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NORTHVILLE RECORD

THURSDAY, JUNE 30, 2022 | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Not just a number: Telling homicide victims' stories

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The year was still young when sisters Dominique Parchmon and Shyanna Hall were shot to death.

Winter passed, and so did most of spring before violence claimed the life of

Sarah Grant, 45, in neighboring Westland.

She was the mother of two girls.

In that same month of May, multiple gunshots killed two friends — Cameron Duckworth, 20, and Drake Mancuso, 16 — in White Lake Township.

These victims aren't just statistics:

they were mothers, sisters, brothers, sons and daughters.

They were people who should have been able to pursue their dreams and see some of their wishes accomplished. Hometown Life is sharing their stories.

See **STORIES**, Page 4A

How to share

If you are a friend or family member of Dominique Parchmon, Shyanna Hall or Sarah Grant and would like to share stories, memories or photos of them, contact Susan Vela at svela@hometownlife.com or 248-303-8432.

Northville Twp. police launch community partnership safety program

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Northville Township's law enforcers are debuting "Partners In Your Safety," a long-term project to promote problem solving, create safer neighborhoods and develop relationships between police and residents.

Scott Hilden, who started the year as the township's new police chief, introduced the three-phase program to at least 50 community members gathered at Township Hall.

"We want to build trust and positive relationships in the community," Hilden said. "If we're able to enhance the awareness of the community members, engage community members in this partnership in your safety, then we'll be able to bring the community level of safety up as high up as it can be."

Hilden promised that his Partners program is similar to endeavors he founded while working for Canton Township and Washtenaw Community College.

Law enforcers will connect individual neighborhoods with the resources and tools necessary to create safer communities. Accreditation is possible.

Participating neighborhoods must complete the following three phases:

Phase One: Neighborhood meeting to explain the project and establishing goals like meeting two neighbors.

Phase Two: Attend quarterly "Partners In Your Safety" meetings, ensure open communication between law enforcers and residents, residents

See **PROGRAM**, Page 6A

South Lyon plans more housing projects for low-income seniors

Susan Bromley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN



Mary Eilola talks about living at the Washington Manor apartment complex in South Lyon on June 4. SUSAN BROMLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Mary Eilola, 72, hit financial problems several years ago and lost her South Lyon trailer.

The former bank employee and 25-year city resident lived with her sister and was "couch-surfing" before she landed one of only 15 units in Washington Manor, designated for low-income seniors located just a few blocks from the center of downtown.

"I got in within six months," Eilola remembers now, as she sits on the sunny patio outside her front door on a quiet afternoon. "I was shocked. You only get in if someone dies or moves out."

Bob Beale, executive director of the South Lyon Housing Commission that manages Washington Manor, agrees.

"I get phone calls and emails from people looking for affordable housing on a weekly basis," Beale said. "There are only 15 units and (the residents) don't move out. The units only become available when they pass away."

Currently, there are 43 people on a waiting list to get into one of the units at Washington Manor, but that wait could soon be over.

The city planning commission unanimously approved rezoning and a preliminary site plan for a new 3-story, 53-unit planned development on the 1.53 acre site at 432 Washington Ave., site of the Washington Manor apartments.

The project now goes to the city council for approval.

Eric Gold, vice-president of the Slavik Company, a real estate developer and investor, partnered with Beale earlier this year to redevelop the site. Next steps include applying to the state for low-income housing tax credits this fall.

Construction could begin as soon as fall 2023, Gold said, with a building that would include a fitness room, hair salon, a community room, covered patio with a

See **HOUSING**, Page 5A

"I get phone calls and emails from people looking for affordable housing on a weekly basis."

Bob Beale Executive director of the South Lyon Housing Commission

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S#7 B#3

Roundup: What businesses opened, closed

David Veselenak HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Warmer weather means more activity. It also seems to bring more business to town.

There's been a flurry of business moves across the region the past month, with plenty of new shops openings and closing their doors across the Hometown Life area. Here's what opened and closed its doors this past month as flowers bloomed and sunnier days arrived.

Did we miss one? Have a business opening or closing soon? Let us know by emailing dveselenak@hometownlife.com.

Milford

The village recently gained a new restaurant, with Chino Loco Eats relocated to Milford from Highland Township in early May. The restaurant — serving dishes such as tacos, quesadillas and nachos — recently moved to 240 Summit in the Mill Pond Plaza.

Also new to town is the first brick-and-mortar location for a local clothing brand. Dreamy Daze Boutique recently opened its first in-person retail shop at 115 W. Commerce. The shop, which began as an online retailer, specializes in women's clothing, including tops, skirts dresses and graphic tank tops.

Farmington Hills

There are some new places to grab something to eat in Farmington Hills these days.

Those include BurritoBar, a new fast-casual franchise that opened at 12 Mile and Halsted. The shop, the second one of the Canadian brand to open in the United States, serves up a variety of dishes inspired from south of the border.

Also open is a new Uno Pizzeria and Grill, which replaced the previous restaurant at the Delta Hotels by Marriott



A HUB Stadium guest prepares to throw an ax in one of the Novi entertainment location's competitive cages.
JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Detroit Novi at Grand River and Halsted. Known for its Chicago-style pizza, it joins its other location in Sterling Heights as the two Uno Pizzerias in metro Detroit.

In addition, there's a new place to fill prescriptions in town as well. Open more than a month ago, Quality Care Pharmacy operates in the medical building at 28300 Orchard Lake. The pharmacy is open five days a week and offers both prescriptions and over-the-counter medications.

Farmington

While it's not new, a local business has a more prominent location in downtown Farmington.

All About Women, a boutique that can help with bra fittings for breast cancer patients, relocated to a space next to the CVS on Farmington Road in downtown Farmington. In addition to fittings for women of all kinds, they also sell accessories, clothing and other items.

Plymouth

Joining a growing list of closing long-time downtown Plymouth businesses is Dearborn Jewelers of Plymouth, which announced earlier this year it would close its doors after decades in business. The shop, which relocated to its current home on Ann Arbor Trail in the early 2000s, announced it would close some time in June after some of the family members decided it was time to move on and either retire or continuing working at a different shop.

Joining the downtown Plymouth business community is Belle Lavende, a new shop dedicated to selling plenty of products packed with the purple plant. The shop is the brainchild of the Mack family of Livonia, who harvest the lavender from their farm in Stockbridge.

Products include drinks made with lavender, as well as a host of personal care products such as soaps and lotions.

Livonia

Find the next historical treasure at the city's newest vintage shop.

Vintage Vibes recently opened in a strip mall off Middlebelt between Five Mile and Six Mile, providing antique and vintage sellers a place to display their wares. It offers a wide range of items that changes on a frequent basis, so guests can expect to see new items all the time.

After hitting up the antique shop, perhaps head up to Eight Mile for lunch and try some food at the new Falafel & Company. Open in the Philmar Plaza just west of Farmington Road, the fast-casual restaurant serves up plenty of Middle Eastern cuisine, as well as coffee for those looking for a kick in the afternoon.

To wrap up a busy day, head to eastern Livonia and grab a drink. There's a new spot to grab some locally-made spirits: the simply-named Distillery, a tasting room serving up liquor made by BBS Distilleries. Located in the former Subway, the owners say they are the first to legally make spirits in Livonia since the 1850s.

Westland

If it's authentic flavor you're looking for, head to Westland and try out one of the city's newest restaurants.

Taco Macho opened in mid-May in the former Capital Coney Island near the Wayne and Ford Road intersection. It serves up plenty of Mexican delicacies, including tacos whose tortillas are made on site. The restaurant offers both sit-down and carryout service.

New Hudson

Things are happening near Grand River and Milford Road. One of those new changes comes with the resurrection of a former church building that now houses a vintage shop.

Jodea Bella relocated its store from the southern end of Lyon Township to the former church building along Grand River east of Milford Road. The shop is filled with plenty of treasures from yesteryear, including furniture, décor and more.

If you're looking for a bite to eat, there's a new place to snag some chicken. Wing Snob recently opened in the shopping center along Milford Road. Known for its chicken wings, it joins another Wing Snob in Livonia in the area.

Northville

A pair of shops have opened up in the city's newest mixed-use building.

Open at 345 E. Cady across from the Tipping Point Theatre are two new shops, both ran by Rebecca Grewal: Revir, a clothing retailer specializing in trendy outfits and accessories, and Mithai & Chai, a coffee shop serving up Indian drinks and food. The two shops complete the filling out of the new building on the corner of East Cady and Griswold, which also contains a law firm on the upper floor.

Novi

Get ready for a fun night out at Twelve Mile Crossing at Fountainwalk's newest attraction.

The HUB Stadium opened in May, bringing a plethora of fun group activities, from football bowling to ax throwing to curling. It has plenty of rooms for private events, including showers, corporate events and more, as well as a full-service restaurant and bar area.

hometownlife.com

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NOTICE OF REGISTRATION FOR THE ELECTION TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2022 CITY OF NORTHVILLE, MICHIGAN

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF NORTHVILLE, please take notice that any qualified elector of the City of Northville who is not already registered, may register to vote at the office of the City Clerk; the office of the Wayne or Oakland County Clerk; a Secretary of State branch office, or other designated state agency. Registration forms can be obtained at michigan.gov/vote and mailed to the City Clerk. Voters who are already registered may update their registration at www.expressSOS.com.

The last day to register in any manner other than in-person with the local clerk is Monday, July 18, 2022.

After this date, anyone who qualifies as an elector may register to vote in person with proof of residency (MCL 168.492) at the City of Northville Clerk's office, located at 215 W. Main Street, Northville, MI 48167 at the following times:

- Regular business hours of Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Saturday, July 30, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Election Day, August 2, 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

The election will be conducted in all voting precincts in the City of Northville for the purpose of nominating candidates for the following offices:

State:	Governor
Congressional:	Representative in Congress
Legislative:	State Senator, Representative in State Legislature
County:	County Executive (Pct 1 only), Sheriff - partial term (Pct. 1 only), County Commissioner, Delegate to County Convention

and voting on the following ballot proposals as presented and listed below:

County:	Proposition J - Jails Millage Renewal (Pct 1 only)
District Library:	Northville District Library Millage Renewal

Persons with special needs as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact the Clerk's Office.

DIANNE MASSA, CMC, MiPMC
CITY CLERK

Publish: June 30, 2022

LO-000879000 342.5

CITY OF NORTHVILLE PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS

2022 CITY OF NORTHVILLE REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES, DUE JULY 1, 2022, WILL BE PAYABLE WITHOUT PENALTY TO THE CITY OF NORTHVILLE FROM JULY 1, 2022 THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2022. On September 1, 2022 a two percent (2%) penalty will be added, plus an additional 1/4 of 1% interest per month beginning October 1st, 2022. All payments received after 4:30 p.m. August 31, 2022, regardless of postmark, will be subject to penalty and interest. Tax information, including payment status, will be available online as of July 1, 2022 at www.ci.northville.mi.us.

