



NORTHVILLE RECORD

THURSDAY, MAY 5, 2022 | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

State orders action to protect Milford water

Supply threatened by contamination from former Kelsey-Hayes property

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

State officials have ordered actions to stop a contamination threat to the Village of Milford's drinking water.

The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy

(EGLE) ordered ZF Active Safety US Inc. to install a treatment system to address unacceptable levels of vinyl chloride contamination stemming from the former Kelsey-Hayes property on Oak Street just north of downtown.

Kevin Wojciechowski, EGLE project manager, stressed multiple times dur-

ing a public meeting held via Zoom that Milford water is currently safe to drink and is being sampled monthly to make sure it remains that way.

"Vinyl chloride has never been detected in village drinking water wells

See **WATER**, Page 4A



The former Kelsey-Hayes site.
PHILIP ALLEN/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

South Lyon puts road tax request on August ballot

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

South Lyon voters will see an \$18.465 million bond proposal for road improvements on the August ballot.

The proposal includes a nearly 2-mill increase in taxes for city residents in order to finance repayment of the bonds over a 10-year period.

The council unanimously approved the ballot language after nearly 2 years of discussions on how to address the roughly \$40 million of work that is needed on deteriorating city streets, 97% of which are in poor condition.

"This is the start of a long-term plan," City Manager Paul Zelenak said of the bond proposal. "It's about half of the total that is needed and that will change because costs go up. But we have to get started."

If voters approve the proposal, 1.9946 mills would be levied beginning with their July 2023 tax bill. The increase equates to about \$250 per year for a resident whose home is valued at \$250,000.

The ballot language notes the "estimated simple average annual millage rate required to retire the bonds is 4.0894 mills."

Zelenak explained that in 2026, the city will retire a 3 mill water and sewer levy that has been on residents' tax bills since voters approved it in 2003. If voters approve the bond proposal for the roads, that 3 mills would stay on tax bills and be applied toward paying off the bonds, in addition to the 2 mill

See **REQUEST**, Page 5A

Crushing the stigma



Molly Hearsch and Lisa Hoy, Novi High School seniors, read messages on a vehicle that was crushed during a mental health awareness event at the school April 29. SUSAN BROMLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Novi High students destroy cars to address mental health stressors

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Novi teenagers have a lot on their minds.

On Friday morning, a jumble of troubles were written in black marker

on four white junker vehicles in the parking lot of Novi High School, revealing dozens of stressors.

Many lamented AP classes, school start times, sports drills, homework and cafeteria food — "those dry chicken sandwiches."

Others went far beyond school-related problems, including "my parent's cancer," "having a better father," racism, sexual assault, self-hatred and loneliness.

See **STIGMA**, Page 4A

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**City of Northville
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
2022-23 PROPOSED ANNUAL CITY BUDGET**

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held on Monday, May 16, 2022 at 7:00 P.M. in the City Council chambers of the Northville City Hall, 215 W. Main Street, for the purpose of receiving testimony and discussing the proposed 2022-23 Annual City Budget. The meeting will have a Zoom public participation option. The link will be posted on the meeting agenda and the City's website.

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be the subject of this hearing.

PROPOSED 2022 MILLAGE RATES The following statements are provided, as required by State statute, concerning the 2022 proposed millage levies for the City of Northville.

The 2022 tax levy for the City Operating Millage is proposed to be 13.0182 mills, compared to 13.0496 mills in 2021, resulting in a decrease of 0.24%. The City Council has authority under the City Charter to set the Operating Millage rate within the maximum allowed rate of 13.0182 mills, as adjusted by the Headlee roll-back formula.

The 2022 levy for the Improvement Program for Streets, Drainage and Sidewalks, approved by the voters on March 4, 1997, is proposed to be 1.6216 mills, compared to 1.6256 mills in 2021, resulting in a 0.25% decrease.

The 2022 levy for Street Bonds for repayment of issued bonds, approved by voters on November 6, 2018, is proposed to be 0.7862 mills, compared to 0.8311 mills in 2021, resulting in a 5.4% decrease.

The total City millage for operating, debt, and improvements is proposed to be 15.4260 mills in 2022. Compared to the 15.5063 mills levied in 2021, the decrease is 0.0803 mills, or 0.52%.

ANTICIPATED EQUALIZATION FACTORS The 2022 equalization factors for both Wayne and Oakland County are expected to be 1.00 for all classes of property.

Publish: May 5, 2022

LD-000002110 3x4.5

**CITY OF NOVI
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, May 11, 2022, at 7:00 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider **29906 BRUSH PARK CT. PBR22-0008 FOR A WOODLAND USE PERMIT**. The subject property totals approximately 0.41 acres and is located at 29906 Brush Park Court (Lot 12 West Park Place), north of West Road, west of West Park Drive (Section 4). The subject property is zoned R-2 (One-Family Residential). The applicant is requesting to remove 4 regulated woodland trees in order to construct a single-family residential structure on the lot.

Plans are available for review by contacting the Community Development Department at the following email address: bmcbeth@cityofnovi.org



Subject Parcel ID: 50-22-04-451-028

All interested persons are invited to attend this in-person meeting. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments may be made to the Community Development Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 during the City's regular business hours, Monday thru Friday, from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., and must be received by 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, May 11, 2022.

Published on May 5, 2022
Novi Planning Commission
Michael Lynch, Secretary

Publish: May 5, 2022

LD-0000075334-01 3x7.5

**CITY OF NOVI
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, May 11, 2022, at 7:00 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider **24191 TRAFALGAR CT. PBR22-0055 FOR A WOODLAND USE PERMIT**. The subject property totals approximately 0.56 acres and is located at 24191 Trafalgar Court, east of Beck Road, south of Ten Mile Road (Section 28). The subject property is zoned R-1 (One-Family Residential). The applicant is requesting to remove 79 regulated woodland trees in order to construct a single-family residential structure on the lot.

Plans are available for review by contacting the Community Development Department at the following email address: bmcbeth@cityofnovi.org



Subject Parcel ID: 50-22-28-101-025

All interested persons are invited to attend this in-person meeting. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments may be made to the Community Development Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 during the City's regular business hours, Monday thru Friday, from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., and must be received by 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, May 11, 2022.

Published on May 5, 2022
Novi Planning Commission
Michael Lynch, Secretary

Publish: May 5, 2022

LD-0000075334-01 3x7.5

Superintendent search on in Novi as Matthews, Webber officially resign

Susan Bromley hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

With Superintendent Steve Matthews' official resignation tendered last week, the Novi Board of Education has begun their search for the next leader of the district.

The board hired the Michigan Leadership Institute to conduct the superintendent search, and the firm has already posted the vacancy on its website.

Additionally, the school board agreed to post the vacancy of the assistant superintendent of academic services position, so that Matthews can begin searching for RJ Webber's replacement, aided by an administration committee.

Webber confirmed publicly during the board's April 21 meeting his plans to leave for Northville, where the school board unanimously agreed to offer him the top job earlier this month. Webber and the Northville Board of Education formalized a contract agreement April 26.

The simultaneous exit from Novi of two leaders who have worked side by side in the district for more than a decade is seen by some as unfortunate timing. It has also led to some outcry among parents and staff who wanted the Novi board to forgo a search process and offer Webber the top administrative spot to keep him from going to Northville.

Jay Bennett, assistant director of ex-

ecutive search services for the Michigan Association of School Boards, tracks every superintendent change in the state and said there has been an uptick in turnover as well as an increase in hiring firms to help with finding new superintendents.

Bennett said he has tracked 93 superintendent changes in the past 10 months. In the 2018-2019 school year, the state saw 72 changes in superintendents. In 2019-2020, there were only 66 changes. There are about 900 school districts in Michigan.

He believes the number of moves could have been down the previous two years as superintendents stayed put to help their districts through the pandemic, but there are likely a multitude of reasons turnover has now skyrocketed.

"It's hard to say what it is," Bennett said. "There's a perfect storm of superintendents coming to an age when they are eligible to retire... Some put in their time and are ready to go."

In Novi, he expects a large pool of qualified candidates to apply for an attractive position in a well-regarded district in a metropolitan area that has more districts of a similar size and stature.

A tentative timeline for the superintendent search is posted on the district's website and includes a survey in which stakeholders can share what is important to them in the selection.

hometownlife.com

Observer & Eccentric Newspapers
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NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED 2022-23 BUDGET

In compliance with "Act No. 43," State of Michigan Public Act of 1963, and "Act No. 2," State of Michigan Public Acts of 1968 ("Section 16" of the Uniform Budgeting and Accounting Act), Schoolcraft College publishes this notification of a public hearing on the proposed 2022-23 College budget. This hearing is to take place at 7:00 p.m. on **Wednesday, May 25, 2022** at the Jeffress Center Board Room JC 228, 18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia, Michigan.

A copy of the proposed budget is available for public inspection upon request by contacting the Accounting & Budget Manager at 734-462-4551.

Jon Lamb, CPA
Chief Financial Officer

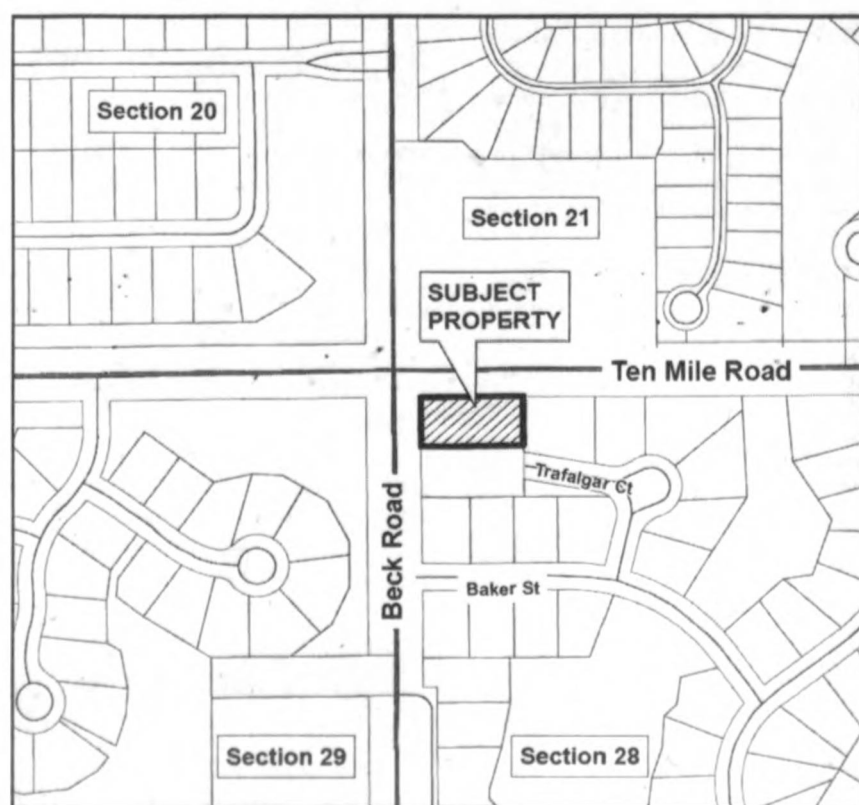
Publish: May 1 & 5, 2022

LD-0000081938 3x2.5

**CITY OF NOVI
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, May 11, 2022, at 7:00 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider **24190 TRAFALGAR CT. PBR22-0054 FOR A WOODLAND USE PERMIT**. The subject property totals approximately 0.56 acres and is located at 24190 Trafalgar Court, east of Beck Road, south of Ten Mile Road (Section 28). The subject property is zoned R-1 (One-Family Residential). The applicant is requesting to remove 42 regulated woodland trees in order to construct a single-family residential structure on the lot.

Plans are available for review by contacting the Community Development Department at the following email address: bmcbeth@cityofnovi.org



Subject Parcel ID: 50-22-28-101-024

All interested persons are invited to attend this in-person meeting. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments may be made to the Community Development Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 during the City's regular business hours, Monday thru Friday, from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., and must be received by 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, May 11, 2022.

Published on May 5, 2022
Novi Planning Commission
Michael Lynch, Secretary

LD-0000081938 3x7.5

WWII veteran's remains identified, 77 years later

Susan Bromley
Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICH.

Maryalce Lupher has spent a lifetime missing her father.

But 77 years after Alfred R. Ricke was killed in action in World War II, his remains have finally been identified and his daughter is finding peace as she prepares to lay her father to rest at last.

"I still haven't come quite back down to Earth yet," Lupher, 83, said. "After 77 years — to get this kind of news, I still can't believe it's happening."

The Farmington Hills resident took the first step toward closure of a nearly 8-decade mystery April 19 as she accepted seven medals in her father's honor, including the Bronze Star and Purple Heart.

"We are providing closure to a bloodline. We are solving the mystery of what happened to them," said National Guard 1st Sgt. Kris Babel, who presented Lupher with the medals on behalf of the Ft. Knox Casualty Assistance Center in a program run by the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency. "It's a big deal and I feel honored to be a part of that. It's an honor to bring these people home."

Maryalce was just 5 when she last saw her father, who went missing in action on Aug. 25, 1944, and was declared dead months later.

But resolution to the mystery of what happened to him began last fall when Lupher received a letter from a genealogical society in Pennsylvania that she recalls began: "We believe you are the daughter of Alfred R. Ricke..."

She was stunned to learn the military was doing an exhaustive search to identify the remains of servicemen who had gone missing in action from various conflicts dating back to World War I and were requesting DNA samples. She and three of her male cousins

submitted DNA specimens.

Another wait began, but this one relatively short compared to what the family had already endured.

"After all this time, you come to accept it," Lupher said. "It was like it was getting my hopes up all over again when they said they were doing this search and trying to locate my father. You start going through the emotions all over again."

Lupher still retains some memories of her father. The most vivid one is of him carrying her baby sister, Eileen, on his shoulders down some apartment stairs while he was home on leave in Pennsylvania.

Ricke, who had trained to be a rifleman in the Army, was sent overseas to fight in the war shortly after. His daughters and wife, Dorothy, would never see him again.

It didn't mean Lupher would stop trying. Years ago, she recalled watching a documentary on D-Day.

"They showed film from the landing, and I told my mother 'I kept watching for a familiar face,'" Lupher recalls.

But that search was in vain as Ricke had not yet left the United States. He



Ricke joined the Army in January 1944.

arrived in Europe in July 1944 and was killed less than two months later.

Lupher has had opportunity to wonder how her life might have been different without the absence of her father.

Mom Dorothy Ricke remarried and would have five more children, but her second husband died from a heart ailment after only seven years of marriage. A third marriage lasted 25 years.

Lupher herself was luckier in love and has been married for 61 years to husband Bill. They have four sons, who have also missed the presence of their grandfather.

Craig Lupher of Milford called it "nothing short of a miracle" when the call came that his grandfather's remains had been identified.

