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THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 2021 | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

5 finalists named for RU superintendent job

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Five candidates from two Wayne County school districts are in the running to become the next permanent superintendent of the Redford Union School District.

The school selected the finalists that will interview with the board for the district's top administrative position, according to information shared on the district's website. The finalists are:

- Shaun Black, assistant superintendent of schools

for the Detroit Public Schools Community District

- Larry Gray II, principal in the Detroit Public Schools Community District
- Jeffrey Robinson, principal in the Detroit Public Schools Community District
- Marie Schluter, district coordinator online and social emotional learning for Redford Union Schools
- Jasen Witt, current interim superintendent for Redford Union Schools

The posting closed March 23 with 35 applicants seeking the position. The above five candidates will

meet at a yet-to-be determined time for interviews with the school board. A timetable on the district's website indicates the board would like the next superintendent to begin leading the school district in northern Redford Township July 1. The posted salary range for the position is between \$130,000 to \$150,000.

The district's previous superintendent, Sarena Shivers, left the district after taking a position as the deputy executive director of the Michigan Association

See SUPERINTENDENT, Page 3A

Dog lost after crash reunites with family



Co-owners Austin Reid and Ciara Horner said Beau provides a lot of emotional support. PROVIDED PHOTO

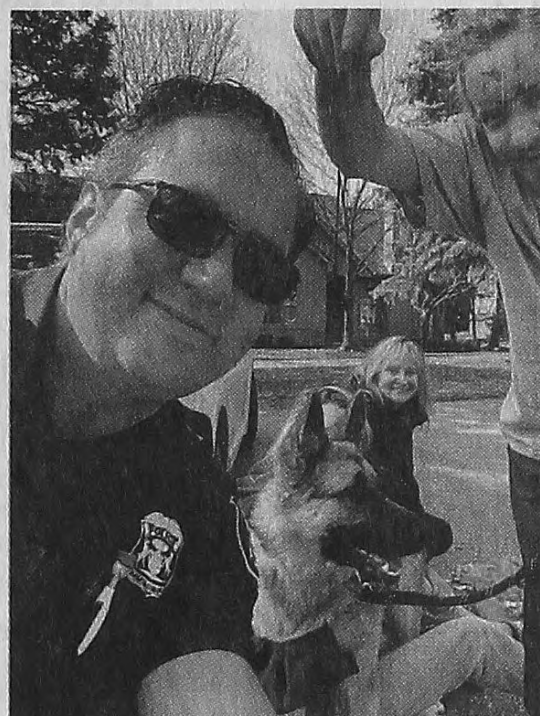
Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

A young South Lyon couple recently reunited with their lovable German shepherd Beau, a canine who walked away from a highway crash and then went missing for nearly 24 hours.

Ciara Horner, 19, and Austin Reid, 23, said they don't really remember what led to their truck jumping an Interstate 696 guardrail the afternoon of March 24.

The few things they know for sure are it happened near Halsted Road and Beau escaped when first responders rushed to their multi-vehicle wreck and opened their door.

See BEAU, Page 4A



Farmington Hills officer Brian Harbaugh assisted in Beau's recovery. He poses with Beau, owners Ciara Horner and Austin Reid, and, in the background, Tina Horner, who is Ciara's mother.

PROVIDED BY FARMINGTON HILLS POLICE DEPARTMENT

Canton native gets shot at modeling in Milan, Italy

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

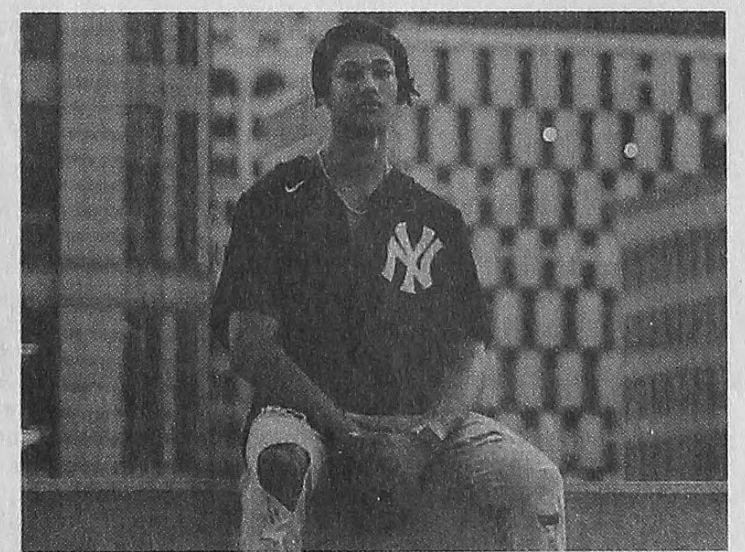
One moment, Canton native Camren Barden was studying diligently toward his finance degree at Central Michigan University.

A short time later he was preparing to walk down a runway, modeling Versace clothes in Milan, Italy — the international epicenter of the fashion industry.

OK, Barden's meteoric rise from Mount Pleasant to Milan didn't unfold quite that fast, but it must have seemed like it for the former Salem High School academic/athletic standout who is on schedule to graduate from CMU in May.

"It's been kind of surreal, the way it has happened

See BARDEN, Page 3A



Canton native Camren Barden recently modeled in a show in Milan, Italy, during the city's famed "Fashion Week." PROVIDED PHOTO

Livonia Prayer Breakfast focuses on faith, virtually

Organizers of the Livonia Prayer Breakfast went virtual last year during the pandemic, and this year COVID-19 is forcing them to do the same. But there is a silver lining.

While the streamed event "could never replace the in-person," there are some benefits from going to a webinar setup, Prayer Breakfast Chairman Ken McMullen said. For instance, the reach last year was much broader with thousands of people from 14 countries listening to the presentation "The Heaven's Declare," packed with music, beautiful pictures and speakers ranging from pastors to an astrophysicist,

See BREAKFAST, Page 4A



Expert: Spring break plus surging COVID-19 equals potential trouble

Ed Wright

Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The COVID-19-related charts and graphs Plymouth epidemiologist Dr. Emily Somers shared last week are colorful, informative and ominous.

As a rising spread of the virus in southeastern Michigan intersects with families heading south for spring break vacations, Somers' data takes on more urgency than ever.

One map she shared titled "Cases of Variant Concerns in the United States" included the shading of each of the 48 continental states; the darker the shade, the more variants. Michigan and Florida were the darkest-colored states, reflecting their unenviable totals of 751-plus variant cases as of March 28.

A graph that showed the incidence of COVID-19 spread for Canton, Plymouth and Plymouth Township from Feb. 28 through March 28 showed snake-like lines rising like ready-to-strike cobras, marked by yellow dots that reflected five-day surges.

What's it all mean with spring break concluded and families back from vacation?

The numbers don't lie, Somers said. "Obviously, it's hard to predict exactly what will happen, but in my judgment I expect to see an increase in community spread (of COVID-19) for at least a couple of weeks after spring break," Somers said. "Then, hopefully, the number of cases will level off after that."

"What really concerns me is that any time there is mass travel, it's more difficult for people to maintain social distancing; it's a high-risk activity. The CDC is still discouraging non-essential travel, especially to Florida and other popular southern locations that we know have high variant concerns."

"The bottom line is, we need to reinforce the need to continue protective measures, like social distancing and wearing masks."

Why the uptick?

When asked why COVID-19 numbers were on the uptick in southeastern Michigan, the University of Michigan-based epidemiologist pointed to a couple of factors.

"Obviously, just about everybody has COVID fatigue by now, so they're taking the opportunity to go out to eat, things like that," she said. "On top of that, with

the vaccinations rolling out, it gives residents a false sense of security. While vaccinations are among the most important weapon we have against the virus, it's going to take months to get everyone vaccinated, so we can't let our guard down. We're not there yet."

Somers said there is validity to the notion that high school sports are among the most significant spreaders of COVID-19.

"There are several reasons why athletics are contributing to the spread," she revealed. "Obviously, some sports have close contact that can lead to transmissions. But there are also other factors that go hand-in-hand with sports that can lead to transmission: carpooling, sleep-overs, going out to eat after games — activities away from the gyms and fields in which students may let their guard down."

While concerned about the potential for COVID surges once spring break ends, Somers said she is encouraged by the precautions taken by Plymouth-Canton Schools to help lessen the spread.

"Plymouth-Canton Schools have done a great job of implementing risk-mitigation measures in their buildings and classrooms," she said. "The classroom setting is a lot more controlled than the community settings in a lot of cases."

"What's more worrisome to me than the classroom settings are the extracurricular activities that are not as regulated."

Overall, the Canton, Plymouth and Plymouth Township communities are following the protocols in place to keep the virus at bay, Somers asserted.

"The problem is, all's it takes are one or two lapses to make things more problematic," Somers said. "We all need to continue to be vigilant with social distancing and mask wearing until the vaccinations can do their job."

Somers is optimistic that a return to pre-COVID normalcy is on a steady track, but may not be here as swiftly as residents hope, which is one reason she encourages everyone to get vaccinated as soon as they are eligible.

"As far as schools go for the fall, I'm optimistic for the high school and middle schools getting back to normal because studies are showing that the vaccines are safe for kids in those age groups," she said. "Elementary school-aged students, on the other hand, may not be able to receive vaccines until January, so more patience will be required."

Contact reporter Ed Wright at edwright@hometownlife.com or 517-375-1113.

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COVID-19 cases surge 38.5% in Michigan

Mike Stucka USA TODAY NETWORK

New coronavirus cases leaped in Michigan in the week ending Sunday, rising 38.5% as 45,192 cases were reported. The previous week had 32,630 new cases of the virus that causes COVID-19.

Michigan ranked first among the states where coronavirus was spreading the fastest on a per-person basis, a USA TODAY Network analysis of Johns Hopkins University data shows. In the latest week the United States added 442,981 reported cases of coronavirus, an increase of 0.1% from the week before. Across the country, 25 states had more cases in the latest

week than they did in the week before.

Many states did not report cases on Easter. That will make some state-to-state comparisons inaccurate, and also some in-state week-to-week comparisons inaccurate.

Within Michigan, the worst weekly outbreaks on a per-person basis were in St. Clair, Sanilac and Huron counties. Adding the most new cases overall were Wayne County, with 8,160 cases; Macomb County, with 6,693 cases; and Oakland County, with 5,634. Weekly case counts rose in 69 counties from the previous week. The worst increases from the prior week's pace were in Wayne, Macomb and Oakland counties.

Michigan ranked 33rd among states in share of people receiving at least one shot, with 29.8% of its residents at least partially vaccinated. The national rate is 30.7%, a USA TODAY analysis of CDC data shows.

In the week ending Friday, Michigan reported administering another 612,445 vaccine doses, compared to 522,482 the week before that. In all, Michigan reported it has administered 4,619,345 doses.

Across Michigan, cases fell in 12

counties, with the best declines in Wexford, Roscommon and Huron counties.

In Michigan, 212 people were reported dead of COVID-19 in the week ending Sunday. In the week before that, 141 people were reported dead.

A total of 768,892 people in Michigan have tested positive for the coronavirus since the pandemic began, and 17,259 people have died from the disease, Johns Hopkins University data shows. In the United States 30,706,126 people have tested positive and 555,001 people have died.

Note: In the Johns Hopkins University coronavirus data, cases and deaths for the Michigan Department of Corrections and the Federal Correctional Institution separately from Michigan counties.

