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MILFORD IN RECORD

THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2020 ■ HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK



Amazon ready to deliver – for \$350K

Traffic improvements necessary before online giant finalizes plan for Lyon Township distribution center

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Amazon is welcome in Lyon Township, but with some conditions.

The company placed \$350,000 in escrow for traffic improvements along

Grand River where package delivery vans will leave and return to a new distribution center. The improvements are designed to minimize the effects of increased traffic on the east side of Lyon.

The facility will serve as the final stop before packages arrive at customers'

doors. Packages would be shipped to the facility from fulfillment centers, such as the one opened in Livonia back in 2017, and loaded onto delivery vehicles.

During a March 2 board meeting, trustees expressed concerns to Lee Vander Meulen, Progressive AE senior project manager representing Amazon, that a traffic study was incomplete.

"We know there are really huge traffic

issues out there, and it's our obligation to tell you we expect you to make the improvements," Trustee Sean O'Neil said. "There's no ordinance that requires you to stagger shifts. Whatever problem we think there is now, you're doubling that until you get phase 2 done. It's already a mess, with a change in use, we are obligated to make sure traffic is addressed."

See AMAZON, Page 10A



Blue Birch Outfitters owner Stephanie Ames takes down an Osprey brand backpack from a birch branch display rack March 5. Ames carries several lines of outdoor apparel, gear and shoes at her Milford shop. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

New outdoor apparel shop opens in Milford

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Stephanie Ames is excited to outfit Milford residents before they head to the woods.

The Milford resident has wanted to open her own shop for years, and waited patiently to find the right location.

Once she heard Main Street Art was moving to a new storefront in the Liberty Building down Main Street, she knew its former location would be perfect.

She signed a lease last year and began moving into the space, opening Blue Birch Outfitters earlier this month.

"This is such an active community and there's nothing like this here," she

said. "we thought we would get some of our favorite brands and open a store."

The shop, at 432 N. Main in downtown Milford, stocks apparel, gear, and shoes for those trips to Kensington Metropark and Highland State Recreation Area.

Ames, who formerly worked at Nana's Niche and Corner downtown, has spent time hiking with her husband in his native Maine, spending time at places like Acadia National Park.

After experiencing the outdoors while making use of gear from brands such as Osprey, Prana and Kuhl, she decided to bring those to a shop in her hometown.

See SHOP, Page 10A

The shop is currently open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. More information can be found on the Blue Birch Outfitters Facebook page: facebook.com/bluebirchoutfitters.

Art Van in Novi closes; 67 jobs to be eliminated

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Art Van told the State of Michigan how many people will lose their jobs at one area store in light of the company's liquidation.

The company sent a letter to the state's Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity informing them several hundred jobs would be eliminated at several sites across the region.

That includes the store at 27775 Novi Road in Novi, which will lose 67 jobs when the business closes later this spring.

The letter only mentions the stores in Novi, Warren, Grand Rapids, Burton, Shelby Township, Lansing and Alpine as affected, totaling 721 jobs lost as required by the Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act, which requires advance notice for large companies planning to let go of a large number of employees.

More employees are expected to lose their jobs than the 721 listed in the letter. The company employs about 3,100 people across the country.

A plurality of lost jobs at the Novi store will be sales positions. Other jobs being eliminated include managerial jobs, pick-up associates and interior designers.

See ART VAN, Page 10A

ELECTION RESULTS LATE

Results from Tuesday's election were not available in time for today's print edition.


Voters cast ballots for their preferred presidential choice and whether they supported a tax to fund the Detroit Institute of Arts. Some communities had local millage or bond requests for schools, refuse and police.

Results of those tax questions, as well as a breakdown on local vote totals for the Democratic presidential primary and DIA request can be found online at HometownLife.com as well as in the next print edition.

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Northville Record (USPS # 396880) is published weekly (Thursday) by Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 160 W Fort Street, Detroit, MI 48226. Periodicals postage is paid at Detroit, MI and at additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Northville Record, 160 W Fort Street, Detroit, MI 48226.

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Follow us on Facebook: @OEHometown

Subscription Rates:

Newsstand price: \$1.50

\$65 per 12 months home delivery

Home Delivery:

Customer Service: 866-887-2737

Mon.-Fri. 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Sunday 7:30 a.m. to noon

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**FOREFRONT
DERMATOLOGY**
Climbing Mount Kilimanjaro
changed Livonia woman's lifeShelby Tankersley
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICH.

At the end of the last school year, Livonia resident Sara Sarafa wasn't sure she wanted to be a teacher anymore. But her brother's idea to climb Mount Kilimanjaro, a dormant volcano in Tanzania, with their spouses changed her perspective.

"This was the most humbling experience ever," Sarafa said. "It just really puts your life into perspective, just seeing the world laid out in front of you."

Kilimanjaro, at 19,341 feet above sea level, is the world's tallest free-standing mountain and is the equivalent to just more than 13 Empire State Buildings stacked one on top of the other.

Sarafa said the trip, which the group took last July, was a relatively snappy decision and she didn't do much preparing beforehand.

"I just went not having been anywhere before and I thought chances were I was going to get altitude sickness and would have to be flown back down," she said. "But it was fine."

"I mean it was scary at points, but I did make it."

In the months leading up to the trip, Sarafa counted on stair-climbing machines to help her get ready.

"I went and got a gym membership and I went

on the stair climber," she said. "That's all I did. And like I put on a weighted backpack and hiking boots and went in all of my gear to the gym. That's all I did for training."

Though she did panic a little beforehand, Sarafa said the journey was mostly smooth. Along the way, meditation and writing in a journal helped her stay of sound mind.

She also didn't go with terribly high expectations. No matter who you are, the intense altitude sickness people experience makes for a 50 percent chance of actually getting to the top.

"I just tried to tell myself that no matter what happens, the journey itself is going to be amazing," Sarafa said.

The climb to the top got increasingly difficult. The path, with stretchers along the way, got steeper, and more people experienced different forms of altitude sickness.

People actually hike the last eight hours of the climb under the cover of night so they can't comprehend how steep it really is, she said.

Sarafa remembers not being able to tell the difference between the group in front of hers and the stars in the sky.

"You have to go at night because, they said, otherwise it would be too defeating," she said. "It's so vertical and it takes so long to get there that they say they intentionally have you go at nighttime because otherwise nobody would be able to



Sara Sarafa, second from right, stands with her family and guides at the top of Mount Kilimanjaro.
COURTESY OF SARA SARAFI

make it."

When they finally made it to the top around 8 a.m., Sarafa remembers feeling overwhelmed.

"I mean it was just like, 'Holys**t. I made it,' " she said.

The emotions hit more intensely when they made it to the bottom of the mountain and realized what they had accomplished. Sarafa said she remains grateful to the required guides and porters, who do everything from lead the way to prepare everyone's food.

"The people are so nice," she said. "Our guides were awesome. We spent like 12 hours a day just talking about life and the differences between there and here. The porters who carry all of your stuff for you on their heads were awesome."

In talking with her guides, Sarafa rekindled

her love of education from seeing how much people admired her job.

"They knew I was a teacher and they wanted to talk all about education and how to get the best for their children," she said. "They said education is the key to all the world's issues. And at this point, I wanted to quit teaching."

Now, her kindergarten classroom at Haigh Elementary in Dearborn is adventure-themed and she encourages her kids to climb the mountains in their own lives.

"They write these crazy stories about how they're going to go out and explore the world," Sarafa said. "One of them told me they had a dream about climbing a volcano next to me. It's really cute, but it's sweet to see that it actually does inspire them."

On the side, Sarafa and her family started Kopa Tours, a travel agency-like business that sets up people for tours with Tanzanian guides. Kopa works with Sara Tours, which Sarafa and her family used for their trip, with the hope of getting Sara more western clients.

"I thought Kilimanjaro was this super crazy inaccessible thing, and it's not," she said. "Really anyone can truly do it."



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ONLINE COUPONS



ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Novi Community School District (NCSD) will receive bids for:

Novi Community School District - 2020 Site Improvements Program
Program consists of west staff parking lot HMA replacement, and Taft Road entry road roadway HMA replacement at Novi High School, various HMA repairs and various concrete sidewalk repairs, and other ancillary project tasks. Work is located at various buildings/sites throughout the district.

2020 Bid Package - Full depth HMA removal and replacement of the west staff lot and 165 lf of approach and Taft Road entry roadway to the south parking lot, and crack sealing of the south lot at Novi High School. Full depth Hot Mix Asphalt patching, crack sealing, and concrete patching at Novi High School, 11 Mile and Taft Complex, Novi Middle School, Deerfield Elementary School, Orchard Hills Elementary School and Village Oaks Elementary School. Bids will be received until 2:00 pm, local time, March 23, 2020.

All bid packages are to be delivered to the NCSD Educational Services Building (ESB), 25345 Taft Road, Novi, MI 48374, attention **Ms. Jill Minnick - Assistant Superintendent of Business and Operations**. At the time the bid packages are due, all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud in the Board room. Bids received after the above stipulated date and time will not be opened, considered, or accepted. Faxed or electronic bids will not be accepted.

Bid documents can be pre-ordered and purchased at the offices of ARC/Dunn Blue, 1009 W. Maple Road, Clawson, MI 48107 beginning March 9, 2020 at 5:00 pm. Contact ARC/Dunn Blue for non-refundable purchase price for each bid package.

Bid documents will be available to view from the PlanWell Enterprise System on-line by accessing the website at www.e-arc.com/mi/clawson, clicking on "Order from Planwell", then clicking on "Public Planroom". Neither the district nor SME will provide documents.

A NON-MANDATORY pre-bid meeting will be held on **Tuesday March 17, 2020 at 9:00 am** in the NCSD ESB conference room located at 25345 Taft Road, Novi, MI 48374.

All bidders should be available on Wednesday March 25, 2020 starting at 9:00 am for post bid interviews. Interviews will be on an invitation basis only.

Prospective bidders must meet the following minimum standards in order to submit a proposal:

- Must be an established Contractor in Michigan for a minimum of five (5) years
- Has successfully completed a minimum of three (3) educational, institutional or municipal site paving / earthwork / site improvement projects each with construction values in excess of \$250,000.00
- Must be able to provide business and liability insurance, performance and payment bond for work required by the Bid Documents

All bids must be submitted on forms furnished by SME for the **"Novi Community School District - 2020 Site Improvements Program"** and be accompanied by a bidder's bond or a certified or cashier's check payable to Novi Community School District for the sum of not less than five (5%) of the bid amount for the BASE BID Package. All bids must be accompanied by a sworn and notarized statement disclosing any familial relationship that exists between the Owner (bidder) or any employee of the bidder and any member of the NCSD School Board, Administration or Staff. Bidders shall also provide a Sworn Statement of Economic Relationship with the Country of Iran. Bids received without a bidder's bond, certified or cashier's check, sworn and notarized statement of familial disclosure, and Iran Economic Statement **MAY BE REJECTED**.

Novi Community School District reserves the right to reject any or all bids, in whole or in part, to waive any irregularities therein and accept that bid, which best serves the Novi Community School District's interest.

Publish: March 12, 2020

Schools canceling trips due to coronavirus

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Coronavirus is spoiling spring break plans.

In Novi, teachers and administrators have been watching the virus spread into a global outbreak. The anxiety grew as travel advisories and quarantines were issued, and now those fears are realized with the cancellation of two student trips to Europe that have been anticipated for more than a year.

"There are so many factors to take into consideration, none of the four teachers (going on the trips) have slept in a couple weeks," said Marci Abel, Novi High School Spanish teacher. "This decision was definitely not taken lightly, there were lots of tears, from all the teachers and the kids. It's been a huge disappointment."

The Northville, Huron Valley and South Lyon school districts all said officials are following Centers for Disease Control guidelines related to the coronavirus, but it wasn't clear if any of the districts had canceled any student trips.

Abel had been planning to take 18 students studying Spanish on a district-approved 10-day trip to Barcelona, Madrid and the southern coast of Spain. The itinerary included tours of cathedrals, museums, marketplaces and the beach.

For some students, it is their first time away from their parents, but whether they are novice travelers or well-seasoned, Abel said such trips are always an eye-opening, life-changing experience.

This year, though, coronavirus has canceled that trip, as well as a spring break trip to England and Scotland open to all Novi students.

Six students had signed up to join French teacher Amy Miller on the UK adventure, which had a literary and historical focus and included tours of the homes of William Shakespeare and Robert Louis Stevenson, as well as the Robert Burns monuments, Oxford and St. Andrews, as well as various cathedrals and castles.

"They are devastated, but parents and students have also reached out with relief and we are not going to take a risk



Novi High students visited London in 2018. This year's district-organized trip to England and Scotland was canceled.
COURTESY OF AMY MILLER

with the safety of Novi students," Miller said. "We have been crying and praying, trying to figure out a way to not make a big deal out of coronavirus, but ... we were scheduled to fly through Boston, Heathrow and Amsterdam, where you don't know where people are coming from and what they've been exposed to themselves."

The students would also have traveled through some of the busiest airports in the world, including Atlanta and New York's JFK.

Several factors were taken into consideration into this week's decision, including the quarantines in Europe.

"It's so unstable right now, we're not sure how far it might advance in the next few weeks," Abel said. "Even if we don't contract it, a quarantine could happen while we were there and we would be unable to return and that was my main nightmare. That would be a whole lot more money parents would have to spend if we were stuck in Europe for another 14 days under quarantine."

The district uses Explorica, an educational travel agency, to book trips. The cost for this year's Spain trip was about \$3,400 per person. The England/Scotland

trip was about \$4,200.

Matthews said the district is working with the travel agency on getting refunds, but if the company does not refund the total cost, the district will pay the difference to families, since it was the district's decision to cancel the trips.

In a more than 30-year teaching career with 18 student trips to Spanish-speaking countries, Miller said this is only the second time a trip has been canceled. The other was in the aftermath of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

She has pushed this trip to next year.

