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ELECTION COVERAGE

Four vie for 6-year term on South Lyon school board

Susan Bromley
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Four candidates are seeking a 6-year term on the South Lyon Community Schools Board of Education. Voters in the district will elect two of them in the Nov. 8 election.

School boards set overall policy for the school district, as well as hire and manage the superintendent, who oversees day-to-day operations.

Hometown Life sent identical questionnaires to the candidates, seeking to learn more about them and their views on issues. All four responded.

Miriam Corvino has been a resident of the South Lyon School District for more than 10 years. She has been a 4H volunteer for 25 years. She has been a parent volunteer at school events and served on a parent-teacher coalition which reviewed emergency planning materials. She has been a frequent attendee of school board, county commissioner and county public health and safety meetings. Professionally, she lists more than two decades experience supporting executive level teams and providing financial strategic planning for product portfolios across multiple industries.

Stephanie Junkulis-Pierce is a graduate of South Lyon High School and lives in Lyon Township with her husband and two sons, who are in fourth and first grades. She has served on the South Lyon Board of Education since being appointed to an open seat in June 2021. She has been a licensed attorney in Michigan for nearly 17 years. She is a member of the South Lyon Educational Foundation, the Hardy Elementary PTO president and a member of the Hardy SIP committee.

Patrick Maguire has lived in the South Lyon School District for nearly 20 years and has two children who attend school in the district. He has worked in law enforcement for more than two decades, is a community beat officer and K9 handler, and is currently an acting deputy chief in an agency that has a staff of nearly 150 people. He has received training in executive leadership and de-escalation. He has a

See SOUTH LYON, Page 8A

Helping refugees



Ashley Wilkes and her father, Jon Wilkes, traveled to Poland to assist Ukrainian refugees affected by the war with Russia. Behind them, a map shows all the missionaries the Northville First Baptist Church supports, including one in Poland.

DAVID VESELENAK/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Northville church leader, daughter travel to Poland, Ukraine

David Veselenak
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

What began as a simple collection to assist Ukraine eventually blossomed into a mission trip of a lifetime for Jon and Ashley Wilkes.

The father/daughter duo recently returned from spending time in both Poland and Ukraine, assisting refugees displaced by the war with Russia in the eastern European country. Jon

Wilkes, the pastor at Northville First Baptist Church, made contact with a missionary they support in Poland.

They began with a collection at their Easter service that collected \$12,000 to send overseas to help. Once that was sent over, some discussion began about potentially going over to Europe began among the family, though Jon Wilkes said he wasn't sure how serious the talks were.

Ashley Wilkes, however, was. "I was just like, 'I could do that,'" said

Ashley Wilkes, who lives in Wixom and works as a teacher. "I had the summer off and I was like, 'Yeah, I'm going to go.'"

Poland was the logical place to help, Jon Wilkes said, especially since there is a missionary there the Northville First Baptist Church supports on a monthly basis. Add in the geographic proximity to Ukraine and there is a lot that can be done to help.

"They're in Warsaw, and Warsaw is

See HELPING, Page 4A

ELECTION COVERAGE

Four seeking Novi school board's 6-year term

Four candidates are seeking a 6-year term on the Novi Community Schools Board of Education. Voters in the district will elect two of them in the Nov. 8 election.

School boards set overall policy for the school district, as well as hire and

manage the superintendent, who oversees day-to-day operations in the school district.

Hometown Life sent identical questionnaires to the candidates, seeking to learn more about them and their views on issues. All four responded.

Betsy Beaudoin began attending Novi Schools when she was 5, and now has three children who are students in the district. She is an interior designer who hopes to use her professional skills

See NOVI, Page 6A

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ELECTION COVERAGE

Koleszar, Neracher seek to represent northwest Wayne County in state House

Shelby Tankersley
HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Voters in Livonia, Plymouth and Northville will vote in the newly-drawn House District 22 for the first time Nov. 8. **Rep. Matt Koleszar** and **Cathryn Neracher** are looking to convince voters they're the best person for the job.

Koleszar, a Democrat from Plymouth Township, is seeking a third term in the house. The representative has a background as a teacher and is also involved with the Northville Chamber of Commerce and the Conservancy Initiative.

Neracher, a Republican from Northville, is running to hold elected office for the first time. Neracher owns her own business and has been involved with the Triple A Crisis Pregnancy Center in Livonia.

Hometown Life sent both candidates a questionnaire diving into candidates' stances on a variety of issues. Despite numerous attempts by Hometown Life to contact Neracher by email, phone and through her campaign, she never filled out the questionnaire. Neracher's campaign did offer a comment on Michigan's economy, which is included as a response in this article.

Here's what Koleszar had to say:
Statistics show systemic racism is prevalent in law enforcement, government, health care and economics. Name one tangible action state gov-

ernment could take to help address racism.

Koleszar: As the Police Officer's Association of Michigan's legislator of the year, I know policing is a hard and dangerous job. The best thing the state can do is provide adequate funding for public safety both for additional de-escalation training and DEI training, but also providing funding for police-community partnerships. Encouraging or even incentivizing departments to hire within their borders whenever possible has shown to reduce instances of excessive force across the country.

How would you grade the state's response to the COVID-19 pandemic and what, if anything, should the state legislature do next?

Koleszar: I believe Michigan ultimately made many good decisions to save lives and curb the spread of the pandemic. But there is no denying that some businesses struggled and are still struggling from the effects of the pandemic. I made it a point to be a voice for business owners during the pandemic and started the Michigan Downtown Business Coalition in the Michigan legislature to provide a direct line of communication from business owners and the Governor and AG's office.

Small businesses and workers in Michigan are still facing the global consequences of the pandemic like rising costs and the legislature needs to provide tax relief to workers and seniors,



Koleszar

lower costs, and bring back good paying jobs to the state.

What are your thoughts on safety and security of our elections, specifically Michigan's election integrity, and do you accept the results of the 2020 election?

Koleszar: As a Vice Chair of the Elections and Ethics committee, I can say with 100% certainty that the 2020 election was accurate and the will of the voters was reflected. Over 250 audits of the 2020 election were conducted, and all showed there was no evidence of widespread fraud.

In the legislature, what we need to be doing is to make sure that clerks and other election officials have the resources they need such as increased time to pre-process absentee ballots in order to deliver timely results to the electorate.

Thinking of the recent school shootings that killed students in Uvalde and Oxford, what recommendations would you make in your effort to prevent similar tragedies in the future?

Koleszar: We need to continue to invest in school social workers and school psychologists to help our most vulnerable students. We also need to do a better job of addressing gun safety which includes safe storage and red flag laws.

ELECTION COVERAGE

Dashner, Laszlo in quest for South Lyon school board seat

Susan Bromley
HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Craig Dashner and Teresa Laszlo are vying for a single partial term seat on the South Lyon Board of Education. The term ends Dec. 31, 2024.

Hometown Life sent identical questionnaires to the two candidates to learn more about them and their stances on education issues.

Meet your candidates:

Craig Dashner is a 24-year Lyon Township resident and his second child will graduate from South Lyon East High School this year. The civil engineer works on road and bridge construction projects and is a structures specialist who co-authored a trench rescue shoring book used around the world for emergency response. He was officer of the PTO during his children's elementary years and has served four years on the school board, two as president.

He has completed several classes on finance, policy and board member responsibilities through the Michigan Association of School Boards.

Teresa Laszlo is a 6-year South Lyon resident and has a daughter in 4th grade at Bartlett Elementary. She has volun-

teered for the Bartlett PTO and at the Salem-South Lyon District Library.

She has 15 years of teaching, education administration, and curriculum design experience and is currently global director of a corporate learning and development department, where she serves in an advisory role to the leadership team.

What makes you qualified to be a school board member and why do you want to hold that position? What do you see as the role of a school board member?

Dashner: I have been on the Board for 4 years (partial term seat) and President of the Board for the past two years. I enjoy serving the community to keep our schools great and feel that I can be effective since I have already learned the background over the last 4 years. The role of a Board member is to oversee the work of the Superintendent and pass yearly budgets and set the direction of the district. Changes to the district get made by making small and deliberate changes to attain the desired result.

Laszlo: My background in teaching (15 years), education administration, curriculum design, and leading a corporate learning and development department gives me valuable expertise and perspective regarding education in our community. I have long been eager to find the best way for me to support our school district and help represent our community. It is the School Board's job to set effective policies that represent our community, which help administration and staff carry out their work. Since school governance thrives when there is a strong relationship with the public, I will listen to the community, our experienced educators, and staff.

Are you happy with the overall direction of the district? Why or why not?

Laszlo: There are many great facets to the current direction of our district. Overall, the school board has done a reliable job managing the affairs of the district, collaborating to set school and district policy. For example, the board has maintained and grown programs, expanded support for student and mental health services, selected a superintendent, and has worked hard to recruit and retain excellent teachers and other school staff who continue to demon-



Dashner



Laszlo

strate effective learning and dedication to students despite very difficult years. Of course, there are always ways we can improve as a district, and my goal is to be part of that process.

Dashner: I better be, as I had a hand in it. The district is in a good place. We are financially strong, just passed several fair contracts for our employees and have strong performance from our students. We have a good Board that works together for good outcomes for the district. We need to focus on making up for the learning loss that occurred during the state mandated Covid shut downs. We started that with the summer programs that were held, and extra supports put in place for many of the buildings.

What should the school district's priorities be coming out of the COVID-19 pandemic, including how it spends ARPA funds?

Dashner: There are some limitations on the ARPA funds that dictate what it can be spent on and it is important to realize that it is "one time money". Using it to increase pay or positions would create sustainability problems in future years. Some of it can be used for staff, but there has to be a plan for long term funding. The summer learning programs made use of these funds by providing a special program for at risk students.

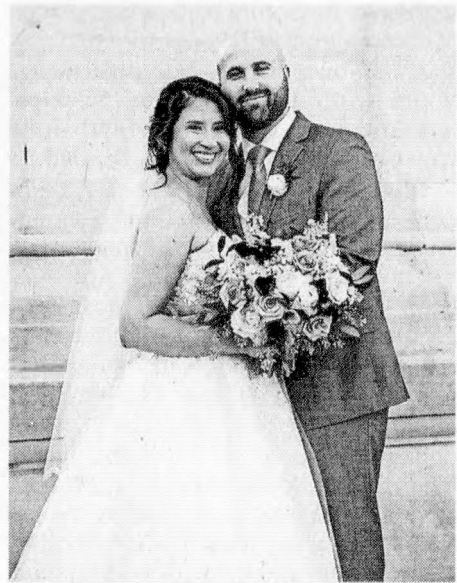
Laszlo: The school district's priorities should always be to provide a quality educational experience for our students. We should use these particular funds to replace lost public sector revenue and spend the funds on safety and security to provide the safest learning environment we can.

Issues related to diversity, equity and inclusion are a recurring conversation among students, staff and the community at large. What's one tangible action local districts can make to address diversity, equity and inclusion?

Laszlo: This topic is incredibly important to me. As a district, we should always insist on equity for all students — regardless of race, gender, religion, nationality, gender identity, legal status, physical or mental challenges, and/or socio-economic status. Diver-

See QUEST, Page 3A

WEDDING



Natasha Shah and Eric Richter married Oct. 30.

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Shah-Richter

Natasha Shah and Eric Richter of Columbia, Illinois, were united in marriage Oct. 30, 2021 at the Chase Park Plaza in St. Louis, Missouri. Reverend Michael Niebauer officiated the ceremony.

Natasha is the daughter of Nav and Pai Shah of Northville. She is a 2009 graduate of Northville High School and a 2013 graduate of Michigan State University. She is employed as a shopper insights manager with Nestle Purina.

Eric is the son of Steve and Brenda Richter of Columbia, Illinois. He is a 2009 graduate of Columbia High School and a 2013 graduate of Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. He is employed as a profit center manager with Sunbelt Rentals.

The bride was given in marriage by her parents. The matron of honor was Precious Schultz, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Ashlyn Ayala (friend of the bride), Sarah Bazydlo (friend of the bride), Rylee Caven (friend of the bride), Monica Love (friend of the bride), Kasey Petro (friend of the bride), Sara Richter (sister of the groom), and Kaitlynn Waller (friend of the bride).

The best man was Adam Richter, brother of the groom. Groomsmen were Nathan Fox (friend of the groom), Jake Hall (friend of the groom), Joel Herrmann (cousin of the groom), Jordan Kuhlengel (friend of the groom), Alan Schultz (brother-in-law of the bride), Kyle Waller (friend of the groom), and Brian Winters (friend of the groom).

Junior groomsmen were Alan, Logan, and Luke Schultz, nephews of the bride. Ushers were Chris Bagwell and Judson Fraley, friends of the groom. Following a wedding reception at the Chase Park Plaza, the couple took a honeymoon in Hawaii.

ELECTION COVERAGE

Theis, Genso in 4-way race for 22nd District state Senate seat

Susan Bromley

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Democrat Jordan Genso, Republican Lana Theis, Libertarian Jon Elgas and U.S. Taxpayer Party candidate Victoria McCassey are all vying for the 22nd District state senate seat in the Nov. 8 election.

The 22nd District includes Brighton, Brighton Township, Green Oak Township, Hamburg Township, Howell, Whitmore Lake, Fenton and Holly.

Hometown Life sent identical questionnaires to all four candidates to help voters learn more about them and their stances on issues. Theis and McCassey did not respond to the questionnaire.

Democrat Jordan Genso lives in Brighton with his wife and two young daughters. He is a realtor and currently serves as the Brighton District Library Board vice-president and was formerly the FlexTech High School Board president. He ran for state representative in 2014 and Livingston County clerk in 2020.

Libertarian Jon Elgas grew up in Dexter and moved to Brighton in 2012, where he currently lives with and cares for his aging parents. He works on the production line at a Brighton factory. He ran for state representative in 2016 and the Wayne State Board of Governors in 2018 and 2020.

Statistics show systemic racism is prevalent in law enforcement, government, health care and economics. Name one tangible action state government could take to help address racism.

Genso: As a real estate agent, I'm keenly aware of the lasting effects from the practice of redlining, which was a government-driven action that harmed minorities. My grandparents were able to purchase a home wherever they wanted, but that isn't a statement some of my peers could make, and the consequences of that discriminatory treatment still echo today. So I would like to see our government target additional investments in communities harmed by redlining, to increase home property values in those communities. It would be an obvious, logical step to mitigate some of the harm done by previous government actions.

Elgas: I think getting rid of Elliott-Larsen would be a good step, because creating a protected class of people breeds racism.

How would you grade the state's response to the COVID-19 pandemic and what, if anything, should the state legislature do next?

Elgas: I would grade the response as F. Mainly, be-

cause the state legislature allowed the governor to do whatever she wanted to do without any consequences. Shutting down the economy, forcing people who weren't sick or vulnerable to quarantine, and shaming people who disagreed with her were the wrong things to do. The state legislature should impeach Whitmer for these actions, and should have taken control away from her, this is why all the incumbents should not be re-elected.