The USA TODAY Network is publishing localized versions of this story on its news sites across the country, generated with data from Johns Hopkins University and the Centers for Disease Control. If you have questions about the data or the story, contact Mike Stucka at mstucka@gannett.com.

STATE OF MICHIGAN COUNTY OF WAYNE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH

AMENDMENT TO SECTION X-3.065(A) OF THE WATER AND SEWER ORDINANCE

ORDINANCE NO. 1016
AMENDMENT NO. 26

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR AMENDING THE DATE FOR ANNUAL CERTIFICATION OF NONPAYMENT OF WATER AND SEWER BILL FROM SEPTEMBER 1 TO ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 1; TO PROVIDE FOR PENALTY; TO PROVIDE FOR REPEAL; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; AND TO PROVIDE FOR PUBLICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE.

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH ORDAINS:

Ordinance No. 1016, Section X-3.065 of the Water and Sewer Ordinance, is hereby adopted to read as follows:

SECTION I. AMENDMENT TO SECTION X-3.065(A) OF THE WATER AND SEWER ORDINANCE

Section X-3.065 of the Water and Sewer Ordinance is hereby amended to read as follows:

(A) Pursuant to Public Act 178 of 1939, as amended, being M.C.L.A. §§ 123.161 et seq., the charges for water service and sewage disposal service prescribed by this article furnished to any premises shall be a lien thereon effective immediately upon the distribution of water or furnishing sewage disposal service to the premises. Any charges, delinquent for six months or more, shall have an administrative fee as set by Township Board resolution added thereto and that total amount shall be on or before November 1 of each year by the official or officials in charge of collection thereof to the Township Supervisor, who shall enter same upon the next tax roll against the premises to which services shall have been rendered and the charges shall be collected and the lien shall be enforced in the same manner as provided for the collection of taxes assessed upon such premises and the enforcement of the lien therefore provided that, in all cases when a tenant is responsible for the payment of any such charge and the Township Board is so notified in writing, such notice to include a true copy of the legally executed lease of affected premises, then no charge shall become a lien against the same premises from and after the date of tendering an affidavit pursuant to the requirements of M.C.L.A. § 123.165, to the Township Supervisor or his or her authorized or her agent. In the event of filing of the notice, no further service shall be rendered to the premises until a cash deposit in an amount to be set by Township Board resolution shall have been deposited with the township as security for the payment of the charges.

SECTION II. PENALTY

Any person, corporation, partnership or other legal entity who shall violate or fail to comply with any provision of this Ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof may be fined not more than Five Hundred (\$500.00) Dollars or imprisoned not more than Ninety (90) days, or both, in the discretion of the court.

SECTION III. REPEAL

All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance, except as herein provided, are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this Ordinance full force and effect.

SECTION IV. SEVERABILITY

If any section, subsection, clause, phrase or portion of this Ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision, and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion thereof.

SECTION VI. SAVINGS CLAUSE

The repeal or amendment herein shall not abrogate or affect any offense or act committed or done, or any penalty or forfeiture incurred, or any pending litigation or prosecution of any right established or occurring prior to the effective date of this Ordinance.

SECTION VII. PUBLICATION

The Clerk for the Charter Township of Plymouth shall cause this Ordinance to be published in the manner required by law.

SECTION VIII. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall take full force and effect upon publication.

Copies of the complete text of this ordinance are available at the office of the Charter Township of Plymouth, 9955 N. Haggerty Road, Plymouth, Michigan 48170, during regular business hours.

Publish: April 8, 2021

LO-0000358969 3x2.5



NOTICE PLYMOUTH CHARTER TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS

If you experience an overflow or backup of a sewage disposal system or storm water system, you must file a written claim with the Plymouth Charter Township Department of Public Works within 45 days after the overflow or backup was discovered. Notice should be mailed to Plymouth Charter Township, Department of Public Works, 9955 N. Haggerty Rd., Plymouth, Michigan 48170. Failure to provide the written notice will prevent recovery of damages. Contact the Department of Public Works, 734-354-3270, Extension 3, for assistance immediately upon discovery of an overflow or backup.

Thank You.

PLYMOUTH CHARTER TOWNSHIP
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

JERRY VORVA, CLERK
Charter Township of Plymouth

Publish: April 8 & 22, 2021

LO-0000358969 3x2.5

PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS ADVERTISEMENT TO BID

BID PACKAGE T1 AUDIOVISUAL SYSTEMS

Plymouth-Canton Community Schools is requesting proposals for Audiovisual Systems. Bid documents will be available for examination and distribution on or after April 2, 2021. To obtain documents go to:

Link to project: <http://links.pccsk12.com/BMbidopps>

Bid proposals will be received by Plymouth-Canton Community Schools through BuildingConnected.com by **April 22, 2021 at 10:00 AM** local time when they will be publicly opened. The District will not open, consider, or accept any bids received after the date and time specified.

The Bid Proposal must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized disclosure in compliance with MCL 380.127 disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the bidder, or any employee of the bidder, and any member of the Board of Education of the school district or the Superintendent of the school district. Bid proposals that do not include this sworn and notarized disclosure statement will not be considered.

A virtual pre-bid meeting will be held on April 9, 2021 at 1:00 PM at <http://links.pccsk12.com/BMprebidmtg>

The meeting is not mandatory.

The Board of Education reserves the right to: reject any or all bid proposals, either in whole or in part; waive any informalities or irregularities in the bidding process; accept bid alternates; and to award a contract in any manner deemed by the Board of Education, in its sole discretion, to be in their best interests.

Publish: April 8, 11, 15, & 18, 2021

LO-0000358977 3x2.5

Superintendent

Continued from Page 1A

of Superintendents and Administrators last summer. Other area school districts who continue to search for a new superintendent include Farmington Com-

munity Schools and Birmingham Public Schools. For more information on the RU search, visit the district's website at redford.k12.mi.us. Contact reporter David Veselenak at dveselenak@hometownlife.com or 734-678-6728. Follow him on Twitter @davidveselenak.

Barden

Continued from Page 1A

so fast," said Barden, whose late great uncle is Don Barden, a Detroit-born business pioneer. "Back in October, my agent at Claude Model Management found some photos of me on Instagram and he reached out to see if I'd be interested in modeling for some bigger brands and traveling.

"I was kind of thrown off guard by it right away, because you never know with social media. But once I found out it was legitimate, I went for it and signed a contract in late-October."

Barden admitted that a career in big-time modeling wasn't even close to being on his life's radar prior to October.

"Literally, days before I got the call from Claude, I was starting to apply for finance jobs," he said.

On March 1, Barden traveled to Milan for a four-day trip focused on modeling Versace clothes in a virtual show orchestrated by fashion icon Donatella Versace.

Incredibly, Barden was the only male model from the United States invited by Versace.

Prior to his Italian journey, Barden's modeling portfolio consisted of a cover shot for Mount Pleasant-based "Threads" magazine.

"To say my life took a 180-degree turn would be an understatement," Barden said, chuckling. "My parents (Corey and Jackie) and I were saying it's kind of like I skipped the line. There are so many people who have been in this industry since they were very young and here I am, with no experience at all, getting this opportunity."

"Everyone was incredibly nice to me in Milan. My first day there was for (clothes) fittings. Donatella and the director picked what I'd be modeling based on the photos they saw of me and my fittings. I really didn't have a lot of free time to walk around the city and eat pasta and pizza. It was all about the show."

Barden, who was the starting point guard for CMU's club men's basketball team his freshman and sophomore years, said he felt a few pre-show jitters, similar to those that appeared minutes before tip-offs of high school and college hoops games.

"The jitters really started once some of the bigger-named models showed up," he said. "At one point, the director told all the models to take a moment and think about all of the history of this show and how many

people walked this show. It was a great history lesson and it made me even more appreciative of the opportunity I was getting.

"Once the show started, my jitters were pretty much gone because everyone associated with the show made me feel at ease."

Barden said his lifestyle hasn't changed much at CMU since the unexpected connection to international modeling forged a new path.

"I'm the same person I've always been," he said. "I hang out with good people who keep me grounded."

Barden said he's paid attention to fashion to some degree since his middle school days.

"I've always tried to keep up fashion-wise," he said, smiling, "but it's not like I was ever wearing Versace."

Joyful youth

Barden attended Eriksson Elementary and Central Middle schools during his youth in Canton. He graduated from Salem in 2017.

Among his fondest memories were excelling for Salem's basketball team and the Plymouth-Canton Force, which captured a national championship during his time with the team.

In addition to his parents, the most-influential people in his life were teachers and coaches who guided him throughout his youth, Barden shared.

"Two people in particular who helped keep me on the right track were my basketball coaches and teachers at Central Middle School, Mr. LaPointe and Mr. Ballard," Barden said. "My parents have been my biggest supporters, obviously. They've always let me make my own decisions."

"My dad was a little thrown off when this first came up, but after he found out it was legitimate, he told me to go for it."

Barden is on the verge of signing a contract with a modeling agency and would like to eventually become an actor in movies and/or television.

"I'm just very grateful for this opportunity and I'm going to work hard to make it work," he said.

Minutes later, he returned to hitting the books, determined that not even the glamorous life of big-time modeling will keep him from earning a coveted finance degree.

Contact reporter Ed Wright at edwright@hometownlife.com or 517-375-1113.

Dominion wants state Sen. to retract claims of voter fraud

Minnah Arshad Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

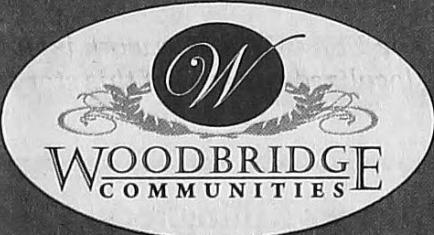
Dominion Voting Systems accused former state Sen. Patrick Colbeck of waging a "self-serving disinformation campaign" against the company and demanded he retract his claims of voter fraud in the 2020 presidential election, in a 14-page letter emailed Friday.

Dominion provided voting technology to counties across the country, including 66 of Michigan's 83, and it has been a central target among those claiming voter fraud. A loud ally of former President Donald Trump, Colbeck, who is from Canton, spoke publicly and in a 93-minute video, which received national attention for its claims. Now, he is rallying around Michigan with a PowerPoint, titled "Case for Michigan Decertification," according to Dominion's letter, and continuing to push claims of voter fraud targeting Dominion.

"In light of the information that has long been known to you and is additionally set forth above, the only responsible thing for you to do at this point is to publicly and forcefully retract your false claims about Dominion and set the record straight regarding the fake evidence and fake experts you have put forward," Dominion wrote.

Colbeck could not be reached for comment Saturday. The company has already filed suits against attorney Sidney Powell, Rudy Giuliani, MyPillow CEO Mike Lindell and Fox News Network, for their claims of electoral fraud. Dominion said in its letter that Colbeck cited "proven liars and discredited individuals," including former Republican congressional candidate Russell Ramslund, Melissa Carone and Josh Merritt, or Spyder, Powell's secret witness in voter fraud lawsuits.





