's a little different.

"When I won two years ago they said I was lucky, gave me 24 hours to feel good with no chance to be re-elected," said Corriveau. "When we look at the numbers, I'm pretty confident this time we earned the right to get back based on the work we've done."

The 20th House District includes the Plymouths, the Northvilles, the city of Wayne, and a sliver of Canton Township east of I-275. Corriveau took more than 70 percent of the vote among those Canton

voters, earning 3,691 votes to 1,490 for Vorva.

Corriveau said his main focus during his next two years in the House will be somewhat similar to his goal during his first two years in office.

"I want to reach across the (political) aisle and find solutions that are best for my district," said Corriveau. "That's what people are demanding now, they don't want the bickering anymore. I want to work as hard as I can to give people who gave me another shot to be proud of their decision. That's my focus."

Vorva said with no money to spend, his job was to make sure Corriveau focused on the 20th House race and didn't use any of his war chest to help Democratic candidates in other districts.

"We ran a good ground game, a lot of door-to-door, and made Corriveau and the Democratic Party spend a lot of money," said Vorva.

"The big voter turnout and (John) McCain pulling out of the state didn't help,



At the Plymouth Cultural Center, incumbent state Rep. Marc Corriveau (left) and challenger Jerry Vorva work the voters arriving to vote.

either," he said. "The leadership in the Republican Party is lacking."



Wayne County Commissioner Kevin McNamara had plenty to celebrate Tuesday, as he won a second term. He parted with other Democrats at Livonia's Burton Manor Tuesday night.

# McNamara wins re-election for county commission

BY KURT KUBAN  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Wayne County Commissioner Kevin McNamara cruised to re-election Tuesday night, defeating rival Steve Johnson by a wide margin.

Unofficial results from Wayne County showed McNamara, a Democrat, earning more than 60 percent of the vote with 33,368 votes to his Republican rival's 21,180 votes (39 percent). The victory means McNamara will represent the commission's 11th District for another two years. The district includes Canton Township, Van Buren Township, Sumpter Township, and the cities of Wayne and Belleville.

"It's a good night to be a Democrat," said McNamara, a Canton resident who celebrated Tuesday night at Burton Manor in Livonia with other Democrats.

McNamara, 51, also won in Canton, beating Johnson by more than 6,000 votes, 23,774 to 17,025.

McNamara praised Johnson, also a Canton resident, for running a good campaign.

Johnson, 41, called

McNamara about 11 p.m. Tuesday to concede the race, and said the two had a good conversation.

"I feel good about the race I ran. Obviously I'm not happy about the result, but I feel I did everything I could to win," he said. "I feel the district will be better off for the issues I brought up. The more people get educated about what to expect from county government, the better they will be."

Johnson said he will continue to be active in trying to make the community better, and said he can foresee himself running for another political office in the future.

As for McNamara, he said his priority for his next term will be "roads, roads, and roads." He also said he is committed to return a portion of the county's parks millage back to local communities, something he recently championed with other members of the commission.

McNamara said he is looking forward to working with new Canton Township Supervisor Phil LaJoy, who won Tuesday.

"I have a good relationship with Phil LaJoy. I know we'll work well together," he said.

# Tax renewal lets WCCCD 'build stronger futures'

BY SUE MASON  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

What a difference a year made for Wayne County Community College officials, who saw a pared-down millage renewal pass muster in Tuesday's general election.

"No doubt, the very survival of this great institution was at stake and we are delighted that Wayne County voters recognized the need for WCCCD and demonstrated such a strong support for this district," said Vidya Moorthy,

spokeswoman for the Wayne County Community College District.

"The passage of this year's millage renewal and reduction ballot is of utmost importance to Wayne County Community College District, our students and our communities."

This is the second time the college has asked voters to pass the tax renewal which expires in 2010.

In 2007, 60 percent of voters cast ballots against the WCCCD plan to renew the 1.5-mill property tax

for 10 years. However, this year's request, while still a 10-year renewal, was pared down to 1.25 mills. As a result, 62.99 percent of voters in the district voted yes compared to a 37.01 percent no vote.

In the portion of Canton Township in the college district, the vote was 2,943 to 2,403 in favor of the tax renewal.

The tax, which will take effect in 2011 after the current 1.5-mill tax expires, would cost \$125 a year for a homeowner who has a \$200,000 house with a

taxable value of \$100,000. The millage represents 40 percent of the budget for a 72,000-student, five-campus district.

"The district now continues to have the critical resources it needs to help build a trained workforce for southeastern Michigan, to continue to improve our student facilities, broaden our program and course offerings and most importantly, continue to transform lives and help build stronger futures," Moorthy said.

KNOW THE SCORE: Check out the numbers in today's sports section

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# Seniors need to do research to get the best Medicare drug program

Now that the election is behind us, many senior citizens will have to make another choice which, from a quality of life standpoint, could be as important as who they voted for in the presidential election. Beginning Nov. 15 until the end of the year, seniors who have been participating in the Medicare Prescription Drug Program (Part D) can remain in their existing plan or switch coverage to a new company. Seniors that do have a Medicare D Plan should spend some time to make sure that, moving forward, they're in the right plan.

There was great skepticism in 2005 when the prescription drug plan was passed. Although it got off to a rocky start, by most accounts it has been a success. More than 30 million seniors are enrolled in Medicare Part D and they have seen significant savings on prescription drugs. In fact, Medicare has saved billions of dollars on drug spending. Enrolling in the plan is definitely something that seniors should consider.

During open enrollment period, I recommend anyone in Medicare D review their situation. After all, health situations

change, prescriptions may be different and Medicare D Plans are also changing. In fact, some plans are lowering premiums. Just because a plan worked this year does not mean it's going to be the right plan for next year. Also, don't forget that in many situations it makes sense for spouses to have different plans. In doing research, husbands and wives should each look at their situation independently.

In deciding whether to retain current coverage, it is important to know there are no penalties to switching plans. As long as you do it during the open enrollment period (Nov. 15-Dec. 31), there is no cost. In addition, there is no gap in coverage or double coverage.

The new plan begins Jan. 1, 2009, while the old plan ends Dec. 31.

Although the drug plan has been a success and has saved seniors a substantial amount of money, to fully benefit from the program you must be proactive. It would be nice if there were only a few different options available to make selecting easy.

Considering the complexity of health care, it would be nearly impossible to only have a few options and at the same time deliver the savings and benefits to seniors.

Whether assisting someone or doing it on your own, it's important to base your decision upon your individual situation. Consider the drugs you are taking, including quantity,

dosage, frequency and whether a generic equivalent is available.

The Internet is an excellent place to do research. The first place that you should go is the Medicare Web site (www.medicare.gov). This Web site has good information and allows you to compare different plans. It is also easy to use and navigate.

I recognize that many seniors are not computer savvy, but that does not mean that you can't take advantage of the government's Web site. Ask a grandchild who ultimately knows more about computers than you and I and don't forget about the public libraries. Public libraries do an excellent job of helping people navigate and learn the Internet. For those individuals who prefer to talk to an individual, call (800) MEDICARE or (800) 633-4227.

You can make changes to your prescription drug plan only once a year, so make sure you get the plan that best suits your situation. Begin your research as soon as possible, take your time, ask questions and, most importantly, save money.

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

## Money Matters

Rick Bloom

# Win a lunch at Buddy's with WNIC radio personalities

WNIC listeners are in for a treat because the winner of this month's Dining with the Stars will lunch with WNIC's Breakfast Club (Chris Edmonds, Lisa Barry and Dave Lockhart) and Kevin O'Neill, weekday afternoon (2-7 p.m.) drive-time host.

Tell us in 100 words or less why you want to have lunch with The Breakfast Club and O'Neill of WNIC-FM (100.3) at Buddy's Pizza in Farmington Hills. E-mail your entry to [BuddysDiningStars@gmail.com](mailto:BuddysDiningStars@gmail.com) by 5 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 12.