Genso: As a citizen, I strive to give elected officials flexibility when they are making decisions in an environment of uncertainty. I have my opinions, of course, but respect that policies won't always reflect my opinion. As an example, I wanted an in-person schooling option in the fall of 2020, but I otherwise wasn't going to criticize school boards for the safety protocols they implemented to enable it. I think we all should give our government a wider window of what we'll accept, and only when policies go to the extreme should we give them a hard time.

What are your thoughts on safety and security of our elections, specifically Michigan's election integrity, and do you accept the results of the 2020 election?

Genso: Our election system has numerous safeguards already built into it, and they ensure that we can trust the results. There are some who want to prevent our citizens' legal votes from being counted because they disagree with the candidate receiving the votes, and that is a radical, unprecedented danger to our democratic system. "Accepting election results" should never have become a point of disagreement, and those who have made it so are spitting on the graves of our nation's founders.

Elgas: I do think there is fraud in every election, I don't know if there was enough to change the outcome in our state. I would like to see, at least in future elections, 14 teams of three people (one democrat, one republican, and one representing a minor party) have a full forensic audit.

Thinking of the recent school shootings that killed students in Uvalde and Oxford, what recommendations would you make in your effort to prevent similar tragedies in the future?

Elgas: I think by allowing school teachers who have a concealed carry license to carry in school would either deter school shootings, or stop school shootings before

the police arrive.

Genso: This is unfortunately mostly a federal issue. I support an individual's right to defend themselves, and firearms have a legitimate role to play in that defense. But I also acknowledge that there are many firearms designed for offensive/combat purposes (rather than defense), and it is the proper role of government to more strictly regulate those firearms. We successfully keep fully-automatic firearms from being used in school shootings, which proves that regulation can work. Applying the same safeguards on fully-automatic to some semi-automatic firearms could help make school shootings less common, and less deadly.

Do you support amending the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act to include LGBTQ people? Explain.

Genso: The purpose of Elliott-Larsen is to protect our citizens from discrimination for simply being who they are. The same underlying principle for why we shouldn't allow discrimination based on religion applies to the LGBTQ community. There is no justification for allowing such discrimination, and so it is a failure of our state that LGBTQ people are not already protected.

Elgas: People should not be divided into protected classes. When you have protected groups of people it encourages racism, sexism and transphobia. Elliott-Larsen should be removed from the books.

What is an issue facing state government that isn't on Michiganders' radar that should be? What steps would you take to address that issue?

Elgas: People trust our politicians and bureaucrats too much, we need to question them, and assume that they only want to help themselves. I want to expose the corruption from these officials.

Genso: I think the most important hurdle our state (and nation) faces is an unwillingness to engage with each other. As a state senate candidate, I've put myself out there, willing to sit down with anyone across the political spectrum to have a civil discussion, but it is astonishingly difficult finding a partner. And without engagement, there is no communication, nor understanding of the other side. And that's why our government is so broken. Until we fix our broken government, few other problems can be adequately solved.

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

Quest

Continued from Page 2A

sity, equity and inclusion directly impact achievement. When we recognize the different backgrounds, cultures and abilities of children, we are better able to design programs to facilitate their achievement. It also helps our children appreciate all people as they take their place as citizens in our diverse world. One tangible action we can take at the board level is to form a DE&I committee which can gather data and community input.

Dashner: DEI can be a very polarizing topic. I feel that diversity means that different is ok and accepted, equity means that all students should have the same opportunity for an education and inclusion means that all students should feel safe and comfortable at school. If there is one thing I could do, it would be to create the type of home family support that not all of our students have in a quest to increase success in school and after graduation.

School districts saw student enrollment drop dramatically during the COVID-19 pandemic to private-, charter-, home- or non-school options. With school funding tied directly to enrollment, what are your thoughts on schools

of choice policies, and how would you attract new, returning students to the district?

Dashner: South Lyon Community Schools saw a decline in enrollment during COVID, but not a dramatic decline. Our community is still growing, home building is still occurring in our boundaries, and I would expect our enrollment to continue to slightly increase over the next several years. The focus is to keep our great teachers, keep district performance at high levels and stay out of the polarizing buzz that some schools seem to attract by wading outside of an education focus with their policies and focus.

Laszlo: I am a strong believer in the value of public education to society. I would prioritize student achievement to attract students to our district. We can work on ways to enhance the student experience by adding additional sports opportunities as well as academic programming geared toward STEM. We should embrace innovation in our approach to this challenge.

What is an issue facing the district that isn't on residents' radar that should be? What steps would you take to address that issue?

Laszlo: In addition to providing a curriculum that helps all students, we need to prepare our students for whatever career path they choose after graduation, whether it is working, attending technical college, get-

ting a job in the trades or attending a university.

Dashner: Anxiety – the level of anxiety in our students has been increasing drastically. Covid made it worse. As we get back to normal, we (the community and schools) need to focus on reducing that anxiety in the students. The schools have added counselors and social workers to assist the students that need help. I think we can all pitch in and help students work through their anxiety, or work to prevent it from starting in the younger students.

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

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Helping

Continued from Page 1A

the first train stop coming out of Ukraine," Jon Wilkes said. "So if you're getting out, there's where you get off. Especially the people getting off there, they don't have any money. They don't have any connections."

The two flew to Poland in August, with Jon Wilkes staying for 10 days and Ashley Wilkes staying an additional week. They both began work cleaning up an athletic arena that had housed refugees that had come to the city, as the arena was shifting back to hosting sporting events. They then split up, with Ashley Wilkes heading to a summer camp and working as a de facto counselor for children and families staying there. Jon Wilkes began doing other work, including taking a day trip into Ukraine to help deliver supplies.

After heading to a store to pick up supplies, Jon Wilkes and others drove into Ukraine to deliver the goods to a church. He said crossing the border into Ukraine was fairly simple, but trying to leave was not.

"On our way home, we came to these same checkpoints and there was a dozen uniformed guards that were checking passports," he said. "We're like, 'What happened?' Well, we didn't know it, but that day was the day the Ukrainian army attacked the Crimean airport to try and take it back over."

After Jon Wilkes headed back to the United States, Ashley Wilkes stayed an additional week to help set up a new place for refugees to stay in Warsaw.

She said the people were incredibly happy to see her help and assist them during their time of need. She said several people mentioned to her she was the first American they had met that had come to assist them.

"All the Ukrainians were so thankful," she said. "The kids just swarmed you and they were so happy because we were just there to love on them."

Much of the backing to embark on such a trip came from the dozens of parishioners who attend the church at 217 N. Wing St.

The two are continuously thanking the small congregation for its help with everything, from prayers to financial donations.

"They gave the original \$12,000, and



Jon Wilkes helps sort items for donation during his time in Europe. He spent time in both Poland and Ukraine helping deliver supplies and doing other tasks this past August. COURTESY OF JON WILKES

then they gave an additional \$8,000 beyond that to allow us to go," he go. "We didn't ask anyone to help. We just had people that said, 'We want to help.'"

The experience is one that's changed both of them forever. Both have done mission trips in faraway lands before, but this trip felt different for both of them.

After spending so much time in Poland, Ashley Wilkes said she hopes to return later this year. She hopes to head back at the end of the year and bring Christmas gifts to the children.

Ashley Wilkes said she's been in contact with groups in Poland who are hoping to begin an orphanage and has said to let her know what can be done to help. She knows the situation is probably going to last for a very long time.

"This isn't over," she said. "This is going to be a long endeavor for all these Ukrainians."

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



Ashley Wilkes assists in a sports arena in Warsaw, Poland that had been converted into a temporary housing space for Ukrainian refugees. COURTESY OF ASHLEY WILKES

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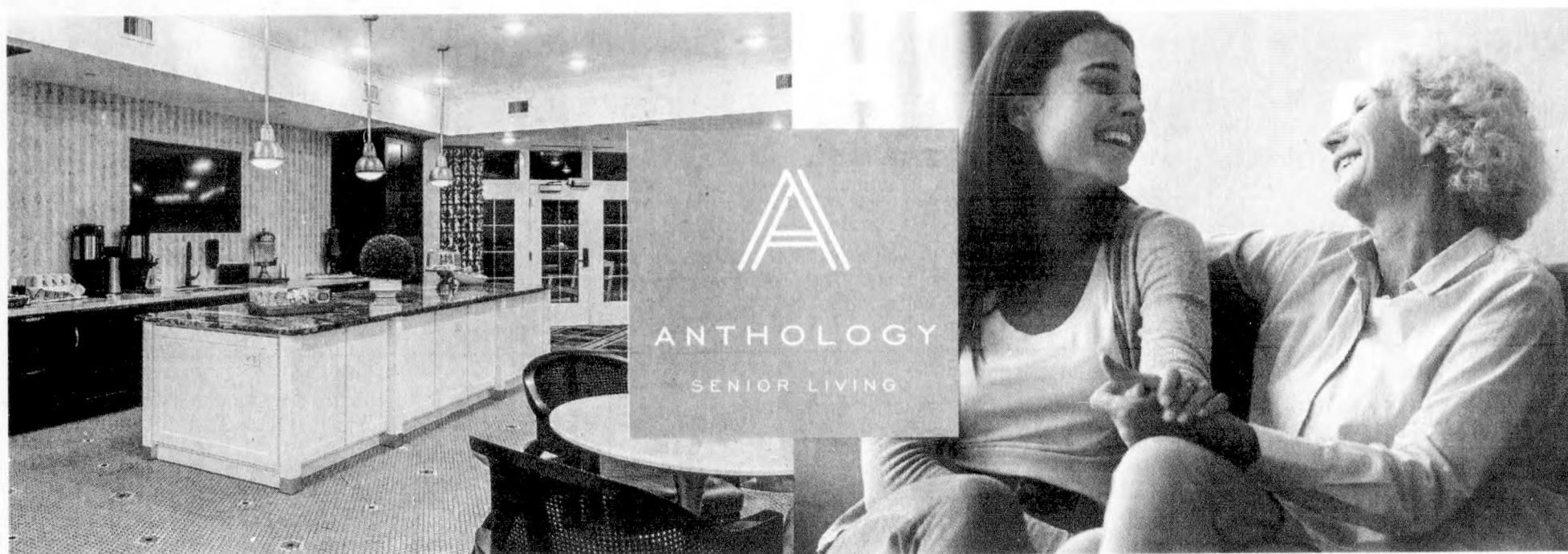
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Novi

Continued from Page 1A

in identifying problems, prioritizing and finding solutions if elected. She has long volunteered in the schools, in her neighborhood, and with the Girl Scouts.

Chris Hollman has lived in Novi with his wife and three children for the past 15 years. He is a doctor of pharmacy who works in employer benefit consulting and believes he will be a valuable resource in understanding how to spend district dollars most efficiently to maximize teacher pay and benefits. He has volunteered at school events and coached kids via Novi Bobcats, Novi Heat, Parks & Rec, NFL Flag Football, and Novi Youth Hockey.

Latasha Keller is a Detroit native who has lived in Novi since 2015. She earned her bachelor of arts degree in women's studies from the University of Michigan in 2008; a bachelor of science in nursing from Wayne State University in 2014; and is currently pursuing a master of science in nursing with an expected 2023 graduation date. Among her volunteer efforts, she lists Novi Schools and Novi Bobcats Football/Cheer.

Jason Michener is a Pennsylvania native who graduated from Princeton University with a dual major in aerospace and mechanical engineering. He has lived in Novi since 2004 and has worked as a Ford Motor Company engineer for the past 19 years. He is married and the father of a son who is in fourth grade at Deerfield Elementary. He serves on the multicultural committee of the Deerfield PTO, and has also coached t-ball, baseball and basketball teams. He developed curriculum for and instructed a STEM class for pre-k and elementary children through Novi Community Education and helped found the Novi Mental Health Alliance. For a decade, he co-chaired the Princeton Prize in Race Relations Committee of Detroit, which awarded stipends to and recognized high school students making a positive impact on race relations.

What makes you qualified to be a school board member and why do you want to hold that position? What do you see as the role of a school board member?

Beaudoin: With 3 kids in the district,

I am invested in the success of our schools. I've regularly attended the school board meetings for two years. I have consistently advocated for our students and teachers. I am honored to have been endorsed by the Novi Education Association, as well as politicians, parents, and students. The school board sets the tone and priorities for our district. Through collaboration with the administration and community, the board has the power to develop policies that enhance our children's education. I want to serve the community I love and provide for each child, each day.

Hollman: I will always put the priorities of our students first. I am a Doctor of Pharmacy and have a data driven and analytical approach to problems that would have served our district well when there was confusion and over-reach about COVID dangers to students, leading to poor policy decisions. The primary role of a school board trustee is to hold the superintendent accountable, be responsive to input from parents, and always keep the best interest of students in mind.

Keller: I am qualified to be a school board member because I am just as much part of this community as the other three candidates. I am a parent of two students in the district and I am actively involved in the community. I want to be a school board member because I want to ensure the children in this community receive the best opportunities education has to offer. The role of a school board member is to represent the students, teachers, parents, and stakeholders in this district. This includes being active and present in the schools and in the community.

Michener: With over a decade of experience serving on boards along with my parliamentary education, I've the practical experience and knowledge to be an effective school board member in public board meetings and other forums. From almost 20 years as an engineer, I've honed in a methodical, systematic approach to problem solving and developed a process for continuous improvement necessary to remain a market leader, skills I can apply to guiding our district, ensuring it remains a 'Center of Excellence'. Lastly, I've never forgotten the lessons of teamwork and



Beaudoin



Hollman



Keller



Michener

dedication instilled in me from my 4 years of collegiate NCAA athletics.

Are you happy with the overall direction of the district? Why or why not?

Hollman: Yes. Our strength has, and always will be, our students and our teachers, who are really the ones that have made Novi a paragon of public schools in the State. Our district has been through a lot of division over the last 2 years related to COVID and other school board issues, but we appear to be on a great path forward with the hiring of Ben Mainka as our new Superintendent, the removal of COVID policies that negatively affected student learning the past 2 years, and on the way to a normal school year.

Keller: Overall, I am happy with the overall direction of the district. I am a Novi transplant. My family moved here in 2015 because of this excellent school district. My children have been able to thrive in this district and receive a much better start in life than I received back in Detroit. My children are intelligent, confident, and actively involved in the community. Myself, my husband, and Novi has taught them they can achieve anything and that they are not victims and are not oppressed. Like any school district, Novi has its problems, but nothing we cannot fix together.

Michener: Overall, NCSD excels at providing a high-quality education for a majority of our students, as reflected in 2022 U.S. News Rankings, along with offering a wealth of academic and extracurricular opportunities such as AP and IB courses as well our award-winning Frog Force FIRST Robotics team. However, I don't believe excellence is a given and there are things that the district should address: reducing the large and growing achievement gap for Black Novi students, creating paths for students seeking a non-collegiate postgraduate education and providing students with tools needed to cope with the academic and social stresses of adolescent life.

Beaudoin: I'm pleased with NCSD's many successes, but I know great schools don't happen by accident – they take continual effort. Novi has been an educational leader under the prior administration, and I'm committed to working with our new administration so we continue to grow and improve. Our world is constantly changing and our schools must adapt in response. We should serve each student, from preschoolers to adult learners, with appropriately challenging curriculum and real-world skills. I'll advocate for each child, each day because I see a bright future for NCSD and I'm ready to work to make that happen.

