



Baseball success gives Novi football confidence for camp

SPORTS, 1B

NORTHVILLE RECORD

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10, 2023 | HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Michigan farm offers sanctuary to former racehorses, other animals

Laura Colvin
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

SALEM TWP — It's a humid summer morning and Nicole Paige is tromping through a pasture at Serenity Oaks Equine Sanctuary, a non-profit organization she and her husband Jordan started in 2019.

"Kevin!" she calls. "Kevin!"

Paige is looking for Serenity Oaks' newest addition, a miniature paint horse rescued from an animal hoarding situation in Macomb County.

"There you are," she says, spotting him deep in a clump of trees. A few weeks ago, Kevin was living in a gated-off patch of parking lot next to an industrial building. Today, he is frolicking in nature. When friends arrive with a bag of baby carrots, Kevin appears to be overcome with joy.

A new home

Kevin is one of about a dozen rescued horses living at Serenity Oaks. Others include Bear, Beaver, Cocoa, Dream, Whiskey and more. The operation is outgrowing its capacity at 5400 Curtis Road and preparing to move to a nearby farm better suited to their needs. A closing is planned for later this month.

"The new place will allow us to rescue more animals," Paige said, showing off a brood that also includes a few chickens, two pigs and about a dozen goats, including Gilbert, who was found running along Seven Mile Road in Detroit after apparently escaping from a butcher shop.

A GoFundMe titled Help our herd settle into their forever home is underway to help cover costs related to the move, including purchase of a tractor and other equipment that will allow them to grow hay for the horses.

Currently, Paige said, she spends an annual \$13,000 on hay and \$11,000 on feed, including 24 pounds of daily mash each for three senior horses.

While the farm does solicit donations and relies heavily on a core group of volunteers, Jordan and Nicole Paige

See FARM, Page 3A



Cathy Stergowski, 76, looks at the wheelchair ramp that needs to be replaced at her South Lyon home. The ramp is not up to code and its steepness has resulted in multiple falls for Stergowski. PHOTOS BY SUSAN BROMLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Friends ramp up support for woman who lost legs

Susan Bromley
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN



The cost to replace the ramp is nearly \$10,000, a financial hardship for Stergowski, a double amputee on a fixed income of \$33,000 per year.

SOUTH LYON — Cathy Stergowski has lost both her legs, but despite the hardships that has caused, she's found a lot of friends willing to help however they can.

Her friends have been the best kind, offering shoulders to cry on, ears to listen, and eyes to see who she really is: a woman who shines and is full of life, and one who they love and want to raise up.

They are doing that by raising funds for Stergowski, who desperately needs to replace an unsafe wheelchair ramp after suffering multiple falls because of it. The latest fall, in June, left the 76-year-old with a broken tailbone.

"We want to help her because she is

such a special person," Connie Kessler said. "She is so vibrant and has a lot of energy for her little stature. She is very open, and that is what I like about her. She says yes to life. Despite all her challenges, she is just so open and grateful for any good that she has. I can't explain it, there is a good spirit about her."

Kessler met Stergowski when the double-amputee steered herself into a grief support group meeting at St. Joseph Catholic Church more than a year ago. Stergowski was uncertain whether she would be welcome, since the loss of her limbs was not the typical loss members of the group were grieving.

Stergowski explained to the group she was struggling with the loss of the person she used to be.

See RAMP, Page 3A

South Lyon teen advances to 'American Ninja Warrior' finals

Susan Bromley
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

SOUTH LYON — Riley Porter is young, but proving herself as someone to watch on the popular NBC show "American Ninja Warrior."

The South Lyon teen defeated a friend in a head-to-head battle in a season 15 semifinals episode that aired on Monday, July 31.

"It was a surreal experience for

sure," said Porter, who filmed the episode a few months ago in California and watched the show with family and friends at the South Lyon Hotel as it aired.

Porter, who is now 16 and will be a junior at South Lyon High School this fall, discussed her rigorous training regimen previously for the extreme obstacles competition, but being on the show takes the difficulty to a whole new level.

See TEEN, Page 3A



Riley Porter and Emily Keener hug before racing each other through the "American Ninja Warrior" obstacle course in the semifinals of the NBC show. NBC

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State regulator closes adult foster care home in Farmington Hills

Shelby Tankersley
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

FARMINGTON HILLS — New Beginnings, an adult foster care home, had its license suspended after state regulators said they found patient safety violations.

The Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, or LARA, investigated the 32999 W. 14 Mile Road home after receiving a complaint alleging a patient had repeatedly left the facility unsupervised and staff were allowed to sleep during their shifts.

During a license renewal process in February, LARA officials said they found New Beginnings' staff was not properly trained and failed to follow proper procedures for distributing medication and

communicating with a patient's guardian. Based on the violations, LARA determined New Beginnings was failing to protect its patients and properly investigate issues.

New Beginnings, owned by Javon Brown, offers services to people who are elderly, physically handicapped, or have a developmental disability or Alzheimer's disease. Brown had a license to care for six people.

Brown's license was suspended July 20, barring her from continuing to operate New Beginnings. Brown is allowed to appeal the suspension with the Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules.

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The New Beginnings adult foster care home on 32999 W. 14 Mile Road in Farmington Hills. SHELBY TANKERSLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Investigators indict 2 on wire fraud charges

Lansing State Journal

DETROIT — Westland and Redford residents are among 11 southeast Michigan people charged in a 23-count federal indictment for their alleged roles in a multi-million-dollar unemployment insurance fraud scheme that targeted funds set aside for unemployment assistance during the COVID-19 pandemic, U.S. Attorney Dawn N. Ison announced Aug. 1.

Among those facing felony charges are Deleonte Rogers, 23, of Westland, and Marcellus Dunham, 23, of Redford, along with Aaniya Carroll, 22, Laron Stroud, 23, Jaylin Davis, 22, Daniel Holt, 21, and Day'on Holt, 22, all of Detroit, Daveontae White, 24, of West Bloomfield, Armani Haller, 22, of Clinton Township, Jaylin Qualls, 23, of Harper Woods, and Cheikh Sene, 23, of Southfield.

The indictment alleges the defendants illegally obtained over \$4.5 million in government funds over the course of their scheme by filing false unemployment claims while using stolen personal information.

All are charged in a July 19 indictment that was unsealed this week with a single count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud, 11 counts of wire fraud and 11 counts of aggravated identity theft. They face up to 20 years in prison on wire fraud and wire fraud conspiracy charges, and a mandatory two-year prison sentence for aggravated identity theft.

According to the indictment, the 11 defendants used stolen personal identifying information to file claims for pandemic unemployment assistance.



Drivers treat the intersection at Mack Avenue and Alter Road like a four-way stop sign after a power outage in Grosse Pointe Park on Thursday, July 27, 2023. AUDREY RICHARDSON/DETROIT FREE PRESS

These were Michigan's most dangerous intersections in 2022

Jenna Prestlininzi
Lansing State Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Michigan intersections pose a variety of risks for drivers and pedestrians traveling on busy roadways. An annual report from a local law firm takes a look at road safety with the state's most dangerous intersections ranked.

Michigan Auto Law firm in Farmington Hills compiles an annual list based upon findings from Michigan State Police and police accident reports. The list summarizes intersection safety based on rates of car accidents that occur per intersection.

The data includes the frequency of crashes at each intersection, including any resulting injuries and/or fatalities per crash. Findings show that areas with higher rates of vehicular traffic face a greater risk of crash rates.

Police data for the report comes from the Michigan State Police Traffic Crash Reporting Unit, according to the report. This features a collection of accident reports occurring within 200 feet of an intersection.

"It is important to remember that an intersection will always be more dangerous and pose a greater risk for drivers than a road without intersecting traffic," the 2022 report said. "To give you some idea of just how dangerous, in 2022 nearly a third (29.2%) of all fatal motor vehicle accidents in Michigan occurred at intersections."

Michigan Auto Law's annual report provides the public with data on safety conditions at intersections in the state for the previous year. The majority of the top 20 dangerous intersections are in southeast Michigan; 16 in total.

- The 20 most dangerous intersections in Michigan in 2022**
- 11 Mile Road/I-696 at Van Dyke Avenue, Warren — 207 crashes, 41 injuries
 - Schoolcraft Road at Telegraph Road, Redford — 126 crashes, 30 injuries
 - Martin Parkway at North Pontiac Trail, Commerce Township — 126 crashes, 13 injuries
 - 18 1/2 Mile Road at Van Dyke Avenue, Sterling Heights — 118 crashes, 10 injuries
 - Telegraph Road at 12 Mile Road, Southfield — 110 crashes, 30 injuries
 - 10 Mile Road at I-94, St. Clair Shores — 103 crashes, 28 injuries, 2 fatalities
 - Southfield Road at 11 Mile Road, Lathrup Village — 101 crashes, 34 injuries
 - Middlebelt Road at Schoolcraft Road, Livonia — 99 crashes, 14 injuries
 - U.S. 131 at Wealthy Street, Grand Rapids — 98 crashes, 10 injuries
 - State Road at Ellsworth Road, Ann Arbor — 93 crashes, 7 injuries
 - 12 Mile Road at I-94, Roseville — 90 crashes, 24 injuries
 - Hall Road at Schoenherr Road, Sterling Heights — 84 crashes, 14 injuries
 - 11 Mile Road/I-696 at Hoover Road, Warren — 83 crashes, 17 injuries, 1 fatality
 - Six Mile Road at I-96/I-275, Livonia — 83 crashes, 9 injuries
 - Hall Road at Van Dyke Avenue, Utica — 82 crashes, 16 injuries
 - Dix Avenue at M-39, Lincoln Park — 81 crashes, 27 injuries
 - Burton Street Southwest at US-131, Grand Rapids — 78 crashes, 35 injuries
 - Dixie Highway at I-75, Bridgeport Township — 76 crashes, 10 injuries
 - Farmington Road at West Maple Road, West Bloomfield Township — 76 crashes, 7 injuries
 - Seven Mile Road at I-75, Detroit — 71 crashes, 22 injuries
- The No. 1 most dangerous intersection — 11 Mile Road and I-696 at Van Dyke Avenue — was also the most dangerous intersection in 2021. Total crashes at this interchange have increased 60% since 2019, according to the report.

CITY OF NOVI
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, August 30, 2023 at 7:00 P.M. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider **MEDSTAR AMBULANCE JSP23-35 FOR PLANNING COMMISSION'S CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL LAND USE PERMIT**. The subject property, 22515 Heslip Drive, totals approximately 1.19 acres and is located in Section 26, north of Nine Mile Road and east of Novi Road. The applicant is proposing to use the existing building as an ambulance station for emergency response services. Dispatch of the vehicles from the site itself and the use of sirens onsite is not proposed to occur. Special Land Use approval is required for an unlisted use in the I-1 Light Industrial District.