"I'm so happy for Mom



National Guard 1st Sgt. Kris Babel presents a Bronze Star medal to Maryalce Lupher in honor of her father, Alfred R. Ricke, who was killed in action Aug. 25, 1944 in France. TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

that she finally has the answers and closure," he said. "This is her miracle."

While not all the answers are in from an anticipated military briefing, Maryalce Lupher and her sister Eileen have agreed that the best final resting place for their father will be in the Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly.

Lupher anticipates being able to visit him much easier there than at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia.

"Taps" will be played

when Ricke's funeral service is finally held, as it holds a special place in her heart. She heard it at Arlington just as she laid her hand on top of a cenotaph, a marker memorial-

izing Ricke, shortly after it was installed years ago.

"It was like somebody had said, 'Ok, it's time,'" she said. "It was God's hand, I think he knew I needed that."



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CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF PROVISIONS OF THE NOXIOUS WEED ORDINANCE

TO: All owners, occupants or possessors of subdivided lands or lots:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in accordance with Chapter 21, Article II, of the Code of Ordinances, City of Novi, Michigan, all noxious weeds, or other weeds, grass, brush, or deleterious, unhealthy growths exceeding a height of eight (8) inches, growing, standing or lying upon any property in the City of Novi, shall be cut down, destroyed or removed as the case may be, at least twice in each year, once during the last half of the month of May and again during the last half of July of each year and more often as may be necessary.

If the owner or occupant, or any person or persons, agent, firm, or corporation having control or management of any subdivided land or lots or any other non-subdivided parcel of land upon which any building or buildings have been erected shall fail, refuse, or neglect to comply with the above mentioned Code provisions, the city shall cause the weeds, grass, brush, deleterious, unhealthy growths, rubbish, to be cut down, destroyed, or removed. Provided, further, that any lands which are situated within the floodplains or any natural streams or watercourses, or any area between the lower or upper banks of such streams or watercourses shall be exempted from the provisions of such Code provisions. The expense incurred by the City in the cutting, destruction, or removal of same, together with an administrative charge established pursuant to resolution of City Council, will be levied and collected against such property in the manner provided by law.

Failure to comply with the requirements set forth in Chapter 21, Article II, of the Code of Ordinances, City of Novi, Michigan, may also result in the prosecution for same, and liability to the extent of the penalty therein provided.

Charles Boulard, Building Official
City of Novi

Publish: May 5, 2022

LD-GC0087476-01 2/48

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ATTENTION ALL VILLAGE RESIDENTS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in accordance with Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) requirements a **PUBLIC HEARING** will be held by the Village of Milford in the Milford Civic Center, 1100 Atlantic Street, Milford, Michigan 48381, on May 16, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. to receive written and verbal comments regarding the reprogramming of federal CDBG funds as follows:

CDBG Project Description for Program Years 2019, 2020 and 2021, Activity Number: 73169, Activity Description: Remove Architectural Barriers, locations changed to:

SE & SW corners of Highland and W. Commerce
SE & SW corners of Cabinet and W. Commerce

Arrangements to reasonably accommodate special needs, including handicap accessibility or interpreter, will be made upon receiving 72-hour advance notice. Contact Debby Frazer at 248-684-1515, 1100 Atlantic, Milford, Michigan 48381 for special services.

DEBORAH S. FRAZER, CMMC
Assistant Manager/Clerk
Village of Milford

Publish: May 5, 2022

LD-GC00873340-01 3/4

City of Northville NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF BUDGET

FY 2023 CITY BUDGET The budget for the various Funds of the City of Northville are proposed for the year ended June 30, 2023 as follows:

Revenues		SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS		Revenues	Expenditures
GENERAL FUND		Street, Drainage & Sidewalk Improvement Fund		1,265,569	1,265,569
Property Taxes	\$6,064,167	Major Streets Fund		786,207	786,207
Licenses, Fees and Permits	409,000	Local Streets Fund		1,625,664	1,625,664
Grants	2,500	Parking Fund		185,855	185,855
Racetrack Breakage/Police & Fire Service	16,205	Housing Commission Fund		958,230	958,230
Cemetery Revenues	87,500	Sustainability Revolving Fund		5,556	5,556
State Shared Revenue	694,177	ENTERPRISE FUNDS			
Sales and Services	824,547	Refuse & Recycling Fund		675,465	675,465
Fines and Forfeitures	10,800	Water & Sewer Fund		4,497,443	4,497,443
Other Revenues	461,233	DEBT SERVICE FUNDS			
Interfund Transfers	111,000	Street Bond Debt Service Fund		351,079	351,079
General Fund Total	\$8,681,129	DDA Bond Debt Service Fund		169,880	169,880
		Housing Bond Debt Service Fund		96,017	96,017
Expenditures		CAPITAL PROJECTS FUNDS			
Administration	\$1,446,060	Public Improvement Fund		527,450	527,450
City Hall Buildings and Grounds	156,280	Fire Equipment Replacement Fund		277,515	277,515
Police Department	3,211,310	Police Equipment Replacement Fund		69,500	69,500
Fire Department	1,152,170	Housing Commission Capital Outlay Fund		229,413	229,413
Technology	192,940	INTERNAL SERVICE FUND		398,665	398,665
Department of Public Works	719,120	COMPONENT UNIT			
Planning, Zoning & Inspection Services	447,325	Downtown Development Authority		977,754	977,754
Shared Services	241,148	Brownfield Redevelopment Authority		0	0
Contributions to Other Funds	804,339				
Debt Service	52,523				
Insurance & Central Supplies	58,510				
Contingency	175,000				
Unallocated Reserve	24,404				
	\$8,681,129				

PUBLIC HEARING A public hearing will be held on Monday, May 16, 2022, at 7:00 P.M. in the City Council Chambers of the Northville City Hall, 215 W. Main Street, for the purpose of receiving testimony and discussing the proposed 2022-23 Annual City Budget. The meeting will have a Zoom public participation option. The link will be posted on the meeting agenda and the City's website. **The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be the subject of this hearing.**

TRANSFERS BETWEEN APPROPRIATIONS As provided in State statute, the general appropriations resolution is proposed to allow the City Manager to transfer up to ten percent (10%) of each appropriation to any other appropriation within each fund and up to ten percent (10%) of the total salary and fringe appropriations for distributed Public Works Labor and Equipment Rental between the General, Major Street, Local Street, Equipment, Refuse and Recycling and Water and Sewer Funds. All other interfund transfers require approval of the City Council.

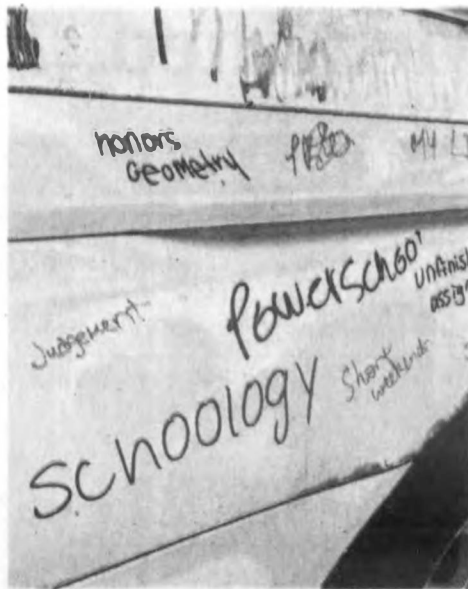
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN The six year capital improvement plan has been prepared and is a part of the annual 2022-23 City budget document.

COPIES OF PROPOSED BUDGET AVAILABLE A complete copy of the 2022-23 Annual City Budget document will be available for public inspection beginning May 5, 2022 at the City Clerk's office during regular business hours and on the City's website at www.ci.northville.mi.us.

Dianne Massa
City Clerk

Publish: May 5, 2022

LD-000002111 4/17.5



Students wrote about their struggles on vehicles that were later crushed in support of mental health on April 29. PHOTOS BY SUSAN BROMLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Stigma

Continued from Page 1A

"Is it that hard to just be nice?" asked another.

Students gathered in the parking lot and watched as GLR Advanced Recycling workers using heavy equipment moved the car to a compactor and crushed it.

The event, "Crushing the Stigma" capped off a week of activities promoting mental health awareness.

Junior Alex Daniel wrote multiple messages on the cars, including "AP tests," "college applications," and "Michigan weather."

While he said he hadn't been through "anything too bad," Daniel believes opening the conversation around mental health is important, particularly with the competitive culture at Novi High School.

"You may feel like there are things you can't talk about or have to keep hidden," he said. "But people are willing to talk to you and you can come forward and get the help you need. There is no need to hide and be afraid of dealing with your problems alone."

Neha Chinimilli, a senior on the Novi Student Mental Health Committee said Friday's visual representation of many students' stressors getting crushed was a sign of solidarity.

"I personally struggle with depres-

sion and anxiety, and I have gotten support outside school with that. But not everybody does," she noted. "This shows that there is a lot of support in our school. Mental health shouldn't be stigmatized or something you're afraid to talk about. It's ok to ask for help."

This is the fifth year Novi has participated in the "You Matter" campaign, said Principal Nicole Carter, after a survey of students and parents overwhelmingly showed that mental health was the #1 concern in the school community.

Counselor Sarah Lephart said the COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated anxiety in students, but she has also observed an increase in stress resulting from social media, particularly as teenagers struggle with expectations and comparisons to peers.

"I tell kids high school is a great time to learn who you are, explore different areas of interest, celebrate your successes and don't compare yourself to others," she said. "We all have things we're good at, and high school is a great time to learn where your strengths are."

Parents can help their children by encouraging them to try new things while assuring them that it's ok to fail, and, she adds, by simply listening.

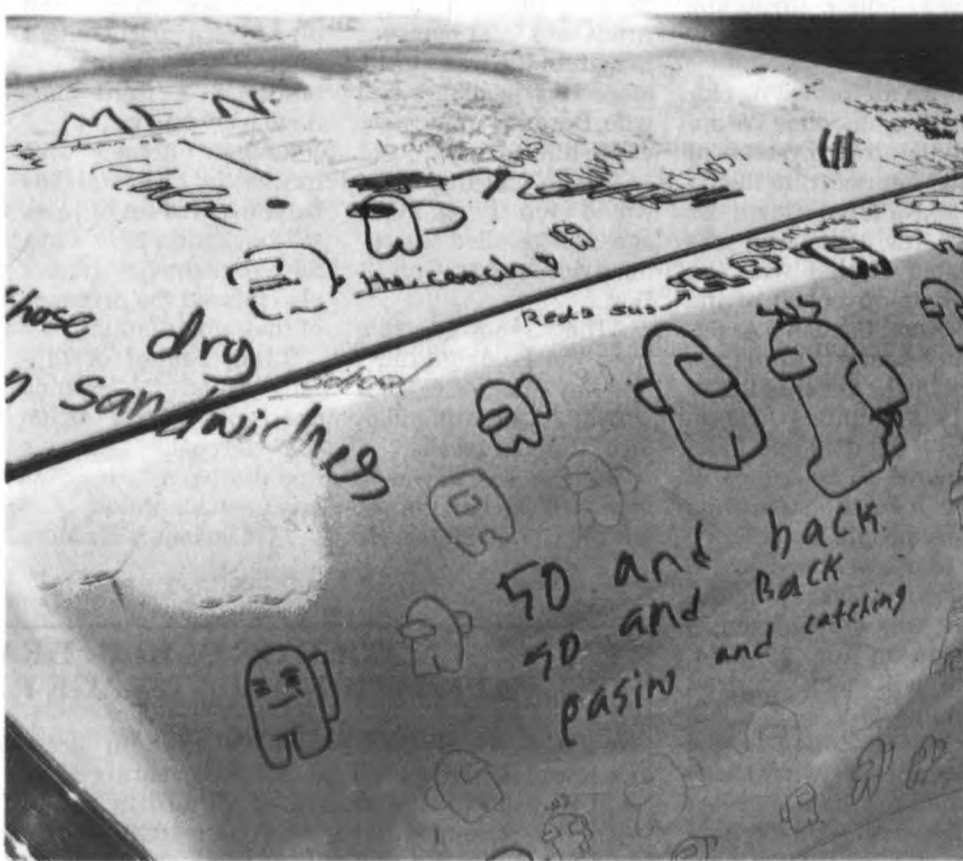
Chinimilli agrees.

"It's important to not suffer in silence."

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



The finished product during Novi High School's Crush the Stigma event.



Some comic relief amid heavier messages.

Water

Continued from Page 1A

and treated water," Wojciechowski said. "It was detected in (a monitoring well), less than 200 feet from drinking water wells."

Vinyl chloride, a colorless gas that is produced industrially for commercial uses, is a known carcinogen.

Joost Vant Erve, toxicologist with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, joined Wojciechowski in the meeting and told attendees the bigger concern about vinyl chloride stems from animal studies.

"It causes very specific liver cancers in animals," Vant Erve said. "That is what we base risk on. We take this very seriously even though there has been no exposure. The health effect is severe."

An acceptable level of vinyl chloride is 2 parts per billion or less. But last May a well that was monitoring contamination registered levels at 3.5 parts per billion.

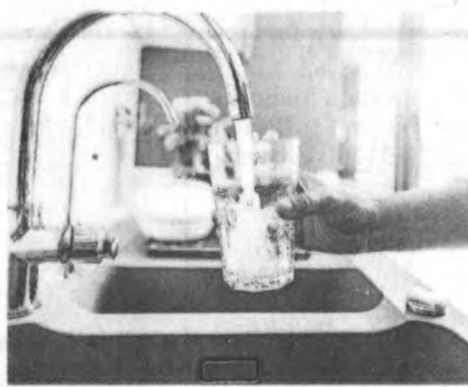
EGLE began testing monthly instead of the previous quarterly basis. The levels since then have fluctuated for reasons that are not entirely known, dipping as low as zero this month and in late November, but reaching above the standard of 2 ppb on six other sampling occasions.

Wojciechowski said the monitoring project began in 1989 when contamination was first discovered in the village.

"This (the recent rise in levels of vinyl chloride) is something new that came about, but we have a long history of dealing with issues in the village," he said.

Other known groundwater sources of chlorinated compounds in the village besides the Kelsey-Hayes property include Coe's Cleaners on Main Street for which the state operates a pump and treat system; a former dry cleaners (possibly another Coe's location) on Liberty Street for which the state's system captures the plume; and the former Spiral Industries on Summit Street, which has no known deep groundwater plume.

This rise in vinyl chloride contamination levels that surfaced nearly a year ago has now come to the forefront of the public's attention with EGLE ordering ZF Active Safety US to install a treatment system after the company did not



For more information, visit villageofmilford.org/vinylchloride. GETTY IMAGES

take action on their own in "a timely manner."

ZF Active Safety US has liability for the property formerly occupied by Kelsey-Hayes, an auto parts manufacturer.

EGLE has given ZF Active Safety US one year to install an air stripping system that will remove vinyl chloride and discharge it harmlessly into the atmosphere.