City of Northville
Tax Department

Publish: June 23, 2022

LO-000879117 342.5

CITY OF NOVI REQUEST FOR SPECIAL LAND USE FOR SERVICE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES PSLU22-0002

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the applicant Kura Sushi is requesting Special Land Use approval at 26425 Novi Road, Ste. C, parcel number 50-22-15-476-048. The applicant is requesting approval to use a portion of the parcel for service of alcoholic beverages in accordance with Section 4.89 of the Zoning Ordinance. A public hearing will be held on July 18, 2022 at 9:30 AM in the Mayors Conference Room at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi, Michigan 48375 to consider the request. Plans are available for review at the Community Development Department.

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments may be made to the Community Development Department, 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi MI 48375 and must be received by 3 P.M. on Friday, July 15, 2022.

Publish: June 30, 2022

LO-000879205 342.5

Farmington Hills police chief vows to #FindDani

Susan Vela Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Farmington Hills Police Chief Jeff King was a detective lieutenant in charge of a missing persons case when Richard and Ann Stislicki lost touch with their daughter Danielle, 28, who was living in the Independence Green apartments.

There were searches for Danielle's body, enough tips to fill three-ring binders, post-midnight calls with Oakland County prosecutors regarding warrants – and no trace of her.

King, now police chief, said the case continues to torment him.

"I don't know when, but we're going to find her," he said. "Not being able to get those answers for the Stislickis hurts. It does. It hurts all of us.

"Because they're great people, we wish we would have met them under different circumstances. We really would have liked that.

"Unfortunately, it's the worst circumstances possible, and they're always in our thoughts and prayers. We want to do what's right for them. We want to get Dani back."

Danielle Stislicki has been officially declared dead despite her body never being found.

Prosecutors allege Floyd Galloway, a convicted sexual assaulter, killed Stislicki, whom he knew from working as a security guard in the same Southfield building as her.

Stislicki's coworkers have said they last saw the two drive away together on Dec. 2, 2016, when Galloway appeared to be dealing with car problems in the parking lot.

Galloway apparently sought an attorney's counsel soon after. A polygraph operator working for Galloway's attorney provided a tip to his professional and personal friend, then-Troy Police Chief Gary Meyer, who then passed the information along to then-Farmington Hills Police Chief Chuck Nebus.

Farmington Hills officers found Stislicki's keys and Fitbit near the M-5 and Grand River Avenue intersection.

Video placed Galloway at the Tim Horton's near Stislicki's apartment and showed a cab dropping him off near her workplace the night she disappeared.

Both communities now have different chiefs, but Farmington Hills remains in the middle of a legal battle over the propriety of the tip because of its origin.

The polygraph operator remained anonymous until 2019, when Galloway – a person of interest from the start – finally was charged. Galloway already had spent two years in prison for pleading guilty to sexually assaulting a Hines Park runner a few months before Stislicki disappeared.

A hearing over the tip continues this month. Galloway's July trial is delayed until at least November.

In the interim, King's detectives keep returning



Richard Stislicki and his wife Ann speak to the media after Floyd Galloway Jr. was arraigned on a first-degree, premeditated murder charge in the death of their daughter, Danielle. HOMETOWNLIFE.COM FILE

from Oakland County Circuit Court, where Galloway claims he was the target of government malfeasance.

Detectives Ryan Molloy and Robert Gerak have testified that they did not know the source of the tip until after a 2019 court proceeding. Others from the department also have testified.

"Are there concerns? There's always concerns. Nothing is guaranteed," King said. "But I think we have a strong case. I am hopeful and optimistic that the judge will rule in our favor."

The Stislickis declined to comment June 13 after the second session of the evidentiary hearing over the tip. The next session is scheduled for June 24.



Danielle Stislicki has been missing since Dec. 2, 2016. SUBMITTED

COVID-19 case tracker for Wayne, Oakland counties

Mike Stucka
USA TODAY NETWORK

Michigan reported far fewer coronavirus cases in the week ending Sunday, adding 10,681 new cases. That's down 31.4% from the previous week's tally of 15,578 new cases of the virus that causes COVID-19.

Michigan ranked 46th 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 decreased 1.2% from the week before, with 721,538 cases reported. With 3% of the country's population, Michigan had 1.48% of the country's cases in the last week. Across the country, 24 states had more cases in the latest week than they did in the week before.

Wayne County reported 1,971 cases and 14 deaths in the latest week. A week earlier, it had reported 2,903 cases and 23 deaths. Throughout the pandemic it has reported 440,654 cases and 8,078 deaths.

Oakland County reported 1,701 cases and six deaths in the latest week. A week earlier, it had reported 2,441 cases and 26 deaths. Throughout the pandemic it has reported 319,760 cases and 3,924 deaths.

Across Michigan, cases fell in 74 counties, with the best declines in Wayne County, with 1,971 cases from 2,903 a week

earlier; in Oakland County, with 1,701 cases from 2,441; and in Washtenaw County, with 516 cases from 1,011.

Within Michigan, the worst weekly outbreaks on a per-person basis were in Luce County with 289 cases per 100,000 per week; Iron County with 208; and Keweenaw County with 189. 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 1,971 cases; Oakland County, with 1,701 cases; and Macomb County, with 1,073. Weekly case counts rose in seven counties from the previous week. The worst increases from the prior week's pace were in Charlevoix, Luce and Midland counties.

In Michigan, 69 people were reported dead of COVID-19 in the week ending Sunday. In the week before that, 137 people were reported dead.

A total of 2,592,078 people in Michigan have

tested positive for the coronavirus since the pandemic began, and 36,744 people have died from the disease, Johns Hopkins University data shows. In the United States 86,967,639 people tested positive and 1,015,938 people 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.

Hospitals in 34 states reported more COVID-19 patients than a week earlier, while hospitals in 25 states had more COVID-19 patients in intensive-care beds. Hospitals in 39 states admitted more COVID-19 patients in the latest week than a week prior, the analysis of U.S. Health and Human Services data shows.

If you have questions about the data or the story, contact Mike Stucka at mstucka@gannett.com.

JULY 4 CALENDAR

Special events

Milford 4th of July Parade returns, courtesy of the Milford Historical Society. Participants will start getting ready with the parade itself commencing at 11 a.m. Monday along Commerce Street near Union before turning south on Main Street where it continues to Central Park. Find veterans, marching bands, fire trucks, businesses and more making their way down the parade route.

In **Northville**, the Chamber of commerce is organizing the community event through the streets of downtown Northville. With the theme Traveling the U.S.A., the 10 a.m. 4th of July parade features

bands, floats, appearances from mascots, antique cars and much more. The Good Morning USA Parade and Kellogg Park Ice Cream Social in **Plymouth** is slated for 9-11 a.m. July 4 on Main Street. The parade kicks off on Main Street at 9 a.m., sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth.

Fireworks

Dusk June 30-July 3: Greenfield Village annual Salute to America: Greenfield Village, 20900 Oakwood Blvd. in Dearborn.

Dusk July 1: Fireworks at Willow Metro Park: 23200 S. Huron in New Boston.

10 p.m. July 2: Independence Fest: Clintonwood Park, 6000 Clarkston in

Clarkston. **Dusk July 2:** White Lake Fireworks: South end of White Lake, White Lake Road in Highland Township. **10:10 p.m. July 2:** Kensington Metropark: 4570 Huron River Parkway in Milford. **10:10 p.m. July 2:** Lake Oakland Fireworks: Over Lake Oakland, Dill Drive in Waterford. **10:10 p.m. July 3:** Lake Erie Metropark Fireworks: 32481 W. Jefferson in Brownstown Township. **Dusk July 3:** Manchester Fireworks Display: Carr Park, 577 W. Austin in Manchester. **Dusk July 4:** Clawson 4th of July: Clawson Park, 935 N. Custer in Clawson. **Dusk July 8:** Uncle Sam Jam Fest: Woodhaven Civic Center Park, 23101 Hall in Woodhaven.

NOTICE OF REGISTRATION FOR THE PRIMARY ELECTION TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY AUGUST 2, 2022 NOVI TOWNSHIP, MICHIGAN

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF NOVI TOWNSHIP:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that any qualified elector of Novi Township who is not already registered, may register to vote at the office of the Township Clerk, the office of the County Clerk, a Secretary of the State branch office, or any other designated state agency. Registration forms can be obtained at mi.gov/vote and mailed to the Township Clerk. Voters who are already registered may update their registration at www.expressSOS.com.

The last day to register in any manner other than in-person with the local clerk is Monday, July 18, 2022.

After this date, anyone who qualifies as an elector may register to vote in person with proof of residency (MCL 168.497) at the Novi Township Clerk's office, located at 44114 Wyngate Drive, Northville, MI 48167 at the following times:

- Saturday, July 30, 2022 from 8 am to noon and Sunday, July 31, 2022 from 6 am to 10 am.
- Election Day, Tuesday, August 2nd from 7 am to 8 pm
- By appointment on regular business days, 9 am to 4 pm

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Novi Township will be voting on the following offices in the primary election:

Governor for the State of Michigan, Congressional Representative in Congress, 6th District, Legislative State Senator, 13th District, Representative in State Legislature, 21st District, County Commissioner, 15th District and Delegate to the County Convention.

Full text of the ballot may be obtained at the Novi Township Clerk's office, 44114 Wyngate Dr., Northville, MI 48167, 248-404-7529. A sample ballot may be viewed at mi.gov/vote.

Persons with disabilities needing accommodations should contact the clerk's office.

Janeen Crittenden
Novi Township Clerk
Published: June 30, 2022

MYWAY MEMBER EXCLUSIVE

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SEE OUR FULL PAGE AD

BUSCH'S LOCAL Growing Home

Guinness

Stories

Continued from Page 1A

Cameron Duckworth, Drake Mancuso died May 21

Cameron Duckworth and Drake Mancuso were friends within a larger close-knit group of friends.

Duckworth was one of the older ones within the group; Mancuso, one of the youngest.

Hundreds who gathered for a vigil celebrating their lives testified to how beloved they were.

They remembered Duckworth as a big teddy bear who was kind and funny and told of Mancuso being a good friend with a good heart.



Duckworth



Mancuso

"They were just really good friends," John Lupro, who was part of their circle, said. "Drake looked up to Cameron."

Emojis of love and laughter are profuse in the texts Emily Duckworth shared weeks after her son's death in May.

Relatives told of Cameron cheerfully working on a door in pouring rain or mowing the lawn in wretched conditions.

"(He) was right there with me the whole time eager to learn," his uncle Buster Cox texted. "We went to the hardware store (and) stopped at 7-Eleven. He was a comfortable soul and was easy to be around."

Cousin Katelynn Angerstein shared that she had to teach Cameron to defrost his windshield, which meant "we laughed so hard."

Older cousin Adreana Cox added a heart emoji with the "memories of camdogger" that she documented for her aunt.

She mentioned a bowling alley reunion "and just being in awe of the man he had become."



