

The Clarkston News

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Vol. 89 No. 29 Wed., April 18, 2018

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A 24-page section dedicated to
the 2018 basketball champs in this
week's *The Clarkston News*

Downtown business owners and residents fill city hall during a City Council special meeting about paid parking, Monday. Photo by Phil Custodio



City scales back paid parking after disputes erupt

BY PHIL CUSTODIO
Clarkston News Editor

After two weeks, parking disputes drove City Council to change paid parking in its downtown lot.

After about an hour's discussion at a special meeting, Monday, council voted 6-1 to approve new hours for the city-owned Main and Washington parking lot. The new hours are 4-9 p.m., Monday-Friday; 11 a.m.-9 p.m., Saturday; free on Sunday.

Voting "yes" on the motion, made by Mayor Steven Percival at the April 16 meeting, were Percival and council members Sharron Catalo, Rick Detkowski, Eric Haven, Scott Reynolds, and Sue Wylie.

Council member Jason Kneisc voted "no."

Previous hours were 11 a.m.-10 p.m., Monday-Saturday; free on Sunday.

The change was needed to "lighten the load down here on the Depot Park lot during the day," Percival said at the meeting, filled to standing-room-only with downtown business owners and residents. "It's a matter for us to come together and take a hard look at the hours of operations in the paid lot, and the need to adjust the hours immediately and not wait for the data to come in."

Kneisc said they need the data, and the decision to change pay-to-park hours was too soon.

"My concern is, we have a room full of (angry) people, fights in the parking lot, pictures of people standing at the meter looking to pay - I feel like, in a week, we'll make another

knee-jerk decision caused by all these issues," he said. "I still don't think we've done the proper amount of homework."

At issue were four parking spots at the eastern edge of the mostly city-owned parking lot next to Depot Park. The spots are among 12 spaces owned by Neil Wallace, who owns the 39 S. Main Street building.

"The 12 spots are legally his, he has been allowing the city to use them," said City Manager Jonathan Smith. "Now, with parking constrained, he asked for signage to have the spots designated."

The new signs say "permit parking for 39 S. Main Street only."

The agreement to allow public parking in the spots was
Please see Drivers on page 5

Mystery at Lakeview Cemetery

Workers at Lakeview Cemetery called the Oakland County Sheriff's Office after unearthing human bones near the back, in a spot with no record of burials, 11:11 a.m., April 3.

The bones, which form only a partial skeleton, appeared to have been there for quite some time, said Lt. Larry Perry, Independence Substation commander. Deputies called the county Medical Examiner, who

collected and transported the bones to headquarters in Pontiac for examination and documentation.

The incident remains under investigation.

Lakeview Cemetery was established in 1850, 18 years after Clarkston was founded. Owned and maintained by Independence Township, several early settlers with names such as Holcomb, Irish, Allen, and Clark are buried there.

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Local singer Kenny Nelson needs your vote

BY BRENDA DOMINICK
 Clarkston News Staff Writer

Clarkston alumni Kenny Nelson has a chance to meet his idol, Kelly Clarkson, but he needs your help.

"Anyone who knows me or ever met me, knows I'm a massive fan of hers, so it makes this whole experience that much more special for me," said Nelson in a phone interview.

He's a top-four finalist in Clarkson's Voice Flyaway singing contest. Singers all over the country sent in their versions of the American Idol winner's latest ballad, "I Don't Think About You." The top vote getter gets to go to Los Angeles for the season finale of "The Voice," on which Clarkson is a coach.

Nelson has high hopes about winning the contest, and is also grateful to have found friendships with the other singers, Eric Michael Krop, Benji Padgett, and Hannah Satler.

"I just feel very lucky to be in that company," Nelson said. "Those other three singers are all really great. I think we are all really different. Everyone's been cool. We've actually all connected on different social media platforms."

The 2010 Clarkston High School grad said his favorite singers include Clarkson, Stevie Wonder, and Ryan Tedder from One Republic.

In 2014, Nelson won the "Super Singer Contest," which was announced by WDIV presenter Chuck Gaidica. Following his win, Nelson performed the classic Stevie Wonder hit "Superstition" and consequently was invited to sing the National Anthem at the Detroit Fireworks in 2015.

He performed at Arts, Beats and Eats in 2014, at the Earth Day Festival in Rochester in 2014 and 2015, and opened for the Beach Boys at Freedom Hill in 2014. Nelson is currently a manager of SOHO Restaurant and Music Club in Santa Barbara, Calif. He also occasionally performs his songs at the restaurant as well.

He visits Clarkston as often as possible, and still has fond memories of growing up in the quaint city.

"It's still home for me," he said. "I used to love going to the Old Village Café - at least once a week. I would also go to the bakery downtown and eat so many doughnuts. I think I weighed like 50 pounds heavier than I do now," he laughed. "I just loved running around town with my friends growing up and going to Depot Park. There's so many beautiful places in Clarkston and it's still

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Nelson's parents, Mark, lead pastor at Kensington Church in Clarkston, and his wife Callie, still reside in Clarkston. They were his main inspiration for singing, as they encouraged all of their kids to sing.

He also has six siblings who live in the Clarkston area. Kenny played percussion in school bands from grades 6-12, and has also performed in musicals at CHS such as "Footloose" and "Grease," directed by former Drama Director Jeffrey Tice.

Kenny's latest EP album is entitled *Kenny Nelson, Vol. 1* and the song, "Love Myself At All" is his favorite track on it. He said the type of genre of music he sings is a combination of his favorite sounds.

"I've always kind of categorized it as pop, only because I feel like pop is pretty all encompassing," said Kenny. "I grew up listening to Motown, and country music, jazz, and soul. There's a lot of different genres that influence the stuff I do. I feel like pop is the easiest way to bring all of those things together."

To vote for Kenny, go to www.atlanticrecords.com/kcvoiceflyaway. Voting for Kelly Clarkson's contest ends Thursday, April 19. Check out his music on www.kennynelsonmusic.com. "The Voice" is on NBC Mondays and Tuesdays at 8 p.m.



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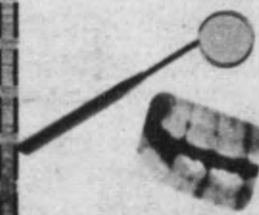
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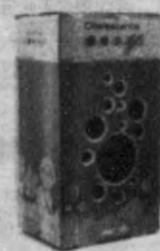
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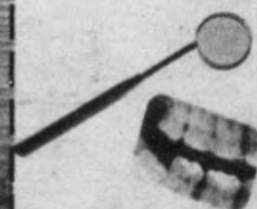
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Clarkston business students head to national competition

Ten Clarkston Community Schools students recently competed in the Business Professionals of America 2018 State Leadership Competition, and seven qualified for Nationals.

Clarkston students Andrew Dimmer, Nathan Dimmer, McKinley Edwards, Kylie Kalinowski, Thomas McCarty, David Moss, and Sage Paris qualified for the National Leadership Conference in Dallas, Texas, from May 9-13.

Andrew Dimmer also placed in seven events at states, a record for the Clarkston High School Chapter, which is headed by BPA chapter advisor Ron Conwell.

Andrew was one of two students at this event to be awarded a \$1,000 scholarship. Nathan Dimmer became the first Clarkston freshman to compete in BPA, making him the first to qualify for states and nationals.

Award winners include Andrew Dimmer, Nathan Dimmer, and Kylie Kalinowski, *Statesman Torch Award*; Andrew Dimmer, first place, *Computer Networking Technology*; Andrew Dimmer, second place, *Network Administration Using Microsoft*; Nathan Dimmer, third place, *PC Servicing and Troubleshooting*; McKinley Edwards, fourth place, and Kylie Kalinowski, seventh place, *Visual Basic/C# Programming*; Cole Mitchell, sixth place, *Personal Financial Management*; Andrew Dimmer, Gold, and Nathan Dimmer, Silver, *Information Technology Concepts*; Andrew Dimmer, Gold, and Sage Paris, Bronze, *Business Meeting Management Concepts*; Andrew Dimmer, Bronze, and David Moss, Bronze, *Financial Math and Analysis Concepts*; Andrew Dimmer, Bronze, *Computer Programming Concepts*; and Andrew Dimmer, Bronze, *Management, Marketing and Human Resources Concepts*.



From left to right, top row, Sage Paris, Farhiya Osman, McKinley Edwards, Nathan Dimmer, and Thomas McCarty; bottom row, David Moss, Andrew Dimmer, and Kylie Kalinowski. Not pictured, Heather Burrum and Cole Mitchell. Photo submitted



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Drivers fill other lots to avoid pay-to-park

Continued from page 1

made by a prior owner with the city before it became a municipal lot, said building owner Neil Wallace at the meeting.

"The city has been drawing more concessions out of me," Wallace said. "I did not give that property to the city – the city has a limited easement to use that property."

The signs drew angry complaints from other downtown business owners, Smith said.

The response, which included outbursts to city staff at city hall, will not be tolerated, Percival said.

"A few angry, irate, unprofessional people came into the office, yelling at employees – it's uncalled for, it's unacceptable," he said. "We do not need that kind of behavior in here when we're trying to conduct business."

However, he understands the frustration of the small business community during the daytime, when the pay-to-park lot has been mostly empty so far and the Depot Park lot, completely full.

"From 11 to 3, parking was low, and some days, nonexistent. The second week, it was predominately the same thing," the mayor said.

The kiosk has driven people to fill the Depot Park lot, making spots there a premium, Smith said.

"We found we have an inordinate amount of employee parking here during the day," he said. "We have a huge influx of parking needs downtown starting at 9 a.m. I feel guilty looking at that lot sitting empty, when the lot here is jammed, with people parking on the grass, almost getting into arguments over parking spaces. It's really gotten ugly in the past week."

Smith said owners of the Clarkston Mills private lot on Depot Road will soon install a pay-to-park kiosk for their lot, which will be open 24-7.

"It would help relieve some pressure," he said. "Judging by input and anger of employees past week, we need some relief now."

However, Bob Roth, one of the property owners, said the city's pay-to-park changes call into question their plans to install a kiosk in their private lot.

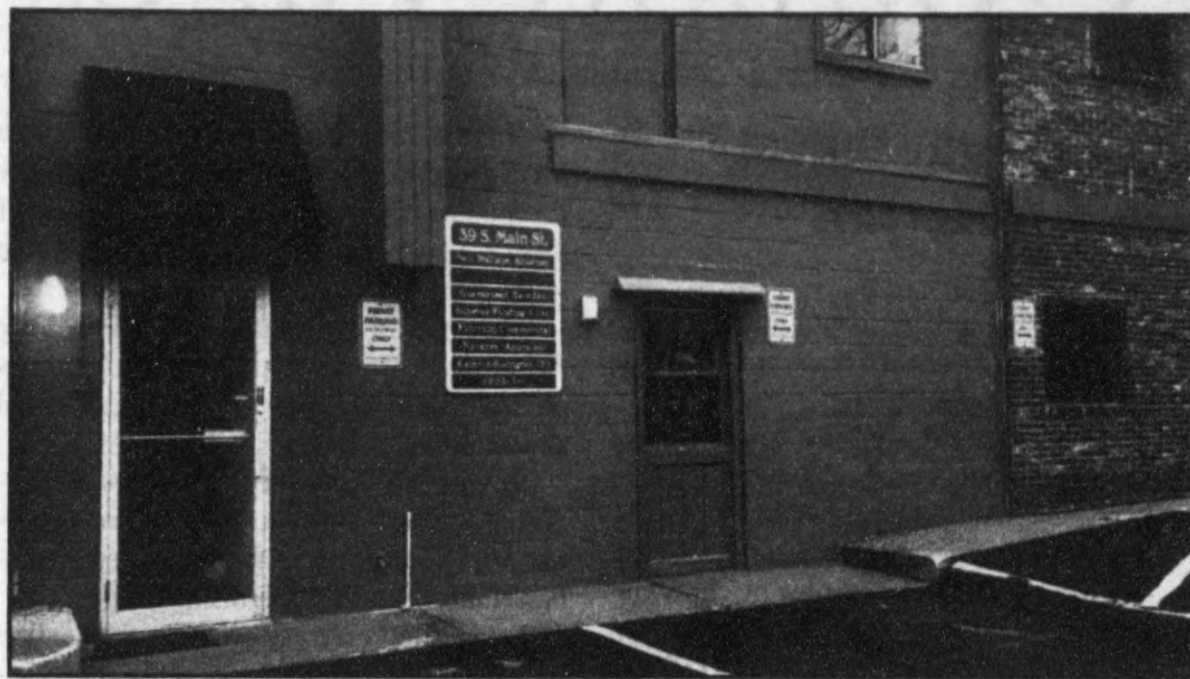
"It sounds like next meeting, we'll pull paid parking out – I don't know now," Roth said. "It sounds like you want to get us to put a machine in and then you'll pull your machine out."

"That's definitely not going on," Percival said.

Reynolds said revenue is needed for needed infrastructure repair in the city.

"The success of downtown properties is tearing the streets up," he said. "Roads are deteriorating. We need to find some balance here to do these repairs – we have no funding stream to address that."

Christina Calka, owner of Village



New permit-parking signs in the parking lot by Depot Park helped spark a special meeting of City Council. Photo by Phil Custodio

Boutique at Main and Washinton across from the city's pay-to-park lot, said her business relies on shoppers stopping in for brief visits.

"It's very important to have people stop in and just check the availability of something – inventory is always changing," Calka said. "I need that opportunity, for a quick flip of customers coming in and out. A lot of people have expressed concern for their continued patronage if they have to pay to park."

Union Joints owner Curt Catallo said the city is arrogant to impose parking restrictions on businesses.

"I feel we're at a precipice right now," Curt said. "Charging to park is not being hospitable to the people who support Clarkston – they decided to come here instead of to any of the other options they have."

Also, a full pay-to-park lot is not necessarily a sign of success, he said.

"People are paying for that instead of buying something, or a dessert or appetizer," the restaurant owner said. "All I ask of the council is, put yourself in our shoes."

Parking has also shifted into his Union and Woodshop parking lots on the east side of Main Street, which he is fine for now, he said.

"Your decisions directly impact our businesses – I would never think to come to your businesses and say, this is what you should do," he said. "It seems you are making decisions based on instinct, gut feelings, and squeaky wheels."

All should share in the solution, Curt said.

"It needs to be a bed of nails approach, everybody carries part of the burden. This makes restaurants bear the highest nail," he said. "It's unfair to our guests to be taxed at that rate."

The change may not be the answer, but at least City Council has listened to residents, said Sharron Catallo, Curt's mother.

"If we have to listen again, we're willing to do it," she said.

Wylie agreed.

"This is a small-town city council and small-town businesses, we can be responsive," she said. "It's so much better to hear from you directly rather than through Facebook."

Main Street resident Lorry Mahler agreed with Kneisc.

"There is a fix, but it won't happen overnight," Mahler said. "To change everything after one week (after the Easter break), you're going to change it all the time. Stick with something for awhile and see how it works."

The decision is a good compromise, Percival said.

"Right now something was needed for the business community and daytime patrons," he said.