The poundage levels of vinyl chloride found in the village doesn't require a permit on air emissions, Wojciechowski said, and at these levels there "should be no concern for damage to air and atmosphere."

"We don't believe there should be any issue," he said. "It is diluted in the atmosphere better than in the water... It's the most economical and best way to remove (vinyl chloride)."

Other long-term plans by village and state officials to safeguard Milford's drinking water supply include permitting and bringing online a Family Drive drinking water wellfield. Financing of that project will be assisted by a \$2 million federal grant recently secured by Rep. Haley Stevens for the village.

These wells are a safe distance from sources of potential contamination, but officials acknowledge they can not fully replace existing wells.

In the interim, monthly sampling of the drinking water will continue. If contamination above acceptable levels is found at any point, emergency measures will be taken by the village, EGLE and the health department. Those measures could include bottled water and distribution of filters, Wojciechowski said.

For more information, visit villageofmilford.org/vinylchloride.

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What to consider before investing 401(k) in cryptocurrency



Money Matters
Rick Bloom
Guest Columnist

Fidelity Investments announced that it will begin to offer Bitcoin as an investment option in its 401(k) plans. Fidelity, the largest 401(k) provider in the country, is the first to offer this as an option. I have no doubt in the very near future, more 401(k) providers will allow Bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies as an investment option. Thus, participants in 401(k) plans will have to decide if cryptocurrencies are for them.

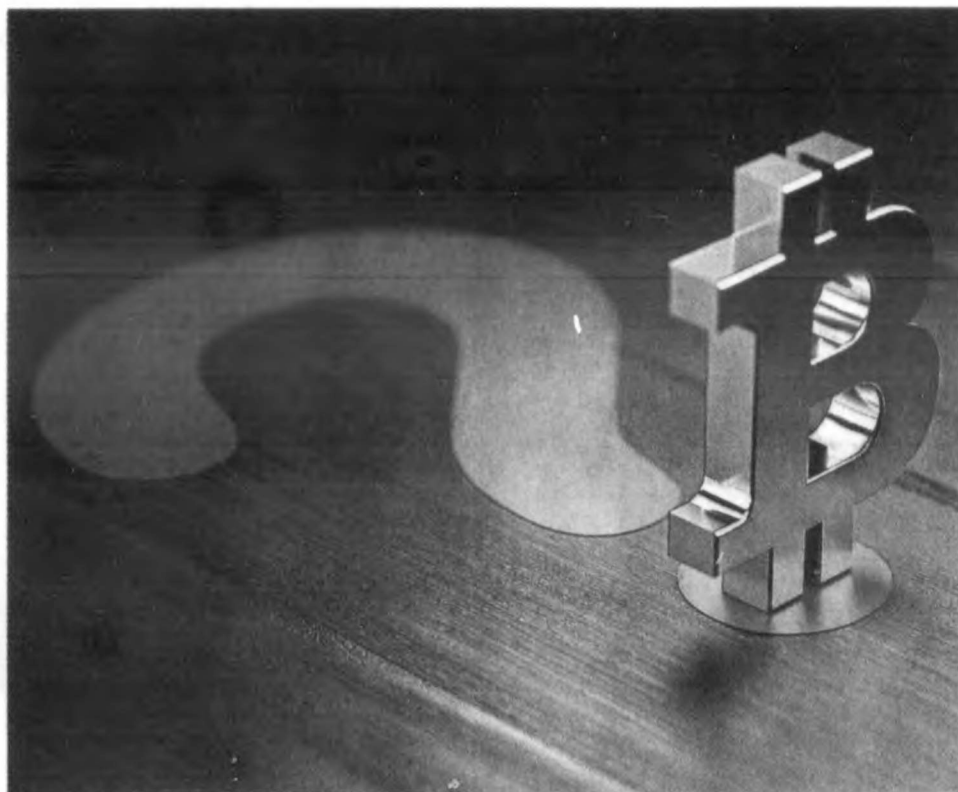
Under the Fidelity plan, a 401(k) participant can invest money into a digital asset account which will then invest in Bitcoin. However, soon Fidelity will expand its offering to include other cryptocurrencies.

Even though your employer has a Fidelity 401(k) plan, that does not necessarily mean you will be able to invest into a digital asset account.

According to the Fidelity plan, the employer must approve this option. In addition, Fidelity will limit how much investors can contribute. Currently, the limit is set at 20 percent; however, employers can choose to set the limit lower.

As an employer, the question is, should you offer Bitcoin as an investment alternative for employees. It is important to remember that employers have a fiduciary obligation when it comes to 401(k) plans. As part of that fiduciary obligation, responsible employers must offer investment options that are prudent and allow employees to diversify their accounts.

Employers also have a responsibility with regard to fees charged to employ-



Under the Fidelity plan, a 401(k) participant can invest money into a digital asset account which will then invest in Bitcoin. GETTY IMAGES

ees in a 401(k) plan. Under the Fidelity plan, employees with digital asset accounts will be charged an annual fee of 75 to 90 basis points. Meaning, if you invested \$10,000 in a digital asset account, your annual fee would be between \$75 and \$90. The Fidelity plan will also have associated trading fees which have not been announced yet. Therefore, before an employer automatically adds in the digital asset account option, they need to ensure that the fees are reasonable, and they meet their fiduciary obligations with regard to fund selection.

If you're an employee and your employer offers Bitcoin or other cryptocurrencies as an investment option, the question is, should you invest in it. For the great majority of people, I think it is an investment that you should avoid. Cryptocurrencies are very complicated to understand, and I believe you shouldn't invest in anything you don't understand. Successful investors understand the risks involved and how the investment works. I venture to say that the great majority of people, including myself, don't fully understand Bitcoins and thus, we should avoid them.

On the other hand, if you understand cryptocurrencies and the risks involved, you may wish to invest a portion of your portfolio in Bitcoins. I believe investing 20 percent of your portfolio is too much. If I were to invest in Bitcoins, I would limit it to no more than 5 percent of my portfolio.

Some investors will buy Bitcoin simply because they fear missing out on a potentially good investment. I have no idea what the future of Bitcoin will be; after all, there are lots of risks involved, including the risk that governments will begin to regulate Bitcoin. Government regulations can have a serious impact on the viability of Bitcoin in the future. My philosophy has always been that investors who understand their investments and invest based upon their goals and objectives, rather than fear or greed, will be the most successful. Therefore, don't think you have to invest in Bitcoins to be successful, because you don't have to.

If you are going to invest in Bitcoin, my advice is to spend time researching and understanding what you're getting involved in. Don't be afraid to admit that you don't understand it. I know lots of financial professionals who have spent time trying to understand Bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies and are still somewhat clueless. I have learned throughout my career that some of the best investments I've ever made are the ones I've walked away from. At this point I'm choosing to walk away from cryptocurrencies. Maybe in the future I'll consider them, but for now, I'll take a pass.

Good luck.

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

Request

Continued from Page 1A

increase. In total, 5 mills would be dedicated to paying for road improvements for the final seven years of bond financing.

If voters approve the bond in August, roadwork would start next year, although which roads and a schedule for construction has not yet been determined.

"It's hard to say which roads will be done in what year," Zelenak said. "There are so many roads in bad condition, but we will bid and do economy of scale for

subdivisions that are close together."

Other infrastructure work will also be taken into consideration, including utility and sewer upgrades, for example that may need to be done at the same time. Some roads will be repaved, while others will undergo a complete reconstruction.

Even newer subdivisions will have

dollars dedicated to repairing, crack sealing and paving. Zelenak noted that the road improvements would benefit everyone in the city.

Public information meetings are being planned for June and July. For more information, visit the city's website.

Contact reporter Susan Bromley at sbromley@hometownlife.com.

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Wayne County COVID-19 cases and deaths tracker

Mike Stucka
USA TODAY NETWORK

New coronavirus cases leaped in Michigan in the week ending Sunday, rising 38.3% as 14,482 cases were reported. The previous week had 10,474 new cases of the virus that causes COVID-19.

Michigan ranked 16th among the states where coronavirus was spreading the fastest on a per-person basis, a USA TODAY Network analysis of Johns Hopkins University data shows. In the latest week coronavirus cases in the United States increased 8.9% from the week before, with 381,004 cases reported. With 3% of the country's population, Michigan had 3.8% of the country's cases in the last week. Across the country, 41 states had more cases in the latest week than they did in the week before.

Wayne County reported 3,399 cases and 18 deaths in the latest week. A week earlier, it had reported 2,237 cases and 10 deaths. Throughout the pandemic it has reported 406,765 cases and 7,940 deaths.

Oakland County reported 2,771 cases and eight deaths in the latest week. A week earlier, it had reported 2,050 cases and eight deaths. Throughout the pandemic it has reported 292,717 cases and 3,837 deaths.

Within Michigan, the worst weekly outbreaks on a per-person basis were in Washtenaw County with 343 cases per 100,000 per week; Oakland County with 220; and Macomb County with 197. The Centers for Disease Control says high levels of community transmission begin at 100 cases per 100,000 per week.

Adding the most new cases overall were Wayne County, with 3,399 cases; Oakland County, with 2,771 cases; and Macomb County, with 1,725. Weekly case counts rose in 68 counties from the previous week. The worst increases from the prior week's pace were in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties.

Michigan ranked 35th among states in share of people receiving at least one shot, with 67% of its residents at least partially vaccinated. The national rate is 77.6%, a USA TODAY analysis of CDC data shows. The Pfizer and Moderna vaccines, which are the most used in the United States, require two doses admin-



Sharon Blow checks in curbside for her Delta flight April 19 at Jacksonville International Airport. No one at the moment was wearing a mask following a judge's ruling to lift the mandate that had been in place for COVID-19 protections.

COREY PERRINE/FLORIDA TIMES-UNION

istered a few weeks apart.

In the week ending Sunday, Michigan reported administering another 79,375 vaccine doses, including 6,734 first doses. In the previous week, the state administered 85,485 vaccine doses, including 7,115 first doses. In all, Michigan reported it has administered 15,883,605 total doses.

Across Michigan, cases fell in 13 counties, with the best declines in Alpena County, with 29 cases from 53 a week earlier; in Kent County, with 610 cases from 622; and in Ontonagon County, with 2 cases from 8.

In Michigan, 67 people were reported dead of COVID-19 in the week ending Sunday. In the week before that, 78 people were reported dead.

A total of 2,425,946 people in Michigan have tested positive for the coronavirus since the pandemic began, and

36,002 people have died from the disease, Johns Hopkins University data shows. In the United States 81,365,218 people have tested positive and 993,733 people have died.

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

Michigan's COVID-19 hospital admissions rising

USA TODAY analyzed federal hospital data as of Sunday, May 1.

Likely COVID patients admitted in the state:

- Last week: 996
- The week before that: 728
- Four weeks ago: 563

Likely COVID patients admitted in the nation:

- Last week: 43,243
- The week before that: 39,428
- Four weeks ago: 37,216

Hospitals in 34 states reported more COVID-19 patients than a week earlier, while hospitals in 34 states had more COVID-19 patients in intensive-care beds. Hospitals in 38 states admitted more COVID-19 patients in the latest week than a week prior, the USA TODAY analysis of U.S. Health and Human Services data shows.

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

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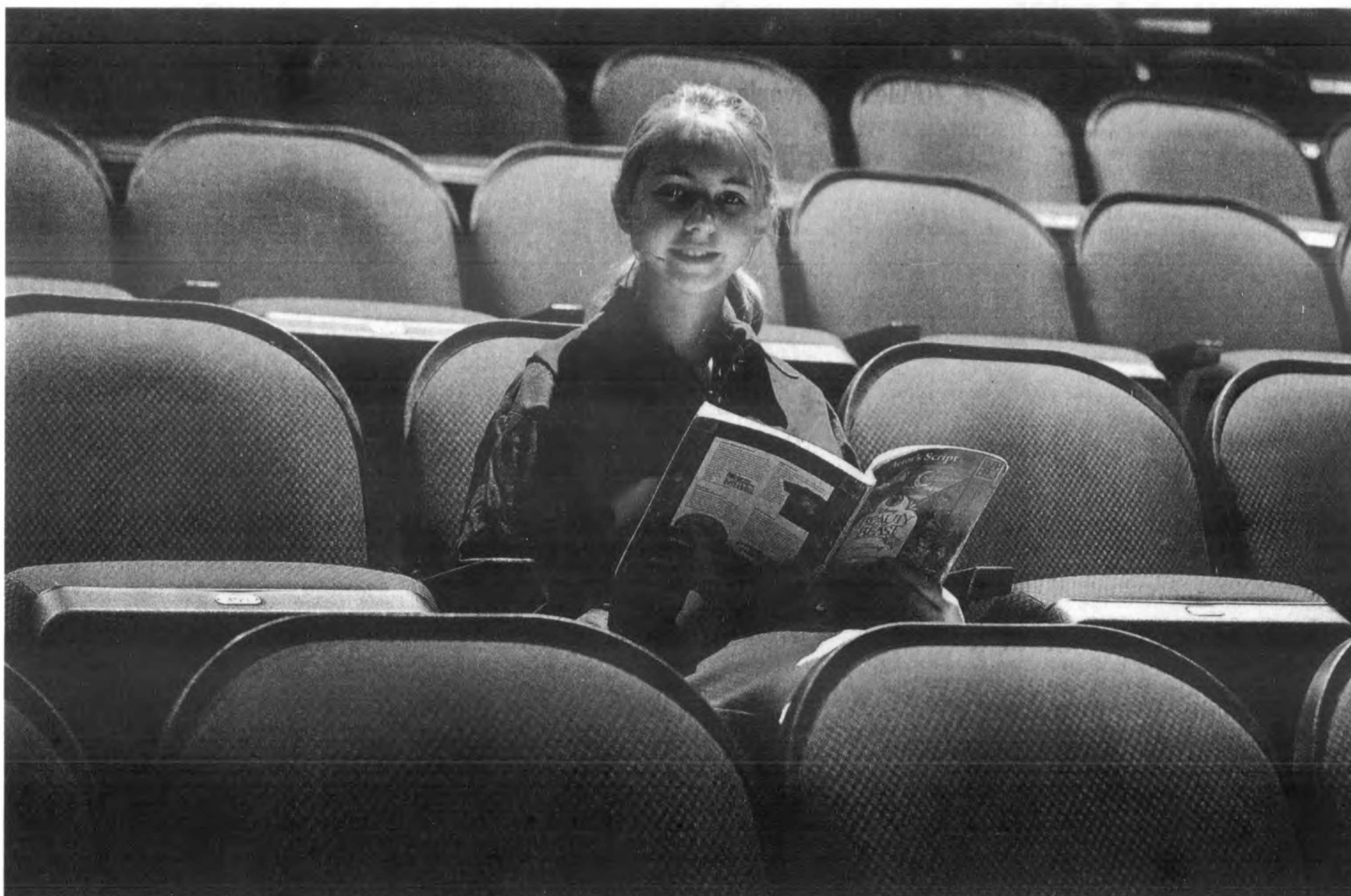
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Riley, 13, at a school district in Washtenaw County on April 20. PHOTOS BY ANNIE BARKER/DETROIT FREE PRESS

Lawmakers seek change of course for dyslexic kids

Lily Altavener Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

In first grade, Lynn Gaskell's daughter was behind in reading.