More information is available for review by contacting the Community Development Department in the Novi Civic Center.

Subject Parcel ID: 50-22-26-376-014

All interested people are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments must be received by the Planning Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 by 4:00 P.M., Wednesday, August 30, 2023.

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Novi Planning Commission
Michael Lynch, Secretary

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Farm

Continued from Page 1A

fund much of the costs from their own pockets. Both work fulltime jobs outside the farm: Jordan runs a construction company and Nicole is in real estate.

The couple has five children, including three who are grown and two, Ethan, 11, and Penelope, 10, who live at home and actively help on the farm.

Learning something everyday

For Paige, a lifelong love of horses goes back to those owned by her parents and grandparents when she was a child. Later, as her own children grew up, she decided to adopt a couple of retired race horses.

"Everyone was like, 'You're crazy, those are not beginner horses,'" she said. "And they weren't."

After some initial struggles, she reached out and made connections with everyone she could find in the horse community, seeking advice, guidance and professional training. Over time, she figured it out and, before long, others began coming to her for advice, or looking to rehome a horse.

"It just evolved from that," Paige said. "Now we're trying to save as many as we possibly can."

"Every day is a new challenge," she added. "I'm still learning something every day. But there's a good group of farms in the area and a lot of people in the community to call on when I need help or advice. I have a really good support system."

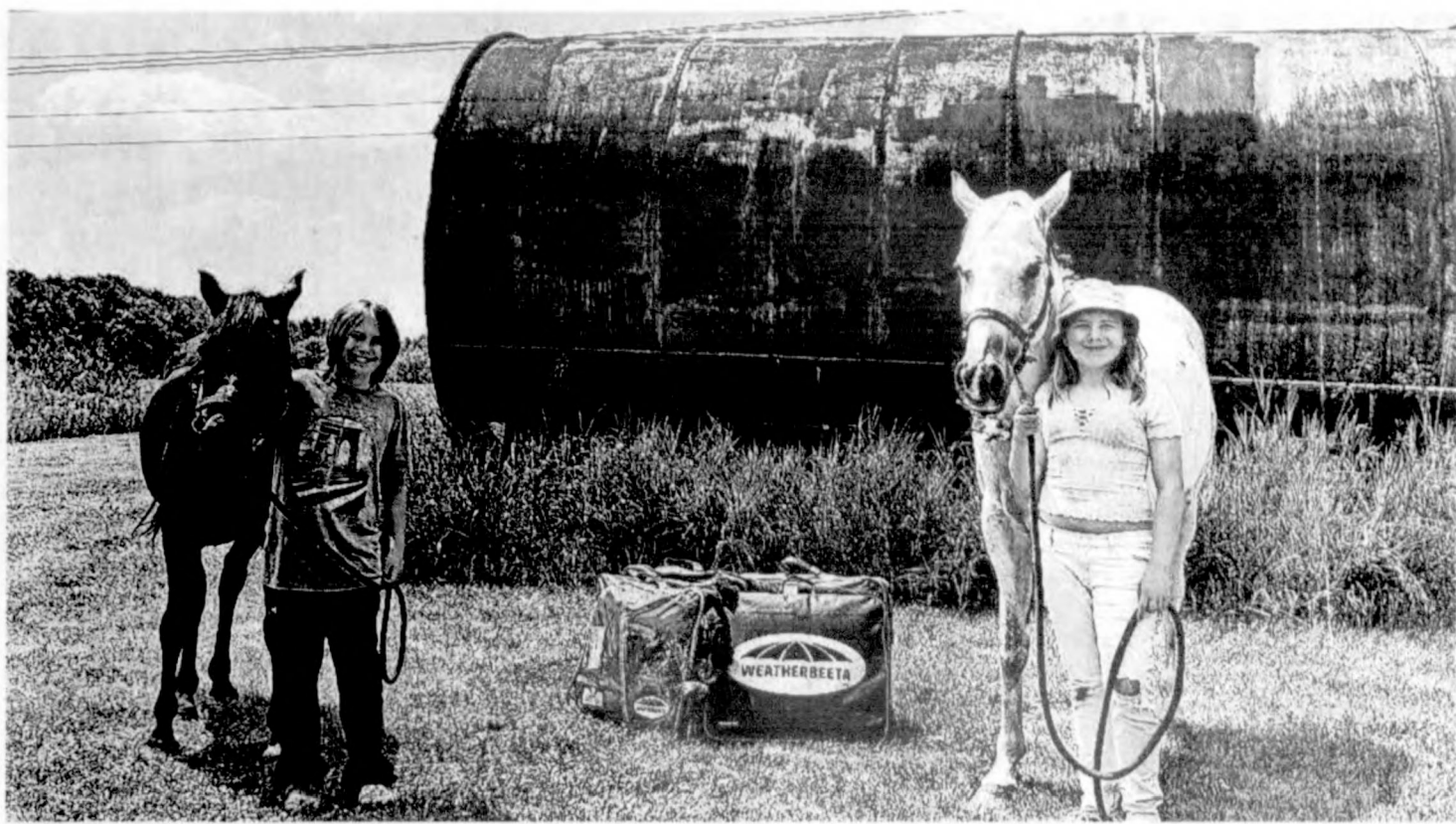
The Serenity Oaks herd

The herd at Serenity Oaks includes Buster and Trio, two male thoroughbred horses who arrived in May from the Detroit Zoo, where they lived since 2009. When the zoo announced they were looking to rehome the horses earlier this year, Paige applied and went through an inspection process with the zoo. Serenity Oaks was ultimately chosen as the horses' permanent new home.

"They've settled in really well," Paige said.

While Buster and Trio were never in any danger, another member of the herd, Pinky, is a more typical resident of Serenity Oaks.

Photos of Pinky taken when she ar-



Siblings Ethan Paige, 11, and Penelope Paige, 10, pose with horses at Serenity Oaks Equine Sanctuary.

SERENITY OAKS EQUINE SANCTUARY

rived at the farm last November show a very thin and sad-looking horse with protruding ribs.

The former Michigan racehorse had been rescued once, then abandoned at a "kill pen" in Tennessee, where she was awaiting a truck that would take her and other horses into Canada or Mexico.

According to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, approximately 19,600 American horses were trucked across U.S. borders to be slaughtered for human consumption in 2022. It's a practice that's been going on for years.

"Pinky was like skin and bones, literally nothing, when we got her," Paige said. "Within two weeks of her being with us, we found out she was expecting."

Fast forward to March 29: With proper veterinary care and a lot of love from the Serenity Oaks team, Pinky gave birth to Periwinkle at the farm. Today, both are healthy and well.

"Pinky has a knee injury and she'll never be suitable to ride, so she'll always be a pasture pup," Paige said. "She is sanctuaried here. When the baby is old enough, he will be adopted out, because he's perfectly sound."

Horses and humans

In addition to providing sanctuary to horses and other farm animals, Serenity Oaks also offers numerous opportunities for humans to interact with the animals. Activities include goat yoga, occupational and recreational therapy and more, all led by certified professionals. The farm also offers a monthly "open barn" so families can meet the animals.

"What we're doing is not just about horses," Paige said. "It's about horses and humans. I wanted to figure out a way to help both. That's why we decided on a new facility, to give more space to rescue more horses and have appropriate accommodations."

And, after some serious bouts of anxiety during COVID, she knows personally about the healing power of horses.

"Horses are good for your mental health," she said. "I could be anxious, walk out and brush the horses and my anxiety is gone."

'Something for myself'

Paige counts herself lucky to have a solid core group of volunteers who show

up to clean stalls, prep food, groom and walk the horses, help with fundraisers and generally do whatever needs doing.

Devyn Baker began volunteering for the organization last winter after he was diagnosed with some serious health issues.

"I wanted something for myself," said Baker, who grew up with horses and today works a 9-to-5 in management at the University of Michigan's Rogel Cancer Center in Ann Arbor. "This is my therapy. It lets me get back in the horse circuit and make a difference for the future of the horses, even without knowing my own future."

Baker said working on the farm is good for both his mental and physical health. Grooming the horses, he noted, has helped him regain range of motion after surgery.

"It's therapy without feeling like therapy," he said, adding that he's started to feel like part of the Serenity Oaks family.

"The way they treat the volunteers is amazing," Baker said. "I've never been elbow to elbow with the founders of a volunteer organization like we are here. Nicole is out there slinging manure like the rest of us. Jordan is on the tractor, just like the rest of us."

Teen

Continued from Page 1A

"Before we do the course, they walked us through the obstacles," Porter said. "I was really nervous seeing how big it was. It looked like it was two stories tall."

Porter and Emily Keener, a Colorado teen who was also 15 when the two competed, are friends who see each other about four times per year at ninja competitions across the country. Both girls run track and did choreographed hand slaps and hugged each other before starting on the timed course that they raced simultaneously.

They quickly tackled "Homerun," which tested balance and agility, before moving on to "Spiderman," in which they used a springboard to leap to overhead bars that they had to swing from one to catch the next. Then came "Beehive," a wheel-type apparatus on which they swung from sideways and were both equally matched before "Hopscotch," a cliffhanger that tested grip strength and on which Keener momen-

tarily took the lead.

However, Porter didn't panic and her focus and patience paid off.

"I knew it was very precision-based," Porter said. "I didn't want to rush, because I really wanted to clear it."

A second later, Keener fell into the water below, ending her run and assuring Porter's win, even as she "freaked out" watching her friend out of the corner of her eye. She admits she was excited for herself, but sad for her friend.

Porter kept her composure, really wanting to finish the course, and jumped onto the next obstacle, "Sling-shot," on which she had to use a bar to jump from one cradle to the next. She missed on a jump, landing her in "very cold water."

Still, she made a big splash with her fans, and with announcer Matt Iseman, who noted, "No matter! She punched her ticket to Vegas!"

Porter is expected to appear in an "American Ninja Warrior" finals episode that will air later this month on NBC. She can't reveal the results of the show, to the chagrin of her fans.

"They'll just have to wait and see," she said. "I'm just having fun with it."



Riley Porter, of South Lyon, competes on season 15 of "American Ninja Warrior."

The teen won her semifinal battle and is advancing to the finals in Las Vegas this month. COURTESY OF NBC

Ramp

Continued from Page 1A

"I said, 'I understand if you don't want me because I haven't lost a person,' but they said, 'Oh no, you stay here,'" she recalled. "It's been a godsend."