That will be too late for senior Autumn Jenkins, who had been looking forward to visiting Spain.

"I'm not gonna lie, I was kinda disappointed, but at the same time, I'm OK because I know they are doing everything they can and understand they care more about our safety," she said.

The England/Scotland trip won't be

rescheduled; Miller has a France/Italy trip planned for next year.

Claire Rossi, also a senior, was excited to go to England and Scotland, and now is disappointed she won't be, but is looking forward to traveling abroad while in college.

Rossi, who participates in HOSA, a student organization for those studying health occupations, is also hoping the HOSA national competition this June in Texas is not canceled.

Matthews said the district has several student trips planned within the country in the next few months and as of right now, those are continuing unless the CDC advises otherwise.

"If the situation gets worse, we will reevaluate," he said. "Travel within the U.S. should be safe."

For more information on coronavirus precautions the district is taking, visit the district's COVID-19 page.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CITY OF NORTHVILLE

The City of Northville Board of Zoning Appeals will hold a public hearing to receive public input on the following request in regards to the City of Northville Zoning Ordinance: To consider a variance request on premises zoned R-1B, First Density Residential District, located at 426 Butler St., Northville, Michigan, 48167, parcel number 48-001-03-0731-003. The applicant is seeking a variance to construct a new front porch in the front yard setback. The variance needed is 1.5 feet from the requirements in Section 15.01.

The public hearing will be held on Wednesday, April 1, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at the City of Northville Municipal Building, Council Chambers, 215 West Main Street, Northville, Michigan, 48167, 248-449-9902. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comment on the variance request. The variance application is available for review at the City of Northville Building Department during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, local prevailing time. Written comments pertaining to the proposed variance request will also be received at the above address.

DOMINIC SILVESTRI, CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

Publish: March 12, 2020

LD-000010016 2x3

CITY OF NOVI COURTESY NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council for the City of Novi will consider a Land Division Appeal to divide property located off of Novi Road, Parcel No. 50-22-02-177-037.



The Council meeting will be held on Monday, March 23, 2020, at 7:00 p.m., in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, Michigan.

If you have any comments regarding this proposal, they may be presented in writing or during the Audience Comments section of the agenda.

Cortney Hanson, City Clerk
248-347-0456

Publish: March 12, 2020

LD-000010016 3x4

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Police shut down 2 adult foster care facilities

Prescription issues focus of criminal investigation

Kayla Daugherty Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Two Livingston County adult foster care homes were shut down Feb. 26 after a raid by the Michigan State Police and state officials.

Blue Heron Pond in Green Oak and Nightingale Retreat in Genoa Township were closed "in response to the belief that the licensee is placing the current residents of these facilities at risk of harm," said David Harns, a communications manager for the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs.

The state also suspended the operating license of owner Holly Purdy.

The facilities housed residents who are physically handicapped, as well as those who have Alzheimer's disease or dementia, according to LARA.

Harns said 15 residents between the two locations were "immediately relocated."

No charges had been filed as of Feb. 28, however Michigan State Police Lt. Mike Dillon confirmed a criminal investigation is taking place.

Missing medication

The raid comes after a hospice nurse visiting Blue Heron Pond reported Purdy's request to fill a resident's prescription for Xanax, Morphine MS and Norco, according to a LARA suspension order issued Feb. 26.

According to the order, Purdy had



Blue Heron Pond in Green Oak Township, pictured, and Nightingale Retreat in Genoa Township were shut down after a police raid. GILLIS BENEDICT/LIVINGSTON DAILY

filled the resident's painkiller prescriptions after those prescriptions had been discontinued — 15 times, the order stated.

In addition, when the resident was discharged earlier this month, several of their medications were missing, including Xanax, Norco, Roxanol, Ativan and MS Contin, the order states.

"Due to the high number of prescriptions filled that were never administered to the Resident A or given to Resi-

dent A at discharge it is reasonable to believe that the licensee is diverting and/or using Resident A's prescription pain medication," the order stated.

Expired morphine

In a different order, relating to Nightingale Retreat, state investigators claim a resident was given expired morphine.

A different hospice nurse visiting the facility reported a resident's hospice

comfort kit had been opened despite instructions that only hospice nurses open the kit.

The nurse "determined that the medications in the hospice comfort kit had been replaced with an expired morphine bottle which was partially opened," the order stated.

A staff member admitted giving the resident the expired morphine even though the resident did not have an order for the medication to be given.

"This morphine was off color appearing to be gray instead of blue in color per the label. The lot number on the expired morphine bottle did not match the prescription box lot number," the order stated.

The missing morphine bottle was located at Blue Heron Pond, more than 15 miles away. The bottle was empty.

'Parade of ambulances'

Family members were not allowed into the Blue Heron Pond for hours Feb. 26 as state police searched the residence, Calvin Zimmerman said.

Cecilia Spalding, Zimmerman's 103-year-old mother-in-law, has lived at the Blue Heron Pond for three years.

"She was really confused and couldn't understand why she had to leave," he said.

Zimmerman described the removal of the residents as a "parade of ambulances."

His mother-in-law is safe in another facility, he said, but the rest of his family is still reeling from the chaotic day.

"We were satisfied with the facility and it all fell apart so quickly," Zimmerman said.

Teen testifies in South Lyon sex abuse case

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

A teen testified March 4 against a man whom she said was grooming her to eventually have sex with him.

Novi District Court Judge David Law bound over the teen's mother's ex-boyfriend to Oakland Circuit Court after listening to her tale of abuse.

Daren William Muns, 39, of Milford Township faces three counts of first-degree criminal sexual conduct because of his alleged behavior with the girl.

"Can I take a minute?" the teen asked during the preliminary examination, scrunching her face in an effort to stop crying.

The teen already had told the judge it was several years ago when Muns came into her mother's circle. They lived in the same apartment complex.

Her family then moved into a South Lyon residence and Muns followed.

The girl said Muns would compliment her and call her beautiful after she and her mother argued.

Then he started entering her bedroom, often when her mother was passed out from drinking excessively or in another room. She testified he touched her breasts, her hips, and her lips. He held her against the bed or door and, in time, he forced her into having sex. She was 12.

"He told me if I told my mom he would hurt me," she said.

Eventually, she told her mom.

Defense attorney Bert Whitehead IV did not call any witnesses. He wanted to know if the teen had ever lied about any sexual allegations or whether her mother asked her to lie about Muns.

The girl, at one point, said, "I don't understand."

"I want to give you some leeway," Law told Whitehead, "but I'm not comfort-



Daren William Muns, 39, of Milford Township, right, appeared in Novi District Court on criminal sexual conduct charges March 4. SUSAN VELA/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

able where you're going."

Before the testimony, Muns waived a preliminary exam on a felonious assault charge. He was not comfortable with his court-appointed attorney and asked for a different one for his Circuit Court case.

He was arrested Jan. 21 on the three felony CSC charges tied to his relationship with the girl.

The Oakland County Sheriff's fugitive apprehension team spotted him at a Shell gas station in Lyon Township, and Muns crashed into two vehicles while fleeing.

He was arrested that night at the Novi Meadows manufactured home community off Napier Road.

svela@hometownlife.com

Highland Township pedestrian dies in crash

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

A 57-year-old man died after a 1997 Ford Thunderbird struck him Saturday evening while he was crossing Highland Road in Highland Township, according to Oakland County Sheriff's deputies.

Deputies responded to a call regarding the crash near Highland and Milford roads around 7 p.m., they said in a report.

The pedestrian apparently was northbound on Milford Road when he entered a Highland Road crosswalk and was struck.

The Thunderbird driver, 28, of White Lake Township, stopped to try to render aid.

Paramedics arrived but were unable to revive the pedestrian. They transported him to McLaren Oakland Hospital in Pontiac, where he was pronounced dead.

Crash investigators said alcohol may have been a contributing factor "on behalf of the pedestrian." The Thunderbird driver apparently was not drinking and sustained minor injuries from the crash.

The driver apparently had a green light at Milford Road.

An autopsy was scheduled, and the crash remains under investigation.

Contact reporter Susan Vela at svela@hometownlife.com or 248-303-8432. Follow her on Twitter @susan-vela.

Milford police stop SUV, arrest 2 inside

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Milford police recently stopped a Ford Escape and arrested two of the four people inside after finding narcotics paraphernalia.

According to a police report, an officer was traveling on South Milford Road during early in the morning Feb. 5 and noticed the sport utility vehicle had a defective driver sidelight.

The officer confirmed via the vehicle's license plate that the vehicle's registration had expired. There also was no insurance associated with the SUV.

The officer pulled the SUV over and confirmed that the driver, 51, of Detroit, had multiple warrants for traffic violations.

The Detroit man told police he was in Milford to drop off one of the passengers at a relative's home.

He apparently acknowledged the outstanding warrants, mentioning one tied to a crack pipe, and was arrested. He also agreed to a vehicle search, during which a police officer found a purse with syringes.

A passenger, 25, of Northville initially denied owning the purse. In time, she apparently claimed ownership and told police she used the syringes for heroin injections.

Both were cited on misdemeanor narcotics charges. The Detroit man also was cited for a misdemeanor charge of driving without a proper license.

svela@hometownlife.com

Man pleads guilty to breaking into Green Oak Township church

Kayla Daugherty Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

A Brighton man admitted he broke into a Green Oak Township church in January, according to court records.

Gregory Gontarski, 51, was charged with one count of breaking and entering with intent and three counts of resisting and obstructing a police officer.

He pleaded guilty in a plea agreement with prosecutors in which they will recommend a minimum sentence of six years in prison.

Gontarski also pleaded as a habitual offender, meaning his sentence could have exceeded 10 years due to his



Gontarski

previous felony convictions.

The charges resulted from an incident at Tri-Lakes Baptist Church on Jan. 12 when an employee saw a man in the church's office on a surveillance camera, a police officer testified at a hearing that led to charges.

The officer said Gontarski was still in the building on Lee Road when police arrived and he fled.

He was taken into custody after being tackled by police, the officer said.

Gontarski is being held in the Livingston County Jail and is scheduled to be sentenced March 19.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

RECOGNIZING AMAZING ANTHOLOGY WOMEN



Continuing Her Story: GAIL PRESTON'S NEXT CHAPTER

Gail Preston has cycled all around the world. Her adventures have taken her to places like New Zealand where she spent weeks touring the country by bicycle. In fact, cycling is how she found her second love in Bud, her husband. As part of a local cyclist club they found a new adventure in each other after becoming widowed.

Together they would cycle just two miles away from Anthology of Northville at Hines Drive Park once a day for year. Each receiving a medal for 3,000 miles logged in a year! Gail's passion has passed down to her granddaughter, Hannah, where they crossed the lower peninsula twice with "Pedal Across Lower Michigan" organization.

Her and Bud moved into Anthology of Northville just after it opened in August. You can spot her car with the bike rack as she still enjoys rides on Hines Drive. Her ride into senior living, not much different from many other rides, have led to new life long relationships.

"My goal is to make others feel comfortable here, it's scary when you first move. God put me here to spread joy to my neighbors and be part of a new adventure." -Gail



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True crime book details pretty women who kill

Susan Bromley HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK — MICHIGAN

Laura James makes the case that more than 30 women got away with murder because of their looks in her new true crime book "The Beauty Defense."

"The better looking a woman is, the more likely she is to walk," James said. "I collected three dozen examples to prove it. This is a true phenomenon."

The Salem Township author and attorney researched "femmes fatales on trial" throughout history, collecting their stories for two decades.

Most of the women she details were charged with murder, although the earliest example of a "beauty defense" is that of Phyrne of Athens, who was on trial for "impiety" and who James said was set free after she disrobed in front of the jury.

James launches into the murder cases in the book's introduction with Frances Howard Carr, Countess of Somerset, who confessed to poisoning her husband in 1613. While a jury found her guilty, she was pardoned by the king, which James asserts can be explained by her "portrait and title."

In her intro, James suggests that "To get away with murder, a woman need only follow the common law — five established if unwritten rules of feminine misconduct:

- 1 She must be beautiful.
- 2 She must kill a lover.
- 3 She must act alone.
- 4 She must kill only once.
- 5 She must have a good attorney."

The most recent case James cites is of French heiress Susan Cummings, who shot her Argentinian boyfriend at their breakfast table in Virginia. She claimed self-defense after an argument in which she told him he couldn't take her horses to a polo match and he held a knife to her face.

Under cross-examination, James recounts in the book, Cummings said, "I started shooting and I don't know at what point I stopped," adding that, "I needed to get this man out of my life."

She was found guilty of voluntary manslaughter, but was sentenced to just 60 days in jail.

Abe Sada, who strangled her lover,



Author Laura James published "The Beauty Defense" on Feb. 26. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Countess of Somerset Frances Howard Carr confessed to poisoning her husband in 1613. COURTESY OF LAURA JAMES VIA WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

carved her name into his body, cut off his genitals and took them with her when she fled in 1936 in Tokyo, was ultimately caught and sentenced to five years in prison.

"She got off lightly for being a pretty woman," James said. "She claimed she killed him because she loved him: 'He is in the ground and is happy. I cut off the part of the man I loved the most.'"

One of James' favorite cases is that of Jessie Costello, who bought empty capsules and cyanide she said she was using to clean her boiler, but instead poisoned her husband with it and then was let go by 12 male jurors in 1933.



Blanca de Saulles, who was acquitted of a murder charge after she shot and killed her husband, is one of several murderous women featured in James' book. LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The stories are compelling to James, and were irresistible to publisher Kent State University Press, which accepted her pitch for the book in less than 5 minutes.

James had published a blog, Clews, for many years about wicked women which she said was always popular, and instinctively knew she could find success with a non-fiction novel on the topic of beautiful women behaving badly.

"I think I chose the right subject matter. People have a penchant for really bad women," she said. "So many channels are dedicated to it. ... People eat that up. It's a perennially-fascinating

subject. Every crime story I read in the South Lyon Herald is too damn short."