When Riley, now 13, tried to read aloud, she added extra syllables to words and stumbled through pages.

Riley's school evaluated her and came back to her parents with a recommendation: Evaluate Riley for ADHD, which Riley did have. Her reading problems persisted all through elementary school, landing her extra time with reading teachers with little progress.

Gaskell brought up dyslexia, but she said school officials brushed her off.

"Not one single person approached me about dyslexia, not one time," Gaskell said.

Except, Riley does have dyslexia, according to an evaluation completed outside her Washtenaw County school district, the name of which Gaskell did not want published. Riley was in sixth grade when the diagnosis came, years after she initially showed signs of dyslexia, her mother said.

Like many kids in Michigan, Riley's school system missed signs — such as having trouble learning new words or reading slowly — Gaskell now feels were obvious.

State Sen. Jim Runestad, R-White Lake, said he has also coped with dyslexia, a learning disability that affects reading skills, his whole life. While intervention during his time as a student made him a better reader, many other students in Michigan aren't afforded the same opportunity under the state's current system, he said. And many, like Riley, are identified later than they should be.

"Michigan, by every measure, is the worst state for a dyslexic student," he said.

Runestad, along with other Michigan lawmakers, is supporting a package of bills aimed at improving the state's help for students with dyslexia. The measures are sponsored by a mix of Democratic and Republican lawmakers. Education advocates are hopeful the proposals, if passed, would help teachers better identify students showing signs of dyslexia. Statistics on what percentage of the U.S. population has dyslexia range from 5% to as much as 20%.

This is the second year these measures have been proposed. Runestad said he's frustrated that the bipartisan-backed bills have not made it through both chambers, and frustrated by the silence from Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's office about this legislative package.

"The governor, of all people, has the most power to smash through a reform to get something done," he said. "I just don't think it's a priority."

Whitmer's office did not respond to a request for comment.

Susan Schmidt, an educator on the board of the Michigan chapter of the International Dyslexia Association, said the state can't afford to take a wait-and-see approach.

Children are — and have been for

Signs of dyslexia

- Has difficulty learning nursery rhymes.
- Has trouble with recognizing rhymes.
- Struggles to learn to read and tries to avoid reading.
- Has trouble sounding out words.
- Doesn't have a strategy for reading new words.
- Has trouble reading unfamiliar words.
- Avoids reading out loud.

The University of Michigan also offers resources for parents at <http://dyslexiahelp.umich.edu>.

decades — graduating from schools illiterate or still struggling to read, losing out on higher wages and opportunities for advancement, she said. Schmidt recently tutored an adult man who has struggled to read for years.

"We can't afford to stay in the status quo because we see the 40% proficiency rates and they've been flat for 40 years," she said. "Nothing's changed and it's sickening."

Learning the signs

Ann Randall, director of the Children's Dyslexia Center of Southeastern Michigan, works with students identified as showing signs of dyslexia in school. She said it's clear that educators aren't receiving enough training around the condition of dyslexia.

"Our classroom teachers are not trained to identify dyslexia, even though it's the most common learning disability," she said.

For example: David Pelc, a reading interventionist in Romulus Community Schools, said he always performed well as a student at Eastern Michigan University's teacher prep program.

But when he became a reading interventionist, about 16 years into his teaching career, he realized the reading program his district used to teach kids to learn to read wasn't effective.

Pelc went down a rabbit hole.

By researching online and connecting with other educators in his position, he discovered new strategies to teach reading, through research around the science of reading, a concept he now says he "should have learned in college."

"It used to be not until second or third grade where you start to bring kids up ... to see if they have some kind of learning disability," he said. "And now you can catch them faster."

The proposed legislation making its way through the state Legislature seeks to improve teacher training on dyslexia and reading methods. The legislative package includes:

- Senate Bill 380 would require dyslexia screening for all K-3 students, evidence-based instruction and that districts employ teachers trained in dyslexia.
- Senate Bill 381 would require the



Riley practices her role as narrator in a school play.

state to approve state teacher prep programs only if they offer instruction on dyslexia for prospective K-6 educators.

• Senate Bill 382 would add dyslexia and specific reading education to teacher certification requirements starting in 2024.

• Senate Bill 383 would create a state committee to develop a dyslexia resource guidebook for schools and parents.

Michigan lawmakers have slowly made improvements even before this package of bills cleared the Senate's education committee in March, Schmidt said. Lawmakers included \$4 million in 2022's budget to train pre-K to grade three teachers in the science of reading, called LETRS training.

Pelc is a part of the first cohort of educators being trained in LETRS. He said teachers involved are very enthusiastic about the impact of the training that teaches science-of-reading concepts to educators, which includes methods that emphasize decoding words and phonics.

"I think being able to understand how to use these new screenings or new tests, it's going to really help to make make a lot of teachers more proactive and plan for instruction," he said.

The budget also included \$1 million for specific dyslexia training referred to as the Orton-Gillingham, a specific way to teach reading to children with dyslexia.

Approaches to reading

Students, particularly those who are dyslexic, struggle to learn to read when

schools take a "whole language" approach to teaching reading, Randall and Schmidt said.

Whole language reading lessons encourage children to recognize words as a whole, not breaking them down into smaller chunks of syllables and sounds. There are people who still support a whole language approach, and there is a long-running controversy over what approach educators should take.

"The whole reason Orton-Gillingham works is, we teach the structure of the English language from the most frequent type of sounds that they're going to hear," Randall said.

"When we teach 'S,' we don't just teach that sound. We teach the fact that it goes on present tense verbs, it is part of the plural, so that they're making connections as they're learning how to sound things out."

"That's just not the way it's ever been taught in the schools."

In all the years Gaskell sought help for Riley, she said dyslexia seemed like a "dirty word" that schools tried to dodge. Riley was put in a special reading intervention program, but she still struggled to progress, Gaskell said. And even then, teachers tried to graduate her out of reading intervention programs early.

"Reading specialists are supposed to be aware of the signs of dyslexia," she said. "These programs are run by reading specialists, and that not one person in five years said anything about my daughter."

"I don't feel like I should have to beg for what my child needs educationally," she said.



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SPORTS

Churchill track champion breaking records

Senior quit soccer to run and became a state champ

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Shawn Juliette did the interview for this story over the phone while driving home from the University of Illinois.

And you might think, "So what? Talented athletes take recruiting trips all

the time. What's the big deal here?"

Well, let's talk about why this wasn't your typical college visit because it's actually a pretty crazy story.

Juliette's name might sound familiar to soccer fans around the Kensington Lakes Activities Association. He was a three-year player for Livonia Churchill.

He started playing the sport when he was 5 years old. He began at the recreational league level and later joined the Livonia-based Michigan Wolves Soccer Club.

He was a dependable wide-back defender and, for the most part, soccer was his life, whether that was competing for his high school or playing on the travel circuit.

He joined Churchill's track and field team during the spring of his freshman year. He didn't expect to win many events. He just enjoyed running as a "side hobby."

He didn't go out for the track team as a sophomore, but he decided to give it another shot his junior year.

See RECORDS, Page 2B

BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR

North Farmington junior trades his hot Cheetos for hot shooting

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The sacrifices haven't been easy for Ryan Hurst, but making them keeps getting him closer to achieving his goals.

When his family bought a new house, he had to leave his friends at West Bloomfield and transfer to North Farmington, seemingly starting high school all over again just a few miles down Orchard Lake Road.

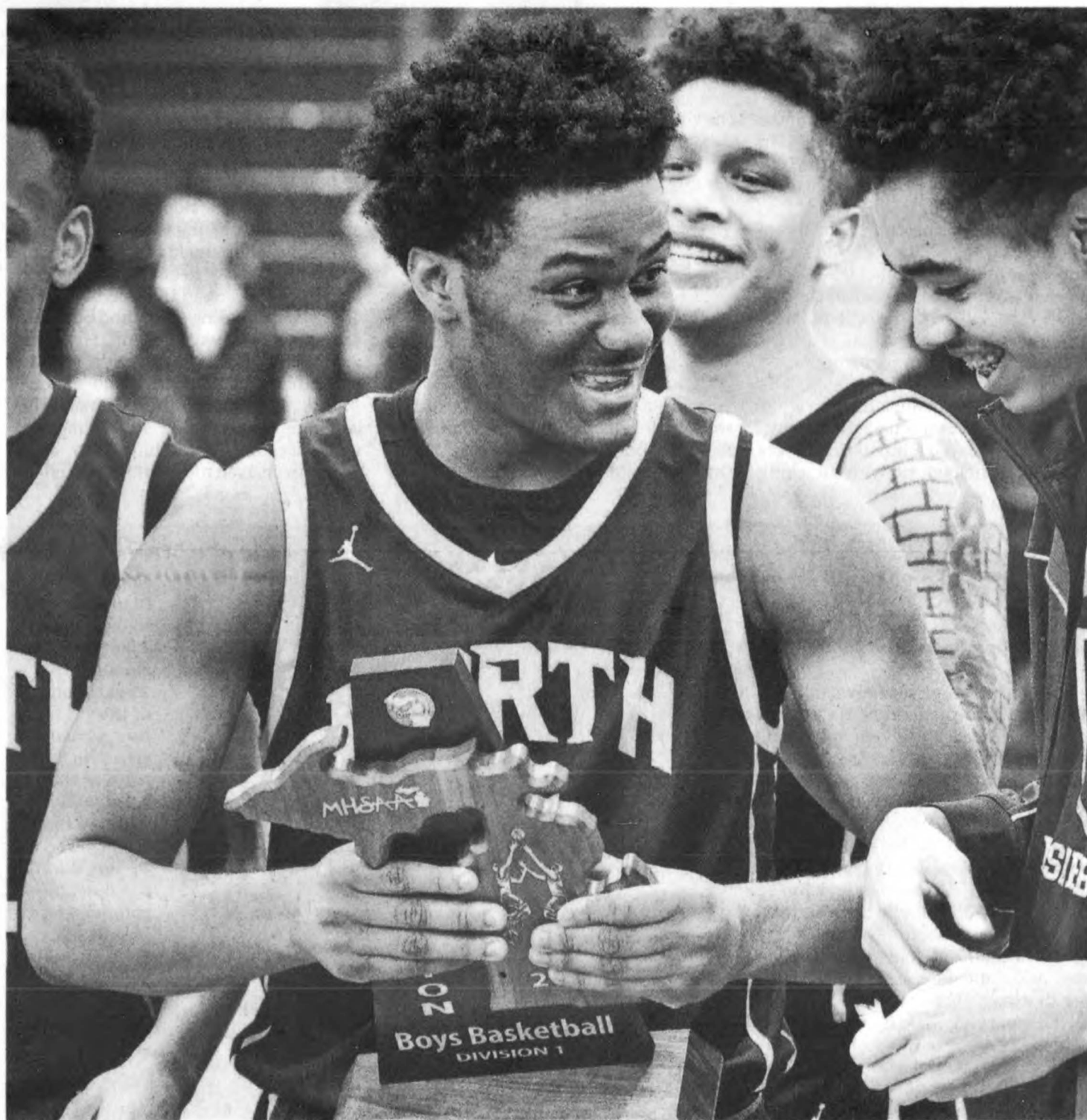
When his basketball career started taking off, he had to quit the football team so he could dedicate his time and training solely on the hardwood. One year later, the Lakers won a state title, and he missed out on lining up in the backfield with Michigan commit Semaj Morgan, one of his closest friends.

And when he knew he needed to take his diet and exercise more seriously, he had to say goodbye to slathering hot sauces on his chicken, dipping his foods in ranch and munching on Hot Cheetos, his favorite snack. He spent more time lifting weights and doing strength and endurance training, and he even considered going vegan.

But it's all paid off for the junior combo guard. He's now the best player on a Raiders squad that is gunning for a state championship next winter, while West Bloomfield finds itself in the middle of the pack of the Oakland Activities Association-Red. And without a doubt, either North or Brother Rice will have the best roster in Oakland County next season. One through eight, both teams are deep with talent and future college players. Hurst will have a say in which school winds up the best.

Saying farewell to the gridiron has opened opportunities for Hurst to play more travel ball. And the Division I interest continues to pile up as he makes the rounds on the circuit throughout the Midwest. He's taking his time on the recruiting trail, soaking it all up and expects to make a commitment to a school later during his senior year.

See JUNIOR, Page 2B



North Farmington's Ryan Hurst celebrates with the championship trophy after the Raiders defeated Livonia Stevenson in the Division 1 boys basketball district final March 11. BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

HOMETOWN LIFE ALL-AREA BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM

Results are in on readers' favorite high school players

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Last week, we released Hometown Life's first All-Area boys basketball team in seven seasons.

I told you who my favorite players were and even picked our Player of the Year (shoutout to North Farmington's

Ryan Hurst). More than 100 players made the cut.

But why stop there?

Over the last week, I had you, our faithful readers, vote for YOUR favorite players. Thousands of votes rolled in over the week.

After Saturday's voting deadline finally came, I couldn't wait to put togeth-

er the results and see where our community thought each player belonged on the All-Area team.

So, for the first time in Hometown Life history, I'm proud to present our All-Area boys basketball team, which is 100% assembled by our readers.

Check to see where your favorite players landed:

Hometown Life's Player of the Year
Ryan Hurst, North Farmington

Vitals: SF/SG, junior, 6-foot-3.

Stats: Averaged 23 points, six rebounds and two assists.

See FAVORITES, Page 6B



Junior

Continued from Page 1B

And giving up junk food has turned him into an almost unstoppable scorer, as he averaged 23 points in his first season wearing a Raiders uniform. He's lighter on his feet and his game features more athleticism than it ever has because he's not being weighed down by a crummy diet.

Those sacrifices continue to mold Hurst into a must-watch talent and someone who is already on the watch list for next year's Mr. Basketball award.

And because of that, he is Hometown Life's Player of the Year.

"We say it all the time in our program: You've got to be willing to be uncomfortable to get better at anything in life," North coach Todd Negoshian said. "You've got to step out of your comfort zone to get better. It doesn't matter if you're a student, a husband, a father, an athlete or a best friend.

"For Ryan to take that next step, he's got to get uncomfortable with the way he eats, trains and does things in his life. For him and his future, I hope doing that really sticks with him."

Regardless of the sacrifices, Hurst has had to perform and, boy, did he do that this past winter.