Stergowski was born in Detroit with a dislocated left hip that, along with other medical issues, resulted in challenges most of her life. Still, she moved to Arizona and worked there for 26 years, including 13 as a surveillance officer for the Maricopa County Adult Probation Department, a job she loved.

She had multiple operations, including hip replacement, but an aortic aneurysm surgery was the one she found most difficult to rebound from. She returned to Michigan in 2005, moving into her co-op home in Colonial Acres in South Lyon.

The home came with the ramp, which was not a problem for Stergowski until her legs had to be amputated: the first in



Cathy Stergowski with her friend, Carol Sidelko, who is helping raise funds for a new wheelchair ramp for Stergowski's South Lyon home.

SUSAN BROMLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

2019 and the second in 2020, both due to vascular disease.

The first few times she fell on the ramp, she chalked it up to being a new amputee. Now, only 60 pounds and 32 inches tall, she has little body mass to slow her roll on a wooden wheelchair ramp she describes as a "ski slope."

Stergowski said she had to adjust and she is adapting all the time, but conservatively, she estimates she has fallen six times in her wheelchair, with it sometimes landing on her. In total, she has fallen perhaps 10 times on the ramp, with neighbors coming to her rescue.

"These last few falls have done me in," Stergowski said. "I can't do it any more."

When her friends in the grief support group learned she broke her tailbone in her latest fall, they knew something had to be done about the dangerous ramp.

Stergowski's friends organized a gofundme campaign after the group could not locate a nonprofit agency able to help. Stergowski, who is divorced and has no children, receives a fixed income

of about \$33,000 per year.

The gofundme aims to raise \$10,000 to cover removal of the old ramp and installation of a new, safer ramp, including labor and all building materials. The new ramp, which will be built by John McCarter Construction, will be ADA compliant, have wider turns, and won't be so steeply inclined. A tree will need to be removed to accommodate the ramp. Any extra funds will be used to replace a back porch ramp that is also in disrepair.

"We had to do something; we can't have her falling," Carol Sidelko said. "She just inspires all of us."

Stergowski, who just returned to her grief support group after her most recent fall, is beyond grateful for her friends and their drive to help her.

"I am just overwhelmed," she said. "They said, 'We're going to get this done,' and I said, 'God bless you. Thank you so much.' I couldn't do it by myself."

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

HopCat opens ninth Michigan restaurant in Livonia

Shelby Tankersley
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

LIVONIA — It's official: HopCat has another metro Detroit restaurant.

The new Livonia location at the former Claddagh pub, 17800 Haggerty Road, is open ahead of its grand opening Saturday, July 29.

The restaurant is serving up the burgers, beers and Cosmik Fries fans know and love. In Livonia, there's going to be 50 locally-sourced beers on tap at all times.

"We could not be more excited to be in Livonia," said Craig Stage, vice president of operations for Project BarFly, HopCat's parent company. "We're incredibly excited to be part of the community."

HopCat seats roughly 270 customers between its two patios and the indoor dining space. The highly-anticipated restaurant was given a warm welcome by community leaders during a ribbon-cutting held Friday, July 28.

"We're really grateful you guys are here," Livonia Chamber of Commerce President Dan West said. "I think you're going to see a lot of excitement and energy."

As part of the ribbon-cutting, HopCat donated over \$11,000 to a STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) program at Livonia Public Schools called "Project Lead the Way." Funds were raised during a soft opening held last week.

"We're so grateful that HopCat chose Livonia Public Schools as your partner," Superintendent Andrea Oquist said. "We're kicking off a full K-12 STEM pathway, and this will allow us to grow. This donation will allow us to get the tools we need to get that program off the ground."

Mayor Maureen Miller Brosnan said she thinks HopCat will have a lasting presence in Livonia.

"This is a premier corner here in our community," she said. "I have no doubt this is going to prove to be a very successful location ... To all Livonia residents: You've got to hop on over and try it out."

Contact reporter Shelby Tankersley at stankersle@hometownlife.com or 248-305-0448.




A sign welcomes diners to HopCat's newest location in Livonia.
PHOTOS BY SHELBY TANKERSLEY/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM




Mayor Maureen Miller Brosnan poses with HopCat's mascot at a ribbon-cutting for the new Livonia restaurant on Friday, July 28, 2023.



Diners eat at the new HopCat location in Livonia on Friday, July 28, 2023.



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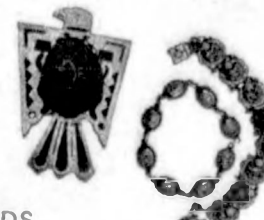
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FIND THE WORDS

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

Ales	Dessert	Lasagne	Sugar
Bagel	Duck	Layers	Sweet
Banana	Entree	Mixed	Syrup
Bars	Fondant	Pasta	Taco
Beer	Fritter	Paté	Tarts
Bites	Fruitcake	Peanuts	Tiramisu
Buns	Fudge	Pies	Topping
Chew	Grease	Sauces	Wine
Chips	Moneycomb	Slice	
Cocoa	Indulgence	Souffle	
Cordial	Jams	Stew	

TODAY'S ANSWER

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

NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

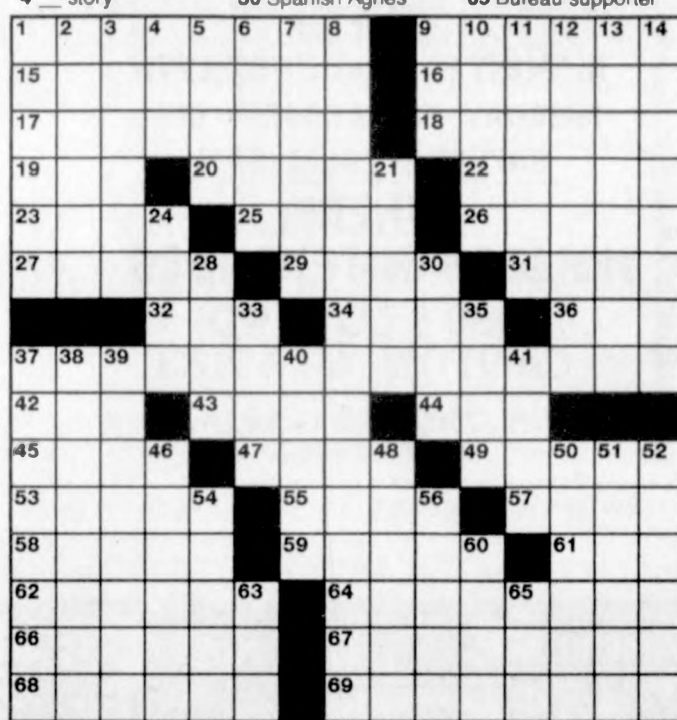
- 1 Staple of Creole cooking
9 Certain integrated circuits
15 LODGE ROAD anagram
16 What a rabbit used to be
17 Imagined opponent of a drawn dog
18 Woman on the board
19 Daily opener of the gates of heaven
20 The ultimate in flatbreads
22 Après-ski amenity
23 Booster, often
25 Directly
26 Nutcracker conclusion
27 Training area
29 City near Santa Barbara
31 Preeminence personified
32 Backing
34 Sort of squeal
36 Extraordinary power
37 Not quite "Correct"
42 When 10/3 will be in '23
43 Be orally awesome, these days
44 Take an unexpected turn
45 Solitariness
47 Court's soft ball
49 Single-pixel orbiter in a Hubble Telescope image
53 Makes more effective
55 Gain
57 Be affected by a potent punch

DOWN

- 5 It's tracked in Melbourne and Milan
6 Assistants of a sort
7 Insistent agreement
8 Social media ancestor
9 Clue card designation
10 2008 documentary on the national debt
11 iPod ancestor
12 Putting holes in, perhaps
13 Iceberg portion above water, more or less
14 Unvarnished
21 Walk ____
24 Old Testament land
28 Level
30 Spanish Agnes

33 Couple

- 35 Miracle on 34th Street hero
37 Muir's "noble mark" for a climber
38 Help for a ride
39 Lamb or kid
40 Boo-boos
41 Lucasfilm buyer (2012)
46 ____ Alexander Trebek
48 Greenland gelt
50 Era, often
51 Homeric wise guy
52 Horror film directed by Cameron
54 Render inflexible
56 "Forget it!"
60 Novelist Sinatra brawled with
63 OED execs
65 Bureau supporter



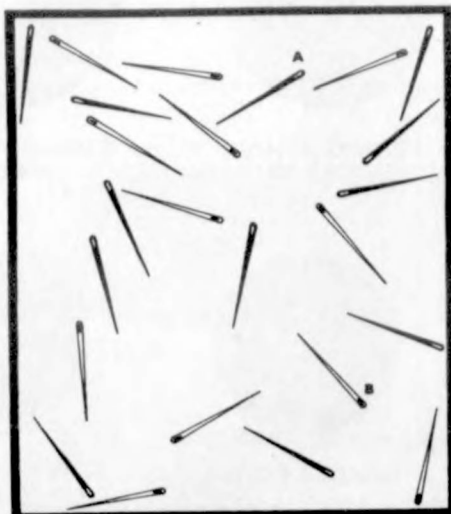
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8/5/23

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dueling threads

USING STRAIGHT LINES ONLY, THREAD ALL THE NEEDLES IN THIS PUZZLE WITH TWO THREADS. ONE THREAD MUST LINK THE BLACK NEEDLES AND THE OTHER THREAD MUST LINK THE WHITE NEEDLES. THREADS MAY NEVER CROSS OVER NEEDLES OR OTHER THREADS. ~BEGIN AT THE TWO NEEDLES MARKED 'A' AND 'B'.