In addition to lunch with the WNIC radio personalities, the winner will be treated to a limo ride

courtesy of Class Plus Limo, mini-makeover by Sebastian and Heba of I Design Salon and Spa in Dearborn, \$100 gift certificate from Reaver Diamond Co. in Southfield and dance exhibition by the Fred Astaire Dance Studio in



Barry Neill

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# SPORTS

**B** (CP)

Thursday, November 6, 2008

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Ed Wright, editor (734) 953-2108. [ewright@hometownlife.com](mailto:ewright@hometownlife.com)

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## 2008 MR. SOCCER

# At the top of his game

### Cope earns state's most distinguished individual soccer award

BY ED WRIGHT  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Members of the Salem student cheering section routinely chanted "Mis-ter Soccer! Mis-ter Soc-er!" when Rock senior defender Kevin Cope handled the ball during late-season matches.

It turns out they knew what they were chanting about.

On the heels of a sensational senior season in which he led the Rocks to a 22-1-4 record and a several-week stint as the state's No. 1-ranked team, Cope was voted "Mr. Soccer" Sunday afternoon following a vote by the Michigan High School Soccer Coaches Association's executive board.

He is the first Rock to win the award since Tom Baker was likewise honored following the 1992 season.

Cope and Baker are the only two PCEP players to win the award.

Cope was the heart of a Salem defensive unit that yielded just 12 goals in 27 games — and never more than one in any contest — before the team suffered a season-ending 1-0 overtime loss to Saline in a Division 1 Regional final Oct. 25.

The four-year varsity letter winner has accepted an athletic scholarship from Michigan State University.

"Kevin is the best player to play at

Salem over the past 10 years and he's arguably the best ever," said Salem coach Ed McCarthy. "He's one of the most competitive players I've ever coached and his combination of size and skill gave him the ability to change a game by himself.

"He's the kind of player who makes everyone around him better."

Throughout his prep career, Cope would move from the back line to the top of the Rocks' offense when Salem needed a late-game spark.

His incredible leaping ability made him the target of countless corner kicks, a good percentage of which he either deposited into the back of the net or made the goalie work hard to knock away.

In a tight game earlier this year against cross-campus rival Canton, he drilled home a scintillating goal with an acrobatic, high-rising effort that inspired awe in the game's spectators.

A born leader, Cope often fired up his teammates during times of adversity and calmed them down when tempers flared.

"When we were down at the half or not playing well, Kevin would step up and talk to the team, get everybody going," McCarthy said.

Cope found out about the honor Sunday night while driving home with his parents

Please see **MR. SOCCER, D3**



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

On the heels of a sensational senior season in which he led the Rocks to a 22-1-4 record and a several-week stint as the state's No. 1-ranked team, Kevin Cope was voted "Mr. Soccer" Sunday afternoon.

## Sidelines

### JV Steelers fall

The Plymouth-Canton Steelers junior varsity football team dropped a 33-12 decision to Ypsilanti Sunday in the second round of the Western Suburban Junior Football League playoffs.

The Steelers finished the 2008 campaign with a 6-4 record.

Matthew McKoy scored the Steelers' first touchdown on a long run while Trenton Shelby scored the second on a bulldozing run. Shelby also hauled in a long pass from Gregory Williams, who also completed passes to Thomas Nelson III and Joshua Morris.

Defensively, the Steelers were paced by defensive lineman Vincent Crespi.

### Velocity Baseball open house

The Velocity Sports Performance Baseball Academy will be holding an open house from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 15. The indoor, climate-controlled baseball facility is located inside the Arctic Edge Ice Arena at 46615 Michigan Ave. in Canton.

The open house will feature an opportunity for people to meet members of the Velocity coaching staff, which includes Bruce Fields, who is currently the minor league hitting coordinator for the Cleveland Indians, and Ken Howell, the bullpen and pitching coach for the Los Angeles Dodgers.

The facility is open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mondays through Fridays and from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays.

To schedule a lesson, call (734) 485-2561 or visit [www.velocitysp.com/canton](http://www.velocitysp.com/canton).

### Saberettes clinic

The Plymouth Saberettes are holding a kids clinic from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Nov. 15, in the Plymouth High School cafeteria.

For more information, call Lisa Krahel at (734) 397-3005.

Canton senior Justin Sneddon brings a level of intensity to the Chiefs that coach Tim Baechler has rarely seen in his 20-year coaching career.



PHOTO BY ANDY RUBENSTEIN

# Sneddon's intensity rubs off on Chiefs

BY ED WRIGHT  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

John Madden would love Justin Sneddon.

Sneddon, a two-way standout on Canton's surging football team, plays with the kind of (POW!) relentless (BAM!) tough-minded intensity (BOOM!) that the Hall of Fame announcer has raved about in the broadcast booth the past three decades.

"In the 20 years I've coached high school football, Justin is one of the toughest individuals I've ever coached," said Canton coach Tim Baechler. "He's one of my favorites players of all time. He just loves the game. He loves practice. He has a great attitude. He pumps me up every day."

Sneddon has so impressed opposing coach-

Please see **SNEDDON, B4**

### DISTRICT GRIDIRON SHOWDOWN

**WHAT:** Division 1 District football final;  
**WHO:** Canton (9-1) vs. Saline (7-3);  
**WHEN:** Friday, 7 p.m.;  
**WHERE:** PCEP Varsity Stadium;  
**HOW THEY GOT HERE:** Canton defeated Plymouth, 35-28; Saline outlasted Ann Arbor Pioneer, 37-36.  
**GAME-TIME FORECAST:** Showers, temperature in mid-40s;  
**CANTON COACH TIM BAECHLER ON HORNETS:** "They run a spread

offense and have been establishing the run to go along with a very good passing game the past couple of weeks. They have a very good quarterback and receiver, and their running back is impressive."

**WHAT'S AT STAKE:** Winner advances to next Friday's Regional against winner of Livonia Stevenson-Novi Catholic Central game;  
**PREDICTION:** Canton 42, Saline 31

# ALL SET? YOU BET!

### PCEP's trio of setters are among the area's finest

BY ED WRIGHT  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

If you look at volleyball teams as cars, then the setters are the engines.

And the three that operate at the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park could be classified as high-performance machines.

Blessed with athleticism, poise, a soft touch, supreme decision-making skills and the ability to turn potential disasters into kills, Salem's Jansan Falcusan, Canton's Kacy Moran and

Plymouth's Katie Salo can set with anyone around.

While they may not draw the gym-shaking cheers that the hitters generate, those who know the game the best realize that it's impossible to under-estimate the value of the masters of the assist.

"We, at the Park, are very fortunate to have three stellar setters," said Plymouth coach Kelly McCausland. "Each of them has an immense love and passion for the game, and each of them inspires their teammates to excel as well."

Smooth as silk

Unlike most freshmen athletes who play varsity sports, there was little if any period of adjustment for Falcusan. Like her older sister Jordan, who also set for the Rocks, she excelled from Day 1 and has since ascended into the ranks of the best in the state.

"Coming in as a coach for the first time and having a freshman setter who is one of the best is something a coach dreams of," said Salem coach Amanda Suder. "She is the glue that holds this whole team together and she has

Please see **SETTERS, B5**



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The three PCEP volleyball teams are stocked with ultra-talented setters. Pictured (from left) are Jansan Falcusan (Salem), Kacy Moran (Canton) and Katie Salo (Plymouth).

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# Local harriers fare well at D1 state meet

The Plymouth-Canton Educational Park's cross country elite represented the three local high schools in grand fashion at Saturday's Division 1 State Championships held at Michigan International Speedway in Brooklyn.

Plymouth, the lone PCEP team to qualify for the prestigious event, placed 12th with

333 points. Ann Arbor Pioneer took the title with 82 points followed by Saginaw Heritage (145) and Bay City Western (185).