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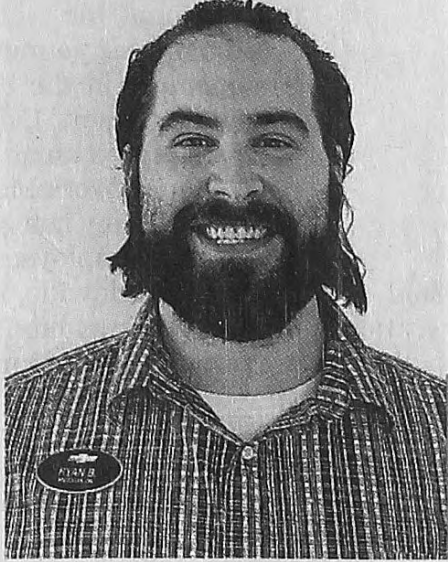
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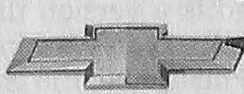





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Check 401(k), bank, mutual fund statements for accuracy



Money Matters
Rick Bloom
Guest columnist

The other day I received a call from a client. This client is particularly sharp and has a solid understanding of the world of personal finance. He explained that he was having a problem with his Michigan Education Savings Plan (MESP).

Based upon his transaction report, he noticed a variety of unauthorized transactions on his MESP account. There were distributions that he did not authorize as well as deposits that he did not make. He also explained to me the frustration he was having in dealing with the MESP to get the situation corrected. Despite his persistence, he was running into roadblocks.

The purpose of this column is not to pick on the MESP because I still think it is a great program that people should take advantage of. In fact, the client himself still likes the MESP. However, your attitudes toward an investment are not material at this point.

What is material is the importance of reviewing financial statements, no matter who they come from.

Whenever you receive a financial statement, whether it is from a 401(k), a mutual fund or your bank, you need to review it for accuracy. Financial companies like banks, brokerage houses or even the MESP are not immune from mistakes. Mistakes happen and we must recognize that we are our own last line of defense. It is our obligation to ourselves to review all financial statements for accuracy.

To start, when you receive a statement from your 401(k) Plan, at a minimum you should make sure that the beginning balance is the same as your last statement's ending balance. In addition, you should review all your new deposits to ensure they have been properly accounted for and that any withdrawals are ones that you authorized. Furthermore, always review charges and fees that are charged against your account. Be sure these fees are appropriate and, where possible, try to have them waived.

Generally, when people review their statements and find a mistake, they assume that it must be their mistake as opposed to the bank or financial institution. Never make that assumption. Whether it is a computer glitch or human error, mistakes do happen,

and they happen more often than you think.

In addition to identifying mistakes, reviewing your statements provides another opportunity to ensure there is no misconduct by your broker or brokerage house. By reviewing your statements, you'll be able to identify if there were any unauthorized transactions or other irregularities on your account.

If you do find an error, contact the company that issued your statement immediately. Be sure to keep notes of whom you spoke with and the conversation in general. If that does not resolve the issue, then for example, if it's a brokerage statement, it's appropriate to send a letter or email to the branch manager. If the manager does not resolve your issue, you should never hesitate to contact government regulators.

My client was smart enough to review his statements and be proactive and persistent when he identified a mistake. I hope you follow in his footsteps.

Good luck.

Rick Bloom is a fee-only financial advisor. His website is www.bloomadvisors.com. If you would like Rick to respond to your questions, email rick@bloomadvisors.com.

Beau

Continued from Page 1A

"We woke up in ambulances and our dog was gone," Horner said. "Our hearts just immediately dropped. We couldn't sleep, couldn't think about anything except him and if he was OK."

Horner and her boyfriend consider Beau, still not a year old, an emotional support dog who instinctively knows how to make his co-owning human parents feel better.

They were able to leave hospital care within hours and quickly contacted the South Lyon Murphy Lost Animal Recovery. Founder Heather Ineich visited the crash site that night and left behind food and a camera in case Beau returned.

Horner and Reid were still in their pajamas the next morning when they learned a Farmington Hills police officer had spotted a German shepherd in the area of the Essex Club Condos north of Twelve Mile Road. They ran out the door.

Farmington Hills had posted on Facebook that an uncollared Beau went missing after the crash, so officers were on the lookout.

Spotted during a shift

Officer Brian Harbaugh has patrolled the city's streets for 25 years. While a big fan of suppressing crime, he became a police officer to help others. That remains what he loves most about the job.

He knew about Beau the morning he started his 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. shift. Between runs, he searched some areas near where the crash happened.

Then, at 10:18 a.m., he responded to the call about a large German shepherd being on an elderly woman's porch. She was afraid to get her mail.

With the woman living about a mile from the crash site, Harbaugh figured it had to be the missing dog that triggered a social media campaign for his safe recovery.

She called dispatch again to report the dog was gone. Harbaugh still wanted to check out the area.

"Sure enough, I see this German shepherd walking on Avon Lane there," Harbaugh said. "I stopped the car and yelled, 'Hey, Beau!'"

The dog stopped and looked at Harbaugh, which got the police officer thinking: "I said, 'OK. This is definitely him.'"

Harbaugh offered some chicken from his lunch but the dog was standoffish and seemed scared.

The dog proceeded to another porch and laid down.

No one in the neighborhood seemed bothered or scared so the officer asked dispatchers to reach the owners.

Horner and Reid, still in the clothes they slept in, drove as quick as they could. Ineich went with them and led the off-leash recovery.

"It was him. We turned the corner and couldn't believe it," Horner said. "We started freaking out."

Ineich said Beau's owners followed her instructions perfectly. They had an emergency bag with a familiar blanket and some stuffed animals. Ineich set a food trap nearby in case the stressed, possibly injured Beau ran away.

Horner had the blanket around her shoulders and held the stuffed animals and collar and leash when Beau was curious enough to leave the porch to research whether his owners really had come to the rescue.

She willed herself to stay low and to keep speaking to her beloved pup in a low voice, in the strange neighborhood.

Beau's tail wagged and then wagged some more. He scooted between Horner's legs as a FedEx vehicle came by yet Horner managed to get him collared.

"As soon as he was with her, he was just wanting to be petted," Harbaugh said. "They were emotional. You definitely, definitely could tell they really missed Beau and he definitely was a big support for their family."

"I'm a pet owner, too. Our pets are like our kids, you know. If one goes missing, I could see how emotional it would be."

His department shared a dispatch record of the call: "11:45:14 Bo has been reunited with family."

Beau isn't just any German shepherd. Horner's sister breeds German shepherds and Horner knew and loved Beau's mother. She and Reid had their eyes set on Beau since Day One.

When they returned home, they gave Beau some good old-fashioned care.

He seemed a little thin. He whimpered when touched, perhaps from getting tossed around in the truck and then being lost. Nothing seemed broken. Still, Beau was super docile for a couple of days.

He seems to be getting back to normal and was anticipating a vet's appointment a week after the crash.

Horner and Reid are especially thankful for Ineich's assistance. They're also grateful for everyone else who remained vigilant in the search for Beau.

"Oh, God it was the happiest day of my life," Horner said of the consequential reunion.

Contact reporter Susan Vela at svela@hometownlife.com or 248-303-8432.

Weekend repair work on I-275 planned through April

Shelby Tankersley HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Those traveling the next few weekends might want to avoid Interstate 275 between Five Mile and 10 Mile roads.

The Michigan Department of Transportation in the process of resealing pavement joints on the stretch April 3 and 4. Affected communities include Livonia, Farmington Hills and Novi.

Workers will be present 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. weather permitting, leaving at least one lane open for drivers at all times. However, some on and off ramps may be temporarily closed or blocked as workers move across the interstate.

The resealing is part of a warranty from work done in 2016 and will only take place on weekends through April. MDOT expects the project to be completed this month.

This work is not part of MDOT's 4-year, \$270 million project on the interstate slated to begin this summer at Six Mile Road. According to MDOT, the two projects will not overlap.

Contact reporter Shelby Tankersley at stankersle@hometownlife.com or 248-305-0448.

Obituaries

Robert James Killingbeck

CANADIAN LAKES - September 12, 1946 - March 28, 2021

Robert Killingbeck of Canadian Lakes passed away on March 28, 2021 lovingly surrounded by his family.

Born in Wayne, Michigan on September 12, 1946 to Gerald and Helen (LaDuc) Killingbeck,

Robert was affectionately called "Moe" by his lifelong friends and five siblings: Judy, Don, Betsy, Joanne, and Dave.

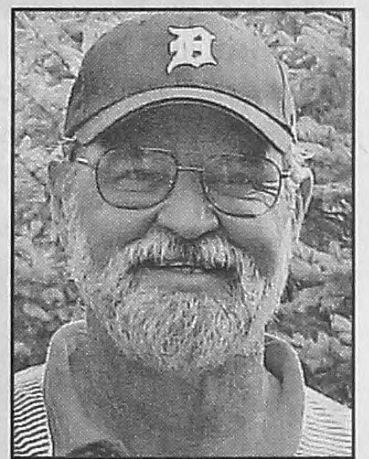
Throughout his life, Moe held many titles. He was a student and graduate of Wayne Memorial High School ('64) and of Eastern Michigan University ('69). He was an outstanding athlete-turned-coach in multiple sports. He was a teacher for 27 years at Marshall Junior High. He was a builder who built three of their family homes.

Most important to Moe were his titles of devoted husband to Kathy, father to Rodney, Casey and Julie and grandpa to Molly, Jack, Cate and Casey. Moe was the epitome of a family man from the time he met his high school sweetheart and the love of his life, Kathleen "Kathy" Patterson in 1962.

Moe and Kathy's 54 1/2 year, adventure-filled marriage reflects their love of time together as a family: Golfing, camping, fishing, RV trips to the U.P., building and enjoying dune buggies (and cars), and watching their favorite Michigan sports teams (especially the Tigers who Moe loved to watch even when there were playing like a bunch of saps). The adventures continued with a move to Canadian Lakes in 1999 where Moe honed his skills in golf (2 hole-in-ones), became a supreme dune buggy builder and developed a newfound passion for bridge.

Known to his family as an expert tire cleaner, a great golf ball hunter, #1 Phoebe Buffay fan, dedicated Price is Right watcher and nonstop jingle-singer, Moe was simply an all-around wonderful husband, dad and grandpa.

A memorial service will be held this summer. Memorial contributions in honor of Robert Killingbeck may be made to the Susan P. Wheatlake Regional Cancer Center.



Breakfast

Continued from Page 1A

he said.

It's still getting hits at heavensdeclare.org.

One on one

Prayer has always been virtual, McMullen said.

"We pray to an unseen God with a communication channel being the Holy Spirit," he said.

McMullen sees this as a time of renewal and refocus.

"It is about a community coming together in prayer, whether it is in a fine banquet facility, or in our room with the door closed and logged into Zoom. We will pray, and it will be rewarded," he said.

To register for this year's free event, 7:30-8:30 a.m., May 6, email chamber@livonia.org for a Zoom link. A chat box will be opened and listeners will receive instructions to offer prayer requests.

The on-screen event is a positive way to strengthen individuals in their prayer and business lives, McMullen said.

"Faith is an individual journey and our relationship to God is an intensely personal one," he added. "The prayers we pray in our rooms with the door shut are those no one else ever witnesses or knows about. Yet it's these prayers, our secret prayers to God, that he promises to reward. Imagine the intensity of our corporate gatherings of worship if we all had personal and intensely private prayer lives God was rewarding."

Company flourishes

This year's theme is Do it for God and the speaker is Brig Sorber, executive chair of Two Men and a Truck International, Inc.