City Council previously referred the parking issue to the city Planning Commission, which is reviewing it with advice from the city planner. It will present recommendations to the council at a future meeting.

City Council voted 5-0, April 9, to approve a pay-to-park app for the Main and Washington street lot.

The city will use the Passport Payment and Passport Parking Enforcement apps.

Passport will charge drivers a 25 cent flat fee per use. The city charges \$1 per hour during pay-to-park hours. The app is free to the city, but usually requires as least \$500 a month, with shortages to be made up by the municipality.

The app company agreed to waive the minimum monthly billing in exchange for \$3 paid to Passport for every parking ticket, Smith said.

Tickets are \$25, so the city would receive \$22 per ticket.

"Apps are the ways anyone under 40 pays for parking," Smith said. "There are several apps out there – we can have only one."

Briefly

Street lights on

Downtown streetlights are back on, after DTE Energy replaced underground lines leading to the city streetlight control panel.

"Let's hope this is for good now," said City Manager Jonathan Smith at the April 9 City Council meeting. "Thank you to the residents for their patience while this very unusual problem was diagnosed and repaired. Also, special thanks to Curt Catallo for his DTE contact assistance."

The lights started going out in February, with repeated repairs and outages by DTE. The city is responsible for the panel, lights and wiring between the panel and the lights. DTE is responsible for providing electricity from the pole to the panel.

Car raffle

You can win a new car or truck at Bowman Chevrolet's annual customer appreciation event, Saturday, April 21, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Raffle tickets are \$50 at www.carraffles.com. Detroit Red Wing Justin Abdelkader will help announce the raffle winner at 2 p.m. The winner can choose a 2018 Chevrolet Corvette, Suburban, Tahoe, Silverado, or Camaro, and also receive \$50,000. Proceeds benefit Easterseals Michigan.

The free, family-friendly event at the dealership, 6750 Dixie Highway, will also include a bounce house, face painting, music, food and beverages, giveaways every 30 minutes, and classic car show.

Classic-car registration is free. Register at the show or contact 248-575-5000 or info@bowmanchevy.com. Participating cars must arrive by 10 a.m.

First at DI states

The Sashabaw Middle School team Circle of Greatness took first place at the Destination Imagination state competition at Michigan State University, April 14.

Team members Cameron Fleming, Amanda Scott, Aubrey Snavley, Aksel Hopkins, Paige Szerlong and Antonio Gaglio, with team manager Dave Fleming, qualified for the Global Finals and will represent Clarkston at the tournament in Knoxville, Tenn., May 23-26.

They competed against 229 teams at the state tournament, with 13 teams in their specific category – Scientific Challenge, Unlikely Attraction, Middle School Level.

More than 1,400 teams, with over 8,000 students from 15 countries compete in Destination Imagination.

Wendi's Word

A column by Wendi Price

Vacation station

It's in the books - we have embarked on the first family vacation as we headed west to California, the first week of April.

I have never gone anywhere on spring break, not even during high school or college years. I spent the time getting extra hours in at work to earn money.

Times have changed and it was a mix of needing a break from winter, visit family and visit Mickey Mouse and the land of Disney.

Traveling with a 2-year-old toddler wasn't too bad. True, we carried a lot of stuff through the airport with a carseat, a stroller and carry ons, but he was great on the flight. (You know it's so when at least five people tell you how awesome he was.)

We spent three days in Disneyland and Jonathan's first ride was the Storybook Land Canal Boats. It was on the way to It's a Small World. (For Disneyland, get in a line while it's short.) Then, it was off to the It's a Small World, where it took longer to park the stroller than it did to get onto the ride. JD's eyes widened as he took in the movement and the bright color of the ride. More was coming as we headed to Toon Town.

He met Mickey Mouse and was intrigued to see him in person. JD also met Pluto, but it was more following the yellow dog and stopping whenever Pluto turned around to give him a high five.

The next day, Jonathan also met Moana who we have been watching and singing the songs from the movie. We tried to prep the best we could for Disneyland and the characters. He was probably the most excited to meet Donald Duck.

No, we did not take an autograph book and here's my reasoning - Jonathan can take a book and get the autographs when he is older. A majority of my family lives in California, we will find opportunities to go again.

Then, we were off to Balboa Pier to see sealions and to play in the ocean and sand on the beach until JD shivered from the cold.

We continued on to southern California as we would spend time with family. My aunt held an Easter egg hunt for the next generation of kids. Jonathan had a blast - collecting eggs, chasing around my cousins once removed, blowing bubbles, playing with play-doh.

We did it - we survived spring break. Sorry we did not bring the warmth back with us.



Opinion Pages

Letters, columns & Editorials

Fix roads with current funds, reader says

Dear Editor,

A new road millage is not the answer to better roads ("Township mulls road millage to fix roads," April 11).

First we should start by lowering the weight limits commercial vehicles are allowed to carry. Overweight trucks crush our roads. Strictly enforce fines for over weight vehicles.

Repairing existing potholes by throwing asphalt by a shovel into the hole, pushed down by vehicle traffic, does not work. Properly prep the area, tack spray with asphalt primer, fill the hole and roll with a roller.

We currently have a property tax, county tax, gas tax and an increase in vehicle registration fees which was earmarked for road repairs.

With all of these current taxes we need to hold those agencies accountable to spend the proper amount that is collected for road repairs on road repairs.

If we pass a millage and pay more for road repairs they will continue to misuse those funds, and as always the taxpayer will pay more.

We could have good roads with the current amount collected if it was properly managed.

Michael Tharrett
Independence Township

Road millage would pay off for reader

Dear Editor,

I certainly agree our roads are in desperate need of attention, including our residential streets - let's not forget them ("Township mulls road millage to fix roads," April 11).

The Home Owners Association (HOA) I live in has been trying for several years to get our association to get its members to agree to a special assessment by the Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC) to replace our streets, but at the cost of about \$15,000-\$18,000 per household to be paid over 10 years. I'll let you guess where this idea is right now.

First, I believe the millage is a good idea. It would spread it out better and not be nearly as expensive individually, but I would like to see the millage include neighborhood streets in desperate need of attention, too.

A millage that will only include our main roads may have a little trouble getting buy-in from the voters if it doesn't have a direct impact on them.

What I mean is, our roads are used by many more people than just the residents who

live here in Independence Township. I know if I'm going to vote for my added taxes to pay for road repairs, I will have less heartburn if there is a guarantee the RCOC will contribute to the project.

That means the remaining money, if the full amount Mr. Kittle proposed of 2 mils is passed, could be used to repair residential streets as well.

Reviewing this every two years as suggested by Barb Pallotta would allow everyone who votes to make their own determination if this millage is worth extending.

I would go on to suggest an application process is put in place for neighborhood associations to use for whatever needs they have for their roads.

If/when approved, these neighborhoods would pay a percentage of the total cost as a special assessment, with the balance paid by the road tax collected.

I think this would be far less cost than what I mentioned earlier being tried by my HOA, and would be better received by the voter/tax payer. And guess what, it would contribute to the value of our neighborhoods and community when our roads looks good - inside and out. Just a thought.

Bob Cesario
Independence Township

New Summer Shindig fundraiser for SCAMP

Dear Editor,

The SCAMP Funding Corporation is excited to introduce a new fundraising event for SCAMP.

The Summer Shindig Party is on June 16, and will take the place of the SCAMP Home Tour this year. While the Home Tour has been a popular and successful fundraiser for 35 years, participation and support have decreased in recent years.

With that in mind, we have decided to explore other opportunities this summer and are excited for the change.

With over 50 percent of the 220-plus kids who attend SCAMP needing financial aid to attend camp, we need your continued support.

If you are interested in attending, in sponsoring or in donating money or auction items, please contact SCAMP at 248-623-8089.

As always, we are deeply grateful to all those who faithfully support our kids and SCAMP. We couldn't make this happen without you!

Sincerely,

Aimee Baker, executive director
SCAMP Funding Corp.

More Letters on Page 6

A Look Back

From The CNews archives

15 years ago - 2003

"Community thaws; cleanup continues" Recent warmth made the early April ice storm seem like old news, but its effect was real for residents and businesses owners alike as it would take up to two weeks to clean up after the storm.

"Students offer art for local diners" Sashabaw Middle School student had their artwork displayed at a local Wendy's restaurant throughout the month of March as part of Wendy's Celebrates Youth Arts Month Exhibit.

"Clarkston tennis takes second in Invitational" The Clarkston Boys Varsity Tennis team tied for second in their own invitational as the Wolves and Livonia Stevenson both scored 14 points. Grosse Pointe North won the meet with 18 points.

25 years ago - 1993

"School district ponders effects of ball Proposal A" Clarkston Community Schools officials were going over Proposal A with a fine-tooth comb, in the event the tax reform proposal was approved by voters in June. Deputy Superintendent Steve Lenar said it wouldn't hurt the district, but there were variables to be considered.

"New pumper bolsters fire department" The Independence Township Fire Department had a new fire engine and it was far from ordinary. The \$180,000 truck was the only one the department had with an enclosed seating area and was also equipped with a generator, chainsaw, lock pullers, air packs and a variety of tools and hoses.

"Wolves edge Bronchos 7-5 for first win" The Clarkston Varsity Softball team used a 15-hit attack and stole eight bases to defeat Holly in the first game of the season, 7-5.

50 years ago - 1968

"Voters turn down pool" Voters in the Clarkston Community Schools district turned down a proposal to construct a swimming pool. There were a total of 1,265 votes with 766 saying no to the pool.

"Wins Hopwood award" John Slade won an award of \$700 given to 26 winners in the annual Avery and Jule Hopwood contest in creative writing at the University of Michigan. Slade, a sophomore at Michigan, won his in the drama division for "Important Games."

"To be honored for scouting work" Mrs. Bill Humphreys, a Clarkston mother of four and an active participant in scouting, was to be honored for her service in the scouting movement at the United Fund awards presentation.

More Letters

A call to bring back Clarkston Labor Day parade

Dear Editor,

For the first time in many, many years, Clarkston did not have a Labor Day parade, and it was missed, not only because it is a national holiday, but because it was one of the many reasons people from all over make Clarkston a destination.

Can't some way be found to restore this event? Perhaps, it would help if we especially dedicated the day to those who "labor" for us, sometimes unselfishly, such as police, firefighters, teachers, nurses, public employees, Habitat, etc. What do you think?

Thank you.

Tom Stone
Clarkston

No to road millage

Dear Editor,

No! I definitely do not support a road millage ("Township mulls road millage to

fix roads," April 11).

More than likely, it would never be enough money and the millage would continue to go up. Wouldn't it be "neat" if the additional sales tax added on gasoline for the purpose of fixing roads be used for just that!

But here we are again adding some more of the taxpayers money that never goes towards the initial issue the tax was intended for.

Wouldn't it be "neat" if we had toll roads for all heavy delivery trucks and hundreds of nonresident concert goers, as well as other nonresidents, let's share the expense with everybody in the little oasis called Independence Township! I definitely do not support a road millage.

Sandy Hultman
Independence Township

Millage bad idea

Dear Editor,

I think this is a really bad idea to assess Independence Township residents with the new tax to fix the roads ("Township mulls road millage to fix roads," April 11).

We ought to be spending our time pushing the Oakland County Road Commission to get out here and fix them.

We are already paying for that. I'm afraid if we institute a tax here, that will give the county a reason to reduce allocation of the resources to our area. It's only a natural move on their part.

In summary, let's not add to our tax burden here, let's work to solve it at the county level where the responsibility and accountability should live.

Jay R Taylor
Independence Township

No way to millage idea

Dear Editor,

Regarding the recent article about a special millage for roads in Independence Township, my answer is NO WAY ("Township mulls road millage to fix roads," April 11).

We pay enough in road related taxes and fees for state and county roads already. If the township supervisor wants township residents to pay for paved roads let's pave the roads the township owns.

Anyone who thinks the township will do a good job with a road millage needs to look at how it is doing with the sidewalk/safety path millage.

Over 25 years, township residents have

Wed., April 18, 2018 The Clarkston (MI) News 7

been paying a sidewalk/safety path millage and still not one single path connects the north end with the south. Not one single consistent sidewalk down M-15. Not one down Sashabaw Road, Clintonville Road, or Holcomb. They did look into wasting \$4 million for a pedestrian bridge over I-75 though.

I appreciate the time and fact Mr. Kittle is exploring options for the roads, but look into those that don't raise taxes or fees.

Thanks,

Carl Bidinger
Independence Township

Support for road millage

Dear Editor,

I would be in support of an additional, not to exceed, 2-mill property tax increase for road repairs in the township ("Township mulls road millage to fix roads," April 11).

David Fritzing
Clarkston

Send Letters To The Editor via e-mail to: ClarkstonNews@gmail.com or via the US Postal Service to Clarkston News, 5 South Main Street, Clarkston, MI 48346. Please include a daytime phone for verification.

It's time to get ready for SCAMP Walk & Roll

Ah, it's great to be alive!

Spring is in the air, the tulips and other spring flowers are up and the weather is warm. New life. Renewal . . .

. . . Is what I wanted to write about this week. Is what I should be writing about this week. But, I can't. This weather really does suck. That being said, the folks in Clarkston still have about two weeks to wish really hard on making Old Man Winter pack his bags and head outta' town. Because on Sunday, May 6 SCAMP will host it's — what 41st? — annual Walk and Roll fund raiser.

I am not sure of the exact year they started this pledge-style walk-a-thon fundraiser, but I remember as a wee shaver walking probably in the first one. (Ok, maybe I wasn't so "wee.")

Seems like every kid in Clarkston was given a pledge sheet to fill out — get parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles to pay money for miles walked. As far as fund raisers go, I always liked the Walk and Roll operation versus selling cookies, magazines and other things.

All the kids, teachers and adults get to get out and walk, run, breath fresh air, have fun and laugh for a good cause, SCAMP.

What is SCAMP? Well, for those not in the know, in a nutshell, it's Summer Camp for kids with special needs. I went back and searched our archives, because nary a folk new the exact origin of said group, and found the first mention of SCAMP back the Jan. 29, 1976 *Clarkston News* (Page 4, if you need to know). Here's what was said then:

Don't
Rush Me



A column by
Don Rush

"Approximately 20 parents of Clarkston Elementary students have expressed interest in an experimental summer program for the physically, mentally, and emotionally impaired, as well as the severely learning disabled . . .

" . . . Special Services Director Robert Brumbach told the group Clarkston School District has been approached to become an area center for the successful SCAMP program, now operated in Oakland County only in the Bloomfield School District . . ."

The camp was for about 40 campers, the article stated.

From that time forward, Clarkston has been home for SCAMP. According to Executive Director Aimee Baker, today there are over 200 summer campers (not just from Clarkston) and, "Over half cannot afford tuition."

And, that is where the fund raising comes into play. This walk-a-thon is the group's longest-running fundraiser (and for the kids, the most fun). Elementary schools in the district get a little competitive and for the last few years compete for the coveted Golden Shoe trophy. Not sure they had this when I was a kid, but, today the school with the most in pledges wins. Apparently, Clarkston Elementary School is like the New York Yankees — winning the trophy more than other "teams."