"I thought we'd finish somewhere between ninth and 12th, so I was happy with our performance," said first-year Plymouth coach Jon Mikosz. The Wildcats were led by

Elmar Engholm, who placed 19th in the team event with a time of 15:48.8. Also scoring for Plymouth were Warren Buzzard (70th in 16:34.0), Matt Neumann (77th in 16:37.0), Derek Lax (82nd in 16:42.0) and Joe Porcari (85th in 16:42.5).

Both of Canton's senior state-qualifiers placed in the top 100. Duncan Spitz was 48th in 16:14.4 while Kyle Clinton crossed 99th in 16:34.3. Freshman Chief Miles Felton was the fifth ninth-grader to cross the line, placing 150th in 16:54.8.

Salem's lone representative, Matt Devey, was 59th in 16:20.0.

Canton's Bianca Kubicki, who is only a sophomore, was the PCEP's top female finisher, placing 36th in 18:54.2. She was the eighth sophomore to finish.

Plymouth's Molly Slavens and Nicole Traitses placed 61st and 151st, respectively. Slavens, who was making her second straight trip to the state meet, was clocked in 19:19.7 while Traitses registered a time of 20:19.0.

Salem was well-represented by Jordyn Moore (73rd in 19:25.9) and Victoria Tripp (75th in 19:27.1).

Traverse City Central captured the girls D1 title with 129 points. Grand Haven (148) was second and East Kentwood (189) was third.



Eleven PCEP boys cross country runners participated in Saturday's Division 1 State Championships at Michigan International Speedway in Brooklyn. Pictured are (front row from left) Matt Neumann (Plymouth), Stephan Balaze (Plymouth), Kyle Clinton (Canton), (standing from left) Joe Porcari (Plymouth), Warren Buzzard (Plymouth), Elmar Engholm (Plymouth), Derek Gielarowski (Plymouth), Derek Lax (Plymouth), Matt Devey (Salem), Duncan Spitz (Canton) and Miles Felton (Canton).



PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Five PCEP runners participated in Saturday's Division 1 Girls State Championships in Brooklyn. Pictured (from left) are Nicole Traitses (Plymouth), Jordyn Moore (Salem), Molly Slavens (Plymouth), Victoria Tripp (Salem) and Bianca Kubicki (Canton).

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### Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property.

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Personal property described below in the matter of:  
 1005 - Roger Raby - Bicycle, 10 boxes, 4 Chairs  
 1046 - Gerald Lesniak - Boxes, Misc Items  
 2032 - Tydala Brown - Office Chair, Sofa, Stereo  
 4058 - Jason Bean - 30 Boxes, TV, Motorcycle VIN 4X7-263622  
 5020 - Tom Estepp - Washer, Table Saw, 10 Totes  
 5065 - Cheryl McKoy - Boxes, Misc Items  
 5079 - Russell Kiser - Ladder, TV, Misc Items  
 9162 - Curtis W. Poole II - Couch, Dresser, TV

Publish: November 6 & 13, 2008

0E08630678 - 2x25

### PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS NOTICE TO BIDDERS

**RFP-USF FORM 470/YEAR 12** - Plymouth Canton Community Schools is accepting Bids for Telecommunication Services through the Universal Services Fund (USF) E-rate Program - Year 12 funding (2008-09 School Year). Specifications are available at the following web site: <http://triple-r.us/erate/RFP-PCCS1Y12.pdf>.

Bidders may also obtain, upon request, a copy of the RFP at the E.J. McClendon Educational Center, 454 S. Harvey, Plymouth, MI 48170. RFP's are to be labeled "USF Telecommunications Bid" and received in the Technology Department by no later than 2:00 P.M., Wednesday, December 3, 2008. All questions regarding this RFP should be directed to James Casteel at 734-416-2708. The Plymouth Canton Community Schools Board of Education reserves the right to reject or decline and/or all Bids received.

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 It is the policy of the Plymouth Canton Community Schools not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, gender, height, weight, disability, religion or marital status in any of its programs, activities or employment.

**Address Inquiries To:** Daniel Phillips - Assistant Director of Finance & Purchasing E.J. McClendon Educational Center, 454 South Harvey, Plymouth, Michigan 48170 or by phone at (734) 416-2746.

Board of Education  
 Plymouth-Canton Community Schools  
 THOMAS WYSOCKI, Secretary

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Personal property described below in the matter of:  
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 4015 - Jayson Steenbergh - 8 Chairs, Vacuum, 5 Totes  
 4045 - Amanda Bickers-Holmes - Aquarium, Dresser, 5 Totes  
 4253 - Kevin Diaz - 10 Boxes, Stereo, TV  
 4294 - Conny Turner - Chair, Loveseat, End-table  
 5029 - Cleopatra Peck - 2 Kids Bikes, Refrigerator, Mattress  
 5226 - Victoria Pope - Chair, 15 Boxes, 2 Trunks  
 6052 - Stven Lyles - Weights, 2 Totes, Exercise Equipment  
 6229 - Michelle Davis - Mattress, 4 Totes, Christmas Tree  
 6243 - Marchelle Moore - 10 Boxes, Sofa, Tote  
 6244 - Brenda Owens - 2 Bags, 4 Boxes, Misc Items

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### MAYFLOWER TOWING 1179 STARKWEATHER PLYMOUTH, MI 48170 734-459-0053 NOTICE OF SALE

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| 1995 Dodge     | Caravan           | 2B4GH2534SR249686 |
| 2002 Ford      | Focus Se/se Coupe | 1FAFP34P52W323092 |
| 1998 Chevrolet | Astro Van         | 1GNDM19W0WB163822 |
| 2007 Dodge     | Grand Caravan     | 2D4GP44L17R281086 |
| 1997 Ford      | Explorer          | 1FMCU22X7VUB83738 |
| 2002 Ford      | Explorer Sport    | 1FMYU70E32UL16668 |
| 1997 Ford      | Taurus Gl         | 1FALP52USVG114287 |
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## MR. SOCCER

FROM PAGE D1

from an official visit to MSU.

"I was shocked when Eddie (McCarthy) called me and told me," Cope said. "I knew people were talking about me possibly winning the award, but I thought when we got knocked out of the playoffs in the Regional finals, it would hurt my chances.

"If I could only win one of the two, I'd definitely have rather won a state title than Mr. Soccer, but since we didn't win the state title, I'm glad I won this. It's a

great honor."

Soccer came naturally to a young Cope, whose above-average speed gave opposing teams fits.

"When I was a little kid, I used to be faster than most of the other kids, so I'd score a lot of goals," said Cope. "Since I was successful at soccer, it was fun, so I continued to play, and that's why I am where I am today."

Cope dished off a well-deserved assist to his parents, Doug and Cindy.

"I definitely wouldn't be the soccer player I am now without their help," he said. "They put a lot of time and money into making sure I was getting the right

training."

While in East Lansing this past weekend, Cope watched his future teammates knock off Northwestern — which was ranked No. 4 in the country — 1-0 to claim their first ever regular-season Big 10 championship.

"Ultimately, my goal is to play professional soccer after I graduate from Michigan State," Cope said. "But the reason I chose a university like Michigan State is because if soccer doesn't work out, I'll have a degree from a great school."

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## PCA thumps Troy

The Plymouth Christian Eagles advanced to the inaugural Christian Football League of Michigan's championship game by thumping the Troy Defenders, 31-0, Saturday.

The Eagles scored four touchdowns, two by Jordan Allen and one each by Jordan Early-Pitts and Douglas Malcolm. Matt Sauter tacked on a two-point conversion run while Spencer Wiard contributed two point-after-touch-

down kicks and a 30-yard field goal.

Eric Jipping led an inspired Eagle defensive attack with four sacks. Other defensive standouts for the winners were Richard Truhn (three sacks), Wiard (interception), Tim Pugh (interception), Andrew Weaver (fumble recovery), Zach Hare and Sauter.

The Eagles will take on the Muskegon Shoreline Breakers in Saturday's title game.