What should the school district's priorities be coming out of the COVID-19 pandemic, including how it spends ARPA funds?

Keller: Coming out of the pandemic, the school district's priorities should be on educating our children and restoring mental health and wellness. Regarding education, we need to focus on the fundamentals – Reading, Math, Science, Social Studies, English, and History. Regarding mental health, we need to focus on education and support. Our school counselors, social workers, and ARPA funds should be utilized to do more workshops for parents and students to attend. Students should be learning about warning signs that can alert them that a friend, a peer, or even themselves may be struggling. They should also be educated on how to seek help.

Michener: We need to recognize that we have just lived through something that no one alive today has ever lived through before. Everyone was impacted, although not all the same, and, just as the treatment and rehabilitation plans are different for a minor cut than a broken bone, so the district needs a variety of supports in place for students AND staff to help them heal and recover. Fortunately, there are 4 mental health grants available through Oakland County from ARPA funds totaling \$12m that our district can apply for to offset costs.

Beaudoin: ARPA funds are for school safety, academic recovery and social-emotional needs following the pandemic. The lack of connection during COVID has contributed to divisiveness in our country and a loss of trust in schools. It

See NOVI, Page 7A

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Breakfast chain First Watch opens first Novi restaurant

Susan Bromley

Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

First Watch decided it's finally time for Novi.

The popular breakfast chain selected the city for its 9th Michigan restaurant, opening the doors last week at 26054 Ingersol Drive, the former site of Bagger Dave's, in the Novi Town Center.

"We have been interested in Novi for the past three to four years," David Gaines, vice-president of central division for First Watch, said. "Since we entered the market, there has been a pent-up demand for a fresh approach to food. Michigan has embraced us. They love us, and we love them."

First Watch opened its first restaurant in California almost 40 years ago



First Watch is now open at 26054 Ingersol Drive in the Novi Town Center. SUSAN BROMLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

and now has 445 restaurants in 28 states. The chain arrived in Michigan in 2018, and its locations here include Livonia, Canton, and Northville.

Gaines attributes the company's success to two specific strategies: putting its employees first so they can in turn put customers first, and a food ethos that is "to follow the sun and source ingredients wherever and whenever they are in season."

Among the First Watch offerings are Avocado Toast, Smoked Salmon Eggs Benedict, Farm Stand Breakfast Tacos and Lemon Ricotta Pancakes.

Gaines' personal favorite is the chick-ichanga a concoction that includes whipped eggs, spicy all-natural chicken breast, chorizo, green chiles, Monterey Jack cheese, onions, avocado and topped with Veracruz sauce wrapped in a tortilla.

First Watch offers an array of fresh juices, which include "Purple Haze" made with lemon, cane sugar, butterfly

pea flower and a hint of lavender.

The restaurant also serves lunch and is expanding its alcoholic beverages, with cocktails including a Vodka Kale Tonic with gluten-free vodka, fresh juiced kale, Fuji apple, English cucumber and lemon and Cinnamon Toast Cereal Milk with coconut rum, cold brew coffee, coconut milk and agave nectar.

Gaines may be most proud of the restaurant's philanthropic efforts. A pre-opening family and friends event for the Novi location raised \$1,700 the V Foundation for Cancer Research. A similar effort will be undertaken for an Ann Arbor location opening in October.

First Watch is open 7 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., 7 days a week, for pickup, delivery and dine-in service.

Contact reporter Susan Bromley at sbromley@hometownlife.com.

Madonna University's film tradition simulates Hollywood

Shelby Tankersley Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Chris Nickin remembers being a student at Madonna University and making a roughly hour-long film with a group of other students.

Now, he's helping current students do the same thing during their final semesters of college. But instead of a motley crew of three or four film students, the tradition today takes a small army of students and volunteers.

His students pitch ideas, write scripts, shoot scenes and get in the editing room to make a bona fide film during their senior capstone class. Nicken, an adjunct instructor at Madonna who's worked as an actor, director and producer, runs the class alongside three other teachers. The class simulates what working on a Hollywood set would be like, meaning the students work long days.

"I know 10 hours sounds like a lot, but it doesn't even feel like that because we're having so much fun," said Jeremiah Brown, a senior and one of the producers on this year's film. "Our teachers say making a film is like summer camp for adults, which is exactly how it feels."



Madonna University film students and teachers watch a take of the student film, "2 Hearts, 2 Secrets." SHELBY TANKERSLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

This year, the class is mixing things up a little. They're making a shorter film than usual, shooting most scenes on campus and featuring a romance between two women.

"It is super different, and I think it's a great thing to bring awareness to on campus," said Madison Vinitski, a senior and producer. "We have LGBT clubs, but having this be the first friendly film feels good. It's feels good that our class is the first to do it."

Nicken said a shorter format will optimize students' chances at being chosen for film festivals and awards. Ma-

donna usually churns out a 90-minute or two-hour film, which is atypical when compared to other colleges.

Madonna usually isn't a set for the class — Nicken joked students are normally anxious to get off campus — but this year's film focuses on two college students. The short film, "2 Hearts, 2 Secrets" is a romance between a college softball player and a student radio DJ who both harbor secrets they're afraid will come to light. The production recently wrapped and will premiere in December.

"My character is very, very shy," said Ayres Went, a junior at Wayne State University playing one of the film's two leads. "I think it's less of a romance story, even though that is a major facet of it, but it's more of people coming to terms with who they are and who makes them who they are."

An average shooting day hosted 20-30 people who worked on the cast, crew and production teams. Brown and Vinitski, who are part of the 8-person capstone class, said the process simply couldn't happen without the friends and film fans who pitch in.

Contact reporter Shelby Tankersley at stankersle@hometownlife.com.

Novi

Continued from Page 6A

has negatively impacted the mental health and performance of students and staff. I view parents and educators as partners and would prioritize collaboration, connection, and mental health support to aid academic recovery. Taking an innovative approach to increasing access to mental health support in schools, creating belonging, and retaining experienced staff will re-stabilize our district and provide the foundation for learning.

Hollman: Our priorities should be student achievement and closing learning gaps that have widened as a direct result of COVID policies. This should include before and after school resources for students in need, as well as expansion of mental health resources available to families in the district. We should also invest resources into opportunities for students who are not pursuing a traditional college degree career path, be it small business entrepreneurship, the arts, or the trades. These students often fall through the cracks with so much focus on college preparation and it's time we address it in an intentional manner.

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South Lyon

Continued from Page 1A

master's degree in public administration. He has volunteered in his children's school, sports teams, his church and the South Lyon Education Foundation.

Ann Rimanelli has lived in South Lyon for more than 20 years and is the mother of three children who have attended South Lyon Community Schools from preschool through high school. She has participated on parent boards of the Early Childhood Center, Brummer PTO and Boosters for the high school band and theatre programs, all in various leadership roles. She served as a member of the Strategic Planning Committee and the related curriculum subcommittee. Professionally, she had more than 25 years of experience in the financial services industry.

What makes you qualified to be a school board member and why do you want to hold that position? What do you see as the role of a school board member?

Miriam Corvino: My talents and professional accomplishments include a background in research & analysis, finance, and project management. The school board would benefit from my history of mining out legitimate data sets and sources, providing evaluation and analysis, and then presenting a data-driven, fact-supported summary of my conclusions to support evidence-based educational policies. As a school board member, I will serve my community in a nonpartisan manner according to the Revised School Code, which in part includes cooperating with parents.

Stephanie Junkulis-Pierce: I have spent the last 16 months serving as an SLCS board of education member in a nonpartisan capacity. I have been able to take my 17 years of experience as an attorney and apply my knowledge of corporate governance and legal skills as an active and engaged participant during board meetings. I am an ardent practitioner of servant leadership and believe in every parent's ability to support their community through active involvement. Board members set the overall direction of SLCS and must act in the best interests of students, em-

power and support all SLCS staff, and represent the community.

Patrick Maguire: My qualifications include experience in leadership, management, planning and de-escalation. Additionally, I have a Masters in Public Administration, focused on public organizations. All of these provide me with the skills to work on a team like the SLCS board that sets the direction and policy for the district. The job of board member is to establish framework and structure to help the district achieve its vision. This means handling budget and policy issues, and allowing administration and staff (experts in their respective fields) to do the day-to-day job of leading and educating.

Ann Rimanelli: I have served the district in various capacities at multiple school levels, providing well-rounded insight for those decisions which impact all levels of the district. With 25 years experience in the financial services industry my skills in risk management and compliance will benefit the district. The school board is a critical, transparent link to South Lyon's schools; it looks out for students and ensures students get the best education for the tax dollars spent. Members are accessible to the public and accountable for the performance of their schools. It is important to work with the community to improve student achievement.

Are you happy with the overall direction of the district? Why or why not?

Junkulis-Pierce: Yes, I am happy with the direction of the district. Our community became divided due to COVID protocol decisions. The district must earn the trust of the community and continue to evolve, seek, and implement enhancements based on community feedback. All students must have the opportunities to perform at the highest levels. The district's largest gap is the middle school education experience. We must put mechanisms and structure in place to ensure the well-being of students during the transition from elementary school to high school to provide the ability to thrive and gain the required skills to navigate high school.

Maguire: I am happy overall with the



Corvino



Maguire



Junkulis-Pierce



Rimanelli

district. I see educators and staff working every day to provide quality education for students. The district was able to navigate very difficult years during the pandemic. We have quality facilities and resources for our students. That said, I don't think we should ever be content with status quo; we should always looking for ways to improve. As we put COVID behind us, I feel the district should be looking for creative ways to move forward with a growing community.

Rimanelli: Yes, I feel the district is moving in the right direction but the path is not a straight line. The district is operating in a fiscally responsible manner, however, a shortage of, or limitation on, funds places constraints on opportunities made available to students. A growing population base makes it difficult to appropriately plan for facility and staffing requirements, leading to redistricting issues and facility constraints. We can continue to work with other municipalities, like Oakland Technical Campus, and area businesses, through municipal economic development coordinators, to support initiatives that allow our students to explore opportunities in skilled trades.

Corvino: SLCS is losing at academic proficiency. The 2021 M-STEP and PSAT measurements for SLCS indicate that roughly half of students assessed in grades 3-8 are struggling academically. According to MI School Data, the combined "Not Proficient" and "Partially and Not Proficient" scores average 59% of students overall in English Language Arts – with Back to Basics reporting a 40% literacy gap – and 69% of students overall in Mathematics. This is vastly different from where we were just ten years ago when 4% of our students (grades 2-7) struggled with reading and 13% with Mathematics.

What should the school district's priorities be coming out of the COVID-19 pandemic, including how it spends ARPA funds?

Maguire: The district should be focused on how to handle a community that continues to grow. South Lyon's growth provides exciting opportunities to adapt along with an increasingly diverse population. The district should be ensuring that equal opportunities are available to all students, in all buildings. Additional district funding should be prioritized for securing and retaining the best educators available to ensure our students have access to the finest educational opportunities in an environment which is conducive to learning and not overcrowded.

Rimanelli: Now that our children are back in the classroom, I believe the district needs to focus on learning recovery. ARPA allows discretionary funds to be spent at the school level to meet the unique needs of those buildings. I would support providing up to date, research-based assessments and materials to identify students who are struggling academically or those with social-emotional difficulties. I would encourage providing professional development training for crisis intervention and I would like to see the schools purchasing subscriptions to on-line programs and resource materials. In addition, the district should upgrade and replace technology as needed.

Corvino: The district's priority should have been and should continue to be in-person learning. Neighboring area schools continued to provide in-person teaching during Covid with no health consequences as a result. In contrast, SLCS seriously interrupted the learning process for our students, which may explain some of the proficiency gap I mentioned. As to ARPA funds, every penny should be spent on the academic needs of students and geared toward resolving the significant learning loss we are experiencing.

Junkulis-Pierce: SLCS must continue to focus on hiring the required levels of support staff and purchasing the necessary tools to address the emotional and behavioral issues of our students. If teachers have the appropriate administrative and behavioral support, then teachers can be focused on teaching and individualizing the education experience. Additionally, funds must be used to close the learning gap and loss that occurred during the last two years to ensure that all students are performing at or above grade level.

FIND THE WORDS

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated at right. Find the listed words in the grid. They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once. Ring each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 19 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

causticwordgames.com.au

Aluminum	Crops	Home	Outback
Arid	Dairy	Hope	Red soil
Athletes	Dams	Iron	Rivers
Bull	Emeralds	Lakes	Snow
Bush	Emus	Lead	Splend
Cattle	Fire	Manganese	Surf
Cities	Flora	one	Tank
Clark	Fruit	Meat	Vast
Coal	Genial	Oceans	Wood
Copper	Goats	Opals	Zinc
Corn	Gold	Opulent	
Cotton	Healthcare	engine	

TODAY'S ANSWER

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

PUZZLES & POSERS

PARTNER — **RELATE**
INNERMOST — **SUGGEST**

THERE ARE MANY WORDS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE WHICH HAVE MORE THAN ONE PRONUNCIATION YET HAVE THE SAME MEANING. ~ IN THIS PUZZLE YOU MUST FIND A WORD FOR EACH MISSING LINKS

MIDDLE LINK WHICH NOT ONLY HAS TWO DIFFERENT PRONUNCIATIONS, BUT ALSO HAS TWO DIFFERENT MEANINGS. CLUES FOR EACH WORD ARE FOUND IN THE END LINKS OF EACH CHAIN.