She notes that women committing crimes also goes against society's biases, something fascinating for what she calls armchair psychologists.

"We expect girls to be good, that women are inherently better," James said. "If women did run the world, would there be no corruption? Call me a pessimist, but you see what I read."

The first press run of "The Beauty Defense: Femmes Fatales on Trial" has 1,500 copies and was released Feb. 26.

Contact reporter Susan Bromley at sbromley@hometownlife.com.

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Novi computer teacher unlocks code to free car

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Brad Miller, computer whiz, unlocked the code to a free car as Novi Teacher of the Year.

Miller was in his Novi Middle School classroom March 4, ready to test students, when the door opened and fellow staff members, administrators and well-wishers entered the room to tell him he was the 2019-2020 honoree and winner of a 2-year vehicle lease.

"Congratulations!" sang a chorus of voices in the room as students gathered around him.

"I'm speechless, this is a very neat thing," Miller said, who got more cheers as he announced the quiz was on hold.

Students then accompanied him outside where a crossover vehicle, an example of what he could select from one of several dealerships operated by The Suburban Collection, was adorned with a bow.

Miller has been a teacher for 23 years, the last 19 with Novi as a computer and media technology teacher.

The Novi Education Foundation chose him from three local finalists who will compete for Oakland Schools Teacher of the Year at various grade levels. The others are Renea Vollmer, Elementary Teacher of the Year at Novi Meadows, and Sheila Ebel, Novi High School Teacher of the Year.

Jason Smith, NEF executive director, said Miller was chosen for his longevity in the district, as well as letters of recommendation that really spoke to the foundation members.

"It's always a tough decision," he said. "It was about what he does for the kids on a daily basis. He doesn't work for the IT department, but you can go to Brad and he will solve the problem. He goes above and beyond."

Victor Verma, a seventh grader at the middle school, is learning HTML coding from Miller and said his teacher is a hard worker.

"He helps us learn, but he makes it fun so it's not stressful," he said. "He's really energetic."

Chiara Fallone, also a seventh grader, agreed.

"He's funny and very good at expressing things," she said. "I really enjoy



Novi Educational Foundation Teacher of the Year Brad Miller is congratulated by his family during a celebration March 4 at Novi Middle School. From left are his wife, Amy, and children Luke, 10, and Nicholas, 8.

PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Miller, left-center is surrounded by some of his Novi Middle School students.

computers and I am really happy he got that car and Teacher of the Year because he's been working his whole life for it. He makes really good jokes."

The kids and the relationships he forms with them are what Miller said he loves most about being a teacher.

"They are always fun and I enjoy being around them," he said. "It's an honor and a privilege to be here and today is amazing."

Miller said the kids told him to get a fast car and he joked that maybe he should, as he lives in Troy.

While it's unclear what vehicle he will ultimately select, the perk is nice in a profession that often receives less in pay than a private sector job, noted Sarah David, the eighth grade NMS teacher who nominated Miller.

"Brad is positive, enthusiastic, he connects with kids and is always willing to help and does, all without fanfare," she said. "He could be in the business world making more coin, but he loves it here and is making the choice to be with kids."

Contact reporter Susan Bromley at sbromley@hometownlife.com or 517-281-2412. Follow her on Twitter @SusanBromley10.



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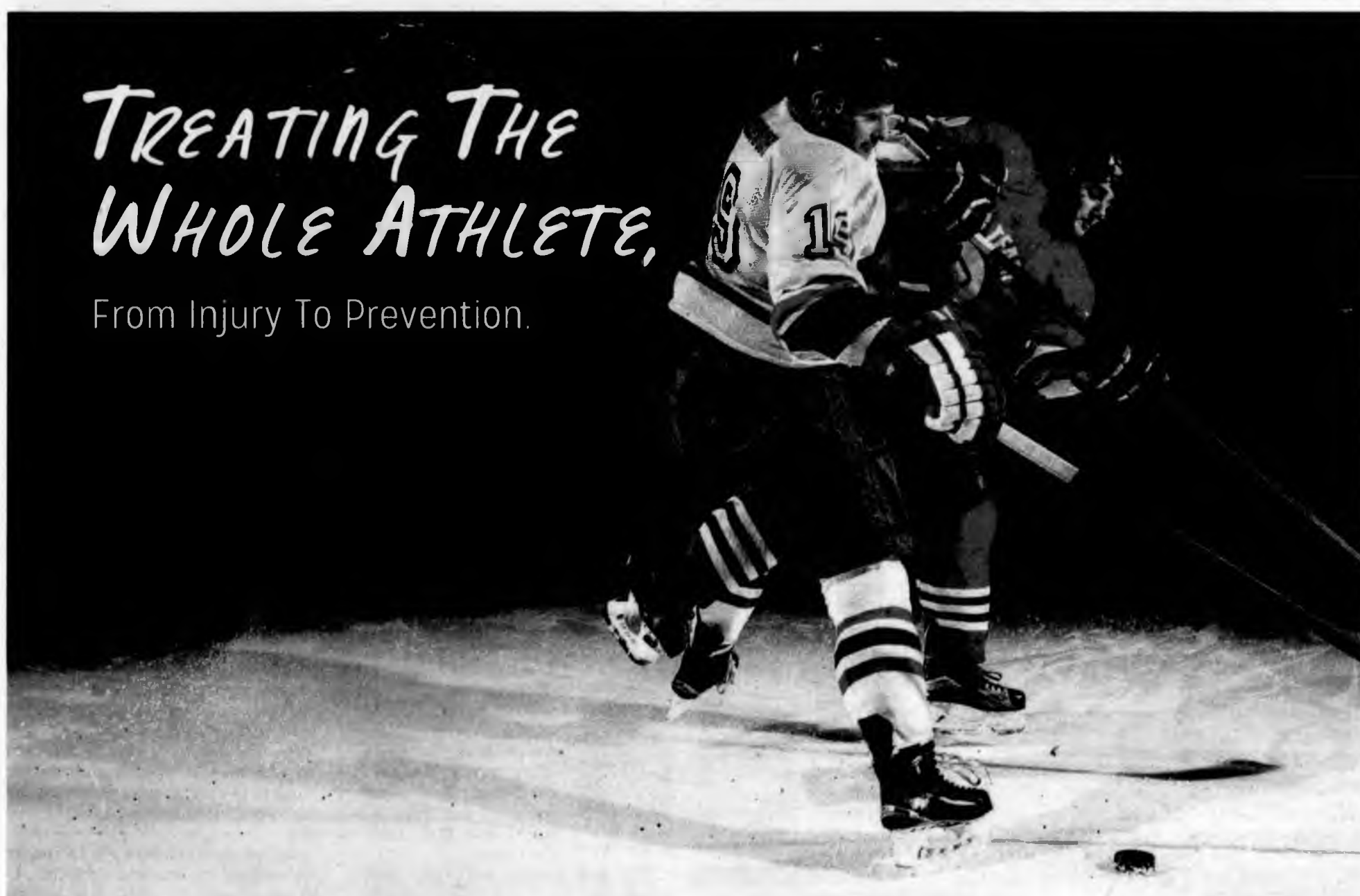
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Diversified portfolio a good antidote for market woes



Money Matters
Rick Bloom
Guest columnist

The coronavirus has caused uncertainty in the market and struck fear in investors. Fear causes investors to react irrationally and to make short-term decisions that can cause long-term harm to a portfolio.

I've always encouraged investors to have diversified portfolios. Diversified portfolios are meant to protect someone when fear grips the market. I have no idea when the markets will turn around; neither does anyone else. However, one thing I do know is that in any crisis we have been through, markets eventually turned around.

In fact, if you go back over the last decade or so since the end of the Great Recession in 2009, we have had over 20 or more drops in the market. After each of these drops, over a short time, the

markets regained their strength.

What has also happened in each one of those downturns is that too many investors sold out and went to cash with the idea that once the markets rebounded, they would get back into the market. Unfortunately, what all too often happens is that those investors who bailed out never get back in the market and thus, never have an opportunity to recoup their losses.

In fact, there are still investors that bailed out during the financial crisis and, unfortunately, never got back into the market and missed an incredible run over the last 10 years. Investors who think they can time the market are mistaken.

I received a number of calls and emails from clients who are concerned about the recent retreat. My general advice to those investors is that they should stay the course and weather the storm. We have seen market crises before, and we will see them again. There is no reason to panic.

That doesn't mean an investor with a balanced and diversified portfolio is not going to see some losses. However, the losses will typically not be as severe as for people who do not maintain a balanced and diversified portfolio.

Although we have seen market downturns, disruptions and retreats in the past, what is a new phenomenon over the last number of years is the way the media covers these disruptions. We see it all the time where the media overhypes an event and in many situations makes a mountain out of a molehill.

In Michigan, we see it all the time: every snowfall is going to be the storm of the century. Based on the hype, schools and public institutions close only then to get 2 inches of snow.

I'm not saying that the coronavirus is not a significant event, because it is. However, this is just a reminder that with social media and how mainstream media hypes stories, we must be cautious and not let short-term comfort cause long-term pain.

Another issue is what investors can do to take advantage of the current situation. One thing that many of you should consider is whether you should do a Roth conversion. With the markets taking a temporary retreat, you can potentially convert your traditional IRA into a Roth IRA at a lower cost. Remember, when you do convert, you have to pay tax on the amount you convert. Therefore, with the market down, you can take advantage of Roth conversions at a potentially lower tax cost.

I wish I knew when this crisis will end, but I don't, and neither does anyone else.

However, investors who don't let fear and despair dictate their decisions will find that their short-term pain will result in long-term gain.

Good luck!

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

Seven unusual items available to buy at new bulk food stores

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

It's only been about six months since Alex Hallani opened his second Bulk Food and Smoothies in Westland, doubling the bulk food empire he first started in Dearborn.

Hallani recently doubled the number of stores again, opening shops in Canton and Livonia.

"Sometimes, the stars just align," said Hallani, a Canton resident.

The store has several hundred products for sale, many of them available in bulk containers, allowing customers to select the amount they need. The Canton store, open in a former Yogurt City at 42545 Ford Road, opened in early January. The Livonia store, open in a long-vacant space at 19049 Middlebelt next to Planet Fitness, opened in early February.

While there are plenty of typical products, such as M&M's and Hershey's ice cream (a staple at all four of Hallani's stores), there are also many unusual items to be found in the aisles of the four stores.

Here are just a few of those:

Pineapple habanero honey sticks

A product Hallani says can't be found many other places, they bring a sweet and spicy feel to the honey stick snack.

Jalapeno pistachios and chili lemon pistachios

Pistachio lovers are known to be loyal to cracking open the nuts for a great snack. But Hallani said his two additional varieties of flavors are one-of-a-kind.

"You cannot find this anywhere," Hallani said. "Nobody has those."

He said the company roasts the nuts and adds the seasonings before shipping them to Bulk Food and Smoothies.



Bulk Foods and Smoothies owner Alex Hallani holds a gummy rattlesnake, one of many unusual items for sale at his shops. DAVID VESELENAK/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Gummy rattlesnake

You've heard of gummy bears, gummy worms, even gummy frogs, but Hallani is banking on the fact that customers have never seen a gummy rattlesnake.

The multicolored foot-long-or-so candy creature provides the familiar gummy-candy flavor, just packaged in a reptilian format.

"You can't find gummy rattlesnakes anywhere," he said. "Where are you going to find gummy rattlesnakes?"

Mint chocolate chips

Mint chocolate chip is a standard ice cream flavor, but those looking to bake with mint and chocolate need to look no further than Hallani's store, which sells literal mint chocolate chips.

Rainbow gummy bears

Yet another take on the gummy va-

riety are rainbow gummy bears, candies coated in colorful sprinkles that pack the full gummy flavor. No word on whether those are what get fed to gummy rattlesnakes.

Voortman cookies

Odds are everyone's grandparent has served them Voortman's cookies. At Bulk Food and Smoothies, a wide array of these cookies can be bought in bulk, including oatmeal apple, maple creme sandwiches and Chinese almond.

The Livonia store is open 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday. The Canton location is open 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday.

More information can be found at dearbornbulkfoods.com.

Contact reporter David Veselenak at dveselenak@hometownlife.com or 734-678-6728.



Robert Meisner
Guest columnist

Retain legal counsel to assist with removing condo board

Q: We are trying to remove the present board of directors, but the board members have refused to give us any recognition. They come up with excuses as to why they don't have to call a special meeting. What do we do?

A: You probably went through the process of doing it on your own without the benefit of legal counsel. A smart attorney for the association will find loopholes in what you have done and give the association board a basis not to call the special meeting.

You should consider forming a war chest together and retaining counsel who can direct you step by step as to the process for gaining control of the board of directors, beginning with a written petition to hold a special meeting to vote on removal of the board and election of new directors.

You may have to pursue a court order for the special meeting to be held, so you want to ensure all of the statutory requirements and requirements under the association's governing documents are met.

Then, it would be difficult for the current board members to object to holding the meeting, as the association would likely be stuck with the bill for your attorney's fees and costs. Also, your attorney may well be available to assist you further once you gain control of the board, which you will likely need if you discover that the current board has neglected proper collection of assessments and enforcement of the bylaws.

There is no substitute for good legal advice when you are dealing with complex condominium documents and an attorney on the other side.

Q: We live in a high-rise condominium where the developer still owns the majority of the units and has decided to lease them as opposed to try to sell them. The developer says he is free to do whatever he wants, and we are stuck with tenants who do not live by the rules and regulations. What can we do?

A: You need to have a good attorney look at your condominium documents to see whether the developer has an express obligation to sell the condominium units. Short of a legitimate reason to rent them, the developer has the inherent obligation to complete the condominium project by selling the units.

You need to get some of your compatriot purchasers together and form an alliance to deal with the developer, either through negotiations at the start or through litigation. A good attorney can tell you whether you have been taken advantage of or not and what the next course of action should be against the developer.