## Lafata optimistic about Ocelots

BY ED WRIGHT  
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Judging by the enthusiasm in Schoolcraft College women's basketball coach Karen Lafata's voice, you'd think the Ocelots were returning four starters from last year's 28-4 squad, not losing four starters.

The fact that Schoolcraft has just one starter coming back from the 2007-08 MCCA Eastern Conference championship squad — and the fact that Lafata is enthused — tells you all you need to know about the quality of the replacements who have been assembled to carry on the program's tradition of excellence.

"We lost nine players from last year's team, including four starters, but I'm excited about this group," the veteran coach said. "We can go two-deep at every position.

"This is also a hard-working group — both on and off the court. They're definitely taking care of business."

Three of the departed Ocelots — Heidi Warczynsky (Central Michigan University), Antoinette Brown (Tulsa) and Ladwan Jones (Eastern Michigan University) — have moved on to Division I schools while a fourth — Brittany Ivey (Virginia State) — is currently competing at the Division 2 level.

Schoolcraft's up-tempo attack will be engineered this season by 5-foot point guard Brittany Collins, a transfer from Saginaw Valley State University.

"Brittany is extremely quick with great leadership ability," said Lafata.

Collins will be joined in the starting backcourt by Salem graduate Tayler Langham, a 5-9 sophomore.

"Tayler is a tremendous athletic talent," said Lafata. "She's a slasher/driver type of offensive player who can get to the basket. She's a flyer, too, on the fast-break."

Anchoring the frontcourt for Lafata's hoopers will be center Shannon Collins, a 6-0 sophomore out of Detroit McKenzie.

"She can play the post and move outside and shoot equally well," said Lafata.

Collins will be flanked by starting forwards Sherya Brown, a 5-8 power forward who is the squad's lone returning starter, and 5-10 freshman Antania Shepherd, who will man the small forward position.

"Sherya led the team in rebounding last year and she brings a lot of leadership to our team," said Lafata. "Antania is solid at both ends of the court and she can really shoot the three."

Filling out the Ocelots deep and talented roster are Amber Avery, a freshman forward from Southfield Lathrup; April Goins, a graduate of Detroit Pershing; Angela Burrell, a sharp-shooting guard who prepped at Detroit Northwestern; Shanika Morman, who will serve as the back-up point guard; and Jasmine Brown, who excels from beyond the arc.

The Ocelots opened their 2008-09 slate Saturday at Alpena Community College.

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08082975

# SNEDDON

FROM PAGE D1

es this season that he was voted the Kensington Lakes Activities Association South Division's Offensive Player of the Year. And he's — **KABOOM!** — a tackle!

"I was at a meeting with a bunch of other coaches to pick an All-Metro team (Monday night) and I started to talk about Justin," Baechler said. "The Carleton Airport coach, who we scrimmaged before the season started, says, 'Is that No. 54? He's a nasty son-of-a-gun.'"

When it comes to complimentary coaching terms, it doesn't get

any better than "nasty." **Sweat equity**

The 5-foot-9, 207-pound bundle of energy compensates for his modest size with an anything-but-modest desire to get stronger.

With a 350-pound bench press on his resume, Sneddon is among the strongest players around.

"I work my butt off in the weight room," he said, when asked for the key to his gridiron success. "And I'm pretty intense out there. You can't get too intense, you know what I mean?"

With Friday night's Division 1 playoff game against Plymouth knotted at 28-all, less than six minutes to play and Canton 80 yards from the end zone, eight

plays of the subsequent 11-play scoring drive went left — the side of the line Sneddon and senior tight end Todd Turfe patrol.

"That felt good," Sneddon said. "It meant a lot that the coaches thought that much of Todd and I, the two seniors."

**Two-way threat**

After getting inserted into the Chiefs' starting defense as an inside linebacker prior to its Week 8 game against Novi, Sneddon became just one of two players — the other being Dakota Dark Bird — who starts both ways for Canton.

"It gets a little rough sometimes," Sneddon said, referring to the minimal rest he gets on Friday

nights. "But that's where our off-season conditioning helps."

"The other night I asked Justin how he was feeling," Baechler said. "He said, 'I was a little tired the first half, but I felt better the second half.' He can play both ways because he never misses a workout."

**Smooth transition**

Sneddon transferred to Canton from Dearborn Edsel Ford following the first semester of his sophomore year. The personable student-athlete fit in immediately and was voted one of the team's captains during the off-season.

"I love being a captain," he said. "My job is to keep everybody upbeat in the huddle and to keep

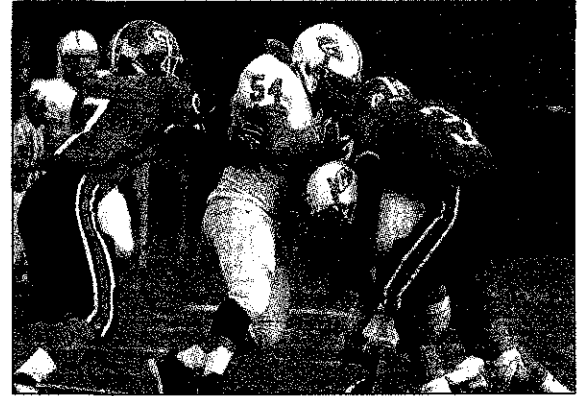


PHOTO BY ANDY RUBENSTEIN

Justin Sneddon (No. 54) was voted the KLA South's Offensive Player of the Year despite the fact he never touches the football.

everybody together.

"One of my favorites things I get to do is before our home games I'll get everybody together and shout, 'Whose house is this!' Then the team shouts, 'Our house!' That

fires me up and fires the team up." Just another example of why John Madden would love this guy. **BAM!**

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# LOCAL PERSONALITIES GO HEAD TO HEAD

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| <b>9-5<br/>61-38</b>  | <b>8-6<br/>56-43</b>  | <b>9-5<br/>60-39</b>  | <b>5-9<br/>63-36</b>  | <b>11-3<br/>65-34</b>   | <b>10-4<br/>65-34</b>   | <b>10-4<br/>60-39</b>   | <b>9-5<br/>62-37</b>  | <b>10-4<br/>58-41</b>   |
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Sunday, November 9, 2008  
New Orleans at Atlanta  
Tennessee at Chicago  
Jacksonville at Detroit  
Baltimore at Houston  
Seattle at Miami  
Green Bay at Minnesota  
Buffalo at New England  
St. Louis at New York Jets  
Carolina at Oakland  
Indianapolis at Pittsburgh  
Kansas City at San Diego  
New York Giants at Philadelphia  
Monday, November 10, 2008  
San Francisco at Arizona

# SETTERS

FROM PAGE B1

done that for four years.

"Jansan is a very tough, dedicated, caring girl and is a very hard worker. She has a lot of heart for the game of volleyball and anyone who has played with her or coached her should have nothing but respect for her."

## Head games

The setter is the thinking-person's position on a volleyball court. They must call plays, analyze the opponents' positioning and elevate teammates' confidence levels when the need arises — all responsibilities that Falcusan relishes.

"Probably the toughest part for me is having to know the other team's offense and defense," she said. "In between plays, I have to know exactly what they're doing on the other

side of the net and then set up our offense accordingly. And I only have about five or 10 seconds."

Falcusan, who has earned an athletic scholarship to the University of New Hampshire, said it's not difficult for someone new to the sport to pick out the setter on the court.

"Every second ball is ours, so we're the ones running around all over the place trying to get to the pass," she said. "I enjoy everything about the position. I like being a leader and being connected to all the other positions on the court."

## Assist specialist

Moran has had a spectacular career with the Chiefs since getting promoted to the varsity early on in her sophomore year.

The senior has formed a strong on-the-court chemistry with junior hitter Jordan Falcusan that make the duo one of the most respected in the

area.

"Kacy has been a huge part of this team and a huge part of our success the past couple of years," said Canton coach Jen Barnes. "She's a very smart player who makes great decisions."