Brig and his younger brother John Sorber started the business in the early 1980s in Okemos to earn spending money. Using a 1966 pickup truck, the brothers placed an ad in a local shopping guide that read "Men at Work Movers...Two Men and A Truck."

The company has grown to about 1,300 trucks and 3,500 some employees in 32 states at more than 350 locations worldwide, including Canada, Ireland, and the United Kingdom. Two Men and a Truck is the largest franchised local moving company in the United States.

Sorber is a visionary and mentor who starts each day with a prayer, "Lord, help me to open my eyes and open my ears to the way You want me to run this business."

Longtime presence

The Livonia Prayer Breakfast was started 47 years ago and is a version of the National Prayer Breakfast held annually in Washington, D.C.

The mission of the group is to communicate positive, faith-filled principles that inspire and empower people to reach their maximum spiritual and personal potential, McMullen said. It is a reaffirmation that people of goodwill, standing together, can transcend racial, geographic or cultural differences, and create unparalleled opportunities for community progress.

This year McMullen is stepping down as event chair after 14 years and serving on the committee 16 years.

The 2021 Livonia Prayer Breakfast is free, however donations will be accepted to defray promotion and other costs. Go to livoniaprayerbreakfast.com for more information.

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That's what our elected officials are supposed to do. It's why we sent them there.

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America is back.

For more information on "Promises Made, Promises Kept," go to ReBuildUSA.org.



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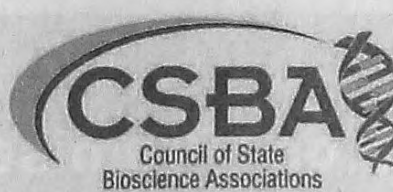
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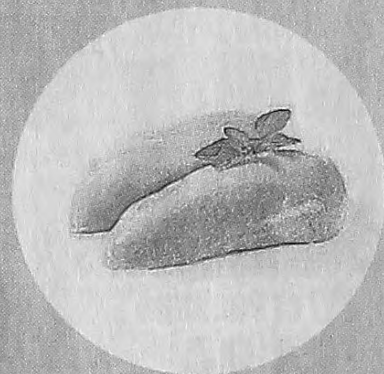
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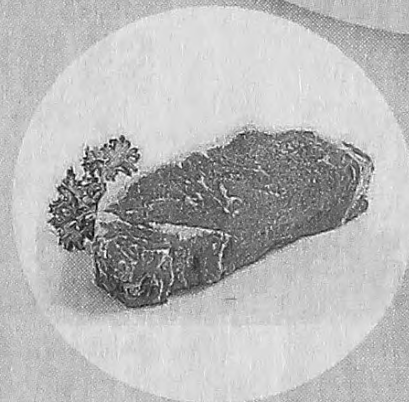
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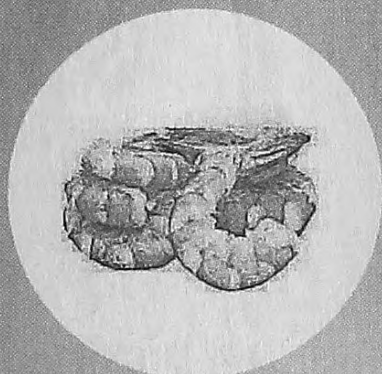
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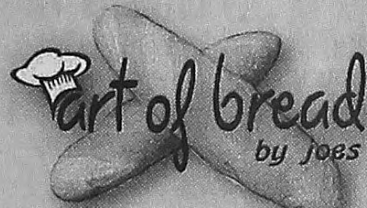
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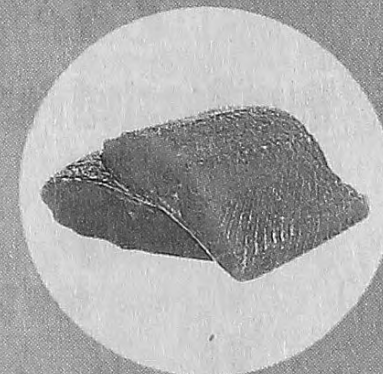
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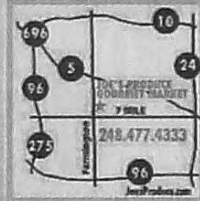
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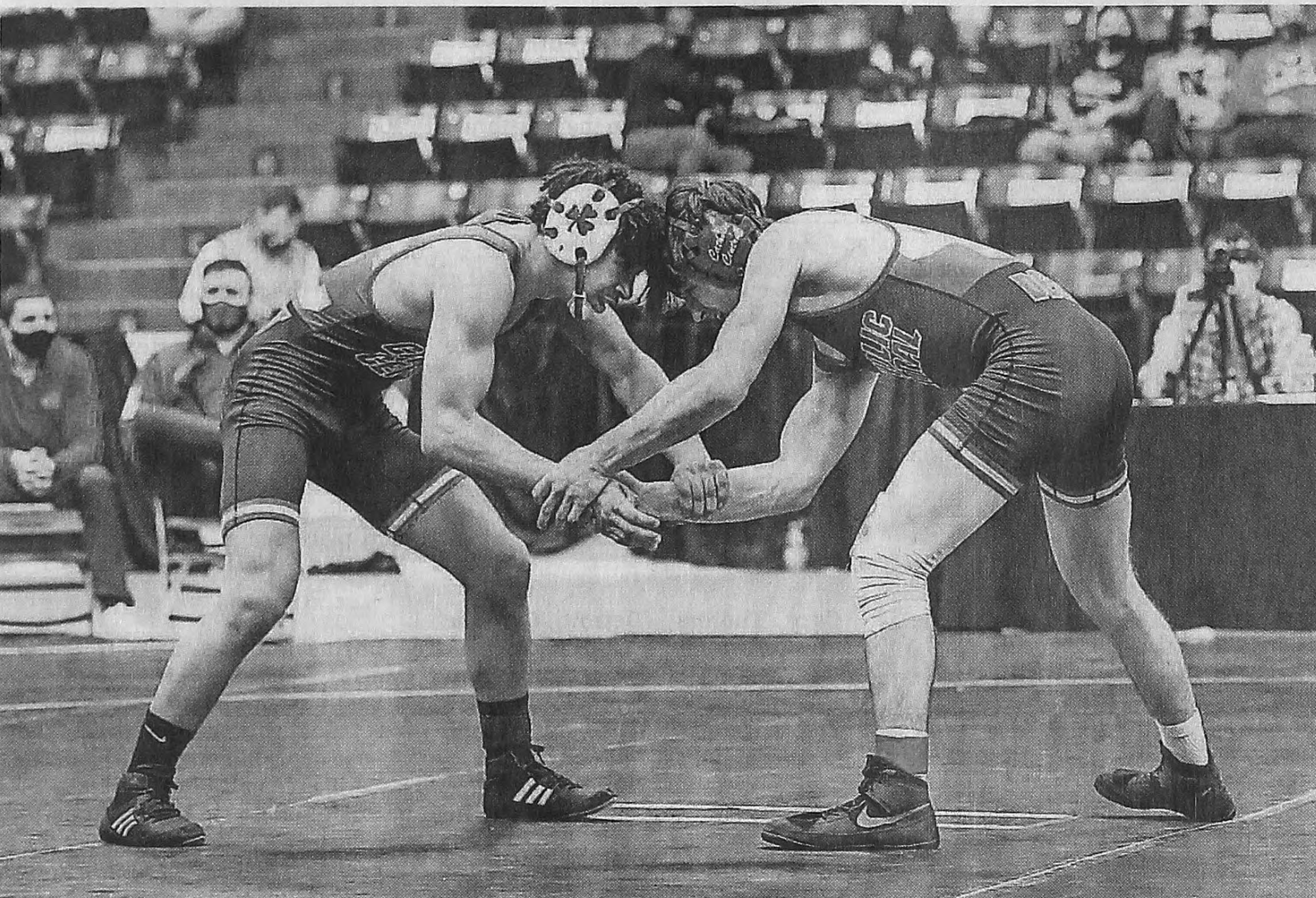


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Check out Joe's specials on back page.

SPORTS

CC wrestling brings home 4 D1 individual state titles



Detroit Catholic Central freshman Darius Marines and senior Camden Trupp face off in the 145-pound state final.

Colin Gay

Hometownlife.com
 USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

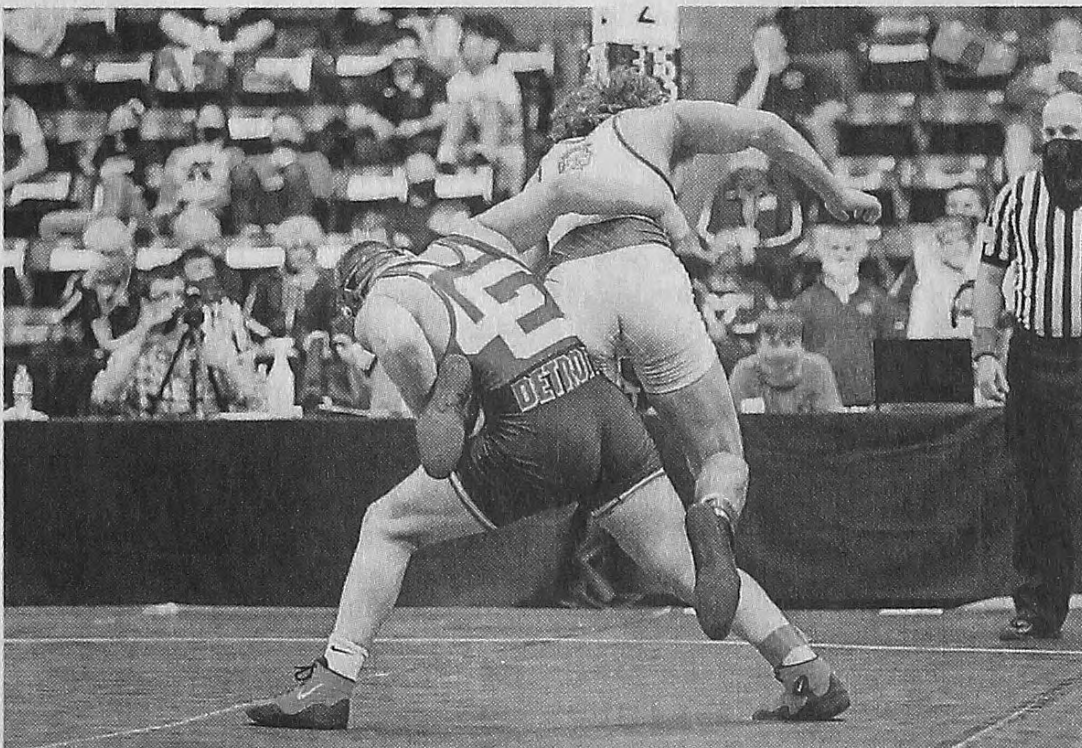
The Detroit Catholic Central wrestling coaching staff pulled both freshman Darius Marines and senior Camden Trupp aside. Both wrestlers were in the 145-pound class, approaching a collision course in the Division 1 state final. They wanted to make sure each knew what was coming.

Both wrestlers navigated their part of the bracket with ease, finding themselves head-to-head in the championship match.

When the meeting became a reality, each wrestler prepared with no coaches around. Catholic Central head coach Mitch Hancock made it clear that each of the coaches sitting matside would be there only for blood and water timeouts, not giving advice or strategy to any of the wrestlers involved.