Robert M. Meisner, Esq. is the principal attorney of The Meisner Law Group. He can be reached at 248-644-4433 or bmeisner@meisner-law.com.

Men sentenced to year in jail for sex assault

Kayla Daugherty LivingstonDaily.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Two men were sentenced Feb. 27 to a year in jail followed by probation after sexually assaulting a girl younger than 16 last year.

The victim previously testified that Quintin Peters and Charles Seymour choked her, groped her breasts and forced themselves on her in a Howell neighborhood park.

Peters, 20, of Highland Township, and Seymour, 19, of Milford, were each charged with several counts of first-, second-, third- and fourth-degree criminal sexual conduct, as well as assault with intent to do great bodily harm in August.

As part of a plea agreement with prosecutors, the men pleaded no contest to two counts of second-degree criminal sexual conduct earlier this month.

A no contest plea is not an admission of guilt but is used as such during sentencing.

Livingston County Probate Judge Miriam Cavanaugh sentenced both of the men to five years' probation, with

the first to be served in the Livingston County Jail.

Both men apologized to the victim and her family prior to Cavanaugh issuing the sentencing.

'You knew it was wrong'

"You were two boys I thought were my friends. I trusted both of you. You guys helped ruin my life," the victim said in a hearing last week. "You ruined it the moment we walked into the dark park ... the moment you asked for a three-way and I repeatedly said no ... the moment you guys pushed me down and forced yourselves on me."

The victim testified in a September hearing the two men contacted her via Snapchat on Aug. 7, asking if they could come by her house.

She said she told them it would be fine for them to hang out because they would stay in the neighborhood and walked to a park as it was getting dark. That's where she said the sex assault took place.



Peters



Seymour

"You knew I didn't want it but you still did it regardless. You knew it was wrong. You guys knew it was wrong yet you still felt sexually gratified at that time," she said.

The men messed with the wrong person and family, she said in her impact statement.

"I learned the hard way that the saying, 'what doesn't kill you makes you stronger,' is true. This has made me a much stronger person showing myself that I can make it through just about anything," she said.

Registered sex offenders

Peters and Seymour had faced up to life in prison if convicted as charged and up to 15 years in prison after the plea agreement.

While on probation, the men cannot have contact with each other nor access any form of social media.

Both will have to register as sex offenders for 25 years.

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Livonia family waits days in cold to get tickets for 'Saturday Night Live'

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Tim Klisz wanted to score tickets to "Saturday Night Live" last weekend. Days before the Feb. 29 show, he, his wife, Deanna, and their daughter, Andie, were the first three people in line on 48th Street in New York City waiting to get tickets.

Why? They really wanted to see John Mulaney, a comedian and former writer for the show, host with musical guest David Byrne. It was the family's third time actually seeing the show "live from New York."

"The amazing experience is how small it is," he said. "It's so small. It's like 300 people, so you're seeing this musical act with 300 other people. So that's kind of cool. And you're watching everyone run around, like Lorne Michaels (the show's creator and producer) is pacing the floor."

The family actually was planning to see Mulaney perform a stand-up show elsewhere that weekend. But when he got moved to SNL, they decided to follow him.

"We were originally set to see John Mulaney in Toronto and, of course, he got the call from Lorne Michaels that said, 'Hey, we want you to host and this is the only day you could host.' So he moved his Toronto show," Klisz said.

Klisz's daughter, a junior at Stevenson High School, is a big Mulaney fan and is hoping to follow the comic's career path as an SNL writer.

There's three ways to get in: know someone, enter the ticket lottery or wait in the standby line.

"Standbys are the rest of us suckers that get in line on 48th Street, like one block away from Rockefeller Center, and plop down our sleeping bags, wagon and chairs, coats, gloves and all that stuff," Klisz said.

Even though things got cold, Klisz said New York City's weather is better than the snow Livonia was dealing with at the time.

Plus, they were prepared with sleeping bags and lounge chairs in the hopes of getting some shut-eye at night.

To help everyone warm up, Michaels sends soup down to those waiting in line. Some hosts, like actor Lin-Manuel Miranda and singer Taylor Swift, have been known to have food delivered to those waiting in the standby line, too.

Though the show has changed so much in its 45-year run, Klisz said his favorite era includes the mid-2000s cast that included Tina Fey, Jason Sudeikis, Bill Hader, Kristen Wiig and Seth Meyers.

"I think that's the best," he said. "But I like the new people."

stankersle@hometownlife.com

Canton supervisor: Art Van building won't be empty long if store closes

David Veselenak Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Despite the announced closing of Art Van Furniture, Canton Township officials aren't worried that the company's new building will go unoccupied.

The Warren-based furniture retailer announced it would begin liquidation sales at all its stores, which includes the "flagship" store opened in 2018 at 41661 Ford Road.

If the company closes all its stores for good, Canton Township Supervisor Pat Williams said the 70,000-square-foot building just west of Haggerty won't go empty for long.

"We're sorry for the loss of that operation in our community," he said. "We are optimistic that once the dust settles ... that it will be quickly back-filled."

He said as soon as news broke March 5 that the furniture giant would begin liquidating, the township's economic development director, Kristen Thomas, began reaching out to potential future occupants in the case the store shuts down.

The demand for space along the road, he said, remains high.

"Ford Road is very, very popular and we are constantly being pinged for space just like that," Williams said. "I don't expect it to be vacant very long at all."

He declined to share which specific companies the township reached out to, but said there were several that could either occupy the entire building or part of the building.

The company is expected to file for Chapter 11 bankruptcy sometime next week, according to the Detroit Free Press. The closures will impact all Art Van Furniture, Art Van PureSleep and Scott Shuptrine Interiors stores.

The store in Canton was the first store of its kind in Michigan for the retailer, which invested about \$15 million into the space and make it the first new look for the company in 20 years.

Locally, Art Van Furniture has stores in Westland, Livonia, Novi and Bloomfield Township. Art Van PureSleep stores currently operate in Livonia, Westland, Plymouth, Bloomfield Township, New Hudson and White Lake.

Contact reporter David Veselenak at dveselenak@hometownlife.com or 734-678-6728.

Shop

Continued from Page 1A

"We've discovered some brands that we love and thought we'd do it here," she said.

More items are planned for the space, including other clothing, backpacks and even hammocks; Ames said the store will fill out its stock closer to April.

She's stocked the shop with higher-end brands that are better quality, a decision she consciously made.

"That's important to me," she said. "I don't want something that's going to fall apart."

She opened up the space, expanding the showroom into the space where Main Street Art formerly did framing work. She added a fresh coat of paint to the walls and installed new flooring.

Ames said she always wanted to open in downtown, looking for the right space to bring in routine foot traffic.

"That was stressed to me by more than one person, that you really want to be on Main Street," she said. "People come down here and they walk and they stay down here."

A grand opening is expected in April.

The shop is currently open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. More information can be found on the Blue Birch Outfitters Facebook page: facebook.com/bluebirchoutfitters.

Contact reporter David Veselenak at dveselenak@hometownlife.com or 734-678-6728. Follow him on Twitter @davidveselenak.



Blue Birch Outfitters at 432 N. Main in downtown Milford opened this month. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Art Van

Continued from Page 1A

The company filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy Sunday night, claiming between \$100 million and \$500 million in liabilities. It announced last week it would begin liquidation at its stores

across the region after several decades in business.

The longtime furniture business was purchased in 2017 by Boston-based Thomas H. Lee Partners from the Van Elslander family.

The letter submitted to the state, which is dated March 4 and was posted online March 6, indicates employees may be finished working before May 31,

the date by which it was announced most stores would close.

"All affected employees have been notified of their approximation separation dates; that their separation of employment will be permanent: and they do not have any bumping rights," read the letter to the state. "While an exact date has not yet been established for these closures, it is anticipated that em-

ployment terminations will begin to occur on May 5, 2020 or a date 14 days thereafter."

The letter only details the layoffs at a few stores, though Art Van owns several other area stores. Those include Art Van Furniture stores in Canton, Livonia, Westland and Bloomfield Township. They are expected to close in the coming months as a part of the liquidation.

Amazon

Continued from Page 1A

"We want the building at 100 percent occupancy, so we aren't dragging our feet," Vander Meulen responded and assured the board that the site plan for phase 2, which includes permanent parking areas for employees and van parking, is expected soon.

Township Planner Brian Keesey said Amazon is required to complete the site plan, along with road improvements, by Dec. 31 to "ensure final business operation fully integrated in that corridor."

The planning commission approved a site plan for phase 1 last month with an end goal of "full site internal vehicle circulation."

The overall site includes an 87,000-square-foot delivery distribution facility at 28415 Automation Blvd., and existing buildings to be used "as is" at 52405 Grand River.

The facility is to be open 24 hours per day to allow for receiving and loading/delivery. Typical hours of operation are 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Delivery vans will begin to be dispatched from the township's Amazon facility at 7:30 a.m. daily, with 40-60



Amazon has agreed to put \$350,000 in escrow for Lyon Township, a guarantee that road improvements will be made to mitigate traffic from delivery vans on Grand River. PHIL ALLEN/HOMETOWNLIFE

vans every 30 minutes until 10:30 a.m., for a total of at least 240 vans in a three-hour span. At noon, the second wave of vans begins to be dispatched, 30-60 every 30 minutes until 1:30 p.m.

"I want a traffic light, but it's not my choice," Treasurer Patty Carcone said. "It's up to the road commission. (Amazon is) asking for a partial start to get up and running. They really wanted to come here. People order off Amazon all

the time, it's more convenient for our residents."

Township Engineer Leslie Zawada said it will cost at least \$316,600 for known required road improvements related to the Amazon facility. Those improvements do not yet include a traffic signal, but widening of the business entrance off Grand River, an acceleration and deceleration lane as well as a center turn lane on Grand River at the en-

trance, and striping at Automation Boulevard.

Traffic on 12 Mile Road is not anticipated to be affected.

Supervisor John Dolan said the Amazon distribution facility would not have worked on 12 Mile, nor anywhere else in the township except Grand River, the business corridor.

"Everybody wants stuff right now and that is what this will help," he said of Amazon's product delivery. "I am OK with an escrow account that you will produce whatever the traffic study comes up with."

Vander Meulen said if the \$350,000 escrow account makes the township comfortable, "we are definitely willing to do that."

Carcone said Amazon delivered the check March 5.

When phase 2 is complete, Amazon expects to have 350 employees at the Lyon distribution center. Until then, Lyon passed a required special land use request conditioned upon having no more than 55 employees working during one shift, and no more than 150 vehicles on site.

Contact reporter Susan Bromley at sbromley@hometownlife.com or 517-281-2412. Follow her on Twitter @SusanBromley10.

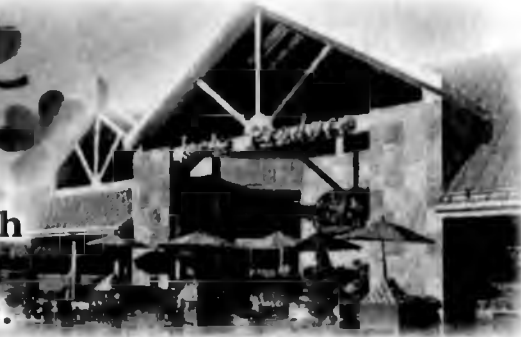


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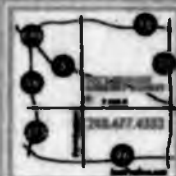
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Mercy hoops earns 2nd consecutive district title

Collin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Trailing after one half of play against Novi in the district semifinal, Farmington Hills Mercy girls basketball got its act together, beating the Wildcats by nine and advancing to the district final. Facing North Farmington in an at-

tempt to make the regional round of the MHSAA playoffs for the second year in a row, the Marlins got their act together more quickly.

After trailing 3-2 early in the first quarter, Mercy (20-3) never fell behind again, beating the Raiders (12-10), 66-40, in the District 25 final Friday at Farmington.

Winning their eighth district final since 2010, the Marlins were scheduled to take on Detroit Renaissance in the regional semifinal Tuesday at Southfield Arts and Technology.

Here are three takeaways from Friday's game:

See **MERCY**, Page 3B

Stevenson's season ends in hockey quarterfinal

Collin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Trailing 1-0 at the end of the first period, Livonia Stevenson came out of the locker room fired up, ready to change the narrative of the state quarterfinal against Trenton.

Trenton forward Hunter Allen shook two defenders, getting Stevenson goalie Brendan Stroble to try and trap the puck, leading to Allen poking it in for the first score of the game.

Instead, the Trojans continued their run.

Trenton forward Collin Preston took assists by Allen and Brad Nemeth, giving the Trojans a two-goal lead 37 seconds into the second period, a lead that would remain. Stevenson fell to Trenton, 5-1, in the state quarterfinal at the Dearborn Ice Skating Center.

Earning regional titles in each of the past six seasons, Stevenson extended its losing streak in the state quarterfinals to four, having lost to the Trojans in the quarterfinal for the past three seasons.

"They cashed in on their opportunities," Stevenson head coach David Mitchell said. "We gave them too many opportunities. ... I didn't think we had enough. We just didn't execute as well as we can and as well as we could have."

The Spartans cut their deficit to one at the beginning of the second period, as Tanner Liptow attempted a shot, Ethan Waldo recorded the rebound and the score.

But even with 34 shots on goal, Trenton goalie Jory Cormier, rated as the top goalie in the state, stopped the Spartans' other 33 attempts.