"I definitely don't want to lose her next year. It will be a hit to the team when you lose the player who has touched just about every second ball for our offense the past two years. Kacy and Jordan have developed an amazing connection, too."

Salo, the only junior of the threesome, made a sudden impact on the Wildcats' program when she was called up to the varsity her freshman season after an older player became ill.

She made such a positive impression on McCausland that she's been on the varsity roster ever since.

"Katie Salo immediately became an asset to our program when she came in as a

freshman," said McCausland.

"She is very knowledgeable about the game, and she takes great pride in working hard in the off-season."

"She is competitive by nature and I am fortunate to be able to count on her as our floor general."

Salo enjoys the pressure that is inherent with the role of setter.

"I like being involved in every play, knowing that I'm going to be touching every second ball and helping to decide what is going to happen with the point," she said. "If there's a bad pass, we had to make the best of it and adjust."



BILL BRESLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Pictured (from left) are PCEP setters Katie Salo (Plymouth), Kacy Moran (Canton) and Jansan Falcusan (Salem).

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\*Some restrictions may apply. Not valid with any other offer.

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# Big Fun Party at Ford Field helps boys in foster care

Forget the ball gowns and tuxedos. Christ Child Society wants party goers to have big, casual fun in blue jeans during its 33rd annual holiday gathering on Friday, Nov. 21, at Ford Field in Detroit. "We're throwing the biggest party we've ever thrown. We're like the little charity that could," said Maureen Carey, a long-time volunteer.

"This is a wear-your-cutest jeans party and dance all night. We have 'green' solutions for decorations and no one has to waste money on a fancy dress they will

only wear once."

The Big Fun Party will be held for the first time in The Ford Field Atrium, with entertainment by Larry Lee's "Back in the Day" band. Party goers that have worn dressy attire to the organization's previous parties, can relax in casual garb as they dance the night away. The event also includes dinner and a live auction featuring four tickets to the Final 12 *American Idol* show; walk-on parts for four movies filmed in Detroit and a trip to Sonoma with private winery

tours.

Proceeds from the Big Fun Party benefit boys, age 5-15, who suffer from severe developmental, emotional and behavioral problems.

Christ Child Society of Detroit, founded 90 years ago as a local chapter of the national organization, has cared for abused and neglected children since 1948 at Christ Child House, located in Detroit. Boys from throughout the tri-county area live at the house, an intensive residential treatment center licensed by the

State of Michigan, after being removed from abusive homes.

"Christ Child House is the last house on the block for these boys," Carey noted. "Sometimes I force myself to listen to the stories of what they've endured — I figure if they can live it, I can at least listen to it. But listening is

hard. The stories are brutal and the pain that surrounds everyone involved is enough to bring you to your knees."

She pointed out that 12 of the approximately 30 boys at the house were adopted last year, fulfilling the Christ Child House philosophy that "It's never too

late to have a happy childhood."

Individual tickets for the Big Fun Party are \$150 and sponsorship tables are still available.

For more information call Mary Pat Stacy at (248) 642-6298; e-mail stacyblake@aol.com or visit www.christchild-house.org.

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# Your Invitation to Worship