WORTHLESS — **DISABLED**
TOURNAMENT — **OPPOSE**

SUDOKU | CREATORS

Insert numbers 1-9 in each box with every row, column and 3x3 box containing the digits just once. Difficulty level ranges from Bronze (easiest) to Silver to Gold (hardest) RATING: GOLD

TODAY'S ANSWER

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

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

NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Not a slow throw
- 6 Nautical prefix
- 10 Bid for attention
- 14 Detective's alternative to dusting
- 15 It falls in Genesis 7
- 16 Foes, for short
- 17 Scratch off
- 18 Small handul
- 19 Amazon's origin
- 20 Rock that can form in petrified wood
- 21 Double quattro
- 22 Put a brand on
- 23 Gershwin orchestral sequel
- 26 Where the tallest statue of the ancient world stood
- 27 South American "Historical Capital"
- 29 Erstwhile microgravity research center
- 32 It has an Arabian Sea coast
- 33 Anthropomorphic amphibian of kid lit
- 34 Mouthguard recommender
- 35 Felipe, desde 2014
- 36 Polish place
- 37 GPS reading
- 38 One of motorsports' Triple Crown
- 40 Certain foreign filmdom
- 41 About 9% of Webster's
- 42 Partially
- 43 Goes green, perhaps
- 45 Highs and lows

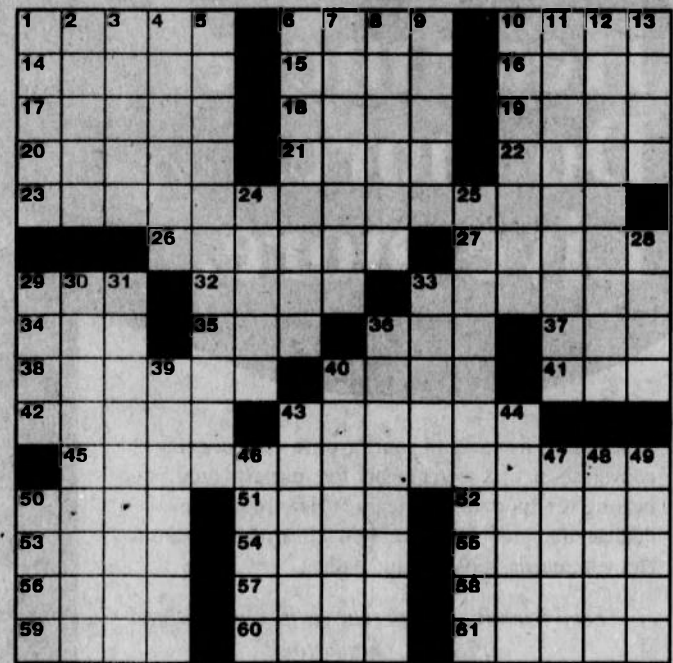
- 50 Maritime crew chief
- 51 Fix mentally
- 52 Hercules emulators
- 53 Ennemie antonym
- 54 Work up
- 55 Editorialize
- 56 "How often I have __ upon the grass": Dickens
- 57 One leaving in the spring
- 58 City southeast of Wichita
- 59 City southwest of Wichita
- 60 Piquancy
- 61 Articulate

DOWN

- 1 What some collars keep off
- 2 Goody

- 3 Epistle to the Hebrews VIP
- 4 Advisor to Achilles
- 5 Lone Ranger's grand-nephew
- 6 What forest replanting supports
- 7 Worldly
- 8 They're thrown from horses
- 9 Above all
- 10 Exits abruptly
- 11 Take it slow
- 12 They keep Silly String
- 13 Travel around
- 24 Rounds of some pro sports?
- 25 Visual aids for tech support
- 28 Works for compliments
- 29 __ liquor
- 30 Font of creativity

- 31 Valley of the Kings pharaoh
- 33 Rousseau's "source of all the false ideas of society"
- 36 Bettor's buy
- 39 Finished
- 43 Travels around
- 44 Turn in
- 46 Come forward
- 46 Its first fleet was Model Ts
- 47 First name on the first Literature Nobel nominations list
- 48 "Where Brilliance Belongs"
- 49 Go quietly
- 50 Wholesale measure of wool



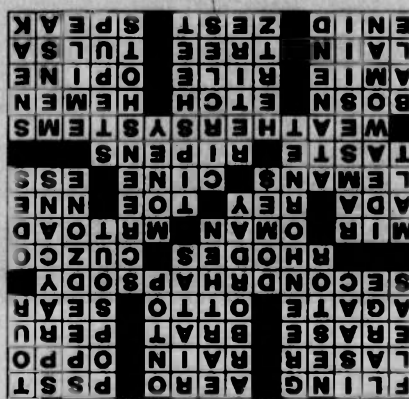
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TODAY'S ANSWER

1. ASSOCIATE
2. INTIMATE
3. INVAITE
4. CONTEST



NOITMOS



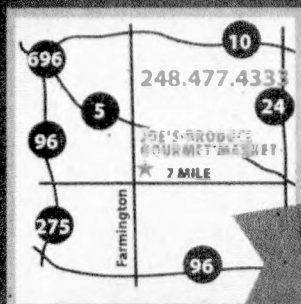


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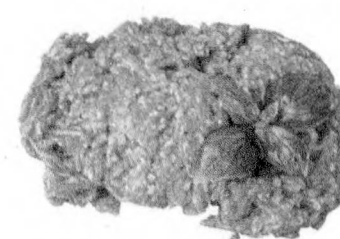
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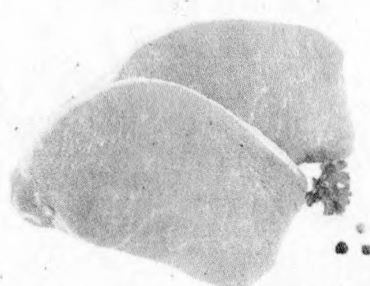
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FRESH ALL NATURAL
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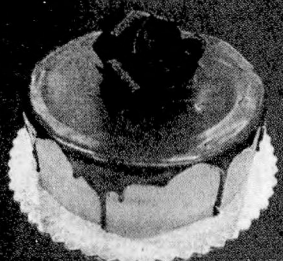
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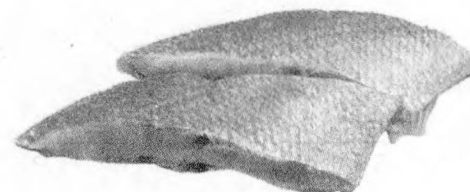
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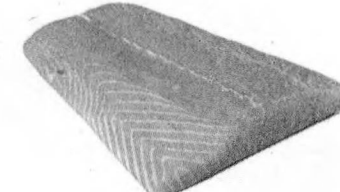
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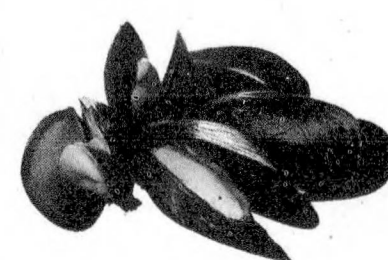
FRESH
RUBY RED
TROUT FILLETS
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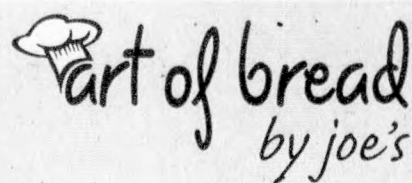
MAHI MAHI
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PEELED & DEVEINED
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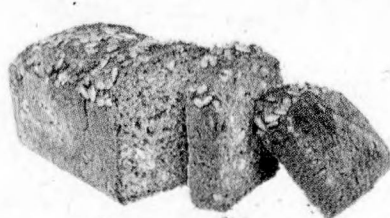
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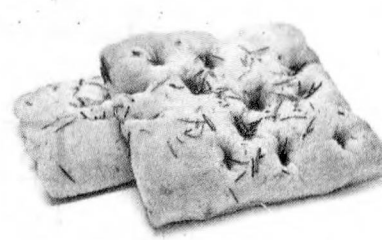
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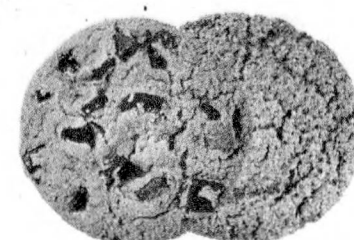
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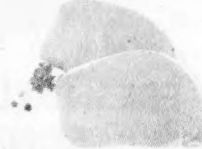
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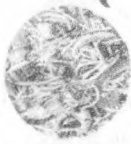
CASTELLO
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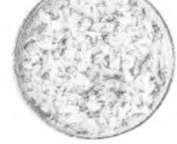
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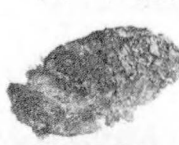
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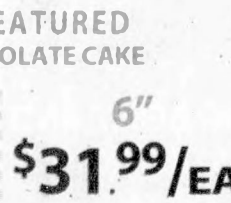
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SPORTS



Redford Union's Cory Chavis passes against Garden City on Sept. 30. BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Redford Union building program 'piece by piece'

Brandon Folsom
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Ian Iler had no interest in becoming a head coach.

Heck, he didn't even want to be an offensive or defensive coordinator.

He just enjoyed showing up to practices and developing players.

And that's what he did as a positional coach at his various stops, which included helping Canton, Westland John Glenn and Siena Heights University as well as a few different youth instructional programs.

But a new job in 2017 as a positive behavior interventions and support specialist got him back to Redford Union Schools, where he graduated in 2005, and an opportunity to lead his own program popped up a year later.

Iler joined the staff of longtime Pan-

thers coach Miles Tomasaitis and quickly realized just how much talent their small community in northern Wayne County was harboring.

"I was helping Miles when he was the head coach, and I was like, 'Redford's got so much talent,' and then you look at Belleville. You look at (River) Rouge. You look at (Detroit) King," Iler said following RU's 47-21 win over Garden City last week. "They've had Redford kids on their rosters. That's why I always say it's about keeping the kids here and building something they can be proud of."

"I know that I'm proud of it because I went to it. But at the end of the day, if we can build something that can have them be proud of it themselves, they don't have to drive somewhere and waste their gas. They can be right here in their own district winning championships and getting scholarships. Right here."

One year after Iler returned to RU, To-

masaitis stepped down as the head coach after leading the team for 13 seasons and posting a 61-60 record so he could become the school's athletic director.

Iler jumped at the opportunity to replace Tomasaitis and hasn't second-guessed himself once.

He had a tough first year, going 2-7. But ever since, the program has been on the rise.

They've made the playoffs three straight seasons, and they've already secured a postseason berth this fall.

A year ago, they won the Western Wayne Athletic Conference with a 7-0 league record. It marked the first time since the Panthers won the Michigan Mega Conference-Gold in 2004 that they had won a league title. That was Iler's junior season.

See REDFORD UNION, Page 3B

Our Week 7 high school football rankings

Brandon Folsom
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Sports reporter Brandon Folsom is back with his weekly top-10 football rankings:

10. Farmington (4-2, 2-1 OAA-Blue; Last week: Unranked)

The Falcons are still alive in the Oakland Activities Association-Blue title race, despite dropping a division game to Troy two weeks ago. They got just the bounce-back performance they needed in a crossover matchup with Pontiac in Week 6, and they should pick up another confidence-building win against Ferndale this week.

Just how good is Farmington? We'll find out in the de facto OAA-Blue championship game in Week 8 when undefeated Birmingham Seaholm comes to town.

A win for the Maples gives them the outright title. A win for the Falcons means both teams would finish 3-1 in the division.

9. Novi (4-2, 4-1 KLAA-West; Last week: No. 10)

The Wildcats wrapped up their three-game stint against the Plymouth-Canton Educational Park by going 3-0 and outscoring Salem, Canton and Plymouth by a combined score of 112-16.

It's going to get a lot tougher for Novi the rest of the way. It has a trap game type of matchup against Howell this week before it visits rival Northville in Week 8. Then it will take on either Livonia Franklin or Dearborn in the Kensington Lakes Activities Association crossover in the regular-season finale before the playoffs start.

8. South Lyon East (5-1, 4-1 LVC; Last week: No. 9)

The Cougars should beat White Lake Lakeland this week. That win would tie the program record for most wins in a single season (6). That's saying something because they'll still have matchups against Milford and South Lyon left before the regular season concludes. And then they'll get at least one playoff game.

Assuming South Lyon East can avoid another catastrophic injury to a key starter (QB Nico Campo was lost against Walled Lake Western in Week 4), this team should go down as the all-time winningest since the school started playing the sport in 2008.

See RANKINGS, Page 2B

Top performers in Week 6 of high school football

Brandon Folsom
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Week 6 of the Michigan high school football season is in the books. Let's take a look at the stat leaders around the Hometown Life coverage area.

Is your team missing stat leaders? Encourage your coaches to send stats to

sports reporter Brandon Folsom at bfolsom@hometownlife.com.

Catholic League

Orchard Lake St. Mary's 15, Brother Rice 7 (CHSL-Central)

The Warriors (2-4, 1-2) wrapped up division play with Andrew Kulka catching a pass for their lone TD.

Macomb Lutheran North 37, Cranbrook 23 (CHSL-Intersectional 1)

The Cranes fell to 2-4 overall and 1-2 in the division.

Warren De La Salle 28, Detroit Catholic Central 0 (CHSL-Central) (Boys Bowl)

LB Brayden Courser recovered a fumble for the Shamrocks, who fell to 4-2 overall and 1-1 in the division.

Independent

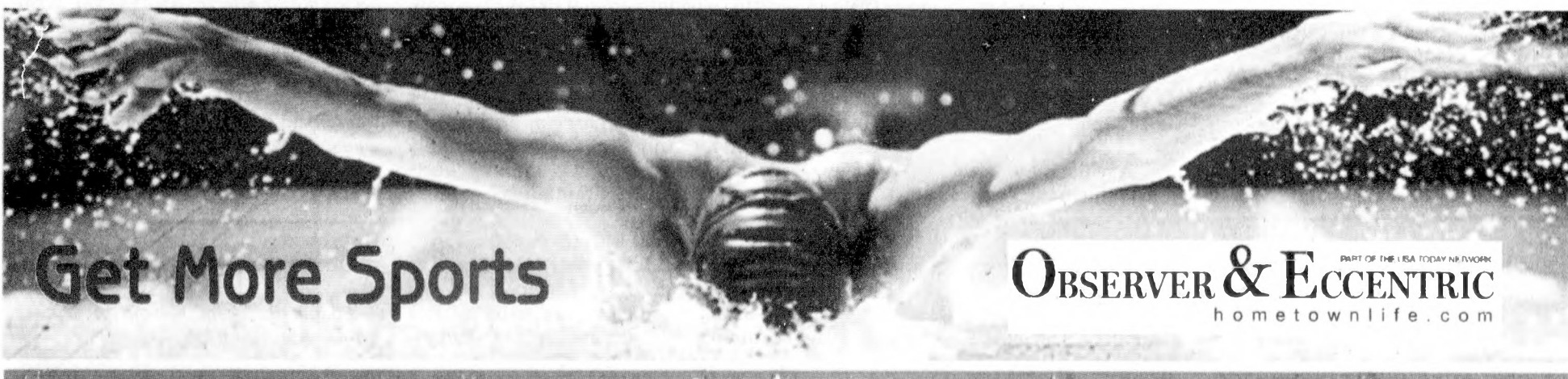
Livonia Clarenceville 24, Taylor 20

The Trojans improved to 4-2 overall.

Detroit Country Day 35, Flint Powers Catholic 10

RB Gabe Winowich ran for TDs of 58 and 60 yards for the Yellowjackets (4-1).

See WEEK 6, Page 7B



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Four questions for Week 7

Brandon Folsom
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Sports reporter Brandon Folsom asks the important questions entering Week 7 of the Michigan high school football season.

Can the Cougars make the playoffs?

Garden City entered the 2022 season with two goals in mind: Win a league championship for the first time in three decades and qualify for the postseason.

The Cougars (3-3, 3-2) will not be accomplishing their first goal, as they lost to defending Western Wayne Athletic Conference champion Redford Union, 47-21, in Week 6. The Panthers (6-0, 5-0) are one win away from clinching the league title outright, which there's no question they'll get that done against either Melvindale or Redford Thurston.

But making the postseason for the first time since 2018 is still on the table for Garden City. They have winnable games against Dearborn Heights Annapolis, Dearborn Heights Robichaud and Pontiac to close out the regular season.

"We don't have any more room for error the rest of the season," coach Thomas Michalsen said. "Annapolis is the next team on our schedule, and it's homecoming week. We've got to do the little things right, but homecoming week is always a coach's worst nightmare."

Garden City was actually in a position to take the lead against Union, but it fumbled its chances.