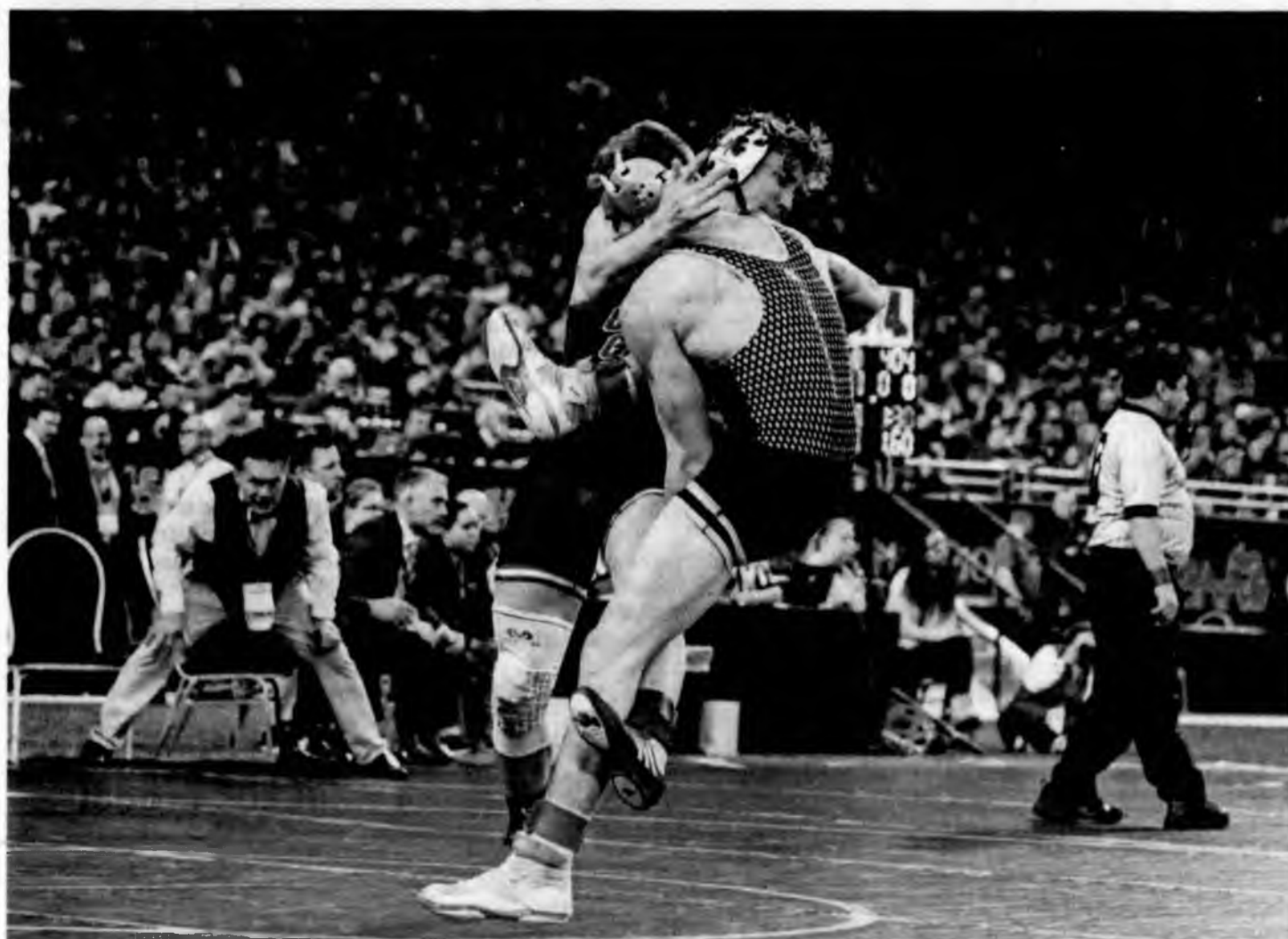
"When you let him see the puck, he's going to make the save," Mitchell said. "He was on tonight. I don't know that we made his life difficult enough. We tried early on, and I think we got to him a bit early, but we only put one past him, and that's what it was."

Coming off a triple-overtime win against Novi to secure the regional title, Mitchell said chasing goals against a goalie of Cormier's caliber is tiring.

The Trojans piled on, scoring two goals in the third period — including an empty-netter by Ethan Holt that secured the four-goal victory.

Stevenson earned a 2-1 win against Trenton on Dec. 14 during the regular season.

"We know that our road is extremely difficult, and people know how I feel about that," Mitchell said. "It struggles when you have the road that you do, year in and year out. It wears on you."



Catholic Central's Derek Gilcher earns his third consecutive individual state wrestling title. COURTESY OF SCOTT CONFER

CC wrestlers win six individual state titles

Collin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Steven Kolchiff walked off the mat to a smattering of boos and cheers, having just earned his second straight state title after defeating Livonia Franklin's Jake Swirple in the heavyweight finals.

Brendin Yatooma, Catholic Central's 215-pound state champion, ran up to him, hugged him and said, "That's how you do it."

Coming into Saturday with nine state finalists, Catholic Central left with six MHSAA individual state titles.

Yatooma, Kolchiff, Josh Edmond

(140), Derek Gilcher (160), Manuel Rojas (189), and Dylan Gilcher (112) each brought home individual state titles for the Shamrocks.

Kolchiff said this is what he expected.

See **WRESTLERS**, Page 2B

Sports wagering in Michigan starts in time for March Madness

Frank Witsil Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

On-site sports betting was expected to go live Wednesday, just in time for March Madness.

It'll be a first for the state and applies to the three Detroit casinos.

The Michigan Gaming Control Board, which licenses and regulates casino gaming at the Detroit commercial casinos, was expected to authorize on-site sports betting at its public meeting

Tuesday at Cadillac Place in Detroit.

"This new gaming opportunity has been highly anticipated," said Richard Kalm, the board's executive director. "And we hope citizens will enjoy it and see benefits from additional revenue to both the state of Michigan and the city of Detroit."

The board does not regulate on-site sports betting at tribal casinos.

The sports betting authorization comes just a few months after a public act legalizing the gaming was signed

into law and just days before the NCAA Division I men's basketball tournament, often referred to as March Madness, is set to release the brackets.

The tournament is one of the most famous sporting events and long has been a source of bets. The American Gaming Association estimated that 47 million Americans bet \$8.5 billion on last year's tournament, and those numbers are expected to increase this year.

To get ready, the board issued provisional licenses to suppliers who assist

the casinos with on-site sports betting by providing sports betting kiosks and information, among other services. The agency said it plans to issue full licenses in the next few months.

Next year, the board is expected to finalize rules for online sports betting and internet casino gaming, including fantasy sports and, the board said, it can begin after licenses are issued to the Michigan tribes and the Detroit commercial casinos and the firms that assist with these activities.



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Stall calls complete Kolcheff-Swirple rivalry

Colin Gay hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Steven Kolcheff always knew it would come down to Jake Swirple.

In the quest to earn his second-straight individual state title at heavy-weight, the Detroit Catholic Central wrestler had to beat the Livonia Franklin wrestler he had a history with. Kolcheff had to beat Swirple, the one who beat him in the regional to hand him the No. 2 seed in the final tournament.

But when the two stepped onto the mat for the final time Saturday — Swirple pacing back and forth like he did for the majority of the afternoon in the practice area — it was more than for just one state title.

It was a culmination of years of bouts. Years of dueling to determine who the best heavyweight in Michigan was.

It was a rivalry that started in the third grade.

Swirple and Kolcheff both participated in the MYWAY state wrestling tournament — a Michigan youth wrestling association — when they were younger, facing each other in the third grade in the state final.

Kolcheff won the first bout.

When both advanced to nationals, Swirple had a chance at redemption in the national final, but eventually fell short again.

"I was a little upset because I lost to him at nationals," Swirple said. "But that's been driving me my whole life. You got to learn from losses, you don't dwell on them. You learn from losses."

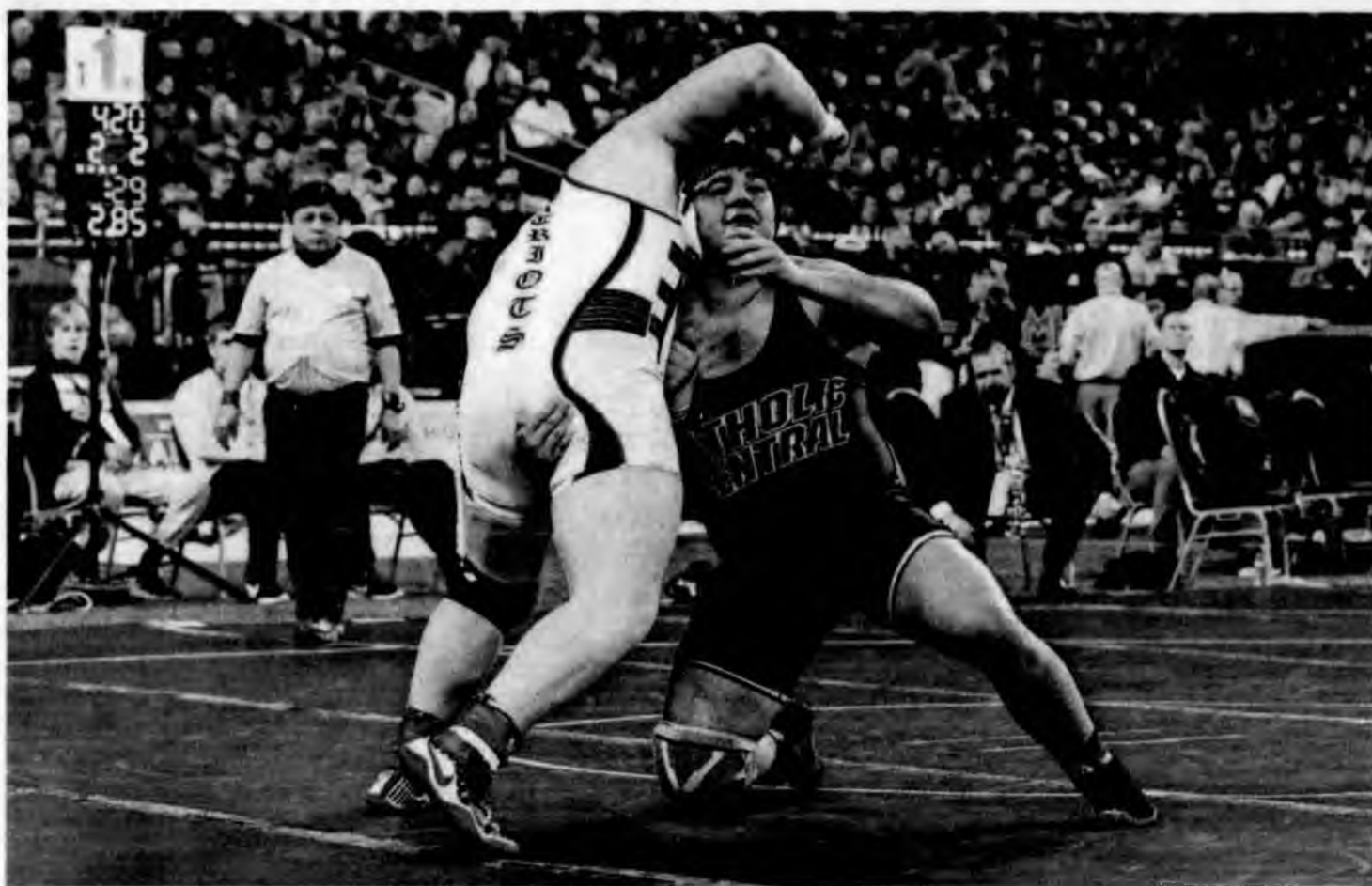
After stepping away from the sport entirely during his middle school years, Swirple returned for Franklin, returning to his rivalry with Kolcheff on the mat.

The two met in the Observerland tournament as Kolcheff won again, defeating Swirple in triple-ultimate overtime. seemingly decided by a coin flip and which wrestler escaped from the other one first.

But in the regional tournament, the narrative shifted.

Swirple defeated Kolcheff in the regional heavyweight final, becoming the No. 1 seed in the state tournament and putting a target on his back as the one to beat.

However, that did not erase the grandiose task the Livonia Franklin senior faced in the final match of his final career, doing something he has never done



Catholic Central's Steven Kolcheff earns a state title at 289 against Livonia Franklin's Jake Swirple. COURTESY OF SCOTT CONFER

twice: beating Kolcheff, who stood between him and his first individual state title.

"He's like 'Dad, this is where I want to be, but I don't have the hardware to prove to people' — obviously because that was one of his goals," Matt Swirple, Jake's father, said. "He wanted to beat Steven."

Kevin Kolcheff can tell by his son's body language how he is going to do on the mat. On Saturday, Steven exuded confidence.

Kevin encouraged his son prior to the start of the match, telling him to do what he has always done against the area opponent.

He knew the final would come down to his son and Swirple, but that does not mean he thinks the matchup deems the word "rivalry."

"I don't think we have ever lost to him until last week," Kevin Kolcheff said. "They're so similar now: Jake's a big, strong, fast, smart kid. Neither of them are too offensively active. They are defensive wrestlers where they kind of

wait for the opponent to make a mistake."

That's exactly what happened in their final bout.

After each wrestler was called for a stall in the first period, neither Kolcheff nor Swirple had the upper hand, leaving regulation deadlocked at two points.

The two met at the center of the mat for the overtime coin flip. When Swirple won it, he celebrated, something that rubbed Kolcheff the wrong way.

However, instead of complaining, he used it to fuel his fire.

"We went to overtime, I went to my corner, and I just said, 'Let's go,'" Kolcheff said.

The two hand fought until Kolcheff attacked. Swirple stood his opponent up, saying that he recorded the double-overs takedown in bounds, securing his first ever state title.

Instead, a stall call was given to Swirple. Kolcheff celebrated again.

"It's tough. I put so much effort into this. So much," Swirple said. "Coming up that short, just an inch or two short,

it's gonna hurt for a while, but I just have to keep working."

As the two passed each other after shaking the hands of the opposing coaching staff, Swirple, straight-faced, yet visibly angry shot past Kolcheff, who, in response, repeated "That's two, that's two," to his opponent's direction.

While boos echoed through Ford Field, seemingly agreeing with Swirple's account, Kolcheff raced to the front of the Catholic Central fan section as teammates surrounded him, drowning out the outside with love from the inside of the program.