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| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>CATHOLIC</b></p> <p><b>ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH</b><br/>Immemorial Latin Mass<br/>Approved by Pope St. Pius VI in 1870<br/>23310 Joy Road • Redford, Michigan<br/>5 Blocks E. of Telegraph • (313) 534-2121</p> <p>Mass Schedule:<br/>Fri. 7:00 p.m.<br/>Sat. 11:00 a.m.<br/>Sun. Masses 7:30 &amp; 10:00 a.m.<br/>Confessions Heard Prior to Eucharist<br/>Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions<br/>Tuesdays at 7:00 P.M.</p> <hr/> <p><b>St. Genevieve Roman Catholic Church</b><br/>St. Genevieve School - PreK-8<br/>29015 Jamison • Livonia • 734-427-5220<br/>(East of Middlebelt, between 5 Mile &amp; Jeffries)<br/>MASS: Tues. 7 p, Wed., Thurs. 9 a,<br/>Sat. 4 p, Sun 7 a</p> <hr/> <p><b>St. Maurice Roman Catholic Church</b><br/>32765 Lyndon • Livonia • 734-522-1616<br/>(between Merriman &amp; Farmington Roads)<br/>MASS: Mon. 8:30 a, Fri. 8:30 a,<br/>Sat. 5 p, Sun 9a</p> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>EVANGELICAL COVENANT</b></p> <p><b>FAITH COVENANT CHURCH</b><br/>14 Mile Road and Drake, Farmington Hills<br/>(248) 661-9191<br/><b>Sunday Worship and Children's Church</b><br/><b>9:15 a.m. Contemporary</b><br/><b>11:00 a.m. Traditional</b><br/><i>Child Care provided for all services</i><br/>Youth Groups • Adult Small Groups</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST</b></p> <p><b>Cherry Hill Seventh-day Adventist Church</b><br/>33144 Cherry Hill, Garden City, MI 48135<br/>(1 block west of Venoy) Phone: 734-524-0880<br/>Pastor: Eddie Petreaca<br/>Meetings on Saturdays for:<br/>Early Morning Bible &amp; Health Class-9 a.m.<br/>Worship Service-English-9:30 a.m.<br/>Bible Studies English &amp; Spanish<br/>(All Ages) 11:00 a.m.<br/>Wednesdays:<br/>Prayer Meeting-7 p.m.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>UNITED METHODIST</b></p> <p><b>Clarenceville United Methodist</b><br/>20300 Middlebelt Rd. • Livonia<br/><b>248-474-3444</b><br/>Pastor Beth Librande<br/>Worship Service 9:30 AM<br/>Sunday School 11:00 AM<br/>Nursery Provided</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Redford Aldersgate United Methodist</b><br/>2 blocks South of Plymouth<br/>10000 Beech Daley • 313-937-3170<br/>9:30 - Trad. Worship &amp; Sun. Sch.<br/>11:00 - Contemp. Family Worship<br/><a href="http://www.redfordaldersgate.org">www.redfordaldersgate.org</a></p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</b><br/>"Open Hearts, Minds &amp; Doors"<br/>36500 Ann Arbor Trail<br/>between Wayne &amp; Newburgh Rds.<br/><b>734-422-0149</b><br/>Worship Service and Sunday School<br/>9:15 &amp; 11:00 a.m.<br/><b>Rev. Marsha M. Woolley</b><br/>Visit our website: <a href="http://www.newburgumc.org">www.newburgumc.org</a></p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>First United Methodist Church of Plymouth</b><br/>45201 North Territorial Road<br/>(West of Sheldon Road)<br/><b>(734) 453-5280</b><br/><a href="http://www.pfumc.org">www.pfumc.org</a></p> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church</b></p> <p>14175 Farmington Road, Livonia Just north of I-96<br/><b>734-522-6830</b></p> <p>Sunday Worship 8:30 &amp; 11:00 am - Traditional<br/>Sunday/Bible Class 9:45 am<br/>Early Childhood Center<br/>Phone 734-513-8413</p> <p style="text-align: center;">+<br/>Staffed Nursery Available</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Making disciples who share the love of Jesus Christ</b><br/>Pastors: Robert F. Bayer and Anthony M. Creeden</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD</b><br/>25830 GRAND RIVER at BEECH DALEY<br/>313-532-2266 REDFORD TWP.</p> <p><b>Worship Service</b><br/><b>9:15 &amp; 11:00 A.M.</b><br/><b>Sunday School</b><br/><b>9:15 &amp; 11:00 A.M.</b><br/>Nursery Provided<br/>The Rev. Timothy P. Halboth, Senior Pastor<br/>The Rev. Dr. Victor F. Halboth, Assistant Pastor</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>HOSANNA-TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH &amp; SCHOOL</b><br/>9600 Leverage • So. Redford • 313-937-2424<br/>Pastor - Reverend Paul Urdin<br/>Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.<br/>Wednesday Evening Service 7 p.m.<br/>Education Hour 10:45 a.m.<br/>Christian School<br/>Pre-Kindergarten-8th Grade<br/>For more information call 313-937-2233</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE</b><br/>45601 W. Ann Arbor Road • (734) 453-1925<br/>Sunday School - 9:45 A.M.<br/>Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M.<br/>Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M.<br/>Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M.<br/>NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN LEARNING CENTER<br/>(734) 455-3188</p>   | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Timothy Lutheran Church</b><br/><i>A Reconciling In Christ Congregation</i><br/>8820 Wayne Rd.<br/>(Between Ann Arbor Trail &amp; Joy Road)<br/>Livonia • 427-2290<br/>Jill Hegdal, Pastor<br/>10:00 a.m. Family Worship<br/>(Nursery Available)</p>  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>NON DENOMINATIONAL</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>BELL CREEK COMMUNITY CHURCH</b><br/><small>in place to inspire</small></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Casual, Contemporary,<br/>Excellent Children's Program</p> <p>Meets at Franklin H.S. in Livonia on Joy Road<br/>(Between Merriman and Middlebelt Roads)<br/>at 10:00 a.m.<br/>734-425-1174<br/>Join us for coffee, bagels and donuts after the service!</p>  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>PRESBYTERIAN (U.S.A.)</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>ROSEDALE GARDENS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)</b><br/>9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI<br/>(between Merriman &amp; Farmington Rds.)<br/>(734) 422-0494<br/><a href="http://www.rosedalegardens.org">www.rosedalegardens.org</a><br/>Chapel Worship Service 9:00 am<br/>Traditional Service 10:30 am<br/>WE WELCOME YOU TO A FULL SERVICE CHURCH</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>St. James Presbyterian Church, USA</b><br/>25590 West Six Mile Rd.<br/>Redford (313) 584-7730<br/>Sunday Worship Service - 10:00 A.M. Sunday School - 10:15 A.M. Thursday Dinners - 6:00 P.M.<br/>Thrift Store every Sat. 10am-2pm<br/>Nursery Care Provided • Handicapped Accessible<br/>Rev. Paul S. Bousquette</p>   |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>PRESBYTERIAN</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Fellowship Presbyterian Church</b><br/>Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. • Worship: 10:30 a.m.<br/>Pastor: Dr. Jimmy McGuire<br/>Services held at: Madonna University's Kresge Hall<br/>36600 Schoolcraft Road • Livonia<br/>Parking lot is on N.W. corner of Levas &amp; Schoolcraft • Nursery provided<br/><a href="http://www.fellowship-presbyterian.org">www.fellowship-presbyterian.org</a></p>   | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>CHRISTIAN SCIENCE</b></p> <p>First Church of Christ, Scientist, Plymouth<br/>1100 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI<br/>734-453-0970<br/>Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.<br/>Sunday School 10:30 a.m.<br/>Wed. Evening Testimony Meeting 7:30 p.m.<br/>Reading Room located at church<br/>Saturday 12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.<br/>734-453-0970</p>  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>WARD</b><br/><i>Evangelical Presbyterian Church</i></p> <p>40000 Six Mile Road<br/>"just west of I-275"<br/>Northville, MI<br/>248-374-7400</p> <p>Traditional Worship 8:00, 9:30 &amp; 11:00 A.M.<br/>Contemporary Worship 9:30 A.M.<br/>Nursery &amp; Sunday School During the 9:30 &amp; 11:00 Hours<br/>Evening Service • 7:00 p.m.<br/>Service Broadcast 11:00 A.M. Sunday WRDT-AM 560<br/>The Wmuz Word Station<br/>For additional information visit <a href="http://www.wardchurch.org">www.wardchurch.org</a></p>  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Immanuel Lutheran Church</b><br/>Pastor Milton Schemm<br/>27035 Ann Arbor Trail, Dearborn Heights<br/>(just East of Inkster Road)<br/>(313) 278-5755<br/>Worship Service &amp; Sunday School 10:30 a.m.<br/><a href="http://www.immanuelchurch.org">http://www.immanuelchurch.org</a><br/><i>The Friendly Church on the Trail</i></p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Risen Christ Lutheran</b><br/>David W. Martin, Pastor<br/>46250 Ann Arbor Road • Plymouth<br/>(1 Mile W. of Sheldon)<br/><b>(734) 453-5252</b><br/>Worship 8:15 &amp; 10:45 am<br/>Sunday School 9:30<br/>Adult Bible Study 9:30<br/>Nursery Care Available<br/>All are welcome. Come as you are.<br/><a href="http://www.risenchrist.info">www.risenchrist.info</a></p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>LUTHERAN CHURCH WISCONSIN SYNOD</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church &amp; School</b><br/>17810 FARMINGTON ROAD,<br/>LIVONIA (734) 261-1360<br/>WORSHIP SERVICES<br/>SUNDAY: 8:30 A.M. &amp; 11:00 A.M.<br/>THURSDAY: 6:30 P.M.<br/>website: <a href="http://www.stpaulsilivonia.org">www.stpaulsilivonia.org</a></p>  |

For Information regarding this Directory, please call Donna Hart at 734-582-8342 or e-mail: [dhart@dnps.com](mailto:dhart@dnps.com)

# SC women top Alpena, 82-57

The Schoolcraft College women's basketball team opened its 2008-09 schedule Saturday by rocking host Alpena Community College, 82-57.

The Ocelots, who are ranked No. 10 in the National Junior College Athletic Association Division II poll, never trailed after racing to an 18-4 lead after 10 minutes.

Schoolcraft led 45-26 at the half and held off a mini-rally by Alpena, which closed to within 61-46 with 8:04 left in the game.

Schoolcraft swished 26 free throws - the second-highest total in school history.

Sheray Brown paced the winners with 18 points on 7-of-12

shooting from the floor. Brown also led the Ocelots with nine rebounds. Antania Shepherd (12 points), Shanika Morman (11) and Angela Burrell (10) also scored in double-digits for SC.

Kimmi Breaugh led Alpena with 17 points. Mary Calhoun added 15.

The Ocelots, who received six steals from Brittany Collins, shot 37.7 percent from the field (27-of-71) and 68.7 percent from the stripe (26-of-36).

Schoolcraft forced 34 Alpena turnovers.

### Crusaders fall at buzzer

Nikki Kassebaum's last-second triple enabled host Taylor

University (Ind.) to escape with a 59-58 women's basketball win over Madonna University in the Tip-Off Classic.

Taylor, 2-0 overall, is ranked No. 16 nationally in NAIA Division II. Kassebaum finished with 13 points, while Allison Reece and Bethany Ballard added 12 and 11, respectively.

The Lady Trojans outrebounded MU, 48-36.

Katie Mount placed MU (0-2) with 17 points, while Tabatha Wydryck added 11.

Adrian College transfer Kim Olech (Plymouth) grabbed a game-high 12 rebounds as MU overcame a 29-26 halftime deficit.

### SPORTS BRIEFS

#### Free throw contest

Canton Leisure Services will be hosting the annual Elks Free Throw Competition Saturday, Nov. 8, at the Summit on the Park in Canton.

Registration begins at 9 a.m. with the competition starting at 9:30 a.m.

Kids between the ages of 8 and 13 are eligible to compete. This is a free co-ed event. Awards will be given to winners of each age bracket.

For more information, call (734) 394-5354.

#### Nokes hitting seminar

Precision Baseball in Canton will be presenting a hitting seminar by former Detroit Tiger Matt Nokes on Sunday, Dec. 7, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m..

The 90-minute PowerPoint

seminar and 90-minute training session - entitled "The Art of Hitting Your Way" - will focus on timing, angles and blocking.

The cost of the seminar is

\$75. To reserve one of the limiting spots, call (734) 459-5921.

Precision Baseball is located at 7835 Market St. in Canton.

For information on Nokes, visit <http://mattnokes.com>.