Hancock expected the teammates to figure it out on the mat. And when the final whistle was blown, the freshman came out on top.

Marines (17-2) finished his first season with the Shamrocks as a Division 1 state champion, beating Trupp (23-3) in a 5-3 decision, one of four individual state titles of the day recorded by



CC junior Manuel Rojas wins his second-straight state title at 189.

Catholic Central at Wings Event Center in Kalamazoo Saturday.

"I was a little afraid I was going to lose to him because he's a senior captain and all," Marines said. "In the end, I just pulled through, got to my stuff."

Marines and Trupp aren't only teammates, but very similar wrestlers.

Both are left-handed. Both, according to Trupp, are lethal in neutral and on top. To the senior and three time All-State wrestler, it just came down to which wrestler had the better match.

In the district final, Trupp came out

See TITLES, Page 3B

Here's who placed All State at the MHSAA individual wrestling finals

Colin Gay
 Hometownlife.com
 USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Michigan high school wrestling season is complete after the individual wrestling state finals were held at Wings Event Center in Kalamazoo Saturday.

Twenty wrestlers from the Hometown Life coverage area earned All-State honors in the tournament, including four state champions: Detroit Catholic Central senior Manuel Rojas (189), Detroit Catholic Central sophomore Drew Heethuis (112), Detroit Catholic Central sophomore Dylan Gilcher (135) and Detroit Catholic Central freshman Darius Marines (145).

Novi senior Michael Dragoo (285) was held out of the tournament due to a COVID-19-related situation while Canton's Adam Nicholas (171), Giulian Bodiu (285) and Brandon Watkins (103) were not in attendance.

Here's a look at all of the area's All-State placers.

215

Spencer Vos, Plymouth, junior — fourth place

Beat Caledon senior Ryan Stanton, 8-4, in the first round

Lost to Hartland senior Paul Corder with a fall at 1:03 in the state quarterfinal

Beat Rochester Hills Stoney Creek senior Matthew Daines, 7-4, in the blood round

Beat Livonia Stevenson junior Quincy Salter, 6-3, in wrestlebacks

Beat Flushing senior Cabhan Suttles, 6-4, in the consolation semi-final
 Lost to Hartland senior Paul Corder, 3-0, in the third-place match

Quincy Salter, Livonia Stevenson, junior — eighth place

Beat Grand Haven junior Dayne Arnette, 3-2, in the first round

Lost to Davison junior Jimmy Colley with a fall at 1:18 in the state quarterfinal


Beat Wyandotte Roosevelt junior Lu Peterson with a 2:30 fall in the blood round

See ALL STATE, Page 2B

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Micheaux returns, leads Wayne Memorial to regional title

Colin Gay

HometownLife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Alanna Micheaux felt like she could have been back on the basketball court much sooner.

After dislocating her right kneecap March 12 against Livonia Stevenson, the Wayne Memorial senior forward made sure that she checked all the boxes — going to doctors, rehabbing the injury with a therapist, not rushing back despite her team being in the middle of a playoff run — to make sure her basketball career could continue.

But when the Zebras needed her most, playing against a Saline team that beat them last year, Micheaux was back to lead them.

From the moment Micheaux stepped onto the court for the first time in a month, Wayne Memorial (16-2) was on, beating Saline (18-2), 68-60, winning the program's third regional title in the past four years and advancing to the state quarterfinal against Temperance Bedford.

In her first minutes back, Micheaux took control, leading the team on a 10-2 run, scoring six points, an offensive rebound and a steal. The senior finished with 24 points — connecting on 10-of-13 from the field — adding 11 rebounds, two assists and two steals.

"I had a lot of fire," Micheaux said. "Knowing that my season could have ended, it didn't really faze me because I knew my team had it in them and I had it in me."

Wayne Memorial head coach Jarvis Mitchell did not know he would be able



Wayne Memorial head coach Jarvis Mitchell celebrates with his team after winning its third regional title in the past four years. COLIN GAY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

to play Micheaux until 11:30 a.m. that day, initially setting a game plan without the Minnesota commit.

"I'm not going to sit here and be like, 'I was going to do it without her,'" Mitchell said. "Look, that's the most dominant player in the state. Without a doubt. Who wouldn't want her on the court? But I would never, ever risk a child's future or career for a basketball game."

To the head coach, Micheaux has one gear: to go through walls. He describes

her scoring and rebounding ability as one of a "mad person," taking much of the attention of the Saline defenders every time she touched the ball.

Against the Hornets, Micheaux's presence allowed her teammates to step up, including senior guard and Eastern Michigan commit Lachelle Austin.

Holding onto a 58-55 lead late in the fourth quarter, Austin took over. Starting with two makes from the free-throw line, the senior point guard scored

again, stealing another possession from the Saline offense and dishing out to Micheaux in the post for another score.

Austin finished the game with a team-leading 27 points, connecting on 10-of-15 from 2-point range while adding six rebounds, nine assists and five steals.

"Lachelle is hands down one of the best point guards I've coached in my entire coaching career," Mitchell said. "It's just waiting for that switch to go on, she's that good."

Wayne Memorial used a 10-2 run to close the game, ballooning the deficit to 11 when the buzzer sounded.

Saline senior guard Ella Stemmer led the team with 21 points.

Even when Micheaux sat out five games due to her injury, she watched as players like Austin, like junior Davai Matthews, like sophomore Paris Bass, who, as a guard, recorded four blocks. She wasn't fazed. She knew what this team could do without her.

Now returning to the state quarterfinal for the first time since 2019, Mitchell doesn't want to heighten or sensationalize the moment for his team. He wants to simplify it to one key mantra.

"Our thing is keep stressing 'Get better,'" Mitchell said. "Regardless of the game, regardless of the magnitude, get better."

Wayne Memorial faced Temperance Bedford in Monday's Division 1 state quarterfinal.

Contact reporter Colin Gay at cgay@hometownlife.com or 248-330-6710. Follow him on Twitter @ColinGay17. Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.

All State

Continued from Page 1B

Lost to Plymouth junior Spencer Vos, 6-3, in wrestle backs

Lost to Lake Orion sophomore Judah Kinne with a fall at 2:42 in the seventh-place match

189

Manuel Rojas, Detroit Catholic Central, junior — first place

Beat Groves senior Durrell Kline with a fall at :50 in the first round

Beat Midland Dow junior Aidan Wardell with a fall at 3:38 in the state quarterfinal

Beat Hartland sophomore Chase Kern with a fall at :55 in the state semifinal

Beat Traverse City Central sophomore Remy Cotton, 11-5, in the state final

285

John Ferguson, Groves, senior — sixth place

First-round bye

Beat Rochester Hills Stoney Creek senior Austin Jordan with a 4-2 overtime decision in the state quarterfinal

Lost to Holt junior Joshua Terrill in a fall at 3:28 in the state semifinal

Lost to Brownstown Woodhaven senior Nick Sturgill with a fall at 1:27 in the consolation semifinals

Lost to Kalamazoo Central junior Joshua Boggan in a 15-3 major decision in the fifth-place match

103

Zachary Simon, Seaholm, sophomore — sixth place

Beat Northville junior Jonah Koipillai, 4-2, in the first round

Beat South Lyon freshman Aidan Meyers, 6-5 in the state quarterfinals

Lost to Davison freshman Justin Gates with a fall at 1:23 in the state semifinals

Lost to Northville sophomore Joshua Drake with a fall at 3:23 in the consolation semifinals

Lost to Grandville freshman Jaxon Sanchez, 6-5, in the fifth-place match

Aidan Meyers, South Lyon, freshman — eighth place

Beat Oxford sophomore Koen Eberhard, 13-8, in the first round

Lost to Seaholm sophomore Zachary Simon, 6-5, in the state quarterfinals

Beat Kalamazoo Central freshman Rohan Marion, 4-1 in the blood round

Lost to Grandville freshman Jaxon Sanchez, 7-3, in wrestlebacks

Lost to Romeo freshman Owen Youngblood in a 9-0 major decision in the seventh-place match

Joshua Drake, Northville, sophomore — fourth place

Beat Warmott freshman Jude Kaptur with a fall at 1:36 in the first round

Lost to Rochester Hills Stoney Creek junior Zach Gittens, 6-3, in the state quarterfinals

Beat Northville junior Jonah Koipillai in a 13-2 major decision in the blood round

Beat Romeo freshman Owen Youngblood, 3-1, in wrestlebacks

Beat Seaholm sophomore Zachary Simon with a fall at 3:23 in the consolation semifinals

Lost to Rochester Hills Stoney Creek junior Zach Gittens in a 4-2 overtime decision in the third-place match

112

Drew Heethuis, Detroit Catholic Central, sophomore — first place

Beat Grand Haven sophomore Hefzur Rahman with an 11-3 major decision in the first round

Beat Rochester Hills Stoney Creek junior Cade Odrobina with a technical fall at 5:09 — a 17-1 decision — in the state quarterfinals

Beat Macomb Dakota sophomore Orion Wilson, 7-1, in the state semifinal

Beat Howell senior Zach Phifer, 9-5, in the state final

119

Clayton Jones, Detroit Catholic Central, sophomore — sixth place

Lost to Rockford sophomore Elijah Bunn, 4-2, in the first round

Beat Lakeland sophomore Seth Zimmerman with a 12-0 major decision in the first consolation round

Beat Swartz Creek sophomore Mason Feudale with a technical fall at 5:00 — a 16-1 decision — in the blood round

Beat Rochester Hills Stoney Creek senior Luke Gittens with a 5-1 overtime decision in wrestlebacks

Lost to Dearborn Heights Crestwood senior Zain Bazzi with a fall at 2:12 in the consolation semifinals

Lost to John Glenn junior Joshua Mars with a fall at 3:53 in the fifth-place match

Joshua Mars, John Glenn, junior — fifth place

Lost to Battle Creek Lakeview sophomore Lauden Stradling, 3-1, in the first round

Beat Milford sophomore Grant Stec, 5-0, in the first consolation round

Beat Warmott senior Colin Gaddey, 5-4, in the blood round

Beat Rockford sophomore Elijah Bunn, 2-1, in wrestlebacks

Lost to Detroit Catholic Central junior Anthony Walker, 11-4, in the consolation semifinals

Beat Detroit Catholic Central sophomore Clayton Jones with a fall at 3:53 in the fifth-place match

Anthony Walker, Detroit Catholic Central, junior — fourth place

Beat Okemos freshman Kaleb Smith-Baldwin with a technical fall at 4:07 — a 20-4 decision — in the first round

Beat Swartz Creek sophomore Mason Feudale in a 14-4 major decision in

the state quarterfinal

Lost to Battle Creek Lakeview sophomore Lauden Stradling, 2-1, in the state semifinal

Beat John Glenn junior Joshua Mars, 11-4 in the consolation semifinal

Lost to Dearborn Heights Crestwood senior Zain Bazzi with a fall at 4:13 in the third-place match

125

Cory Thomas, Detroit Catholic Central, freshman — third place

Beat Davison junior Brendan Maybee in a 12-1 major decision in the first round

Beat Brighton freshman Colin Jewell, 7-2, in the state quarterfinal

Lost to Rochester Hills Stoney Creek senior Andrew Hampton, 6-0, in the state semifinals