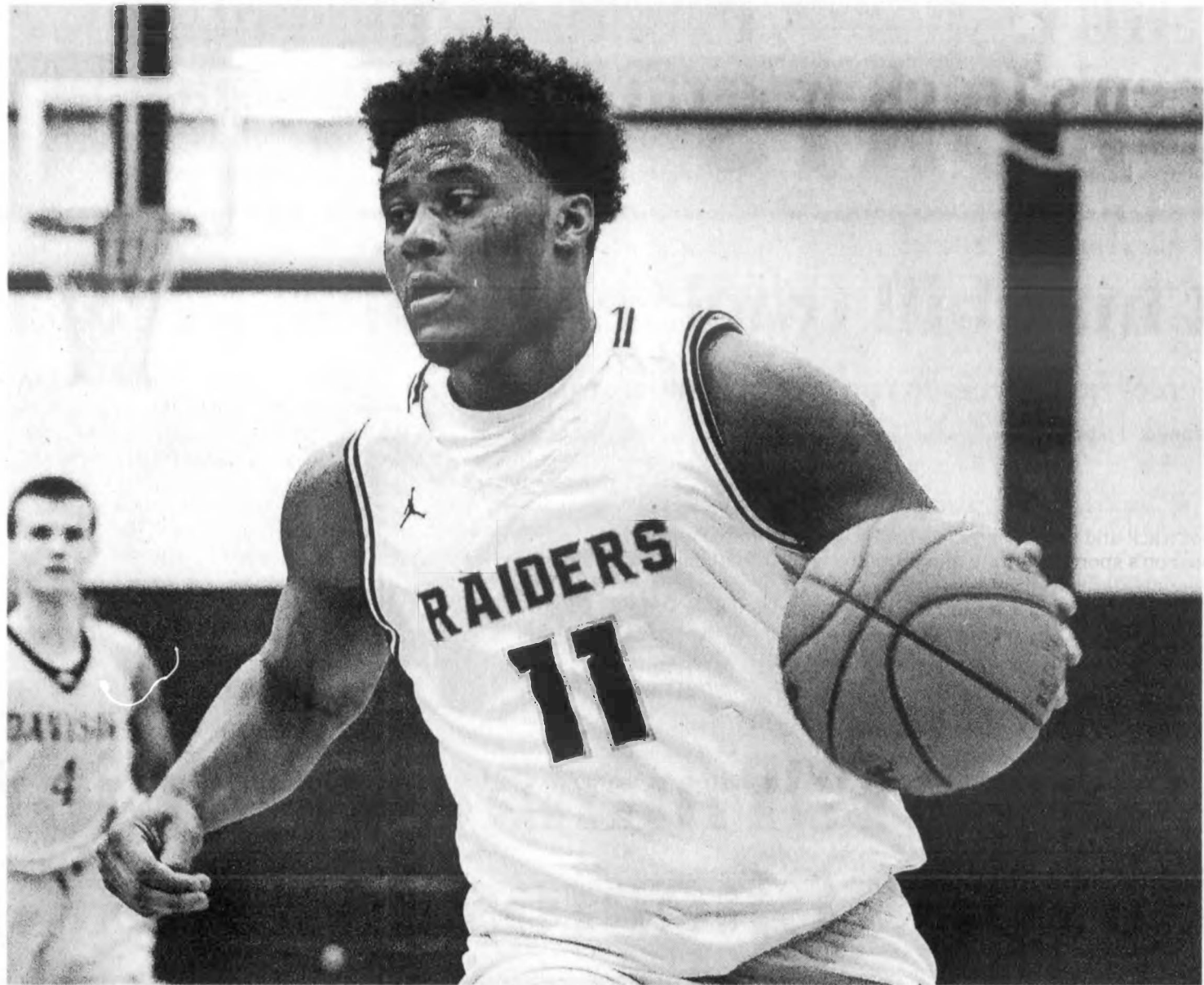
It's hard to say what his best skill is.

Not many players can drive to the hoop like Hurst. At 6-foot-3 and close to 225 pounds, he's either going to get a tough contested layup or he's bulldozing someone over to earn a trip to the foul line. He can get layups in transition or take defenders off the dribble in the half-court.

What's more, he's a put-back machine. He seemingly cleans up all of his misses. He's 3 or 4 inches shorter than some of the best forwards out there, but he had no trouble averaging six rebounds per game.

And, of course, he can shoot. From basically anywhere. Mid-range jumpers. Pull-ups in front of the 3-point line. Shots from downtown near the volleyball line. He buried six 3-pointers during a 36-point performance in the Division 1 district championship, which ensured the Raiders a convincing 77-54 victory over Livonia Stevenson.

"I've always been a big, strong guy," Hurst said. "I played football when I was little so that helped me with attacking



North Farmington's Ryan Hurst attacks the hoop against Davison during the Freedom Classic in January at River Rouge. BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

the rim. As I go up, no one can stop me. I've always had that mindset, a killer mindset. When I step on the court every time, that translates to my game."

It sure does.

That's why it's not surprising to learn Hurst played linebacker and fullback when he was still at West Bloomfield.

He quit playing the sport after his freshman year. But if you watch him play, he's clearly a small forward in a linebacker's body.

"I loved football, but basketball is very fun to me," Hurst added. "Football season, it was keeping me bigger. In football, you've got to be big and stocky. Once I quit to play basketball, it was a

sacrifice I needed to make for my body to get into better shape. Football shape is much different than basketball shape."

It also helped that Hurst quit eating junk food, too. He stopped eating chips and started chugging water.

He picked up the hobby of running 2 or 3 miles per day to get cardio in when he wasn't training in the weight room.

He misses eating spicy food but loves seeing his hard work pay off. His goals are to guide North to a state title, win Mr. Basketball and sign with a mid-major.

"It's awful, for sure," Hurst said, laughing about being so regimented with his diet, something he's even honed in on even more since the Raiders

lost to Orchard Lake St. Mary's in the regional opener in March.

"He's already lost a ton of weight since the season ended," Negoshian added. "He needs to continue to change the body. He comes committed in the weight room with our guys five days a week. He's getting explosion in lateral quickness. Billy Slobin, our strength and condition coach, has done a great job zoning in on that with him."

Who knows how many goals Hurst checks off his list as a senior?

Whether one goal or all of them come true, we'll know it's because of the sacrifices he's making away from the bright lights of a Friday night game.

Records

Continued from Page 1B

And, to his surprise, he wasn't half bad at the 800-meter run. He consistently ran around 2 minutes, 8 seconds at the beginning of the season. And then he trimmed another 6 or 7 seconds off his time. He immediately made it his goal to break the 2-minute threshold.

Little did he realize, his entire life was about to change during the Larry Steeb Memorial Meet of Champions on June 1, 2021, inside Al Ritt Stadium at Dexter.

"I remembered before the meet, my coach (Churchill distance coach Sara Kroll) asked me if I would break 2 minutes that day," Juliette recalled. "I told her, 'I'll die trying to do it,' and it turned out to be one of the most-exciting moments of my track career."

Juliette crossed the finish line in fourth place, but he finally did it: He cracked the 2-minute mark, clocking in at 1:58.55 and doing so, in fact, without dying.

That moment right there — breaking that barrier — was one of those frying-pans-to-the-face instances for Juliette. You know, one of those times where a lightbulb goes off in your head, and you quickly realize you might have discovered a new passion? Yeah, he had one of those.

It took almost no effort for Kroll to convince Juliette to sign up for cross country before his senior year so he could continue improving as a distance runner.

The only problem was cross country competes during the fall at the same time as the boys soccer season. So Juliette did both. For a while, at least.

He went to a handful of pre-season soccer practices before the wear and tear of being a dual-sport athlete became too much to bear.

"After a couple of days, I just felt really tired," he said. "I knew if I wanted to be serious about running the best I can during cross country season that it was time to commit myself 100% to running to give myself the best chance at succeeding. I decided to quit soccer and focus on running, and I think it was the best decision I've ever made."

"Last year, when I joined the track team, I had always considered myself to be primarily a soccer player. But then I continued to fall in love with track and,



Livonia Churchill runner Shawn Juliette, already 20 yards ahead of the competition after the first bend of the 1,600 meters race, led the sprint wire-to-wire during the April 22 competition at Livonia Franklin High School. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

by the end of the season, I realized I was pretty good at it. That's when I really realized that this would take me beyond soccer."

That conversation with Churchill soccer coach Eric Puroll wasn't an easy one, but it was necessary if Juliette wanted to get better at running.

"He was supportive of me and my decision," Juliette added. "He knew about my journey. While me quitting wasn't the best thing for his team, he was very supportive of me. I was very grateful for that."

Juliette wasn't asked to be the fastest runner for the cross country team, but, boy, he was a big help.

He never won a race, but he recorded four top-10 finishes and even took 11th during the Division 1 regional (16:53).

His effort, along with teammate Seth Pianga placing fourth individually (16:29), was enough to push the Chargers to a second-place finish at the regional. It marked the first time they had qualified for the state finals as a team in 15 seasons.

Juliette carried that spirit into the indoor track season during the winter. While that sport isn't sanctioned by the Michigan High School Athletic Association, most of the meets feature the best of the best. Almost all of the serious runners compete on the indoor circuit.

Once again, Juliette split his time between two sports.

As part of Churchill's swim team, he

spent most afternoons at practices or meets. So he met with Kroll at 5 a.m. almost every morning for running workouts. And then he competed at track meets on the weekends.

That hard work immediately paid off during the Michigan Indoor Track Series state championship on Feb. 27 in Ypsilanti, as he ran a personal-best 1:56.14 in the 800 to become an individual state champion.

What's more, that time qualified him for the New Balance Indoor Nationals in New York City. He was the fastest Michigander in the 800 and took fifth place overall with a time of 1:57.45, just a shade over 2 seconds slower than the national champion.

Yes, that's right. The average Joe defender on Churchill's soccer team from a year ago was the fifth-fastest in the country at a prestigious showcase.

"I never would've thought this would be possible," Juliette said. "The whole reason I came out for the team was because I liked running. Everything changed after that 1:58 (at the Larry Steeb meet). I remember thinking about that moment and telling Sara afterward that I wanted to win a state championship as a senior."

"One thing Sara does is help build my confidence. And she said, 'OK, alright. Let's do that.' Since then, she's had the confidence in me to do more than I could have ever imagined."

That confidence has continued to

grow as the spring track season is now underway.

As of this writing, Juliette has won nine of the 10 events he's competed in so far. And that one event he didn't win was actually the 200-meter dash, which obviously isn't a distance event.

A week ago, he ran a personal best outdoor time of 1:57.74 in the 800, which is currently the 12th-best time recorded by an MHSAA runner this spring, regardless of division. And that's impressive after considering he did that in a rainstorm during the Livonia City Meet.

But his 800 times aren't what everyone is talking about.

During a dual meet against Plymouth on April 6, he broke the school record for the 1 mile with a time of 4:21.92.

When Hometown Life showed up to a meet after that, one Churchill coach didn't hesitate to ask, "Oh, you must be here to see Shawn, right?"

Of course, the newspaper was there to see him. It sounds like everyone who cares about high school track will be stopping by to see him at some point.

"I plan to dust off my varsity jacket and go watch him run some this season," wrote Brandon Grysko in an email to Hometown Life this week.

And who's Grysko? He set that school record that Juliette just broke back in 2006.

Kroll said she expects Juliette to be one of the top-seeded runners in the 800 at the state finals, while he might also have a chance to win the 1,600 as well given his recent record-breaking performance. While he doesn't have the fastest times in the state right now, the season is truly just getting started. Once he starts peaking, he should be a contender for a podium finish.

Outside of giving up soccer, the only downside to Juliette's story is he's behind schedule on the recruiting trail. Most elite runners make their college commitments before their senior year. Scholarship opportunities are dwindling the closer Juliette gets to graduation. He's running out of time to pick a program to join, which is wild considering he's only been a serious runner for just under 11 months.

So that's why he's doing media interviews over the phone. He's too busy visiting colleges.

Brandon Folsom covers high school sports in metro Detroit for Hometown Life. Follow him on Twitter @folsom-brandonj.

CMU responds to claims that cutting men's track was racial discrimination

Christian Booher Special to Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

MOUNT PLEASANT – Central Michigan University is being investigated by the US Department of Education Office for Civil Rights for allegations of racial discrimination after cutting the men's track and field program in May 2020.

University president Bob Davies denied the allegations during a news conference on campus Thursday and said CMU would fully comply with the investigation.

Dropping the men's indoor and outdoor track and field programs left CMU one men's sport shy of the minimum to maintain status in the Division I Football Bowl Subdivision.

After getting a waiver from the

NCAA, CMU announced last August it would begin a men's golf program in the 2022-23 academic year, reaching the FBS requirement.

The official complaint states that the decision to cut track took away direct opportunities to higher education from Black students.

"I want to be very clear: The allegations of racial discrimination are unfounded and an investigation is not an indictment," Davies said. "This simply means that the OCR has received a complaint, that the complaint is under their jurisdiction and that OCR has asked us to provide information."

"The OCR is carrying out its federally mandated responsibility to look into the claims made by this individual. We understand the seriousness and impor-

tance of this objective process. We will comply fully, and I strongly believe OCR will find no evidence to support claims of racial discrimination."

Davies listed finances, compliance and student success reasons as factors in the decision made by former CMU athletic director Michael Alford, who now holds the same position at Florida State.

CMU athletics suffered a \$4.5 million decrease to its budget in the three years preceding the decision to cut the program, and it saved an actual cost of \$625,000 last year, Davies said. The addition of golf was seen as one that was cost-efficient.

"To have a competitive track and

See CMU, Page 4B

Franklin hosting youth boys basketball camp this summer

From Staff Reports Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK – MICHIGAN

Livonia Franklin coach TJ Hurley is hosting a boys basketball camp June 20-24 at Livonia Franklin Fieldhouse, 31000, Joy Road.

The camp is for players from 8-14 years old.

Sessions, which begin at 9 a.m. and conclude at 3 p.m. each day, will focus on station work and individual and team competitions. There will be guest speakers and player evaluations.

The cost is \$150, which includes a camp t-shirt.

For more information, contact livoniafranklinhoops@gmail.com.

Lions GM swung big and connected in NFL draft

Dave Birkett Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

General manager Brad Holmes went into the 2022 NFL draft determined to find a "game changer" and came away with two players who fit that bill. This is why I believe the Lions had one of the best draft hauls in the league.

I'm asked to grade the Lions' picks every year after the draft. It's a silly exercise in some ways, passing judgment on players who have not played a down in the NFL and who are still in the developmental stage of their careers, and for that reason I've always tried to make my grade more about how the Lions use the draft capital they have and less about the talent they acquire.

Where players go from here is largely up to them, and the path they're on won't be evident for another year or two at the least.

But I give the Lions an A-minus grade for this year's class because Holmes maximized the value of his first three selections by taking the draft's best

prospect at two positions and fleeing the Vikings in a trade up, according to all the popular trade value charts. I thought he made some worthwhile gambles on traits and production in the later rounds while trying to add depth to his defense.

Aidan Hutchinson was the right pick at No. 2.

Hutchinson was the best prospect in the draft, at a major position of need and a spot on the board where the value was right for a pass rusher.