SUDOKU | CREATORS

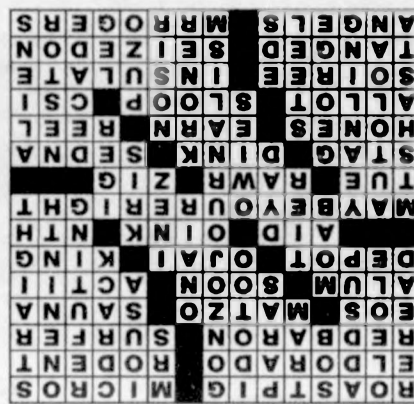
Insert numbers 1-9 in each box with every row, column and 3x3 box containing the digits just once. Difficulty level ranges from Bronze (easiest) to Silver to Gold (hardest) RATING: SILVER

TODAY'S ANSWER

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

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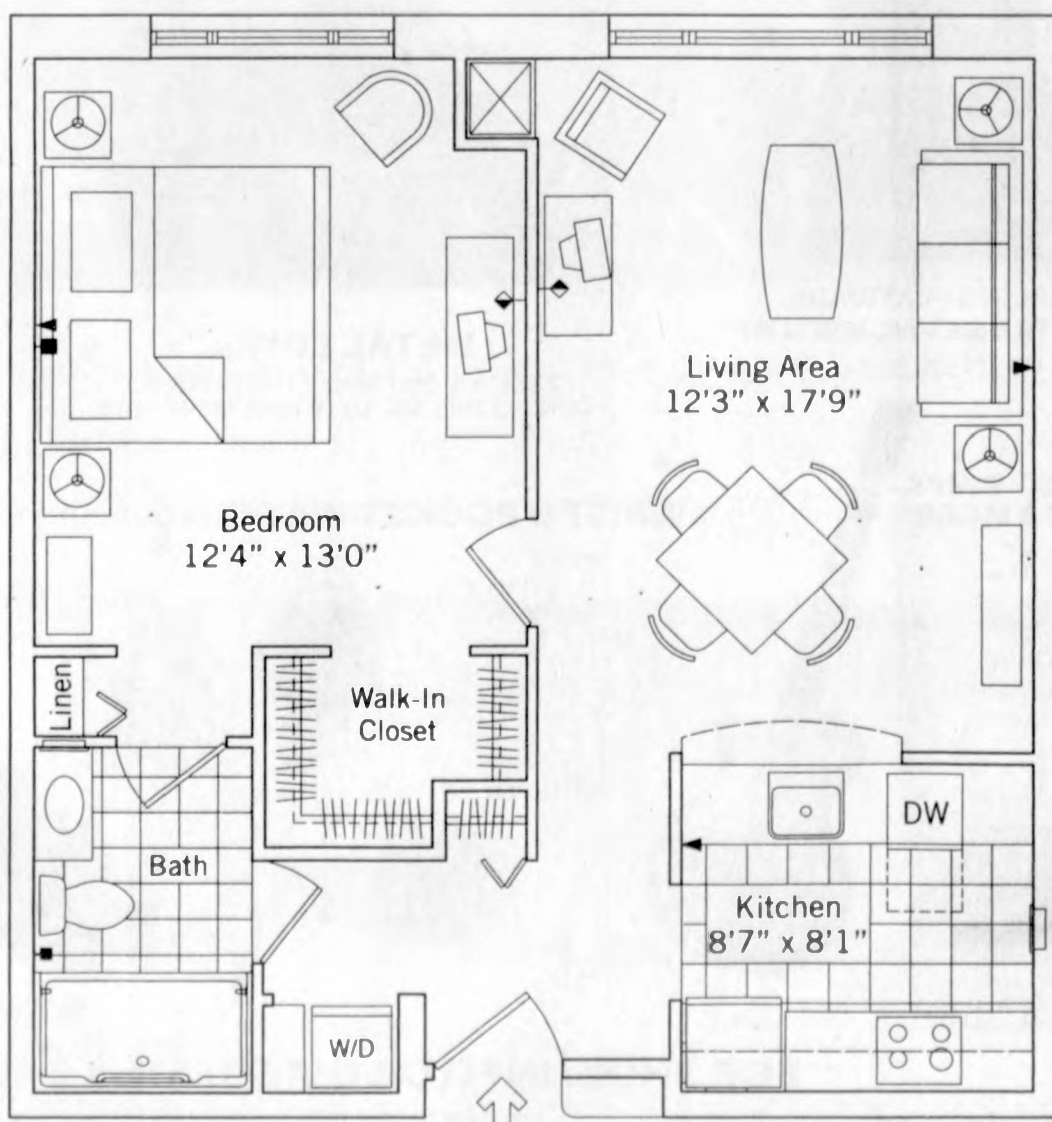
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SPORTS



Novi's Caleb Walker passes during a 7-on-7 football scrimmage Tuesday, July 25, 2023, at North Farmington.
PHOTOS BY BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Baseball success gives Novi football confidence entering fall camp

Brandon Folsom

Hometownlife.com

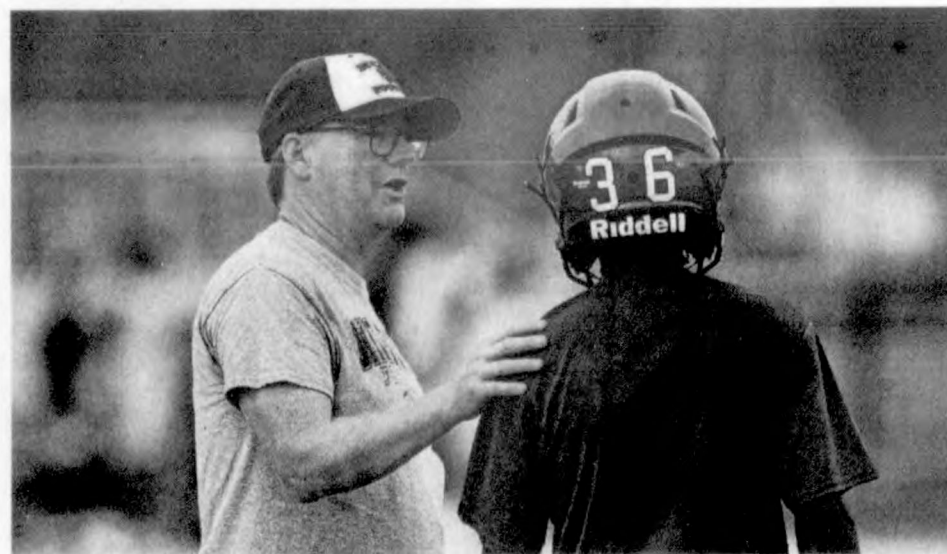
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Novi football team should have plenty of confidence during its campaign to win the Kensington Lakes Activities Association-West championship this fall.

And that's not just because there was a lot of turnover throughout the offseason with Canton, Northville and Salem each getting new coaching staffs.

No, that confidence should come from the fact that six of its returning players were part of Novi's baseball team that won its first state championship this past spring.

"If you can do it in baseball, lightning can strike twice," third-year coach Jim Sparks said following a 7-on-7 football scrimmage last week at North Farmington. "Ever since I've been a coach, I've always stressed that the ultimate goal in high school is to win the last game at Ford Field. Only eight teams a year get to do that. The odds of you actually doing it are astronomical, but that's what we've got to strive for, it's what we've got to shoot for."



Novi coach Jim Sparks coaches a player during a 7-on-7 football scrimmage Tuesday, July 25, 2023, at North Farmington.

"Having guys on our team that have already experienced that in baseball, it's a positive for everybody."

And it wasn't just guys who are going to be role players for Sparks who helped the Wildcats win it all on the diamond. In fact, it was quarterback Caleb

Walker who bunted home teammate Trevor Reed for the winning run in extra innings during the Division I state semifinal, which went down as a 4-1 victory over Mattawan.

See CAMP, Page 2B

What to expect from Lakes Valley Conference

Brandon Folsom

Hometownlife.com

USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

The Lakes Valley Conference football title might very well be decided during a Xenith Prep Kickoff Classic matchup in Week 1 at Wayne State University.

Defending league champion Walled Lake Western, which went 8-0 in conference games a year ago, takes on three-star Toledo quarterback commit Kalieb Osborne and Waterford Mott, largely considered the team with the best chance to dethrone the Warriors because of its deep and talented roster. Mott was the runner-up after going 6-2 in league play in 2022.

But that won't stop the rest of the teams in the LVC from giving it their best shot.

In fact, the four teams from Hometown Life's coverage area, South Lyon East (6-2), South Lyon (5-3), Milford (4-4) and White Lake Lakeland (4-4), each finished in the middle of the pack but have plenty to look forward to when fall camp begins this week.

See LVC, Page 2B

Plymouth football emphasizes finishing games strong

Brandon Folsom

Hometownlife.com

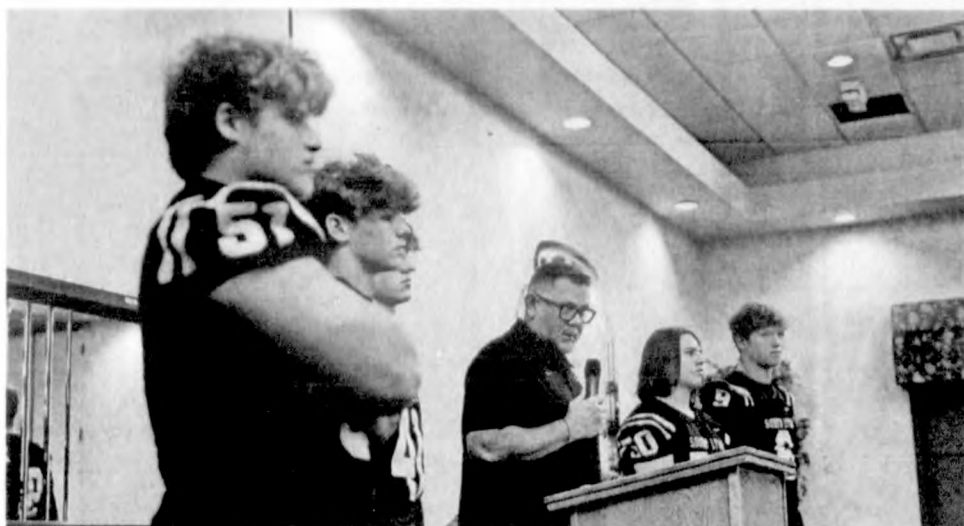
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Coach Greg Souldourian is not about to blame the Plymouth football team's 2-7 record in 2022 on losing Jaxon McCaig to a season-ending injury.

Sure, the running back would've helped the Wildcats had they not lost him late in the first half of their Week 5 loss at Hartland. The 6-foot-2, 220-pound speedster totaled 622 yards in just under half a season, averaging 155 yards per game. It's no surprise he's earned offers from Marshall, Butler and Valparaiso since he last played. Expect more Division I offers to come.