Beat Davison junior Brendan Maybee with a fall at 4:27 in the consolation semifinals

Beat Davison junior Cameron Freeman in a 11-1 major decision in the third-place match

130

Luke Jawworski, Lakeland, junior — eighth place

Lost to Clarkston sophomore Auggie Anderson in an 8-0 major decision in the first round

Beat John Glenn sophomore Matt Irwin, 12-7 in the first consolation round

Beat Livonia Franklin senior Nick Dziurgot with a fall at 2:36 in the blood round

Lost to Grand Blanc senior William Miller, 5-4, in wrestlebacks

Lost to Clarkston sophomore Auggie Anderson with a fall at 2:44 in the seventh-place match

135

Dylan Gilcher, Detroit Catholic Central, sophomore — first place

Beat East Lansing junior Emilio Cacerera with a technical fall at 5:34 — a 18-2 decision — in the first round

Beat Hartland freshman Vinnie Abbey with a technical fall at 4:59 — a 21-6 decision — in the state quarterfinal

Beat Rochester senior Kavan Troy with a technical fall at 5:27 — a 22-7 decision — in the state semifinal

Beat Davison sophomore Evan Herriman, 3-0, in the state final

140

Phillip Burney, Detroit Catholic Central, senior — second place

Beat Romeo senior Connor Kohl, 7-1, in the first round

Beat Hudsonville sophomore Tyler Arntz, 8-4, in the state quarterfinals

Beat Holt junior Ralph Thompson with a fall at 1:21 in the state semifinal

Lost to Brighton senior Mason Shradler, 7-1, in the state final

Tatum Bunn, Detroit Catholic Central, sophomore — fourth place

Beat Midland sophomore Cole Schel-

by, 9-4 in the first round

Lost to Brighton senior Mason Shradler, 7-2, in the state quarterfinal

Beat Fraser junior Leo Meatte, 7-1, in wrestlebacks

Beat Holt junior Ralph Thompson, 6-2, in the consolation semifinals

Lost to Romeo junior Caleb Youngblood in a 13-0 major decision in the third-place match

145

Darius Marines, Detroit Catholic Central, freshman — first place

Beat Davison junior Kyle White in a 12-3 major decision in the first round

Beat Jenison senior Michael Loney Jr. with a technical fall at 5:38 — a 17-2 major decision — in the state quarterfinal

Beat Caledon senior Owen Norman in an 11-3 major decision in the state semifinal

Beat Detroit Catholic Central senior Camden Trupp, 5-3, in the state final

Camden Trupp, Detroit Catholic Central, senior — second place

Beat Utica Ford junior Noah Tgiros with a fall at 3:19 in the first round

Beat St. Clair Shores Lakeview senior Shamar Askin, 6-2, in the state quarterfinal

Beat Brighton senior Zach Johnson, 3-2, in the state semifinal

Lost to Detroit Catholic Central freshman Darius Marines, 5-3, in the state final

152

Jackson Vance, Seaholm, senior — third place

Beat Rockford senior Colin Harju in a 13-3 major decision in the first round

Beat Clarkston senior Grady Castle, 3-2, in the state quarterfinal

Lost to Rockford senior Trenton Wachter in a 12-4 major decision

Beat Holt junior Alex Russell with a fall at 1:55 in the consolation semifinal

Beat Clarkston senior Grady Castle, 3-2, in the third-place match

Pierce Carpenter, Lakeland, sophomore — seventh place

Beat Grandville junior Anthony Taylor in a 7-5 overtime decision in the first round

Lost to Davison senior James Johnson with a technical fall at 3:41 — a 17-2 decision — in the state quarterfinal

Beat Dearborn Fordson junior Brhan Alhalemi, 6-5 in the blood round

Lost to Holt junior Alex Russell with a fall at 2:12 in wrestlebacks

Beat Grandville junior Anthony Taylor in a 6-4 overtime decision in the seventh-place match

Contact reporter Colin Gay at cgay@hometownlife.com or 248-330-6710. Follow him on Twitter @ColinGay17. Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.

Titles

Continued from Page 1B

victorious, earning the 3-1 decision. Marines answered in the regional championship with a 5-2 decision, something he nearly replicated in the state championship.

"That's a sort of win, no-win situation, but we've had it before," Hancock said of the head-to-head matchup. "Those guys did a really nice job out there and competed hard."

Marines is someone Trupp has seen a lot in the wrestling room, switching, at times, from his usual partner Manuel Rojas to the freshman.

"I like to push myself to the best of my abilities," Trupp said. "He's one of the guys that will do that."

Taking a 2-1 lead at the end of the first period, all Marines would need was one takedown, one that proved to be hard to get against the Catholic Central senior.

To Marines, the match represented his start; the beginning of his quest for four straight state titles. To him, this stage was nothing new. Marines was confident, having found this level of success on the mat before.

"I kind of expected this," Marines said.

To Trupp, this represented the end of his journey, finishing his Shamrocks career as a three time All-State wrestler and a two time state finalist.

But to the senior, it also represented him passing the torch to the next generation, one that comes with high expectations moving forward.

"I'm thankful for all the opportunities I've gotten," Trupp said. "I put my all out there on the mat. I did everything I possibly could."

"I guarantee you will see (Marines) much more."

Moving forward

One season after winning six individual state titles — four coming from graduated seniors Steven Kolcheff, Brendin Yatooma, Josh Edmond and Derek Gilcher — sophomore Dylan Gilcher admitted that the 2021 season had felt different.

"I feel we had a different energy losing a lot of seniors last year, but we were right still in it," he said. "It took a little bit to find that confidence, but once we did,

it was high energy, everybody knew we were going to do great."

Having won his first state title as a freshman last season, Gilcher returned to the mat at 135, finishing his season 30-0 and with his second Division 1 championship, beating Howell senior Zach Phifer in a 9-5 decision.

Rojas continued his run too.

Coming off a state title as a sophomore, the Shamrocks junior reclaimed his title at 189, beating Traverse City Central sophomore Remy Cotton for his 28th win of the season and his second state title.

"Nothing new, nothing different. I've been here before," Rojas said. "Same stuff, different mission."

"I had to prove a point today that no one is better than me in my weight class."

Hancock said Rojas set the tone for the rest of the five Catholic Central state finalists, leading to wins by Gilcher, Drew Heethuis — his first state title after placing third at 103 in 2020 — and Marines.

Heading into his first appearance in a state final match, Heethuis was confident, feeling, from the start of the season, that he would be at the top when it was over. To him, much of that comes from the confidence built in practices.

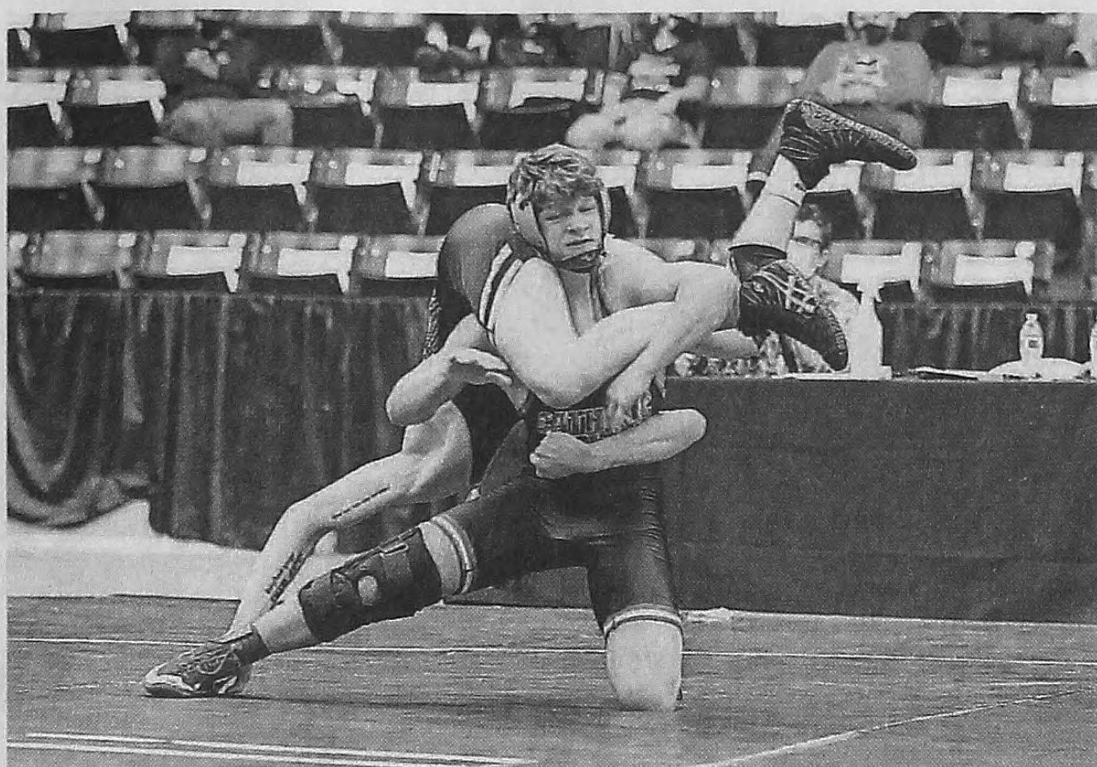
"Being able to have good partners and good people to work with and go against, it's kind of a main factor to be good and get to the next level," Heethuis said.

Catholic Central senior Phillip Burney came up short to Brighton's Mason Shrader, who finished the season with a perfect 31-0 record with a 7-1 decision.

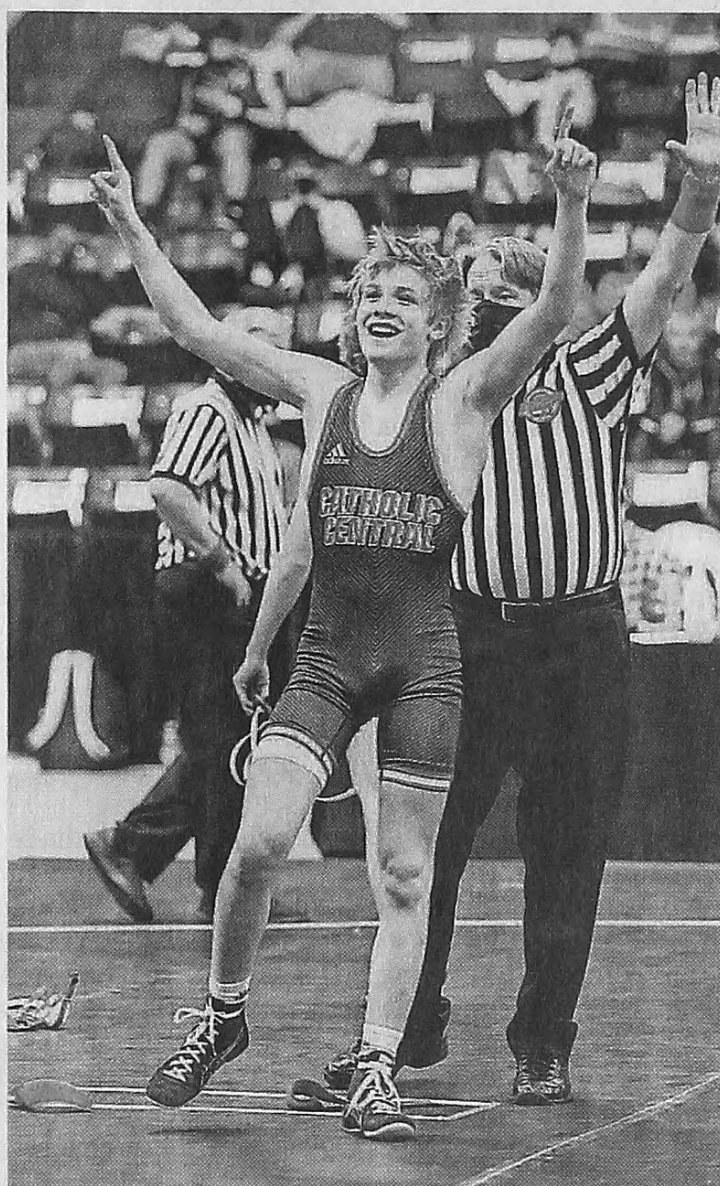
Leaving Wings Event Center and capping off the 2021 season, the Shamrocks will shift their focus to 2022, preparing to come into that schedule with the confidence of having four returning state champions in their room.