Inspiring and Building Futures,
One Student at a Time

Dear Staff, Families and Community Supporters,

Over the past forty eight hours I have heard from several individuals regarding a letter written by our local Senator Jim Runestad regarding public education. Senator Runestad has generally been a supporter of the Huron Valley Schools and thus we felt it prudent to follow up on the communication sent from our Senator's office. I encourage any who have questions to reach out directly to Senator Runestad.

We asked Senator Runestad for clarification and additional information regarding the letter that was sent from his office and he assured us that the letter was not referring to any Huron Valley Schools and when he referenced the district, he was referring to his Senate District representing 280,000 citizens and seven school districts. While we find comfort in the Senator's communication that the letter does not pertain to Huron Valley School District we feel it is prudent to walk through the contents of the letter to leave no doubt regarding what is taking place in our schools.

As Superintendent and Board of Education President, we see an alarming trend in public education regarding staffing in the teaching profession and overall morale. Educators in the Huron Valley Schools are working hard every single day to educate, care for and provide stable school environments for the next generation of leaders, military service people, doctors, electricians, other professionals and skilled trades workers. Unfortunately, the letter from Senator Runestad, while not targeted at Huron Valley Schools, can have an adverse effect on people's perceptions of professional educators including our Huron Valley staff. The letter includes five main points. We have included the points in sub headings and responded to each below:

1. There is an "encroachment of a divisive political agenda running rampant throughout schools."

Huron Valley Schools is an apolitical organization. We do not tell students what to think, we teach them how to think. Huron Valley Schools are charged with teaching the Michigan adopted educational standards, which is what we focus our time and energies upon.

2. "In recent months we've heard from prominent leaders that parents should NOT have a say in how their children are taught."

Huron Valley Schools believes that parents should serve as partners in education. This year alone we developed the Huron Valley Task Force that involved dozens of stakeholders including representatives from our PTAs and staff to partner around supporting Social Emotional Learning, Program Enhancements and preparing students for a New Economy (see [Education Matters](#) for more information). Furthermore, the Board of Education developed community forums for parents and community members to meet with board members in order to ask questions and seek clarification regarding district decision making. Next school year we will be engaging multiple stakeholders in the next five year strategic plan. These examples do not include all of the day to day interactions between staff and families, the countless hours of work performed by our Parent

LD-GC0906235-01



Inspiring and Building Futures,
One Student at a Time

Teacher Organizations, District Parent Council, Parent Teacher Conferences, phone calls, face to face meetings or responses to emails. Parents are the key partners with our schools and we need one-another to support our students.

3. "Worksheets given to third grade students asking them to label themselves by skin color, gender and other categories to indicate whether they are an oppressor or oppressed."

We have no knowledge of any such worksheets and again Senator Runestad indicated that he has not heard these things about Huron Valley Schools.

4. "Being shut down by their school board."

Please see response to number two. This statement could not be further from the truth related to the Huron Valley Schools. Our board of education strives to hear all voices. Not everyone agrees on each point but everyone deserves an explanation regarding the why behind decision making and our board of education has worked hard to create additional opportunities for voices to be heard, especially as we have navigated school shootings and the pandemic.

5. "Our schools just aren't producing results when it comes to the basics."

Senator Runestad cites achievement data from 2021 for third graders, kindergarten and eighth grade. Generally speaking, one test taken at one point in time is not an indicator of intelligence. Triangulation of data, meaning using local, state and national data to determine mastery and opportunities for growth is consistent with the educational literature regarding best practices. Under normal circumstances using state data alone is a severely limited methodology. The 2021 data is even more problematic because the test was not taken consistently across the state due to the pandemic. Not only were there significant challenges due to required quarantines but many districts were not in school face to face when the assessment was administered and thus huge segments of the student population did not take the assessment.

We hope this letter provides some clarification regarding Senator Runestad's communication. The Senator encourages anyone with questions to contact him directly.

Sincerely,

Dr. Paul Salah,
HVS Superintendent

Sean Carlson,
HVS Board of Education President

LD-GC0906235-02

"I just remember pulling up a chair right next to him and talking and laughing all night," Cox wrote in an email. "For weeks after that night, I'd find myself reminiscing and thinking about how much fun I had with him that night."

Marcus Mancuso, Drake's father, remained numb after the funeral.

Every day, he and his son would hug. Drake would text his dad to say he loved him, and his father would text that he loved his son in return.

"That was every day," the father said. "There wasn't a day I didn't tell him I loved him."

And now he's gone.

"It comes in waves," the father said of his grief. "It's just unbelievable. He was the nicest most polite kid. It was always 'please' and 'thank you.'"

Mancuso said his son was doing well academically in Huron Valley Schools when he and Duckworth were shot in a wooded area of Cedarbrook Estates, a manufactured home community along LeGrand Boulevard, south of M-59.

Materials were coming from Michigan State University and University of Michigan-Dearborn because of his grades and interest in architecture. He also showed an aptitude for investing in stocks, an activity he shared with his grandfather.

"He was a smart kid," Mancuso said. "I miss him." Steven Dean Morrow and Jesse James Wright, both 18, face murder charges in connection to the two deaths.

Diana Oldenburg died May 19

Diana Oldenburg cared about her family.

She gave up working to take care of her son Gabriel when he received a kidney transplant.

"Number one, she cared about her kids," her father James Oldenburg of Jackson County said. "She was just a good person."

Oldenburg, 41, of Livonia was stuck in traffic after spending some time on the road to help her sisters with some shopping errands when she was the apparent victim of a reckless car chase on Middlebelt Road in Garden City.

She was a few minutes from her home when a Dodge Ram fatally collided with her stopped vehicle at the Maplewood light.

James Oldenburg said his daughter was close to her family and always managed to visit him every few weeks.

She was great at rallying other family members for holidays, birthdays and special events.

Oldenburg dreads Father's Day without his daughter Diana.

"I'm not going to want to do anything that day," he said.

Sarah Grant died May 3

Sarah Grant's loved ones turned to social media when they learned of her May 3 death.

They posted pictures of a gorgeous blonde, whom they said was sweet, kind, funny and wonderful.

They said they would always cherish her for being the woman, mother, and angel that she was.

"Sarah was such a kind-hearted person, and she will never ever be forgotten!" cousin Lindsay Dunn said for a GoFundMe campaign to cover funeral costs. "Please keep our family in your prayers."

Grant was mother to daughters Madison and Reagan Grant.

According to an online obituary, she was like a second mother to their friends.

Officials alleged the medical receptionist was killed by her husband William Scott Grant in an apparent domestic violence incident at their home on Judy Drive.

He died while in custody. A representative of the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office said the cause was an apparent suicide.

Another county spokesperson said Grant never showed up at the jail and "may have died at the hospital." She said she "cannot confirm or comment on his manner and cause of death."

A neighbor said that the Grants had lived on Judy Drive about five years but kept to themselves.

Their neighborhood was quiet and neat.

A few tall tulips and some dandelions grew outside the Grants' home. Their mailbox was painted a spirited red and hung under their address.

A "Welcome to Our Coop" sign hung on the other side of the front door. A red bike with a basket was parked toward the rear of the garage.

Sisters Dominique Parchmon and Shyanna Hall died in January

Dominique was 30; Shyanna, 18.

The older sister - affectionately called "Domo" - was the mother of a girl who was adored by both women, according to their online obituaries.

Parchmon was a certified nursing assistant who loved taking care of her patients, going to fancy restaurants with her sisters and friends and singing.

"Dominique always protected her siblings and helped take care all of her nieces and nephews," her obituary said. "She believed in the value of family and friendship."

"To know Dominique was to love her. She took pride in helping others and would give her last to anyone who really needed it."

Hall was the baby of the family and known for being a "daddy's girl". She attended Taylor High School and enjoyed doing hair, hanging out with friends and being around family.

She liked capturing special moments in photos and creating TikTok videos. She loved listening to music and dancing with her niece.

"She was just learning to drive and wanted to go to school to become a nurse," her obituary read.

The sisters were fatally shot Jan. 5 at their Wayne apartment on Niagara Street.

An argument had escalated.

Contact reporter Susan Vela at svela@hometown-life.com or 248-303-8432. Follow her on Twitter @susanvela.

Eight-mile stretch of southbound US 23 to close nightly

Patricia Alvord Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

HOWELL – A roughly 8-mile stretch of southbound U.S. 23 will close nightly, starting Thursday for a Michigan Department of Transportation repaving project.

The project from M-59 south to Spencer Road, just north of the Interstate-96 interchange, includes resurfacing, safety, and drainage upgrades, which will occur in multiple stages, according to a press release from MDOT.

MDOT said the project cost is \$11.3 million.

Traffic will be detoured via M-59, Old U.S. 23, Spencer Road and I-96. Motorists should expect delays, officials said in a press release.

MDOT said the project will provide a safer, smoother ride, along with drainage improvements that will ensure the integrity of the roadway.

Completion of the project is set for July 25.

In June, MDOT began a resurfacing project on northbound U.S. 23 from Interstate-96 to M-59 between Spencer Road and Clyde Road.

That project wrapped up last week.

Both projects are part of \$27 million in improvements to US 23 that are ex-

pected to be completed by Nov. 4.

According to a press release from MDOT, the improvements will provide increased safety and mobility.

Additionally, starting June 27, there will be construction at Center Road from Linden Road and Old U.S. 23, in Tyrone Township, for pavement rehabilitation and shoulder gravel.

According to the Livingston County Road Commission, the project is expected to be completed by Friday.

Additionally, the project is expected to have high traffic impact. Drivers should expect major delays. There will be two way traffic maintained through flag control.



Pavement rehabilitation and shoulder gravel expected at Center Road from Linden Road to Old U.S. 23 starting June 27 until July 1. SUBMITTED

Housing

Continued from Page 1A

view of the adjacent McHattie Park, and more "first-class amenities than we currently have."

One thing there will be less of is green space, reduced to accommodate the required 53 parking spaces, one per unit. There will be no parking garage, but some carports are planned.

The current Washington Manor complex has 15 ranch-style units contained in four buildings constructed in the mid-1960s to early 1970s.

Linda Benson, 76, is a four-year resident of the complex after having waited to get in for three years.

"I love it here," she said, adding that the potential for more units is "very good news," particularly for elderly friends at her church whom she has advised to get on the waiting list.

Benson calls her living arrangement perfect for a single woman and loves that her front door faces McHattie Park, where her grandson likes to play when he comes for a visit.

The 50-year-old plumbing in the units is the only complaint of both Benson, who said it's necessary to have "a plunger at the ready," and Eilola, who observes that if her neighbor plunges the sink, "it comes up in mine."

Previously, there was an additional 20 rent-subsidized units under the pur-



Linda Benson relaxes in her Washington Manor apartment in South Lyon.

SUSAN BROMLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

view of the South Lyon Housing Commission, but those were sold in the early 2000s.

Beale and Gold work to develop Section 8 affordable housing in various communities throughout Michigan, despite challenges.

Nationally, there is an affordable housing crisis, Beale said, but there can

be opposition to development of Section 8 housing in certain communities, what he referred to as "NIMBYism" or the "not in my back yard" mentality.