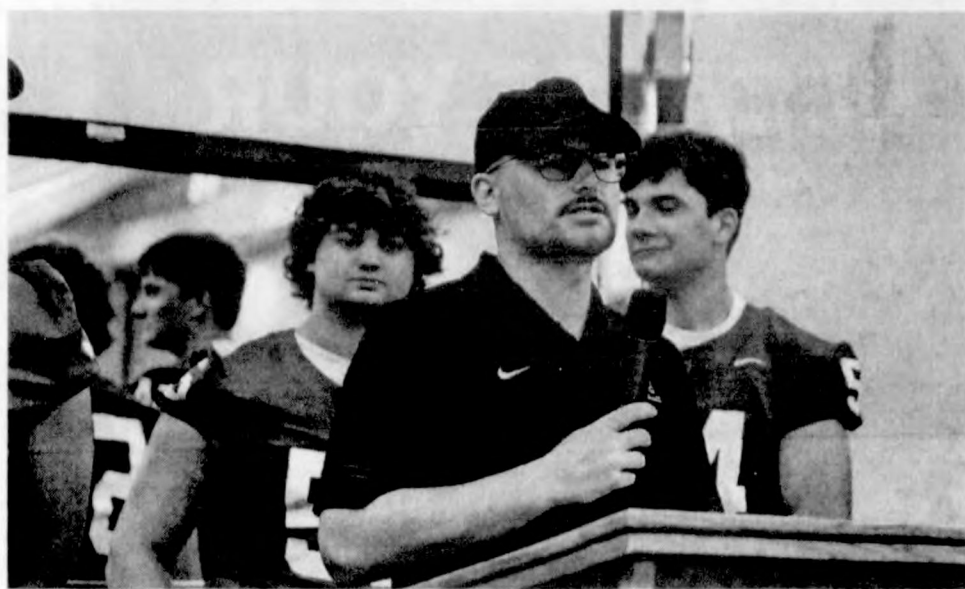
See PLYMOUTH, Page 3B





South Lyon coach Jeff Henson speaks during Lakes Valley Conference Football Media Day on Wednesday, Aug. 2, 2023, at Baker's of Milford Restaurant.

PHOTOS BY BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM



Milford coach Andrew Micovich speaks.

LVC

Continued from Page 1B

South Lyon East

East is coming off its greatest season in program history. Coach Jacob Topp helped the Cougars set single-season records for most wins (7) and points forced (284), plus their Week 9 upset win against South Lyon went down as only the second time East has ever beaten its crosstown rival since the school started playing the sport in 2008.

Who knows just how much better the Cougars could've been had senior QB Nico Campo (Michigan Tech signee) not suffered two long term injuries throughout the fall? While backup Dominic Giovannini, a junior who will be one of five returning starters on offense, did admirably in the five games he unexpectedly started (heck, he had Western on upset alert for a few minutes in Week 4), he was, indeed, thrown to the wolves without as much preparation as a QB would like to have. How he navigated learning at the varsity level on the fly was impressive, and that experience should only benefit East in 2023.

Unfortunately, Campo isn't the only key starter the Cougars lost to graduation. Also gone are receivers Jordan Newbill and Drew Moyer, linebacker Jayden LaPerna and defensive back Caleb Gash, who each made Hometown Life's All-Area team last fall, among others. Plus, they lost lineman Ethan Cowie, who was talented enough to play in the Legacy All-Star football game after the season.

Joining Giovannini as one of the five returning starters on offense is lineman Jordan Atkins while linebacker Jack Toth is one of five returning starters on defense. Both of them made the All-Area team as well.

After graduating so much firepower on both sides of the ball, how does a team improve after having the best season in program history?

"With hard work and, obviously, we're going to try to do it as a team," said Topp, a third-year coach, during Wednesday night's LVC Media Day at Baker's of Milford. "Nobody's going to replace any single individual player that we had last year. And we don't expect them to, right? It's going to be a collection of everybody contributing, everybody being part of it. Nobody's going to replace exactly what Jordan gave us, what Drew gave us, what Nico gave us, Jayden, Caleb, and a number of guys, and I can go on and on. Nobody's going to necessarily replace any singular per-



South Lyon East coach Jacob Topp speaks.

son or singular role."

South Lyon

South Lyon finds itself in the same boat as in-district rival East.

Two years removed from winning the LVC, the Lions must replace a wealth of starters on both sides of the ball. They bring back 21 contributors, including seven starters on defense, but they have just four starters back on offense.

They lost to graduation Illinois State signee Tommy Donovan, who was Hometown Life's Offensive Player of the Year in 2022 after he accounted for 26 touchdowns and 2,109 all-purpose yards as a running back and kick returner, stud outside linebacker Simeon Mardossian (North Central College in Illinois), 4 1/2-star kicker Alex Stoyanovich, linemen Andrew Berg (Calvin University) and Benny Leece (Grand Valley State University wrestling), quarterback Braden Fracassi (Albion College) and defensive back Owen Mitchell.

Coach Jeff Henson is putting less emphasis on finding new "superstars" within the program and spending more effort ensuring everyone focuses on team building.

"I would like to think our program is at a place where those types of guys leave and we just have other guys step up," the eighth-year coach said. "We still bring back some really good dudes. We're just going to be a little different than we have been in the past. It's more of just being a team. We're really focusing on us and not just individuals. I think that's paying dividends for us. Not that we haven't done it in the past, but we're kind of lacking that superstar, I guess you could say."

Yes and no.

While attrition is going to give some

players an opportunity to step up and become the next Tommy Donovan and Simeon Mardossian within the program, the Lions still have some "dudes."

Ben Radley, anybody? The 6-foot-4, 235-pound lineman, who holds offers from Saginaw Valley State, Davenport University, GVSU, WSU and Hope College, was arguably one of the most impressive-looking players at LVC Media Day. With seniors like him, South Lyon shouldn't be too worried about not having star players.

Milford

There's no doubt Western and Mott should have dynamic offenses.

But Milford might have the most exciting offense to watch in the entire conference.

The Mavericks were in a tough spot following their 7-3 effort in 2021. Coming off their best season since 2006, the administration unexpectedly let go of coach Garfrey Smith during the offseason for reasons it didn't make public.

That left offensive coordinator Andrew Micovich scrambling to prepare the team for the 2022 season after he was promoted to head coach. Yet those distractions didn't slow down his offense from putting up numbers the program hadn't seen in over a decade. And his defense wasn't too shabby either.

And the best part? Most of Micovich's top players are back.

While they return just five starters on offense, back is dual-threat QB Ryan Allen, who was a first-team selection on Hometown Life's All-Area team as well as lineman Brady Flanigan and running back Peyton Chamberlain, who were also All-Area selections.

Defensively, they bring back eight contributors, including seven starters, and perhaps one of the best middle linebackers in metro Detroit in Wyatt Lesnew, who will be a four-year starter and was a chief reason why the Mavericks allowed just 17.7 points per game a year ago. Lesnew totaled a staggering 139 tackles as a junior.

Sprinkle in help from the likes of seniors Jake Smetana, Jon Motes, Tyler Freer, Ryan Galda, Brady Collison and Ike Stuft, among others, as well as up-and-coming junior receivers Owen Stark and Landon Murray, and Milford is hoping it can put it all together now that it's had a full offseason of stability under Micovich.

"It's been different this offseason," the second-year coach said. "In Year 1, I got hired in January, so you miss some of the planning that goes into it. As a first-year head coach, you don't realize all the things you have to do outside of

the white lines, for sure. I thought I did a really good job as an assistant trying to help everybody out and take on other duties.

"But you don't realize how much there is to do. It literally never ends. From planning our fundraising to our banquets to ordering our jerseys and new equipment to doing all the budgeting for our football program. The whole thing. I could go on and on. It took some time away from me doing the football stuff I want to do."

White Lake Lakeland

Down the stretch of last season, Lakeland had a strong chance of making the postseason, especially after it upset South Lyon East on homecoming night in Week 7.

All the Eagles had to do was win their final two regular-season games and they likely would've gotten into the playoffs for a sixth-consecutive season. But it didn't happen. They lost back-to-back games against Gibraltar Carlson and Milford to stumble across the finish line in disappointing fashion.

You bet that lackluster finish has been motivating Lakeland this past offseason.

And the Eagles are hoping to make it two in a row against the Cougars when they open the season with East during a Battle of the Big House showcase game on Aug. 24 at Michigan Stadium.

"We're definitely looking forward to this game," said offensive coordinator Steven Nicles, who filled in for coach Jim Calhoun during LVC Media Day. "It's one that's been marked on our calendar, especially playing in the Big House. It's going to be a battle, for sure, and they're a really well-coached team. Last year, they were thriving until they lost their quarterback and kind of ran into us. It was kind of the perfect storm for us, you could say."

If you think Lakeland is going to finish in the basement alongside the likes of Walled Lake Central (2-6), Waterford Kettering (1-7) or Walled Lake Northern (0-8), think again. The Eagles return too many talented players to not improve on last year's 4-4 finish in the league.

While losing lineman Caden Calhoun, Coach Calhoun's son, and running back Mike Mahaney, they bring back plenty of other good players.

That includes junior running back Trevor Tschudin and senior kicking specialist and linebacker Nolin Thompson, who both made Hometown Life's All-Area team in 2022, as well as senior QB Sean Latham, senior lineman Drew Carlson, junior linebacker Blake Zameniski and senior receiver Kyler Shaw.

Camp

Continued from Page 1B

Of course, Andrew Kummer, Thad Lawler and Jonathan Aurilia each made key plays throughout the postseason, while Boden Fernsler (illness) and Stephen Boujoulian were on hand in the dugout.

All six of them will be turning their attention to the gridiron when the season begins next week.

"We all know that we can win this fall, and we are trying to translate that (success) to the football field," Walker said. "We've built a lot of trust throughout the season, we're all good friends and know how to play good together, so we want to do that on the football field as well. Over the years, we've built a bond. Baseball season this year, we just strengthened it, and playing in the state championship strengthens it even more for football season."

Walker should also have added confidence from the experience he gained under center as a junior.

Returning QB Luke Aurilia actually started in the season opener against Belleville, but Sparks elected to give Walker the job when he realized Aurilia

could be better utilized in other positions.

Keeping Aurilia healthy to play QB meant he couldn't help on defense or special teams. That all changed once Walker got a chance to start.

The Wildcats finished 5-5 overall and saw their season end against rival Northville in the postseason opener.

"The goal of a coach, any coach, is to take the resources you have, the players you have, and maximize everybody's talent," Sparks said. "It was a situation where we had Luke Aurilia, who was a coach's dream in terms of effort, ability and coachability, and it was a situation where Caleb had some ability at quarterback, too. But if Luke is playing quarterback, Caleb didn't really have a skillset to contribute anywhere else. But once we put Caleb in to play quarterback, who was more than adequate at it, all of a sudden we gained a punt returner, a kick returner, a corner and a receiver (all the positions Aurilia ultimately played). That allowed us to take the hand we were dealt, talent-wise, and then all of a sudden we had pluses at multiple positions (after moving Aurilia)."