"I think we are going to be hammers, top to bottom, all day, Rojas said. "We're definitely going to be coming back again, bring that state title back home to CC and come back with even more individual state titles."


Contact reporter Colin Gay at cgay@hometownlife.com or 248-330-6710. Follow him on Twitter @ColinGay17. Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.



Detroit Catholic Central sophomore Derek Gilcher wins his second-straight state title. PHOTOS BY SCOTT CONFER/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

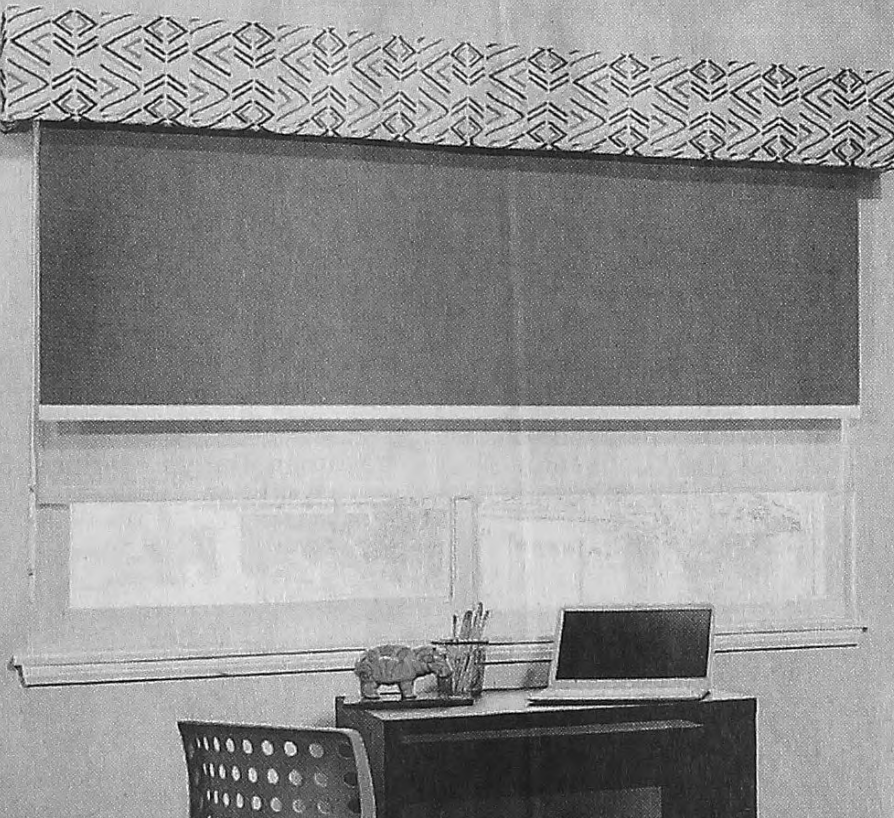


Detroit Catholic Central sophomore Drew Heethuis celebrates his first state title.



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Stevenson falls to Ann Arbor Huron in regional final

Colin Gay HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

From the first inbound of the basketball in the Region 5 championship, Ann Arbor Huron was on.

River Rats senior Tyson Edmonson fired two feet behind the 3-point line, draining the team's first points of its contest against Livonia Stevenson. The Spartans took possession and answered, with senior guard Evan Asante tying the game with a 3-pointer of his own.

But as the first quarter continued, the Huron (18-0) offense continued to click and Stevenson (13-7) could not keep up, falling to the River Rats, 64-39, in the regional final.

"These kids have been together since seventh grade, and they have won a lot," Huron head coach Waleed Samaha, whose team has not lost since Feb. 14, 2020, said. "To be able to do this together has been amazing for them. This feels like a continuation of last season, so we are just trying to keep going."

After a make from senior Julian Lewis, the Huron offense was off to the races early in the first quarter, recording a 16-0 run before the Spartans had a chance to score again — a layup from Luke Merchant, who failed to convert on the ensuing free-throw try.

By the end of the first quarter, Stevenson trailed Huron 23-8, allowing seven rebounds — including two offensive boards — compared to the Spartans' three.

The River Rats kept Stevenson at arm's length in the second quarter, matching each of the Spartans' 11 points with 12 of their own to hold a 16-point lead going into halftime.

Heading into the locker room, Stevenson head coach Eoghann Stephens saw an opponent that did everything a basketball player should do: shoot, drive and score. After a first half in which he said the team did not give it everything they had — leading to the drastic deficit — the first-year head coach challenged them to play a full 16 minutes in the third and fourth quarter for the nine seniors on the roster.

"We either want to leave with pride or... we don't want to be embarrassed," Stephens said. He told the team. "We got to come out, we got to play physical, we got to play strong and at least finish with pride. I don't care about the score at that point. It's 'Let's at least finish your careers on a positive, come out and play like you have for the last 10 years together.'"

Huron continued its offensive run in the third quarter, starting the period with an 11-0 run. The Spartans finished the quarter outscoring the River Rats, 9-7 — all of which was scored by senior center Ethan Young — while answering each point scored by Huron in the fourth quarter.

For a group that hangs its hat on defense, Samaha, who watched Edmonson and Lewis lead the team with 19 and 15 points, respectively, said Stevenson ran some



Livonia Stevenson Spartan starters take a seat on the bench with about two minutes to go as their game against Ann Arbor Huron is out of reach. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

"Tonight, they ran some very good stuff and they executed it well. The ball didn't drop for them, but they got some good looks and did some things that we'll have to look back and get better at."

Waleed Samaha, Huron head coach

offensive sets that made him have to work a little bit.

"Tonight, they ran some very good stuff and they executed it well," Samaha said. "The ball didn't drop for them, but they got some good looks and did some things that we'll have to look back and get better at."

Young led the Spartans with 13 points, six rebounds and a block. Jacob Mars (11) and Merchant (10) also scored in double-figures for Stevenson.

Despite being a "weird" season — balancing his first season as head coach with the COVID-19 pandemic

and the craziness of becoming a new father — Stephens said the Stevenson seniors established the expectation, making their first regional final game since 2007.

"We want to change this program. We want to make it where we're expected to win districts," Stephens said. "Before, it's kind of a crapshoot. This is what we should be doing. We should get to this level and see what we can do when we get there."

The head coach said the nine seniors led the Spartans to the regional final, taking charge in terms of making sure COVID-19 protocols were followed, that each player was being responsible so that their season didn't end.

Stephens watched as the precedent for the rest of his coaching career, for the Stevenson basketball program, was set.

"I didn't do anything special. I just stand here," Stephens said. "They make me look good."

Contact reporter Colin Gay at cgay@hometownlife.com or 248-330-6710. Follow him on Twitter @ColinGay17. Send game results and stats to LivSports@hometownlife.com.

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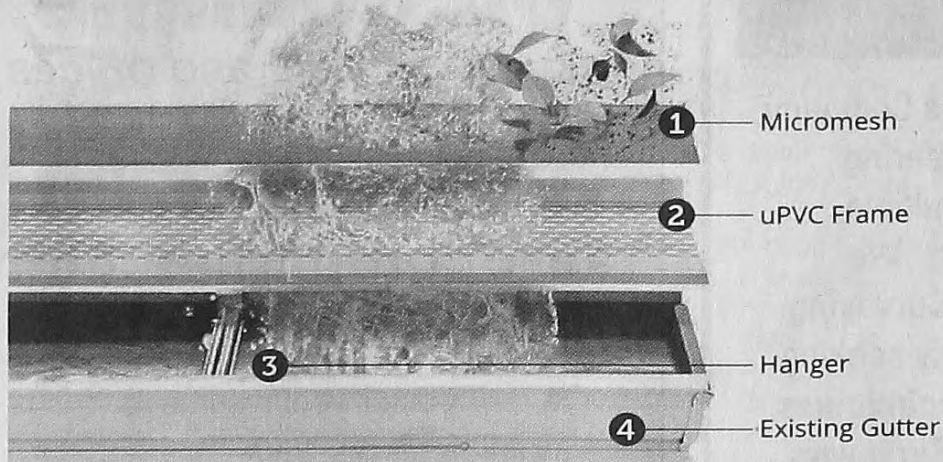
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Converse directly online with a representative.