The majority of rents at Washington Manor are, and will be, based on income. The rent will never be more than 30 percent of a resident's income. Thirty-five of the 53 new units will be sub-

sidized. For the 18 that are not, they will be rent-restricted by the Michigan State Housing and Development Authority.

Beale said the rent for a unit is expected to be around \$750-\$800 per month. The maximum that could be charged for a 1-bedroom unit is \$1,007.

Washington Manor residents will be relocated temporarily to comparable housing while the current units are demolished and new ones are built, nearly all of which will be 1-bedroom units. Pets will still be permitted.

Eilola said she didn't think she'd mind being temporarily relocated while the new apartments were constructed if it was comparable housing in the area.

"I like it here, it's peaceful," she said. "Apartments are so expensive if you're stuck on Social Security only or disability. It's hard to find a low-income place that's nice."

Elderly citizens aren't the only ones looking to get into one of the planned apartments. Beale acknowledged getting inquiries about housing for disabled residents that are younger than 55.

"We are working on this one (for the elderly) first, but we told the planning commission if they would like to look into building a (section) 811 disabled community, we can do that. We need land and tax credits to do more."

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

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Northville Township Police Chief Scott Hilden introduces the "Partners In Your Safety" program to community members June 13. SUSAN VELA/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Program

Continued from Page 1A

enhancing safety by using online applications like Nextdoor, Nixle and Neighbors By Ring and promoting crime prevention seminars.

Phase Three: Post "Partners In Your Safety" signs at neighborhood entrances, make use of "Partners In Your Safety" stickers, present awards for most active community members and continue promotion of open communication between law enforcers and residents.

Hilden shared this success story from his time at Washtenaw Community College: Someone stepped off a bus in front of the college and started walking through a parking lot, where he began lifting car handles.

The calls to campus police began, and they arrested the suspect, who was charged.

"The thing that made us really happy was here we had three members of the community call within the first few minutes of this person committing this

crime. That's how good the awareness was," Hilden said. "We hope to have a real enhanced level of awareness of this program in all of your neighborhoods."

Some other program expectations are crime reduction, a sense of empowerment, and a developed relationship with police. Homes, apartments and businesses can participate.

Audience members applauded law enforcers toward the end of the presentation.

Ed and Mary Lou Paddock live near the police department headquarters on Six Mile Road, between Haggerty and Sheldon roads. He left the meeting saying he felt informed and grateful that is wife convinced him to attend.

"Look! I say this to people all the time," Mary Lou Paddock said. "The police can't do everything. They said it themselves."

For more information, contact Andrew Domzalski, community service officer for the Northville Township Police Department, at 248-349-9400 or adomzalski@twp.northville.mi.us.

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



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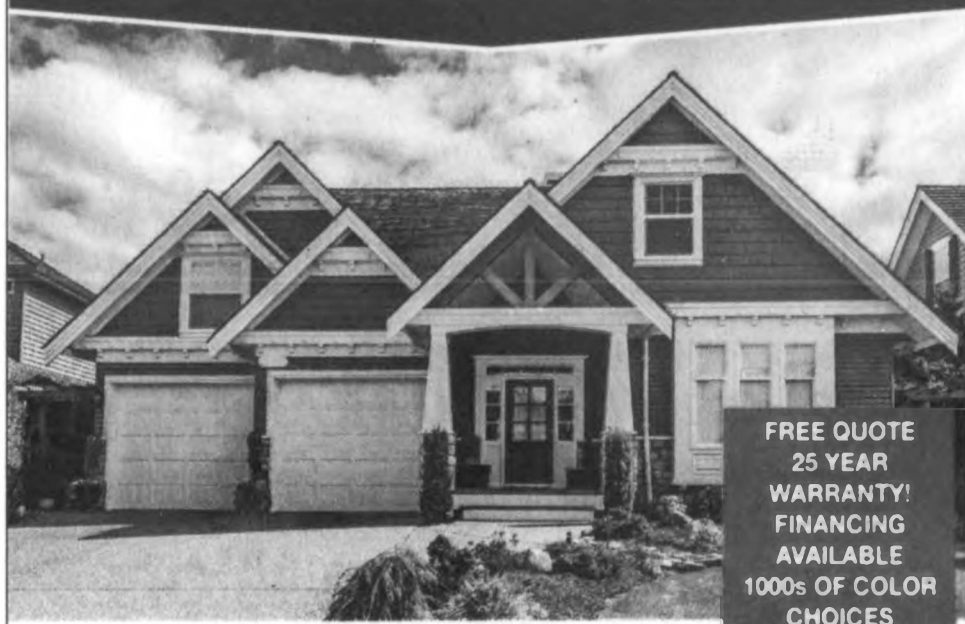


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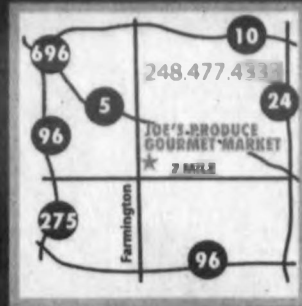


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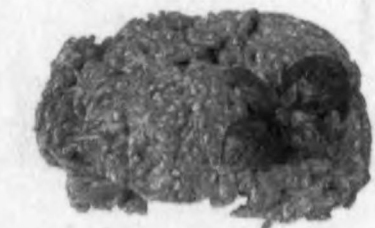


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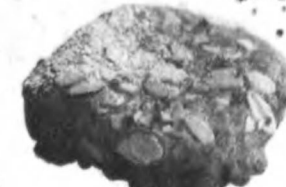
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Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The East coaching staff received the text message at 2:45 p.m. Sunday.

Detroit Edison outfielder Gregory Pace needed to withdraw from Monday

night's Michigan High School Baseball Coaches Association's 41st annual all-star game at Comerica Park, home of the Detroit Tigers.

Players routinely can't play in all-star games because of restrictions set by their future college teams, summer trav-

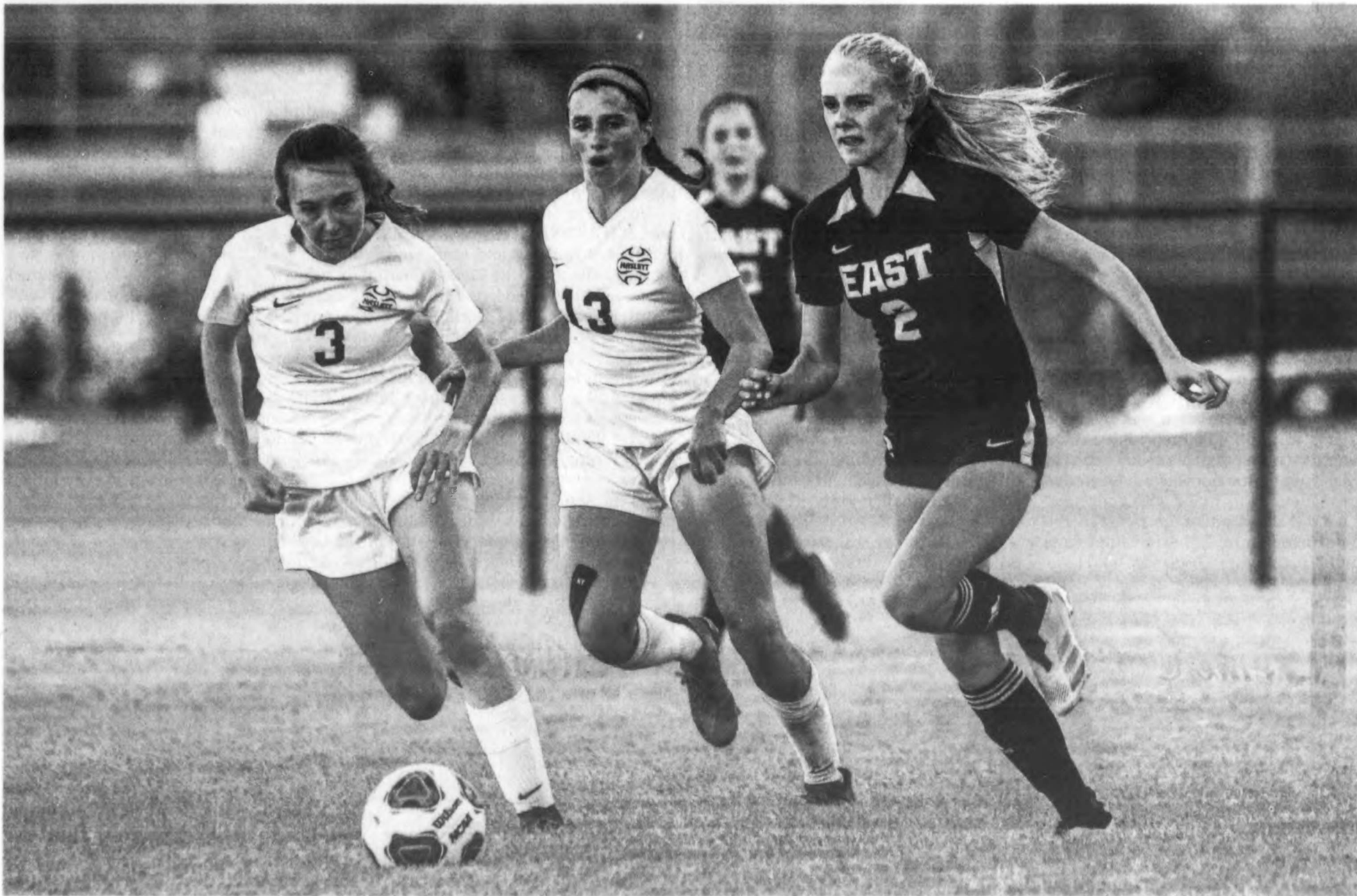
el club schedules and various other legitimate reasons. Plus, Pace had just played for the Pioneers in the 3-1 loss to Buchanan in the June 18 Division 3 state championship at Michigan State. So seeing him drop out wasn't unusual.

What was unusual, however, was how close to the opening pitch he had elected to withdraw. Like 27 hours close.

The MHSBCA keeps a short list of alternates, about two or three kids at each position, in case a player drops out. For example, Livonia Churchill infielder Ryan Kennell withdrew about a week ago because of an injury. So that allowed the MHSBCA plenty of time to contact

See LINEUP, Page 2B

South Lyon East falls to Haslett, 6-5

South Lyon East's Alyssa Melquist (right) pushes the attack during the Division 2 girls soccer regional final against Haslett on June 9 at Fenton. East lost, 6-5.
COURTESY OF MELISSA SAMLUK PHOTOGRAPHY

Cougars began with 4-goal lead in second straight regional final loss

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

South Lyon East girls soccer coach Pete Stoyanovich was 8 minutes into reviewing the film from the Division 2 regional championship June 9 when a sudden realization hit him.

"For the second year in a row, the state semifinal was right in our backyard," the fifth-year coach said. "That's two years in a row now where we've missed playing at Northville, and that would've been a terrific crowd for us. It would've been a real home-field atmosphere."

That's right.

A year ago, the Cougars lost to Dearborn Divine Child in a shootout in the regional final. It was the Falcons advancing to play in the final four at Northville, just a short jaunt from East's campus.