Senior running back Owen McGraw scored the second of his three TDs on a 10-yard run to make it a 20-13 score. The Cougars forced a punt on Union's ensuing possession and even blocked the kick.

Alas, they fumbled the ball right back to the Panthers. Moments later, Union QB Cory Chavis hit Jamel Belcher for a 69-yard TD pass, and Garden City could never recover.

They had the upset win right there in their grasps.

"The turnovers just cost us," McGraw said. "It was really just all the mistakes. We came out and played hard. It was really just the mistakes and turnovers that hurt us in the end."

Garden City had a taste of the post-season experience during the COVID-19 shortened season two years ago. That's when the Michigan High School Athletics Association allowed every team to qualify for the playoffs. The Cougars lost 41-0 to South Lyon East in the district opener.

For seniors such as McGraw, actually earning a playoff berth is important to his class. They don't want any handouts or freebies this time around.

McGraw's class wants to be the foundation for any future success the Cougars might have.

"I totally understand that (our team isn't playing for a state championship in 2022)," McGraw added. "I texted coach and told him I fully realize we're building something special here, and I'm OK with being the stepping-stone class so the next 10-15 years can be successful

here. That's why making the playoffs would mean a lot. It hasn't been done in 5 years besides that COVID year. We're just building something special for the younger kids coming up."

What position will Gabe Winowich play in college?

Detroit Country Day junior Gabe Winowich rushed for two touchdowns during Saturday's 35-10 homecoming victory over Flint Powers Catholic.

That puts him at around 700 yards and nine TDs rushing for the season (and the Yellowjackets had a bye in Week 5). Which is part of the reason Hometown Life included the running back on our mid-season Player of the Year watch list a week ago.

But the four-star isn't getting recruited by big-time colleges to run the ball. Most of them want him to play on defense. He's listed as an athlete in 247Sports' recruiting database. And plenty of schools have talked to him about playing defensive end, linebacker or strong safety. But he's still holding out hope he can catch on as a running back at the next level.

"I would love to run the ball in college," he said. "I really believe that I can. Some people want me to play defense. But my whole thing is I'd like to have the ability to come on campus and have the ability to play running back. If I can't prove myself, I have no problem playing defense."

Winowich already holds offers from Maryland and Rutgers.

More interest will be coming. He's already 6-foot-1 and 220 pounds. He's built like a Division I player, for sure.

And he's definitely built like a running back.

He has breakaway speed. He showed that on his 60-yard TD run to close out Saturday's victory. And he's slippery, which is something he also showed on the game's second play, as he stumbled out of a few tackles, corrected course and raced 58 yards for a hard-fought TD. Plus, he's built like a Mack truck. He has no problem bowling over tacklers. But it's also hard to overlook just how good of a tackler he is while playing defensive end.

"I'm not against playing defense, but my first choice is to run the football," Winowich added.

Winowich plans to make his college announcement next August before Country Day kicks off its 2023 season. Will he be committing as a linebacker or safety, or will he get his wish and land somewhere as a tailback?

Can the Maples finish the regular season undefeated?

Birmingham Seaholm (6-0, 3-0) should have no problem beating 2-4 Berkley in an Oakland Activities Association crossover matchup this week.

But the Maples have two challenging games to close out the regular season.

They face Farmington (4-2, 2-1) in Week 7. A win for Seaholm gives them a perfect record in the Blue and the outright championship. A win for the

See **QUESTIONS**, Page 3B



Salem's Robert Jones (center) gets pulled down by Novi's Niko Hertrich (left) and Niko Krall (right) on Sept. 9. RAYVON DELMONTA/SPECIAL TO HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Our high school picks for Week 7

Brandon Folsom
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Sports reporter Brandon Folsom picks the winners from the five biggest matchups this week. He went 4-1 picking games last week and is 24-6 on the season.

All games kick off at 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 7.

Detroit Catholic Central (4-2, 1-1) at Orchard Lake St. Mary's (2-4, 1-1) (CHSL-Central)

Except for a few exciting plays from backup QB Skyler Hunter, the Shamrocks looked passive offensively in last week's loss to Warren De La Salle.

They must find a way to score points in order to avoid getting upset by the Eagles, who did just that to Brother Rice with a 15-7 win in Week 6.

What's more, a loss to Orchard Lake St. Mary's means the Pilots walk away as the Catholic League-Central champions. A win for Detroit Catholic Central ensures both teams finish the league slate at 2-1 overall.

Folsom's pick: Detroit Catholic Central 42, Orchard Lake St. Mary's 12

Salem (0-6, 0-5) at Canton (1-5, 1-4) (KLAA-West)

Livonia Franklin, Plymouth and Brighton have proven that a strong rushing attack can beat the Chiefs.

The Rocks certainly have a strong rushing attack with Robert Jones leading the charge. The senior is an old-school, smash-mouth runner and about as throwback as they come between the tackles.

Expect the winless Rocks to enter Week 7 hungry. Not only is it a Park rivalry game, but it's also likely their best shot at winning a game until their KLAA crossover matchup (likely against Wayne Memorial) in Week 9.

Folsom's pick: Salem 21, Canton 17.

Howell (3-3, 2-3) at Novi (4-2, 4-1) (KLAA-West)

The Wildcats have won every game they've been the favorite to win. They don't fall victim to the trap game.

Well, Week 7 is another trap game. It'd be easy to get caught looking ahead to their Week 8 matchup against rival Northville. So they better not do that. They must take care of business against the Highlanders, which I fully expect them to do.

Folsom's pick: Novi 35, Howell 21.

South Lyon East (5-1, 4-1) at White Lake Lakeland (3-3, 3-3) (LVC)

While the Eagles are still rebuilding, it was great to see them win the Battle of Bogie Lake Road against rival Walled Lake Northern a week ago. This week's test will be much tougher, however.

The Cougars are on pace to finish as the third- or fourth-best team in the Lakes Valley Conference. There's no denying how well Walled Lake Western and South Lyon have played. But it'll be interesting to see who finishes in third place between Waterford Mott, Milford and South Lyon East.

East cannot afford to drop a winnable road game at White Lake Lakeland.

Folsom's pick: South Lyon East 45, White Lake Lakeland 18.

Romulus (1-5, 1-4) at Redford Thurston (0-6, 0-5) (WWAC)

This matchup is likely Redford Thurston's last chance to win a game in 2022.

Romulus beat Dearborn Heights Robichaud by one score in Week 3, but it's been one of the worst teams in the Western Wayne Athletic Conference. It has actually scored fewer points (67) than winless Thurston (89).

Thurston's issue has been finishing games. Twice, it has lost by the score of 22-21. It should be 2-4 right now.

Folsom's pick: Redford Thurston 26, Romulus 19.

Rankings

Continued from Page 1B

7. Northville (5-1, 4-1 KLAA-West; Last Week: No. 7)

Traveling to Hartland is never an easy feat. But I don't need to tell the Mustangs that. They've never beaten the Eagles once in football. Seriously. Hartland has gone 4 for 4 against Northville since the two were aligned in the same division of the KLAA four years ago, and it leads the all-time series, 4-0. And the games haven't even been close, as the Eagles have won by an average margin of victory of 21.5 points.

But this is a new and improved Northville squad. It should put up more of a fight this time around. Week 7 should be a good test for the Mustangs.

6. Detroit Catholic Central (4-2, 1-1 CHSL-Central; Last week: No. 1)

It might be too harsh to drop the Shamrocks five spots in the rankings after losing to the defending Division 2 state champions. But they didn't show too much fight against Warren De La Salle during the Boys Bowl.

The defense played well enough to win, giving up just 28 points and even holding De La Salle scoreless in the third quarter. But the offense just couldn't get

anything going. There were fumbles, dropped catches and blown assignments along the offensive line.

Detroit Catholic Central will bounce back with a win over Orchard Lake St. Mary's this week, but it must sort out its offensive woes before the playoffs start at the end of the month.

5. Detroit Country Day (4-1; Last week: No. 6)

The Yellowjackets are quietly having a great season.

Their lone loss was in Week 4 against South Lyon, a D-2 team with twice its enrollment.

They had a bye the following week, but they got just the bounce-back performance in a 35-10 homecoming thumping of Flint Powers Catholic this past weekend.

They have a challenging schedule to end the regular season, but each game is winnable, including that Week 8 matchup against Brother Rice. The Warriors have struggled this season, and it could be perfect timing for Detroit Country Day to snap its two-game losing streak to big brother up the road.

4. Birmingham Seaholm (6-0, 3-0 OAA-Blue; Last week: No. 5)

Out of all the teams on the Maples' schedule so far, Troy had the best chance of knocking off Birmingham Seaholm. And it just didn't happen. Sea-

holm crushed the 2021 OAA-Blue runner-ups to the tune of 52-0, and it was its most-dominant performance yet.

The Maples should keep this going. I expect them to beat Farmington to win the division title. It'll be a coin flip if they beat rival Birmingham Groves in the regular-season finale. But it doesn't matter what happens in that game. It'll already have a playoff spot locked up and, likely, home-field advantage as well.

3. Redford Union (6-0, 5-0 WWAC; Last week: No. 4)

Garden City proved that the Panthers are, indeed, human. Only the Cougars didn't have enough depth and discipline to pull off the upset at Redford Union. It was a one-score game at one point, and Garden City had the perfect opportunity to knot the score. It probably could've garnered enough mojo to take the lead, too.

But maybe getting punched in the mouth will prove to be a good thing for Union. Steamrolling every opponent doesn't help them learn how to deal with adversity. And the Panthers definitely dealt with adversity in last week's Western Wayne Athletic Conference game.

2. Livonia Franklin (6-0, 4-0 KLAA-East; Last week: No. 3)

It wasn't a surprise to see the Patriots claim the outright Livonia City Champi-

onship a week ago, nor was it surprising seeing Livonia Stevenson QB ArJon Thompson keeping the game close early. But the Patriots pulled away late and picked up the admirable 24-7 victory against the Spartans.

Livonia Franklin faces rebuilding Dearborn Fordson this week. And it should be another big win that allows the Patriots to get each backup some playing experience. But they must leave this matchup unscathed. They're going to need every playmaker they have when they meet top-ranked Belleville for the KLAA-East title in Week 8.

1. South Lyon (5-1, 4-1 LVC; Last week: No. 2)

This week will be the Lions' final easy win before the schedule starts to heat up for the rest of the year. They face Walled Lake Northern in Week 7, and they should win by another big score. The biggest challenge will be escaping without injuries to key players.

But back-to-back games against Waterford Mott and South Lyon East await them. And then the playoffs start. Each week should get incrementally more challenging until their season ends. And that's going to be either them losing deep in the playoffs or them winning the state championship.

Out of the top-10 rankings: Milford (3-3, 2-3 LVC; Last week: No. 8)

Follow Brandon Folsom on Twitter @folsombrandonj.

Questions

Continued from Page 2B

Falcons makes it a two-way tie between the two teams. Judging by how well the Maples performed in their shutout against Troy, last year's OAA-Blue runner-ups, a week ago, they should be the favorite when they meet Farmington in two weeks.

But their regular-season finale should be a tougher one. Not only is it a rivalry game against Birmingham Groves (4-2) but these Falcons play in the tougher OAA-White. Groves should be more battle-tested against better op-

ponents, considering it'll enter the finale having already played against three-star QB Isaiah Marshall at Southfield A&T and Bloomfield Hills QB CJ Jackson, who led the Black Hawks to the OAA-Blue title in 2021.

But the fact we're talking about Seaholm going undefeated in the regular season is wild considering the Maples were abysmal last year. They went 1-8 overall and scored seven or fewer points in four of their nine games.

Which Community Chest card will the Patriots pull from the deck of Monopoly cards?

Livonia Franklin's season is shaking

out a lot like a game of Monopoly.

The Patriots (6-0, 5-0) should be undefeated when they meet defending state champion Belleville (6-0, 5-0) in Week 8. On the line is the right to remain undefeated, the Kensington Lakes Activities Association-East championship and a chance to play in the KLAA championship (which will be a likely matchup against Brighton).

The Tigers seem almost unbeatable. Not only do they look better than last year's Division I state title team but they also return a slew of future college football stars. That includes Bryce Underwood, the No. 1-ranked sophomore QB in the country, according to 247Sports. It's too early to rule out a Franklin up-

set because it is, indeed, possible of happening. Heck, Livonia Churchill was the only team to beat the Tigers a year ago, so why can't the Patriots muster a similar kind of effort?

So how does this relate to Monopoly? Beating Belleville will be a lot like drawing the "Advanced To Go (Collect \$200)" card from the Community Chest. Doing so usually sets you up to have even more success down the road.

Losing to Belleville will be a lot like drawing the "You Have Won Second Prize In A Beauty Contest (Collect \$10)" card. Sure, finishing in second place in the KLAA-East is admirable. But who cares? Advancing to the KLAA championship is the main goal here.

Redford Union

Continued from Page 1B

And already in 2022, they're undefeated. They knocked off Pewamo-Westphalia, winners of two of the past three Division 7 state championships, in the season opener and have won five-straight WWAC games since. A win over Melvindale this week ensures them at least a share of the league title. And a win over winless Redford Thurston in Week 8 gives them the championship outright.

The Panthers had made the playoffs only five times before Iler took over.

Now qualifying for the postseason has become the standard. This year marks just the 30th time in the past 72 years that RU will have a record over .500. But having near-perfect regular seasons has become the standard.

Watching the best athletes in the school district transfer to football powerhouses elsewhere has plagued the Panthers for years.

But having Division I college coaches stop by Iler's office to recruit his home-grown talent has become the standard.

And having as many as 45 players on the JV team has become the standard.

"Honestly, man, everybody says brick by brick," Iler added. "But we like to say we've built it from the dirt. We sowed a lot of the seeds. We've kept a lot of the kids in Redford that would normally go to other places. That's been the main factor. And, yeah, we get some



Redford Union's Ian Iler watches his offense play against Garden City on Sept. 30.

BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

kids that come from other places, too. But we build them up.

"We build them up, and we love them up. We're hard on them, super hard on them. But at the same time, we tell them how special they can be. That's the thing we're trying to get to them: Don't take for granted what you're doing. Every single team since 2018 has left something behind. Now this team is going to leave something behind that we think can be really special. But we're also trying to keep them humble at the same time."

And that has to do with just how much talent the Panthers have.

Leading the defense is three-star linebacker Jeremiah Alston, who is committed to Central Michigan University.

Their backfield is crowded with

about three or four guys who could start at running back at most other D-4 schools, including starters Dawaune Strickland, Daquan Davis and Javerious Shepherd. And even Alston runs the ball.

Their receiving depth is about as deep as you can get with Kyren Ware, Jamel Belcher II and Dematthew Dixon.

And their quarterback is as reliable as they come in 6-foot-5 pocket passer Cory Chavis.

"It's been great. It's just been a full turnaround," said Chavis, a second-year starter who tossed TD passes to Ware (39 yards) and Belcher (69) against the Cougars. "Last year, we had our beginning stages. I've worked with my receivers in the off-season, and we just got our timing together."

One of Iler's biggest challenges is realizing that Chavis has only one football to share among eight or so different playmakers each week.