Kayvon Thibodeaux and Derek Stingley Jr. may have slightly more upside, and there is some belief around the league Holmes preferred Thibodeaux. But the support for Hutchinson elsewhere in the building was overwhelming, and there is no doubt the Michigan product is coach Dan Campbell's kind of player.

Hutchinson should be a force for years to come on a defense that otherwise lacks playmakers, and it wouldn't shock me if he led the team in sacks in

See LIONS, Page 4B



Lions general manager Brad Holmes, left, talks to Oregon coach Dan Lanning during the University of Oregon's Pro Day on April 1 in Eugene, Oregon.
BEN LONERGAN/THE REGISTER-GUARD

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Josh Paschal was selected by the Lions with the No. 45 overall pick in Round 2 of the 2022 NFL draft April 29 in Las Vegas. PROVIDED BY UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

Lions

Continued from Page 3B

2022. But trading up for Jameson Williams is the type of bold move that has the potential to push the class from good to great.

Williams was the No. 1-rated receiver on the Lions' draft board, and likely the only reason he made it to 12 was because of the torn ACL he suffered in Alabama's national championship game loss to Georgia.

It's fair to have concerns over Williams' medical history. The last time the Lions took a receiver coming off an ACL was Ryan Broyles in 2012. But give Holmes credit for being convicted enough about a prospect's greatness to go and get the player, and give him even more credit for pulling off what could be a heist of a division foe.

The Lions traded Nos. 32, 34 and 66 for 12 and 46. Essentially, Holmes gave up an early second-round pick to move up 20 spots in Round 1 and at the Round 2/3 turn. The old Jimmy Johnson trade value chart marks that as a clear win for the Lions (they gave up 1,410 points on the chart, and got back 1,640 points

worth of value), and the newer Rich Hill version does the same (337.3 points received, 280.2 points given up).

Some GMs would prefer quantity over quality, believing no elite prospects were available at 12. Again, that's a fair stance to take. The picks at those positions — Georgia safety Lewis Cine, North Dakota State receiver Christian Watson and Oklahoma linebacker Brian Asamoah — would have made a nice addition to Hutchinson had the Lions stayed put.

But as good as that trio is, no one in it has the elite upside of Williams, and Holmes was able to finagle a second-round pick in the deal that netted him a much-needed depth piece for the defensive line in Kentucky's Josh Paschal.

Paschal provides interior pass rush, which the Lions lacked last season, and fits with the "build a monster" philosophy Holmes espoused last year when he took Penei Sewell at No. 7. In the past 15 months, the Lions have spent four picks on defensive linemen in Hutchinson, Paschal, Alim McNeill and Levi Onwuzurike, and signed two others — Romeo Okwara and Charles Harris — to significant deals.

I don't know how good the D-line will be this fall, and I thought the value at 46



Trading up for Jameson Williams could push the Lions' draft class from good to great. MARK J. REBILAS/USA TODAY SPORTS

was in taking a different defender instead, someone like Georgia linebacker Nakobe Dean (if he was medically cleared) or Penn State safety Jaquan Brisker.

But Paschal is powerful player who adds something to the front, and the Lions added safety depth with Kerby Joseph in Round 3.

CMU

Continued from Page 3B

field team, the cost is at least \$1 million," Davies said. "In the MAC, for competitive golf, is about half that."

The investigation comes six months after a complaint was filed by Russell Dinkins, the executive director of the Tracksmith Foundation, which has played a part in reinstating previously cut track programs at William & Mary, Clemson, Minnesota and Brown.

Dinkins said the investigation could go away quickly should CMU decide to reinstate its program.

"Our ask is simple: We want the men's track and field program back due to the opportunities afforded along racial and socio-economic lines, and so it's simple," Dinkins told CMU's student newspaper, Central Michigan Life. "The university, if they want this investigation to go away, they can make it go away tomorrow. They can bring back the men's track and field program."

Davies reinforced the university's commitment to diversity.

"With all our sports — and throughout our university — diversity inclusivity, accessibility and student success are always top priorities," Davies said. "We are committed to ensuring open pathways and exceptional learning and competition opportunities for every student."

CMU hired Kevin Jennings as its men's golf head coach in October. The Benton Harbor native led the men's and women's programs at Prairie View A&M, a historically Black university.

As of Thursday, Davies said the program had pledges from three people of color among the eight current commitments.

Davies said the decisions to cut track and add golf were separate, with the latter not serving as a succession plan.

"These were two separate decisions," Davies said. "We looked at many different opportunities and looking at the financial side, the competitive side, how would they fit in the MAC? How would they fit in within our footprint? And the student success opportunities that would prevail."

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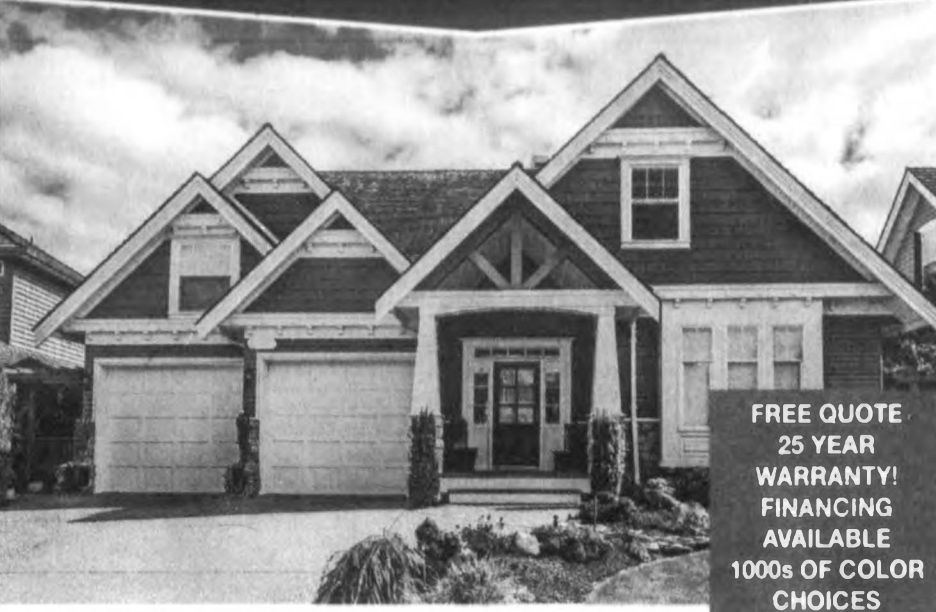
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Favorites

Continued from Page 18

Accolades: All-OAA-Red selection and named Hometown Life's Player of the Year.

College Interest: Holds an offer from Miami (Ohio) and is being recruited by Division I colleges.

Coach Todd Negoshian: "Showed up huge in big games."

First Team
Christian Fontaine,
Lutheran Westland

Vitals: SF/SG, sophomore, 6-foot-3.

Stats: Totaled 337 points, 81 rebounds, 31 assists, 30 steals and 13 blocks.

Accolades: All-MIAC dream team and All-MIAC-Red first team. Scored seven 3-pointers against Lutheran Northwest.

College Interest: N/A.

Coach Dymetrius Ware: "Christian was a dedicated and hard worker from the start of the year, even coming in during September workouts. He is one of the most coachable kids on the court and was a positive teammate. Looking forward to helping Christian develop as he is only a sophomore!"

Dante Favor, Canton

Vitals: PF, junior, 6-foot-7, 190 pounds.

Stats: Averaged 9.8 points, 8.4 rebounds and 17 blocks. Shot 59% from the floor.

Accolades: All-KLAA first team.

Obituaries



Phillip Wayne Tapp

ROYAL OAK - Phillip Wayne Tapp, 83, of Royal Oak, Michigan, AKA "Captain Wonderful", died peacefully on April 23rd in Venice, Florida, after a short battle with cancer. His wife of thirty years, Roseanne "Cookie" (nee Jefferson) Tapp was at his side.

Phillip is survived by children; Kevin Tapp, Laurie (Erich) Gaza, Debbie (Chris) Shegich, Brenda (Brendan) Brosnan, Amanda Rogers, and grandchildren; Jonathan, Troy, Mark, Dylan, Chase, Stephan, Shawn, Liam, Ryan, Evan, Donovan, Allison, and Damon; and his former spouse, Sharon Tapp. A celebration to honor Phillip will be held this summer in Michigan.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Englewood Elks Lodge #2378, 401 North Indiana Ave., Englewood, FL 34223, to support military veterans. Please mark on the envelope: Tapp/Vets.

College Interest: N/A.
Coach Jimmy Reddy: "Dante had a tremendous junior year for us. He was excellent at both ends of the floor. On defense, he was a great rim protector and rebounder and on offense, he shot a high percentage in the paint and was also able to step out and shoot it a little bit."

Sam Barnhart,
Northville

Vitals: C/PF, senior, 6-foot-5, 205 pounds.

Stats: Averaged 7.5 points and six rebounds. Shot 60% inside the arc and 32% from the 3-point line.

Accolades: All-KLAA first team.

College Interest: N/A.

Coach Todd Sander: "Sam played every minute of every game down the stretch for us, and he came up huge at the right time of the year. He routinely guarded the other teams' best bigs and controlled the glass. A knack for scoring timely shots."

Carlos Adamson,
Northville

Vitals: SG, sophomore, 6-foot, 150 pounds.

Stats: Averaged 14 points late in the season and three assists. Shot 35% from the 3-point line.

Accolades: All-KLAA honorable mention and named team's Most Improved Player.

College Interest: N/A.

Coach Todd Sander: "Carlos became a go-to guy for us down the stretch during our post-season run. We asked him to handle the ball, to score from all three levels and defend. His defense really improved throughout the season. He's going to be special."

Jordan Scott,
Plymouth Christian Academy

Vitals: PG, junior, 6-foot-2, 170 pounds.

Stats: Averaged 24 points, 7.5 rebounds and 5.5 assists.

Accolades: All-MIAC first team, All-MIAC dream team and named MIAC MVP.

College Interest: Being recruited by Division I and II colleges.

Coach Matt Windle: "He had three triple-doubles for us this year which speaks to all he can do in a 32-minute game."

Second Team
Matt Gorski,
Northville

Vitals: SF, senior, 6-foot-2, 165 points.

Stats: Averaged 14 points and five rebounds. Shot 40% from the 3-point line and 70% from the free-throw line.

Accolades: All-KLAA first team, named team MVP and tabbed as one of BCAM's Outstanding Senior Student-Athletes.

College Interest: N/A.

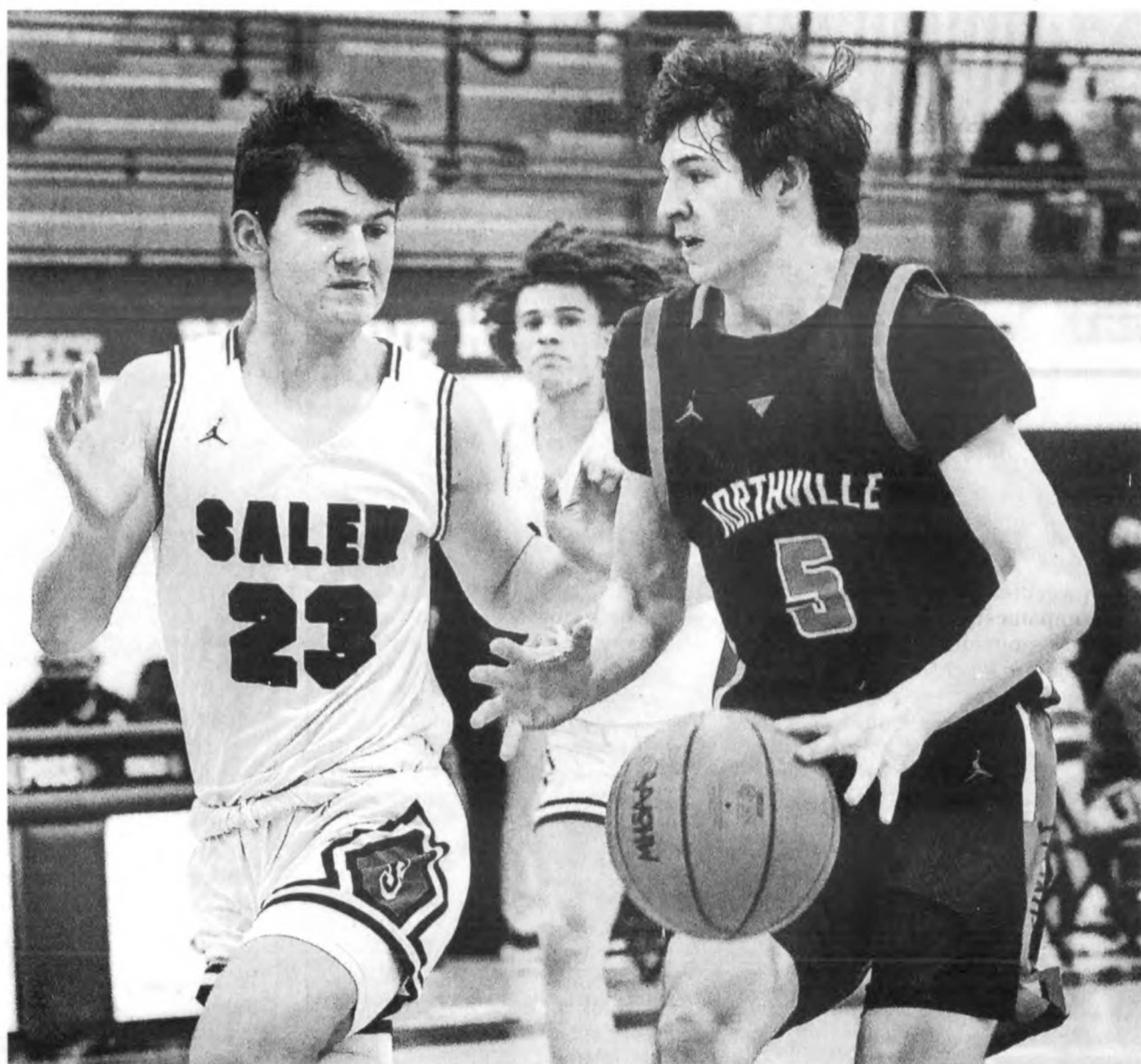
Coach Todd Sander: "Matt was a tremendous workhorse for us all season. He averaged almost 15 points a night, despite always getting the attention of the opponent's best defenders. He had a knack for making big shots in big moments. He had a terrific career."

Sam Lewis, Milford

Vitals: PF/SF, junior, 6-foot-5.

Stats: Averaged 18.6 points, six rebounds and three assists. Shot 43% from the floor and 76% from the free-throw line. Made 49 3-pointers.

Accolades: All-LVC selection and named team MVP. Tied school



Northville's Matt Gorski, right, dribbles past Salem's Luke Dieffenbaugher during a game in January. BRANDON FOLSON/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

record for most 3s in a game (seven) and finished third for most points scored in a single season (390) and fifth for most 3s in a single season (48).