And again on Thursday, they lost to

seventh-ranked Haslett in penalty kicks. Another regional championship loss. This one ended, 6-5.

"It's just a tough loss for the kids," Stoyanovich said. "What a heartbreaker."

See LOSS, Page 2B

Bloomfield Hills edges out Northville for 1st state title

Brandon Folsom Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Ava Badallo winced fiercely as she fell to her knees.

The Bloomfield Hills senior clutched her right hand and continued to agonize in pain near midfield at Demartin Soccer Complex. And then she collapsed onto the grass as she waited for trainers Robert Robine and Monica Reiche to rescue her.

Seconds earlier, she was aggressively going for a 50-50 ball during the opening overtime of the Division 1 girls soccer state championship at Michigan State.

A Northville defender had slipped on the play, and she was fine. And then Badallo slipped as well. Only the West Virginia Wesleyan signee used her right hand to brace her fall and then she awkwardly bent back her thumb.

See TITLE, Page 7B



Bloomfield Hills goalkeeper Jenica Opdahl makes a diving stop in a shootout against Northville in the Division 1 MHSAA championship June 17 in East Lansing.

AL GOLDIS/FOR THE LANSING STATE JOURNAL



Lineup

Continued from Page 1B

Northville's Josh Planko and insert the alternate first baseman into the lineup.

Livonia Franklin coach Matt Fournier was watching a game in Grand Rapids when he got the news about Pace. The next outfielder in line was his son, Caden. The MHSBCA needed to know right away if the senior could play in the game. If not, it'd move on to the next alternate.

Coach Fournier, who is actually an MHSBCA board member and also helps organize the game each June, tried getting a hold of Caden to see if his son wanted to play. But Caden wasn't responding. Caden was actually mowing the lawn at the time. So Coach Fournier made the assumption that Caden would be OK with playing on such short notice and signed up the future Alma College outfielder for the game.

That's right. The game was 27 hours away, and Caden had no idea he'd even be playing in it.

As Caden wiped away the sweat from his face after doing yard work, he couldn't believe it when he finally looked at the missed calls and text messages from his dad waiting for him.

"It was a shock, for sure," Caden said. "My dad was at my brother's game. He called me and said to make sure that I had all my stuff ready. He said, 'You'll be coming with me to Detroit.' I was in a state of total shock."

It wasn't that easy getting ready to play, though. It was an overnight race.

Caden had turned in his uniform two weeks prior following the Patriots' heartbreaking 1-0 loss to Northville in the regional semifinal. The playoff game was an absolute pitcher's duel between Franklin's Zac Olesuk and the Mustangs' platoon of arms. And it was a coin flip on who would win through six innings. Finally, Northville's Zach Jurcisin drove in the winning run with two outs and one on in the top of the final frame.

Yeah, it was gut-wrenching to lose that way. But now Caden was getting a chance to make his final high school memory a better one. It's much better to finish your high school days at Comerica than to leave Northville with your head down. He'd get a chance to be in the same dugout as his father one final time, something neither expected would hap-



Caden Fournier and his dad, Franklin coach Matt Fournier, at the game.

pen again for the rest of Caden's career, regardless of how long he continues to play past college.

So Coach Fournier had to return to Franklin and not only retrieve Caden's uniform from storage but the rest of his Patriots gear as well. He didn't get home until almost 8 p.m. They needed to get that uniform washed and ready to wear immediately. Time was ticking.

Meanwhile, Caden worked on getting his body and mind ready for the game.

He went to their backyard batting cage and started hacking. Swing after swing. Getting himself prepared.

And then he pulled up the 2019 MHSBCA all-star game on Youtube and watched it to get a feel for what to expect when he took his first steps onto the dirt in downtown Detroit.

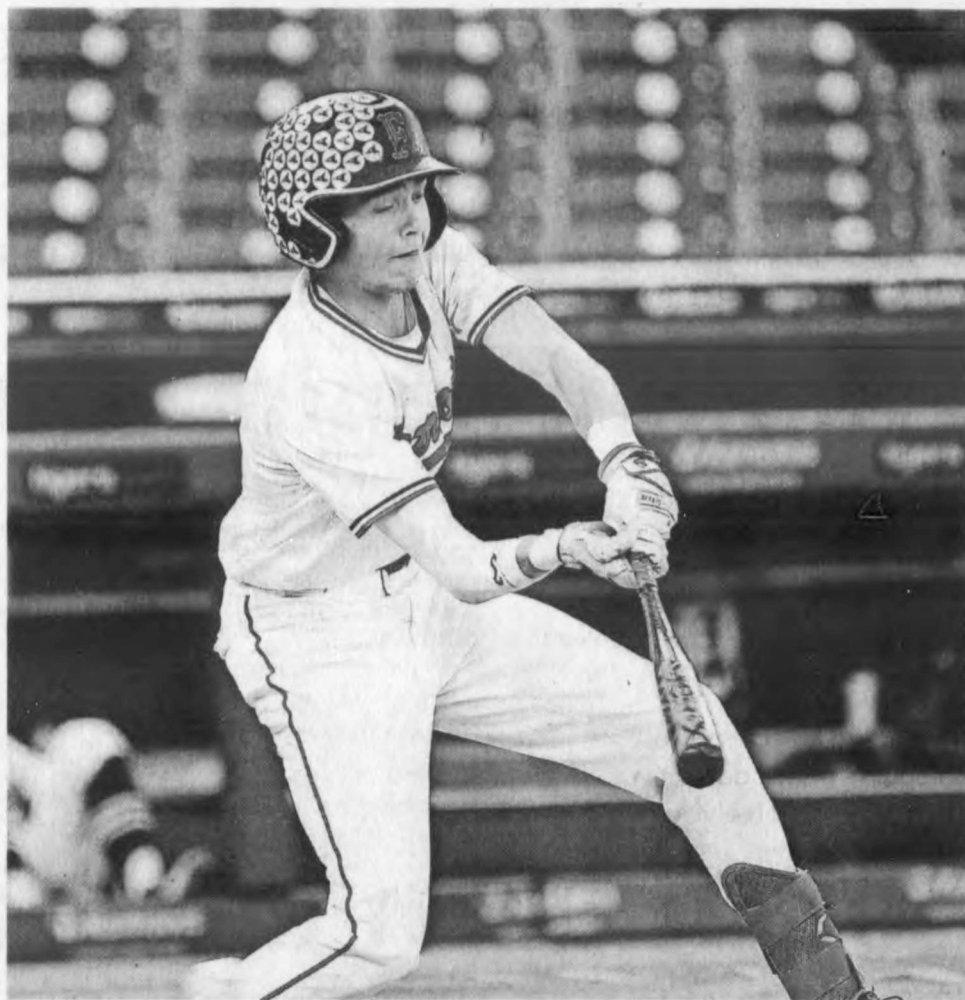
Why the 2019 all-star game and not the one from 2021? Caden's older brother, Cal, who currently plays at Madonna University, played in 2019, plus Coach Fournier was the coach. The game was sentimental to the family.

And the Fourniers wanted this one to be, too. So much so that Coach Fournier called a dozen of his players to see if they could show up and support Caden at Comerica.

When game day arrived the next day, seven other Patriots made it.

And there they were cheering on Caden as he went through the MHSBCA's pre-game announcements and when he snagged a fly ball in deep left field in the fifth inning.

Because Caden was such a late addition, his profile wasn't included in the



Franklin senior Caden Fournier bats during the Michigan High School Baseball Coaches Association's 41st annual all-star game June 20 at Comerica Park.

PHOTOS BY TOM BEAUDOIN/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

already-printed souvenir program, nor was his mug shot included on the big screen in left field.

But he was out there with the other top players in Michigan.

"It was a whirlwind night getting ready for it," Coach Fournier said. "From getting his uniform and stuff ready to making calls to get the Tigers the information on him they needed for the video board, it took a lot of work. But it was very cool because it was something we didn't expect at all. I didn't even bother telling him he was an alternate for this game until a week ago because I never expected it would come to fruition."

After Planko got on base to open the fourth inning, the next at-bat was Caden.

As the senior readied himself in the batter's box, Coach Fournier climbed the steps of the dugout, and while standing at the top step, he nervously fumbled

with his phone. He finally got his camera zoomed in on his son, and then as Caden waited for his first pitch, the 16th-year Franklin coach started smiling.

"It was a little different this time around," Coach Fournier said. "The first time I did it with Cal, it was cool as a dad, but I was also coaching the game, so I was trying to get the guys in. This time I could enjoy it more because I wasn't worried about getting the next guy on deck ready to bat."

"I was able to watch it entirely, and that was very cool. I got 3 or 4 seconds there to just be dad."

Moments later, it was Ball 4.

Caden had gotten on base at a Major League Baseball ballpark.

And his dad's smile grew even larger. Brandon Folsom covers high school sports in metro Detroit for Hometown Life. Follow him on Twitter @folsom-brandonj.

Loss

Continued from Page 1B

How Haslett beat East won't be something the Cougars (16-4) easily forget.

In typical East fashion, its offense got to work early, snatching a 2-0 lead after Jessica Boulard and Reganne Koskela both scored within the opening 9 minutes.

And then Cleveland State signee Emma Pompo put one in 10 minutes later.

And, with 3 minutes left before halftime, Alyssa Melquist scored.

Yeah, the 10th-ranked Cougars grabbed a quick 4-0 lead and looked poised to cruise to their first regional championship in program history.

Except a series of unfortunate events unfolded.

With seconds erasing off the scoreboard, Haslett's attack pushed for one final opportunity before halftime, and, there it was, Ireland Jacob scored with just 9.4 seconds left.

And then came the rain. Drenching the field. Drenching the players. Drenching East's hopes of putting away Haslett and holding on for the easy victory.

"Conceding a goal with 9 seconds left before half really changed the perception of the game, and that gave them (Haslett) some momentum," Stoyanovich said. "And the rain came. We weren't in a defensive mode, and we were just playing our game, really. But we got a little sloppy out there."

In fact, Haslett scored three more unanswered goals to force overtime.

Off a cross pass from Pompo, Kate Mazur gave the Cougars a one-goal lead in the first extra frame, but Haslett's Maddie Fant knotted the score at 5 with just 5 minutes left in overtime.

"Our girls were just running out of gas in the second overtime," Stoyanovich said.

And then the two squads went to the penalty kicks shootout.

Last year's loss to Divine Child was a literal nightmare for the Cougars, who finally made things right a week ago when Koskela's penalty kick pushed East past Pinckney, 2-1, in the district championship.

But this match ended more like the Divine Child game than the one at Pinckney.



South Lyon East teammates celebrate a goal against Haslett during the Division 2 regional final June 9 at Fenton.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF MELISSA SAMLUK PHOTOGRAPHY



South Lyon East's Kate Mazur (right) pushes a possession toward the net.

East missed a pair of attempts, and Haslett missed just once.

Jacob's walk-off shot clinched the victory for the Vikings.

