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SPORTS, 1B

NORTHVILLE RECORD

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Family seeks answers after South Lyon woman's body found

Susan Bromley
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Danielle and Nathan Dequin hope their sister Melissa is resting in peace after a tumultuous life marked by mental illness and drug abuse.

They, however, are still trying to make peace with her death after the South Lyon woman's body was found dumped in a Detroit neighborhood.

"The funeral is over and Melissa is at rest, but we are not," Nathan said. "We have to know what happened and let the world know we can't have people's bodies being dropped off on the side of the road. That can't be OK."

Police suspect Melissa overdosed; toxicology results are pending.

Melissa, 42, was last seen alive in South Lyon on March 10. Three days later, on March 13, her parents, brother, and 18-year-old daughter were summoned to the morgue to identify her. It was then they learned her body had been discarded like the bags of trash that line the street where she was found.

Missing is her vehicle, a 2006 Town & Country minivan, gold in color, as well as her cell phone and other personal belongings.

Her family hopes someone who knows what happened to Melissa will step forward, or that her van or phone may still be found. They want answers.

"There are bad, terrible things happening and we don't have the resources, funding, people, to handle and provide justice and keep people safe," Danielle said. "That is wrong to me.... At the end of the day, we are just hoping for some answers. We want to know what happened, even if it is a hard truth."

What happened to Melissa?

Part of that hard truth is Melissa Dequin likely died from a drug overdose. Toxicology results have not been returned yet, nor has a Freedom of Information Act request Hometown Life filed regarding Dequin's death investigation.

Detroit Det. Matt Gnatek confirmed that Melissa's body was found around

See ANSWERS, Page 4A

Saving breakfast in Milford



Christina Post and Cheryl Bolton are excited to open the newest Anna's House restaurant in Milford on May 1, offering delicious breakfast options and retro decor. SUSAN BROMLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Anna's House restaurant set to open 10th location May 1

Susan Bromley
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

MILFORD — The day when a bonanza of breakfast options dawns on Milford is nearly here.

Anna's House will welcome diners to the franchise's 10th restaurant location, 780 N. Milford Road, starting

May 1.

"Everybody is extremely excited," General Manager Cheryl Bolton said, sitting in a booth near "the toaster wall" in the bright, open dining room a little more than a week before opening day. "They can't wait, and people keep asking, 'When do you guys open?'"

The popular Michigan breakfast chain that got its start in Grand Rapids

two decades ago announced last fall its intention to open in Milford. It now has locations in Grandville, Holland, Kalamazoo, Westland, Ann Arbor, Grand Haven and Okemos, as well as Beltline and Plainfield avenues in Grand Rapids.

Prior to the Milford announcement, Bolton drove by the former Hector &

See BREAKFAST, Page 4A

Beaver return shows Rouge River's improvement

Shelby Tankersley
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

WESTLAND — You can find more than a baseball diamond at Valley View in Hines Park.

Some of the trees lining the park, near Nankin Mills, show unmistakable signs of beavers. They've been gnawed at enough to create piles of woodchips and, in some cases, cause the trees to fall over.

After being gone for more than 100 years, beavers have been back along

the Rouge River for at least 13 years. Volunteers with the Friends of the Rouge, a nonprofit that aids the Rouge River, first noticed beaver sign in 2010.

"I spent a lot of time walking in the preserve and looking in the Tonquish Creek," said Bill Craig, a Livonia resident who works with the Holliday Nature Preserve Association and found some of the first beaver sign in 2010. "Their activity was noticeable. That was pretty novel; there had been no reports of beavers for a long time."

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Trees that have been chewed and knocked down by beavers in Hines Park. SHELBY TANKERSLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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New psychiatric facility planned along Haggerty in Northville Twp.

David Veselenak
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

NORTHVILLE TWP. — A \$325 million inpatient psychiatric hospital that will replace the Hawthorn Center and another hospital in Westland is planned along Haggerty Road, state officials announced Monday.

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services announced April 17 that the state will construct a new facility at 18471 Haggerty, between Six Mile and Seven Mile roads. The new facility will serve patients currently treated at the Hawthorn Center, which will be torn down, as well as Walter P. Reu-

ther Psychiatric Hospital in Westland, which also will close. The current facilities treat nearly 200 patients.

"We are excited to be able to provide Michigan families in need of inpatient, behavioral health care a new state-of-the-art hospital in southeastern Michigan," MDHHS Director Elizabeth Hertel said in a statement. "The modern facility will allow MDHHS to continue providing quality, compassionate care to both children and adults. The consolidation of two of our current hospitals will also allow for efficiencies in administrative and support services while maintaining separate living and treatment facilities for adults and children."

The Hawthorn Center opened in

1956, while Walter P. Reuther Psychiatric Hospital, 30901 Palmer Road, opened in 1979.

Construction on the new facility is expected to begin this fall, with patients moving temporarily to separate units at the psychiatric hospital in Westland while demolition takes place at the Northville Township site. The new facility is expected to open in 2026.

"Mental health, especially for children, is an urgent need in our region," Northville Township Supervisor Mark Abbo said in a statement. "We are pleased to have the opportunity to work with the state of Michigan to develop a state-of-the-art facility to help those in our region in need, get the highest pos-

sible mental health care."

The state operates five inpatient mental health hospitals, including facilities in Caro, Kalamazoo and Westland, the Hawthorn Center, which focuses on treating children, and the Center for Forensic Psychiatry in York Township, south of Ann Arbor, which provides diagnostic services to the criminal justice system and psychiatric treatment for criminal defendants found not competent to stand trial. The treatment facilities together serve about 650 people.

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Northville pedestrian plan could alter downtown travel

David Veselenak
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

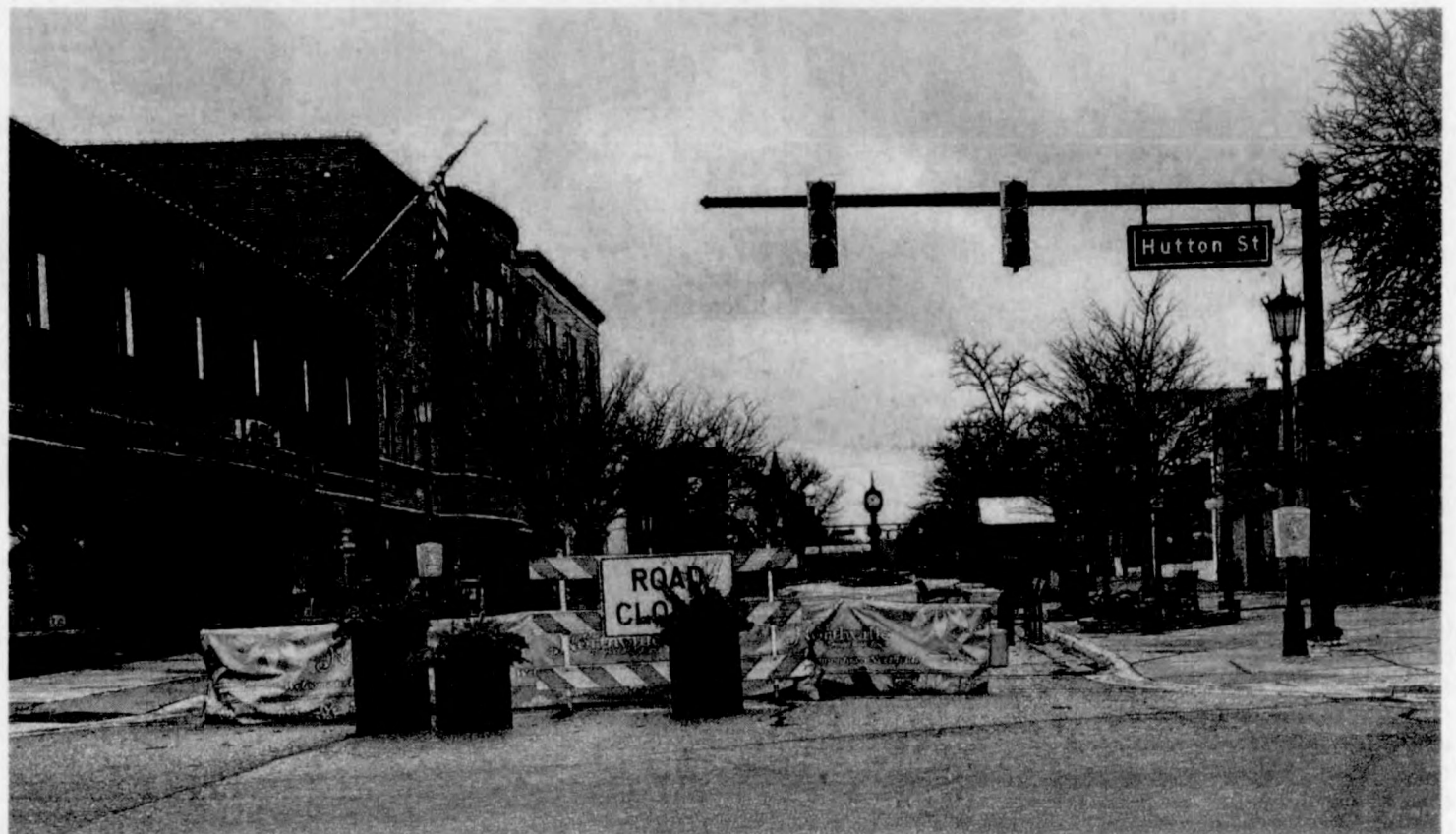
NORTHVILLE — A slew of recommendations as part of Northville's pedestrian plan could make traveling through downtown very different if they get implemented.

Recommendations were given to the city council April 17 by Julie Kroll, a consultant with Farmington Hills-based Fleis & VandenBrink. Those recommendations provided a detailed look at how best to make the city's downtown area better connected and safer for those walking and bicycling.

The recommendations were vast, with a mix of short-, mid- and long-term adjustments that could be made. Some of the more impactful recommendations include:

- Raising the pedestrian crossing at Main and Center streets
- Aligning Cady and Center streets east/west through the intersection
- A signal upgrade at Griswold and Main streets
- Curb extensions at Main Street at several other streets, including Linden and West, as well as removing parking near the intersection
- Removing the pedestrian crossing at Hutton and Dunlap

Other recommendations include the addition of leading pedestrian intervals, which would give pedestrians a head start when crossing signaled crosswalks; rectangular rapid flashing beacons, which alert vehicles at non-signalized intersections with flashing lights



The entrance of downtown Northville from Main Street. DAVID VESELENAK/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

that a pedestrian seeks to cross the road; and raised crosswalks, which are ramped speed tables that run along the width of the road and give pedestrians more visibility.

While the plan was requested by the city before the downtown street closures were made seasonal, Kroll said the recommendations work regardless if the roads are open to vehicle traffic or not.

"The majority of the recommendations are really pedestrian and bicycle improvements to improve safety," she said. "That was really the focus of what we were doing here was to improve the safety of the downtown area."

The data collected showed there have been three bicycle crashes and seven

pedestrian crashes in the last six years.

Resident Mary Elwart-Keyes said the recommendation to eliminate some parking near Main and Linden was a good move, especially since cars line the road at certain times of day and block visibility for those seeking to cross.

"You cannot see eastbound on Main street when you're on the corner of Linden because parking is allowed on both sides of main street for the preschool drop off program," she said. "So you have to walk out practically to the middle of the street and look and see if there are any cars coming."

The City Council just reviewed the proposal, with more decisions and meetings, including public community meetings, planned in the future

months. The report can be currently found on the city's website in the most-recent City Council packet.

Mayor Pro Tem Barbara Moroski-Browne said such a plan is crucial to the downtown.

"My sense of it was at that time and it was stated that this was needed for a long long time, independent of the street closures, even though that's what prompted it," she said. "You have certainly shown that to be true. I think this is singular, I don't know if the city has ever had this comprehensive of a study. It's certainly consistent with our master plan."

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Camp Dearborn in Milford, others face lawsuit in boy's death

Susan Bromley
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

MILFORD — The family of a 10-year-old boy who died after falling from a water play structure at Camp Dearborn in Milford last summer has filed a wrongful death lawsuit against the camp and several other people and entities.

The family of Carson Dunn filed the lawsuit April 19 in Oakland County Circuit Court seeking at least \$25,000 in damages, claiming he "suffered a horrific fall, violently hit his chest and bled to death" after life-saving measures were not provided "in a timely manner" in the July 6, 2022, tragedy.

Defendants in the suit include Camp

Dearborn, the city of Dearborn, the manufacturer and owners and operators of the "Jungle Float," and two unnamed employees of the camp who were on duty at the time of the fall.

In an email regarding the suit, a Ven Johnson Law spokesperson said Carson was playing on the upper part of a floating water structure on Phillip Lake when he slipped and tried to grab handles that were "defective and/or not properly secured," causing him to fall and suffer blunt force trauma to his chest.