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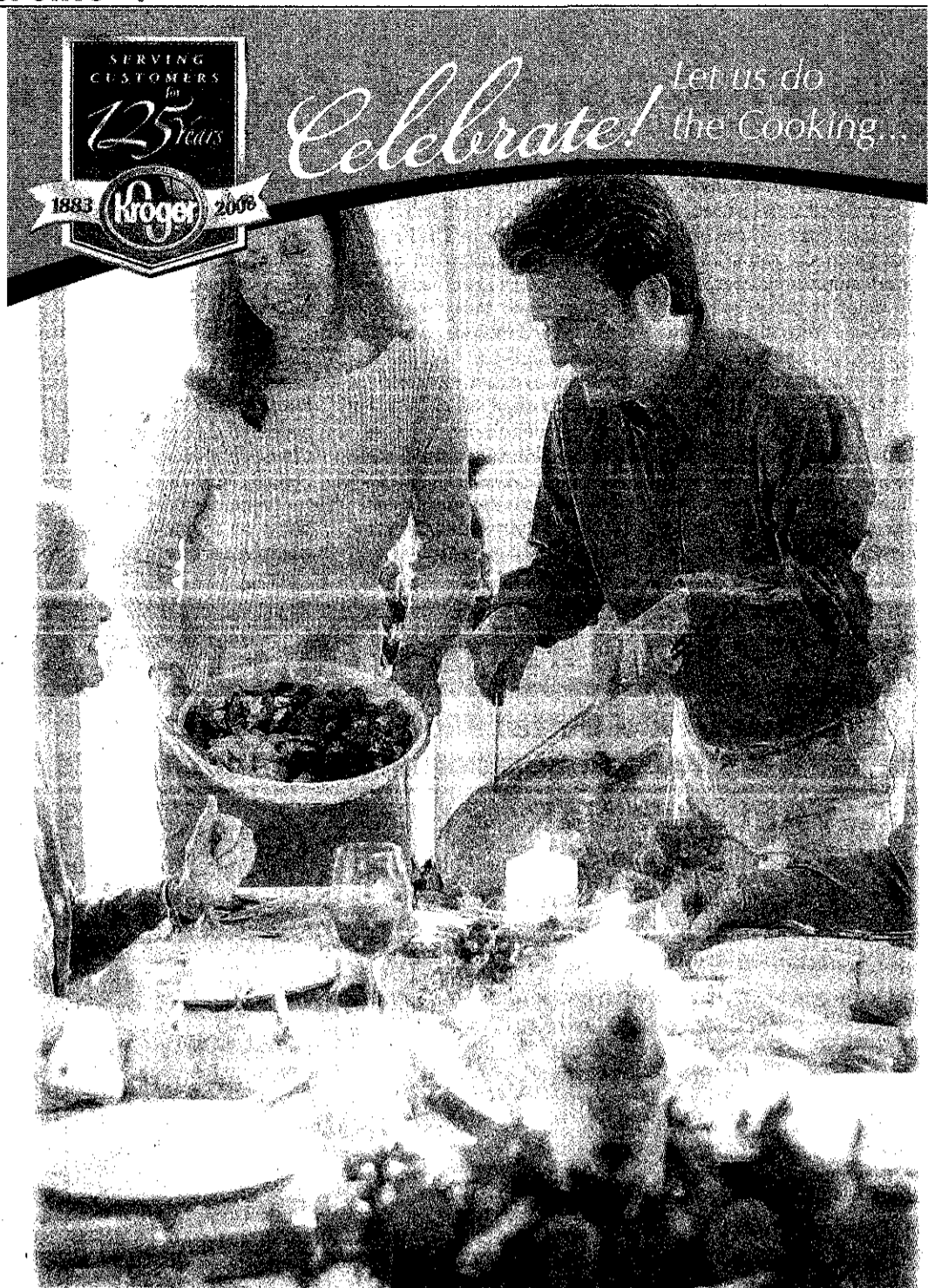
Sat. Nov. 15, 7:05 PM **Scout Night #2**  
Plymouth vs London Whalers vs Knights

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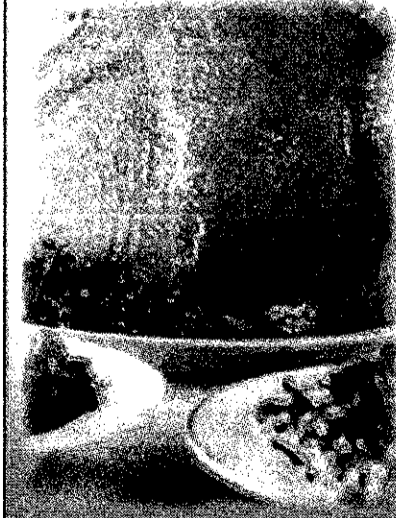
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Includes: 10-12 lb Fully Cooked Private Selection Turkey  
(1) 2 lb pkg Bread Stuffing  
(1) 1 lb pkg Gravy  
(2) 24 oz pkgs of Mashed Potatoes  
(1) 16 oz Private Selection Cranberry Celebration  
(1) 12 ct pkg Dinner Rolls  
(1) 10 inch Homestyle Pumpkin Pie or 9 inch Private Selection Apple Pie



### Private Selection Spiral Ham Dinner \$49.99

- (Serves 6-8)  
Includes: 8-9 lb Private Selection Spiral Sliced Ham,  
(2) 24 oz Pkg Mashed Potatoes,  
(2) 1 lb Gravy,  
(1) 10 Inch Homestyle Pumpkin Pie or 9 Inch Private Selection Apple Pie  
(1) 12 ct Pkg Dinner Rolls



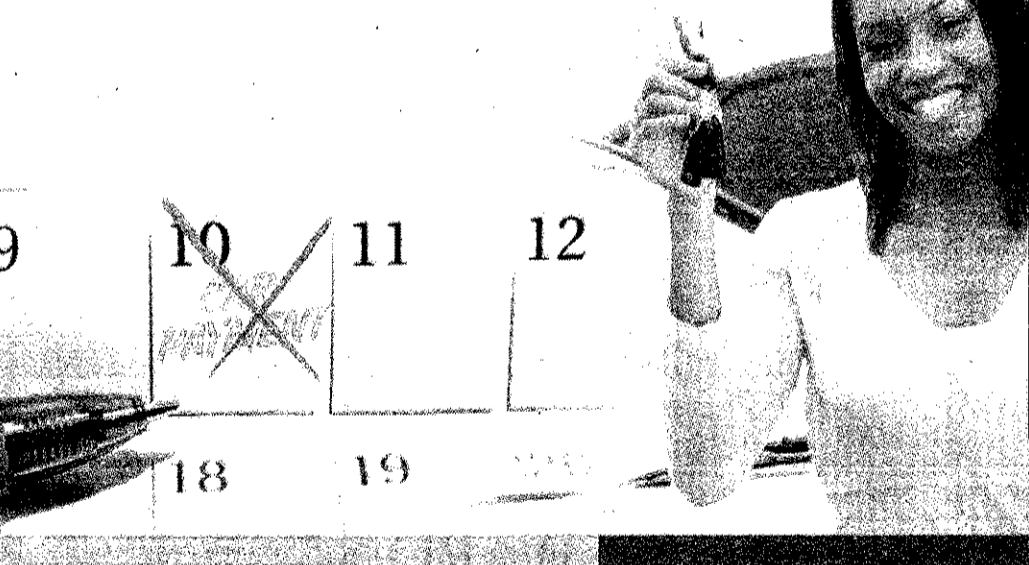
### Private Selection Large Turkey Dinner \$69.99

- (Serves 10-12)  
Includes: 14-16 lb Fully Cooked Private Selection Turkey,  
(2) 2 lb Bread Stuffing,  
(2) 1 lb Gravy,  
(2) 24 oz Mashed Potatoes,  
(2) 16 oz Pkgs Private Selection Cranberry Celebration,  
(2) 10 inch Homestyle Pumpkin Pies or 9 Inch Private Selection Apple Pie,  
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Friday Nov. 7th  
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- RN

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The candidate will be responsible for the inputting of daily deposits into multiple databases and programs, entering credit memos, reconciliation of deposit spreadsheets and invoicing on customers websites. This position will be the main support to the accounts receivable and payable department.