"It was a really, really tough loss, even tougher than the loss we suffered last year in the regional final against Divine Child," Stoyanovich said. "Going to a

shootout, unfortunately, it can go either way. It went our way against Pinckney last Friday. And last night, it didn't go our way."

"You can't take anything away from Haslett, but the game was one we kind of gave away."

Still, you can't take away what this

East squad accomplished.

The Cougars won the Lakes Valley Conference for the first time.

They repeated as district champions.

They made it back to the regional final, despite having to overcome a heartbreaking loss to Divine Child a year ago.

They say farewell to several key contributors in seniors Sasha Stoyanovich, Riley Shaeffer, Autumn Neville, Ashley Sleeva, Boulard and Pompo.

But they're expected to return a ton of talent next spring, including the likes of key players Kaylie Samluk, Koskela, Melquist, Mazur and many others.

"This senior class and this team, they've accomplished so much, and they've had a terrific season, and you can't take that away from us," Stoyanovich said. "It was just a heartbreak loss for us. You can't win them all, and that's just one of those things. But had it not rained, I'm not sure the game would've turned out the way it had. We gave them a couple of great chances in front of our keeper because it got sloppy with the rain."

"Over the last two years, we've had a very, very successful program. Just reaching the regional final in back-to-back years is an accomplishment from where the program was when the girls got started and where they've taken the program since. We've just got to get over that (regional final) hump."

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Hartland senior, U-M commit repeats as Michigan boys lacrosse Player of the Year

Bill Khan Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Bo Lockwood deserved some rest days.

But he didn't become great by taking days off, even when a break would be perfectly understandable.

Two days after scoring an overtime goal to win a state lacrosse championship for Hartland, Lockwood was in a five-hour practice with a club team that he won't even play for this summer. On Wednesday, he had what he called one of the most brutal practices of his life in 90-degree weather.

"No off days, ever," Lockwood said. "But I like that. It's fun. I don't regret it. We put a lot more time into our game than I feel a lot of other teams might do. I feel like I'm out there playing more than any single guy I know, whether by myself or with my brother, Drew."

"We just do anything. It's just getting us better. It's one of the reasons why we won."

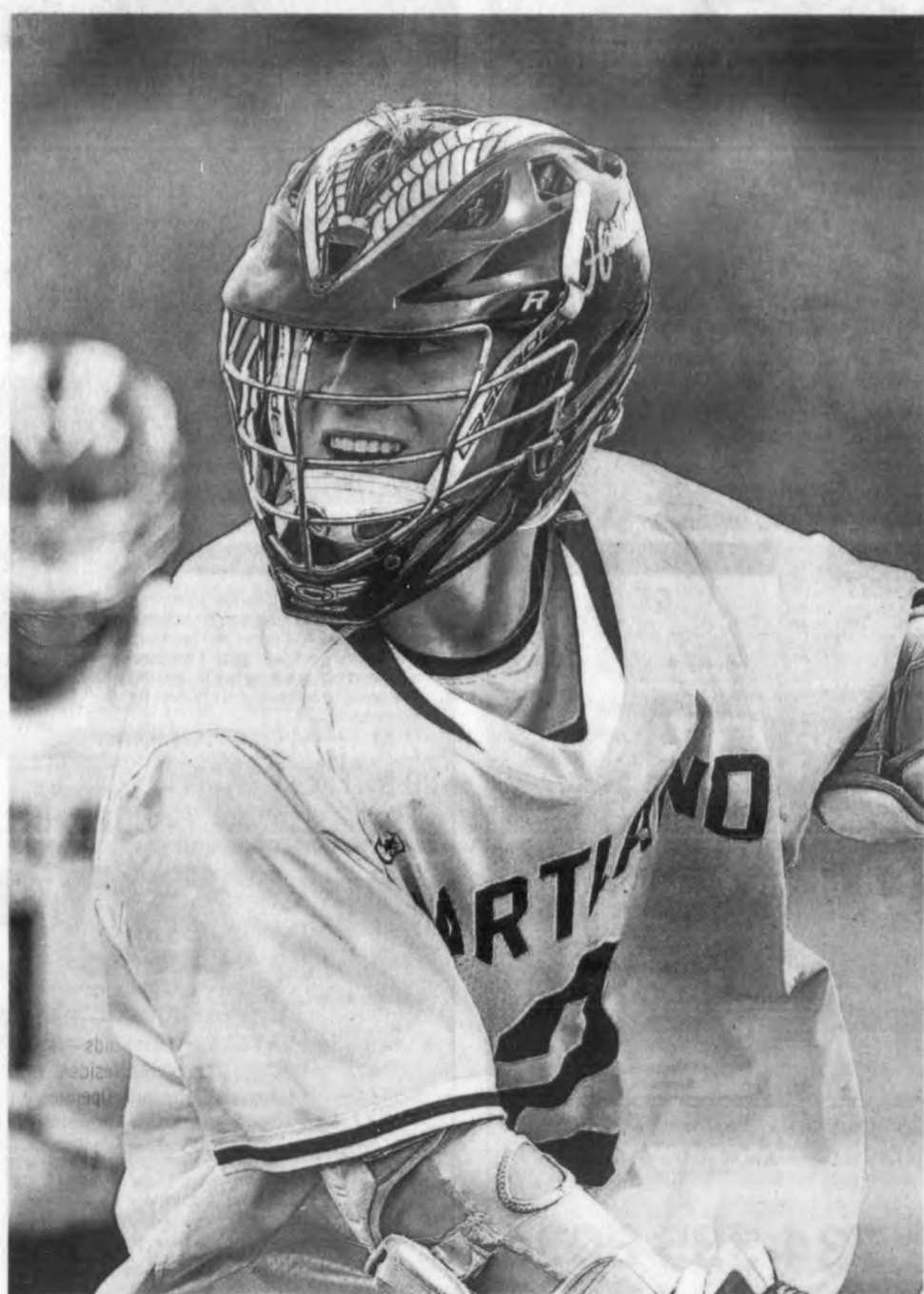
Lockwood's work ethic is also a primary reason why he has been named Michigan's boys lacrosse Player of the Year for the second time. He's the first repeat winner in the six seasons the award has been given by the Michigan High School Lacrosse Coaches Association.

"There's a lot of good players, this year and last year," Lockwood said. "I was like, 'If I don't get it this year, it's kind of embarrassing,' because I got it last year. I had even more pressure this year than I felt last year."

"I can't thank my coaches enough and my teammates and all the people who voted for me."

On a team full of highly motivated athletes, Lockwood stood out.

"I try to be at least 20 minutes early to each practice almost every day," Hartland coach Nick Levanti said. "I can think specifically to the day we beat (Detroit Catholic Central) on June 8. On June 9, I pull up to practice. Everyone else is getting dressed. Bo is already head-to-toe in gear. It looks like he's already been there 10, 15 minutes at least. Bo Lockwood is the first one there and



Hartland's Bo Lockwood finished second in state history in career scoring with 258 goals and 307 assists for 565 points. TIMOTHY ARRICK/FOR THE LIVINGSTON DAILY

the last to leave."

Lockwood had the perfect resume to win Mr. Lacrosse.

As he did last season, he put up staggering numbers with another 200-point

tion tournament.

What's more, he got it done on the biggest stage. He had three goals and four assists in an 11-10 victory over 15-time champion Birmingham Brother Rice in the state final, capping his career by scoring the winning goal in overtime with a move he said, "I practiced in my backyard a million times."

After staying up late to celebrate the championship with his teammates, Lockwood practiced in his yard on Sunday, fitting in a nap during the day.

"I'm not only going to not forget the time we had together in the last game, but hanging out after the game and feeling on top of the world, feeling like nobody can stop us," Lockwood said.

"A lot of people were saying that's the most perfect way to go out. They were so happy for me. I'm so grateful that can be my last memory of high school lacrosse. I don't think I'll ever forget that moment."

Lockwood finished second in state history in career scoring with 258 goals and 307 assists for 565 points. Future University of Michigan teammate Bryce Clay, who played at Grand Rapids Forest Hills Central from 2015-18, had 608 points.

The key difference is that Lockwood lost the 2020 season because of COVID shutdowns, limiting him to 65 career games for an average of 8.69 points per game. Clay played 86 games, averaging 7.07 points.

"I thought maybe this year I could get up to that and pass him," Lockwood said. "It's all good. I wouldn't change a single thing this season, because we won; that's the biggest thing of all. Passing him I knew would be super difficult."

Lockwood scored 96 goals and added 121 assists for 217 points this season after scoring a state-record 236 points as a junior. He often sat out the second half of games when the Eagles had large leads.

"We've got to get kids ready for next year, which I understand," Lockwood said. "Coach doesn't want me to get hurt in a random game with kids hitting late because they're annoyed we're beating them by a lot or something like that."

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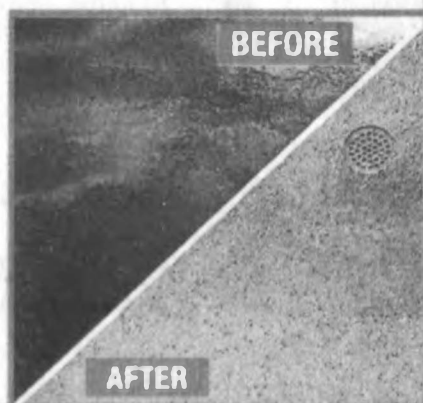
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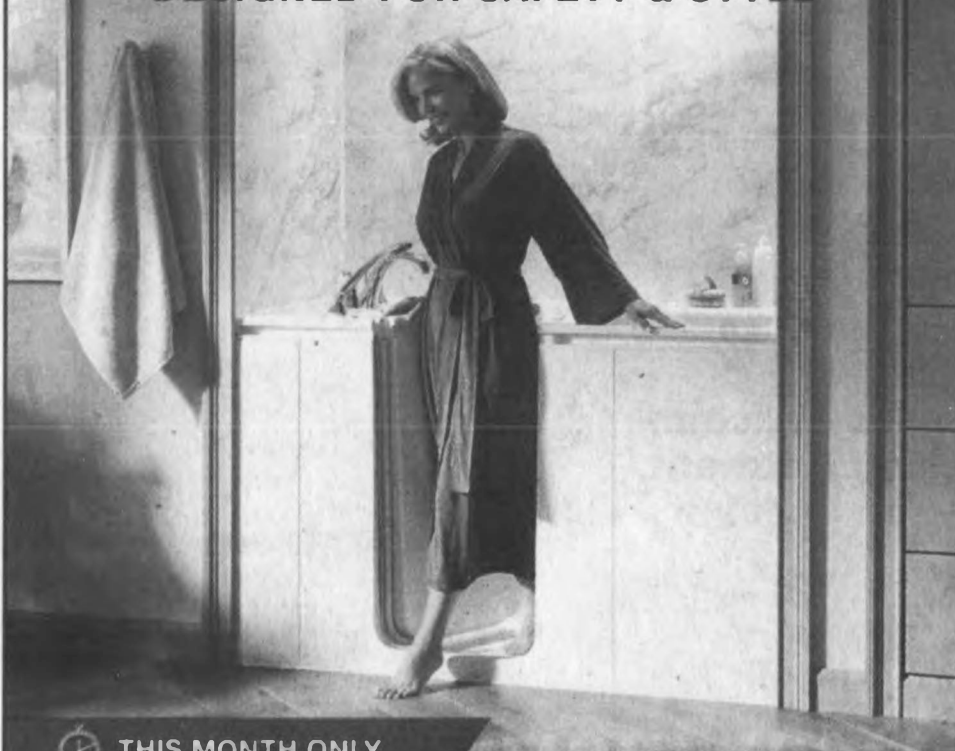
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Stevenson junior named Detroit High School Sports Awards girls athlete of year

Mick McCabe Special to Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

McKenzie Siroky had already established herself as one of the state's best athletes long before spring break.