Neither Ven Johnson nor a representative for the city could be immediately reached for comment.

The lawsuit alleges negligence, gross negligence, wrongful death and breach of warranty, and cites the Michigan Products Liability Act and negligent infliction of emotional distress.

Among the allegations contained in the suite:

• Two employees at Camp Dearborn (referred to as John Doe 1 and 2 in the lawsuit) did not immediately provide lifesaving procedures, did not promptly call 911 and, due at least in part to the lack of personal watercraft, were unable to transport Carson Dunn to the shore in



Carson Dunn.

a timely manner "for emergency treatment that would have saved his life."

• The owners/operators of the floating play structure did not provide adequate safety warnings to patrons using the structure as to the known dangers of foreseeable injuries, nor did they provide proper instruction, supervision and staffing;

• The defendants named in the suit "recklessly operated a floating playing structure that was known to be dangerous based on its improper assembly and location in the lake where patrons could not be transported safely and immediately from the lake."

• Sport Pontoons LLC designed, manufactured and marketed a floating play structure "in a defective and unreasonably dangerous condition and not reasonably safe for use."

The lawsuit further states Carson's mother, Carly Burgess, as well as Landon Dunn, who directly witnessed his younger brother Carson's death, have suffered and will continue to suffer in the future.

Carson Dunn had completed fourth grade at Country Oaks Elementary shortly before his death.

The 10-year-old was described as a really nice kid with an infectious smile who had dreamed of being a pro basketball player when he grew up.

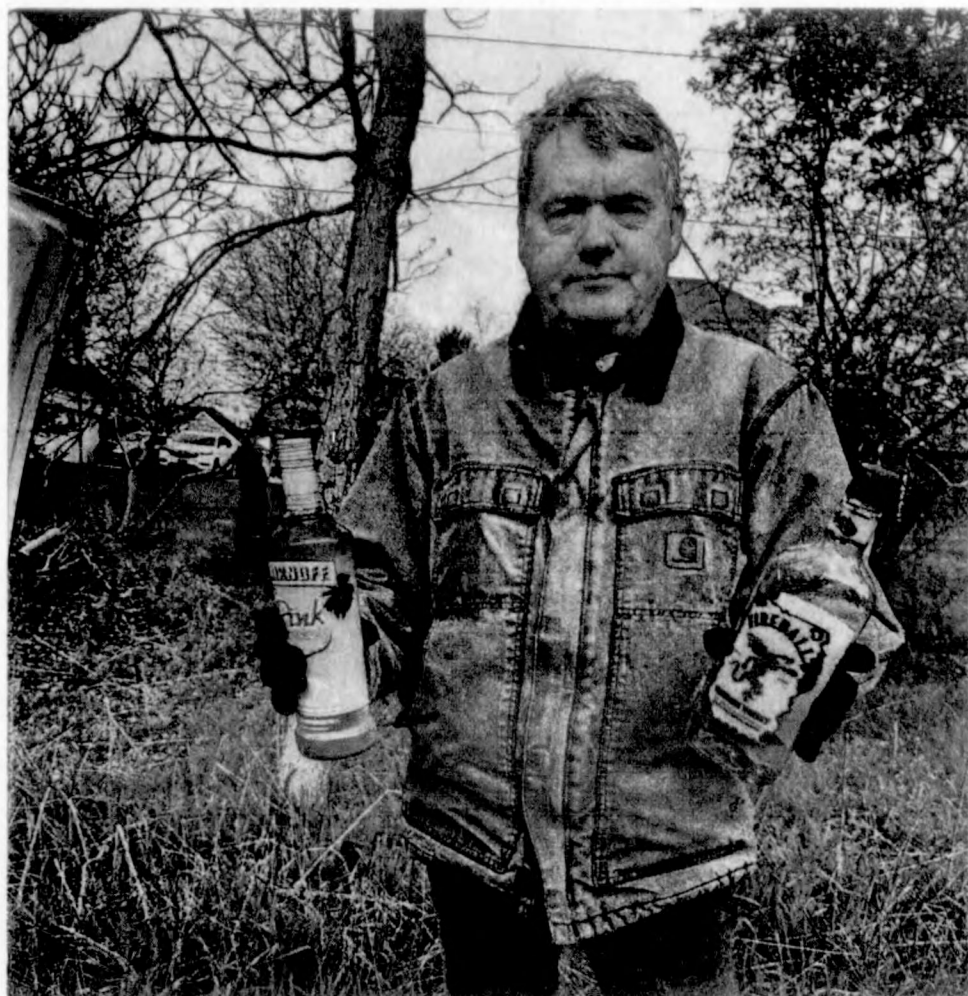
Contact Susan Bromley at sbromley@hometownlife.com. Follow her on Twitter @SusanBromley10.

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 23-64.04

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE NOVI CITY COUNCIL HAS ADOPTED ORDINANCE NO. 23-64.04 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 2, "ADMINISTRATION," ARTICLE V, "BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS," DIVISION 2, "BEAUTIFICATION ADVISORY COMMISSION," SECTION 2-172, "COMPOSITION," TO AMEND THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS ON THE COMMISSION.

The Ordinance was adopted by the City Council on Monday, April 17th, 2023 and the provisions of the ordinance shall become effective fifteen (15) days after its adoption. A complete copy of the Ordinance is available for public use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk, 45175 Ten Mile Road, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., prevailing local time.

Courtney Hanson, City Clerk



Bob Martin of Martin's Hardware holds empty bottles thrown out of a passing vehicle into a ditch while he and others were cleaning up the South Lyon area on Earth Day, April 23, 2023. PHOTOS COURTESY OF SUZANN MARTIN



Ron Beason, chief water operator for the City of South Lyon, drives a front loader containing trash from the 19th annual creek cleanup.

Creek cleanup leads to odd finds in South Lyon

Annual effort also helps prevent flooding problems

Susan Bromley
Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

What's in the water around South Lyon?

A lot more than fish, frogs and flora, local environmentalists say.

Larry Ledbetter and Suzann Martin marvel over some of the items that have been found in waterways around South Lyon over the years during annual cleanup efforts, including a large console television set, couches, a grocery cart covered in algae, and even a Christmas tree with lights.

They've found enough tires to fill a trailer, scrap metal, lots of sports balls, water and pop bottles, beer and full oil cans, and plastic bags galore.

"There's no telling what you will find," Martin said. "Year to year it's different. There is a lot of trash and debris on the banks and we clean all that up, too. It feels very good to accomplish this and live in a cleaner environment. This all has to do with public health."

During the 19th Annual South Lyon Area Creek Clean-Up and Earth Day Celebration on April 23, 100 volunteers contributed to a cleaner environment and filled a 20-cubic-yard roll-off box with debris from the Yerkes Drain as well as two Lyon drains, Underhill, and Sayre Drain. These waterways flow to the Huron River and ultimately Lake

Erie, Martin said.

Larry Ledbetter, who along with Martin is a member of the South Lyon well-head committee, said the volunteers continued to find "crazy" items in the waterways, even after nearly two decades, perhaps because they continue to expand their reach.

Among the items discovered this year were a 20-foot long metal sign, two vehicle tires with rims, and a battery in addition to the more typical finds like bottles, cans, and plastic bags.

The water that area volunteers wade in or walk near is only a couple feet deep, but items that clog these streams can result in flooding of basements and yards in the area.

The clean-up, Ledbetter said, is fun, family-friendly and a great way for kids

to learn their role in being good stewards of the earth.

Despite it being a windy and cold outing with temperatures in the 30s, Ledbetter called the day "fantastic" and expressed his appreciation for all of the volunteers, particularly Boy Scout Troop 228, which is celebrating 50 years as a troop.

"This whole clean-up began because of the Scouts and next year, we want to commemorate the 20th year of creek clean-up," Ledbetter said. "Part of our mission is to clean up the environment for the betterment of animals and nature and it makes the community look clean and neat and teaches young people about doing good deeds. They are our future."

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Melissa Borgman, owner of Pup Town, with Cookie and Doughnut in an outside play area at the South Lyon facility on April 14. SUSAN BROMLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Fun, games and sleepovers for pooches at new Pup Town

Susan Bromley
Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Melissa Borgman and her staff are ready to pamper pooches at Pup Town in South Lyon.

An open house at the newly constructed day care and overnight stay facility for dogs at 430 E. Liberty St. is planned for April 22. Furry clients can frolic at Pup Town without their owners two days later on April 24 with the official opening.

Excitement has been building over Pup Town, with Borgman noting she has already received more than a hundred calls from owners of pets who are bored or driving them to distraction while they work from home.

"There has been an overwhelming amount of interest," she said. "I feel super supported by this town and the people in it. Everyone is very excited."

Pup Town is the first business venture for Borgman, a former accountant who has a business degree and was inspired to start a dog day care when she was unhappy with choices she had for her own dogs and saw a need in the area.

The 20-year South Lyon resident and

Humane Society of Huron Valley volunteer will now offer safe, enrichment-based day care in a 2,500-square-foot facility that has an enclosed outdoor area, as well as separated indoor areas for dogs "based on their play style." Overnight stay spaces, each with their own raised bed, line the walls.

Enrichment activities vary daily and include soccer, puzzles, treat-dispensing games, tunnels, pools and water play. The base price for day care is \$37. Overnight care is \$57.


Additional options include baths, special treats, meals, and a one-on-one agility course. Caged critter care is also available. The facility is fully secured and monitored via cameras.

Borgman expects to care for about 20 dogs per day, with an ability to give more personalized attention to her furry clients than larger kennels.

A meet and greet is required to ensure dogs staying at Pup Town are happy in a day care environment.

"Everybody who is here is here because they love dogs and want to enrich their lives," Borgman said. "We will treat their dogs like family."

For more information, call 248-533-1650 or visit www.pup-town.com.



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Answers

Continued from Page 1A

9 a.m. March 11 by a pedestrian walking in the area of Fitzpatrick and Memorial streets in Detroit.

Danielle said her sister had bruises on her face, and was found with her shirt pulled up and pants down, wrapped in a blanket.

Gnatek said there was no trauma to Melissa's body.

While he clarified it was "speculation," he said the investigation "has all the earmarks of an OD dump."

He has significant experience investigating such cases. The 19-year DPD veteran noted there are "hundreds" of overdose dumps in Detroit and "thousands" in Wayne County every year.

When a person overdoses in a drug house, he explained, the body is moved to an area away from the house to be discovered because "it's bad for business."

If Melissa did die from an overdose, the person who supplied her with drugs could be charged with delivery causing death. The challenge is finding that person.

"We hope we find who provided drugs or that we can give some resolution to the family," Gnatek said. "The bottom line is, anyone that does street drugs is putting their life in their own hands."

"It's more dangerous now than ever. Fentanyl is in everything. People are making pills in the basement that are pharmaceutical grade."

A bright light, a dark end

Melissa Dequin, a 1999 Livonia Churchill graduate, began using hard drugs about 15 years ago, her siblings said, unbeknownst to them.

They believe her descent into substance abuse resulted from complications with mental health issues including bipolar disorder and schizophrenia as well as a physical and sexual assault she suffered.

Danielle said Melissa began self-medicating with cocaine to balance bipolar medications that made her feel



Melissa Dequin's body was found in this area of Detroit, dumped on the side of the road. The South Lyon woman's family is seeking answers about the end of her life. SUSAN BROMLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

slow and depressed. Her drug abuse didn't end there.

Nathan learned Melissa had snorted heroin at an Ann Arbor party in 2011 and urged her to get help. By 2013, Melissa was in therapy. Over the years, Melissa had been in several rehabilitation programs and saw doctors who specialized in addiction and mental health.

In 2017, Nathan said, they had gotten their amazing sister back — the creative, spirited soul who wrote poems, designed her own clothing, loved music and singing, and most of all, adored her daughter Xaida.

"She would be the light and love in the world and inspire everyone around her to be that way," Danielle said. "Even when she saw darkness — because she did — she saw light and potential and how we could change things. People would be like, 'The world is terrible,' but she would be like, 'Yeah, people suck, but let's be awesome.'"

Just recently, her siblings said, Melissa had discussed getting out of a turbulent relationship and moving back in with their mother.

Now she is never coming home.

They hope her van will be found or a tip might be called in to police. And they hope for larger changes too, perhaps the installation of surveillance cameras in areas known for being dumping sites.

"The detective in Detroit said they find three or four people each day," Danielle said. "I feel both the need for answers regarding what happened to my sister, as well as the need to raise awareness that something needs to change in our system. It doesn't seem right to say, 'It's just another OD and body dump,' when that body was a person. That body was a human being, and each human being deserves justice."

Contact Susan Bromley at sbromley@hometownlife.com. Follow her on Twitter @SusanBromley10.