The ideal candidate will:
 

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- \*Knowledge of invoicing and cash entry functions.
- \*Must have intermediate Excel and Word experience
- \*AS400 System 21 experience a plus.
- \*A/R & credit exp. a plus

This is a part-time position that requires approximately 30 hours per week. To be considered, please email resume to: Farmington-HR@anchordaily.com

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Send resume to: 43422 West Oaks Drive, PM9 #167, Novi, MI 48377-3300

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### DENTAL ASSISTANT

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### DENTAL HYGIENIST

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Must be trained with valid driver's license. Call btwn. 10-3pm: 734-722-7880

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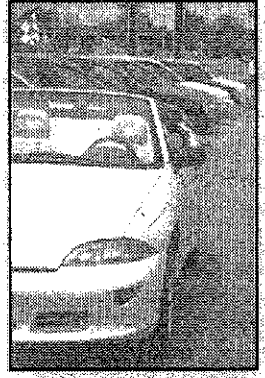
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## New GM, Toyota Campaigns Highlight Credit Availability

Advertising Feature

### CAReport



By Dale Buss

Has the auto industry tanked mainly because consumers can't get credit, or because they just don't want to buy a vehicle right now? With new marketing campaigns that highlight loan availability, General Motors and Toyota aren't waiting for the debate to be settled.

In radio, newspapers and digital advertising that broke last week, GM is launching a program called "Financing That Fits" to highlight the fact that worthy consumers can still get car loans through its dealerships. As part of the initiative, GM is repackaging a six-year-old online database as a way for its dealers to help willing buyers find financing while they're still in the showroom. It is also reminding consumers that it is offering zero-percent financing or up to \$6,000 cash back on most of its 2008 models.

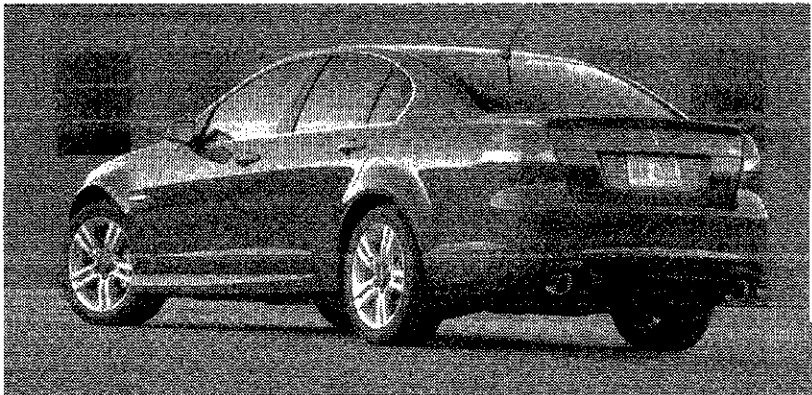
Meanwhile, Toyota Motor is launching a new, \$250-million marketing and sales campaign to lure consumers back to its own dealers. It is touting new zero-percent financing on 11 vehicles, including its staple mid-size Camry and compact Corolla sedans - both of which have fared relatively poorly in recent sales reports despite their fuel efficiency.

GM is firing the Financing That Fits broadside because of "the crushing onslaught of negative financial reporting that has contributed to a growing paralysis in consumer confidence," said spokesman John McDonald. "People believe they can't finance a new car or truck - and that's simply not true."

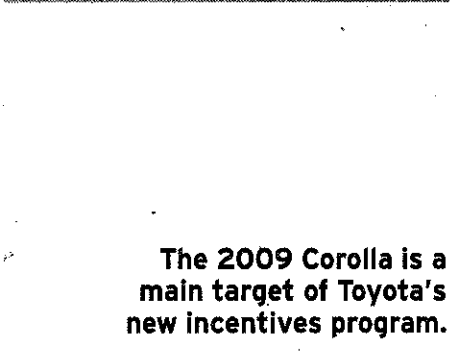
"We hope it builds awareness there is available financing and credit out there for folks who want to buy a new vehicle."

Toyota is trying to send the same message. "There is a perception that because of upheavals in the financial markets that financing isn't available," Bob Carter, group vice president at Toyota Motor Sales USA, told The Wall Street Journal. "There is a perception that leasing isn't available. Neither is true for Toyota."

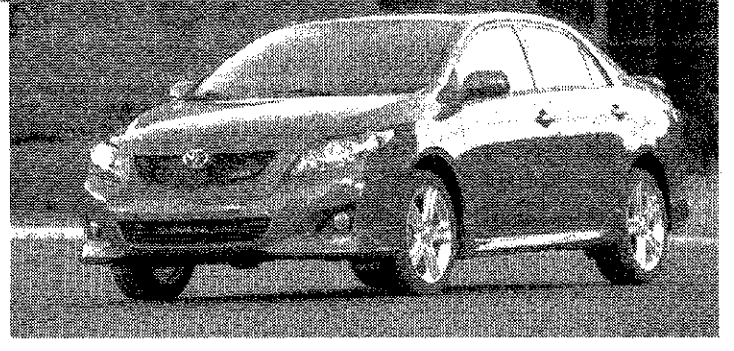
Self-Correcting  
But even GM itself has fed the opposite impression. Its GMAC financing arm tightened up lease eligibility last



GM is hoping its new Financing That Fits program will help move metal like the Pontiac G8.



The 2009 Corolla is a main target of Toyota's new incentives program.



summer. And at the beginning of this week, GMAC further stiffened its standards, announcing that it would issue loans only to buyers with credit scores of at least 700; that level would exclude about 42 percent of U.S. consumers.

"People hear that and say, 'I'm not even going to bother going to a dealer, because I may or may not have a credit score for that situation,'" said John Sternal, vice president of marketing communications for LeaseTrader.com, a Miami-based outfit that matches lease-holders with consumers who want to take over the remainder of a lease on a particular vehicle. GM "is kind of shooting themselves in the foot."

The automaker moved to shield its own creditworthiness after Wall Street ratings agencies continued to downgrade GM's debt and financial prospects in the wake of the ongoing mess in the markets. And GMAC has been dragged down by the national housing meltdown because it has been a mortgage lender as well - unlike, for instance, Ford's finance arm.

"There's been a lot of attention to GMAC, but it's a different story with our dealers," said Meredith Libbey, spokeswoman for Ford Motor Credit.

And, by contrast as well, Toyota's new campaign attempts to leverage its very strong corporate cash position compared with the Detroit Big Three. Of course, Toyota's unprecedented attempt to draw people into dealer showrooms is necessary only because its sales performance so far this year in the U.S. market - down about 32 percent

in September, for example - makes it look far more like the Big Three than ever.

Iacocca-esque?  
Financing That Fits radio spots feature the voice of Mark LaNeve, GM's North American vice president of sales. And while he's not as polished as Lee Iacocca when the former Chrysler CEO urged American TV viewers, "If you can find a better car, buy it," LaNeve's plain-spoken persona serves him well in these ads.

The web-based system is called Route One, and the GM ads make it sound like a new thing. "We're just making it more visible to consumers," McDonald explained.

Dealers enter a credit application once, and it is reviewed by GMAC and as many as hundreds of other lending institutions - as the consumer chooses - for the best available financing options.

GM also is expanding sales incentives to its dealers by offering cash bonuses for sales that are financed by lenders other than GMAC. That program began last week, according to Bloomberg News, and includes most 2008 and 2009 models. Dealerships are eligible for as much as \$250 in cash incentives for each sale of non-GMAC-financed vehicles, to be divided among sales people, managers and other employees, according to a GM memo to dealers, Bloomberg said.

GMAC accounted for about 20 percent of GM's loans last month after accounting for 43 percent in the second quarter.

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