We'll see how that works out this year. I'm rooting for an underdog. Let's Go Andersonville! Let's Go Bailey Lake! Let's go North Sashabaw! Let's Go Pine Knob, Springfield Plains and Independence!

Baker says there are two routes walkers can take, a one-mile stroll or the three point five mile traipse around town — both start with registration at Depot Park, starting at 11:30 a.m. There will be a DJ, bounce house, hot dogs and beverages, as well as raffles and dog "contests."

These days, SCAMP provides a five-week program



The coveted Golden Shoe trophy winning school for 2017 was Clarkston Elementary. Pictured are from the left, front, Lane Hurd, and Amanda Dixon; back, Erin Murray, Sue Tinetti, Allenna Peppers, Brian Adams and Nicole Craven. Not pictured were Evey Wright and Melinda Hart.

developed and designed for children and young adults. It has also become a wonderful program for young adults aides and volunteers to grow and learn to be caring individuals.

And the side benefit, SCAMP provides parents of the SCAMPers a break — knowing their child is in a safe haven and having a good time that they might not be able to experience any other way.

If anyone needs more information on registering for Walk and Roll, registering a child for summer camp, or to make a donation, please call 248-623-8089.

Send comments to: DontRushDon@gmail.com



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Expired license

A deputy on patrol stopped a 26-year-old Grand Blanc man for running a stop sign on Sashabaw Road, 10:45 a.m., April 3. The driver was cited for driving with an expired license and failure to stop at a stop sign.

Chimney fire

Independence Township firefighters put out a house fire in the 4900 block of Curtis Lane, 3:09 a.m., April 4. The home had recently been purchased, was under renovation, and was vacant at the time. The homeowner said he burned wood in the fireplace earlier in the day. An Oakland County Sheriff's Office Fire Investigations Unit checked the scene, and found it was caused by creosote build-up in the chimney, which had not been used in several years. The fire was determined to be accidental.

Felony warrant

A deputy was at the traffic light at Dixie Highway and Ortonville Road when a pickup truck went through the red light, 9:17 a.m., April 6. He stopped the truck. A passenger, a 22-year-old New Hampshire man, was found with a felony warrant for probation violation on a sexual assault out of Bingham County in New Hampshire. He was jailed pending extradition. The driver, an 18-year-old Raymond man, was cited for disobeying a traffic control device.

Public Safety

For Clarkston and Independence Township

Unregistered plate

Witnesses called police to report a minivan all over the road, 8:48 a.m., April 6, on Sashabaw Road at Clarkston Road. A deputy found the vehicle at a gas station. The driver, a 57-year-old Independence Township man, was found with an unregistered license plate. He said the plate was taken off another vehicle. He was cited for improper plate and no insurance. The vehicle was impounded.

Hit and run

A 24-year-old Independence Township woman driving northbound on Dixie Highway sideswiped another vehicle near Maybee Road but didn't stop, 1:33 p.m., April 7. The other driver got her license plate number and called 911. A deputy went to the driver's home in the 4000 block of Paula. She said the other vehicle struck her car, attempted to hit her again, and she left in fear. Asked why she didn't call 911, she had no answer. She was cited for leaving the scene of an accident, failure to report, and improper lane use.

Expired tab

A deputy on patrol stopped an SUV with an expired license plate tab, 6:11 p.m., April 7, on Sashabaw Road at Baypointe Boulevard. The driver, a 27-year-old Waterford woman, was cited for driving with an expired license, expired registration, and no insurance. The vehicle was impounded.

Skating from accident

Witnesses called police after watching a man drive his pickup truck off the road into a guardrail, then grab a skateboard and flee, 7:19 p.m., April 9, on Dixie Highway at Parview. The pickup truck was found at the scene with heavy front-end damage, and there was heavy damage to the guardrail and front of a building. The father of the driver, a 23-year-old Waterford Township man, called and said his son was afraid so he fled the scene. The driver was cited for failure to stop and identify, and driving without due care and caution, and given a warning for careless driving.



PAID TO PARK: From right, Lorraine Mattis, Joanne Olsen, Judy Kanasty, Dawn Nicholls, and Nancy Horsley visited downtown Clarkston last Friday, and said the pay-to-park kiosk at Main and Washington was unclear. They said they had to add extra money while they were trying to enjoy their visit, which was a little annoying. Photo by Brenda Dominick

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Clarkston's Sporting News

Who is the next AOW?

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Opening spring with streak

BY WENDI REARDON PRICE
Clarkston News Sports Writer

The Clarkston Girls Varsity Lacrosse team opened their season with three wins scoring in the double digits as they have kept their opponents in the single digits.

The Wolves posted a 13-9 win over Waterford Kettering in their recent game last Friday.

"We came in assuming they were going to be a good team and they were," said Coach Rachel Vickers. "They had a really good offense - they had two really key players, but we have been working really hard on our defense and it did a lot for us today."

The first half closed with a 6-6 tie after the Captains scored two goals in the last three minutes.

Elizabeth Oda opened the second half to pull the Wolves back into the lead with 21:23 remaining in the game, starting a five-point run.

Claire Austin scored 32 seconds later after Clarkston took control of the ball at faceoff. Kaitlyn Bridger scored the next three goals, with two of them 40 seconds within each other, to put the score 11-6.

Waterford Kettering closed the gap by

one with nine minutes remaining in the game but it was met with another goal from Bridger.

"The second half they knew they needed to step it up on offense," said Vickers. "They needed to pass a little more. They switched their midfields and attacks which did a lot for them. Their communication did a lot for them all around. They were nervous before they came in, and they were a little bit more comfortable in the second half."

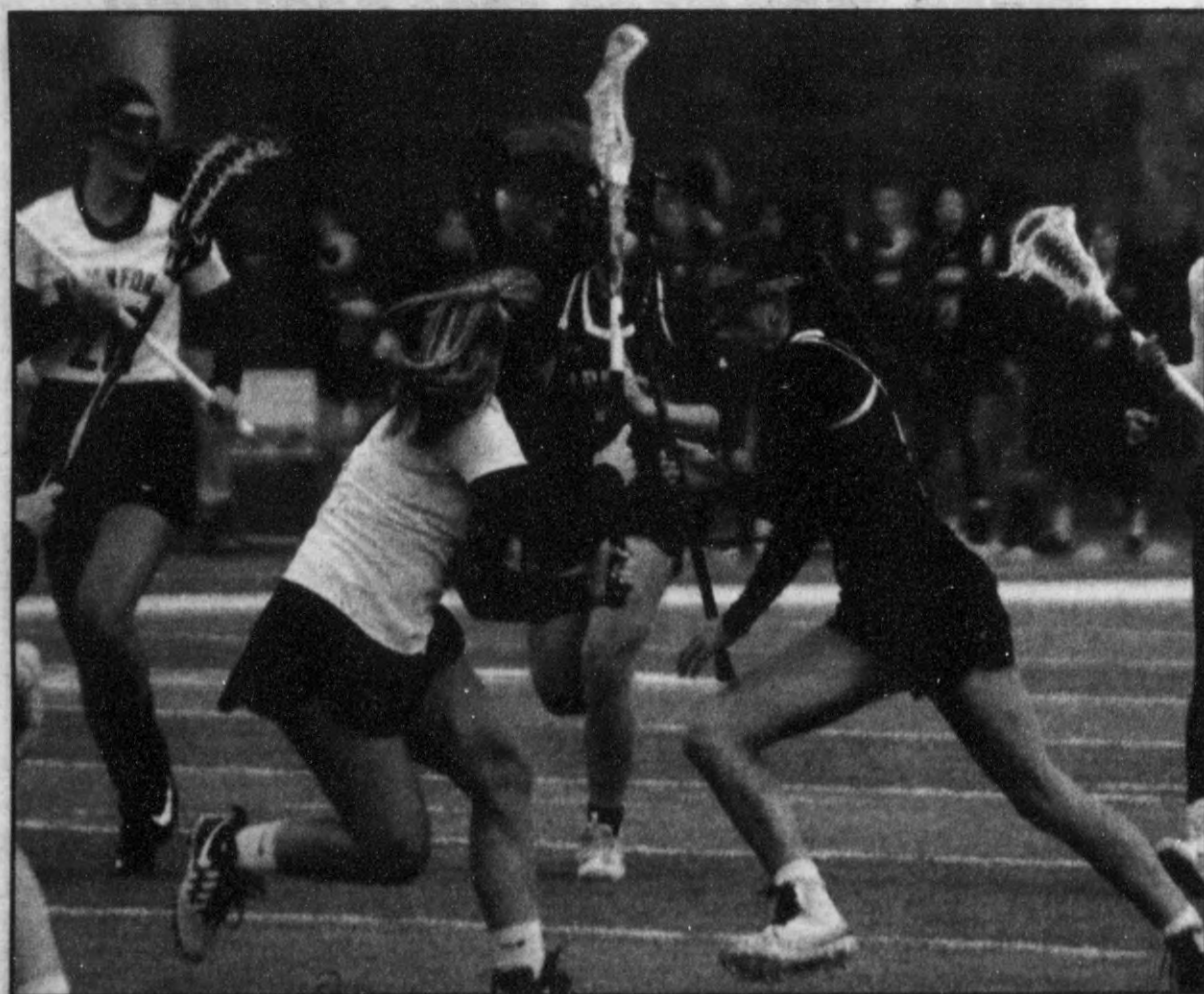
The Wolves won their home opener over Fenton last Wednesday, 22-6.

"It was phenomenal to win by that many points," Vickers said. "It was so awesome to see all of the players who normally sit on the bench were able to go in and we had 6-7 girls right off the bench score a goal."

The girls opened the season with a 12-5 win over Stoney Creek, March 29.

They host Lake Orion on Wednesday, head to Royal Oak on Friday and are back home on Monday.

"We like to assume all teams are good," Vickers said, looking ahead. "We haven't really looked at the competition for next week. We are just going to continue on working on passing and our defense. Hopefully it will carry us into two wins."



Elizabeth Oda makes a run for the next in the first half of the Clarkston Girls Varsity Lacrosse game at Waterford Kettering last Friday. Photo by Wendi Reardon Price

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



Foster Loyer plays the MHSAA Boys Basketball Class A Semifinal game at Michigan State University. Photo by Larry Wright/Wright Action Pix

Twice a champ

Senior Foster Loyer has left his legacy on the Clarkston Boys Basketball program.

Loyer finished his final year with the Wolves with many accolades including named as Mr. Basketball, *The Detroit Free Press* Boys Basketball Dream team, and Associated Press Class A Player of the Year - just to name a few.

He will also always be No. 1 for the varsity Wolves as his number was retired.

"What he has done for this program, what he has done about going about business. They don't come around like him very often," said Dan Fife, head coach.

Loyer broke records with his points, scoring a total of 2,287 since his freshman year for first place in Clarkston history and 11th place in state history.

Loyer also scored 272 3-point field goals during his career, for first place at Clarkston and seventh place in the state.

For state history books, he made 634 free throws to take first place, and his free throw percentage is 90 percent for 634 out of 704 attempts, for second place. He had 589 assists for sixth place.

Everything he has accomplished he said couldn't have been done without his family and his teammates.

Fans can still catch Loyer playing basketball as heads to Michigan State University next fall.

Loyer and his teammates led Clarkston to the back-to-back boys basketball state championship in March. See more about the championship and the season in this week's Twice as Nice special section of *The Clarkston News*.



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Lacrossers rise against Notre Dame, fall to Troy in competition

BY WENDI REARDON PRICE
Clarkston News Sports Writer

The Wolves came back from spring break showing off their lacrosse skills they worked on with a 12-9 win over Notre Dame Prep, April 10.

"It was good," said Clarkston Boys Varsity Lacrosse Head Coach Brian Kaminskas. "We got off to a slow start, but they held strong and played well. They did the things they are going to have to do all year to be competitive and win games."

Notre Dame Prep was up 3-1 after the first quarter. Drew Vandenberg closed the gap less than one minute into the new quarter.

Matthew Atchison tied the score less than three minutes later before teammates Keelan McKouen and Jack Gurn closed the first half with the Wolves in the lead, 5-4.

Clarkston scored four more times in the third quarter with contributions from

McKouen, Vandenberg and Keegan King before the stanza closed, 9-6.

McKouen led during the final quarter as he scored three goals, marking his first with 8:33 remaining in the game. Then, he hit the net again with 4:43 left before scoring his final score of the night 20 seconds later.

The boys were back on the field the next day with a 12-1 loss at Troy High School.

"I think our age and lack of experience showed against Troy," Kaminskas said. "We came off a good win against Notre Dame Prep, and the guys were a little lighter and a little unfocused going into Troy. When Troy came out and did their thing, we got knocked back on our heels and didn't recover. Troy is an older team and that got us a little bit, too."

Eric Csimadia scored the lone goal for Clarkston in the first quarter. Kaminskas added the loss will help the boys remain focused.

"They know it's a long season and in the grand scheme of where we are at in the third week of April," he said. "It's not a loss we want, but not a loss that is going to affect us all that much. We spent all day Thursday going back through and redoing some of the goods and bads and how do we improve on both of those. We are just moving forward. Keep plugging and keep improving - it's a long year."

The Wolves opened the week on Tuesday against Birmingham.

"They are still rebuilding a little bit,"

Kaminskas said. "It will be a good game. They tend to be well-coached and are good athletes."

They host Lake Orion on Thursday before hosting Saline next Wednesday. JV plays at 5:30 p.m., varsity follows.

"Lake Orion is a game our guys get up for and get excited about," Kaminskas said. "It's a great opportunity for us to extend a little bit and play into the rivalry. We have young guys who don't understand the rivalries but did experience it against Troy so they won't be going into it blind."



Keelan McKouen and the Wolves compete against Lake Orion last year. *File photo*

Game for Hope set for May 5

The Clarkston Lacrosse Program hosts Game for Hope on Saturday, May 5.

The annual fundraiser began 12 years ago as a tribute to Frank Kaminskas, "Big Poppa," a great father, grandfather, uncle, coach and friend whose positive influence has made a lasting impact on so many. Clarkston Lacrosse continues to recognize Big Poppa each year at this event to honor his legacy of teaching lacrosse to a new generation of players and giving back to others in the community.

Over the past 12 years, this event has grown from one game to many as it now includes youth lacrosse leagues from around the state, neighboring communities and local businesses, too. Lacrosse games are played throughout the day, but it is a day spent remembering and celebrating the people in our lives that have been affected by can-

cer while raising dollars for a worthy cause.

Game for Hope will raise money for New Day Foundation for Families, a local nonprofit organization whose lifework is to make a positive impact on the treatment outcomes and survivorship of individuals with a cancer diagnosis and their families. They believe families fighting cancer should never have to choose between medical treatment and providing basic necessities. The New Day Foundation for Families provides programs and services designed to alleviate each family's greatest unique financial and emotional burden including bill payment assistance, food and clothing resources, counseling services and parent support groups.

Donations are accepted during the event and also on www.facebook.com/donate/1865635110121776.

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Golfers place at Southern Swing

The Clarkston Boys Varsity Golf team is off to a high swinging start, being ranked in fourth place in the state in Division 1.