Dequin, center, with her mother, Tina, and sister, Danielle. Melissa, who lived in South Lyon, was found dead in Detroit on March 11, 2023. COURTESY OF DANIELLE DEQUIN

In Melissa's own words

In a poem Melissa penned titled "What Now?!" she wrote,

My future is so far away,
Yet it's the next minute.
My dreams so out of reach,
But then wrapped in my arms.
The time that's so good,
Goes by so fast.
The time that's bad lasts and lasts.
I'm not alone
But I am lonely.
I'm not in the dark,
But I don't see anything.
The days are long,
But the nights are longer.
Feelings I can't explain,
But are so well defined.
Trapped not there not then,
But here and now.
So far behind,
But yet so far ahead.

Breakfast

Continued from Page 1A

Jimmy's Restaurant every day, wondering what would move in.

She was ecstatic to learn it would be Anna's House, a restaurant she'd frequently enjoyed in Ann Arbor. The Milford resident was even more thrilled to be hired as the general manager, which offered her the opportunity for better work-life balance after 20 years managing a Greek restaurant in southern Oakland County.

Now, just days before the opening of Anna's House, she has sampled nearly every item on the extensive menu that offers the classics, including savory omelets, eggs Benedict and skillet, and sweet favorites like pancakes and French toast.

But at Anna's House, as Regional Director Christina Post notes, the motto is "Saving the world from an ordinary breakfast."

The restaurant's menu also offers such dishes as lemon poppyseed crepes and The Famous Breakfast Lasagna. The restaurant's Twilight French Toast was featured on The Cooking Channel and they have Bolton's current favorite, Chocolate Quinoa Breakfast Bowl. In addition Anna's House serves a variety of vegetarian, gluten-free and dairy-free options.

Seasonal offerings will begin this fall in Milford, and customers are encouraged to donate a coffee mug to the restaurant in exchange for a free coffee that day, which is sourced locally from Zingerman's in Ann Arbor.

The roughly 180-seat capacity res-



Anna's House in Milford will be able to seat nearly 200 guests when it opens May 1 at the intersection of Milford Road and Highland Avenue. PHOTOS BY SUSAN BROMLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

taurant has an eclectic, fun, pastel decor, with a '50s retro vibe. Diners may recognize tributes to the TV series "Alice," with characters who worked in Mel's Diner featured in the hand-painted murals on restroom doors. Another mural near the front door highlights the GM Proving Ground.

The most important addition to the restaurant will arrive on opening day: the staff of about 45 employees waiting to serve you.

"I'm thrilled with the support team,"

Bolton said. "With the employees, this place will be amazing. We will get to know our guests by name and they will become regulars."

"We will be ready to welcome you with open arms."

Anna's House opens May 1, with hours from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily. For more information, call 248-717-2838.

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



Anna's House, 780 N. Milford Road.

Return

Continued from Page 1A

The critters' return to the region was cause for celebration and a testament to the Rouge's improvement over the years.

"Basically, beavers were wiped out by the fur trade in the late 1800s," said Sally Petrella, a watershed ecologist with the Friends of the Rouge. "They hadn't been seen in southeast Michigan in over 100 years, so it is really exciting to have them back."

Beavers have been spotted all along the river in the last decade, and Petrella believes there's a "pretty decent" popu-

lation.

Beavers benefit other creatures

Petrella said some worry beavers will build dams in the river, causing log jams.

However, most of the Rouge is too deep for dams, so beavers live in dens on the side of and under the river.

The best part? Plenty of other animals can call the dens home even after beavers have left. Dens consist of a tunnel network, including "rooms" and a place to store food.

"Not only is it a really nice place for them in the winter, but other animals use it too," Petrella said. "We've seen a lot of muskrats, frogs, mice and other

animals around here who will use it. The beavers create this nice habitat, and they don't seem to mind."

Petrella said beavers occasionally bring trees down. But since they're nocturnal, beavers don't pose any risk to park-goers.

Calling the Rouge home

The return to metro Detroit, and their decision to stay, are encouraging to Petrella. She said there's still a lot of work to be done, but is proud of the Rouge's improvement.

"When I was a kid back in the 80s, we were told not to touch the river," she said. "It's come an incredibly long way."

Petrella said people who see beavers

or signs of a den should let the Friends of the Rouge know, but also be sure to give the animals their privacy.

Craig encouraged people to slow down and enjoy metro Detroit's natural resources. He thinks the Rouge has plenty to find for those willing to look.

"I want to see these things," he said. "Walking in the woods is more about searching, seeking and going slow as opposed to jogging or wearing earbuds."

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Contact reporter Shelby Tankersley at stankersle@hometownlife.com or 248-305-0448. Follow her on Twitter @shelby_tankk.

Maples Golf Club plans to reopen restaurant, serve alcohol to patrons

David Veselenak

Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

NOVI — A Novi golf course recently received city approval for a liquor license, which will allow it to serve alcohol for the first time in years.

The Novi City Council recently signed off on Maples Hospitality LLC's efforts to obtain a state Class C liquor license. The company plans to reopen the restaurant at Maples Golf Club, 31260 Wakefield Drive, inside the clubhouse of the nine-hole golf course off 14 Mile Road, between M-5 and Novi Road.

With the city's approval in hand, the owners hope to open the restaurant by July 1. A Class C license allows bars and

restaurants to serve beer, wine, mixed spirits drinks, and spirits for consumption on the premises.

The city's approval came months after the restaurant's ownership went before council just before Christmas, requesting the city's approval. The decision was postponed after city officials said not enough progress had been made to get the restaurant ready to reopen.

"At that point, they were not ready yet for this request," interim City Manager Victor Cardenas said. "They had been working with our staff diligently, and staff is now recommending approval as they have made significant progress with the county health department and other inspectors."

Charles Boulard, the city's director of community development, also said the restaurant has made significant progress, including on necessary renovations and necessary approvals.

"They have gone through and gotten their approvals from the county department of health and like the community health department, the county will be ready to issue the approval as soon as the work is completed," he said.

Once open, the restaurant will serve appetizers, soups, salads, burgers, sandwiches and entrees, according to a menu shared with the city.

Councilman Justin Fischer said he was happy to see the project moving forward, especially after hearing feedback from residents who live nearby who

wanted to see the property remain a golf course and with an on-site restaurant.

"I am very happy to see the investment being made. There's been a lot of resident concern about what was going to go into that area," he said. "The residents in that area wanted it to remain a restaurant and a golf course area. I'm impressed with what's transpired since our last meeting and I would in support of this approval tonight."

According to its website, the "executive" course, which dates to 1993, stretches to 3,718 yards, and also offers soccer golf and has a swimming pool.

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

Northville farmer's market deal with McDonald Ford falls through

David Veselenak

Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

NORTHVILLE — The former McDonald Ford site on the eastern side of Northville will not be the next home of the city's farmer's market after plans to purchase the site fell through.

After a due diligence period that was authorized by the city council earlier this year, a deal could not be reached between the city and the property's owner. Despite that, city officials say they believe they'll still find a suitable location for the market beginning in 2024.

"We're still hopeful to work something out in that vicinity," Mayor Brian Turnbull said. "We have alternative sites in the interim."

The original deal authorized the city to purchase just under three acres of McDonald Ford property land for up to \$1 million. The city entered a due diligence period earlier this year, putting down \$50,000 for a six-month window. Because the parties could not come to a



The May 5, 2022, Northville Farmers Market. JOHN HEIDER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

deal on the property, the city will receive that \$50,000 back, Turnbull said.

The city council originally authorized the process late last year to purchase the property off Seven Mile Road, just west of Main Street, to house the farmer's market, which has to relocate from its current home due to the upcoming Northville Downs redevelopment. Preliminary plans for the Northville Downs site were approved by the city council in

November.

The Northville Farmer's Market is operated by the Northville Chamber of Commerce. The search for a new home is a collaboration between several entities, including the city and the chamber. A task force with the city is also working in an advisory capacity as well.

The planned construction at the Northville Downs site, which includes town homes and more, will disrupt the site where the market has been for years, requiring the move. It will be the biggest move the market has seen since it arrived at its current home in the early '90s.

Susan Haifleigh, the lead of the farmer's market task force for the city, said there were more than a dozen sites the task force considered originally. With the McDonald Ford site now off the table, she said she's still hopeful the market will find a new home.

"We kind of knew we were going have to do," she said. "It doesn't really change dramatically our approach."

The challenge for a new farmer's

market will be how to best utilize the space more than just for a weekly market. Visions for the market include using it as a gathering space with room for other events, Haifleigh said.


With the market's location, some discussions have taken place about potentially locating it in Northville Township, which has struck a partnership with the city in recent years. Haifleigh said there's more discussions about where the market could be but said it needed to still be near Northville.

"I think we would consider sites, but they would need to be very, very close to the city," she said.

The farmer's market opens for the season May 4 and runs each Thursday until Oct. 26.

Get the latest headlines for metro Detroit every morning in your mailbox by signing up for our daily briefings newsletter.

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





HATS ON! KENTUCKY DERBY PRE-PARTY

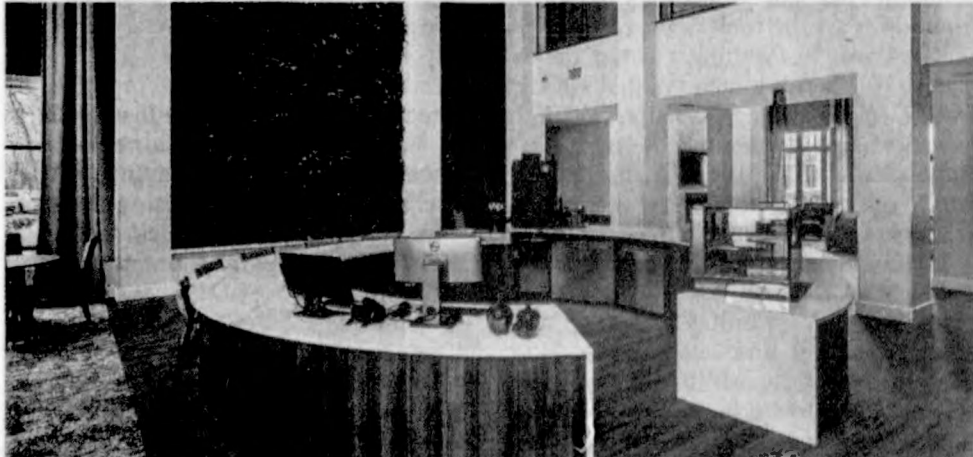
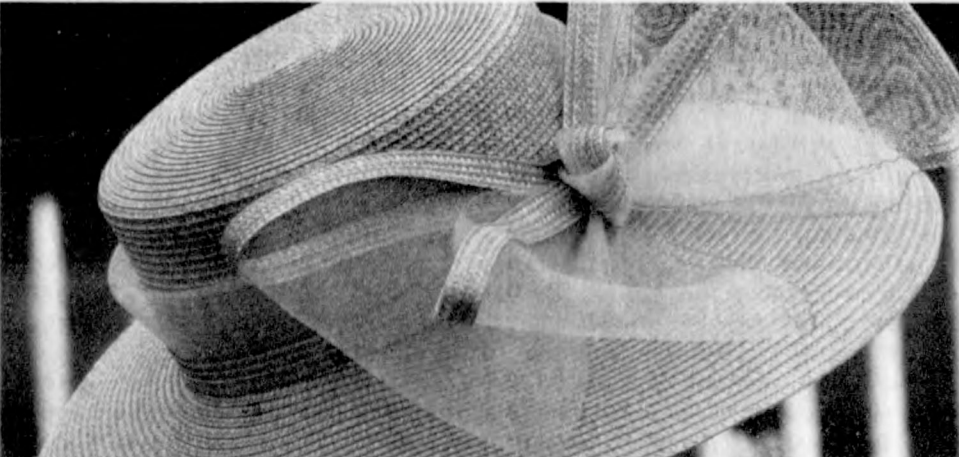
Thursday, May 4
2 – 3:30 pm

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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 20 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

Arms	Early	Hullarbor	Signal
Bega	Electric	Plain	Speed
Bend	Fast	Pack	Stop
Berth	Flag	Pimba	Taree
Cars	Gaze	Puzzle	Ticket
Comfortable	Halg	Rail	Time
Cook	Hostess	Renmark	Tired
Delay	Idle	Roads	Tour
Depot	Inns	Roma	View
Diner	Lane	Safe	Wait
Door	Motel	Save	York
Driver	Newspaper	Seat	
Dubbo	Noise	Shunted	

TODAY'S ANSWER

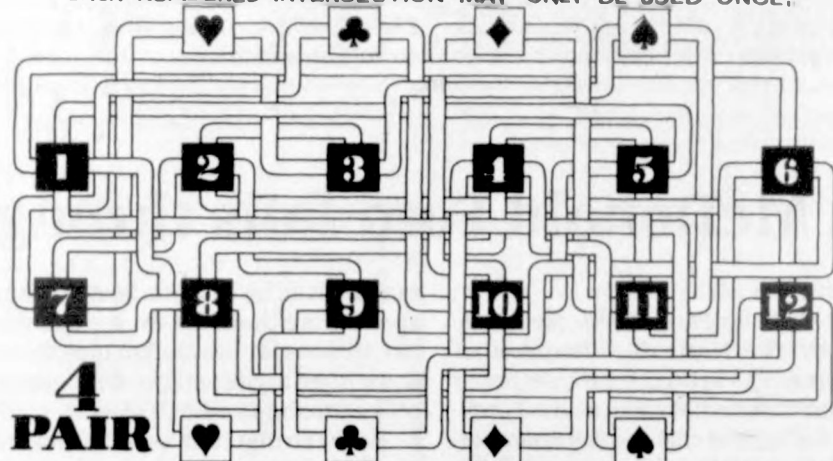
Taking the scenic route

Going by train

ENALCNEWSPAPERB
CUTTIOAARMTOPE
OLDSRIOKAI RDGSR
MLOATOLKCHEATNE
FAOFCGATLETOMHN
ORREERNDFPFRGDM
RBEDLAGSSRLIEUA
TONMEIIAEOEAAMBR
ARI IILSMZHAVGBK
BPDEDTAREEITSOA
LLBENDVYREVIRDN
EARLYCEEWNYPUNPO
IHOSTESSCORANI
TNSHUNTEDTRCOUS
PUZZLETTICKETEE

PUZZLES & POSTERS

TRACE FOUR PATHS MATCHING EACH OF THE CARD SUITS. EACH NUMBERED INTERSECTION MAY ONLY BE USED ONCE.