She began the school year by winning the Division 1 100-yard breaststroke for the second straight season. Then when winter rolled around she became the first girl to play for the outstanding Livonia Stevenson hockey team.

But the junior wanted more. She wanted to play a spring sport for the hat trick, so to speak.

"I did it really to get a three-sport badge for my jacket," she said, laughing. "I thought it would be cool to do three sports in one year and I have to add more patches to my jacket."

This award doesn't come with a patch, but the Free Press named Siroky the most outstanding female athlete for the 2022 Detroit High School Sports Awards.

After careful consideration, Siroky settled on joining the track team, becoming a shot putter.

"I was between this and lacrosse and I looked at the schedules and track's schedule was more flexible and I can still get to hockey," she said. "It's right after school and it's a short season."

Because she will be attending USA Hockey tryout camps this summer, Siroky needed a spring sport that didn't monopolize her time.

She threw the shot in junior high, but had to relearn this spring.

"I came here and totally forgot everything," she said. "There was a technique to it and I had to start over again. I started right after spring break."

Although she should know better by now, she turned out better than she imagined she could be.

"I got third at the New Balance Invitational meet and the two girls who beat me were at the regional," she said. "I told myself I wasn't losing to them again."

Siroky's competitive spirit has helped make her such a terrific athlete. She has already committed to play hockey at the University of Minnesota-Duluth.

"I think it's fun to compete," she said. "And honestly it's taught me so many life skills just being on teams. I've learned how to time things up with my schedule. Now I can organize my day out — skills I'm going to need later in life."

Had she not participated in track this spring, Siroky believes it may have made her a better swimmer or hockey player because she would have been able to devote more time to those sports. Of course, she also could have been bored out of her mind, too.

Now she realizes she would have missed out on what has become a tremendous way to end her junior season.

"I thought it would be fun, too, to add this to my high school experience," she said. "And I got to get closer to a bunch of kids."



Stevenson forward McKenzie Siroky in a January game against Trenton. Siroky won Female Athlete of the Year on June 17 during the Detroit Free Press Sports Awards. "I think it's fun to compete," she said. "And honestly it's taught me so many life skills just being on teams."

PHOTOS BY
JUNFU HAN/
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PRESS



Lions linebacker Anthony Pittman with Siroky at the awards ceremony.

Obituaries

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Vance Roulo McCarty

Vance Roulo McCarty, 69, of Waterford, Michigan passed away on Monday, June 20, 2022.

A true family man, big-hearted and generous, Vance was a class act. He worked hard and anything he did he autographed with perfection.

Vance was born in Northville, Michigan to the late Vernon and Olive McCarty. His family would say even as a young man in grade school, he was an entrepreneur. He spent 43 years working in the construction and remodeling business and was proud to own his own business and work side by side with his son. Family was everything to Vance. He had a very fine taste for things in life and those that knew him, always knew he was the life of the party, and anyone around him always had a good time. He made sure of it. Vance always looked fresh, and sharp, and was always a true provider to his family. He cherished his wife, children, and grandchildren, and was a faithful pet lover with his dogs, and granddogs.

A true man's man, strong, courageous, fearless, yet generous, loving, passionate, and chivalrous. He will be greatly missed by all who crossed his path.

Beloved husband of Teresa. Devoted father of Heather Schlaff (Scott) and Victor McCarty (Sara). Proud grandfather of Rylee Schlaff and Emma Schlaff. Dear brother of Valerie Magnaghi, Vaughn McCarty (Sally), and the late Vernon McCarty (Kathy). Also survived by his faithful companions V.J., Dolce, and the late Scooby, as well as his granddogs Macy, Lola and Dexter. He was also preceded in death by the mother of his children, Diane McCarty.

A memorial service was held at Lynch & Sons Funeral Home, Milford. Visit LynchandSons-Milford.com for more information or to leave a condolence.



Hartland LB ends high school career at future college home

Bill Khan Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

For the rest of his classmates, the final memory of representing Hartland on the gridiron was one they'd rather forget.

Playing rival Howell in a downpour on a muddy field last Oct. 29, Hartland lost a triple-overtime heartbreaker in the opening round of the state playoffs.

But linebacker Aiden Martino got one final chance to strap on that familiar helmet, patterned after the University of Michigan's, in the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association East vs. West All-Star Game Saturday at Lawrence Tech.

He walked off the field feeling considerably more upbeat, having helped the East secure a 14-7 victory in the 40th annual game featuring 70 of the top seniors in Michigan.

"It felt amazing," said Martino, who was the only Livingston County player in the game. "I'm not sure how many Hartland kids have been in that. It felt great to be in that and represent one last time for the Eagles."

Martino was in on 10 tackles, impressing the coaching staff at his future college home. He will play his college career on that same field, having signed with Lawrence Tech.

"They definitely were excited," Martino said. "They liked what they saw. I'm excited to get on that field more in the future."

It was Martino's first football game in eight months. In high school, players have three official weeks of practice to prepare for the season opener. In this case, players had only two practices to get back into football mode and learn a simplified set of plays.



Hartland's Aiden Martino pursues a ball carrier during the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association's all-star game June 25 at Lawrence Tech University. BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

"It was definitely difficult, at first, getting into the swing of things," Martino said. "After two days of practices and all the preparing we had, I felt ready for that game. We were all excited to get out there and play one more time for our high school careers."

"We definitely crammed in a lot of stuff in a very little time. I felt we all had a good understanding of football. The best kids in the state are there. We all have an understanding of what we're doing. We all got together and figured it out real quick."

Once he stepped onto the field for the game, muscle memory took over.

"I felt in my element," he said.

Martino has been heading to Southfield every morning to train with Lawrence Tech players, including a couple of familiar faces. Former Hartland linebackers Tommy Lappin and Mitch Waters also play for Lawrence Tech.

"It definitely takes the stress off everything," Martino said. "When I said I'm from Hartland, they said, I'm going to be a dog and one of them and know I'm going to work hard."

Martino ranked second in Livingston County as a senior with 97 tackles, including 16 in the playoff loss to Howell. He had five games with at least 12 tackles and intercepted two passes. He was a first-team all-county selection.

Due to the holiday, our office hours and obituary placement times may vary.

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Title

Continued from Page 1B

"I was like, 'Oh, this really hurt!'" Badallo said. "I thought it was broken."

Referee Jeremy Wittrock raised up his arms and crossed them to signal for the clock to stop winding.

There were 31 seconds left in the period, and another 10 minutes were coming up, and it looked like the Black Hawks were going to finish the match without one of their best goal scorers.

It was the state final. Against the No. 1-ranked team in Michigan. Bloomfield Hills was the underdogs. Badallo needed to be on the field. The midfielder had to finish the game with her teammates.

And — WHAT? — it was Badallo leaving hurt? Usually, it's her plays on the ball that send opponents out of the game with bumps and bruises. She's the one who lays the boom. It's not the other way around. Just ask her teammates. She's the one who tackles them after goals. She's always starting dogpiles after hero moments.

It doesn't matter who's hero moments they are. Esther Rosett's. Drew Martin's. Emma Henry's. Avery Hall's. She's even had her own hero moments throughout the postseason. Remember when she slotted that perfect pass to Rosett for the game-winning goal against defending state champion Hartland to win the Black Hawks their first-ever regional title?

Yeah, there's no way Badallo could leave the game with an injury in overtime. Bloomfield Hills couldn't afford to lose someone like her. She needed to be there for more hero moments.

And she had already had one early in the second half of the June 17 match vs. the Mustangs.

Brooke Green dribbled the ball down the near sideline. She outraced Northville's Brooke Pendleton. And then she faked out Northville's Lauren Moraitis with a deke to her right.

Green had made it to the near post with just one defender left. She passed it under the arm of Northville's Caroline Meloche, who leaned to her left to try and get a body on the cross, and then the ball sailed in front of the net.

Badallo bashed into it with a full head of steam, and the goal put Bloomfield Hills ahead 1-0 in the 45th minute.

"When she beat two defenders out wide, I was like, 'I have to get to this. This is going to be one of our only chances of the game,'" Badallo said. "We did have a lot of chances, in the end, but I was like, 'We have to capitalize on this one specifically.' I just went in full-on."

"I don't even know what it hit. I don't even know if it hit my foot. I don't even know if it went top right. I just saw it hit the back of the net, and Brooke started celebrating with me, and it was a crazy feeling."

Green was proud to be the one who tackled Badallo this time. She grabbed a hold of Badallo and flung her down. Moments later, Rosett and Alice Spiegel jumped on top of them, and the dogpile was started.

That proved to be a pivotal moment for the No. 12 Black Hawks. Not only because it was Green starting the pile instead of Badallo but because the scoring was coming at a premium for both teams.

Twice, Bloomfield Hills had goals erased because of off-side calls.

And then Moraitis launched a corner kick into the penalty box that Northville's Kate Gonzalez headed in to knot the score in the 64th minute.

Bloomfield Hills could've been ahead, 3-1. Instead, it was a tied score to end regulation. And it was a tied score when Badallo exited the match with a thumb injury late in the first overtime.

During the intermission, Reiche vigorously wrapped Badallo's right hand, from her thumb to halfway up her forearm, in black medical tape.

"As she was wrapping it, 'I like was like, 'Come on! Come on now! Let's wrap it quick!'" Badallo said. "I just knew I had to get back in. I said, 'Can I go back out there?' They were like, 'Are you sure? Are you ready?'"

"I just had to go back in. I said, 'Get me back in there.'"

The pain was still there as Badallo returned for another back-and-forth 10 minutes of overtime where no goals were scored and no winner was determined.

But that pain seemed to subside for Badallo during the penalty kick shootout.

Martin buried the first attempt past Northville goalie Simran Magnan.

And then, while diving to her left, Bloomfield Hills keeper Jenica Opdahl got two hands on Moraitis' attempt.

The next round saw Rosett make hers as well as Meloche put one in for the Mustangs.

Emma Merchant hit hers with the inside of her right foot to push it into the right side of the net for the Black Hawks,



Bloomfield Hills players celebrate after defeating Northville 2-1 in a shootout during the Division 1 MHSAA championship June 17 in East Lansing. PHOTOS BY AL GOLDIS/FOR THE LANSING STATE JOURNAL



Bloomfield Hills' Ava Badallo, right, and Drew Martin celebrate.

while Opdahl, once again, dove and got one hand on Reese Heaton's attempt near the left post.