That's why the fifth-year coach has encouraged his guys to make the most of their opportunity when they actually do get the ball. He likes to ride the hot hand. Sometimes guys will get three touches per game, others will get 10 or 12.

But regardless of how many touches you get in his offense, you better be making house calls. You might not touch it again for a few quarters.

And that strategy has worked. It's not out of the ordinary to see a receiver have three catches for over 100 yards or a running back have fewer than 15 rushes but have three or four TDs.

And rarely do his guys have off

nights.

"It's hard work, but we're staying consistent, and we're keeping motivated," said Strickland, who rushed for three TDs this past week. "It's amazing. We really put in the work. It's not possible if the team doesn't stay consistent and just stay locked in."

The Panthers are just three wins away from finishing with an undefeated regular season for only the second time in program history. The 1998 team went 9-0 but lost its regional opener to Dearborn, 34-27.

Michigan high school football is going through an era of "Keeping up with the Jones." There's no transfer portal, but there are plenty of transfers. Players are leaving home every day for better opportunities down the road. It's like a free agency with an a la carte menu.

By focusing on themselves, the Panthers have navigated those troubled waters well. By building something special at home, they're making RU look like a great place to play to outsiders. And they're keeping their kids at home, in the district.

Going undefeated at RU might have seemed unbelievable in 2018. Now it's the expectation.

"This year, the mantra is 'Us vs. us,'" Iler added. "We know what to expect from our opponents. But throughout the week, we're not playing for Garden City. We're not playing for (Dearborn Heights) Crestwood. We're playing for Redford Union. If we do what we're supposed to do, piece by piece and detail by detail, you won't lose."

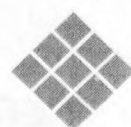
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Five must-see games for Week 7 high school football

Brandon Folsom
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Sports reporter Brandon Folsom breaks down the five biggest matchups taking place during Week 7 of the MHSAA football season.

All games kick off at 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 7.

Detroit Catholic Central (4-2, 1-1) at Orchard Lake St. Mary's (2-4, 1-1) (CHSL-Central)

The crowd showed up. The Shamrocks' offense did not. While hundreds and hundreds of cars littered the fields adjacent to the auxiliary parking lots at Detroit Catholic Central, the alumni didn't get the performance they were expecting from the Shamrocks in the 78th annual Boys Bowl on Sunday.

Defending Division 2 state champion Warren De La Salle beat them 28-0 and made it a two-way tie atop of the Catholic League-Central standings.

The Shamrocks entered the matchup with a chance to take a 2-0 division record to Orchard Lake St. Mary's this week. Instead, they lost to the Pilots, and now CC must beat the Eagles to ensure it shares the league title with DLS, as both teams would finish the league slate at 2-1 overall.

This week's trip to northwest Orchard Lake was going to be a special one, but that loss to the Pilots has taken away some of its sheen. Still, it's important that CC takes care of business in this one.

Salem (0-6, 0-5) at Canton (1-5, 1-4) (KLAA-West)

The Rocks have an opportunity to close out the 2022 season on a three-game winning streak and give first-year coach Brendan Murphy something to build on entering the off-season.

Up next are back-to-back Park rivalry matchups against Plymouth and Canton, which are both winnable games as the Wildcats and Chiefs have won just two games between the two of them.

Salem will close out the slate with a Kensington Lakes Activities Association crossover game.



Novi's Preston Phimister sacks Belleville's Bryce Underwood during the Xenith Prep Kickoff Classic on Aug. 26 at Wayne State University. BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

How well they do in the next two weeks will determine how tough of a matchup that game will be. If they drop both rivalry games, they'll get Wayne Memorial. If they steal a game against either Canton or Plymouth, they'll likely face Livonia Churchill to end the season. Or maybe Dearborn Fordson or Westland John Glenn.

While the rebuilding Rocks have played an incredibly tough schedule early on, they have a chance to have some fun and win some games down the final stretch.

Howell (3-3, 2-3) at Novi (4-2, 4-1) (KLAA-West)

The Wildcats cannot get caught looking ahead. They're one week away from facing Northville to wrap up the KLAA-West calendar. On the line are rivalry bragging rights, much-needed playoffs points and a potential KLAA second-place crossover matchup against either Belleville or Livonia Franklin.

So Novi cannot take Howell lightly. This matchup is the definition of a trap game. The Highlanders are having

an OK year, but they haven't been world-beaters by any means. It'd be easy for the Wildcats to overlook them in practice throughout the week and end up getting punched in the mouth come kickoff Friday night.

It's imperative that Novi stays focused on beating Howell. Northville can wait another week.

South Lyon East (5-1, 4-1) at White Lake Lakeland (3-3, 3-3) (LVC)

The Eagles snapped a three-game losing streak with an impressive win over rival Walled Lake Northern during the Battle of Bogie Lake Road last week.

But all eyes are on the Cougars. South Lyon East has a chance to win its sixth game, which would be just the second time in program history it has won that many games in a single season.

Not only are the Cougars looking to earn their fifth playoff berth ever but they're on pace to be the all-time winningest team since the school started playing the sport in 2008.

They should be favored to beat the

Eagles this week. But if they get upset, they have games left against Milford and South Lyon to close out the regular season. Plus, they'll be getting a playoff game. This could be a 7- or 8-win team by the beginning of November.

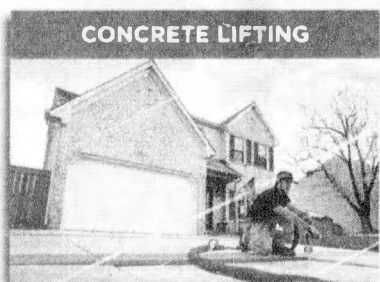
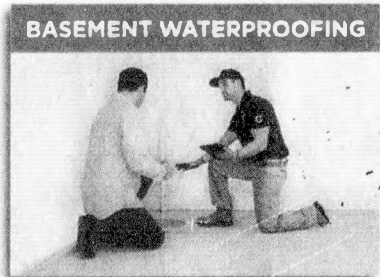
Romulus (1-5, 1-4) at Redford Thurston (0-6, 0-5) (WWAC)

This is likely Redford Thurston's last chance to win a game this season, as it has two tough matchups with Redford Union (6-0) and Swartz Creek (5-1) to close out 2022.

Despite experiencing winning woes the past two years, the Eagles haven't finished a season 0-9 since 1988. So they must take care of Romulus in Week 7 to ensure that 34-year streak isn't snapped.

Romulus stole a victory against Dearborn Heights Robichaud in Week 3, but it's been struggling to produce points ever since. It has scored six points or fewer in each of its last three games. It has scored only 67 points all season. Even winless Thurston has produced more points than that (89).

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De La Salle gives Catholic Central taste of its own medicine

Mick McCabe
Special to Detroit Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

For the last four decades, Novi Detroit Catholic Central nearly had a trademark on the term "smashmouth football."

Not anymore.

Warren De La Salle turned the tables on the Shamrocks on Sunday, pounding its way up and down the field in recording a convincing 28-0 victory over CC in the 78th annual Boys Bowl game at CC.

De La Salle ran for 219 yards and added another 99 passing as it did to CC what CC had done to other teams so many times.

"It was a gritty game, every time we play CC it's a gritting game," said De La Salle quarterback Brady Drogosh, who committed to Cincinnati. "I knew that that we were going to have to get low — sub pads."

The grit in this game belonged to the Pilots (5-1, No. 2 in Division 2), which wrapped up the Central Division title and earned a spot in the Week 9 Prep Bowl against Double-A champ U-D Jesuit. The Pilots drilled U-DJ, 55-13, in Week 3.

Sunday's score wasn't that lopsided, but it was a good, old fashioned butt-kicking. The De La Salle defense allowed the Shamrocks (3-3) only 61 yards total offense.

The main culprit was De La Salle defensive end Mason Muragin, who committed to Illinois. In the first half, he had three sacks and added three more tackles for loss.

"I'm more focused on winning," he said with a smile, "but I did hear my name called a few times. I think we executed our game plan perfectly today."

If the game plan was to smother the CC offense, well, yeah, it was perfect.

The offense looked quite impressive, too, especially early.

Sometimes, the Pilots' best offense is Drogosh taking the shotgun snap and then looking for a hole to run through.

He carried the ball four times in De La Salle's first possession and gained 60 yards with the final 30 coming on his first touchdown run of the day.

Two possessions later, he completed a 34-yard pass to Sherron Sutton II before junior Rhett Roeser rumbled in on a

1-yard TD run for a 14-0 lead with 1:54 left in the first quarter.

The De La Salle offense sputtered a bit in the second quarter, but it didn't matter. The defense had things well under control with Muragin dominating.

"The offense has been doing their thing all year, averaging like 48 points or so coming in to the game," Muragin said. "We knew we'd have to give them one. They'd have to rely on us one game. The first half, this was the game they had to rely on us and we delivered."

The CC offense was stymied the entire afternoon and had no answer for Muragin or his defensive teammates.

"I've been here for three years and Brandon Bush is our defensive coordinator," said DLS coach Dan Rohn. "He is a football guy and between him and our defensive coaches, creating a game plan that they're comfortable with and getting our kids to buy in, was pretty impressive."

De La Salle didn't score in the middle two quarters before Drogosh led a 71-yard drive that ended with his 6-yard scoring run.

Defensive lineman Max Thamurus' interception enabled Roeser to score his second TD on another 1-yard run.

Roeser is 6 feet 1 and 230 pounds, and before the game he heard several uncomplimentary shouts coming from the CC student section.

"I heard a ton of guys yelling things like: 'Big Boy' or 'Fatty.' One guy said: 'Have you heard of Weight Watchers? It's not working.'"

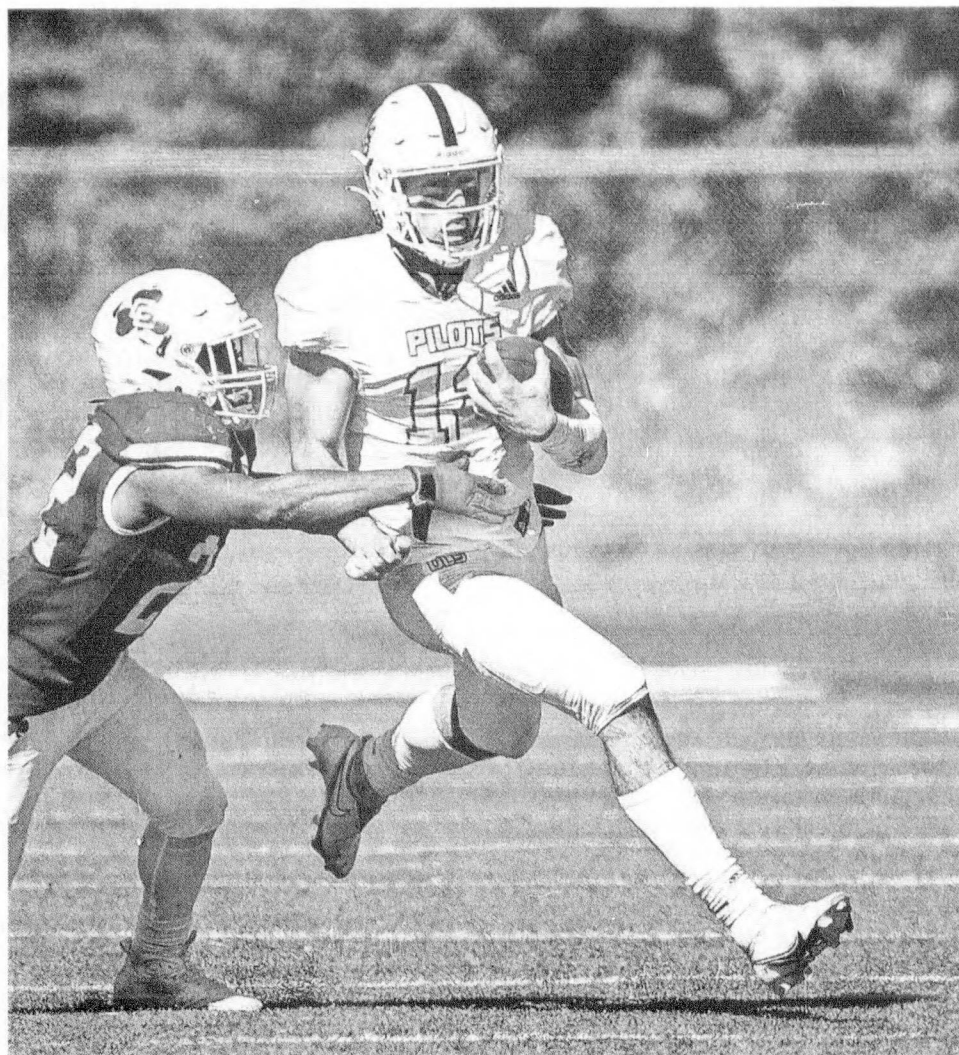
"That puts it in me more to keep going — the whole team, all of us. We love it."

This game was about 180-degrees difference from the Pilots' Week 4 loss to Birmingham Brother Rice, 43-42. It seems inexplicable how this defense gave up 43 points one week and two weeks later shuts out CC.

"It's our mentality," said Muragin. "I think we got really lackadaisical against Rice. We thought we'd go over and stomp on them. But obviously Rice is a fantastic team, they played us great."

"We locked in, stayed focused throughout the week and clearly the defense is back. We're glad to be in the spot we're in."

De La Salle began the season ranked the No. 1 overall team in the state. Per-



Warren De La Salle quarterback Brady Drogosh runs against Novi Detroit Catholic Central defensive back Kameron Lloyd during the second half at Detroit Catholic Central High School in Novi on Sunday. JUNFU HAN/DETROIT FREE PRESS

haps the Pilots weren't quite ready for that acclaim, but they bounced back last week and handled Orchard Lake St. Mary's, 56-14, before shutting out CC.

"I don't know if they're playing with a chip on their shoulder or if they understand the importance of like every day and every situation," said Rohn. "We have to take another step as a football team. We can't talk about November and what could happen in the playoffs."

"We have to talk about what we're doing in the here and now."

After Sunday's performance, the Pilots appear ready to repeat as Division 2 state champions. At least that is what Roeser and his teammates eventually have in mind.

"We're just here every day just grinding, grinding and grinding," he said. "Everybody is pushing each other — coaches, players. There's nothing like it. I've never been a part of anything like it and I never will again."

"This is something special the people really need to realize."

Being ranked No. 1 in the preseason made De La Salle everyone's "red letter" game and the loss to Rice made it even more so.

"We've always had a target on our back and I want to say that game made that target bigger," he said. "Teams saw that and say: 'Hey, we've got a shot.'"

"But they don't."

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Our mid-season Football Player of the Year watch list

Brandon Folsom

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

With the Michigan high school football season just past the halfway mark, Hometown Life sports reporter Brandon Folsom takes a look at the top players in the region who are vying for his Football Player of the Year honor.

Henry Garrity, Birmingham Brother Rice

Vitals: TE, senior, 6-foot-4, 220 pounds.

Stats: Has over 350 yards and six TDs receiving, including a monster day of 11 catches for 225 yards and three scores against defending state champion Warren De La Salle.