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: SILVER

TODAY'S ANSWER

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

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

NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Some maidens
6 Bighorn sheep predator
10 Ad trailer
13 Vast watershed of the West
15 He was "of the dust of the ground"
17 Source of a little juice
18 Trivial
19 Device with a mirrored pentaprism
20 What to do before going
21 What many a farm has raised
22 Hold back
23 Send around the bend
25 What vaults are installed above
28 Refreshments that aren't hard to enjoy
32 Not very bright
33 Gymwear material
34 Title in Tamil
35 Kitchen
36 Term akin to
37 Down
37 Obsess over, these days
38 "Just what I wanted," often
39 Beneficiaries of small class sizes
40 Ice breaker at a party
41 They get steamed every day
43 Doctors at parties, say
44 With the hour almost gone
45 "Whatever it is, you can get it" there
47 What's common to a nail and a whale
48 Was heated from within
51 Cradling spot

- 54 A unicycle has one
55 Solitaire variety
57 Orca cousin
58 Puzzling out
59 Spear phisher's initial target
60 Singer/songwriter claiming a whale in his family history
61 Climber's avalanche-safe spot

DOWN

- 1 Persian equivalents of
34 Across
2 Philharmonic (regular performer of Prokofiev)
3 Virtually
4 One assembled in a bar
5 Puts on
6 Gooney sammies
7 Implements

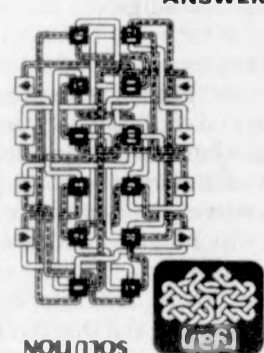
- 8 Metaphor for trouble
9 Words to learn who's going along
10 Its capital has a pointy top
11 With stars in one's eyes
12 Challenge for a Quarter Horse
14 Battleship call
16 "The sport of circumstances," per Byron
22 Far from facile
24 NFL protective contingent
25 DJIA's replacement for AT&T (2015)
26 City with an Eiffel Tower topped with a cowboy hat
27 Is out and about
29 Orthopedist's prefix
30 Where you'll often find the Swiss

- 31 Can't keep up
33 One of the Seven Ancient Wonders, in today's Turkey
37 Keep from littering
39 Four-atom chloride, to chemists
42 Was aboard
43 Job for a chef
46 '50s TV nickname heard on the Roku Channel
47 Leg-day regimen beneficiary
49 Less-than-definitive denial
50 Tesla, e.g.
51 Term for some tongues
52 Kind of crossbar
53 What often comes with a new addr.
56 Middle of the century when the Ostrogoths left Rome



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TODAY'S ANSWER



Canton man donates kidney to co-worker

Laura Colvin

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

CANTON — Greg Hohenberger admits he didn't know much about organ donation when he learned his longtime co-worker needed a kidney. He knew he might not be a match, but he wanted to be supportive.

For Hohenberger, a married father of four, the desire to help was largely motivated by the recent loss of a lifelong friend — the wife of his best friend — who succumbed last year to a battle with breast cancer.

"We just had to sit and watch her go through that and there was nothing we could do," he said. "You can't really help."

So when longtime colleague Abe Vinitski mentioned he would be needing some time off work once a kidney donor was identified, Hohenberger immediately went online to fill out a form indicating his interest in becoming a living kidney donor.

In the early stages, he said, he didn't expect anything to come of his offer.

Both men are 20-plus year Canton Township employees. Hohenberger, 46, is the township's director of leisure services, while Vinitski, 50, is Canton's parks and sports supervisor.

Kidney trouble 'out of nowhere'

The trouble with Vinitski's kidneys began about 10 years ago and "seemed to come out of nowhere."

"I was probably in the best shape of shape of my life, doing trail runs and all kinds of crazy things," he said. "Then I just woke up one day and my sides hurt really bad. I'm like, 'Wow, what's going on?'"

A diagnosis of Type 2 diabetes was quickly followed by the news that his kidneys were in trouble. Even with treatment, proper diet and exercise, his kidney function continued to deteriorate over the next five years until his doctor recommended he get on the transplant waitlist.

By last spring, Vinitski was retaining fluid and feeling constantly exhausted.

It was time, doctors said, to begin dialysis. The process began when he got



Greg Hohenberger, left, and Abe Vinitski pose at the Canton Township offices, where they both work, after undergoing kidney transplant surgery March 3. LAURA COLVIN/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

home from work each evening and lasted until it was time to go back to work the following morning.

After three months, when it became clear he would need a kidney soon, Vinitski decided he should mention it at work, so his colleagues would know he'd be needing some time off.

'He's like me, a family guy'

When Hohenberger heard the news, he thought of Hope, his friend who died from breast cancer. As teens, Hohenberger and the girl he would later marry, Kara, attended summer camp in west Michigan with Hope and Aaron, the man Hope would later marry. Both couples had children, co-purchased a boat

and spent many summer hours together on the lake.

Hope's death left a hole. So when Hohenberger had the opportunity to help a friend at work, he took notice.

"This was something I could do to make a difference instead of just sitting there watching him go through this and have his health continue to deteriorate," Hohenberger said. "Abe is like me. He's a family guy...and I know how much my kids and family means to me."

Ultimately, he cleared one eligibility hurdle after another.

After several months of the required medical testing and evaluations, Hohenberger — a fitness buff and avid runner — was approved to donate a kidney.

At 5:30 a.m. on March 3, both men

and their wives reported to the University of Michigan Hospital in Ann Arbor to be prepped for surgery.

Chronic kidney disease

Chronic kidney disease, or CKD, is characterized by a gradual loss of kidney function; damaged kidneys have decreased ability to filter waste from the blood and high levels of waste can leave a person feeling tired and sick. CKD can also lead to other serious or fatal health conditions.

According to the National Kidney Foundation, 37 million Americans have chronic kidney disease. About 100,000

See KIDNEY, Page 7A

Kidney

Continued from Page 6A

are waiting for a kidney transplant at any given time.

The origins of kidney disease are well known.

"Diabetes and high blood pressure are the number one cause," said Dr. Meredith Barrett, assistant professor of transplant surgery at Michigan Medicine in Ann Arbor. "The kidneys are made up of tubules and collecting systems, which can be sensitive to both of those things."

The transplant procedure, she said, is fairly common. At U-M, where Barrett works and Hohenberger and Vinitski had their surgery, surgeons typically perform several kidney transplants each week. Living donations are always the first choice, but not the most common.

Data from the Organ Procurement & Transplantation Network shows that 25,499 kidney transplants were performed in the U.S. in 2022. Of those, 5,853 – about 23% – came from living donors while the majority, 19,636, came from deceased donors.

Without a living donor, a person can be waiting for a kidney from a deceased donor for years.

"Those are still great kidneys and get people off of dialysis," Barrett said. "But people do have to wait in line."

A genetic link between donor and recipient is not required to ensure a successful transplant. In fact, donors don't even need to have the same blood type as the recipient; paired exchange programs allow an incompatible pair to match up with another incompatible pair, allowing the two donors to switch recipients.

Still, any donor must undergo a long series of evaluations to be cleared for the process.

"Even if someone wants to give a kidney so bad that they're willing to risk their own health...we don't allow that to happen," Barrett said. "We do a very thorough medical workup to make sure every (health issue) we're aware of now, and everything we can predict in the future, suggests the donor will be OK living on just one kidney."

Barrett said she encourages everyone to consider becoming an organ donor.

"It can bring new life for someone



Abe Vinitski, left, and Greg Hohenberger prepare for kidney transplant surgery March 3 at University of Michigan Hospital in Ann Arbor on March 3. PHOTOS COURTESY ABE VINITSKI

who's in desperate need," she said. "Life on dialysis is not pleasant for anyone. For someone to...give their kidney, to give someone a new life, is what makes my job amazing."

"Every day I get to see miracles, seeing organs that are without blood flow get put into someone and start pumping blood," she added. "You can actually see the kidneys start working, literally in front of your eyes."

'It's not easy, but it's worth it'

Today, both Vinitski and Hohenberger are on the road to recovery.

Vinitski spent three days in the hospital after the surgery and says he is feeling better than he has in years.

"It's hard to put in words what Greg (Hohenberger) did for me and my family," he said. "I could have been on dialysis a long time, but he gave me my regular life back and it's not too far of a stretch to say that he literally saved my life. To allow someone to cut you open and take an organ out is a pretty selfless act."

Hohenberger was in the hospital two days – one day longer than anticipated –

Donate Life Month

April is National Donate Life Month. National Donate Life Month (NDLM) was established by Donate Life America and its partnering organizations in 2003. Observed in April each year, National Donate Life Month helps raise awareness about donation, encourage Americans to register as organ, eye and tissue donors and to honor those that have saved lives through the gift of donation.



Vinitski underwent several months of home dialysis before the transplant.

and said he would "absolutely" do it again.

That's not to say that donating a kidney was easy. Or fun. Some of the prolonged pretesting was nerve-racking, as was the unexpected "intense" pain afterward from a complication.

The recovery has been a little slower than he hoped, and he's still taking it easy, doctor's orders. Still, a recent 10-mile walk felt really great and he's looking forward to a good, long run.

"You get asked a ton of 'what ifs' by everybody," he said. "What if one of your kids needs a kidney one day?"

"What if this happens, what if that happens?" I'm not the type to go down those rabbit holes.

"Being able to do this for somebody is such a rewarding thing," he added. "I know that Abe's life is completely changed now, and I was able to help with that. To make such a difference in someone's life and give them some freedom to spend time with family...that's the most important thing."