College Interest: Being recruited by Division III and NAIA programs.

Coach David Gilbert: "Sam isn't just a scorer or shooter but someone who plays the game at a high level while playing team basketball the right way. Sam is one of those players who makes everyone else around him better."

Chibi Anwunah,
Plymouth Christian Academy

Vitals: C, senior, 6-foot-8, 235 pounds.

Stats: Averaged 9.4 points, 10.2 rebounds and 2.5 blocks.

Accolades: All-MIAC first team and All-MIAC dream team.

College Interest: Signed with Michigan for football.

Coach Matt Windle: "Chibi has had an incredible 4 years at PCA. His ability to protect the rim on defense allows for his teammates to take chances and pressure the ball. Chibi is a freak athlete and has taken strides in his offensive game. We greatly missed him during the playoffs (because of an injury). We are excited for Chibi's future in football at Michigan."

Cole Vickers, Canton

Vitals: SG/SF, senior, 6-foot-4, 175 pounds.

Stats: Averaged 18.1 points, 5.3 rebounds, 3.2 assists and 1.6 steals. Shot 47% from the floor, 40% from the 3-point line and 81% from the free-throw line.

Accolades: All-KLAA first team and third-year player. Scored a career-best 30 points vs. Detroit Renaissance.

College Interest: Signed with Ferris State.

Coach Jimmy Reddy: "Cole did so much for our team, specifically on the offensive side of the ball. His ability to score inside and out made him incredibly tough to guard. His leadership for our team was unmatched and he is an outstanding student and role model. Unfortunately for him and our team, Cole tore his ACL in game No. 16 this year."

Jonathan Johnson,
Bloomfield Hills Roper

Vitals: PG, senior, 6-foot-1, 170 pounds.

Stats: Averaged 19 points, 9.1 rebounds and four assists.

Accolades: N/A.

College Interest: N/A.

Coach Ryan Zinser: "Jonathan was the leader of the offense as a point guard with his scoring and ability to make the game easier for his teammates and also the rim protector on the defensive end."

Third Team
Kam Mayes,
Detroit Catholic Central

Vitals: SF, senior, 6-foot-5, 190 pounds.

Stats: Averaged 13 points and seven rebounds. Shot 62% from the floor.

Accolades: All-CHSL selection and third-year varsity player.

College Interest: Uncommitted but receiving Division II and III interest.

Coach Brandon Sinawi: "Kam has really solidified himself as one of the best seniors around, especially as of late through our Catholic League tournament run and our post-season run. A tremendous athlete, he's someone who creates a mismatch for anyone that guards him. At 6-5, he can jump out of the gym and his ability to score has helped us win our region. He's been hurt the last two seasons, so this year has been extra special for Kam!"

Kelvin Amoako,
Plymouth

Vitals: PF, junior, 6-foot-8, 225 pounds.

Stats: Averaged 10.2 points, 7.8 rebounds and 1.2 blocks. Shot 58% from the floor.

Accolades: All-KLAA first team.

College Interest: N/A.

Coach Mike Soukup: "Kelvin became a player to contend with on both ends of the floor this year. When he was playing at his best our team performed at its best. I am excited to watch his growth for next season as a player and person."

Kareem Aburashed,
Detroit Country Day

Vitals: C, senior, 6-foot-9, 210 pounds.

Stats: Averaged 17 points and 9.2 rebounds.

Accolades: N/A.

College Interest: Signed with Macomb Community College.

Coach Mark Bray: "Kareem worked so hard to develop into one of the best players in the state. As a mobile and active 6-foot-9 inside-out big man, very few teams had an answer for him this year. He impacted the game on both ends of the floor. We are so proud that he went from a player who was a defensive liability as a sophomore to an essential part of the reason our defense held opponents to 51.5 points per game while we averaged 63 points per game on offense."

Nate Pierson,
Plymouth Christian Academy

Vitals: SG, junior, 5-foot-10, 155 pounds.

Stats: Averaged 20 points and shot 40% from the 3-point line.

Accolades: All-MIAC first team and All-MIAC dream team. Scored a school-record 45 points in a single game.

College Interest: N/A.

Coach Matt Windle: "Nate is an elite shooter but cannot be put in just the shooter category. He does a great job beating defenders off the dribble and has a soft touch to finish around the rim. He can be a legit piece to some really good teams at the next level. He does a great job with on-ball and off-ball defense as well!"

Paul Davenport,
Lutheran Westland

Vitals: PG, senior, 5-foot-6.

Stats: Totaled 342 points, 71 rebounds, 56 steals and 113 assists.

Accolades: All-MIAC dream team, All-MIAC-RED first team and league MVP. Also named MIAC MVP for football in the fall.

College Interest: N/A.

Coach Dymetrius Ware: "Paul Davenport is a workhorse. The most competitive kid at guard. Period. Paul stands out as being one of the most confident on the court."

He may not make his first or second shot, but he will make his third, a trait you love to see in a kid. Paul could definitely play at the next level!"

Honorable Mention

SF - Ben Canty, Bloomfield Hills

SF - Derrick (DJ) Lee, Bloomfield Hills

SF - Curtis Williams, Brother Rice

SF - Robert Grant, Garden City

SF - Jake Fannon, South Lyon East

SF/PF - Tawayne Campbell Jr., Canton Prep

SF/PF - Xavier Thomas, Brother Rice

PF - Cooper Craggs, Detroit Catholic Central

PF - Lucas Young, Livonia Stevenson

PF - Ashton Wheeler, Salem

PF/C - Aaron Rice, North Farmington

PF/C - Carson Brodsky, Bloomfield Hills

PF/C - Keithan Gilmore, Brother Rice

C - Lee Hardy, North Farmington

SF/SG - Cole Vickers, Canton

SG - Noah Adamczyk, Bloomfield Hills

SG - Henry Garrity, Brother Rice

SG - TJ Nadeau, Detroit Catholic Central

SG - Luke Ammori, Detroit Country Day

SG - Nick Sanders, Detroit Country Day

SG - Te'John McGowan, Novi

SG - Adam Jagacki, South Lyon East

SG/PG - Tyler Spratt, North Farmington

PG - Julian Manna, Bloomfield Hills

PG - Johnathan Blackwell, Brother Rice

PG - Lake McIntosh, Canton

PG - Chase Lewless, Detroit Catholic Central

PG - Julian Scott, Detroit Country Day

PG - Dylan Stadler, Livonia Clarenceville

PG - Kenoly Jones, Livonia Stevenson

PG - Landon Williams, North Farmington

PG - Danny Groechel, Novi

PG - Jace Petree, Plymouth

PG - Pryor Reynolds, Salem

Follow Brandon Folsom on Twitter @folsom-brandonj.

Deal raises question of Twitter relocation

Musk seems more comfortable with his enterprises in Texas

Kara Carlson
Austin American-Statesman
USA TODAY NETWORK

Billionaire entrepreneur Elon Musk, the CEO of Austin, Texas-based automaker Tesla, has reached a deal to acquire social media platform Twitter.

That raises an obvious question: Once the deal is completed, might Musk move Twitter's corporate headquarters to Austin, which has increasingly become a center of operations for him and his companies?

Musk's pursuit of Twitter has been ongoing for weeks, and on Monday, Twitter's board agreed to the sale, which is worth about \$44 billion.

With Twitter owned by Musk, industry analysts and Austin-area tech officials say it's not a stretch to think that he might move the company's headquarters from San Francisco to Austin, or at least create a much larger corporate presence for the company in central Texas, which has become a focal point for Musk's companies.

Musk late last year announced that he was moving Tesla's corporate headquarters from California to Travis County, on the site of the automaker's \$1.1 billion manufacturing plant, which recently began production. Musk also moved the headquarters of his tunneling and infrastructure company, The Boring Company, to Central Texas, either in Pflugerville if you go by filings in California and Texas, or Bastrop if you go by the company's own job listings.

Musk is also involved with a likely expansion of his aerospace company SpaceX in Austin, a potential Neuralink office in Austin, and the relocation of the headquarters of his private foundation to Austin.

On Monday, after news of the deal, broke, Gov. Greg Abbott encouraged the idea of the company moving to Texas.

"@elonmusk. Bring Twitter to Texas to join Tesla, SpaceX & the Boring company," Abbott said in a tweet.

Dan Ives, an analyst with Wedbush Securities, said once Musk acquires



Elon Musk moved the headquarters for Tesla and his tunneling and infrastructure company, The Boring Company, to Texas. SUZANNE CORDEIRO/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

Twitter, it's likely the deal will result in a significant Twitter presence in Austin.

"He's going to have more and more of his operations around Tesla, and I think down the road there'll be some portion of SpaceX operations, and then ultimately Twitter," Ives said. "It's all part of the Musk structure."

Ives said the entrepreneurial environment in Austin is similar to the "Musk DNA."

"I think he's more comfortable in Austin than in California," Ives said.

Mark Arend, editor-in-chief of Site Selection Magazine, a national publication that tracks economic development trends around the county, said that while he has no way of knowing whether Musk would relocate Twitter to Austin, there could be benefits to the move.

"Austin, like other metros in Texas, has a big labor pool and plenty of room to build new facilities with access to key infrastructures like Interstates and an airport with more international destinations all the time," Arend said. "The University of Texas in Austin would be a major source of skilled labor, as other universities and colleges in the area would be. Companies and employees relocating to Austin would likely enjoy a lower cost of housing, energy and living than many markets, including many in California."

Amber Gunst, CEO of the Austin Technology Council, agreed that if

Musk's deal for Twitter is completed, she thinks it's likely Twitter would move its headquarters to Austin. But that might not result in a large influx of Twitter workers to central Texas, she said.

"As the vast majority of their staff is working remote on a permanent basis, I don't see a significant increase in people moving to Austin specifically for a role within the company," she said. "That could potentially change if new leadership decided they wanted employees back in the office. This could also have an impact on those employees who have relocated to other areas and whether they would be willing to continue with the company if that happens."

But some technology industry analysts say they aren't convinced Musk would move Twitter's headquarters to Austin.

Roger Kay, an analyst with Endpoint Technologies Associates, said there's no reason to move Twitter's corporate headquarters to a new location.

"Other than the fact that Musk is moving everything he's got (to Austin), there's no obvious reason to take a company which is virtual, from the very beginning, born in the cloud, to create a physical location," Kay said. "They can be anywhere, and the fact that they're in San Francisco is primarily because ... that's where they were, and that's where they got the employees."

Kay said Musk could establish a

small supervisory location for Twitter in Austin, but said he thinks the majority of the company's operations would likely remain in California.

In California, the company currently has several thousand employees, but Twitter has also been among the companies most embracing remote work. Last year, CEO Parag Agrawal announced in a tweet that employees would have the option of working remotely "forever."

Kay said that for Twitter's current employees, there's little incentive to uproot from California.

"You're not going to get the employees from San Francisco to go to Texas. It's a totally different crowd," Kay said. "Managers like Musk and others move to Texas for their own libertarian reasons. They like Texas' lesser regulation and do-what-you-want culture."

If the Austin area did land Twitter's corporate headquarters, it would add to a recent flood of economic development wins for the region, which include the Tesla and Boring Co. relocations, and Oracle moving its corporate headquarters to Austin, along with expansions by Apple and Amazon. Twitter also wouldn't be the first social media giant with a major corporate presence in the Austin area, as Facebook and its parent company Meta have multiple Austin-area offices and more than 2,000 employees.

Bryce Bencivengo, director of public relations and media for the Austin Chamber of Commerce, said the recent expansions and relocations show how attractive Austin is to many corporations.

"The secret sauce that Austin has, which I don't think is very secret, is talent," he said. "The talent pipeline in central Texas is really, really strong. I think that's a big part of why we've seen companies relocate and feel comfortable expanding here."

Gunst, of the Austin Technology Council, said the growth and success of the region's technology sector has also been key.

"Our tech community has greatly benefited from this success and not just from relocations of larger company headquarters or expansions, but by the entrepreneurship that has developed as a result," Gunst said.

Yzerman's to-do list extends beyond hiring new coach

Helene St. James Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

Steve Yzerman is used to being busy: In a span of a three days in mid-April, the general manager flew from Detroit to Tampa, Florida, back to Detroit the next day, and the day after that, to Germany to scout at the U18 World Championship.

Now his business will keep him closer to home, as the Red Wings have entered another long offseason. They won their final game Friday to finish 32-40-10 and 74 points, well below the 100-point minimum that all eight playoff teams in the Eastern Conference reached.

The Wings' season was marked by first-half promise and second-half demise. Chief on Yzerman's to-do list is hiring a new coach, after announcing Saturday he would not renew Jeff Blashill's contract.

The tasks extend beyond the coaching situation, though. Here is a look at Yzerman's to-do list as he enters his fourth offseason in charge of the rebuild.

Exit meetings

These used to be conducted in person, but the pandemic has facilitated accomplishing them via video. Numerous players are headed out of town within a week or so, with a contingent going to Finland for the World Championship: goalie Alex Nedeljkovic (USA), forward Lucas Raymond and goalie Magnus Hellberg (Sweden), defenseman Moritz Seider (Germany), forward Pius Suter (Switzerland), and forward Jakub Vrana and defenseman Filip Hronek (Czech Republic). With some of the older players, Yzerman is expected to let them know whether there is interest in retaining their services.

Deciding on his free agents

Players eligible to become unrestricted free agents this summer include defensemen Marc Staal and Danny DeKeyser, forward Sam Gagner, and goaltenders Hellberg and Thomas Greiss. Yzerman made overtures towards resigning Nick Leddy, but he wanted a

contract in the \$5 million range. That was far more than the Wings were considering, so Yzerman traded him. That leaves an opening for at least one veteran. Staal has been a good fit since arriving prior to the 2021 season. DeKeyser was waived multiple times over the past two seasons, signaling he doesn't have a future with the team. Gagner is another possibility to stay — 13 goals and 18 assists from an \$850,000 player is a pretty good deal. Greiss is a goner. Hellberg played one game; it came against the non-playoff Devils on Friday, so little can be read into that performance. Maybe he will be invited to camp to earn a job.