Folsom's take: He's the son of former 10-year NBA veteran Pat Garrity, and he certainly plays like it both on the gridiron and the basketball court. The three-star pass catcher is underrated, in my opinion, despite having a preferred walk-on offer to Notre Dame, where his dad played college basketball. He seems to always make the tough catches when the Warriors need to move the chains.

Mario Campoy-LoVasco, Birmingham Groves

Vitals: RB, sophomore, 5-foot-10, 165 pounds.

Stats: Totaled just over 500 yards and 3 TDs rushing through four weeks. He had a season-high 262 rushing yards against North Farmington.

Folsom's take: Falcons QB Cayden Hardy has a handful of solid options to get the ball to, but none are as dynamic as Campoy-LoVasco, who has sprinter's speed, the strength to stiff-arm would-be tacklers and great hands to catch the ball out of the backfield. He's on pace to be one of the top ball carriers in metro Detroit over the next two years.

Colton Kinnie, Birmingham Seaholm

Vitals: QB, junior, 6-foot-2, 218 pounds.

Stats: Totaled 368 yards and six TDs rushing on 63 carries (averaging 5.8 yards per attempt), plus has thrown three TDs in the Maples' run-first offense.

Folsom's take: Kinnie refused to be added to my watch list unless I also individually noted each of his offensive linemen and running backs who've paved his way into the end zone for the 5-0 Maples. So here they are: Granden Kinnie, Sean Emerson, Jack Hulgrave, Kyle Robbins, Dylan Beuse, Luke Therswell, John Jokisch, Zack Miketa, Ben Rosenfield, Jacob Fines, Brenden Barrett, Blake Baldner, Ben Diskin, Grant Welch, Jack Lewis, Joey Lewand, Will Rotger, Penn Roberts and Brock Hartwig.

John Kersh, Cranbrook

Vitals: LB/RB/TE, senior, 6-foot-2, 218 pounds.

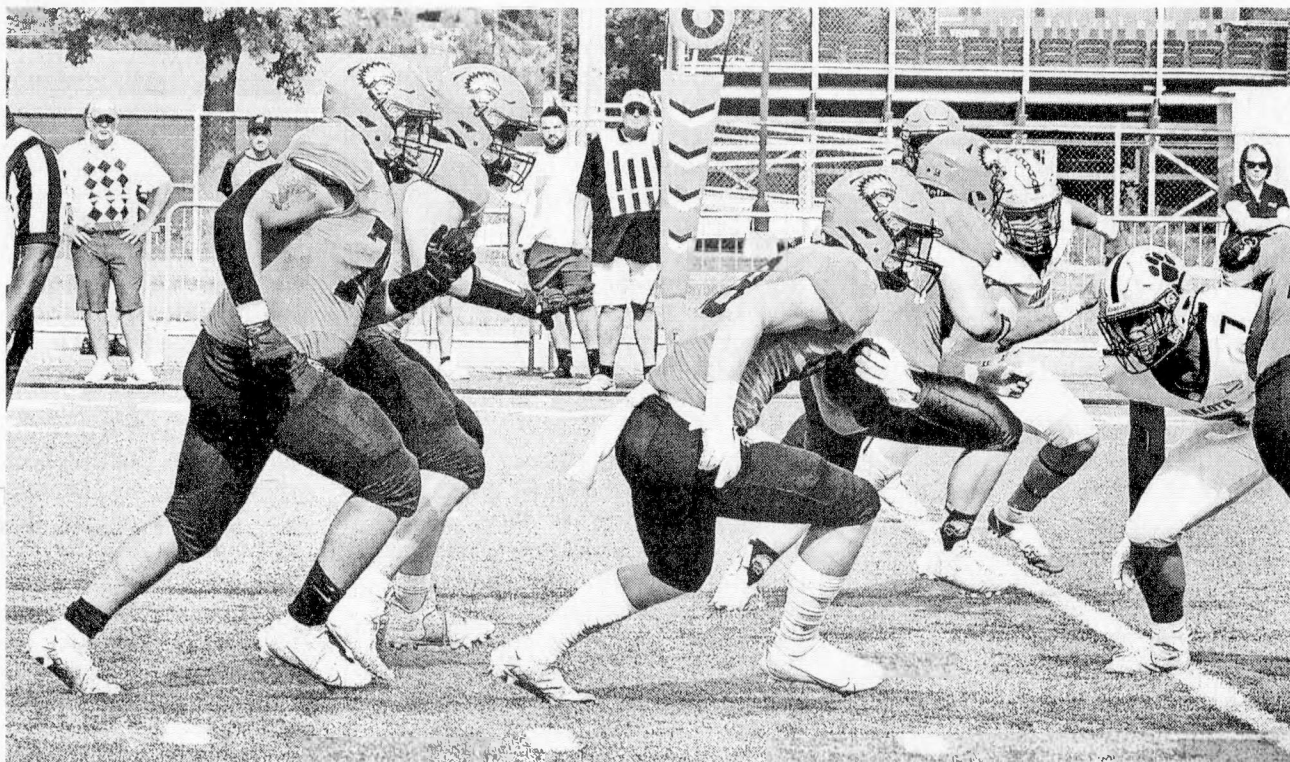
Stats: Totaled 67 tackles (four for loss), one sack and one interception. Had a season-high 25 tackles against Bishop Foley.



Detroit Country Day's Gabe Winowich breaks a tackle.



Cranbrook's John Kersh (left) tackles Bishop Foley's Angelo Costanza.



Brother Rice's Henry Garrity runs after a catch. PHOTOS BY BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Folsom's take: I didn't tell one of my best friends, Jeff Corrian at Michigan football recruiting blog The D Zone, about John when we went and saw the Cranes in Week 4. I waited to see if he would notice John's play on his own. It didn't take too long before Jeff started asking me about him and what kind of recruiting interest he was getting. That's how good of a linebacker John is. He's always making the play on defense.

Brayden Courser, Detroit Catholic Central

Vitals: LB, senior, 6-foot-1, 215 pounds.

Stats: Totaled 63 tackles (eight for loss), four sacks and one interception.

Folsom's take: The heart and soul of the Shamrocks' defense holds offers from Eastern Kentucky, Valparaiso, Ferris State, Grand Valley State and Findlay (Ohio). He's about as close to an Anthony Dargatzis throwback as you can get.

Gabe Winowich, Detroit Country Day

Vitals: RB/OLB, junior, 6-foot-1, 220 pounds.

Stats: Rushed 62 times for 556 yards and seven TDs, averaging close to 9 yards per carry in just four games, as the Yellowjackets had a Week 4 bye. Totaled nine tackles, two sacks and three QB hurries, despite being double-teamed on most plays.

Folsom's take: This four-star holds offers from Maryland and Rutgers and is one of the hardest-hitting runners you'll find. He's not afraid to lower his shoulder and plow over bigger players.

Cameron Pettaway, Farmington

Vitals: RB, junior, 5-foot-10, 167 pounds.

Stats: Has rushed 93 times for 633 yards and seven TDs, plus has 248 yards and four scores receiving.

Folsom's take: He's fast and slippery. And if you don't fully wrap up and finish the tackle on him, he's breaking out of it and running in for six.

Owen McGraw, Garden City

Vitals: RB/SB, senior, 5-foot-8, 165 pounds.

Stats: Totaled 532 yards and seven TDs rushing as well as 80 yards receiving and one score. Has 145 yards returning kickoffs and punts, too.

Folsom's take: The best teams have an Owen McGraw. Like Dominic Simpson at Livonia Franklin, Xavier Spadacini at Westland John Glenn and Luke Aurilia at Novi. These are the selfless players who can get it done in each phase of the game.

Jon Lytle-Montgomery, Livonia Churchill

Vitals: RB, senior, 6-foot, 170 pounds.

Stats: Totaled 92 carries for 518 yards and three TDs rushing.

Folsom's take: It's wild to think the Chargers were hiding this kind of talent behind Boston Clegg Jr. a year ago. Lytle-Montgomery is one of the fastest runners I've seen in a while, and he's great at reading his blocks, making one cut and getting uphill for a big gain.

Cordell Mabins Jr., Livonia Franklin

Vitals: RB, senior, 5-foot-11, 200 pounds.

Stats: Has rushed 105 times for 823 yards and 13

TDs and has also caught on receiving TD.

Folsom's take: The colder it gets with each week that passes, the harder it'll be for defenses to slow down Mabins Jr. It hurts to tackle a freight train such as him when it's bone-chilling freezing. Expect coach Chris Kelbert to use that to his advantage as the 5-0 Patriots prepare for a deep playoff run.

ArJon Thompson, Livonia Stevenson

Vitals: QB/DB, junior, 6-foot, 200 pounds

Stats: Has rushed 72 times for 380 yards and eight TDs, gone 13 of 30 passing for 158 yards, one TD and one interception, has caught three passes for 17 yards and totaled 21 tackles and four pass breakups.

Folsom's take: There's a reason they put Kordell Stewart on the cover of the arcade game "NFL Blitz." His nickname was "Slash" because he could do it all (QB/receiver/running back/kick returner/whatever). And that's been Thompson, too. We should call him Slash 2.0.

Noah Etnyre, Lutheran Westland

Vitals: QB/RB/DB, senior, 6-foot-2, 185 pounds.

Stats: Has gone 17 of 33 passing for 290 yards (17 yards per completion, plus has rushed 53 times for 418 yards (almost 8 yards per rush).

Folsom's take: Normally they put the state runner-up wrestlers on the offensive and defensive lines. Not the Warriors. They have Etnyre behind center. And they're a better team because of it. He's a dynamic runner, plus he's a great decision-maker. He keeps defenses honest.

Wyatt Lesnew, Milford

Vitals: MLB, junior, 5-foot-11, 230 pounds.

Stats: Totaled 71 tackles (12 for loss) and has recovered one fumble.

Folsom's take: This linebacker is about as throwback as they come. Like Zac Thomas or Brian Urlacher throwback. Milford QB Ryan Allen has put up Player of the Year numbers, but what Lesnew is doing on defense is jaw-dropping. His statistics almost overshadow any other defender in metro Detroit.

Luca Prior, Northville

Vitals: QB, 6-foot-1, 170 pounds.

Stats: Has gone 45 of 60 passing 571 yards and nine TDs and also rushed for a score.

Folsom's take: There is no questioning Prior's leadership skills, and the turnaround the Mustangs have had since last year has a lot to do with him. Not just behind center but behind the scenes. He's a great teammate. Had he not gotten injured against Brighton, Northville might still be undefeated right now.

Niko Krall, Novi

Vitals: LB, senior, 5-foot-9, 215 pounds.

Stats: Totaled 72 tackles (26 solo, 8.5 for loss) and one sack.

Folsom's take: In Week 5, this linebacker totaled his 251st-career tackle, surpassing former Wildcat Alex King as the all-time tackling leader in program

See WATCH LIST, Page 7B

Obituaries

Mary S. Kuhnlein

ST. JOSEPH - Mary S. Kuhnlein, 88, of St. Joseph, passed away on Sunday, September 4, 2022. Arrangements are entrusted to Starks & Menchinger Chapel & Cremation Services. A Celebration of Life Memorial Service will be held at a later date. Memorial contributions may be made to either Birthright-2700 Niles Ave., St. Joseph, MI 49085, or Capuchin Soup Kitchen-1820 Mt. Elliott St., Detroit MI 48207. Those wishing to leave an online condolence may do so at www.starks-menchinger.com.



Mary was born in Detroit, Michigan to Wilbur & Mildred Cook. She graduated from Dominican High School. In 1955, Mary married the love of her life, Jerome Kuhnlein, and the two would spend 66 wonderful years together before his passing in January 2022. Mary proudly raised her six children at home. Mary was an active member of the Jaycees, where she enjoyed performing in their musicals. She also volunteered much of her time at Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church (Farmington MI) where she assisted with many funeral luncheons and athletic banquets. Mary enjoyed creating art and listening to music, but her most cherished time was spent with her family.

Mary is survived by her children, Debbie (Bill) Schorger, Dr. Jerry (Colleen) Kuhnlein, Jeff (Jeanne) Kuhnlein, Greg (Theresa) Kuhnlein, Tim (Gail) Kuhnlein, and Mary Ann (David) Doyle; eighteen grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; many nieces and nephews; and sisters-in-law, Jackie Kilcline and Marie Gilbert.

Mary was preceded in death by her husband, Jerome Kuhnlein Sr.; parents, Wilbur and Mildred Cook; siblings, Robert, Russell, Billy, Margaret, and Jean Anne; and one grandson.



Watch list

Continued from Page 6B

history (248). And there are still four regular-season games left to play. He's going to put that record completely out of reach for any upcoming standouts on defense. He's also the all-time leader in solo tackles (149) and tackles for loss (32.5) and second all-time in sacks (eight), assisted tackles (102) and fumbles recovered (five).

Jaxon McCaig, Plymouth

Vitals: RB, junior, 6-foot-1, 202 pounds.

Stats: Rushes for 622 yards and five TDs, averaging 124.4 yards per game and 6.2 yards per carry.

Folsom's take: He's one of my favorite players to watch because once he gets into the open field, it takes someone with incredible sprinter's speed to catch up to him. Unfortunately, we cannot watch him again this fall, as he suffered a season-ending injury against Hartland in Week 5.

Cory Chavis, Redford Union

Vitals: QB, senior, 6-foot-5, 195 pounds.

Stats: Has gone 49 of 66 passing for 1,053 yards, 17 TDs and two interceptions and has a 74% completion percentage.

Folsom's take: It doesn't matter how many playmakers the Panthers have, and trust me, the Panthers have a lot of

them, they still need somebody to get them the ball. And that's been Chavis, who is finally getting some much-deserved attention on the recruiting trail.

Robert Jones, Salem

Vitals: RB, senior, 6-foot-2, 225 pounds.

Stats: Has rushed for 459 yards and three TDs.

Folsom's take: Yes, the Rocks are 0-5, but opposing defenses are definitely reaching for the ice bags the morning after playing against Jones. He's an old-fashioned, smash-mouth running back, and it takes group tackles to bring him down.

Tommy Donovan, South Lyon

Vitals: RB/DB, senior, 5-foot-11, 185 pounds.

Stats: Has rushed 65 times for 455 yards and six TDs, caught 16 passes for 275 yards and four TDs, and has totaled 15 tackles, one scoop and score TD and one interception. Also has 184 yards returning kickoffs and another 46 yards and a TD returning punts.

Folsom's take: If the season ended today, he'd be Hometown Life's Player of the Year. He holds offers from Illinois State and Dayton University, and he has done everything for the Lions except drive the team bus to away games. And he's done it at an elite level.

Jordan Newbill, South Lyon East

Vitals: WR/DB, senior, 5-foot-11, 170 pounds.

adding 51 yards and a TD on the ground and Tyler Garrett catching five passes for 144 yards and a score. Jasionowski led the defense with 10 tackles, Domanic Lemon and Sam White had five tackles apiece and White and Gino DiPonio each pulled down interceptions.