"If anybody's ever considering doing this, it's worth it," he added. "It's not easy, but it's worth it."

lcolvin@hometownlife.com

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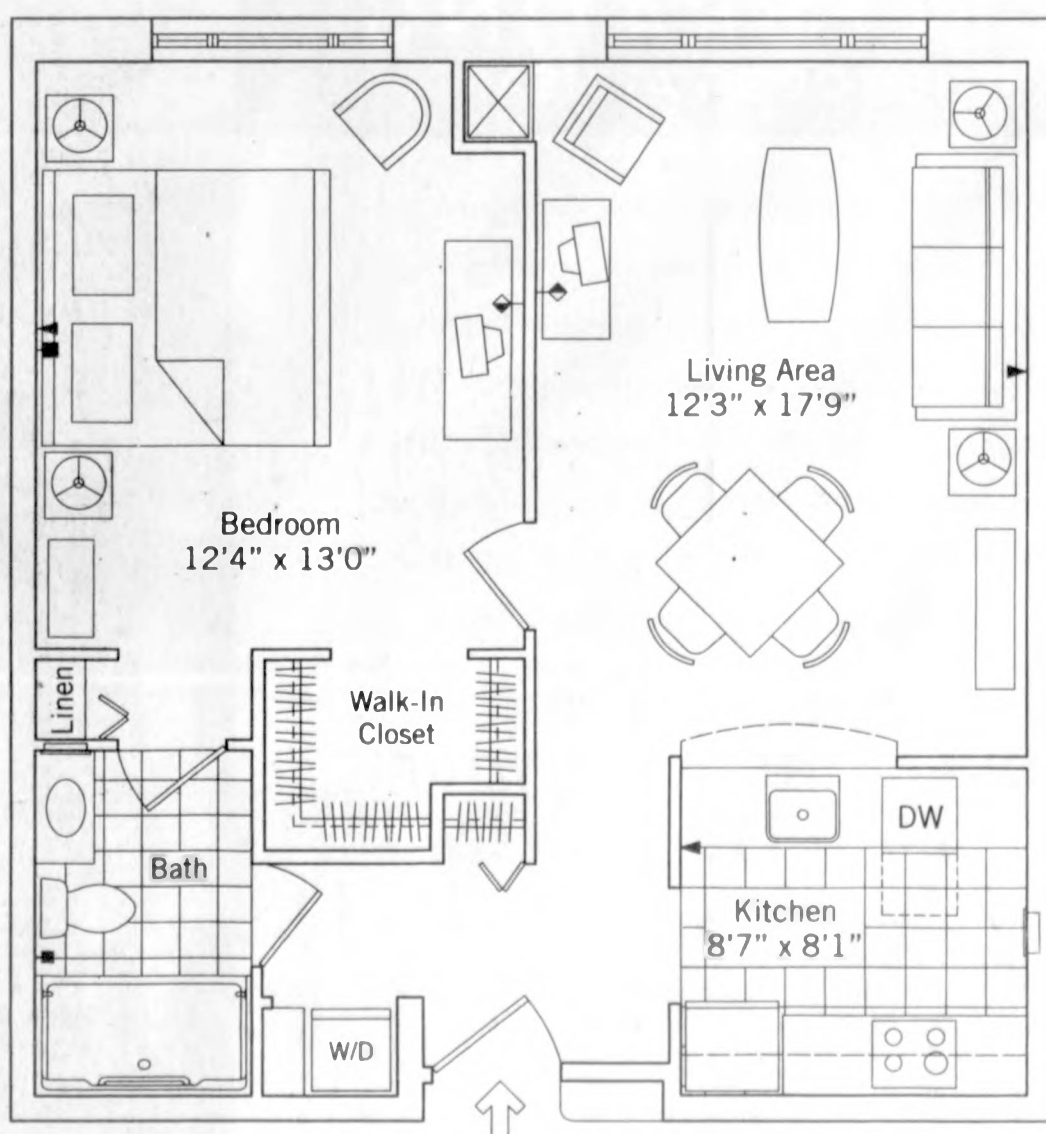
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THE UPDATED DEADLINES FOR SUBMISSIONS ARE:

PUBLICATION DAY	NEW DEADLINE
Thursday	12PM Wednesday (Week Prior)

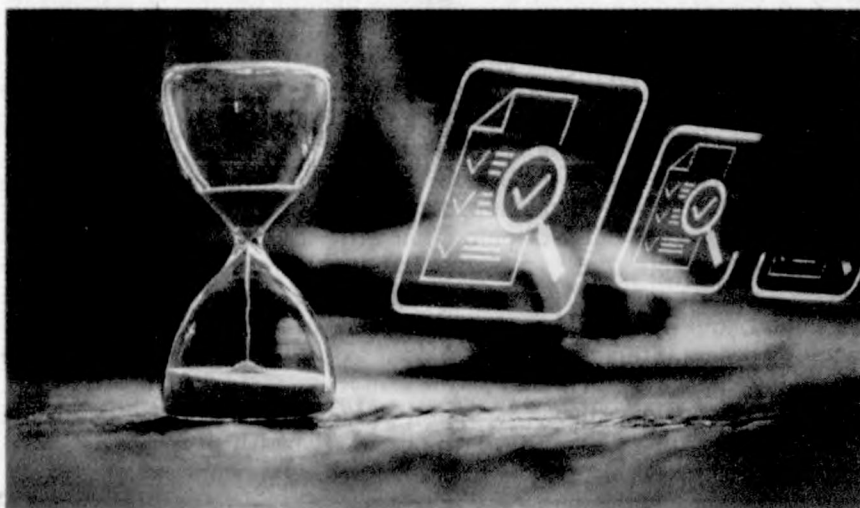
Publications include the Northville Record, Novi News, and South Lyon Herald.

The above deadlines are for legal/public notices publishing within the classified section that contain no images, graphs, maps etc. Special design components will require an earlier deadline, please email for additional information or questions.

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SPORTS

North Farmington girls basketball coach resigns

Brandon Folsom
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Jeff Simpson announced on Twitter he has stepped down as North Farmington's girls basketball coach after nine seasons.

Simpson, who is coaching the Raiders' softball team this spring, spent 29

years within the basketball program, plus he's coached 77 separate seasons for Farmington Public Schools at both the middle school and high school levels.

"I feel it is a time for someone new to come in and lead the Raiders," Simpson wrote in a statement



Simpson

Wednesday morning. "Next year will be my final teaching year, and I'm getting ready for the next set of adventures."

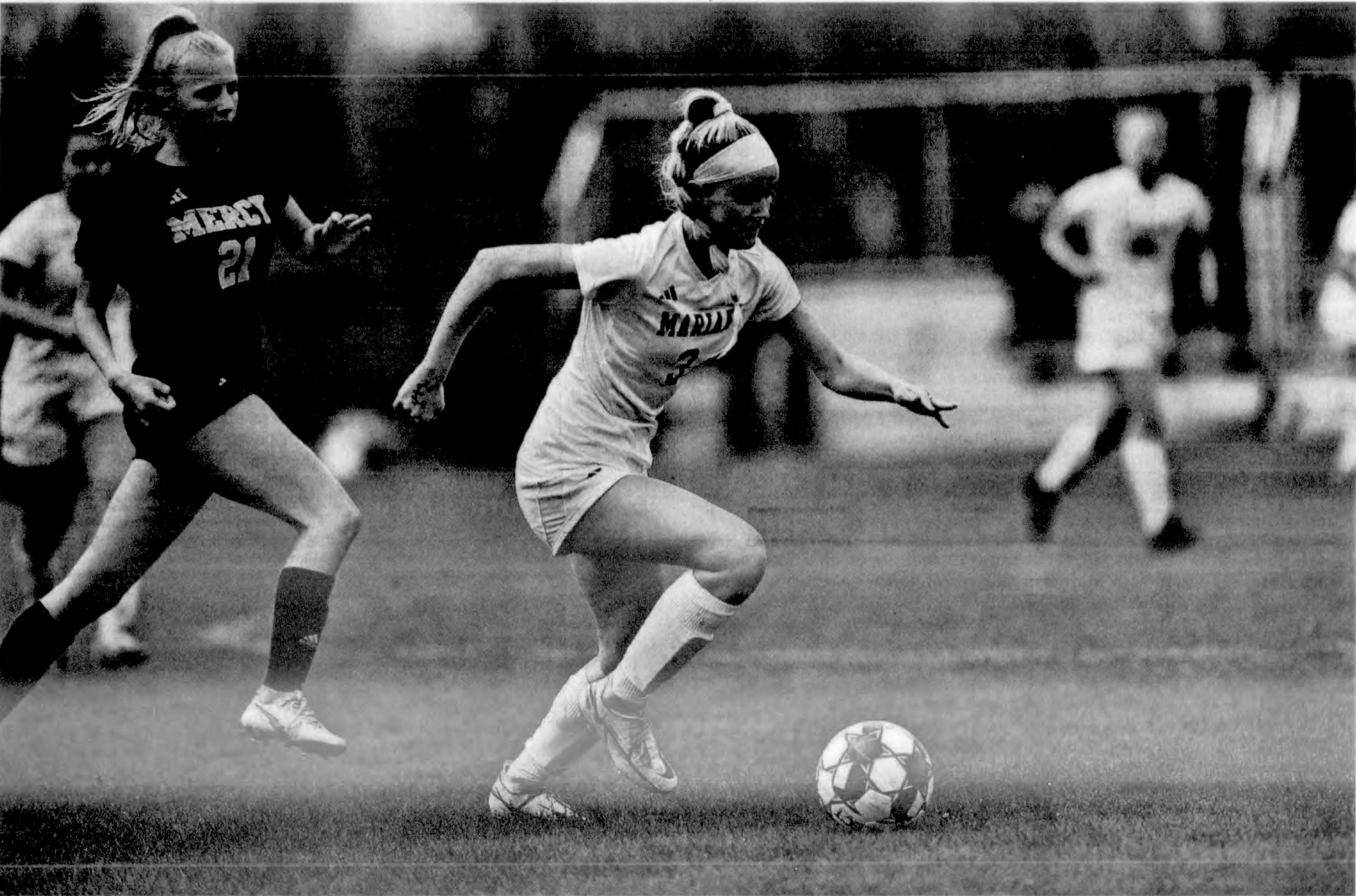
The Raiders sent out Simpson with one final great season. They went 21-0 in the regular season, one of the first teams in Michigan High School Athletic Association history to post an undefeated record under the new 22-game scheduling format introduced this

school year.

They saw their season end with a 59-23 loss to crosstown foe Farmington Hills Mercy in the Division 1 district championship. However, they did get to celebrate an Oakland Activities Association-White title with a perfect 14-0 record.

See COACH, Page 6B

RIVALRY VICTORY



Bloomfield Hills Marian beat rival Farmington Hills Mercy 2-0 in a girls soccer match Saturday. Adrianna Kattoo booted in the winning goal in the second half. Pictured is senior Lucy Kinna going on the attack. BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Stevenson freshman pitches way to comeback win

Brandon Folsom
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

What an absolutely terrible position to be in.

Livonia Stevenson pitcher Brooke Benaske put two runners on early in the opening frame of Wednesday's non-conference softball game against Farmington.

And then she tossed the wrong pitch to Western Michigan University commit Riley Bohanon, who, of course, crushed the freebie for a home run that put the Falcons ahead 3-0 before most fans had time to unfold their lawn chairs.

That's a rough start for a freshman making only her second varsity start ever.

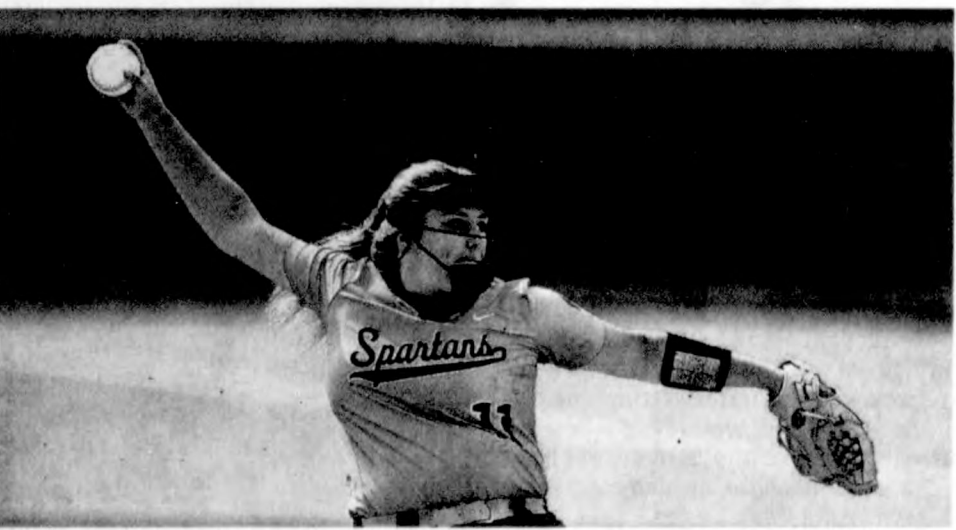
And the worst part? Alma College signee Lily Malamis, who helped Stevenson win its first district championship since 2006 a year ago, wasn't available to replace Benaske in the circle. The senior has been battling a stomach bug and hasn't been able to show up to school all week long.

Giving up a bomb well over 220 feet like that was going to hinder Benaske's focus and allow Farmington to open the spigot and pour on more runs, right? Surely, there was no way the rookie could shake it off.

Wrong.

Benaske pitched herself out of the jam, got a sip of water in the dugout and regrouped on the fly.

See STEVENSON, Page 6B



Livonia Stevenson's Brooke Benaske pitches during a softball game Wednesday, April 19, 2023. BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Get More Sports

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC
hometownlife.com

Spurred by sibling rivalry, Brighton freshman provides boost for golfers

Bill Khan

Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

BRIGHTON — Adam Forcier's initial motivation to improve at golf was to beat his sister.

There's no shame in losing to a golfer like Lauren Forcier, who made first-team all-state as a junior at Brighton last fall, but try telling that to a younger brother.

"She was better than me when we started," he said. "It made me strive to be better than her. We're going at it still."

Lauren Forcier has been a driving force behind the success of the Bulldogs' girls golf program. Perhaps her influence on her kid brother will help keep Brighton's boys competitive well after this year's strong senior class graduates.

Adam Forcier, a freshman playing in his first varsity event, shot 1-over-par 73 to tie for fourth place in the Kensington Lakes Activities Association preseason tournament Thursday at Kensington Metropark Golf Course.

All six Brighton golfers shot in the 70s and cracked the top 13 in the 89-player field, as the Bulldogs took first place with a score of 294. Northville was second out of 15 teams at 297, Novi was third at 304, Howell was fourth at 322 and Hartland was fifth at 328.