Afterwards, that's what Kolcheff said he will remember: the camaraderie of his teammates, his so-called brothers in the midst of dominance.

He won't remember the response, or Swirple.

Kolcheff will instead remember being a two-time state champion.

"I'm a two-time state champ," Kolcheff said. "No one can tell me anything different."

cgay@hometownlife.com

Wrestlers

Continued from Page 1B

"We're one of the most smart-alec teams in the country, I think," he said. "We rag on each other all the time, but I truly believe we are a band of brothers. Amazing."

"Coach (Mitch) Hancock has molded us into something that I don't think can be replicated anywhere else."

While Kolcheff expected to win, he did not expect to win in the way he did. Heading into the overtime period deadlocked at 2, Swirple was called for a stalling call, giving Kolcheff the sudden victory.

"We were hand fighting, he tried going a shot, just rolling on top of him. I actually kind of stood him up, and I got double-overs, and I threw him. I thought I was going to get a takedown because I was in bounds still, then the ref, for some reason, called stalling, saying, I guess, I wasn't being active," Swirple said. "I was being active because I was countering his move with the double-overthrow. I can't explain it in words."

After both Kolcheff and Swirple were each called for a stall call in regulation during the bout, the Catholic Central senior said it's something to expect when the two match up.

"To get that stall call, it's a part of wrestling," Kolcheff said. "The kid really wasn't doing anything."

"I'm happy with my victory. I'm a two-time state champion and nobody can tell me anything different."

Seven wrestling titles

Derek Gilcher is the first wrestler in Catholic Central history to earn seven state titles — four team state championships and three individual state championships — in his four-year tenure, securing the record with a 3-2 decision against Davison's Jay Nivison.

"It's crazy, just adding to the legacy of the program," Gilcher said. "The accomplishments show all of the hard work from the athletes and the coaches and the fans."

Edmond joined Derek Gilcher as a

three-time state champion, transferring from Orchard Lake St. Mary's to Catholic Central prior to the start of his sophomore year.

"Most people know what it's like to be a one-time state champion. I just got three," Edmond said. "I think it's a blessing."

"I'm just proud to be a part of the CC wrestling family."

Winning four straight state team titles with 23 individual state champions in the past four years, Catholic Central head coach Hancock is still in shock about what this senior class was able to put together in the past four years.

"It's a little numbing, you know, to win four titles there and to put this together at the individual state tournament on top of what they did last year. You know, it's not easy to do," Hancock said. "Just really proud of them, and I think when they look back in 10 years or when I look back in 10 years, I think we will have greater appreciation of what we accomplished."

"Right now, it's all about the process, doing the best that we possibly can, and I think we are still in that moment, but in a bit, I think we will look back and say these were some dominant and special days."

Brown, Dunbar end careers with wins

Shawn Brown's focus shifted when he woke up Saturday morning.

After losing to Seaholm's Jackson Vance in the state quarterfinals, the Westland John Glenn wrestler had revenge on his mind when he took the mat in the fifth-place match.

"I already had my mind made up before the match that I wasn't going to lose," Brown said. "It didn't matter, it's my last match."

"So I just got on him, set it up in my favor."

In the final match of his high school career, Brown earned the pin against Vance, securing a fifth-place finish at the individual state finals at 152.

A year after losing in the blood round of the regional round, Brown was hoping to earn a state championship in his last attempt, but fell short.

Birmingham Groves' 189-pound

Division 1 state final results

Local wrestlers in the final matches:

103 Third-place match: Drew Heethuis (CC) defeats Patrick Wlodyga (Hartland), 11-1, in a major decision

112 First-place match: Dylan Gilcher (CC) earns the technical fall against Aiden Smith (Brighton) at 4:29, giving the Shamrocks their first state title of the day. Seventh-place match: Josh Mars (Westland John Glenn) loses to Tamin Machart in a 6-2 decision

119 Seventh-place match: Jack Gattoni (Northville) falls against Kevan Troy (Rochester) at 4:17

125 Fifth-place match: T.J. Bunn (CC) earns the fall against Jeremy Sarter (West Bloomfield) at 3:19

130 Fifth-place match: Garrett Engelhart (Livonia Churchill) loses to Blake Noonan (Rochester Hills Stoney Creek) in a 8-0 major decision

135 First-place match: Eddie Homrock (Brighton) vs. Camden Trupp (CC) loses a major decision, 9-0, to Eddie Homrock (Brighton). Fifth-place match: Phillip Burney (CC) loses to Nathan Jerore in a 11-2 major decision

140 First-place match: Josh Edmond (CC) records a technical fall at 5:50, outscoring Zach Johnson (Brighton), 23-7, earning his third-straight state title.

wrestler Damon Dunbar fell short as well, falling to Rojas 1:18 into the state semifinal.

However, in the third-place match, Dunbar ended his career with a win, defeating Rockford's Cole Gleason in a 7-2 decision.

Dunbar is the first wrestler in Groves history to earn more than 200 wins, leaving with the most pins in school history.

145 First-place match: Marc Shaeffer (CC) falls to T.J. Daughtery (Waterford Kettering), 3-1, with an overtime sudden-victory loss.

152 First-place match: Josh Barr (Davison) defeats Logan Sanom (CC), 5-3, to remain undefeated as a freshman. Fifth-place match: Shawn Brown (Westland John Glenn) earns the pin against Jackson Vance (Birmingham Seaholm) at 4:40.

160 First-place match: Derek Gilcher (CC) earns his third-straight state title, with a 3-2 decision against Jay Nivison (Davison).

189 First-place match: Manuel Rojas (CC) earns his first state title with a 7-3 decision victory against Colin Jagielski (Temperance Bedford). Third-place match: Damon Dunbar (Birmingham Groves) defeats Cole Gleason (Rockford) in a 7-2 decision. Seventh-place match: Isaac Kinne (Lake Orion) earns the fall against Justin Pronyk (Salem) at 4:03.

215 First-place match: Brendin Yatooma (CC) defeats Luke Stanfon (Brighton) with a 4-2 decision victory.

289 First-place match: Steven Kolcheff (CC) earns a sudden victory after Jake Swirple (Livonia Franklin) was called for a stall in the overtime period.

"It kind of hit fast," Dunbar said. "All four years have blown by."

"When you think of four years, that's a long time, but it's really not. It went by too fast. I'm happy with my high school career."

Contact reporter Colin Gay at cgay@hometownlife.com or 248-330-6710. Follow him on Twitter @Colin-Gay17. Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.

Canton's Ben Stesiak wins Athlete of the Week

Andrew Vaillencourt Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Canton senior Ben Stesiak is no stranger to the spotlight.

The three-sport athlete was the football team's quarterback, is the point guard on the basketball team and will play baseball again this spring.

In his team's recent run toward a conference championship, Stesiak has been playing his best basketball and won our Hometown Life Athlete of the Week poll.

Against Belleville in the KLAA semifinal, Stesiak scored 18 points, including a Larry Bird-esque shot at the final buzzer from behind the backboard that won the game. He followed up the miracle shot with a 29-point outburst against Howell in the KLAA title game.

He won our poll by receiving 18,544 votes (48.84 percent), edging runner-up Carson Kleven, a hockey player from Livonia Stevenson, who received 14,643 votes (38.56 percent). Novi hockey's Jay Naidu finished third with 4,342 votes (11.44 percent), while Churchill hockey's Bryant Riley placed fourth and Northville hockey's Nick McInchak placed fifth.

We caught up with Stesiak and asked him some questions:

You were on fire last week, with a buzzer beater and then 29 points against Howell. How has your game developed in recent weeks? Do you feel as confident as you have all year?

"First off I would like to thank my family, friends and all of Chief Nation who has supported me. It is an honor to be named Hometown Life Athlete of the Week!

"I feel I have been much more confident with my game recently. I have been able to get to the rim lately, with control. That is the most important part, having control when I drive to the lane is key to my success. Against Howell I was able to see my first couple of shots drop, and that gave me the confidence to keep shooting the ball. I was able to catch a hot hand that game."

Canton has a difficult district ahead, what will it take to win a district title?

"Winning a district has been our team goal since the start of the season. We are



Canton's Ben Stesiak scored 29 points against Howell in the KLAA championship game last week.

going to do anything and everything we can do to make sure that we achieve that goal. It will start with playing for each other. Strong and tough defense has a huge impact and playing good defense has been a key emphasis for our team this year. Our best offense will come once we get stops on defense. If we can play great team defense and communicate together at all times, we will be a tough out."

Who is your favorite athlete and why?

"My favorite athlete has to be Cassius Winston. Cassius is an amazing player and is one of the best guards in the NCAA. The way he can create for himself and his teammates as well, is far superior to most guards."

Cassius is a star player for Michigan State which makes him even more likable to me. The way he sees the floor is comparable to Magic Johnson, and that's saying a lot."

What's your favorite TV show or movie and why?

"My favorite movie is The Sandlot, and it has been since I was a little kid. That is my go to movie, and it will always be a classic for me."

What do you like to do in your free time outside of basketball?



Stesiak hit the game-winning shot at the buzzer against Belleville in the KLAA semifinal. PHOTOS BY MICHAEL VASILNEK/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

"Along with basketball I love to play baseball and football. I play all three sports at Canton. Outside of sports, Jake Vickers and Tyler Milo (both of whom are on the basketball team) and I love to go out and fish whenever we can get the chance."

What are your future plans? Are you planning to play a sport in college/ do you know where you're going yet?

"I'm still undecided on college. I hope to

have the opportunity to continue my athletic career at that next level playing baseball. Right now I'm just enjoying the journey of my senior year. More work is to be done."

Contact reporter Andrew Vaillencourt at availlenc@hometownlife.com or 810-923-0659. Follow him on Twitter @AndrewVcourt. Send game results and stats to Liv-Sports@hometownlife.com.

Mercy

Continued from Page 1B

Starting strong

After shoot around, Mercy head coach Gary Morris addressed his team, talking to them about their first-half production through the first two games of the season.

He said he could sense a level of timidity in his players, saying they played tight in the first half of wins against Farmington and Novi.

"Maybe it was the pressure of expectations - I mean, we were the favorite to win this district," Morris said. "So I said, 'Guys, don't let those expectations weigh you down. Let's go out and play the way we have played all year.'"

And that's what the Marlins did.

Holding a six-point lead after the first eight minutes, Mercy used a 13-0 run - with six of forward Julia Bishop's team-leading 16 points - to balloon its lead to 15 at the half.

Morris praised the play of Bishop and freshman Maya White in the paint, also pointing to the Marlins' consistency from the perimeter against the Raiders, hitting five 3-pointers, including three by junior Alexis Butler.

However, Morris focused on what he has built his roster on this entire season: defense.

"From our defense, we generate offense," Morris said. "Yeah, we can generate it off the press, but I think if we play really sound defense, we can generate it that way too in the halfcourt."

Mercy allowed only eight points in the first half with only one North Farmington player exceeding double-digit scoring: junior forward Heaven Rogers, who posted 10 points.

Progress made

One season after finishing with a 2-17 record, North Farmington head coach Jeff Simpson left his team's district final loss disappointed, but satisfied with how far this team has come.

"I can't think of one game where we didn't play hard," Simpson said. "We didn't always play smart, you know. We didn't always take care of the basketball, but at least they always gave me 100 percent effort, and as a coach, that's all I can ever ask."

The Raiders finished the year with 12 wins, overcoming a four-game losing streak at the end of 2019 to come back and win six of their next eight games.



Players on the Mercy High School bench rise to cheer for their teammates on the court. PHOTOS JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



North Farmington's Sela Lefler brings the ball upcourt.

North Farmington finished in fifth place in the OAA White, winning six of 12 games against conference opponents.

The Raiders will lose seven seniors next year, but Simpson will look back on this team fondly as one that overcame adversity and competed in each game they participated in.

"This year, every game we were in, we were fighting," Simpson said. "Every game in the fourth quarter, we were in it. Maybe not today, but we still were coming close."

Rematch

The Mercy team has seen Renais-

sance recently.

After beating Bloomfield Hills Marian for the Catholic League title, the Marlins lost to the Phoenixes, 44-32, in the Operation Friendship game Feb. 27, right before the start of playoffs.

Renaissance has been on a hot streak as of late, winning 21 of 23 games this season, scoring more than 50 points in all but two games.

Bishop realizes that the Marlins are in a unique position. She knows that, with no seniors on the roster, this team will have the opportunity to regroup, no matter the result of the playoff run, and try again in the 2021 playoffs.

However, the mindset, especially against the Phoenixes, who handed the Marlins their third loss of the season, remains the same. Bishop said that Mercy still has something to play for.

"Usually right now, this is where seniors step up most and this is where we fight for those seniors, make sure we make no game their last game," Bishop said. "It's a different mindset now because we're always like we can always fall back to the 'We can do it next year.' That's not the mindset with this team, and we're really focused on this year and this game, one step at a time."

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.

Churchill offense slips in regional final loss

Colin Gay hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

For the majority of the season, Livonia Churchill hockey has only gotten stronger as the game has gone on. The Chargers came into the playoffs recording only 11 first-period goals, slightly increasing to 14 in the second and skyrocketing to 45 in the third this season.

That continued March 4 in Churchill's quest to its first regional title since 2018. Despite outshooting Chelsea 19-13 in the first two periods, the Chargers could not convert on a score.

Despite the third-period success throughout the regular season, Churchill (13-12-2) could not convert late, allowing Chelsea to score the deciding goal with 6:09 left in the game, falling to the Bulldogs, 1-0, in the Region 23 final at the Ann Arbor Ice Cube.

Chelsea junior Corbin Steele finished off assists by Devin McIntyre and Tyler Valik, helping hand the Chargers their fourth shutout loss of the season.

However, Churchill showed plenty of promise offensively, recording 29 shots on goal, including 10 in the third period.