The Wolves finished in third place with a 326 during their first Oakland Athletics Association Red meet at Katke Cousins Golf Course at Oakland University, April 11.

Patrick Deardorff led the team with his second place finish with a 70 par.

Brendan Aughe shot a 83 as Cole Smaka and Alex Oda both had a 85.

Birmingham Seaholm finished in first place with a score of 307. Lake Orion finished in second place, 322; Bloomfield Hills, fourth place, 333; Rochester Adams, fifth place, 344; and Troy, sixth place, 378.

The Wolves scored 331 during the first day of the Southern Swing at Locust Hills Golf Club in Springfield, Ohio.

Deardorff led with a 77. Smaka hit a par of 78; Oda hit a 83; Aughe and Terry Fortuna both had a 93.

The Wolves finished in eighth place on the first day out of 17 teams. The top five teams from the first day included Lake Orion in first, 301; Birmingham Seaholm, second, 308; Powers Catholic, third, 315; Hartland, fourth, 320; and Detroit Catholic Central, fifth, 323.

While competing on the first day, the Wolves also hit for the OAA No. 2 meet, finishing in fourth place. Deardorff finished in



The Clarkston Boys Varsity Golf team at Southern Swing in Ohio last week. Photo provided

seventh place in the league meet and Smaka finished in ninth place.

Lake Orion finished in first place, 301; Birmingham Seaholm, second, 308; Bloomfield Hills, third, 326; Rochester Adams, fifth, 356; and Troy, sixth, 394.

The Wolves finished in first place during the second day of the Southern Swing with 295, tying with Birmingham Seaholm.

Clarkston had three golfers finish in the top ten. Deardorff finished in first place with a par of 70. Harry Bowman finished in eighth place with a 73 and Smaka finished in tenth place with a 74. Oda and Fortuna had a 78 on

the day.

The boys head to Farmington Hills Golf Club this Friday and Red Run Golf Club on Monday for their third OAA Red meet.

Everest Collegiate finished in tenth place during the first day of the Southern Swing with a 346. Nick Korns led with a 83 par. Mitch Lowney and Mia Korns both had a 87, and JC James had a 89.

They also finished in tenth place during the second day with a 336. Lowney led with a par of 79. Nick Korns had a 81. Mia Korns and James both had a 88.



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Split week for soccer

BY WENDI REARDON PRICE
Clarkston News Sports Writer

Kickers split last week as they posted a win over Midland Dow and a loss to Troy.

They opened the week with a 3-1 win over Midland Dow.

"They were superb," said Clarkston Girls Varsity Soccer head Coach Damian Huffer.

Freshman Callie Dickens scored the first two goals of the night in what Huffer called sharp moves. Senior Morgan Sclesky scored the third goal with 15 minutes to go to half time. Huffer added the girls had opportunities to score more goals and the first half was good.

"The first half, they really looked sharp," he said. "The tempo was good. Some of the combination was good. We clicked in the first half. We just need to be more consistent which will come. The chemistry is there. The girls enjoy each other's company and they work hard. We had more chances in the second half but just didn't finish. It was a really good win. We won the game pretty comfortably."

The girls lost to Troy in an OAA Red game, 2-0.

"The second half it was back and forth with not getting many clear chances," Huffer said. "It took us a little time to adjust. We are playing up a division now. The first 15 minutes

with the speed of the game, we were just a bit slow to adapt. It's something we need to look to address by the next league game to make sure we give ourselves the chance to get decent results."

He added the game against Troy could have gone either way.

"I don't think we cracked as many chances as we should have, but they are a good team," Huffer said. "They are athletic, they are quick. I don't have many complaints against the result against Troy. It was a decent week. The girls played really hard both games. We have a good group of girls."

The girls were scheduled to open the week on Tuesday at Oxford but it was cancelled the morning of the event.

Huffer explained over the next couple weeks he would like the team to get their winning record up to .500.

"I think the girls are capable of it. We have a really tough schedule," he added.

They head to Bloomfield Hills on Tuesday and host Stoney Creek on Tuesday.

"I feel it is between Stoney Creek and Bloomfield where the Red division will be decided," he said, adding it will be a tough game. "We will see. We are capable to compete."

JV begins at 5:30 p.m., varsity follows.

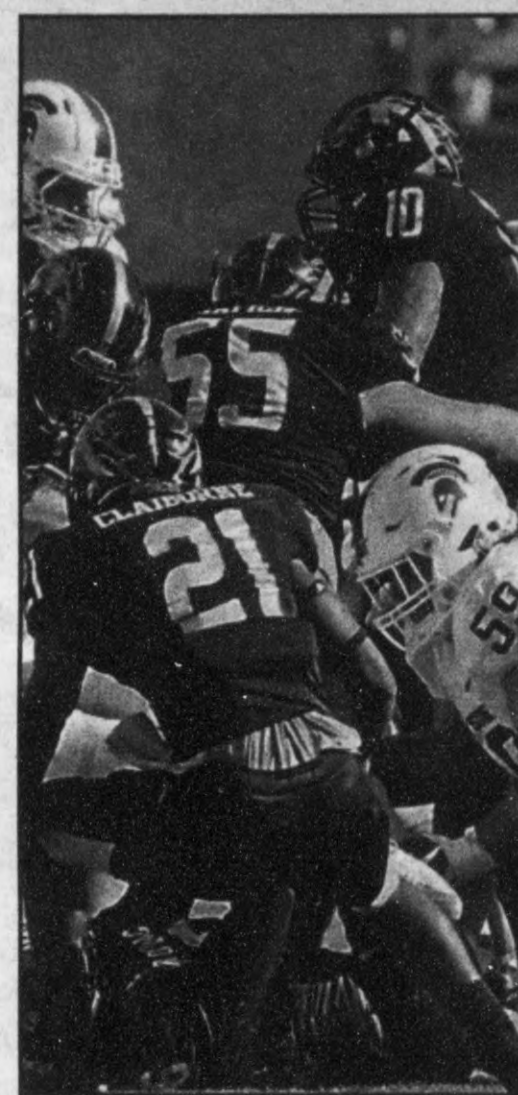
Grad Matich honored

Nick Matich, a 2014 Clarkston High School graduate, was one of four players from the Western Michigan University football team named to the 2018 National Football Foundation Hampshire Honor Society. The NFF Hampshire Honor Society recognizes players across collegiate football who maintained a 3.2 grade-point average through their careers, completed their final athletic season this past fall and were significant contributors to their teams. Also, honored from Western Michigan were Lucas Bezerra, Derrick Mitchell and Wyatt Pfeifer.

Matich played in ten games during the 2017 season on the defensive line and had nine tackles (five solo), one sack and one fumble recovery. He has a 3.28 GPA in sales and business marketing.

Matich was on the Clarkston Varsity Football team when they won their first state championship in 2013. His jersey, No. 55, was retired by Coach Kurt Richardson. He currently wears the same number with Western Michigan University, where he was awarded a football scholarship.

Matich is the son of Kirk and Sandy Matich, grandson of Tom and Sally Bullen.



Nick Matich, number 55, defends against Michigan State University for Western Michigan in the 2017 season. Photo by Larry Wright



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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13

Oakland Community College,
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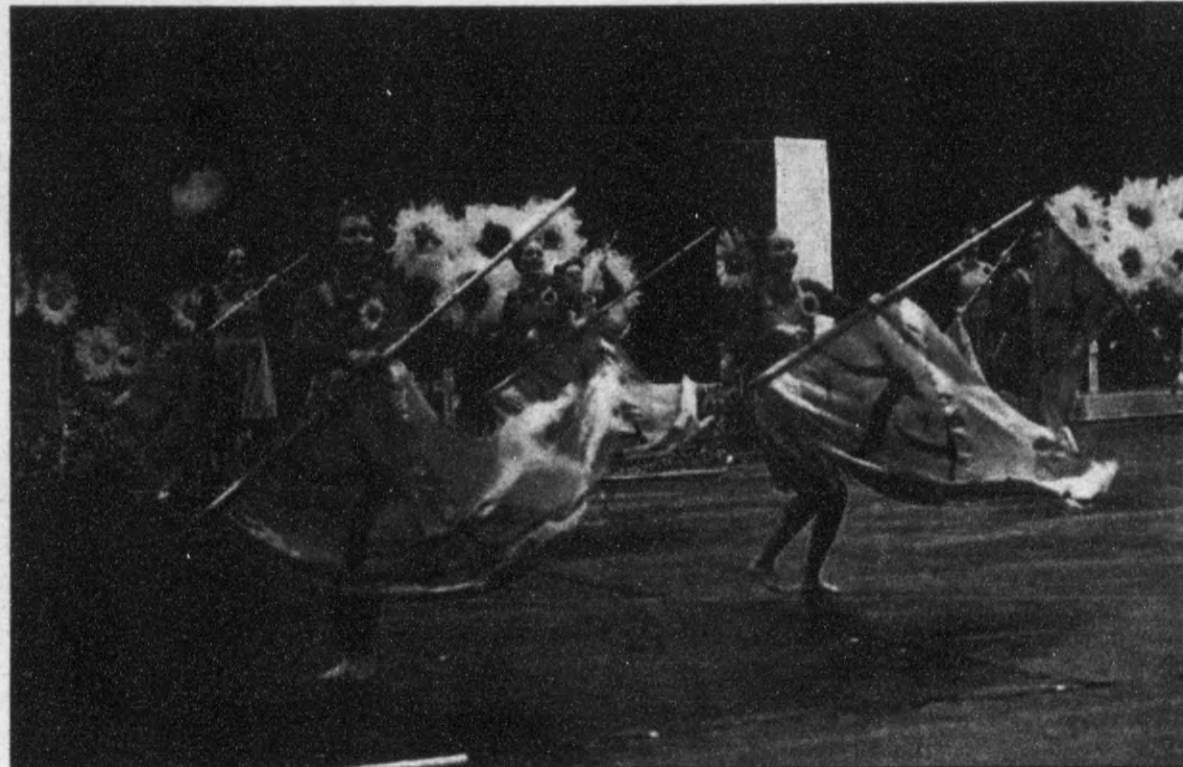




From left, bottom row, are Lauren Dombrowski, Sophie Little, Elizabeth Scheil, Grace Murphy, and Chloe Ly; top row, Anne Hubl, Summer Roy, Averyanna Morrison, Liz Walker, Kaleena Slankster, Rayn Erickson, Rebekah and Riley Gerhardt, Angel Cross and Tori Saylor. Not present, Keturah Delcamp and Jenna Baumgras. Photos provided



Clarkston Winter Guard members celebrate their championship.



The guard's show includes precision dance routines.

Undefeated season for guard

After an undefeated season, Clarkston High School Winter Guard earned Gold at the state championship at Saginaw Valley State University, April 7.

The Clarkston High School Winter Guard, comprised of 17 students from grades 9-12, was one of 124 units in the Michigan Color Guard Circuit (MCGC) competing in the Scholastic AA Division.

This group of diverse, committed and talented girls began practice at the end of Marching Band season, end of November, in preparation for regional competitions in late winter and early spring. This is the third season for the CHS Winter Guard and competition scores have shown steady progress.

They ranked first at each regional competition this season. The guard is coached by Sarah Weingartz and Skylar MacKensen, members of "Interplay," a Winter Guard International team from Grand Rapids, and Hadley Smith, former CHS Color Guard member.

Creative visual design, show concept, and costumes were created by Alan Spaeth of RS Marching Arts in Chicago, Ill. They are under the local leadership of Michael Lewis, Ivan Manning and Emma Pendergrass. Winter Guard was funded by the Clarkston Schools Instrumental Music Association (CSIMA) and supported by parent volunteers.

Practices were two nights per week with all-day practices, camps, and competitions on the weekends. They dance, spin various pieces of equipment and bring the music to life with emotion, to make a deep connection with the audience, entertain, and execute a technically-precise show.

This Clarkston guard has a lot of heart and openly welcomes all who have a passion for the visual/performing arts, commitment to the rigorous schedule, willingness to take risks, trust, be "fierce," and to be part of an outstanding team.

Intensive training during the winter season also pays off in the fall as the guard performs as part of the marching band on the sidelines and in the Michigan Competitive Band Association competitions.

The team and its leadership is a credit to themselves, Clarkston Community Schools, and the Clarkston community. It will be exciting to see how they climb the competitive ranks in years to come.

~Kate Salathiel, CSIMA member



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Coaches Chris Drouin and Kevin Cook teach the youngsters about lacrosse.

Little Laxers learn lacrosse

Clarkston Lacrosse's Little Laxers program kicked off last week at Clarkston High School. Coaches Chris Drouin and Kevin Cook lead almost 40 boys and girls from kindergarten through second grade through skill and drills with the help of some supportive moms and dads as the kids are learning to throw, catch and pick up ground balls.



The kids huddle with their sticks. Photos provided

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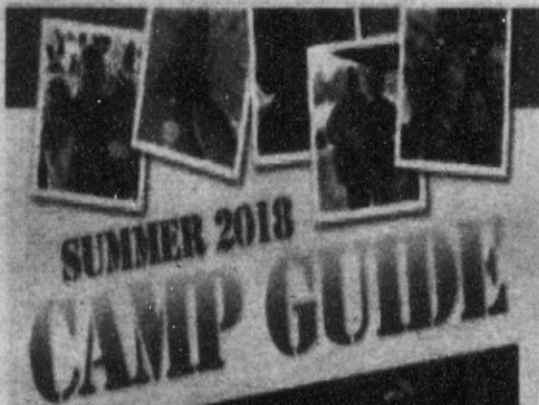
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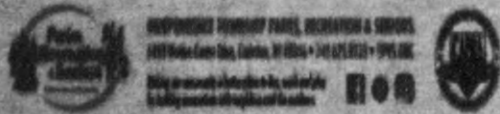
GOT CAMP?

Camp registration starts on Friday, April 20 from 9am to 7pm for Returning Camp Families. Then on Saturday, April 21 from 9am to 2pm for Independence Township and Clarkston School District residents.



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Recently retired Independence Township Firefighter Dave Stover and his son, David. Photo by Brenda Dominick

Firefighter hangs up helmet after 37 years

BY BRENDA DOMINICK
Clarkston News Staff Writer

Dave Stover stood his final watch on March 30. The 1981 Clarkston High School grad turned Independence Township fire engineer and paramedic retired after 37 years of service.

Responses varied from his family about his retirement.

"It's kind of ironic because my wife has been jokingly telling everybody that for the last 20 years, she's been use to me being gone at least 10 days a month," he laughed.

"We work three shifts, so this week we would work Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, and next week would be Wednesday, Friday and Sunday — it's always revolving. So, she had her time to herself, and she said, 'I don't know what I'm going to do now you're home.' It's her big joke."

The hardest thing about being a firefighter was missing a lot of family events like birthdays, Stover said.

"Sometimes you have to work Christmas and holidays and those special days — you've just got to work," he said.

Stover and his wife, Michelle, have two children, son David, 19, a Clarkston High School graduate; and daughter, Danielle, "Dani," 18, currently a CHS senior with plans to attend Grand Valley State University this fall.