With junior Levi Pennala playing goalie for Team Michigan this week in a hockey tournament in Minnesota and lineups expanded from five players to six, Forcier and sophomore Jacob Daavettila made their varsity debuts. They earned their berths the previous day in a JV tournament at Dunham Hills in Hartland, with Forcier shooting 77 to tie for second and Daavettila 78 to tie for fourth.

"I was a little nervous at the start," Forcier said. "Once I started playing well, I kind of calmed down a little bit and started to feel better."

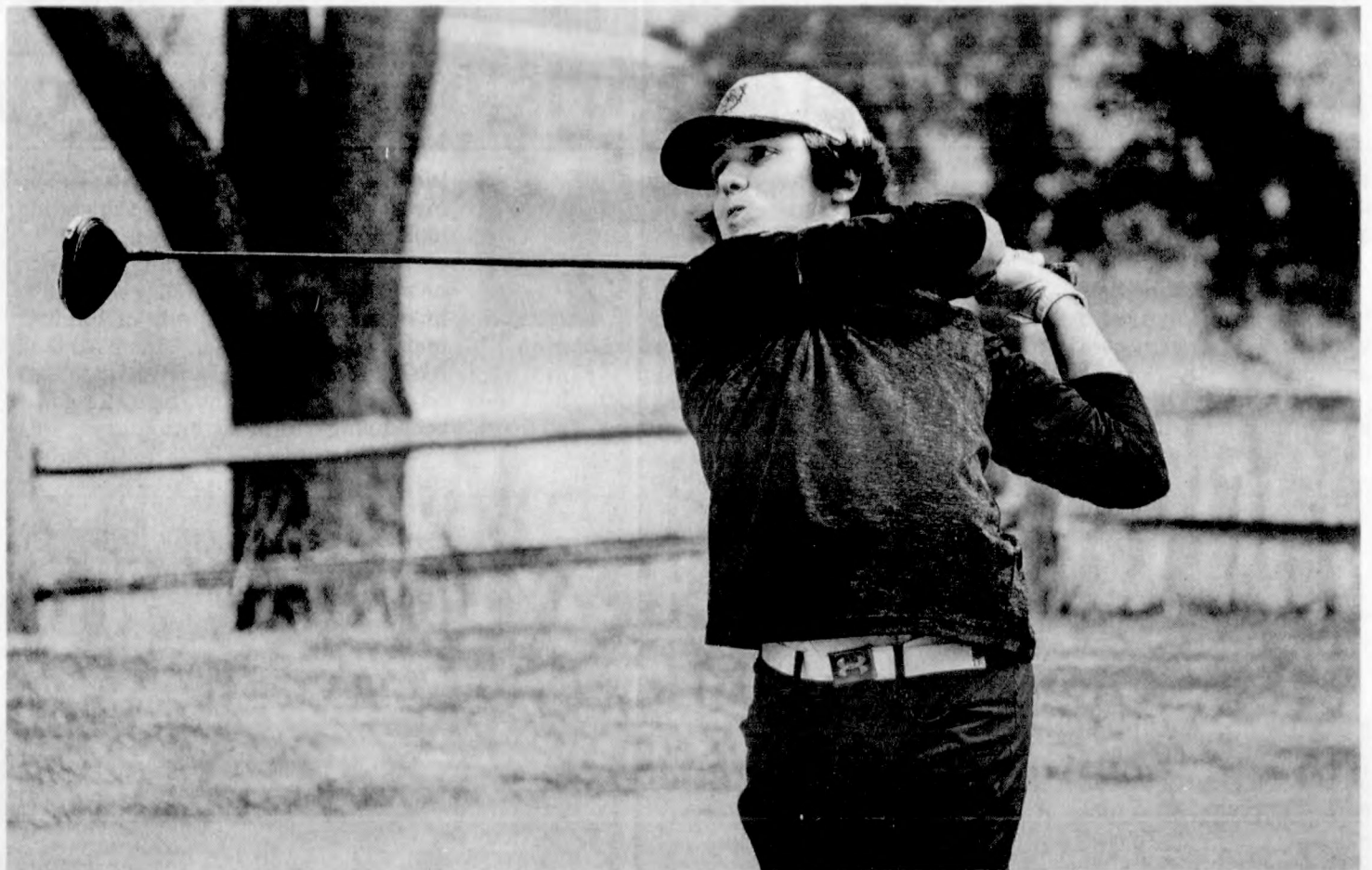
"I wanted to at least make one varsity tournament or match; I already made that happen. I just want to keep getting better throughout the season."

Forcier and his sister both started competing later than most top high school golfers, starting three years ago for something to do when COVID restrictions shut down many other youth sports.

While they have a sibling rivalry, Lauren is one of Adam's biggest boosters. Brighton's girls play many of the same courses as the boys, including at least two tournaments a year at Kensington Metropark.

"She always helps me out with the courses and how to play them, because she's played them before," Adam said. "Also, with the nerves and how to feel going into the tournament."

Making the varsity for the



Brighton freshman Adam Forcier tied for fourth with a 73 in the KLAA preseason golf tournament Thursday at Kensington Metropark Golf Course. PHOTOS BY BILL KHAN/LIVINGSTON DAILY

postseason will be extremely difficult. Lineups have only five golfers for the regional and state tournaments, and Brighton returns all five players from a team that placed third in Division 1 last season.

"That's, of course, my goal, but I would never want to take a spot from someone who's doing good," Forcier said. "Whatever happens happens, but that would be my goal."

Forcier's round was highlighted by eagles on the fifth and 18th holes. As a team, the Bulldogs had four eagles and two birdies on No. 18, playing the 430-yard par-4 at 10-under-par.

Senior Andrew Daily led Brighton with a 72, tying for second place. Northville senior Ryan Gallagher was first with a 70.

"We played pretty well as a team today," Daily said. "Honestly, it feels good knowing I have guys behind me who are going to put good rounds together. It takes the pressure off me."

Lerch tied Forcier for fourth place with a 73.

"We're all rooting for each other," Lerch said. "It's cool to see a freshman go low today; we weren't expecting that. A couple guys went low. It's good to have guys to rely on. Hopefully, we'll compete for something later in the year."

The Bulldogs' other scores were a 76 by junior Riley Morton, a 77 by senior Matt Doyle and a 78 by Daavettila.



Brighton's Winston Lerch watches an approach shot land within six feet of the cup during the KLAA preseason golf tournament Thursday at Kensington Metropark Golf Course.

"We're very fortunate this year that none of our starting five graduated last year, so they're all back," Brighton coach James Dewling said. "We've just got great relationships with our players. Watching the young guys come up and having the opportunity to learn from these older guys is something to see."

We're really excited about the future of those two young players in the lineup today."

Another young Livingston County golfer who excelled was Howell sophomore Zach Spencer, who tied for sixth with a 74.

Howell sophomore Luke Downing and Hartland junior LJ Sabala tied for 19th by shooting 80s.

The results from Thursday and the KLAA postseason tournament May 23 at Kensington Metropark will determine the league champion.

KLAA preseason golf tournament

Team scoring

1. Brighton 294; 2. Northville 297; 3. Novi 304; 4. Howell 322; 5. Hartland 328; 6. Salem 329; 7. Livonia Franklin 334; 8. Livonia Stevenson 338; 9. Canton 339; 10. Plymouth 357; 11. Livonia Churchill 375; 12. Westland John Glenn 378; 13. Dearborn 385; 14. Belleville 451; 15. Wayne 514.

Top individuals

Ryan Gallagher, Northville, 70
Andrew Daily, Brighton, 72
Gowtham Nalluri, Novi, 72
Adam Forcier, Brighton, 73
Winston Lerch, Brighton, 73
Zach Spencer, Howell, 74
Greg Braun, Northville, 74
Harshan Juttu, Novi, 75
Andrew Caprara, Franklin, 75
Mason Sokolowski, Northville, 75
Riley Morton, Brighton, 76
Matt Doyle, Brighton, 77
Jacob Daavettila, Brighton, 78
Colin Riehl, Novi, 78
Nick Tokarz, Northville, 78

Cooper Andrzejewski lifts Brighton to win over Salem

Bill Khan

Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

BRIGHTON — Baseball season didn't start the way Brighton pitcher Cooper Andrzejewski hoped it would, but a rough first outing is looking more like an aberration.

On a day when the Bulldogs needed to bounce back with some strong pitching, Andrzejewski provided a lift on the mound Wednesday in a 9-4 victory over Salem.

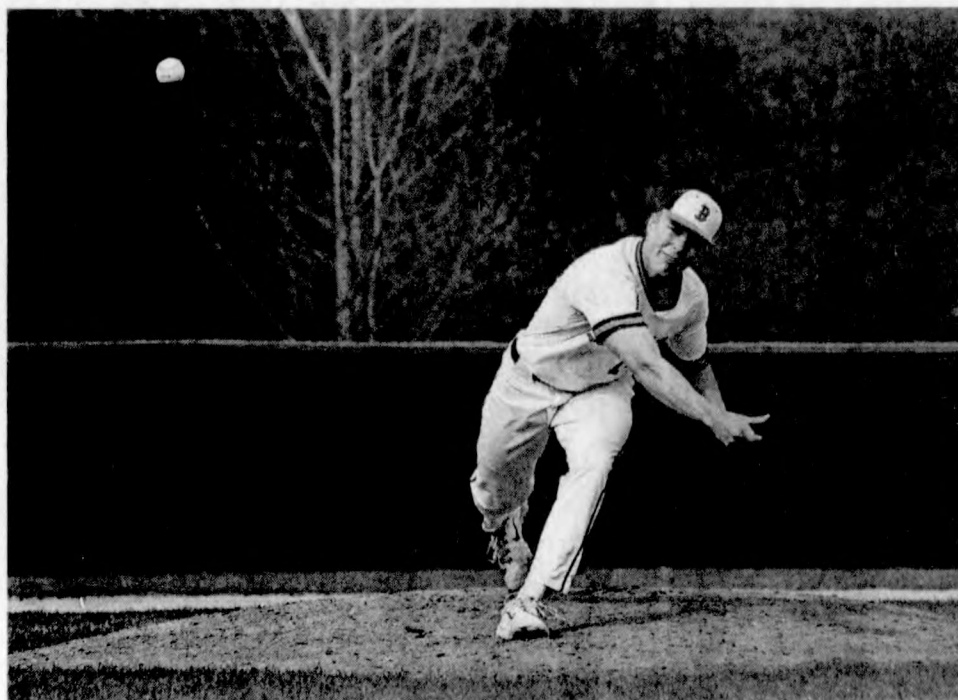
He allowed only one run through five innings, as the Bulldogs built a 7-1 lead. Andrzejewski left after getting one out in the sixth and wound up allowing three runs on five hits, striking out four.

For good measure, he also contributed a two-run homer.

"That was a big deal," Brighton coach Charlie Christner said. "It was good to see. What we've seen out of Cooper the last two outings has been what we expect from him. He did it a little bit today with the bat, too, with that big home run to stretch the lead and give himself a bit of a cushion."

It was Andrzejewski's first start in a KLAA West game after Easton Storey and Luke Micunek worked the two-game sets against Northville and Novi. Micunek started in a 9-8 loss to Salem on Tuesday before Andrzejewski was given the nod in the rematch.

"It's just kind of the way the schedule fell this week and last week in terms of pitchers and where some of our guys are this week," Christner said. "We've got



Brighton junior Cooper Andrzejewski allowed one run through five innings in a 9-4 victory over Salem on Wednesday. BILL KHAN/LIVINGSTON DAILY

confidence in a lot of guys to throw; he's one of them. When he's on, he's pretty tough."

After Andrzejewski reached his pitch limit, Storey worked the final 1/3 innings.

In his season debut, Andrzejewski allowed four runs in 1 2/3 innings against Livonia Stevenson on April 7. He rebounded by throwing a one-hitter in an 8-1 victory over Linden on April 14, striking out eight batters in seven innings.

"Everything was working pretty well for me," said Andrzejewski, a junior. "I felt overall pretty good. I had a rough start, but the last two games I've been doing really well. I'm feeling pretty good about myself."

Andrzejewski's homer came on the first pitch he saw in the bottom of the third.

"I saw a nice high fast ball and took my chance at it," he said.

While Andrzejewski hit the big blow

for the Bulldogs, senior Conner Prah continued to wield one of the most productive bats on the team.

Prah went 2-for-3, driving in five runs. His bases-loaded single to left on a 3-2 pitch with two outs in the fifth brought home three runs. He also brought home runs on a sacrifice fly in the first and a double in the sixth.

"I'm just trying to keep the head clear and keep it moving for the boys, keep driving in runs where I can and do my work," Prah said. "Last year, I came in here and there where I was needed. This year, I'm starting full-time. I feel a lot more included. There's a lot more going on, a lot more to handle."