Churchill head coach Jason Reynolds said it came down to the lack of success on rebounds off misses.

"The biggest disconnect was that we didn't pick up the second or third opportunities that the goaltender was giving to us," Reynolds said. "We needed more follow-through, we needed more traffic in front of the second or third looks at some of the pucks that were going to the net."

After Churchill botched two open looks — including an open chance by Luc Greener when Chelsea goalie Harrison Lantis was out of goal, trying to reset for the offense — the Bulldogs had their chance in the middle of the second period.

Churchill defenseman Donovan Young was called for roughing, giving Chelsea a two-minute power play. With 11 seconds to spare, Chargers forward Jimmy Targosz was called for another roughing call, giving the Bulldogs another two-minute man advantage, which Churchill survived.

While Reynolds did not see what led to Chelsea's only finish of the day, he said he expects fast and quick slap shots



Churchill hockey could not find the back of the net against Chelsea in the regional final, like Nick Liebau did against Franklin in the semifinal. TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

to go in every once in awhile, no matter how the goalie is performing.

"When you have a low-scoring game like this, anything can happen," Reynolds said. "They got the better of it."

Chargers goalie Bryant Riley recorded 21 saves in the 1-0 loss.

Churchill was trying to return to the state quarterfinal for the first time since losing in the Division 3 state final to Detroit Country Day in 2018. After the majority of that team disbanded after that postseason run, Reynolds faced a re-

building process.

Coming off an early exit in the 2019 playoffs, Reynolds said he saw progress from this group, preaching that this group — a group that will lose only five seniors next season — that it must move on quickly.

"This was a team that we started rebuilding last season. We had an early exit last year. This year, we've continued to build through a lot of adversity, a lot of growth," Reynolds said. "I think we managed to take a few steps forward. So

now we have a group that was young last year that will be moving ahead to their senior year this year. We have a good core group returning. I think you just need to stay the course and continue to build. That's all you can really do."

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.

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CC hockey wins eighth-straight regional title

Colin Gay Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Thirty-eight seconds into the Region 7 final, Detroit Catholic Central hockey faced something it had not faced in its playoff run: a deficit.

The Shamrocks allowed its first goal in the postseason — a finish in front of an empty net by Brendan Lamb after an errant pass by goalie Louis Finnegan.

Having outscored teams 15-0 in the previous two contests, it took just under six minutes for Catholic Central to answer with a power-play goal by forward Nich Borchardt.

As soon as the deficit was eliminated, Catholic Central returned to playing Shamrock hockey.

Catholic Central (20-5) earned its eighth-straight regional title, defeating Birmingham Unified (16-11-1), 9-1, with the help of five second-period goals.

With the eight-goal win March 4 at USA Hockey Arena, the Shamrocks have won 16 regional championships since 2000.

After allowing the first-period goal, Catholic Central head coach Brandon Kaleniecki was not worried. With this new group, he has seen them overcome adversity at multiple points during the regular season, being tested and learning how to respond.

Borchardt's goal sealed Kaleniecki's relief.

"When we finally scored that first goal, you could tell, hey, we're good here," Kaleniecki said. "We're all right."

With forward Brock Swindall giving the Shamrocks a slim 2-1 lead after the first 17 minutes of play, Catholic Central stepped up offensively in the second period.

The Shamrocks recorded five goals in the second period — two by junior forward Collin Scheuher and two by senior forward Kyle Gaffney — to take a 7-1 lead into the final period of play.

"(Gaffney) was snake-bitten earlier in the year, and so for him to start seeing some goals, it's exciting for us because it's the right time of year to see pucks going into the net for some of your top guys," Kaleniecki said.

Along with four goals by Gaffney and Scheuher, Catholic Central for-



CC's Kyle Gaffney scored two goals against Birmingham Unified. PHOTOS BY TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

ward Kyle Miller scored his first goal of the season, assisted by forward Eli Brown and JC Garbacik.

Dylan Dooley, who recorded two assists in the first two periods of play, and Gordon Husted recorded the eighth and ninth goals for Catholic Central in the third period, ending the game with 6:02 on the clock.

Through three games, the Shamrocks have outscored playoff opponents, 24-1, something that matches the mentality Scheuher and the rest of the team plays with.

"We're playing a blank jersey doesn't matter who," Scheuher said. "It's just on to the next one every single time."

"No matter who we play, we're go-

ing to play our best game."

To Gaffney, a senior who has now won four-straight regional titles, the state quarterfinal was just expected, was just next on the schedule.

"I think it's just normal Shamrock hockey," Gaffney said.

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.



CC Captain Dylan Dooley poses for a photo Father Dennis Kauffman and Enzo Tarducci with the trophy.

Hartland rallies for quarterfinal hockey win



Chet L'Esperance scored the first of three third-period goals for Hartland. TIMOTHY ARRICK/FOR THE LIVINGSTON DAILY

Eagles sets up rematch with Trenton Trojans

Bill Khan LivingstonDaily.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Hartland's hockey team is returning to a familiar venue against a familiar opponent, but this time the Eagles are more battle-tested than they were the past two years.

Hartland trailed entering the third period for the second straight game, but scored three goals in the final 9 minutes and 10 seconds to beat Rockford, 3-1, in a Division 2 state quarterfinal Saturday at The Summit.

The fourth-ranked Eagles (19-6-2), still alive in their quest for a third straight state championship, will face third-ranked Trenton at 5 p.m. Thursday in the state semifinals at USA Hockey Arena in Plymouth.

It's the seventh semifinal appearance in the last eight seasons for Hartland, which beat Trenton in each of the past two state finals.

To get to USA Hockey Arena, Hartland outscored four opponents 35-1 in 2018 and 31-1 in 2019.

After opening this postseason with two 9-1 victories, Hartland rallied in the third period to beat Davison, 3-2, in the regional championship game before coming back from a 1-0 deficit after two periods to beat Rockford.

"Our boys are doing what they need to do," Hartland coach Rick Gadwa said. "What we want is to take a two-goal lead into the third period and not be down one or two. There's room for improvement. With that said, they're resilient. When you get to this point, you throw all the other stuff out the window. A win, and you play for a state championship. Lose, and you're going home."

Chet L'Esperance began Hartland's comeback, scoring with 9:10 left in the game to the game, 1-1. Adam Pietila scored the game-winning goal with 3:43 left in the game. Kieran Carlile put the puck into an

"It was one of those games Hartland loves playing where we do a good job keeping it exciting for everybody, they really started on time. They scored two in the first. It was one of those gradual climbs by our team. It was a turning point for us. That's when your team grows up. You have 25 learning lessons in a season; that was one we liked."

Rick Gadwa
Hartland coach

empty net with 53 seconds remaining to seal the victory.

Hartland outshot Rockford, 34-11.

"We always talk about the constant climb with our guys," Gadwa said. "As a coach, you just hope your team's grasping on to the concept that if you're down, you're not out. Having that confidence is important, knowing you can come back and win games late. If you're in a situation like that again, we know we can get it done."

Hartland and Trenton played to a 3-3 tie on Dec. 20 in Hartland. The Trojans jumped out to a 3-0 lead before the Eagles rallied for the tie.

"It was one of those games Hartland loves playing where we do a good job keeping it exciting for everybody," Gadwa said. "They really started on time. They scored two in the first. It was one of those gradual climbs by our team. It was a turning point for us. That's when your team grows up. You have 25 learning lessons in a season; that was one we liked."

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Andy Gryczan, left, stands with 2019 Indianapolis pole winner Simon Pagenaud, whose car Gryczan made sure was running at its optimal potential.
COURTESY OF CHRIS OWENS

Canton man receives share of \$1M prize from GoPro for video

Ed Wright Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Canton resident Andy Gryczan was one of just 45 people out of approximately 42,000 entries from around the world to earn a share of \$1 million in a recent GoPro Hero 8 video contest, but he's not quitting his day job.

And it's easy to understand why.

After proving he's way more than proficient while using the action-fueled videotaping technology in his free time, Gryczan's 9-to-5 calling is as a fine-tuning, speed-enhancing engineer for Plymouth's Ilmor Engineering, a firm hired by IndyCar and NASCAR racing teams, among others, to make their cars run as swiftly as possible.

An adrenaline junkie, Gryczan submitted a breathtaking 69-second clip of him snowboarding down a tree-lined mountain near Nelson, British Columbia, as his entry to the GoPro Million Dollar Challenge.

"GoPro created the contest to encourage people to

film their best video clips with the newest GoPro cameras and submit them for consideration to include in a highlight video," Gryczan explained. "Each person selected receives an equal share of \$1 million, which came to \$22,222.22 per winner."

GoPro edited together highlights of varying lengths from each of the winners' submissions to come up with a two-minute video it will feature in social media marketing.

Gryczan's highlight appears at roughly the 30-second mark in the video.

"In my case, I found out shortly after the official video premiere (Jan. 29) that one of my snowboarding clips was selected," he said. "Since then, I have been connecting with GoPro employees and the other creators around the world, congratulating each other on the respective wins."

"Obviously, winning the money was nice, but I think, at least initially, I got as big of a rush out of just knowing my highlight would be included in the video."

GoPro's second Million Dollar Challenge video is a crowd-sourced initiative to recognize and reward HERO8 Black and MAX users for capturing what GoPro refers to internally as "bangers" – videos filled with unique perspectives, spectacular adventures and captivating moments – from around the world.

Jaw-dropping, indeed

Traditionally, the product-focused video was produced by GoPro's internal media team to ensure a continuous stream of jaw-dropping shots.

But for the second year in a row, GoPro put its trust in the hands of its community.

"I mounted the camera to the front of my (snowboarding) helmet so that the angle could capture the front of my board and what was ahead of me," Gryczan said. "Once I edited the video and sent it in, I just sat back and waited, knowing I had done everything I could."

"The day the winners were revealed, I crossed my fingers, but didn't get my hopes up too high before the 9 a.m. release time."

Gryczan was at work at his Plymouth office when an avalanche of congratulatory emails started flooding his inbox and happy, emoji-filled messages lit up his cell phone.

"I thought it was kind of cool that mine was the only snowboarding highlight on the video," Gryczan said.

Did the judges select the best clip of his entry to put into the final product?

"I feel they did," Gryczan said. "In fact, I can remember the run (down the hill) like it was yesterday, and the part they chose was when I was going down a lot of fresh snow with some tight trees on either side of me."

"I think it kind of nails what they were trying to get out of the contest."

Not surprisingly, Gryczan said he plans to invest at least a portion of his winnings into more videotaping equipment.

Hooked on video

In addition to using GoPro, the Grandville native enjoys producing captivating videos with a drone he uses during vacations and work-related trips.

"For instance, when I was in San Francisco, I got some pretty cool footage of the Golden Gate Bridge," he said. "And I put together a video that I put together from the drone footage of Belle Isle."

Gryczan's IndyCar focus is on making the Chevrolet-sponsored cars run as fast as possible. He travels to all of the IndyCar events and actually assists in calibrating the engines during the races.

"I love my job," he said. "When I invite my friends and family to the races, I try to make sure they experience some of the glamorous side of the sport."

Unfortunately, Gryczan revealed, he doesn't get to sit in the cockpits of the cars he works on – at least while they're moving.

"When I attended Michigan State, I was in a program in which we got to operate these mini-race cars that got up to about 80 or 90 (miles per hour)," he said. "After doing that, I can only imagine what it would be like to drive one going over 200."

ewright@hometownlife.com

Obituaries

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Richard D. Buck

BRIGHTON - March 9, 2020, Age 89 .

Beloved husband of Barbara. Loving father of Pamela (Daniel) Glynn, Debbie (Harold) Patterson, Jean (Anthony) Amador, Jo (Carrie) Buck and the late James Buck. Proud grandfather of 10 and great-grandfather of 7. Preceded in death by brothers Robert, Leonard, Ernie and Earl.

Visitation Friday 10 a.m., The Naz-Brighton Nazarene Church, 7669 Brighton Rd. (W. of Grand River) until time of funeral service at 12 noon.

Share a "Memorial Tribute" with the family at keehngriffinfuneralhome.com.

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Canton resident Andy Gryczan holds the GoPro camera that helped him win a share of \$1 million. Watch his video submission and GoPro's final video online at HometownLife.com.
COURTESY OF ANDY GRYCZAN

South Lyon Stars finish successful season

Coming off of back-to-back Division 2 state titles, the South Lyon Stars middle school pom team moved up to Division 1 and finished in third place at the state finals at the EMU Convocation Center.

The team also won the Pistons Classic, finishing in first place in the middle-school division for the second year in a row.

In a high kick competition – the first time in the team's history it had ever competed in this event – the Stars finished second in the middle-school division.

The team is coached by Meredith McNamara, Stacy Sheaffer, Brittany Hill and Makaela Hill.

Send game results and stats to LivSports@hometownlife.com.



The South Lyon Stars middle school pom team moved up to Division 1 and finished in third place at the state finals at EMU Convocation Center.

SUBMITTED

Howell earns first hockey semifinal berth in 10 years

Bill Khan Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

MACOMB — Stefan Frantti is as modest as he is talented when it comes to hockey.

The dynamic senior forward had a hand in all four Howell goals in a 4-3 victory over Macomb L'Anse Creuse North in the Division 1 state quarterfinals Saturday night at Suburban Ice.

Frantti scored one goal and set up three others, pushing his season totals to 22 goals and 37 assists in 25 games.

"The puck was just bouncing well for me tonight," Frantti said.

Howell coach Rocky Johnson believes there is indeed something special about Frantti, whom he believes doesn't get enough credit on a statewide basis.

"There's no reason this kid should be left off any list of the best players in the state of Michigan," Johnson said. "It's ridiculous. The size, the speed, the production, the defensive play."

Frantti's skills will now be on display for a larger audience with Howell returning to the state semifinals for the first time in 10 years and third time in team history.



Howell's Steven Miller, right, checks Jordan Rivera of Macomb L'Anse Creuse North into the boards during the state Division 1 quarterfinal March 7.