"It's nice to have him home," David said. "I get to see him more often."

Dave is content with just being more of a

family man again, although he plans to do some traveling in the future.

"I've got one thing on my bucket list, and I don't know when it's going to happen. It may happen next summer, but I'm doing Alaska," he said.

He has not only been saving lives on the streets, but also at local hospitals. He recently earned his Registered Nursing (RN) license from Lansing Community College and despite hanging up his helmet, he is still keeping himself in the workforce.

Stover is working as an emergency nurse at St. Joseph Hospital as well as Henry Ford West Bloomfield.

"I went back to school five or six years ago and got my RN license," he said. "I've been working ever since, full time at the fire department and almost full time at those two places. Now, I'll be working part time there now — a little less hours. I enjoy it."

Stover said, over the years, he has enjoyed the mixture of jobs because it has allowed him to participate in all perspectives of patient care, from beginning to end.

"It's kind of cool because we get to see the very beginning of things happening and then you know, like A, B, and C," he said. "It's kind of a progression thing. It's why I went back to school, that challenge, and I liked the medical end of it."

The township fireman said he had his share of challenging calls and emergencies but learned how to keep his cool when the going gets tough.

"A lot of people ask me, 'what's the worst

call you're on,' well there's a lot of bad ones, whether they were deaths, or suicides, or car accidents. It's kind of a coping mechanism, you kind of bury a lot of it. Everybody has their own way of dealing with it. We may come back and joke. People say, 'you have a sick sense of humor about something.'"

He added there are positive moments, too.

"I try to remember the better ones — being there for a couple childbirths. I was just at the right place at the right time. Those are the most exciting ones, bringing in life. You remember those a lot. It really tugged at my heart strings."

In addition to working part time, Dave plans on getting more involved with the Masons of Clarkston, and enjoying more of his favorite pastimes with his family, including watching college sports and supporting the teams at the high school.

The township fireman had some words of advice he would give a young person inspiring to become a firefighter.

"OCC (Oakland Community College) has a beautiful fire academy," he said. "Get involved at an early age to see if it's really what you want to do. Do a shadow, do a ride-a-long, come in and talk with the guys. Just get a feel for it."

Dave said he is generally happy to retire while he can still be active and enjoy life.

"It was my biggest goal," he said. "I knew I'd be in it a long time. I just want to be able to retire out a healthy person and keep on going."

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Community Impact Weekend projects include work inside at local charities.

Make an impact next weekend

BY PHIL CUSTODIO
Clarkston News Editor

Slots are filling up for the spring Community Impact Weekend, April 28-29.

"We have 40 projects that need 1,000 people to complete, and projects are still coming in," said Daniel L. Whiting, executive pastor at Clarkston Community Church.

Projects include rake-and-runs for local seniors, outdoor clean ups at Renaissance High School and Clarkston elementary schools, collect donations and assemble care packages for dialysis and cancer patients at the Church of the Resurrection, and minor construction projects for elderly and single-parent families, such as wheelchair ramps, window replacements, and entryway work.

Projects are also planned at Lighthouse and food pantries, Clarkston Independence District Library, O.A.T.S., and local community gardens.

They need volunteers from local churches, businesses, school groups, and community organizations, as well as corporate sponsors and donations for material and food for volunteers.

Most projects don't require skilled labor and families and youth volunteers are welcome. They range from yard work outside

to inside projects such as writing letters to overseas service men and women. Some construction projects will require skilled workers. Most volunteers sign up for about four hours at a time, starting in the morning and finishing up by about 1-2 p.m.

"We provide lunch for them," Whiting said. "It's really a fun day. It's really neat to see the community come together for the weekend."

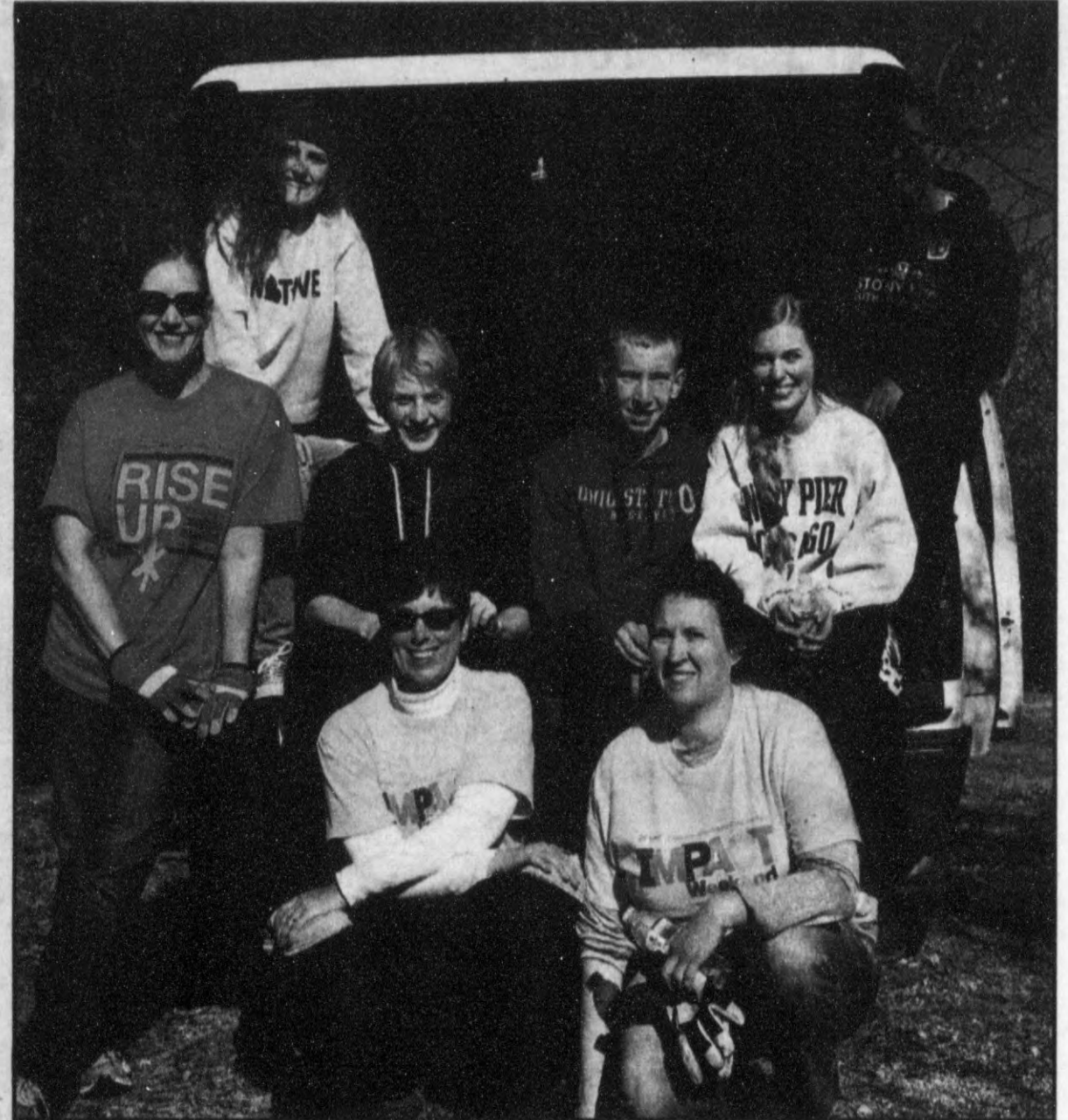
Organizations working together to pool resources and ideas builds a better community, he said.

"The relationships we build with each other is really exciting," he said. "The projects are neat, but the fact we're working together at the library, senior center, with neighbors down the street, PTA in schools, you get to know your community - that has tremendous value."

Community Impact Weekend was launched in 2012, when community churches combined individual weekend projects. It's now hosted by Habitat of Oakland County and My Habitat Clarkston.

Some projects are weather dependent, and others last throughout the year.

For more information or to sign up, go to www.impact-weekend.org.



The volunteer weekend includes lots of outdoor work.



Volunteers can also work on indoor construction work. Photos provided

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Trash-haul rate increases irk residents

BY PHIL CUSTODIO
Clarkston News Editor

Recent rate increases by Advanced Disposal, which took over for Smith's Disposal last October, drove residents to reach out to Independence Township, City of the Village of Clarkston, *The Clarkston News*, and social media.

Readers' comments on the October 2017 story "Advanced Disposal takes over for Smith's" at Clarkstonnews.com included, "Well, that didn't take long, rate went up approx \$13.00 per quarter. I will be looking for new service very soon!"

"Our quarterly rates just went from \$57 to \$70.97 for the same service. Fuel fee? Environmental fee?"

"Same here. Exactly. Looking for new service."

"Yes, my rates went up too.... I am out! Just doesn't have the same feel now that it went to a big corp. What a shame."

Trash pickup companies receive licenses to operate in Independence Township and the City of the Village of Clarkston. However,

residents could decide to have their municipality contract with one company, said township Supervisor Pat Kittle.

"An option for residents is a citizen committee to recommend a single hauler," Kittle said. "It could set rules for type and quality of trucks, number of wheels and axels, days for trash pickup, discounts. That's an option for the township if enough concern is raised."

City Council has already requested administration research a city-wide trash pickup program, said City Manager Jonathan Smith.

Advanced Disposal did not return calls for comment. One employee emailed to say he was on vacation until this week.

The township list of licensed waste pickup services for 2017-2018 includes Advanced Disposal, as well as Community Disposal Services of Holly, EMTERRA Environmental of Flint, Odd Job Disposal of Oxford, Republic Services of Pontiac, and Waste Management of Michigan-Detroit North, of Pontiac. Check www.twp.independence.mi.us.

Backyard Birders Club hopes for spring

The arrival of spring, late it may be, will be the topic of April's Clarkston-area Backyard Birders Club meeting.

"April and May are prime months for birders," says Bob McGowan, founder and president. "Our members have their sharp eyes out to welcome back our resident songbirds as well as to catch sights of migrating waterfowls and other species stopping over as they fly to their northern breeding grounds."

The club will meet Wednesday, April 25, 7 p.m., in the atrium of The Gateway.

The meeting will feature reports on

sightings, activities, and events for birders and outdoors people.

There will also be an update on an upcoming field trip to Pointe Pelee in Ontario in early May.

Meetings are free and open to the public. "Coffee and cookies will be provided, compliments of our members A.J. O'Neil, owner of Detroit Bold Coffee Company, and Carole Bodner, respectively," McGowan said. "Our host at The Gateway, Steve Stroud, has donated a door prize, as has our member Jim Melosche from his personal library of classic birder books."

In our local churches...

Adult Bible Fellowships, Sunday School, 11 a.m., Dixie Baptist Church, 8585 Dixie Highway, 248-625-2311.

Coffee and Conversation, first, third, fifth Sunday, 12:30 p.m., for adults and interested youth. Sashabaw Presbyterian Church, 5300 Maybee Road. Call 248-673-3469

Sunday Night Youth Group, games, snacks, etc., 6 p.m.; devotion time, 7 p.m., First Congregational Church of Clarkston, 5449 Clarkston Road. 248-394-0200.

Bible Study, Mondays, 10 a.m., Church of the Resurrection, 6490 Clarkston Road. 248-625-2325.

Bible Study by the Fire for adults and older youth, October-May, Mondays, 6:30-7:30 p.m., Sashabaw Presbyterian Church, 5300 Maybee Road. 248-673-3469.

Cove gatherings for teens, grades 6-12, Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m., Waypoint Church, 8400 Dixie Highway. 248-623-1224.

DivorceCare 13-weekly seminars, Thursdays, 6:45-8:30 p.m., Clarkston United Methodist Church, 6600 Waldon Road. Call 248-625-1611.

First Friday Family Fun, 7 p.m., St. Trinity Lutheran Church, 7925 Sashabaw Road. Board and video games, snacks for all ages, kids movies. Call 248-625-4644 for information.



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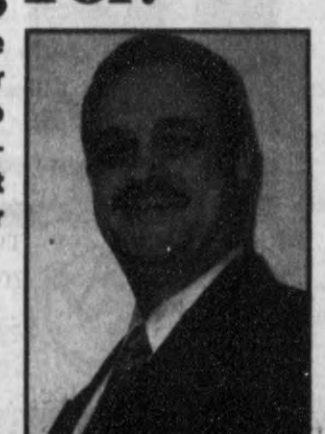


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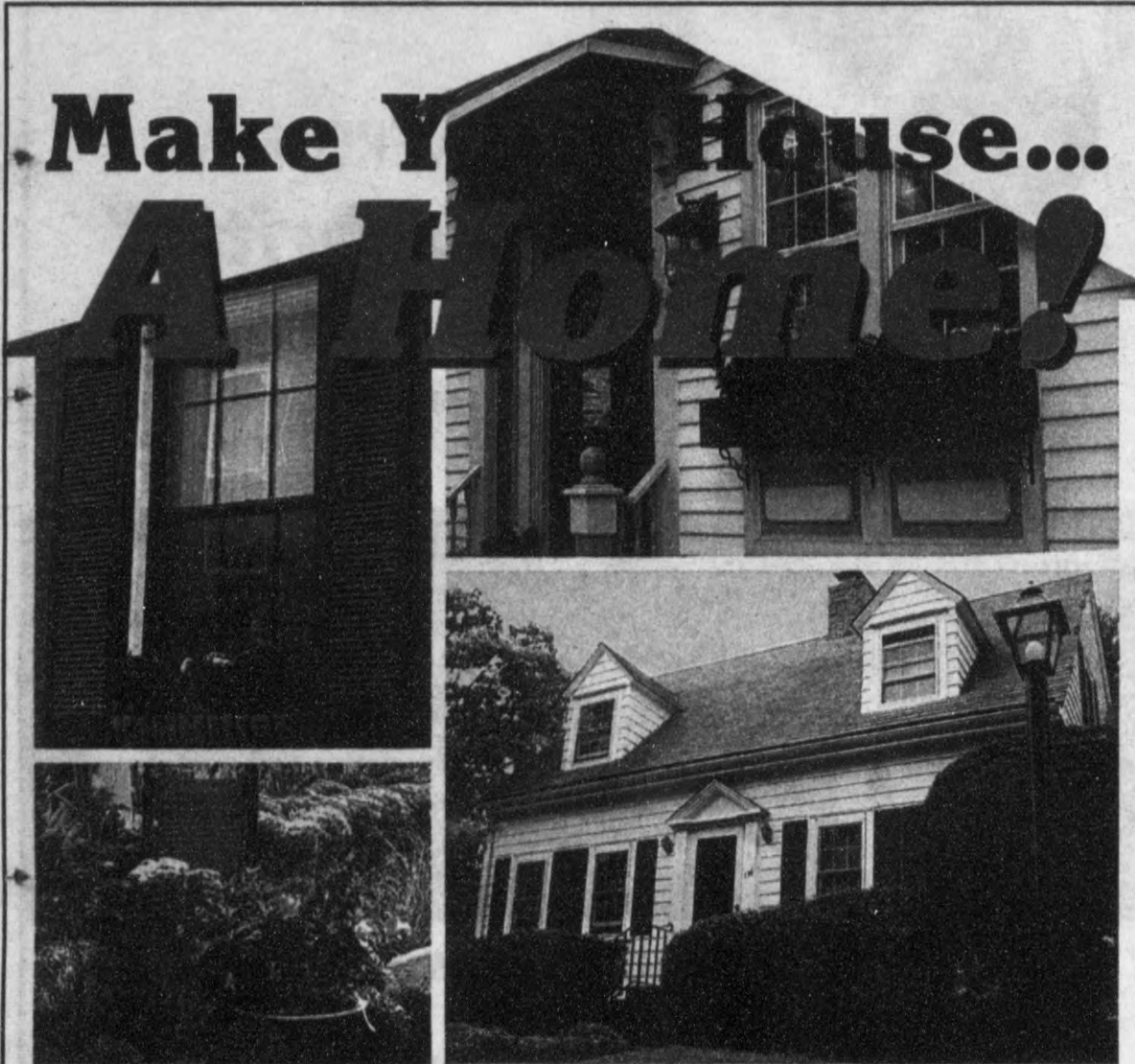



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Clarkston siblings and robotics champions Austin Helm and Ashlyn Helm. Photo provided

Two-time state champs

Clarkston residents Austin Helm and Ashlyn Helm recently won the Vex Robotics Michigan State Championship.