Walker, the son of Matthew Walker, who helped Farmington Hills Harrison win a state championship in 1997,

wasn't asked to pitch for the Wildcats this past spring.

But the senior infielder still has a cannon for an arm, which is perfect for Sparks' infamous spread offense.

During the regular season in 2022, he was 121 of 197 passing for 1,551 yards, 17 touchdowns and just four interceptions. That includes a breakout game against Salem in Week 3 when he was 21 of 32 passing for a career-best 408 yards and six TDs.

But, truthfully, he really started hitting his stride in the final five games before the postseason began. That's when he averaged almost 200 yards passing per game. A lot of that had to do with him finally being able to handle how fast varsity football is compared to the JV.

"Last year, it was a great experience, and it's always been my goal to be on the varsity starting," Walker said. "I learned the game is a lot faster than JV and freshmen football. Getting up to speed, that was a big transition. I should be a lot more ready this year and more adjusted to the speed. I think I got used to it last year."

Walker and the Wildcats will be tested immediately, as they open on Aug. 25 against Macomb Area Conference-Red powerhouse Sterling Heights Stevenson.

A win over the Titans, who were 2-7 a year ago, could give the program a shot in the arm as they attempt to win the KLAA-West, which appears to be wide open this year.

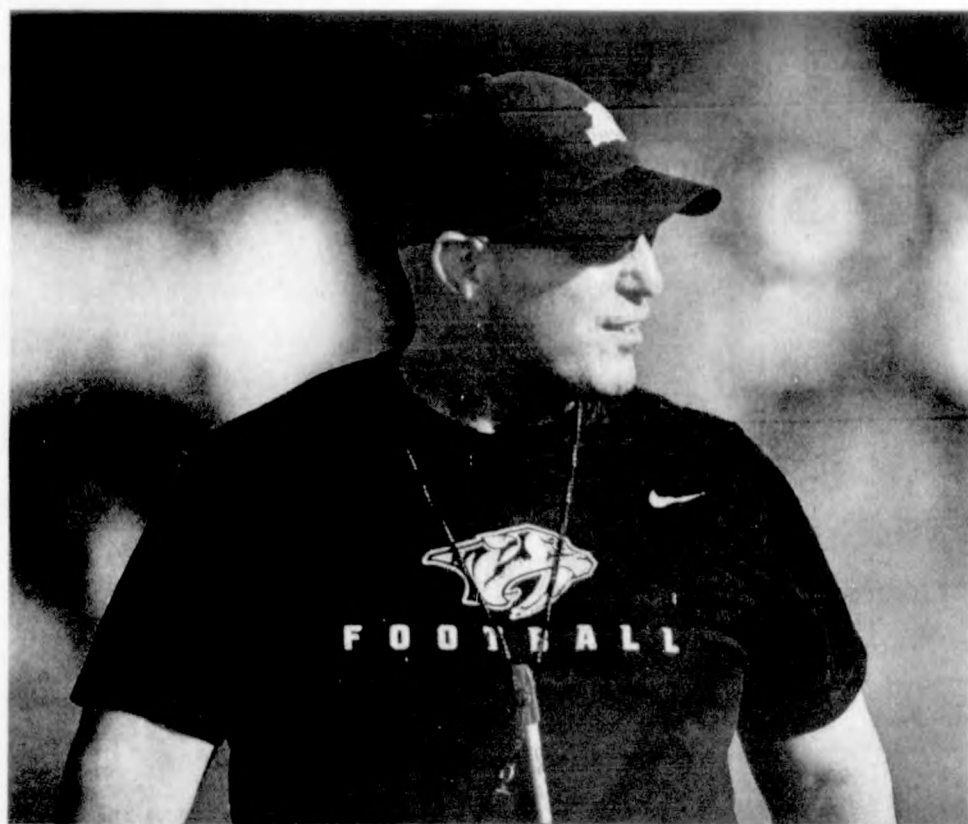
Novi has made the postseason both years under Sparks, but it hasn't gotten out of its district yet. Could this be the year it happens? The Wildcats are eager to find out.

Few gave the baseball team much of a chance to beat No. 3-ranked Northville in the regional opener. But Uli Fernsler closed the doors on the Mustangs, and Novi rode that mojo all the way to the state championship.

You can't doubt the magic right now at Novi.

"The expectation is to compete for the division title, make the playoffs and compete in the playoffs," Sparks said. "That's the goals I'll always set as long as I take the field. We're going to shoot for the moon and understand there's a lot of great teams out there. We may not achieve it, but there's no crime in saying what you want and working as hard as you can to get there."

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



Plymouth coach Greg Souldourian laughs with his players during a 7-on-7 football scrimmage July 19, 2023. PHOTOS BY BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

Plymouth

Continued from Page 1B

his way should he stay healthy as a senior this coming season.

But, no, Plymouth's woes had nothing to do with McCaig's absence. It had everything to do with their inability to close out games when they were in a position to win.

"Finish. That's it. Just finish," Souldourian told Hometown Life on Monday afternoon. "That's our mantra for this year. In everything that we do, we need to finish what we started. These seniors need to finish what they started four years ago and what they started last year."

"We had bright spots last year, but we need to finish games, drives and in the right fashion. Some of those games late in the season, we just didn't finish drives. We didn't score against (Dearborn) Fordson from 6 inches out. If you don't finish there, do you really deserve to win?"

It's eye-opening the Wildcats couldn't get it done when it mattered the

most because they didn't lack talent.

Aside from McCaig's prowess in the backfield, they had three-star Northwestern commit Idrys Cotton on the offensive line, strong-armed Sam Plencner taking over for former quarterback Connor Sherman and safety Luc Damiani setting the tone defensively as one of the top playmakers in the entire Kensington Lakes Activities Association.

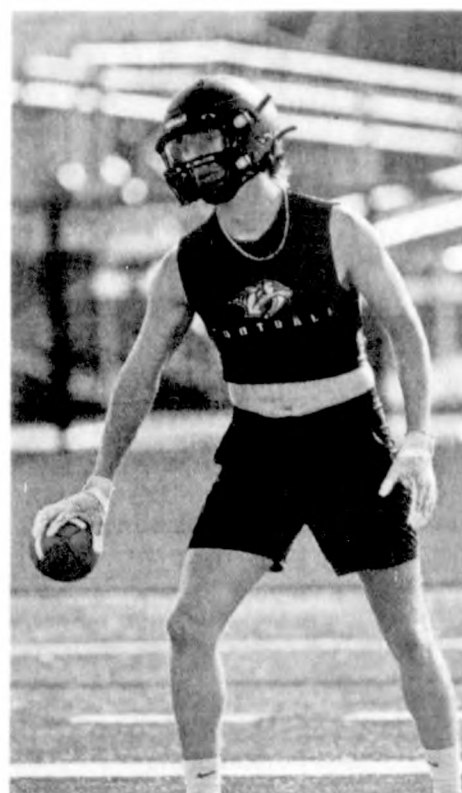
All four of those players are back as seniors. And the best part? Plymouth graduated just two of its All-KLAA selections in Evan Cosgrove and Orlando Daniels. While last year's squad was inexperienced, almost all of the big contributors are returning.

"We're definitely more connected this year," said Cotton, who's 6-4 and 285 pounds. "Pretty much our whole offense is back. We were really young last year, but we have a lot of pieces back."

This team should be a darkhorse candidate to win the KLAA-West, as the division went through plenty of turnover during the offseason. Canton, Northville and Salem have new coaching staffs. Souldourian, who is entering just his fourth season, is the fourth-longest tenured coach in the entire conference.



Plymouth's Sam Plencner passes during a 7-on-7 football scrimmage Wednesday, July 19, 2023.



Plymouth's Luc Damiani catches a TD pass during a 7-on-7 football scrimmage Wednesday, July 19, 2023.

Plymouth has stability in its program that some teams in the league are searching for right now. That should give it an edge early on this season.

Not to mention the seniors are hungry to prove they're not just a two-win team.

"That's motivating us a lot right now," Damiani said. "We came out and lost (last year's season opener to Livonia Churchill), and that kind of blew our confidence a little bit. But coming into this year, I think we're a whole new team. The chemistry is better. We're more of a family. We're out here looking to go 1-0 against Traverse City Central."

That's right. This is the first season the KLAA is allowing its teams to schedule a Week 1 nonconference game against any opponent it wishes vs. playing a mandatory crossover game against a team from the KLAA-East.

Instead of scheduling a guaranteed win against a lesser team, Plymouth went out and booked a trip to play T.C. Central at historic Thirlby Field. That's not going to be an easy task. The Trojans are just two seasons removed from playing against Warren DeLaSalle in the Division 2 state championship. They will

not be a pushover.

"It all comes down to prep, right?" Souldourian said. "We're going to have to prepare our kids. Year in, year out, this is a team (T.C. Central) that comes down to our area, competes with the big dogs and gives them all that they can handle. This whole thing is going to be an experience for our kids because they've never traveled like that. That's why we need to start out fast. We just need to prepare our kids for the gauntlet we're going through."

Souldourian, a self-admitted Type-A personality, already has the trip north planned out.

The Wildcats will leave on Aug. 24. They'll stop at Alma College to practice on the Scots' turf. Then they'll head to their hotel in Traverse City.

Game day will see them go through pre-game walkthroughs, position meetings and team meals.

By the time kickoff happens, only one thing will be left for them to do.

"Just finish," Souldourian said.

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

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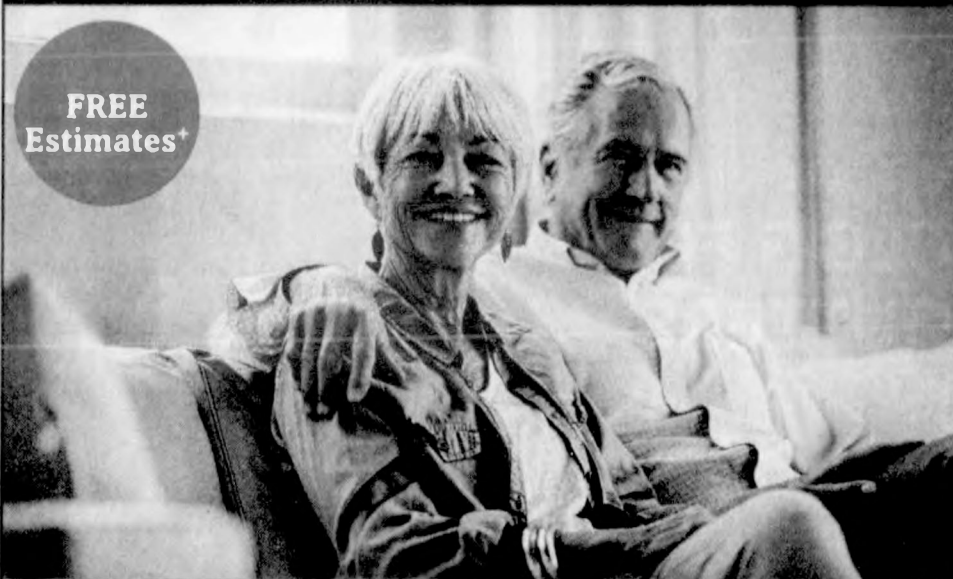
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Plymouth, Churchill host football clinic for kids with special needs

Brandon Folsom
Hometownlife.com
USA TODAY NETWORK - MICHIGAN

Different venue, same great cause.