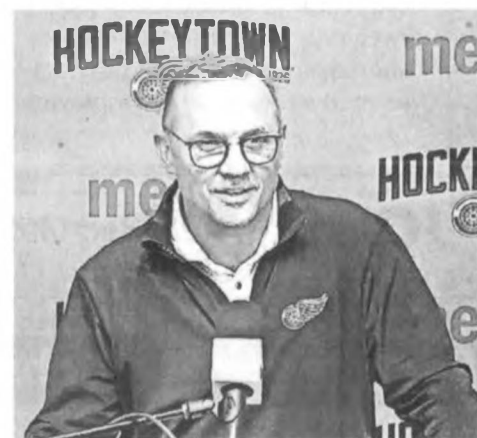
Finalize draft plans

The Wings will find out where their first pick in the 2022 draft falls when the lottery is held May 10. There will be two draws, one for the No. 1 pick and one for No. 2. After that, the order is determined by teams' regular-season records. The Wings, who finished with the league's eighth-worst record, have 6% odds to get the No. 1 pick, and 12.4% odds to pick in the top two. The Wings haven't had the first overall pick since 1986 when they drafted Joe Murphy, and haven't had the second overall pick since 1971 when they chose Marcel Dionne. The Wings have 54.4% odds to pick eighth, 30% odds to pick ninth, and 3.2% odds to pick 10th. Forward Shane Wright, who has 32 goals and 62 assists in 63 games with Kingston of the OHL this season, is the projected No. 1 pick this summer; the Wings sorely need a guy who projects to be an elite center.

Assessing needs

While the Wings' amateur scouts are busy preparing final rankings ahead of the July 7-8 draft in Montreal, the team's pro scouts are readying travel plans for the playoffs. Every series is worth scouting to explore potential trade scenarios or, more likely, preparing for free agency. Someone to keep an eye on, for example, is Carolina's Vincent Trocheck. The 28-year-old right-shot center is a pending unrestricted free agent. Trocheck isn't big (5-foot-10, 183 pounds) but he's skilled and just

posted his fourth 20-goal, 50-point performance. He's worth considering as an option for a second-line center. The Wings also need a proven backup goaltender, and most likely will look to add another veteran defenseman even if Staal is re-signed. Defenseman Simon Edvinsson, the Wings' first-round pick from 2021, is expected to challenge for a job, but Yzerman has shown he won't fast-track a prospect he doesn't deem ready for the NHL. Edvinsson is considered on par with Seider, but Seider was a year older, already had an AHL season to his credit, and had starred in the Swedish Hockey League.



Red Wings general manager Steve Yzerman in 2021. DETROIT FREE PRESS FILE

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The Tightest Labor Market on Record Across the Country

By Ziprecruiter.com

The State Employment and Unemployment report released last week and the State Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey report released this morning make one thing clear: labor shortages continue to intensify across the country, even as workers return to the labor force.

Every single state in the U.S. now has more job openings than unemployed people. State ratios between unemployed people and job openings are at record lows in 27 states, and state unemployment rates are at record lows in 12 states.

Here are states with particularly remarkable labor market dynamics:

1. Utah and Montana are the best job seekers' markets in the nation

Nationwide, there are 1.7 job openings for every unemployed person, which would be remarkable on its own. (The pre-pandemic average was 0.4, by comparison.) But the imbalance between labor supply and labor demand is even starker in Utah, and Montana, with 3.7 and 3.3 job openings for every unemployed person, respectively.

While those two states have the starkest imbalances between supply and demand, labor shortages are a broader phenomenon. 8 states have unemployment

rates of 2.5% or below: Nebraska, Utah, Indiana, Montana, Kansas, Minnesota, New Hampshire, and South Dakota. In all of these states, staffing shortages at businesses are particularly rampant and there is fierce competition among employers for scarce talent.

As a result, job seekers in those states are enjoying substantial bargaining power, which is translating into rapid wage growth. State wage growth rates are released with a lag—the latest available data are for the third quarter of 2021—but already

then, year over year wage growth measured in 15.0% in New Hampshire and 7.1% in Utah.

States with tight labor markets where wage growth is lagging behind—such as Nebraska, at 5.5%—have likely experienced intense upward pressure on wages since.

States with such tight labor markets have become powerful job magnets, attracting workers from across the country. For example, both Montana and Utah are in the top 10 when it comes to net in-migration rates, with Montana adding 17 residents

for every 1,000, and Utah adding 10 between 2020 and 2021, according to the most recent data from the U.S. Census Bureau.

2. Layoffs have become vanishingly rare in Michigan, once known for cascading mass layoffs and plant closures

In the Great Recession, Michigan workers became accustomed to mass layoffs of manufacturing workers and government workers, as plant closures and local government bankruptcies roiled the state.

Now, in the wake of the Covid recession, however, the state's workers couldn't be faring more differently. The state has the lowest rate of layoffs and discharges nationwide, giving workers unparalleled job security.

Only 0.6% of Michigan workers are being terminated each month—a much lower share than the national average of 0.9%. In February, only 28k people lost their jobs involuntarily in the state.

While past recessions have seen demand for goods fall more than demand for services, the pandemic recession has largely been concentrated in the service sector, while demand for goods—particularly durable goods—has skyrocketed, benefiting the manufacturing belt.



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1 Is worthy of
9 Ice cream
shop treats
15 Glaringly
sensational
20 Clear out of
21 Riga's land
22 "Nadja" title
role player
Löwensohn
23 Start of a
riddle
25 Fuzz-covered
26 Royal
Middleton
27 Inflated head
28 Glimpse
29 Urge (on)
31 It may
contain
coffee
32 — cone
(icy treat)
33 More of the
riddle
38 Chess
pieces, e.g.
39 Seating tier
40 Officer led by
Capt. Kirk
41 Equilibrium
45 Urge on
49 Novelist —
Stanley
Gardner
51 More of the
riddle
57 Pipe bend
58 Prefix with
byte

59 Mardi — (Big
Easy bash)
60 Hi-tech
special FX
61 — rock
(music genre)
62 — Blu
Dipinto di
Blu" (1958
hit song)
63 Q-tips, e.g.
65 Jockeys'
garb
67 Like Mass
officiants
69 More of the
riddle
73 Really hungry
76 Really high
77 Twangy, as
a voice
81 Yes, to Sartre
82 U.S.
immigrants'
course
83 "Gross!"
84 Cookbook
qtys.
87 Subdue with
a stun gun
88 And the rest:
Abbr.
89 More of the
riddle
93 Departs
95 "Ad — per
aspera"
96 Wash and
iron
97 Attempt to
convey

101 Stephen of
"Ondine"
104 Hypothetical
cases
105 End of the
riddle
110 Cloaked
113 Inferior mag
114 Tiki bar
necklace
115 Ending for
pay or plug
116 Response to
"Are you?"
117 Roseanne of
"Roseanne"
118 — Gold"
(1997 Peter
Fonda film)
120 Riddle's
answer
125 Pasta variety
126 — Alex (2005
Belmont
Stakes
winner)
127 Pupil-dilating
alkaloid
128 Comic
Johnson and
Angels owner
Moreno
129 Puts it forth
as fact
130 Tailor

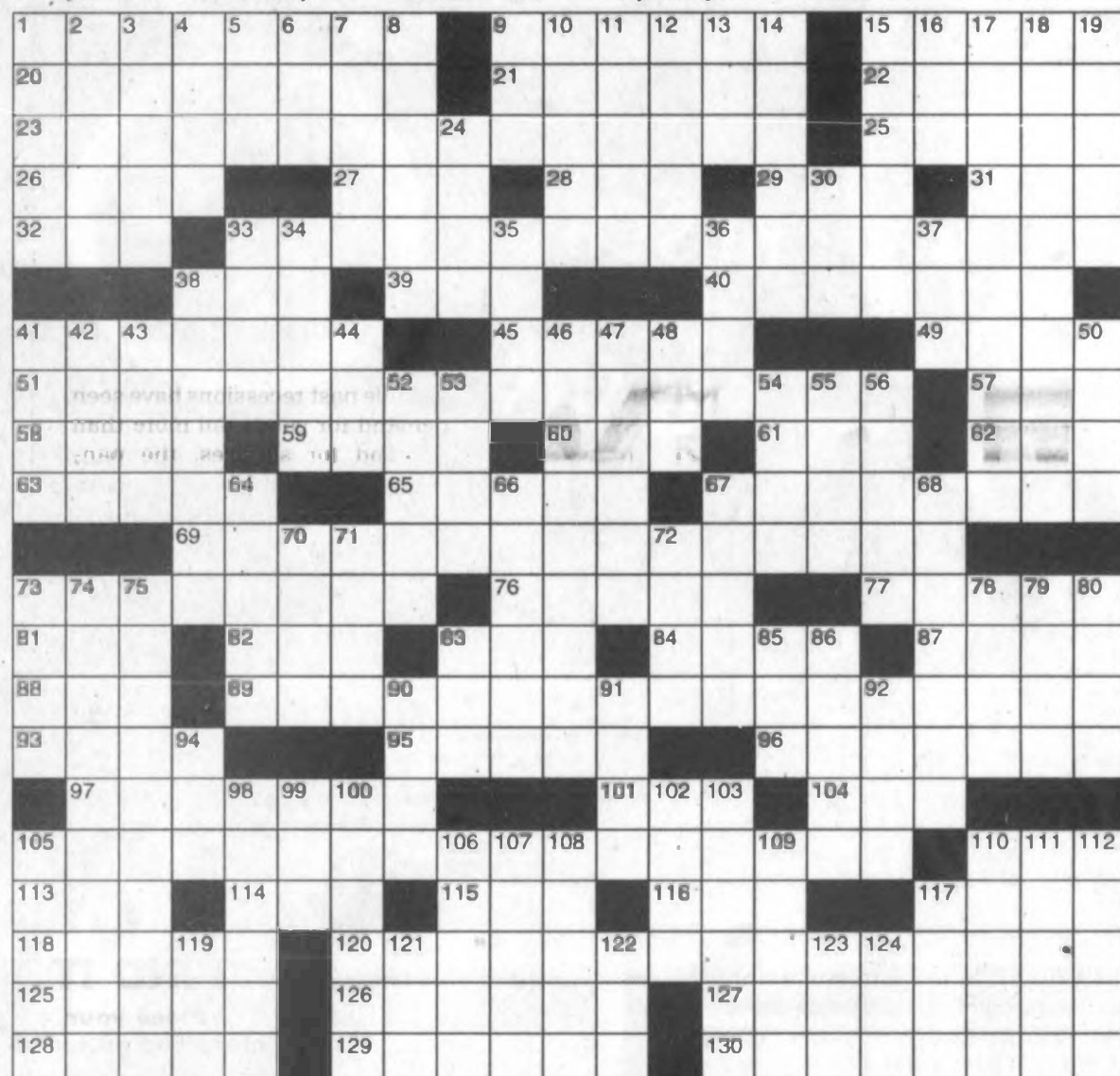
DOWN

1 Office fixtures
2 Aquafina rival
3 — Domingo
4 Nero's "Lo!"

5 Regret
6 Jumbo tub
7 Early
anesthetic
8 Pete of folk
music
9 St. Pete loc.
10 Ranch rope
11 River romper
12 With — to (in
hopes of)
13 It may
contain
coffee
14 Most wise
15 Running time
16 Ending with
form
17 Undertow
18 Alongside
each other
19 "Tell It to My
Heart" singer
Taylor
24 Chanel of
perfumery
30 Wildebeest
33 Fender flaw
34 Disguised,
for short
35 Small branch
36 German for
"everyone"
37 Be litigious
38 Ghastly
41 Tiny pieces
42 Some
43 "The
Practice"
co-star —
Flynn Boyle

44 Blunder
46 Dirt-digging
journalist
47 Hog haven
48 "— tu"
(Verdi aria)
50 — May
(one of TV's
Clampetts)
52 Ship poles
53 "Dream on!"
54 Deform
55 Et — (and
others)
56 Unyielding
64 Muscle
power
66 Like plunging
necklines
67 Rival of
Coke
68 Lipitor and
Zocor, e.g.
70 "Jiminy!"
71 Luau dance
72 Jabba
the —
73 Filmmaker
Nicolas
74 Salesperson
in a car lot
75 Deputy ruler
78 Anti-DUI gp.
79 Tennis great
Arthur
80 Look of lust
83 Mensa stats
85 D.C. VIP
86 Slowpoke
90 Jacques of
French film

91 Delhi dress
92 Beer on "The
Simpsons"
94 Test, as tea
98 Triple-time
dances, in
Paris
99 Ending for
Siam or
Milan
100 Big Japanese
dogs
102 Kuwaiti
ruler
103 Yoga poses
105 Big-band
drummer
Gene
106 In a high-
minded
manner
107 Singers'
clubs
108 19th U.S.
president
109 Overplay it
110 Custom
111 "Fame"
singer Cara
112 Hair salon
fixture
117 Conks
119 Ethyl ender
121 Out — job
122 Western
tribe
123 Song
syllable
124 "Splash"
co-star
Hanks



#2,089

Average time of solution: 67 minutes

For assistance or suggestions on the Puzzle Corner, contact Steve McClellan at
(517) 702-4247 or smcclellan@michigan.com.

SUDOKU

8		6			5			2
		9						
				4	8		5	7
3		1						
		8		1		2		
						3		5
6	3		7	2				
						4		
2			9			6		1

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!

DON'T BE BORING!

Can you find all the words hidden in the grid? Read backwards or forwards, up or down, even diagonally. The words will always be in a straight line. Cross them off the list as you find them.

Q E I O R I N D I F F E R E N T Z G F
D M S U N U B A S J A F L A T W N L E
S W E N N U N O I D N G O Y F I A H C
L R K R E E M O E R N O A X L N P Y A
A E A X O B X Q F I T K T D A U K T L
N T H R E O U C R T O S D B N A E E P
O S S R Y A P O E E H I E D A D D L N
I U T V T R B P G P M E I D I D E B O
T L A E F X A A R H T S M O E N S A M
N K E L B A R E L O T I U I A P S K M
E C R F D E H Y R I S S O D L O E R O
V A G T V U R P N D D A N N S L R A C
N L O A M A L G W B I U I O A Y P M Z
O J N D N O U L A N M P S C H L E E A
C P R I D I D R M O D E R A T E D R R
Y U D D S N D N Y M E D I O C R E N I
M R I H A S G N I T I C X E N U S U A
O N E L Q Q F O R G E T T A B L E G F
C O R A D Y F U I T A N I C A B I N H

ADEQUATE
AVERAGE
BANAL
BLAND
BORING
COMMONPLACE
CONVENTIONAL
DEPRESSED
DIM
DRAB
DREARY
DULL
FAIR
FLAT
FORGETTABLE
HUMDRUM
INDIFFERENT
LACKLUSTER
MEDIocre
MIDDLING
MODERATE
MUNDANE
NO GREAT SHAKES
NOT BAD
OKAY
ORDINARY
PEDESTRIAN
PLODDING
POOR
PROSAIC
RUN-OF-THE-MILL
SOMBER
SO-SO
TEDIOUS
TOLERABLE
UNDISTINGUISHED
UNEXCEPTIONAL
UNEXCITING
UNIMAGINATIVE
UNREMARKABLE



9	5	4	3	2	1	6	8	7
2	8	1	7	2	6	9	5	3
6	3	7	9	8	2	4	1	5
7	6	8	1	3	5	4	2	9
1	2	9	7	8	4	9	3	6
4	5	3	6	2	9	1	7	8
8	9	6	2	7	4	3	1	9
3	7	2	9	5	1	8	6	4
4	5	8	6	3	7	9	2	1

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