The Helm children are part of a four-member team, VEX Team 98725B – Team Falcon, which won the Michigan State VEX Robotics Championship for the second year in a row.

They also set a new Vex Robotics Michigan State Record for highest match score during the VEX In The Zone 2017-2018 season. Their high score also ranks them in 68th place of all matches played throughout the world, out of 124,076 matches played across the world this season.

Rochester Hills City Council and Mayor Barnett recognized the team's success, and the students were also featured as live guests on FOX News TV-2 Detroit.

Team Falcon, with team mentors Rusty and Lenise Helm, Austin and Ashlyn's parents, competed at the U.S. C.R.E.A.T.E Nationals Championship in Council Bluffs, Iowa, last week, where they ranked 17th in qualifiers and made it to the Elite 8 Rounds of their division.

Their state championship win earned them an invitation to compete at VEX Worlds in Louisville, Kentucky, next week, April 26-28.

White Cane Week, April 27-May 5

The Clarkston Area Lions Club will take to the streets and store fronts of the Clarkston area from April 27 through May 5 to raise funds as part of the annual White Cane Week.

Funds donated will be used to support many sight and hearing projects, including Leader Dogs for the Blind in Rochester, Lions Bear Lake Camp for Physically Challenged Youth in Lapeer, Penrickton Center for Blind Children in Taylor, Beaumont Silent Children Fund, and the District 11A2 Lions Hearing Program for Oakland and Macomb Counties.

"Money raised during White Cane Week will also allow Lions to meet the needs in our community, including such items as eyeglass and hearing aid support for those in need

and vision screening of pre-school children," said club President Bob Murdock. "Prior year White Cane donations from our community helped our club purchase an automated vision assessment tool used at our monthly vision screenings at the Clarkston Independence District Library and other local events."

The Lions also help Clarkston Independence District Library provide reading facilities and materials for the sight impaired, and support Clarkston Lighthouse.

"Lions Club members thank everyone who contributes to this important work. You are truly helping Lions make a difference in our community," Murdock said.

For more information, please visit www.clarkstonlions.org.

Depot Park upgrade

The train and truck playsets are missing from Depot Park, but they'll be back.

They're getting sandblasted and a new paint job, said City Manager Jonathan Smith at the April 9 City Council meeting.

Friends of Depot Park is working with Clarkston Area Optimists Club, which donated \$10,000, to renovate the Depot Park playground.

Work to replace wood-frame swings with new equipment was planned for April 6 but delayed due to snow. Playground installation is now planned for Friday, April 20, with mulch work on the following Monday.

The playground will also receive new grading to smooth out the surface.



Depot Park is missing its train and truck playground set, but they'll be back after renovation. Photo by Phil Custodio

Nursing scholarships

Nursing students at Oakland Community College are encouraged to apply for part of \$5,000 in scholarship funds that were recently donated by the David W. Elliott Memorial Foundation of Clarkston.

Scholarships of between \$500 and \$1,500 will be awarded this year to students in OCC nursing programs, based on financial need.

David W. Elliott was a local business owner who died of kidney failure. Elliott said he gained a great appreciation for the nursing profession while being treated for kidney disease and wanted to support the education and training of future nurses.

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Events

Blood drives, American Red Cross, April 24, 2-7:45 p.m., St. Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, 7925 Sashabaw Road; April 24, 10:30 a.m.-4:15 p.m., Sashabaw Middle School, 5565 Pine Knob Lane. 800-RED CROSS (800-733-2767).

Spring Book Sale, April 25-28, Clarkston Independence District Library. Donations welcome.

Spring Concert, with pianist/singer Matthew Ball, AKA The Boogie Woogie Kid, 6:30 p.m., April 26. Boogie-blues-ragtime and songs from the swing era. Free. Springfield Township Library, 12000 Davisburg Road. 248-846-6550.

Vintage Tea Brunch at Meadowbrook Hall, April 28, 10:30 am. Benefit to help end Human Trafficking. Reservations at www.estherschildren.org.

Spring Michigan Wine Tasting, Clarkston Rotary, 6:30-8:30 p.m., May 10, Fountains Golf & Banquet, 6060 Maybee Road. \$40/advance, \$50/at the door. Michigan wines, appetizers and desserts. 248-625-9741.

Kids Day in the Park, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., May 12, Clintonwood Park, 6000 Clarkston Road. Games, activities, entertainment. 248-625-8223.

Feather Fest, 1-4 p.m., May 12, Independence Oaks County Park, 9501 Sashabaw Road. Bird hikes, make and take bird feeder project, bird feeder station, crafts, games. Meet at the Lake Point Shelter across from the Boat House. Free, park entry permit/fee required. 248-858-0916.

Food Truck Rally, May 18, Neiman's Family Market parking lot, Dixie and White Lake Road, 16 Food Trucks, live entertainment, Kidzone, beer tent.

40th reunion, Clarkston High School Class of 1978, June 30, Fountains Bar and Grill, 6060 Maybee Road. \$5. Pay own food and drink. Checks to Class of 1978, 7670 Pleasant Brook Dr., Waterford, MI 48327. Seats are limited.

Sunday

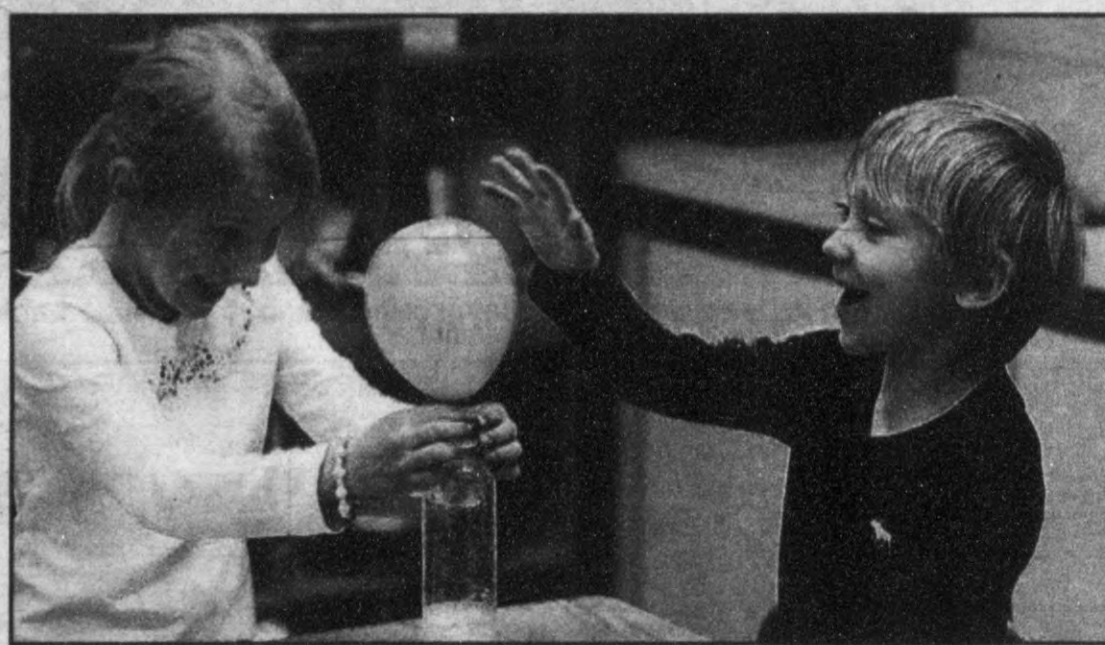
Donation-only class benefitting O.A.T.S., Sundays, 9:30 a.m., Yoga Oasis, 6160 Dixie Highway. All welcome. 248-770-5388.

Monday

Line Dancing, Mondays, Independence Se-

Around Town

A calendar of places to go, people to see and things to do



The school open house will include activities and information.

Open house at Cedar Crest

Cedar Crest Academy & Early Childhood Center will hold open houses on Saturday, May 5. Visit with teachers and participate in activities 1-3 p.m. Parents and children are welcome to tour campus classrooms, gymnasium and studios for student learning in Preschool through Grade 8. Director, Tracy Moen shared, "The Open House is a great way to explore the possibility of individualized learning and optimal personal growth."

The event will feature personal dialogue with teachers and progressive curriculum practices, as well as Camp Cedar Crest information. Early Childhood (Infants - Age 5) and the Academy (JK - Grade 8) teachers will be available to share

policies and educational philosophy of academic and humanities learning, materials and technology utilization and teacher professionalism.

Potential students will enjoy activity engagement and academic experimentation. Children can easily recognize valuable school attributes, as they converse with teachers and act upon their curiosity. Cedar Crest encourages reading/writing/drawing/singing/experimenting with teachers in the labs and engaging one's possibility to See The Difference.

For more information please call the Admissions Office at 248-625-7270 or RSVP to info@cedarcrestacademy.com.

nior Community Center, 6000 Clarkston Road, Beginner, 10-11 a.m.; Intermediate, Advanced, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Country, Salsa, Cha Cha, Rock and Roll with Rosemary Hall. \$3/ members, \$4/non-members.

Bingo games, Community Singles, Mondays, 5:30-6:30 p.m., 6440 Dixie Highway. Dinner, dessert prizes. 248-812-0604.

Tuesday

Grief Share, 13-week seminar/support group for those suffering loss, 7-8:30 p.m., Tuesdays, 9811 Dixie Highway. 248-694-9351.

Clarkston Community Band rehearsals, 7-9 p.m., Tuesdays. \$40/semester, free for high school students. Band room, Sashabaw Middle School, 5565 Pine Knob Lane, clarkstonband@gmail.com.

Clarkston Area Coin Club, second Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, 5464 Waterford Road. 248-345-8555.

Needlework Night, fourth Tuesday, 6:30-8

Civic groups

Clarkston Rotary Club, Mondays, 6:30 p.m., 7048 Gateway Park Drive. 248-880-0027.

Clarkston Community Women's Club, third Tuesday, 7 p.m., Clarkston Independence District Library, 6495 Clarkston Road. Call President Pat Smolen, 248-909-3920.

Daughters of the American Revolution, Sashabaw Plains Chapter, second Tuesday, www.sashabaw.michdar.net.

Clarkston Optimist Club, 7:30-8:30 a.m. Wednesdays, American Legion Post 63, 8047 Ortonville Road, north of I-75, www.clarkstonoptimist.org

Clarkston Area Lions Club, second and fourth Thursday, 6:30-8 p.m., 6644 Dixie Highway. 248-802-8603.

Clarkston Area Genealogy, 10:15 a.m., third Thursday, Clarkston Independence District Library, 6495 Clarkston Road. 248-620-2984.

Preservation Clarkston, third Thursday, 6:30 p.m., Bucksshots, 7048 Gateway Park Drive. @Facebook

p.m. Stitch and visit. Everyone welcome. Springfield Township Library, 12000 Davisburg Road. 248-846-6550.

Seniors On With Life Group forming for widowers, widows, divorced. Dinners, breakfasts, golf, social gatherings. 248-393-8553.

Town Hall Quilt Guild, third Tuesday, 7 p.m., First Congregational Church, 5449 Clarkston Road. Guest fee, \$5. 248-705-7310.

Networking Get-Together, Clarkston Area Chamber of Commerce Young Professionals Network, fourth Tuesday, 9-10 a.m., Picasso's Grapevine, 12 S Main Street. Free for chamber members.

Big Chief Barbershop Chorus, 7:30 p.m., Tuesdays, Waterford Oaks, 2800 Watkins Lake Road. Call Jack, 248-334-3686.

Nuview Nutrition Meet & Greet, 6:30-8 p.m., Please see *Around Town* on page 26

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Thursday, April 26th 10 am - 8:30 pm
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Saturday, April 28th 10 am - 2 pm



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The Clarkston News' Millstream

Dedicated to showcasing the reasons this is a great area to live and work!

Ninth grader honored to interview veteran

BY BRENDA DOMINICK
Clarkston News Staff Writer

These days, it's getting more rare to know a World War II veteran, let alone meet one. Keegan Miller, a ninth grader at Clarkston Junior High, was lucky enough to interview a WWII U.S. Navy combat veteran, Donald Steiner, last Monday for his history assignment.

Steiner, a native of Clarkston now 92 years old, lives in Oxford with his wife, Marjorie. They have five children together, along with eight grandchildren and 16 great grandchildren.

On June 17, 1942, just after Pearl Harbor was attacked, Steiner, at 17, enlisted in the U.S. Navy. The WWII vet has proven how much dedication, patience and discipline he has.

Steiner began his military career

as a gun crew on merchant Liberty ships in the Naval Armed Guard, touring the Gulf of Mexico and naval engagements as far as North Africa and Italy.

Thereafter, he was assigned to the Naval Amphibious Forces for tours during the invasions of the Philippines and Okinawa. While anchored near Leyte Island, his crew was attacked by Japanese Kamikaze planes.

Steiner's anti-aircraft gun crew set the first plane on fire. A following Kamikaze crossed over their stern and they continued firing at it, causing it to crash into another Liberty ship, the William Ladd, setting it on fire as well.

"During those battles, how did you feel - were you ever scared," asked Miller.

"I guess I was scared," Steiner answered. "I don't know. I was a young guy, full of vigor and vitality. The most I felt scared was when we were attacked by two Japanese Kamikaze planes within two minutes at Leyte in the Philippines."

Then, Steiner was put on a larger freighter, the Liberty Ship, which made trips from the United States to the Mediterranean.