Friday night's heat was around 90 degrees, but that didn't stop two high school programs from hosting the ninth annual Sunshine's Skills and Drills Football Clinic for Children with Special Needs.

For the past eight summers, the Plymouth football team has hosted children battling both physical and mental disabilities for a chance to be the star player on the field for one night.

The event, which was originally created by former Wildcat quarterback Connor Sherman almost a decade ago, allows children with disabilities to carry the ball, go through tackling drills, score touchdowns, celebrate in the end zone, learn from coaches and, most importantly, hang out with current players.

Only this year's event came with a twist.

Helping Sherman host the clinic each summer has been Plymouth-Canton Community Schools teacher Brian Rochon, who is actually the co-offensive coordinator at Livonia Churchill. Rochon used his connections at both schools to bring the two football teams together to host the event.

That's right. The campers got to hang out with players from both Plymouth and Churchill while doing so at the Chargers' home field, the first time the event hasn't been hosted at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

Rochon's goal is to have the event alternate venues each summer. Next year it'll head back to the Park.

"It was an easy decision," Rochon said. "When we did it at Plymouth, we'd be able to have around 45 kids attend. Doing it with two programs allowed us to bring the total number to the 60-65 range. Plus, I wanted my Churchill kids to experience this as well. As much as a benefit this is for the kids who join us for a night of fun, it also benefits the players because, after all, we're trying to help



Livonia Churchill assistant Brian Rochon talks with campers during Sunshine's Skills and Drills Clinic for children with special needs on Friday, July 28, 2023.
BRANDON FOLSOM/HOMETOWNLIFE.COM

young men grow up and learn lessons like humility and generosity. And that can come from a night like this."

That venue switch proved to be a boon for camper Carlos Teran, a senior at Churchill who has attended all nine of Sunshine's clinics. His final trip ever to the end zone was on his home field.

"We had so many returnees like him," Rochon added. "Obviously, that tells us

that we're doing this thing the right way. When we go through registration and a parent tells us it's their fourth, fifth or sixth year bringing their kid here, that means a lot to us. A lot of the parents tell us that this is the highlight of their kid's summer."

Some campers show up in wheelchairs, need crutches to get around or have prosthetic legs. So the night truly

puts things in perspective for the current players.

For some, high school football is a way to earn a free college education and, sometimes, fortune and fame. Sunshine's campers won't be able to do that on the football field.

"I love it because I realize I'm really grateful and truly blessed (to have the physical attributes that I have)," said Plymouth senior Idrys Cotton, a 6-foot-4, 280-pound three-star lineman committed to Northwestern University. "I'm just so grateful to be able to teach others how to play the sport I love and show them how to have a positive attitude."

Rochon said about 60 campers showed up despite the scorching heat. There were 15 others on a waiting list hoping to get an invite to the free camp.

With two schools now involved, Rochon hopes there won't be a need for a waiting list in the future, which means more players from Plymouth and Churchill will be signing up to help.

What's more, Sunshine's is a perfect way for the summer to end. Each year it's held during the final weekend before the MHSAA's mandatory "dead week" at the beginning of each August. That's a week where teams cannot practice, scrimmage or get together before practices officially begin on Monday, Aug. 7.

Both the Wildcats and Chargers go into their brief vacation before the season starts feeling a little closer as programs.

"It means a lot," said Plymouth senior Luc Damiani, who should be one of the top defensive backs in the Kensington Lakes Activities Association this fall. "It's just great for the community and our team. We get closer as a team while helping out the community. It just shows what our team is all about. It builds character with our teammates, and we just love giving back to the community."

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

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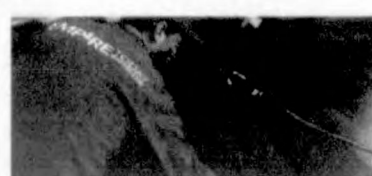
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Catholic League football may be the strongest in Michigan, thanks to ... Ohio?

Mick McCabe

Special to Detroit Free Press

The Detroit Catholic League just got better. Much better.

And not just in football.

But the subject was football Thursday night at U-D Jesuit when the Catholic League held its annual football media day and welcomed some newcomers.

Toledo Central Catholic — Ohio's defending Division 2 state champion — St. Francis de Sales and Toledo St. John's Jesuit are first-year members of the Catholic League's Central Division.

Also signing on is defending Michigan Division 7 champ Jackson Lumen Christi with legendary coach Herb Brogan, who is the third-winningest coach in state history (395-94) — 48 victories behind Farmington Hills Harrison's John Herrington.

Brogan, who has led Lumen Christi to 10 state titles, is entering his 44th year as head coach and, in a way, is now the dean of Catholic League coaches as the Titans join the Double A.

Central Catholic coach Greg Dempsey has won four Ohio state championships in 24 seasons and is acquainted with his new teammates.

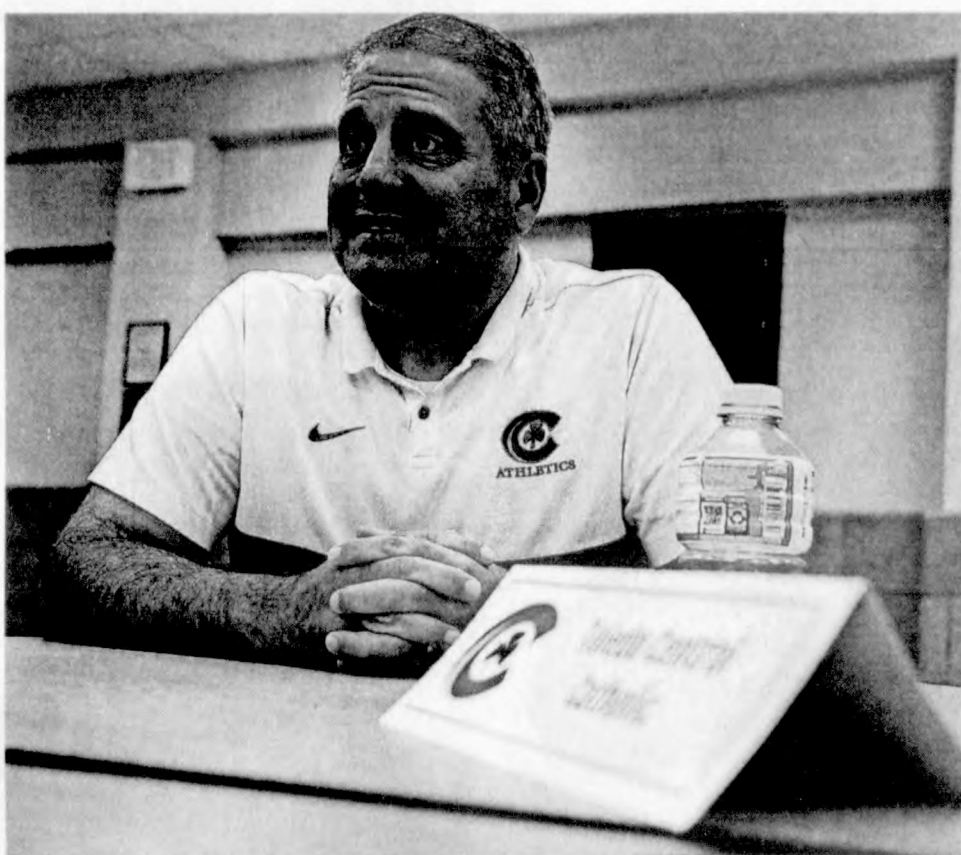
"I'm familiar with the tradition, the teams," he said. "We've played Warren De La Salle. We've played (Novi) Detroit CC. We've even played (Birmingham) Brother Rice in some JV games. We know what Orchard Lake St. Mary's has accomplished and their red football field.

"Everybody here has so much tradition and we're so close to each other, it's been tough not to follow them just as much as you follow Ohio schools."

In fact, Toledo CC was the opponent in 2005 when Detroit CC played its first home game in Novi. Toledo CC won that game, 10-7.

St. John's and St. Francis are all-boys schools while Toledo CC is co-ed. Also joining the league will be Toledo all-girls schools St. Ursula and Notre Dame Academy.

The Toledo schools became available



Toledo Central Catholic coach Greg Dempsey speaks with media during the Catholic High School League media day at University of Detroit Jesuit High School and Academy in Detroit on Thursday. AUDREY RICHARDSON/DETROIT FREE PRESS

when four public schools in their former league, the Three Rivers Athletic Conference, informed the Catholic schools they were joining a different league and the Catholic schools were not invited to join them.

Catholic League director Vic Michaels had been attempting to lure the Toledo schools to come on board for years — and suddenly the timing was right.

"Those schools will add to what we think is already the best football league in the state," Michaels said. "We're really excited to have them, not just in football, but in all of the sports. We feel they're bringing to our league, which is already pretty rich in tradition, we're getting some Toledo tradition and some

Jackson tradition."

The Toledo schools had few realistic options because joining a league in Cleveland would mean traveling an hour and 45 minutes, and Columbus schools are over two hours away.

The average time with the Detroit Catholic League is less than an hour.

"We got together and looked at all the options and we felt the invitation to join the Catholic League is what we felt was the best, not just for football but all our sports," Dempsey said. "At the end of the day there were some things that being in different states don't match up, but in terms of travel and proximity, this was the best choice for our students and their families."

While Dempsey is also CC's athletic director, his main emphasis at the moment is football and that part of the Catholic League especially intrigues him.

"In football, I'm really excited about the opportunities and challenges this is going to present," he said. "We've played a few of the schools sitting in this room and there was nothing ever easy about playing them and now to schedule this league is going to be definite new challenge for us."