And so this was it. Bloomfield Hills needed to make just one final penalty kick to not only win the state championship but win the school's first-ever state title in a team sport since the school district merged Andover and Lahser eight years ago.

And who else could it be attempting the kick?

"Every single time, I've always gone bottom left, and I didn't change my mind this time," Badallo said. "With Jenica coming up with those two amazing saves, and they were huge for us, it was like, 'I'm winning this, or at least we'll still have a chance to win it if I miss.' That gave me more confidence and motivation."

"I knew I needed to get this into the back of the net, and I knew I was going to the bottom left. Even if the goalie were to move a certain way, I couldn't change my mind now because it'd mess me up."

"I thought to myself, 'I'm going bottom left, and this is going in.'"

Magnan initially jumped to her right. And the ball sailed into a wide-open net on the opposite side.

Badallo went bottom left. And then she went to the bottom of the dogpile.

It was Green who got her again as they celebrated the 2-1 victory.

"It was just insane," Green said. "I was on the sideline watching her shot go in, and I just jumped up and ran right on top of her. We all dogpiled again. We all couldn't breathe because we were right on top of each other. It was great."

Coach Alan Zakaria said he was prepared to adjust his lineup had Badallo not been able to return.

But he wasn't shocked she gutted out the pain and finished the match.

Nor was the eighth-year coach surprised she booted in the game-winner.

"She is just an incredible player, and what a great student-athlete," Zakaria said. "She's so coachable, so lovely. She just loves the game, and she's just a soccer aficionado. She just loves to play soccer."

"To see her finish that off, nothing could make me prouder as a coach."

Mobbed by media requests, Badallo was one of the final Black Hawks to exit the pitch and finally get to celebrate with her classmates, family and friends at the athletics plaza's entrance just south of the field.

But the wait was worth it.

The senior had left her mark on the program, even though the state championship had left its mark on her right thumb.



Bloomfield Hills' Avery Hall, left, and Northville's Emily Takahashi battle.

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How to Write Employment Verification Letters

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When you think about big, exciting life changes, chances are you're thinking of things other than paperwork. But many of them come with requirements, such as the request to submit an employment verification letter. If you've been asked to do so, you might be wondering how to go about requesting one.

An employment verification letter might be required for you to rent or buy a house, purchase insurance, apply for a loan, or secure utilities for your home. It can also be requested for hiring purposes to verify dates of employment on your resume or job application as part of the background check process.

What Is an Employment Verification Letter?

Employers provide employment verification letters to confirm that an employee currently or formerly worked for the company. Proof of employment letter requests can come directly from employees themselves or from the organizations needing to verify employment, such as financial institutions, landlords, government agencies, utility companies, and prospective employers.

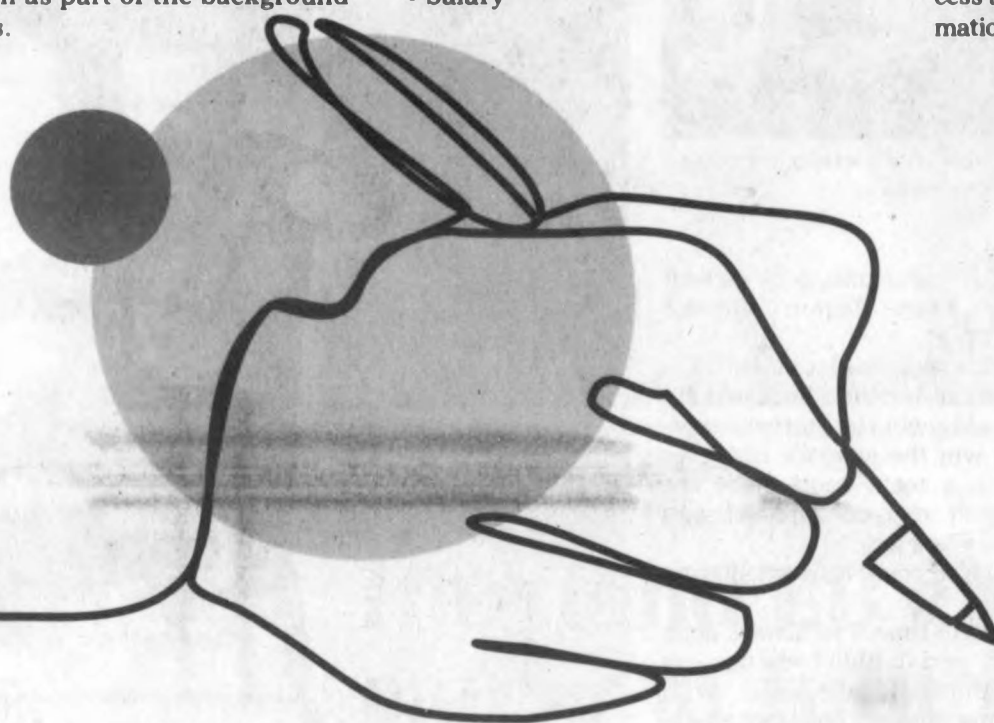
When a verification letter of employment request comes in, it might ask for any of the following:

- Employee title
- Dates of employment
- Salary

How Can You Request an Employment Verification Letter?

Organizations typically have a process for employment verification letter requests. You can begin with your human resources department or ask your supervisor; either one should be able to ensure proper company protocol is followed.

Many employers also have a policy regarding the release of employment information to ensure the protection of sensitive employment data. Without a formal written request from the employee granting permission for the release of information, the most employers will generally provide is confirmation that an employee was or is employed, and the dates of employment. Therefore, make sure you're clear on the process and follow it so you can receive the information you need as quickly as possible.



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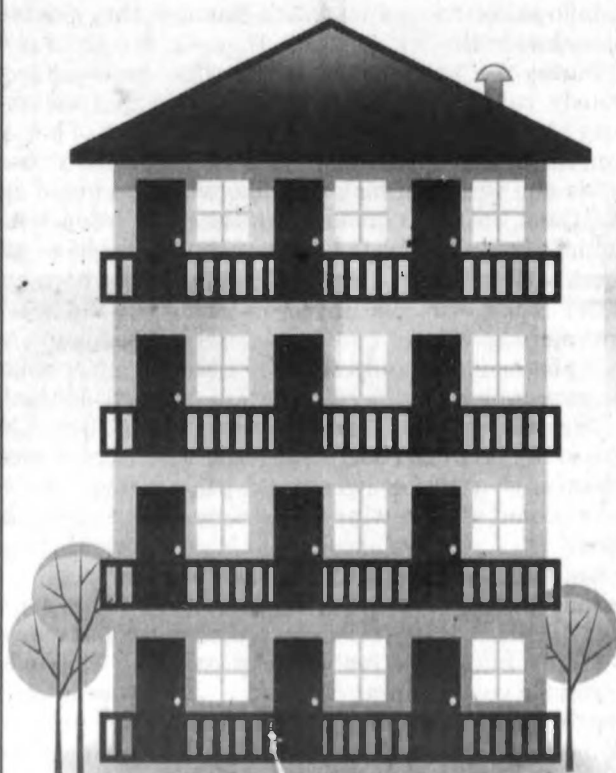
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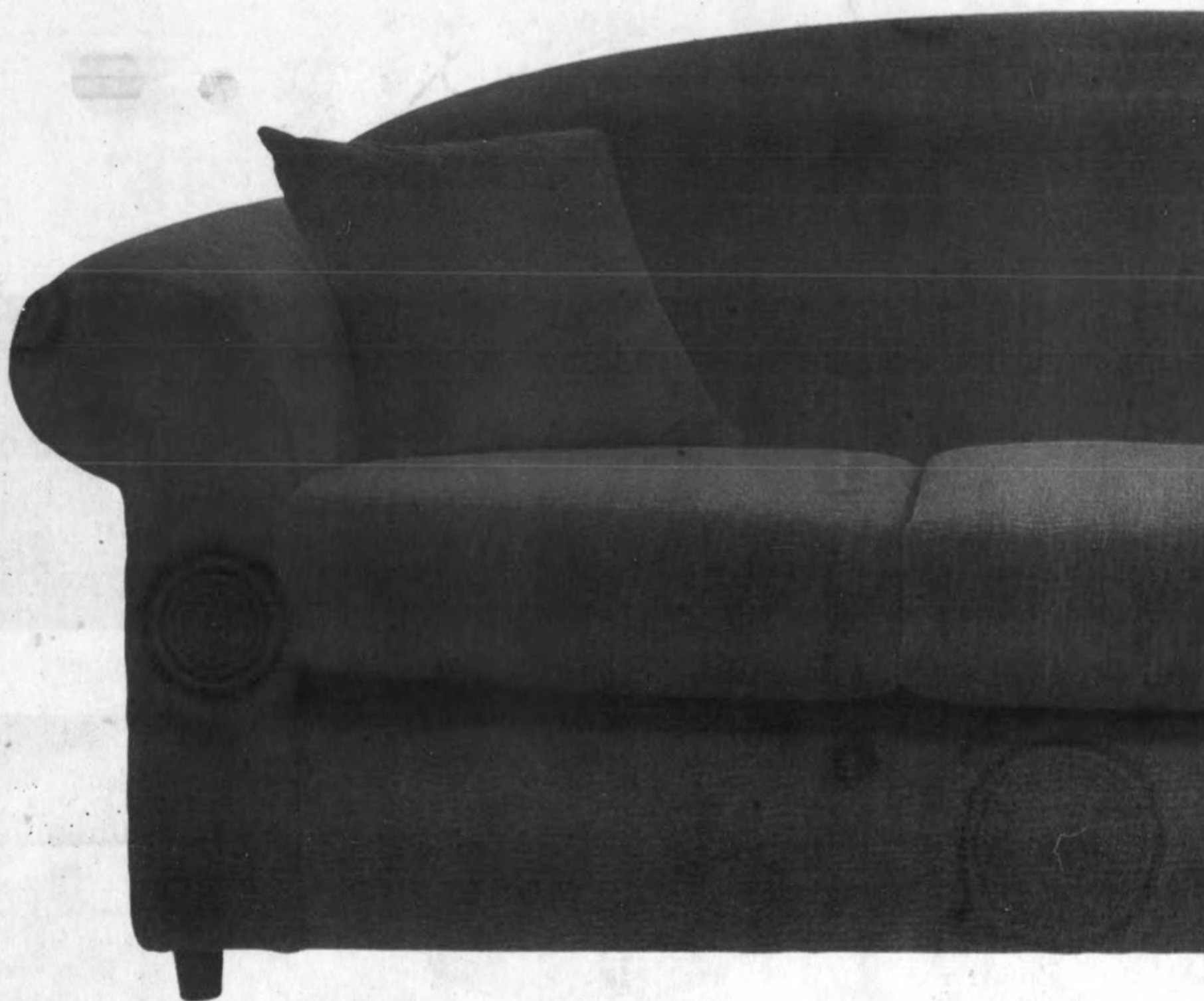
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