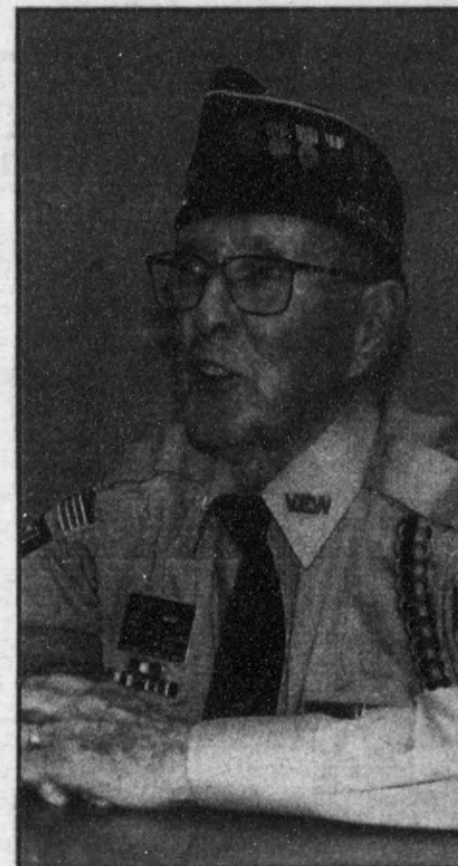
"Can you imagine how long it would take you to go, let's say, from Baltimore, Maryland, over to the Mediterranean Ocean, do you know?" Steiner asked Miller.

Miller wasn't sure.

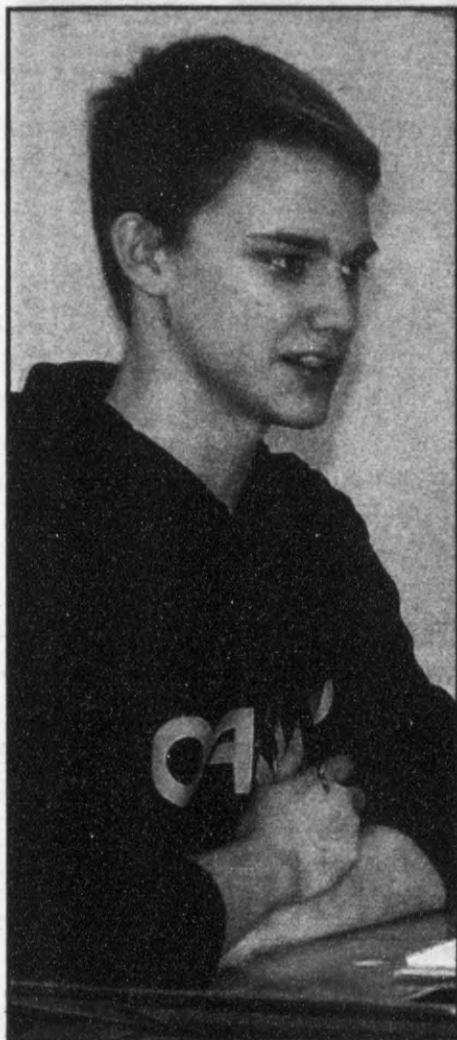
"It took us 18 days," Steiner said. "Our ship traveled about 10 knots, and a knot is a mile and 1/8 an hour, so 11 or 12 miles an hour, and that's at top speed."

Steiner added it wasn't just his ship traveling at a turtle's speed, but rather several navy ships.

"We would travel in a convoy of 40-60 ships and often get submarine activity across the Atlantic Ocean," he said. "We were halfway between Pearl Harbor and San Diego in August 1945 when Japan surrendered and the war



Donald Steiner served in the U.S. Navy during World War II.



Keegan Miller



A 20-year-old Steiner at home in Clarkston after World War II, with a Nazi flag trophy he brought back from Naples, Italy.

fortunately ended."

On Nov 17, 1945, Don was honorably discharged. After the Navy, he had a successful career as a financial supervisor at General Motors.

Because he never had the chance to graduate high school, there was "unfinished business" he wanted to finish.

After reading about the High School Diploma Award Military Veteran Public Act of 2001 in the newspaper, Don decided to fulfill his dream and on June 5, 2002, at 77 years old, he received an honorable graduation diploma from Clarkston High School.

The proud graduate was cheered and applauded by his fellow grads and guests as he proudly led the commencement procession of graduates. His wife, Marjorie, children and grandchildren were also present to cheer on the WWII navy vet.

The Clarkston High School choir sang Battle Hymn of the Republic as one of the commencement songs. As he was recognized, he stood up and

saluted the hundreds of grads and guests who gave him a heartwarming standing ovation, as they did when he walked across the stage to accept his diploma.

After the interview, Miller said he felt his time with Don was well spent as he came away with a new perspective of the military.

"I did learn there was more conflict in the Navy than I thought there was," he said. "A new understanding I gained of the military was it's a good thing for young people to do - you usually hear about the dangers of the military. He saw it in a more positive light. I will remember most how many battles he said he served in."

Don attributes his good health and success to faith in God. Even through the lonely days at sea and the hardships of war, the navy man always had a tremendous attitude and gratefulness for his life.

"I've always been a very positive person, and I'm a Christian. The Lord has been very good to me. He's given me a beautiful wife," he said with a smile.

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September thru April
Tuesday: 3:00-8:00 p.m.
Thursday: 3:00-7:00 p.m.
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www.clarkstonepiscopal.com
Saturday, April 21st at 2pm
Celebration of Life for Jubilee Just Food
You're invited to follow.

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9am and 10:30am
Middle School Program, Sunday 10:30am
High School program, Sunday 6:00-8:00 pm

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9:45 am and 11 am
Mom Squad:
Tues. 9:30-11:30 am Childcare provided
Wednesdays
Family Life Group 6:30 pm Youth 6:30 pm



From left, Sam Kitchen, charity chairman; Jessie McDonald, correspondence secretary; Louise Bisogni, vice president; and Carol O'Neill, president of Psi Chapter of Sigma Beta philanthropic sorority, are organizing a fundraiser for Sanctum House. Photo by Phil Custodio

Fundraiser against human trafficking

BY PHIL CUSTODIO
Clarkston News Editor

Edee Franklin, the founder of Sanctum House, recently spoke to the local Psi Chapter of Sigma Beta national philanthropic sorority about human trafficking in the United States.

The talk made quite an impact.

"We decided as a group to be involved in the fight against human trafficking," said Louise Bisogni of Clarkston, vice president. "The public is not aware of it."

"We learned how prevalent it is - Michigan is high in the nation," said Sam Kitchen, charity chairman.

"It's in our backyard," said Carol O'Neill, president.

The group organized a fundraiser to help Sanctum House in its mission, 6-11 p.m., Friday, May 4, at Deer Lake Athletic Club, 6167 White Lake Road.

Guest speakers will include Franklin, along with Deborah Monroe, owner of Recovery Concepts and consultant to Sanctum House; Lt. Wendy Reyes, Oakland County Sheriff's Office; Jane P. White, director of the Michigan Human Trafficking Task Force; and Daniel Russell, moderator.

They will discuss indicators and red flags of human trafficking, as well as Sanctum House, southeast Michigan's first long-term, full-service safe home for adult women victimized by human trafficking, said Jessie McDonald, correspondence secretary.

Live music will be provided by the Tribute

Singers, with Dawn Marie as Dolly Parton, Andre Brandon as Dierks Bentley, and Jeff Carr as Willie Nelson.

Tickets are \$100 - 350 tickets sold for the event, which will also include a silent auction of sports memorabilia and other items, and door prizes.

Call Sam Kitchen at 248-245-1610 and check www.sanctumhouse.org.

Signs a person may be a victim of human trafficking include:

- Few or no personal possessions, no financial control, no identification documents, not allowed to speak for themselves, no address, unable to identify what city they're in or what time it is, numerous inconsistencies in their story;
- Fearful, anxious, depressed, submissive, tense, nervous, paranoid, unusually fearful or anxious after bringing up law enforcement;
- Avoids eye contact;
- Not free to leave or come as go as he or she pleases in the commercial sex industry;
- Unpaid, paid very little, or paid only through tips, excessively long or unusual hours;
- Not allowed breaks or unusual restrictions at work owes a large debt and unable to pay it off;
- Recruited to work through false pretenses;
- Work or live under high security where windows are opaque, boarded up, barred, or barbed wire, security cameras;
- No access to medical care, malnourished, repeated exposure to harmful chemicals, physical abuse, sexual abuse, physical restraint, confinement, torture.

- www.sanctumhouse.org

• Death notices & • Obituaries

Rachelle Cox, 28

Rachelle Lynn Cox of Texas, formerly of Royal Oak and Clarkston, passed away unexpectedly April 12, 2018, at age 28.

She was the daughter of Jamie (late Jeff) Cox; sister of Greg (Brittney) Briggs and Kimberly Cox; aunt of Zachary and Dylan; granddaughter of Geneva (late Oliver) Cox, Judy Briggs and Allen Briggs; niece of Jim (Maryo) Cox, Fred (Sheila) Schaller, Kirk (Jen) Briggs and Josie Briggs; her beloved dog, Bear.



Funeral Service, Wednesday, April 18, at 12:30 p.m. at **Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home**, Clarkston. In lieu of flowers, donations may be directed to gofundme.com, "Rachelle Cox." Please leave a condolence or memory by visiting the online guest book at www.wintfuneralhome.com.

Joshua D. Whitt, 19

Joshua Dean Whitt, "Josh," of Clarkston passed away April 11, 2018, at age 19.

He was the beloved son of Gemma and Michael Whitt; loving brother of Conner; grandson of Barbara Whitt, Lazaro and Veronica Cruz and James and Linda Whitt; nephew of Raymund (Aileen) Cruz, Rex (Renee) Cruz, Kathleen Francis, Daniel (Andrea) Whitt and Joseph (Heather) Whitt; cousin of Kylie, Marcus, Jade, Adrianna, Cameron, Paxton, Benjamin, Cody, Brooklyn, Madison, Gabriel and Isabella; also survived by many extended family and friends.



Josh graduated with honors from Clarkston High School Class of 2017. He was attending Oakland County Community College and participating in an internship at Huntington Technology, Southfield.

Visitation was April 15-16 at the **Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home**, Clarkston. Memorial Service was April 17 at Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church, Clarkston. In lieu of flowers, the family requests any donations go to "Joshua Dean Whitt, Funeral Fund" at gofundme.com. Please leave memories and condolences at the online guestbook www.wintfuneralhome.com.

Kraig Crocker, 50

Kraig John Crocker of Clarkston, formerly of Ferndale, passed away April 13, 2018, at age 50.

He was the husband of Carey (nee Gibbons) for 26 years; father of Kaitlin, Mackayla, Kellan and Quinn; brother of Kelly (Jim) Puzan, Keith Crocker, Kasey (Tim) Matyas and Kirt (Suzanne) Crocker; son in law of Cathy and Mike Gibbons; brother in law of Sean (Amy) Gibbons; preceded in death by his parents, Ray and Ida Crocker, and his brother, Kenny Crocker.



Kraig worked in the construction industry, most recently as an estimator. He enjoyed spending time with family and fishing.

Friends may visit at **Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home**, Clarkston, Wednesday, 3-9 p.m. Memorial Service, Thursday, 11 a.m., at Clarkston Community Church. In lieu of flowers, any donations to the family will be used toward the future education of Carey and Kraig's children or to the American Diabetes Foundation. Please leave a memory or condolence by visiting his online guest book at www.wintfuneralhome.com.

Jessica L. Engisch, 42

Jessica L. Engisch (Travnikar) of Clarkston passed away April 15, 2018, at age 42.

She was the daughter of Karen and Frank Travnikar; sister of Stacy (Justin) Ritzenheim; aunt of Abigail and Grayson; granddaughter of Rose McGrath; preceded in death by grandparents William McGrath, and Joseph and Caroline Travnikar; survived by many aunts, uncles, and cousins.



Friends may visit **Lewis E. Wint & Son Funeral Home**, Clarkston, Thursday 2-8 p.m. with a rosary service at 6 p.m. Funeral Mass, Friday, 10 a.m., at Our Lady of the Lakes Catholic Church, Waterford. Interment Lakeview Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the family for a monument or Franciscan Friars. Online guest book www.wintfuneralhome.com.

Obituaries posted daily
at Clarkstonnews.com



From left are Empowering Latina Workshop organizers and speakers Emily Duthinh, Ellissa Slotkin, Terry Beltran, Julie Brixie, Rosemary Bayer, and Silvia Tineo Brito. Photo provided

Locals lead Empowering Latina workshops

Clarkston-area residents Terry Beltran and Emily Duthinh presented information at the Empowering Latina Workshop at the Dia De La Mujer conference, April 7, at the Kellogg Conference Center at Michigan State University.

The workshops were organized by Beltran, founder of AskTheLatina.com. Her workshop provided students with statistical data about how Latinos are important to the economy of the United States.

Duthinh presented a workshop on the checks and balances in federal and state government, and encouraged voter support of a

November 2018 ballot initiative to establish an independent citizen redistricting commission.

The panel discussion also included three women Democrat candidates, Ellissa Slotkin, Rosemary Bayer, and Julie Brixie.

Slotkin is running for U.S. 8th Congressional District, which includes Clarkston. Bayer is running for State Senate District 12, and Brixie is running for State House Representative 69th district.

Register to vote by July 9 to vote in the August primary and November general elections.

Students achieve success

Four Oakland Schools Technical Campus-Northwest students recently won awards at the SkillsUSA competition. Award winners in SkillsUSA Competition, include **Alyssa McCowan**, fourth place in Culinary; and **Kailey Sullivan**, eighth place in Pastry Arts Competition-Culinary Arts and Hospitality.

SkillsUSA Regional Competition award winners include **Alexander Lowney**, second place in Brakes-Automotive Technology; and **Reese Susalla**, second place in Hot Foods-Culinary Arts and Hospitality.

SkillsUSA Championships are competitive events showcasing the best career and technical education students in the nation.

Gina Garavaglia, a 2014 Clarkston High School graduate, was named to the University of Michigan-Flint Dean's List for the second time, and is a recipient of the James B. Angell Scholar award.

Garavaglia is a Communications major, minoring in Health Care Administration. She is the daughter of Mike and Renee Garavaglia

of Clarkston.

Lyndsey Bice, a senior Politics major at Hillsdale College, was named to the Dean's List for the 2017 Fall semester.

She is the daughter of Jill and Bob Bice of Clarkston, and is a 2014 graduate of Clarkston High School.

Mitch Lewandowski, Clarkston native, was named the Freshman of the Year by the college hockey conference. Lewandowski recorded 19 goals and 15 assists for 34 points in 36 games with the Michigan State University Spartans.

Diaper drive

Clarkston High School students are working with Kids' Kloset to collect diapers to help moms in need.

The diaper drive will last from April 16-27. Diapers of all sizes can be dropped off at the Clarkston High School main office, or in room A103 in the donation box.

Around Town

Continued from page 22

first Tuesdays, free, 7300 Dixie Highway Suite 500. Pre-register, 248-625-5143.

Wednesday

Clarkston Area Youth Assistance, second Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., Independence Township Hall, 6483 Waldon Center Drive. 248-623-4313.

Thursday

Clarkston News' Coffee Club business networking, 7:30-9 a.m., Clarkston United Methodist Church, 6600 Waldon Road. Free. Facebook.com/coffeeclubmi, and www.clarkstoncoffeeclub.com.

Coffee and Conversation, April 19, 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m., Independence Township Senior Adult Activity Center, Clintonwood Park. \$1.