Last season, Prah had 62 plate appearances, hitting .306 and driving home 12 runs. This year, he's played in all but one of Brighton's 13 games, hitting .378 with 16 RBIs and seven doubles. He has five multi-RBI games.

"We thought he was a good hitter last year," Christner said. "It was a tough lineup to get into. He had a really good winter. We were expecting big things from him. We hit him four right from the beginning, based on what we saw inside."

"He's picked up and taken off with that. He's just staying within what he is and not trying to overdo things and overthink things. He's a pretty level-headed kid. He's doing what all the guys and myself thought he was going to do this year."

Hunter Hopman went 3-for-4 and scored three runs for the Bulldogs (10-3), who are ranked 10th in Division 1.

GIRLS TRACK & FIELD

Best of the best

Who are Livingston County's top 5 athletes this year?

Bill Khan
Livingston Daily
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN



Long jump is among several events in which Howell's Sophie Daugard excels. DAN ZEPPA/FOR THE LIVINGSTON DAILY

1. Sophie Daugard

- **School:** Howell
- **Class:** Senior
- **Accomplishments:** No athlete in the county can excel in as many events as Daugard, who has signed with Ball State to compete in heptathlon. Coming off a successful basketball season, she

has already broken her personal bests in the 100-meter dash (13.09 seconds), 200 (27.71), shot put (38 feet, 8.5 inches) and long jump (16-9.75). She helped Howell achieve sixth-place finishes in the 400 and 800 relays in last year's Division 1 state meet, good enough for all-state in each event.

2. Brielle Reason

- **School:** Pinckney
- **Class:** Junior

• **Accomplishments:** Reason made Division 2 all-state by placing fourth in the long jump with a leap of 16 feet, 10.75 inches last season. She cleared 17-5.75 to win the regional, a mark she nearly broke by going 17-5.25 in the second meet this season. She



Brielle Reason
COURTESY PHOTO

came within one place of qualifying for state in two relays.

3. Mackenzie Wright

- **School:** Howell
- **Class:** Senior

• **Accomplishments:** Wright will be looking to lower her school records in the 1,600 (5:07.46) and 3,200 (11:06.61) before moving on to run for Michigan State University. She qualified for the state meet in the open 3,200 and 1,600 relay last season.

4. Carrigan Eberly

- **School:** Brighton



Mackenzie Wright holds Howell's school records in the 1,600 and 3,200.



Brighton's Carrigan Eberly should have a breakout season on the track after giving up soccer.

- **Class:** Junior
- **Accomplishments:** Eberly could make huge strides this spring after giving up soccer to focus on running. She had an impressive start, outkicking Wright in the 3,200 relay and 1,600 in a season-opening dual meet. Eberly has personal bests of 2:25.32 in the 800 and 5:17.38 in the 1,600.



Howell's Tianna Bennett was on two all-state relay teams in 2022.

PHOTOS BY BILL KHAN/LIVINGSTON DAILY

5. Tianna Bennett

- **School:** Howell
- **Class:** Senior
- **Accomplishments:** Bennett has been a key cog in Howell's sprint relays the past couple years, but she broke out individually by winning the 100 in 13.01 and 200 in 27.12 during a dual meet against Brighton. Bennett was on Howell's sixth-place 400 and 800 relays in last year's state meet.

Livonia Clarenceville hosting Tim Shaw Football Camp

Brandon Folsom
HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Inspirational former NFL player Tim Shaw is hosting his 11th annual football camp on June 3 at Livonia Clarenceville.

The four-hour camp, which starts at 4:30 p.m. and costs \$20 to register, is for boys and girls in third through 11th grades who want to learn how to compete, improve speed training and develop offensive and defensive skills.

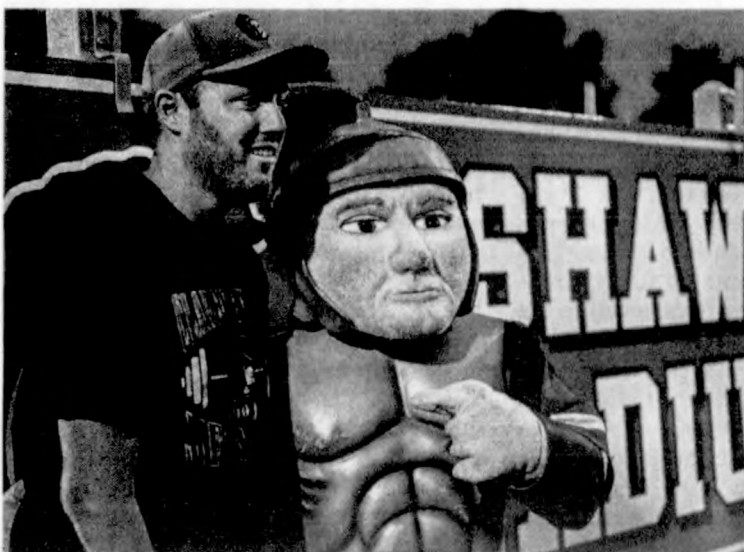
Shaw, who graduated from Clarence-

ville, played at Penn State, was drafted by the Carolina Panthers in the fifth round of the 2007 NFL Draft and played five seasons professionally, including the final three with the Tennessee Titans.

However, since retiring from football, Shaw has been publicly battling the neurodegenerative disease ALS.

Register at bit.ly/ShawCamp.

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



Tim Shaw and the Clarenceville Trojan mascot pose for photographs. BILL BRESLER/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

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Northville, Salem girls soccer physical until final whistle

Brandon Folsom
HometownLife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Thursday was a shoving match from the get-go.

Quite literally.

When the referees called over the captains for the pre-game skull session at midfield, Northville senior Grace Koski gave Salem's Olivia Schuck a playful shove. Which wasn't malicious by any means. The two are actually BFFs off the pitch (and we'll touch on that later).

But that friendly moment was a prelude for just how tough the eventual 2-2 tie between the Kensington Lakes Activities Association-West girls soccer rivals played out.

There weren't any red cards issued, but, boy, was there some really, really physical play. Tackles turned into incidental trips. Jockeying for position on 50-50 balls turned into pushes. And both teams left the match feeling like they could've given just a little more before that final whistle blew.

"This is what we came here expecting," said longtime Salem coach Kyle Karns, whose Rocks are 4-1-1 and 3-1-1 in an already-jumbled standings race atop the West. "We knew they'd be a good team, so it was going to be a test. I thought we played well and put ourselves in a situation to be up 2-0. Unfortunately, when we got scored on there, I felt the momentum switch a little bit. The takeaway from us is how do we respond from there."

Schuck netted both goals for the Rocks.

Her first came just 3 minutes into play after Northville's defenders got out of position and she drummed up a one-on-one opportunity against goalie Simran Magnan. Schuck buried her attempt from the left side of the net.

That should've been a wake-up call for the Mustangs. It should've triggered a sense of urgency and got them thinking, "Hey, Salem doesn't care you're the No. 2-ranked team in Michigan. They don't care that you played in the state championship a year ago. Let's get to work before they beat us."

But that's not what happened.

Northville (4-0-2, 4-0-2) couldn't complete runs in the first half, and it left about four solid scoring chances on the



Northville's Kailyn Morrison looks to score during a KLAA-West girls soccer match Thursday, April 20, 2023.

BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

pitch before it regrouped at halftime.

And then, once again, Schuck scored 3 minutes into the next half on a bang-bang effort where she put her body on the line to push in a tough goal from point-blank.

"We've had conversations about this before games," second-year Northville coach Jeannine Reddy said. "It takes us a little too long to get into the game. It (going down 2-0 to a rival) ignites them a little more to have that extra run or extra push. I believe that's what happened here today."

It sure did.

The offense finally started playing carefree in the final 30 minutes. They begin scrapping and putting together scoring opportunities from all angles.

And then, finally, with 30 minutes left, Reese Cassie sailed a free kick from about 40 yards out into the penalty box that Koski, who fought through quite the scrum, somehow pushed into the net to get the Mustangs rolling.

"We get told by our coaches all the

time to follow it," Koski said of Cassie's moonball. "Reese played a great ball. All I had to do was just touch it in. It was all her, honestly. It was a great ball. We get coached all the time to follow through, follow through, and I just was in the right place at the right time."

Koski was in the right place at the right time, once again, five minutes later. Following another tough, physical scrum in the penalty box, Koski set up Kailyn Morrison with a pass that the junior blasted in from the left side of the net.

That's right. Schuck landed the first two blows, but Koski responded with a pair herself in the second half.

"I would consider us best friends off the field," said Schuck, who developed her relationship with Koski while playing for the Michigan Jaguars club. "We play on the same club team together, so we've played together the past two years, and we've had a really tight bond. From everything we've been through over the last year, especially with our

club team making it to nationals last year, we've been super close. It was really fun to get to battle her today because, obviously, we're good friends, hanging out all the time off the field and training together. It was really fun to get to play against one of my closest friends and teammates."

Added Koski: "We're competitors on the field, but, no matter what, we're friends off the field. I have a lot of respect for her, and she had a great game with two goals. She's great. She's one of my best friends off the field. No matter how tough the rivalry is on the field, we'll always be close on the field."

Although the season is young, there appear to be three teams competing for the West title in Northville, Salem and Canton. So it won't be a surprise if the rematch between the Mustangs and Rocks on May 17 actually determines which squad gets to represent the division in the KLAA championship.

Nor would it be surprising if the rematch is just as physical of a game.

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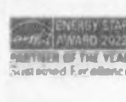
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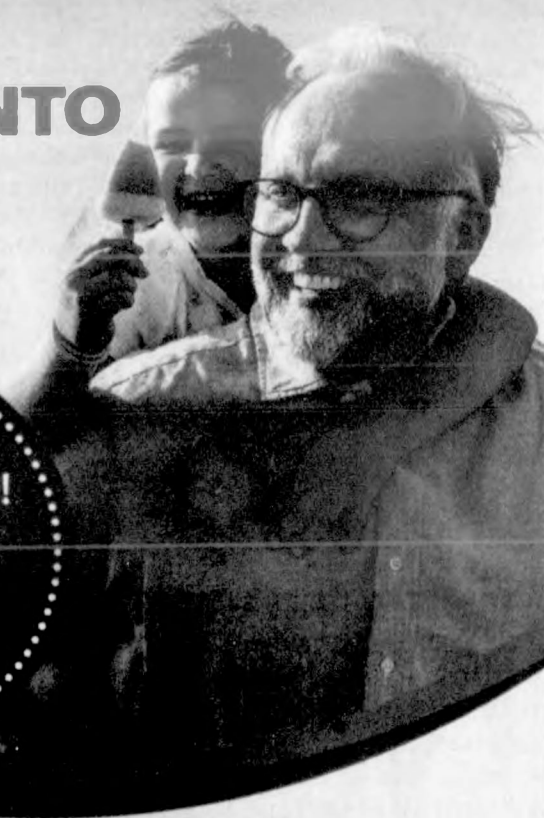
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Kelsey Ware adds physicality to Livonia Stevenson soccer

Brandon Folsom
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Kelsey Ware didn't smile after her circus-like goal in the first half of Friday night's match gave the Livonia Stevenson girls soccer team a 1-0 lead over rival Livonia Franklin.

Nor did she smile after teammates Brianna Waranauckas (penalty kick) and Riley Adams each netted their first goals of the season to ensure the Spartans the eventual 3-1 victory in Kensington Lakes Activities Association-East action.

Nope, the only time the junior ever cracked a smile was after making contact with defenders.

And, honestly, the Tiffin University (Ohio) commit made plenty of contact, whether that was battling for 50-50 balls near the midfield, avoiding tackles from Franklin's back line or going full boar toward the Patriots' net.

Sure, the striker was great on last year's division championship team. But she wasn't *this* much of a physical presence when scoring goals and helping Stevenson's offense stay on the attack.

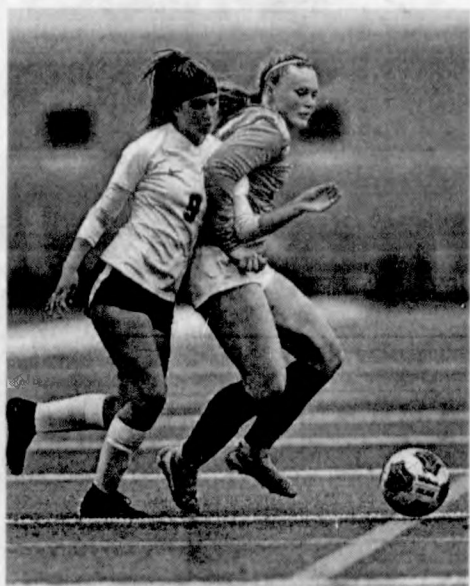
Being a battler is something she's worked on since last season. And with all-state forward Mackenzie Gregor lost to graduation, Ware couldn't have picked a better time to show just how much grit she has.