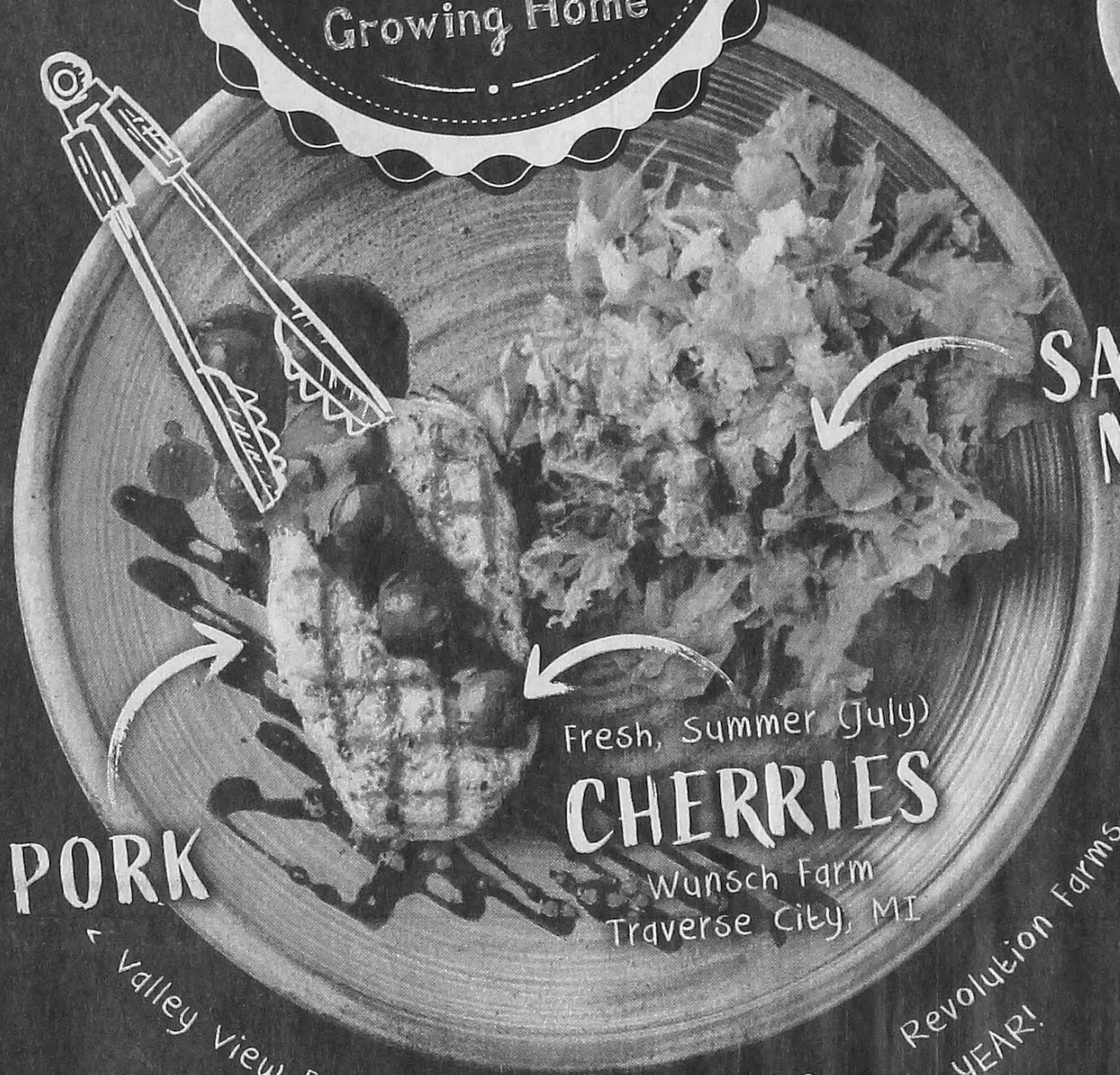
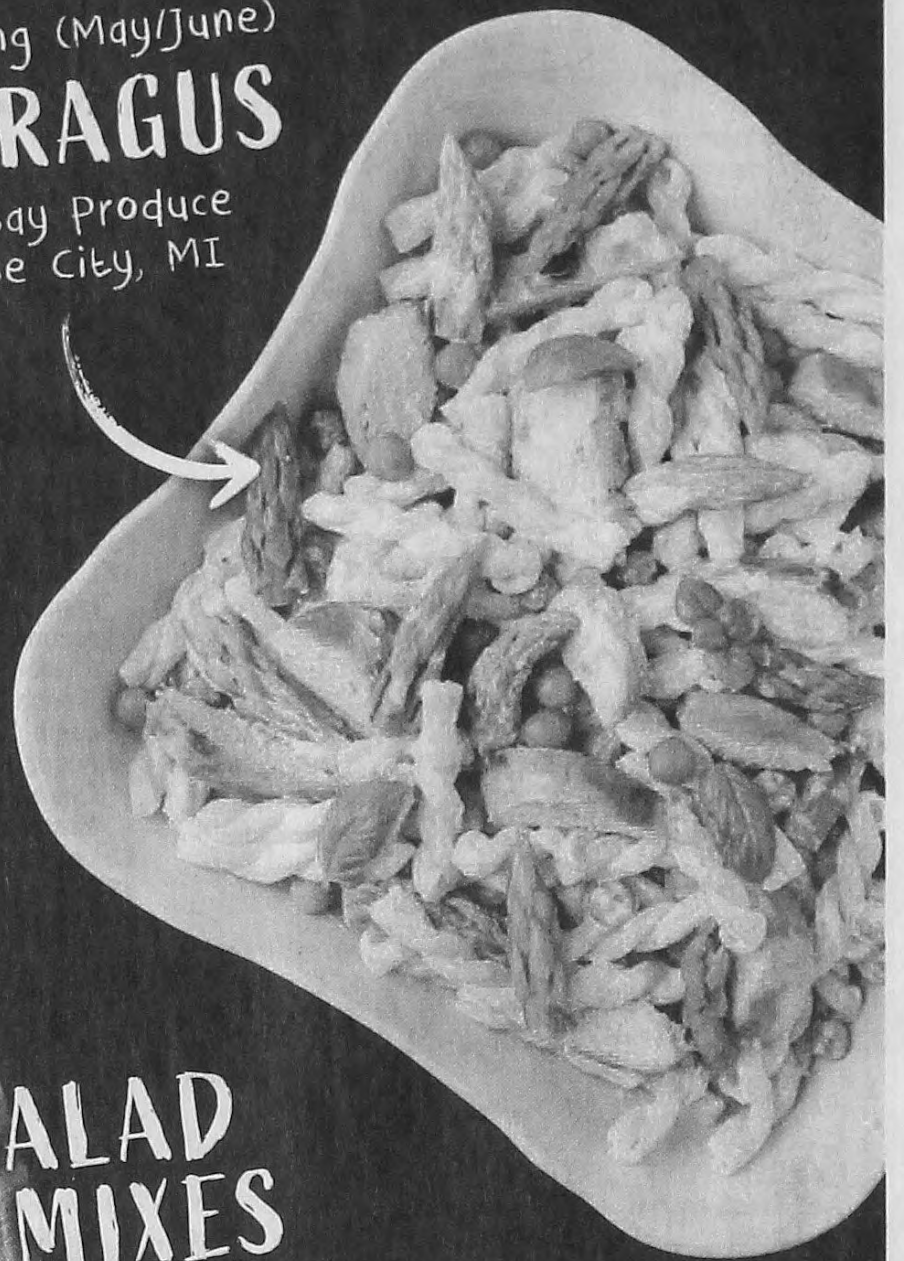
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help.hometownlife.com

LOCAL



Fresh, Spring (May/June) ASPARAGUS

North Bay Produce
Traverse City, MI



SALAD MIXES

Fresh, Summer (July)
CHERRIES
Wunsch Farm
Traverse City, MI

PORK

Valley View Farms - Walkerville, MI

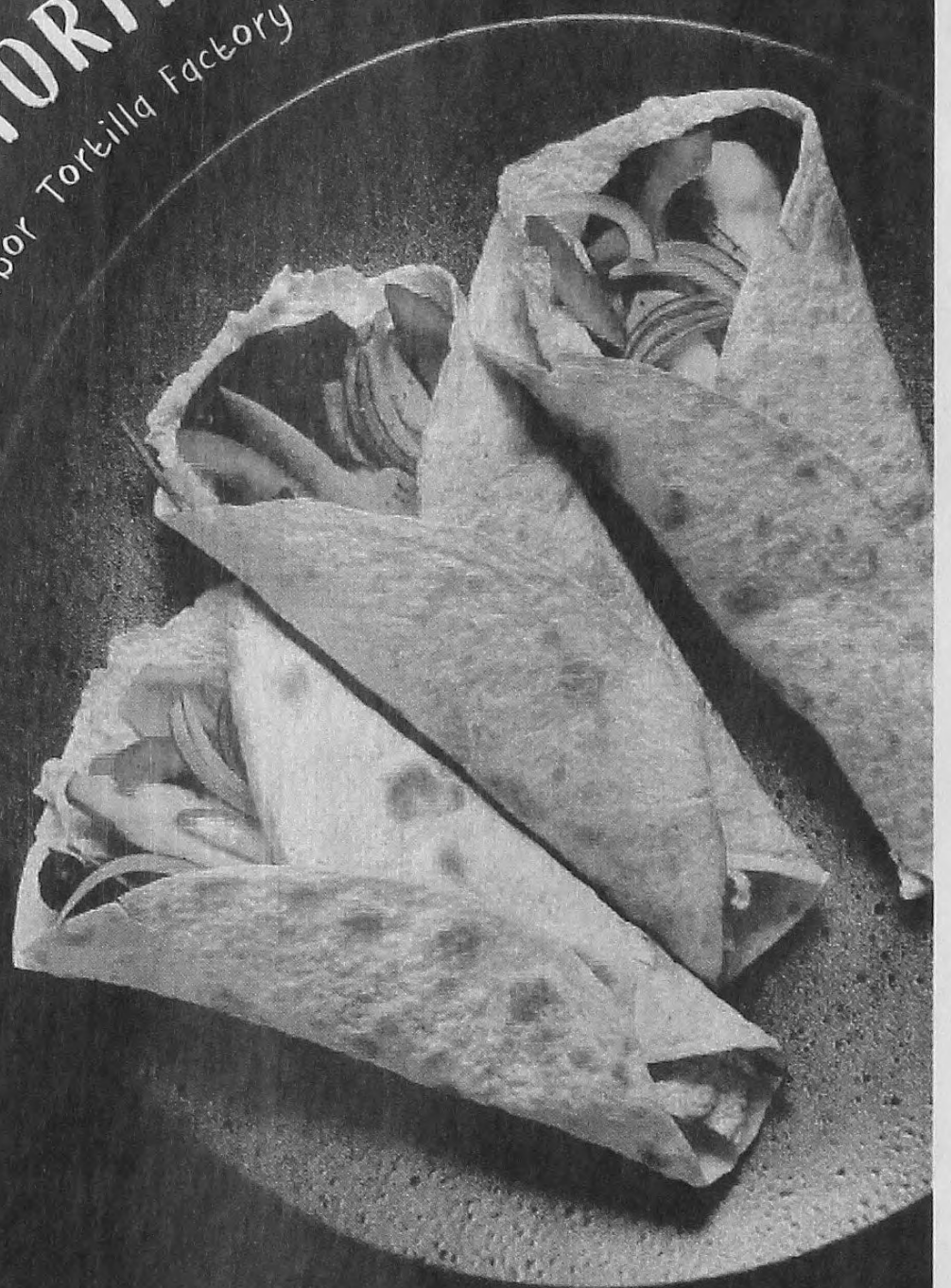
Revolution Farms - Caledonia, MI

BOTH AVAILABLE ALL YEAR!



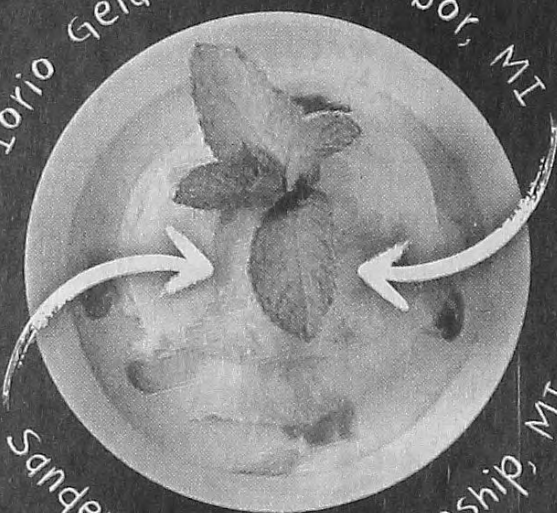
TORTILLAS

Ann Arbor Tortilla Factory - Ann Arbor, MI



GELATO

Iorio Gelato - Ann Arbor, MI



Sanders - Clinton Township, MI

TOPPINGS

BUSCH'S.COM

ANN ARBOR-MAIN ST. | ANN ARBOR-PLYMOUTH RD. | BRIGHTON | CANTON | CLINTON | DEXTER | FARMINGTON HILLS
LIVONIA | NOVI | PINCKNEY | PLYMOUTH/NORTHVILLE | ROCHESTER HILLS | SALINE | SOUTH LYON | TECUMSEH | WEST BLOOMFIELD