QB ArJon Thompson rushed nine times for 124 yards and one TD for the Spartans (3-3, 3-2). Alex Bowser rushed for 30 yards and caught four passes for 21 yards. Owen Reed led the defense with 10 tackles and one forced fumble, Chuck Davidek added seven tackles and Nihad Ajdarpasic pitched in five tackles. **Dearborn 2, Wayne Memorial 0 (forfeit) (KLAA-East)**

The Zebras fell to 0-6 overall and 0-5 in the division.

Belleville 56, Westland John Glenn 0 (KLAA-East)

The Rockets fell to 2-4 overall and 2-3 in the division. RB Xavier Spadacini rushed 14 times for 84 yards, Connor LeCourt caught two passes for 28 yards and Dylan Moore and Dougie Wicker led the defense with four tackles apiece.

Lakes Valley Conference

South Lyon 46, Waterford Kettering 6 (LVC)

QB Braden Fracassi was 2 of 3 passing for 91 yards and one TD for the Lions (5-1, 4-1). Tommy Donovan rushed six times for 85 yards and two scores and pulled down a 48-yard TD reception, Wyatt Douglass added five carries for 53 yards and Ryan Henderson caught a 43-yard reception. Alex Stoyanovich paced the defense with six tackles (two for loss) and two fumbles returned for TDs, one for 28 yards and another for 54. Douglass had four tackles, and Nick Stoyanovich added three.

South Lyon East 36, Walled Lake Central 7 (LVC)

The Cougars improved to 5-1 overall and 4-1 in the league. QB Dominic Giovannini was 10 of 16 passing for 170 yards and three TDs, while Daedricco Fizer rushed 16 times for 100 yards and two scores. Jordan Newbill caught six passes for 63 yards and one TD and added two tackles and two interceptions on defense, while Drew Moyer caught three passes for 72 yards and a score, rushed for 8 yards and Caleb Gash caught a 37-yard TD pass and gained 33 yards on the ground. Jack Toth led the defense with five tackles (3.5 for loss) and one sack and Jack Fannon added 4.5 tackles and one pass breakup.

Waterford Mott 20, Milford 7 (LVC)

QB Ryan Allen was 5 of 10 passing for 91 yards and an interception and also ran 12 times for 56 yards for the Mavericks (3-3, 2-2). Peyton Chamberlain rushed eight times for 48 yards, and Ethan Phipps caught two passes for 51 yards. Wyatt Lesnew led the defense with 22 tackles, followed by Danny Sternberg and Ike Stufft with 10 apiece and Jon Motes and Aidan Beattie with five apiece.

White Lake Lakeland 17, Walled Lake Northern 13 (LVC)

The Eagles won the Battle of Bogie Lake Road and improved to 3-3 overall and 3-3 in the league. Michael Mahaney rushed 13 times for 70 yards, Sean Latham added 15 carries for 66 yards and one

Stats: Totaled 10 TDs, including one on special teams, eight receiving and one rushing. Has over 350 yards receiving.

Folsom's take: It's a shame Newbill has only offers from two smaller Division III and NAIA schools because he's been playing at an elite level for the Cougars. And he's doing it in each phase of the game. He's rushed for a score, caught TD passes and has returned a blocked field goal for six. He's a scoop-and-score or pick-six away from having a TD in each phase.

Damon Powers, Westland John Glenn

Vitals: RB/LB, junior, 6-foot, 190 pounds.

Stats: Has rushed 69 times for 404 yards and totaled 30 solo tackles on defense.

Folsom's take: This is a future Division I college linebacker or safety hiding at John Glenn. As the Rockets continue to win, the more recruiting interest Powers should garner. He's probably the most underrated recruit in the Hometown Life region.

Honorable Mentions

Here are the other players I'm still keeping my eye on for Player of the Year: Nolay Ray, Brother Rice
Eryx Daugherty, Brother Rice
Blake Marrogy, Brother Rice
Cayden Hardy, Birmingham Groves
Kyle Robbins, Birmingham Seaholm
Devon Pettus, Canton
Caleb Williams, Canton

Preston Washer, Cranbrook
Brady Blakita, Detroit Catholic Central

Evan Haeger, Detroit Catholic Central
Jovon Massey, Detroit Catholic Central

Dominic Pesci, Farmington
Gavin Miller, Farmington
Evan Snead, Livonia Churchill
Jayden Allen, Livonia Churchill
Tyler Garrett, Livonia Franklin
Dominic Simpson, Livonia Franklin
Chuck Davidek, Livonia Stevenson
Aiden Sexton, Lutheran Westland
Ryan Allen, Milford
Danny Sternberg, Milford
Peyton Chamberlain, Milford
Angelo Rodriguez, Northville
Hunter Ladach, Northville
Preston Phimister, Novi
Cole Shires, Novi
Evan Cosgrove, Plymouth
Luc Damiani, Plymouth
Dequan Davis, Redford Union
Dematthew Dixon, Redford Union
Jeremiah Alston, Redford Union
Dawaune Strickland, Redford Union
Jamel Belcher, Redford Union
Jamire Hall, Redford Union
Kyren Ware, Redford Union
Javerious Shepherd, Redford Union
Nicholas Warren, Redford Thurston
Charles Nelson, Redford Thurston
Michael Patsy, Salem
Braden Fracassi, South Lyon
Simeon Mardossian, South Lyon
Xavier Spadacini, Westland John Glenn
Nick Wetmore, Westland John Glenn
Connor LeCourt, Westland John Glenn
Dylan Moore, Westland John Glenn

Week 6

Continued from Page 1B

QB Hunter Riutta scored on a 1-yard QB keeper and tossed a 62-yard TD pass to Gabe Zeldes, while Graham Doman raced 20 yards for a score.

Kensington Lakes Activities Association

Novi 34, Plymouth 6 (KLAA-West)

QB Caleb Walker was 13 of 29 passing for 204 yards and two TDs for the Wildcats (4-2, 4-1). Lance Galliard and Cole Shires each rushed for TDs, Luke Aurilia caught five passes for 54 yards and a score and Andrew Kummer had three catches for 87 yards and a TD. Niko Krall led the defense with 16 tackles, Andrew Abler added nine tackles (1.5 for loss) and one sack, Cole Shires and Niko Hertrich each had a sack and Aurilia pulled down an interception.

WR Ali Hashm caught a 21-yard TD pass from Cam Witt for the Wildcats (1-5, 1-4). QB Sam Plencner was 8 of 13 passing for 84 yards and also rushed 18 times for 52 yards. Nathan Gillick added 44 yards on the ground. Orlando Daniels paced the defense with 6.5 tackles (six solo), Evan Cosgrove had 5.5 (five solo) and Tyler Harris added 3.5.

Northville 31, Salem 7 (KLAA-West)

QB Luca Prior was 7 of 11 passing for 142 yards and two TDs for the Mustangs (5-1, 4-1). Caleb Moore rushed seven times for 37 yards and two scores, Nick Helner caught a 50-yard TD pass and Caden Besco nabbed a 5-yard TD reception. Owen Ross led the defense with nine tackles (four solo), Hunter Ladach added eight tackles (two for loss) and a sack and Evan Deak pitched in eight tackles (three solo).

RB Robert Jones rushed 29 times for 133 yards and one TD for the Rocks (0-6, 0-5). QB Robert Ahlgren was 16 of 22 passing for 109 yards, Nick Mullin caught five passes for 48 yards, Michael Patsy led the defense with eight tackles (three for loss), one sack and one fumble recovery and Zach Passmore added seven tackles (two for loss).

Brighton 41, Canton 21 (KLAA-West)

RB Devon Pettus rushed 16 times for 161 yards and two TDs for the Chiefs (1-5, 1-4). Alexander Guadagni added 16 carries for 81 yards, and Dillon Calhoun scored once on the ground.

Dearborn Fordson 31, Livonia Churchill 28 (KLAA-East)

RB Jon Lytle-Montgomery rushed 32 times for 153 yards and three TDs for the Chargers (1-5, 0-5). QB Evan Snead was 9 of 13 passing for 131 yards, Jayden Allen caught five passes for 91 yards and Mesiah Amerson punched in a 2-yard TD run. Miles Lueck led the defense with five tackles (four solo), while Amerson and Tyler Mileski had four apiece.

Livonia Franklin 24, Livonia Stevenson 7 (KLAA-East)

The Patriots (6-0, 5-0) are the Livonia City Championship winners thanks to Cordell Mabins Jr. rushing 25 times for 151 yards and one TD, QB JD Bates going 7 of 8 passing for 144 yards, one TD and one interception, Jon Jasionowski

TD and Trevor Schudin carried 13 times for 47 yards and one score. Nolin Thompson booted in a 22-yard field goal and helped the defense with six tackles and one sack. Trey Rowley led with seven tackles and one interception, Caden Calhoun totaled five tackles and one sack and Tyler Ponitz, Grand Glosinger and Ben Lilienthal each had interceptions.

Michigan Independent Athletic Conference

Lutheran Westland 2, Dearborn Heights Star International Academy 0 (forfeit)

The Warriors improved to 4-2 overall.

Oakland Activities Association

Southfield A&T 70, Bloomfield Hills 0 (OAA-White)

The Black Hawks fell to 1-5 overall and 1-3 in the league.

Birmingham Groves 15, Harper Woods 12 (OAA-White)

RB Joshua Woods rushed for a pair of 5-yard TDs for the Falcons (4-2, 3-1). QB Cayden Hardy tossed a two-point conversion pass to Elias Kendra. Chris Little and Woods each had interceptions on defense, while Kendra fell on a fumble.

Birmingham Seaholm 52, Troy 0 (OAA-Blue)

The Maples (6-0, 3-0) got one TD run apiece from Jack Lewis, Colton Kinnie and Granden Kinnie, while backup QB Louie Sullivan rushed for a pair of scores and Kyle Robbins scored on a 48-yard fake punt and returned a fumble 32

yards for a TD.

North Farmington 28, Troy Athens 7 (OAA-Blue)

The Raiders (2-4, 2-2) totaled 383 yards of total offense, which included QB Ryan Shelby throwing for 177 yards and one TD, PJ Gardner rushing for 166 yards and two scores and Quinn Parpart hauling in 101 yards and a TD receiving.

Farmington 49, Pontiac 0

RB Cameron Pettaway rushed for 159 yards and four TDs for the Falcons (4-2, 2-1). Aaren McCray caught a 25-yard TD pass, and Owen Matteson nabbed an interception.

Western Wayne Athletic Conference

Dearborn Heights Robichaud 37, Redford Thurston 21 (WWAC)

The Eagles fell to 0-6 overall and 0-5 in the league.

Redford Union 47, Garden City 21 (WWAC)

QB Cory Chavis threw a 39-yard TD to Kryen Ware, a 69-yarder to Jamel Belcher and was named the homecoming king at halftime for the Panthers (6-0, 5-0). Dawaune Strickland rushed for TDs of 5, 9 and 5 yards, while Daquan Davis scored from 58 yards out. Ware and Jeremiah Alston each recovered fumbles on defense.

RB Owen McGraw scored three TDs for the Cougars (3-3, 3-2), including a 69-yard TD reception from QB Nathan Wasil and on rushes of 10 and 35 yards. Kaden Williams intercepted a pass, Travis Hartwell fell on a fumble and the Cougars blocked a punt.

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The Discouraging Reacceleration in Core Inflation

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Most observers expected prices to fall in August after staying flat in July. But they rose +0.1%, despite the 10.6% decline in gas prices, which was offset by increases in the prices of shelter, food, and medical care.

The real action in the report—the focus of the FED's attention, and the figure most synonymous with future inflation—is core inflation. And that delivered a shock, rising +0.6% in August to 6.3% over the year. Recent surveys suggest the FED may be succeeding in bringing inflation expectations under control, but despite significant monetary tightening and hawkish statements about future policy, core inflation has continued to rise.

That suggests the FED may have to hold rates higher for longer to tame inflation, with greater pain for the housing market and labor market along the way.

Here are some highlights of today's report:

- **Gas prices are, once again, the major player behind a slowdown in prices.** Gas prices fell for the second month, and have continued to fall since the data were collected for today's report. But gas prices are volatile and erratic. A jump in gas prices over the winter could take us right back to the higher inflation readings seen earlier this year.

- **Food prices slowed down but remained elevated.** The food index increased 0.8% in August, the

smallest monthly increase since December 2021, but far too high for comfort. In recent months, high gas price inflation is one factor that has contributed to high food prices, but it is not the only one. Supply chain disruptions, shifting consumption patterns, and the war in Ukraine have played their part as well, and taken a toll on grocery bills.

- **Core inflation increased.** Core inflation increased again by 0.6% over the month and 6.3% over the year, with both readings higher than the prior month. Since core inflation—the inflation rate excluding the volatile food and energy prices—is a better predictor of future inflation, this is concerning.

- **Real earnings increased two months in a row.** Thanks to low overall month-over-

month inflation the past two months, the purchasing power of workers' paychecks is increasing. Real average hourly earnings for all employees increased 0.2% from July to August, but that comes on the heels of a substantial decline in purchasing power seen over the last year.



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Garage Tag Sale
Church Rummage Sale 1569 W. Maple Road, Birmingham, Michigan. 48009 Wed, Oct. 12 10-6p, Thur. Oct. 13 1-7p, Fri. Oct. 14 9-11a. Huge Sale 37 departments: Clothing & Accessories, Books, Furniture, Houseware, Kitchenware, Lamps, Linens, Jewelry, Toys and much more! Dir: Birmingham First United Methodist Church. Located on 1569 West Maple Road between Southfield & Greenbrook.

NOVI RUMMAGE SALE IS BACK AT MEADOWBROOK CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
on Meadowbrook Rd. No. at 8 Mile, Fri. Oct 7th, 9am-4pm. 34 bag sale. Larger items priced. Sat. Oct 8th, 9am-12 Noon \$5 Bag Sale. Larger items half off.

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a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)	1,241	1,029	
b. Paid Distribution (By Mail and Outside the Mail)			
(1) Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	4	4	
(2) Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	585	530	
(3) Paid Distribution Outside the Mail (Including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS)	13	13	
(4) Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail®)	0	0	
c. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 15b(1), (2), (3), and (4))	602	547	
d. Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County Copies (Include on PS Form 3541)	0	0	
e. Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies (Include on PS Form 3541)	0	0	
f. Free or Nominal Rate Copies Stated at Other Classes Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail®)	0	0	
g. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)	44	20	
h. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 15d, (e), (f), (g), and (h))	44	20	
i. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15h)	646	567	
j. Copies Not Distributed (See instructions to Publishers at page #3)	595	462	
k. Total (Sum of 15i and j)	1,241	1,029	
l. Percent Paid (15c divided by 15i, x 100)	93.2%	96.5%	
17. Electronic Copy Circulation			
Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months		No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date	
a. Paid Electronic Copies	0	0	
b. Total Paid Print Copies (Line 15c) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 17a)	602	547	
c. Total Paid Distribution (Line 15c) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 17a)	646	567	
d. Percent Paid (Both Paid Print & Electronic Copies) (17b divided by 17c, x 100)	93.2%	96.5%	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I certify that 50% of all my distributed copies (electronic and print) are paid above a nominal price			
18. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner			
Rick Voegelé - Sr. Manager, AAM & Audit Reporting		10/1/2022	
I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).			
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