So *that*, right there, is why Ware flashed several grins after picking herself up from the carpet vs. Franklin.

"I'm just not the type of person to back down when I'm getting pushed around," Ware said. "But I guess throughout the club season it was kind of drilled into me that if I'm going to get pushed, I've got to get back up and push



Livonia Stevenson's Kelsey Ware attacks during a KLA-East girls soccer match Friday, April 21, 2023. PHOTOS BY BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Livonia Stevenson's Kelsey Ware battles with Livonia Franklin's Marin Nicholas during a KLA-East girls soccer match Friday, April 21, 2023.

even harder. I'm playing in college so that's something I've got to get prepared for."

Ware put the Spartans (4-3, 4-2) on the scoreboard 17 minutes into the match.

She received a pass near the penalty box, tapped it in the air with one toe, sprinted around a defender and caught her own pass with her other foot with enough time to absolutely crush a shot into the net.

"She's turned into a real physical presence up there," coach Ken Shingledecker said. "With Mackenzie graduating now, it's Kelsey's turn to step up and be our leading goal scorer. She's kind of embraced that. ... She's just really becoming a real physical presence, and

she's really hard to play against because she plays really hard. She just gets herself into good locations to score goals. She's starting to get comfortable (in Gregor's old spot)."

Of course, Ware would be the first person to tell you she's not doing it alone.

Fortunately for her, she has one of the top midfielders in Michigan on her team in Jenna Barbour, who is a speedy, pesky dribbler capable of finding her strikers down the seams. She was a big reason why Gregor totaled 30 goals a year ago.

Plus, Ware has other talents around her in Sophia Nelson, Marissa Grucz, Waranauckas and a handful of others who Shingledecker says are starting to

find their roles on the team.

"Finding the back of the net has been a struggle for me in the last couple of games," Ware added. "But having Jenna out there to feed the balls through is super beneficial for me as it was for Mack last year. Jenna is a key part of me scoring goals."

Once the Spartans grabbed a three-goal lead late in the match, Shingledecker substituted out a few of his starters, so Ware watched her teammates finish up things while wearing her letterman jacket from the bench.

And, briefly, after the final whistle blew, she flashed a smile while hopping in the handshake line.

Follow Brandon Folsom on Twitter @folsombrandonj.

Stevenson

Continued from Page 1B

Not only did she put that disastrous start behind her, but she rallied back to strike out 10 Falcons and lead the Spartans (5-1) to a 12-4 comeback victory.

"Mostly, it's just letting go of the fact that I can't do anything about it," said Benaske, whose sacrifice fly to right field scored Regan Murray for one of the winning runs in the third inning. "So I'm moving on, getting past it and realizing that's now behind us. What's more important is what's coming next."

Benaske gave up just one more run, a solo home run to Kylie Green in the fourth, but, for the most part, she stayed poised while throwing to a couple of future college players.

As they say, and it is true, age isn't anything but a number.

Yes, Benaske is a freshman, but she's

a well-seasoned travel player. She's used to throwing to big-time recruits as part of the Inter-Lakes Pride Fastpitch squad based out of Commerce Twp.

"She just has a ton of confidence as a young freshman," coach Kevin Hannigan said. "That comes from travel ball, and she pitches a lot in travel ball. She really is doing a great job in the circle. The first thing, she usually has some jitters when she's trying to find her pitches early on. But after she gets out of the first inning, she calms down, she's talking more and communicating more."

Hannigan and pitching coach Elisabeth McCann, a former Madonna University player, questioned Benaske about her errant throw to Bohanon following the first inning.

Benaske admitted she threw the wrong pitch. And she also admitted to not getting enough spin on the one she did actually throw.

For someone to admit when they screw up, that's a veteran move.

Again, Benaske is just a freshman, folks.

"It's the experience with her," catcher Katie Nowak said. "I think Brooke has been bringing a lot to the table so far really, really early in her career. She did really good today while playing against a good team. Freshman year, it can be hard, but she's keeping herself composed, and that's what I tell her she needs to do against big teams. Just stay relaxed and pitch as well as you can."

Also staying relaxed were Stevenson's batters.

Ella Stoops singled home McKenzie Cook for a run that snapped a 3-3 tie early in the fourth. And then she wound up crossing home plate on a wild pitch for the eventual winning run.

Other highlights included Nowak doubling off the center-field fence to score a run, Cook doubling in a pair of runs and Elaina Braunscheidel taking advantage of a fielding error to record an in-the-park home run.

Of course, Benaske also recorded a three-run double and scored on a wild pitch in the sixth to add some insurance runs to the scoreboard before she closed out the victory in the circle one inning later.

For the Spartans to repeat as Kensington Lakes Activities Association-East champions, it'll likely be Malamis doing the heavy lifting. But it's nice to know their future is bright with Benaske already proving to be a stellar arm.

"That's very impressive," Hannigan said of Benaske's ability to shake off a rough start. "We told her, 'Hey, it's the next play. It's the next batter.' She was pitching against future D-I players, so it was nice to see her not dwell on it. She shook it off. After that, she only gave up one run over the next six innings, which is impressive. Very impressive."

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

Obituaries

Dolores "Dee" Cullen

LIVONIA - Dolores "Dee" Cullen, 94 passed away April-7-2023 at Boardman Lake Glens in Traverse City, Michigan where she was loved and well cared for by staff and caregivers. Dolores was born October 8, 1928 in South Haven Michigan and grew up in Kalamazoo Michigan.



In 1950 she earned a Bachelor's Degree in Education from Western Michigan University and accepted a teaching position for Wayne Michigan Schools. In 1951 she met James Cullen and the two married that same year. The couple had one son. Dolores continued her teaching career with Livonia Public schools, primarily kindergarten, at Perrinville and Grant schools. Dolores lived in Old Rosedale Gardens Livonia for 50 years.

She was a member of the American Association of University Women, the Livonia Town Club and active in various pinocle and bridge clubs. Dolores loved traveling, and was a circumnavigator having traveled around the globe. She also was an avid reader and gardener.

Dolores is survived by her son, two grandsons and a great-granddaughter.

She will be interred next to her father and mother at the family plot in Grace Memorial Gardens in Hudson, Florida.

Please visit www.lifestorytc.com to share your thoughts and more. The family chose Life Story Funeral Home.

SO SORRY
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Coach

Continued from Page 1B

Leading the squad was Hometown Life All-Area first-team guard Sela

Lefler, who is headed to Division III Kean University in New Jersey, as well as Penelope Creary, Halle Rogers, Hannah Hart, Eliza Muller, Sydney Williams, Asiyah Jihad, Anaya Billups and Kelly Simpson, Coach Simpson's daughter.

Community Worship

BRIGHTON	HIGHLAND	NOVI
HOLY SPIRIT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL www.hscrc.net at the corner of Winans Lake & Musich Rd. 810-231-9199 Fr. John Rocus, Pastor Weekend Liturgies Saturday 4:00 p.m. Sunday 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. <small>Please visit our Shrine of Turin Display and Book & Gift Shop</small>	Church of the Holy Spirit 3700 Harvey Lake Rd, Highland Saturday Mass 5PM, Sunday Mass 9 & 11AM 248-887-5364 HolySpiritHighland.com The Holy Spirit is Here - Come Home All are Welcome!	Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church 41415 W Nine Mile Rd • Novi, MI 48375 248-349-0565 Divine Service on Sundays at 10am Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 8:45am Rev. Thomas Schroeder weinovi@aol.com Come and worship at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church!
NORTHVILLE	SOUTH LYON	WHITMORE LAKE
United Methodist Church (248) 349-1144 177 West 8 Mile Road (at Main and Tenth Road) Northville, Michigan Worship Times: September - May 9:15 & 11:00 a.m. Memorial Day - Labor Day 10:00 a.m. Rev. Marsha M. Winkley, Lead Pastor www.unitedchurch.org	'the WAY' - a ministry of Hope Lutheran Church Worship @Abbey Park 28413 Abbey Lane New Hudson, MI Sunday @10am, 248-553-7170 www.hope-lutheran-church.com Rev Thomas Scharger	FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH 10774 Nine Mile Road Rev. M. Lee Taylor • 449-2582 Sunday School, 9:45 a.m. Worship, 11:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Evening, 7:00 p.m.
OUR LADY OF VICTORY CATHOLIC CHURCH 133 Orchard Dr., Northville WEEKEND LITURGIES Saturday 5:00 p.m. Sunday, 7:30, 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. Church 349-2621, School 349-3810 Religious Education 349-2558 Rev. Denis Theroux, Pastor	RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY!	RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY!

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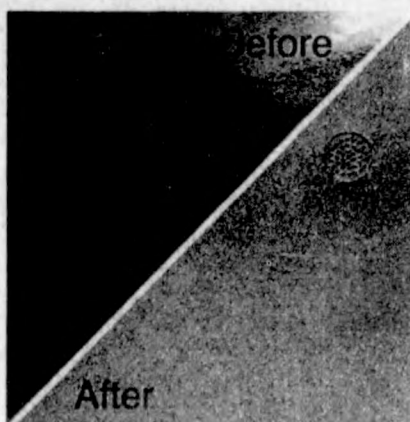


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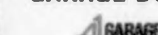
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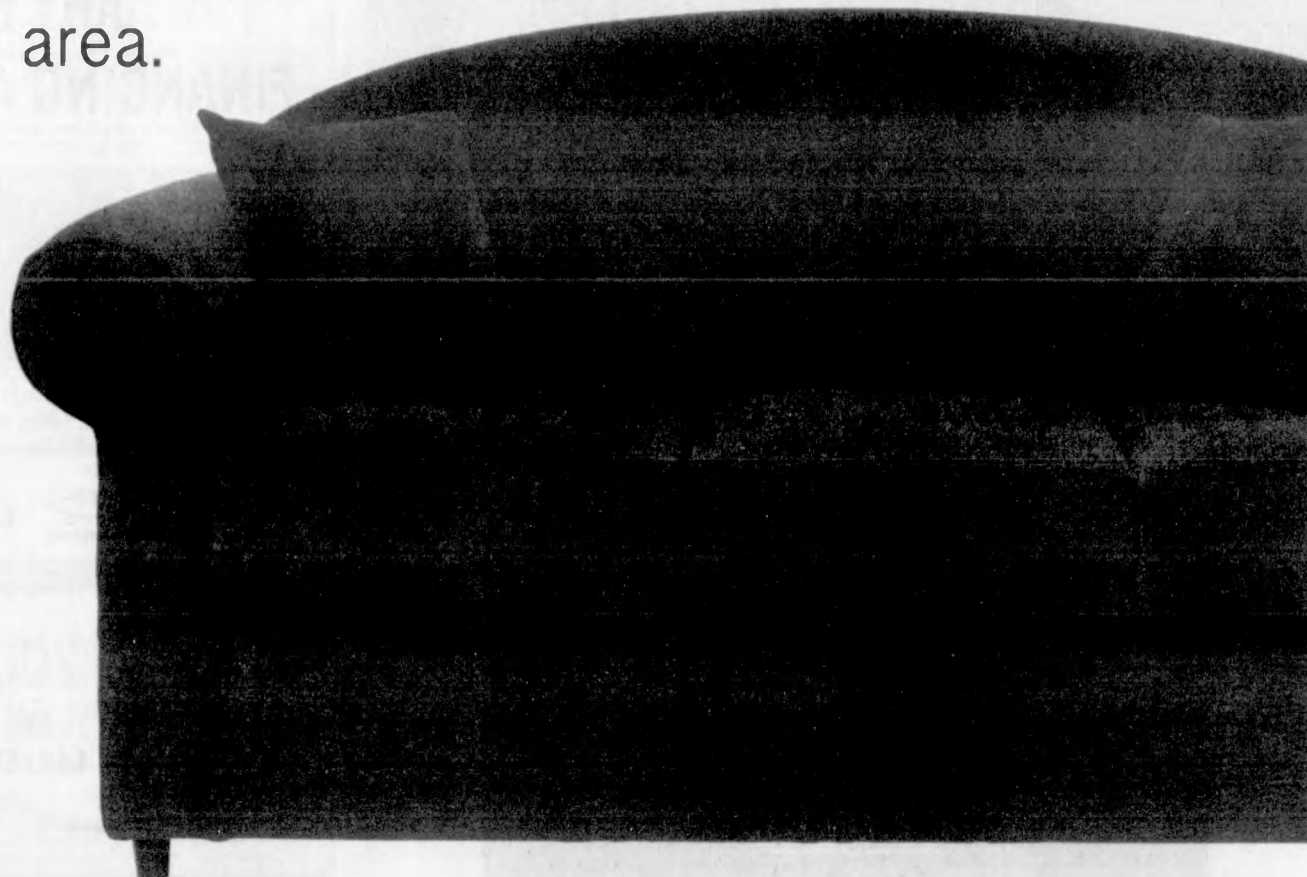
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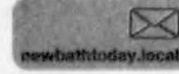
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