COURTESY OF DAN ZEPPA

The seventh-ranked Highlanders (19-10) have won three straight one-goal games to earn a semifinal berth against

second-ranked Saginaw Heritage (25-3) at 7:30 p.m. Friday at USA Hockey Arena in Plymouth. It's a rematch of a game

Howell won, 5-3, in its regular-season finale on Feb. 21.

"Obviously, on the mental side of the game, it gives our kids a lot of confidence," Johnson said. "But, listen, they're the No. 2 team in Division 1 for a reason. They score goals at will. We're going to have to come out defensively and play really tight."

Howell's quarterfinal game was tied 1-1 after one period, with Cameron Sturos scoring with 4:08 left in the period for the Highlanders and Jordan Rivera countering with 10.4 seconds left for L'Anse Creuse North.

The Highlanders broke loose for three goals in the second to take a 4-1 lead. Brandon Eoll scored the tie-breaking goal with 12:59 left in the second, Frantti scored two minutes later and Trevan Pennala scored with 8:08 left in the second.

Jeffrey Deriemacker got L'Anse Creuse North within 4-2 when he scored with 4:39 left in the second. Cole Ringstad's goal with 3:31 left in the game created some tension for Howell down the stretch.

Howell outshot L'Anse Creuse North, 35-23.

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What a job-seeker's resume should look like in 2020

Kate Lopaze
thejobnetwork.com

2020 may not feel like the crazy future we were taught to expect by pop culture (Flying cars! Robot servants and/or overlords! Food in pill form!), but it's still a fresh start on a new decade, with lots of cutting-edge ideas and technology. If you're working on bringing your resume into the real future (no offense, sci-fi writers), here are some guidelines to use as you create your path in this new decade.

Don't worry so much about traditional formatting

While your resume should always have a nice, clean layout and be easy to read, you need to think about how it will look on different kinds of screens. Recruiters and hiring managers are busy, and the seconds they spend reading while looking at a quick printout or a small phone screen. So, don't spend your resume construction time worrying about font choices – pick something that's easy to read no matter what, like Times New Roman, Georgia, or Calibri.

Ditch the objective

Objectives are a classic part of a resume, but honestly, they're not very useful or necessary. The reader already knows you're seeking a job at his or her company. Still, one-line summary headers are a good thing, because they break up the space of a resume and help guide the narrative – so use the old objective space for a new summary line.

A summary statement is unlike an objective because it's not about what you're seeking and what you want – it's about the story you want to tell and



GETTY IMAGES

about what you bring to the job.

Some examples of strong summary lines:

■ Content expert with 15+ years of experience in executing marketing campaigns.

■ Strong leader with a focus on community and talent development.

■ Skilled communicator adept at solving complex problems and bringing innovation to every process.

The earlier you introduce your brand and your strengths into your resume, the better.

Be picky about your experience

If you have a resume that dutifully outlines every job you've ever held, re-think what you need to include. As long as you don't leave glaring gaps by removing previous jobs (which can lead to suspicion or confusion about what lurks below your resume), it's fine to put most of your resume real estate into only the most relevant, recent jobs and accomplishments. Old (or less relevant) jobs can be relegated to a line or two listing the amount of time you worked there.

Keep it simple

When reviewing a resume, no one wants to read large blocks of uninterrupted text. Think of your resume as your highlight reel – not the whole game. Sentences should be concise and clear. Skills and experience should be listed as succinct, punchy bullet points that are easy to read and digest quickly. You can add more context later in a cover letter or an interview, but your resume should have only the most important information to get you to the next step.

Whenever possible, use numbers to show results. It's one of the quickest ways to convey the accomplishments and outcomes you achieved in that role.

Don't rely on spell-check

In a "type fast, send now" world, we all lean pretty heavily on spell-check and autocorrect to clean up our writing. But plenty of typos can slip under the radar, and autocorrect has been known to, well, go rogue. Always read your resume carefully before you send it anywhere.

And ideally, you should have a trusted reader who can give it an impartial once-over to see anything you might have missed.

With these tips in mind as you work on your new resume for a new year and a new decade, remember these basics: clean writing, confidence in your accomplishments, and a tailored message will never go out of style.

Kate Lopaze is a career advice journalist for TheJobNetwork.com where this article was originally published. She investigates and writes about current strategies, tips, and trending topics related to all stages of one's career.

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THURSDAY PUZZLE CORNER

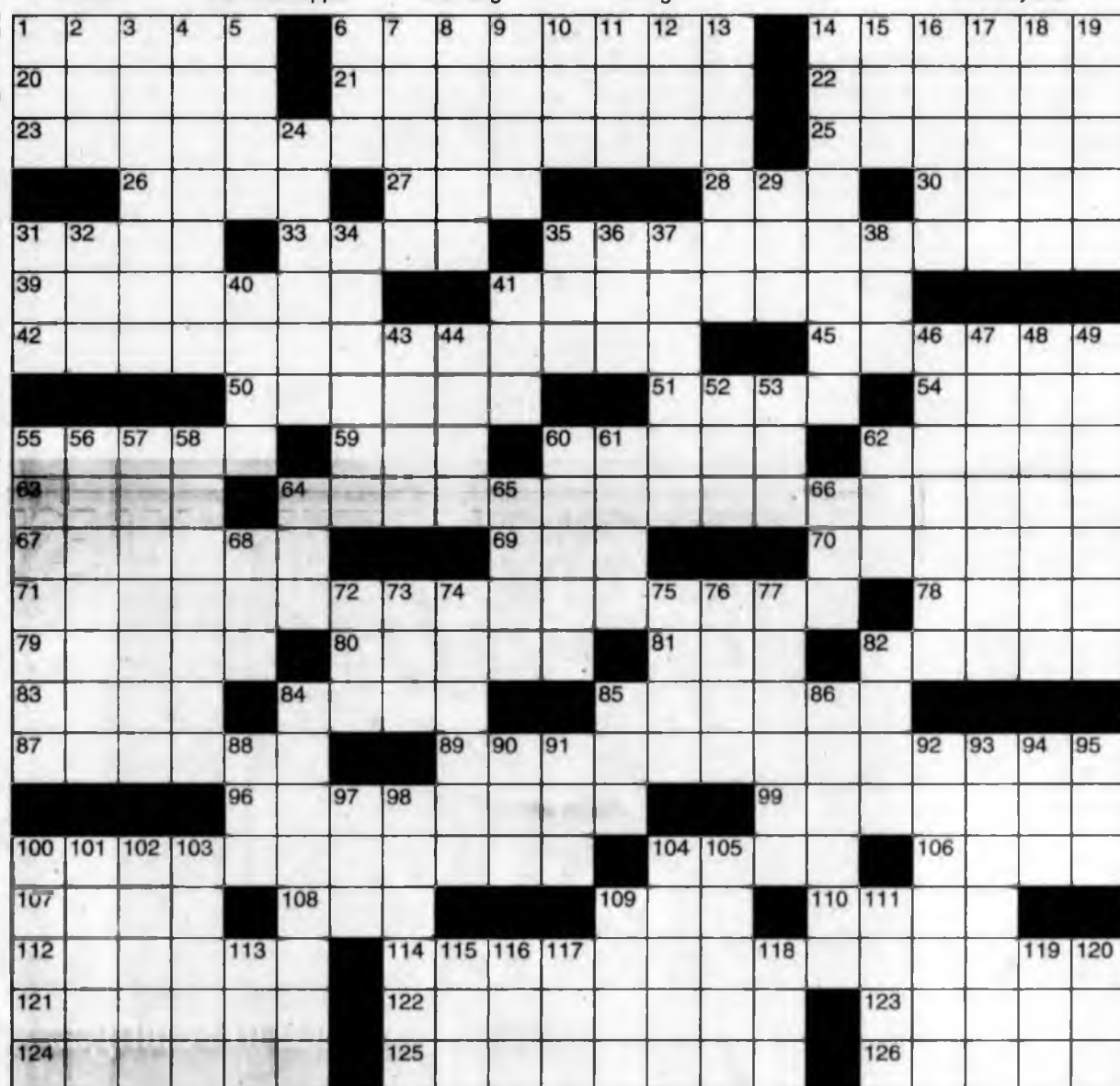
CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- 1 Competitor
6 Least hilly
14 Spring birds
20 Adult insect stage
21 Irish moss or nori
22 Insect's egg capsule
23 Steady job, say
25 Money, slangily
26 Egg on
27 See 110-Across
28 One — kind
30 Israeli politician
31 Waikiki locale
33 Catholic liturgy
35 Steak/lobster combo dish
39 Leave behind
41 Aquarium shop supply
42 Endowing organization
45 Didn't allow to pass, as a bill
50 Swimmer Gertrude
51 "— the night before ..."
54 Novelist — Stanley Gardner
- 55 Pass, as a bill
59 "Lady Love" singer Rawls
60 Really hate
62 Jeans brand
63 Recline lazily
64 Regulating system
67 Main nun
69 Nest egg abbr.
70 Estevez of "Tex"
71 Attractive
78 Tesla's Musk
79 Volley starter
80 Flora and fauna
81 GPS display
82 Vogue thing
83 Uruguay's Punta del —
84 Good buds
85 Campout fuel
87 Suffer from hunger
89 Like an attention-grabbing actor
96 Unrefined petroleum
99 Eppie who's known as Ann Landers
100 Home-state candidate
104 Skillful feat
106 Clodhopper
- 107 Pitcher Hersher
108 Grassy tract
109 Deceive
110 With 27-Across, makeshift sheds
112 Theater area
114 What the starts of seven answers in this puzzle might do?
121 California beach city
122 Online merchants
123 Sharpens
124 Appraise
125 Sign on a dead-end street
126 Start
- 8 "Ciao!" in Chihuahua
9 Gets bronze
10 Special attention, for short
11 Conceit
12 Singer Cooke
13 Start a golf hole
14 Longtime Russian dynasty members
15 Large gametes
16 "Carmen" composer Georges
17 D-Max pickup truck maker
18 Appellation bestower
19 Neck warmer
24 Halley of Halley's comet
29 — Schwarz (toy store)
31 Clodhopper
32 — Dhabi
34 San — (Texas city near Abilene)
35 Ungodliness
36 The Trojans of the NCAA
37 Musical beat
38 1950s prez
40 Losing effort?
41 Add-on charge
- 43 Cal's twin in "East of Eden"
44 Fill to excess
46 More itty-bitty
47 Redenbacher of popcorn
48 Omission of a syllable
49 Archbishop Tutu
52 Affliction
53 Projectile path
55 Slips by
56 Most majestic
57 Calgary locale
58 Meat cutter
60 Large artery
61 Ho-hum
62 Hasty escape
64 2000-15 CBS drama
65 Prison melee
66 Laugh half
68 ND-to-LA dir.
72 Rockets' gp.
73 Actor Gerard
74 Chucks out
75 Art Deco artist
76 Summers, in Somme
77 Dr. Seuss' title turtle
82 Warty hopper
84 Very risky
85 Hit sketch show since '75
- 86 Tattooing tool
88 Outmoded TV adjunct
90 Aviary sound
91 A, in Berlin
92 Classic Chrysler
93 Heat-attached patches
94 Prefix with natal
95 Mutt's threat
97 Adaptable truck, in brief
98 Stun with sound
100 Pro — (perfunctory)
101 Opera songs
102 Osso buco meats
103 "Kukla, Fran and —"
104 Carpentry peg
105 — nous
109 Stallion-to-be
111 Iterate
113 Samantha Bee's station
115 Southern Sioux
116 Thai tongue
117 Lucy of TV's "Elementary"
118 1940s prez
119 Really little
120 July hrs.

DOWN

- 1 Grafton's "— for Ricochet"
2 "If u ask me ..."
3 Singer Sarah
4 Bad way for a ship to run
5 "Livin' La Vida —" (1999 #1 hit)
6 Swing to and —
7 Some jabs in the ring



For assistance or suggestions on the Puzzle Corner, contact Steve McClellan at (517) 702-4247 or smcclellan@michigan.com. Want more puzzles? Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at QuillDriverBooks.com

SUDOKU



Difficulty Level ★★

3/12

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

CHORUS WORD SEARCH

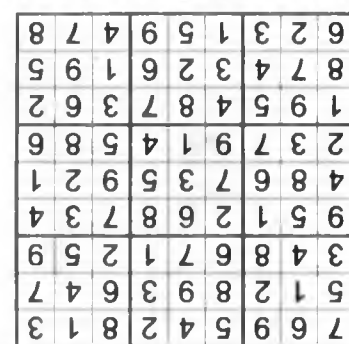
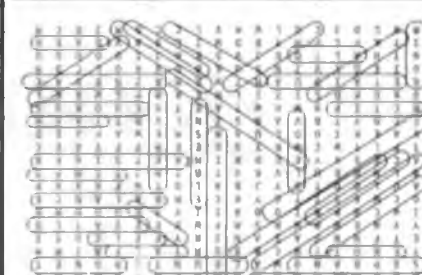
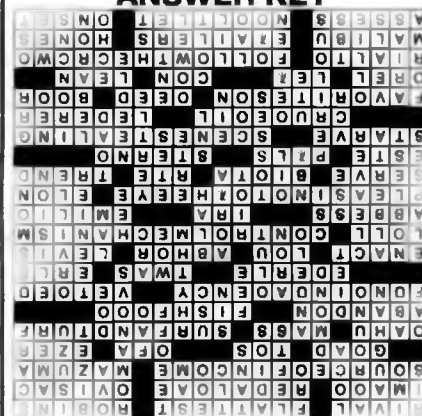


Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS

A CAPPELLA
ACCENT
ALTO
AUDIATE
BALANCE
BARITONE
BASS
BEAT
CADENZA
CHEST
CHOIR
CHORUS
CLEF
COUNT
ENSEMBLE
FALSETTO
FLAT
HEAD
KEY
MAJOR
MEASURE
MINOR
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MOVEMENT
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