With only 302 co-ed students, Lumen Christi will be at a disadvantage when facing U-D Jesuit (651, all-boys) and Dearborn Divine Child (723, co-ed).

But this is the best place for the Titans, who were members of the I-8 Athletic Conference but were running out of options.

"There were a couple of teams threatening to leave, and if we'd have stayed, I think one of them would have left for sure," Brogan said. "Our athletic director, Jesse Browne, thought it was inevitable."

Lumen Christi has played a challenging nonconference schedule for years. With games against Traverse City St. Francis, Gaylord and Harper Creek, it will be no different.

Then they throw in the Double A teams and it looks like a daunting schedule for a D-7 school.

"It will be fun, something different, something new," Brogan said. "It will be something else for us to figure out how to win. I think we have a chance to be something similar to what we were last year."

He did not say which part of last season they would be similar to. The Titans began last season 0-3, but wound up state champs.

This is Larry McDaniel's eighth season at St. John's and he knows the relationship the school has had with Michigan schools. In fact, in Week 9 this season, St. John's will host Detroit Denby.

"We used to play Catholic Central and Brother Rice," he said. "You've got two state champs in the same league. That's pretty impressive. It's going to be a very, very, very competitive league."

"I was being politically correct. It's going to be hard."

St. John's was 5-6 last season and made the state playoffs. One of the big attractions to playing in the Catholic League is the Week 9 Prep Bowl championship, played in Ford Field.

"It is pretty cool," McDaniel said. "The fact that this city does that is awesome. And just some of the perks that come with coming to a major city. Our AD was telling us there could be opportunities for our kids to come see a Lions game at a discounted price. When basketball season rolls around, there could be opportunities for kids to go so basketball at a discounted price."

"So those things are really cool, and we're looking forward to it."

Competing in the Central Division may prove to be a bit much for St. Francis, which is coming off a 2-8 season.

Charles Woolridge is St. Francis' first-year head coach. He grew up in the Washington area and played at DeMatha Catholic High School before playing at Rutgers.

"It reminds me of home," he said. "Coming from Maryland, I'm used to these kinds of leagues. This is what I'm used to."

Woolridge did his research after taking the job, which is when he was told the school was moving into the Detroit Catholic League.

"After I looked at it and thought: 'Oh boy!' " he said, laughing. "This is why I coach the game, this is why I played the game at the schools I played at. I wouldn't have it any other way. I like playing big-boy ball, so let's go."

Away we go.

Mick McCabe is a former longtime columnist for the Detroit Free Press. Contact him at mick.mccabell@gmail.com. Follow him on Twitter @mick-mccabell. Order his book, "Mick McCabe's Golden Yearbook: 50 Great Years of Michigan's Best High School Players, Teams & Memories," now at McCabe.PictorialBook.com.

Obituaries



John Robert Camilleri

LIVONIA - July 18, 2023, Age 83; Beloved brother of Theresa F. Ritza, sister-in-law's Sue Camilleri and Arlene Camilleri, and dearly loved Uncle of Janet Ritza, Craig Ritza (Mary), Jackie Ritza, Jeff Ritza, Chuckie (Wendy) Camilleri, and Michelle Camilleri. Preceded in death by brothers Frank Camilleri, Charlie Camilleri, Joseph Camilleri, Danny Camilleri, and nephew Curt Ritza. Co-owner of the former Crestwood Bar in Livonia, MI, and the Whistlestop Restaurant and Bakery in Birmingham, MI. A memorial mass will be held on August 10, 2023, at 10:30 a.m. at St. Michaels Catholic Church, 11441 Hubbard, Livonia. Also, on August 10, 2023, family and friends are invited to a luncheon from 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. at Deluca's Restaurant, 27424 Warren Rd, Westland, MI, 48150.

Joanne E. (nee Foley) Donohoe

Joanne E. Donohoe (nee Foley) died peacefully on July 24, 2023 at age 92. Beloved wife of 65 years to the late James W. Donohoe, Sr. Joanne was born in Detroit, MI to the late Clara Patrice (Fisher) Foley and Daniel Francis Foley. Joanne graduated from St. Frederick High School, Pontiac, MI. She met the love of her life, Jim, at a co-ed school dance, she at Marygrove College, and he at the University of Detroit. She graduated with a Bachelor's degree in music in 1953. Joanne married Jim in 1955 and began working as an elementary/music teacher in Dearborn. They eventually moved to Dearborn, where they lived for 40+ years. Joanne retired from Jacobson's in Dearborn as Human Resource Manager in 1992.

A lifelong and devoted Catholic, she raised her three children attending Sacred Heart Parish in Dearborn. She and Jim moved to Northville's Country Club Village in 1999 and were active members of St. Kenneth's Catholic Community. Besides her strong faith and life centered on family, her passions were playing her cherished piano, needlework projects, travel and having cocktail hour with her husband every night at six o'clock.

Joanne was proudly the last surviving and longest living sibling of eleven. Loving mother to her three children - Marilyn (Craig) Piper, James W. Donohoe, Jr, Kathleen (Bruce) Rylance. Grandmother of eight, including three NHS grads - Erin (Jack) Birdsall, Emily (Jason) Chapman, Sarah Donohoe.

For more information, visit funeral website at www.HarryJWillLivonia.com

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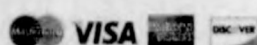
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Information aspiring nurses can include on their résumés

Metro Creative

Regardless of what they chose to study, many students look forward to graduation and the next step, which typically involves finding work in their chosen professions. Nursing students are no exception to this, and many, upon completion of their studies, are excited to begin their careers.

A well-crafted résumé is essential for nurses throughout their careers, but especially important for those starting out. According to RegisteredNursing.org, nursing résumés typically include sections commonly found on résumés for professionals across all industries. These standard sections include objective, education and technical skills. But nurses also may want to expand their résumés to include information specific to the nursing profession.

Experience

Newly minted graduates with degrees in certain fields may not have much, if any, experience to list on their résumés. But some recent nursing school graduates may have relevant clinical experience that could help them land their first jobs. When applicable, this section should include the company name (such as the name of the hospital or clinic), the location of the job, the job title, the dates of employment, and a description of the tasks the applicant performed.

Licensure and certifications

RegisteredNursing.org advises aspiring nurses to include where they are now licensed as registered nurses as well as any information regarding certifications they earned during their nursing programs. Nurses who earned their Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) certification through their nursing program should note

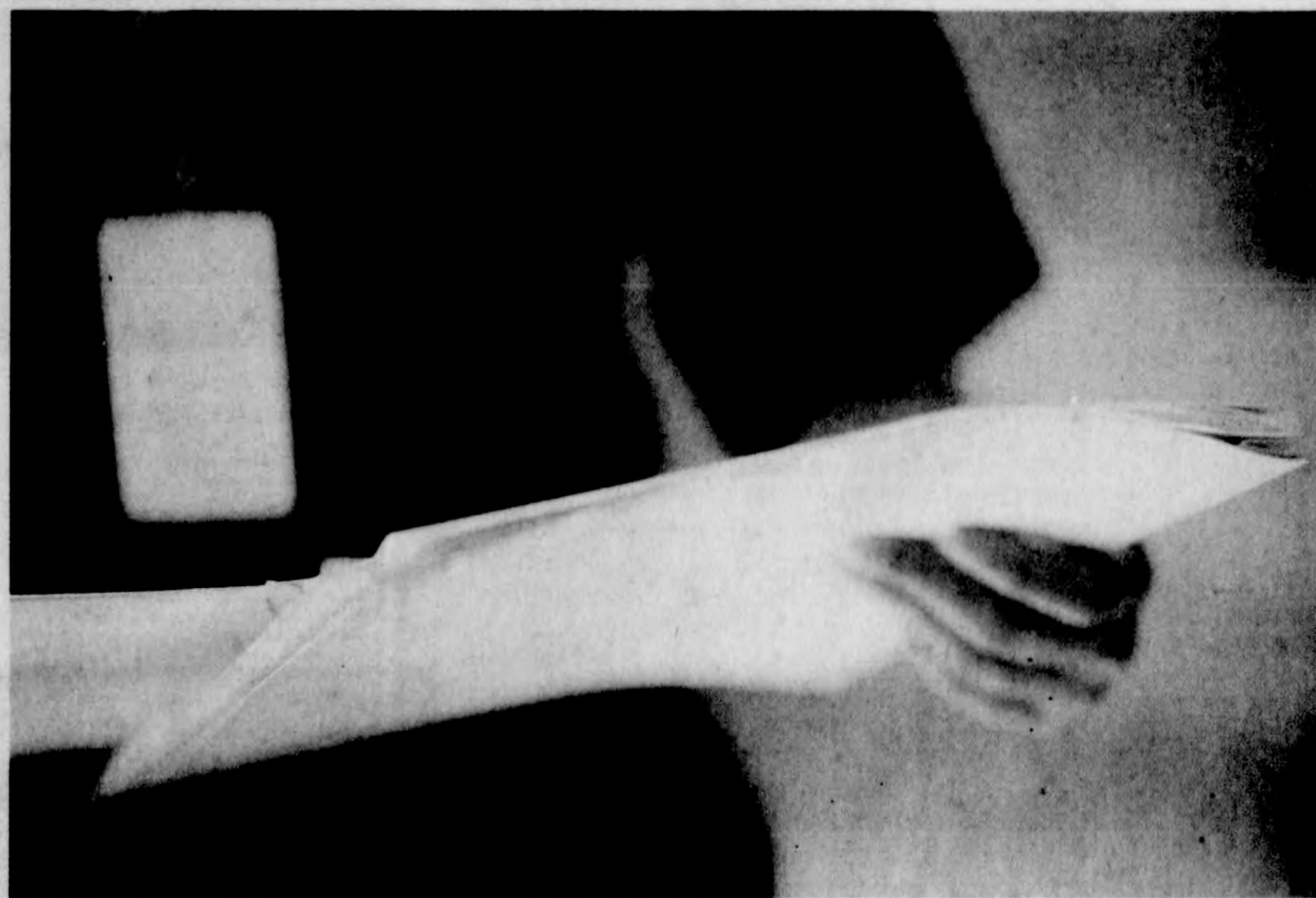
that on their résumés, as the RegisteredNursing.org notes that could make candidates appear more desirable in the eyes of prospective employers.

Education

Every résumé should include a section on an applicant's education history. But recent graduates from

nursing school should include any relevant information about nursing programs they may have participated in while pursuing their degrees.

Résumés are vital when looking for work. Recent graduates from nursing school can use their résumés to highlight any unique experiences they might have that can help them stand out among crowded applicant pools.



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