Clarkston Masons/Cedar 60, first Thursdays, 8 p.m., 1 East Washington. 248-625-4610.

Lunches for 50+, Thursdays, 12 p.m., made-from-scratch. \$7. Independence Township Adult Activities Center, 6000 Clarkston Road. Make reservation by Monday before, 248-625-8231.

50 Plus Active Adults, Thursdays, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., lunches, guest speakers, musical performances, field trips, holiday parties, movies, bingo, games. Hart Community Center in Davisburg. \$8 yearly membership, \$5 lunch. 248-846-6558.

Free General Support Group for any type of cancer and caregivers, fourth Thursdays, 2-3 p.m., Great Lakes Cancer Institute, 5680 Bow

Pointe Drive. Walk-ins welcome. 248-922-6610.

DivorceCare facilitated discussion, Thursdays, 6:45-8:30 p.m., Clarkston United Methodist Church, 6600 Waldon Road, room 122. 248-625-1611.

Friday

Line dance class, Fridays, 2-4 p.m., Waterford Senior Center, 3621 Pontiac Lake Road. \$4, all levels. 248-682-9450.

Saturday

Project Kidsight, free vision screening for children, Clarkston Area Lions Club, second Saturday, 10 a.m.-12 p.m., Independence District Library, 6495 Clarkston Road. Immediate results. 248-625-2212.

Volunteer opportunities

Avalon Hospice, sit with patients, hold their hand, listen to stories, personal care, or just be there. Two hours a week or more. 800-664-6334;

McLaren Hospice, not-for-profit, companionship-type for patients living with terminal illness, 248-320-0106. **Retired and Senior Volunteer Program of Oakland County**, 55+, opportunities at hospitals, cultural institutions, food pantries, tutoring. 248-559-1147 ext. 3911; **Meals on Wheels**, for homebound elderly or handicapped individuals in Independence Township and Clarkston, 248-625-8231.

TO ALL CREDITORS

The Settlor, RUSSELLA SCHULTE, date of birth July 12, 1938, who lived at 5111 Parview, Clarkston, MI 48346, died February 9, 2018. There is no personal representative of the Settlor's estate to whom Letters of Administration have been issued.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the Russell A. Schulte Trust dated March 10, 2006, as amended, will be forever barred unless presented to Kathryn M. Caruso, Esq., 6480 Citation Dr., Suite A, Clarkston, Michigan 48346 or Lisa Schulte, Successor Trustee, 5995 Middle Lake Road, Clarkston, MI 48346 within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Notice is further given that the Trust will thereafter be assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to it.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Because the People Want to Know

CLARKSTON

CITY OF THE VILLAGE OF CLARKSTON NOTICE OF ADOPTION CHAPTER 140

NOTICE IS GIVEN that the City of the Village of Clarkston City Council has adopted Chapter 140, an amendment to the city municipal code to add Title XIII, Coal Tar Sealant Ordinance.

This Ordinance includes the addition of a new section to the city code to enforce the statutory prohibition on the use and sale of high coal-tar and other high PAH content sealant products at any residence or commercial property within the City of the Village of Clarkston by any resident or independent contractor.

- Section:
- 140.01 Purpose
 - 140.02 Definitions
 - 140.03 Prohibitions
 - 140.04 Asphalt-based sealcoat products
 - 140.05 Severability
 - 140.06 Registration/Reporting Requirements & Procedures for Resident Applicators
 - 140.07 Registration/Reporting Requirements & Procedures for Commercial Applicators
 - 140.08 Enforcement and Penalties
 - 140.09 Effective Date

This Ordinance shall become effective 20 days after publication. This Ordinance was adopted by the City Council on Monday, March 26, 2018. A complete copy of the Ordinance is available for public use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk, 375 Depot Road, Clarkston, Michigan, 48346.

Sandy Miller, City Clerk
(248) 625-1559

STATE OF MICHIGAN FILE NO: PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF OAKLAND NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate

Estate of Frederick O. Miesterfeld. Date of Birth: 4/22/37
TO ALL CREDITORS:
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Frederick O. Miesterfeld, died 2/1/18

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Frederick P. Miesterfeld, named personal representative or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 1200 N. Telegraph Rd., Pontiac and the named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

4/9/18
Frederick P. Miesterfeld
1576 Banmoor
Troy, MI 48064
248-872-6737

STATE OF MICHIGAN FILE NO: PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF OAKLAND NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate

Estate of Margaret A. Miesterfeld. Date of Birth: 10/16/38
TO ALL CREDITORS:
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Margaret A. Miesterfeld, died 3/17/18

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Frederick P. Miesterfeld, named personal representative or proposed personal representative, or to both the probate court at 1200 N. Telegraph Rd., Pontiac and the named/proposed personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

4/9/18
Frederick P. Miesterfeld
1576 Banmoor
Troy, MI 48064
248-872-6737



Who To Call

\$8⁹⁵/Week*

*Based on payroll 17-week contract. Call The Classified Items at 248-625-2878. Available every Tuesday prior to publication. Reach Home & Businesses Every Week With An Advertising Message On These Pages.

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Bus. Opportunities	330	Horses	220	Rec. Vehicles	280
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Cars	250	In Memoriam	400	Services	410
Child Care	340	Lawn & Garden	080	Trucks	270
Computers	140	Livestock	210	Tutoring/Lessons	070
Craft Shows	120	Lost & Found	190	Vans	260
Farm Equipment	230	Manufactured Homes	320	Wanted	030
Firewood	050	Musical Instruments	060	Wanted To Rent	300
Free	100	Notices	390	Work Wanted	350
Garage Sales	110	Personals	370		

Phone 248-628-4801 - 248-625-3370 - 248-693-8321

VERIFICATION

Ad-vertiser,
Penny Stretcher,
The Citizen

All advertising in Sherman Publications, Inc. is subject to the conditions in the applicable rate card or advertising contract, copies of which are available from the Ad Dept. The Oxford Leader, P.O. Box 108, 666 S. Lapeer Rd., Oxford, MI 48371 (248-628-4801), The Lake Orion Review, 30 N. Broadway, Lake Orion, MI 48362 (248-693-8331) or The Clarkston News, 5 S. Main, Clarkston, MI 48346 (248-625-3370). This newspaper reserves the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Our ad takers have no authority to bind this newspaper and only publication of an ad constitutes acceptance of the advertiser's order.

CONDITIONS

DEADLINES: Regular classified ads Monday at 12 noon preceding publication, Semi-display advertising Monday at noon. Cancellation Deadline: Monday noon.

CORRECTIONS: Liability for any error may not exceed the cost of the space occupied by such an error. Correction deadline: Monday noon.

HOURS: Oxford: Monday through Friday 8-5
Lake Orion & Clarkston: Monday through Friday 8-5

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CASH FOR Cars: We buy any condition vehicle, 2002 and newer. Competitive offer! Nationwide Free pick up! Call now for a free Quote! 888-368-5659. !ICPM1
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JUNK CARS and trucks wanted. Top dollar paid. Call 248-881-5135. !ILZ214

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LOOKING FOR Repairable cars/ trucks. Up to \$5,000 cash paid. Quick pick up. 810-724-7647, 810-338-7770. !ILZ194

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THIS PUBLICATION does not knowingly accept ad which is deceptive, fraudulent, or which might otherwise violate the law or accepted standards of taste. However, we do not warrant or guarantee the accuracy of any ad, nor the quality or quantity of the goods or services advertised. Readers are cautioned to thoroughly investigate all claims made in any advertisement and to use good judgement and reasonable care, particularly when dealing with person unknown to you who ask for money in advance of delivery of the goods or services advertised or the advertised price is suspect. !ILZdhtf

READERS NOTE: Regarding Firewood Advertisements. This publication does not knowingly accept advertising which is deceptive, fraudulent or which might otherwise violate the law or accepted standards of taste. However please be cautioned regarding firewood deliveries made after dark or any time the quality or the quantity of the delivery are difficult to assess. Know your rights to refuse delivery of a firewood order where quality or quantity is suspect. !ILZtfn

060 MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

NEW AND USED GUITARS, acoustic and electric and accessories. Oxford School of Music. 248-572-4881. !ILZ44tfn
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090 AUCTIONS

YODER BROS. Large 2-day, Farm Equipment-Shop- Outdoor Miscellaneous Consignment Auction. April 20th and 21st. 7656 E. Colonville Rd, Clare, MI Call for brochure 989-386-9082 or Visit Auctionzip.com I.D. 2701. !ICPM1

SAINT MARY'S in The Hills Art Show And Silent Auction with wine and cheese tasting on April 21, 6:30 - 8pm at Merge Art Studio in Oxford. \$5 donation. !ILZ202

LIVE ESTATE Auction Sat. April 21st, 2018, 10:30am & Sun., April 22, 2pm. 6720 State Rd, Millington, MI. Riding mower, golf cart, snowblower with tracks, More! Details at www.TimsAuctionService.com 989-912-8701. !ICPM1

FISHING LURES, decoys, rods, reels online auction- bidding open n o w : www.PaceHongAuctions.com. Closes Sunday, April 22nd. Consign to our future auctions. Free Consultations. 989-727-0011 ext. 1. !ICPM1

100 FREE

BLACKBOARD 60X43. Piano stool w/adjustable seat, solid wood. 248-825-2097 !IC421f

110 GARAGE SALE

MOVING SALE- Thursday, Friday, Saturday, April 19, 20, 21, 9am-6pm. 9309 S. State Rd., Goodrich. Furniture, household goods, tools, 1893 Western Cottage pump organ, Conn Electric organ. Miscellaneous electrical and plumbing items. 810-636-2453 !ILZ372

MOVING TO CALIFORNIA! Everything must go! so, whatever you need.. I got 3!! Tools, machinery, art supplies, sewing, records, furniture, books, patio furniture, art, dishes, china, bedding, etc. Bring your truck & cash!!! 2850 Farm Brook Trail, Oxford. 8:00am-5:00pm on May 10-13. !ILZ232

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Lk. Orion Review
248-693-8331
(Holiday deadlines may apply)
LZ8-dh

RUNMAGE SALE Thurs. 4/19, 9am-4pm, Fri. 4/20 9am-1pm. Immanuel Church, 1 Hovey. !IL193

HUGE CHILDREN'S SALE. Over 100 families. Rain or shine. Clothes: Newborn thru teens and Prom dresses. Little Tykes & toys, car seats, baby equipment, furniture, Power Wheels, books, dvd's, games, video games. April 18-20, 9am-7pm and Sat. April 21, 9am-3pm. Goodrich Lion's Club Hall, 9196 State Rd. !ILZ182
USED BOOK SALE, 6495 Clarkston Rd., Clarkston 48346. Wed. 25th, 10-8:30., Thurs. 26th, 10-5:30, Friday 27th, 10-5:30, Sat. 28th, 10-1pm bag sale. Friends of Clarkston Independence District Library !IC422

MOVING SALE: Household, crafting, decor, holiday, game table, kids, patio set, more. Fri & Sat 9-4 Sunday 10-3 1813 Stanford Ct., Oxford Woods !ILZ212

130 HOUSEHOLD

ADJUSTABLE BED Brand new with Imcomfort gel memory foam mattress. Retail cost \$5,900.00. Sacrifice for \$997.00. Call for showing or delivery; 989-615-2951. !ICPM1

DARK BROWN Wood side table, \$65. french bakers rack, solid black iron frame with glass shelves and built in wine rack, \$285. Please text only 248-318-8660 !ILZ412

AN AMISH LOG Headboard and queen pillow top mattress set. Brand new- never used, sell all for \$275. Call anytime 989-832-2401. !ICPM1

HIDE-A-BED SOFA. Tan & brown, full double bed. Good condition. \$75. Email tsreuter@comcast.net for pictures & details. 248-391-3813. !ILZ212

150 ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES

AMERICAN GIRL DOLLS and accessories in excellent condition not in boxes and multiple boxed Barbie dolls. Lake Orion area. 248-410-0650 !ILZ202

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More info call:
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LZ203

170 GENERAL

PROFORM TREADMILL \$300, Spinning bike, \$150, Curio Cabinet, cherry finish, 24x76, \$100. 248-961-6268 !ILZ212

WOODI COAL STOVE for heating, US Stove Company. Includes hotblast blower, multi-wall stocker and duct work. \$500 obo call after 5pm. 248-330-1584. !ILZ31tf

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Include BILLING NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER and a DAYTIME NUMBER where you can be reached to verify placement and price of ad. Fax numbers are:

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*THE CLARKSTON NEWS & PENNY STRETCHER
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180 REC. EQUIPMENT

POWERHOUSE WM1501 Home Gym. Like new condition \$130.; Email tsreuter@comcast.net for pictures & details. 248-391-3813 !ILZ212

GOLF BALLS WITH experience! Pick a brand and a price, ready to play again. By the dozen or \$25 for 5- 6 or 7 dozen. Range balls \$.10. 248-693-4105. !ILZ30dhtf

200 PETS

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250 CARS

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2004 WHITE Honda Accord EX Coupe. 284,000 miles. Runs great! Loaded, dual heated seats, cruise, moonroof, leather, new after-market wheels and tires. Very Clean. \$2,500.00 248-894-1026. !ILZ212

2008 FOCUS, black, 4 door, looks & runs good, moon roof, ac, cruise, good tires includes 4 new winter tires. 195,000 miles. Newer motor. \$3380.00. 248-613-8704 !ILZ2112

2008 FORD ESCAPE 4 door, 4WD, V-6, power windows/ locks/ seat, sunroof, new tires, very good condition. Runs excellent. \$5400.00. 248-620-3479. !IC23612

1998 CHEVY CAVALIER 4cy, auto, dependable everyday driver, tires decent, power brakes, black, power windows, cd/m/am radio, many new parts, 170k miles. \$2100. 248-628-6294 !ILZ1812

2014 FORD FOCUS hatch back, 32,000 miles, excellent condition, \$7,200.00. 248-318-0617 !ILZ2012

1974 MGB, excellent condition, red, looks & runs great. A must see! 85,000 miles. \$5000.00 obo. 248-361-6908 !ILZ1812

2013 TOYOTA AVALON unlimited. 43,811 miles. Silver. 4 door mid-size sedan. 6 cyl. Auto. Sunroof. Origina Tennessee car. \$16,000. 248-978-9041. !ILZ21-12

1982 COLLECTOR Edition Corvette, 45,000 miles, 2 sets of rims/ tires, \$16,000. 248-866-2260. !IX3812

2011 CADILLAC DTS Premier. Loaded. 58K. White. Perfect condition. Sunroof. Navigation. \$15,900. 586-915-7079. !ILZ192

270 TRUCKS/SUV

2000 CHEVY 1500 Z71, 4X4, 73,270 miles, leather interior, power windows, power locks, new tires, am/fm/cd, cap. \$3,250 obo. 248-693-9819 !ILZ1212

2009 GMC SIERRA 1500 -Z71 4WD SLE extended cab. Remote start and HD Trailing pkg. 5.3 V8 93,000 miles. \$13,500. 248-693-2347. !ILZ1412

2006 GMC SIERRA 86,000 original miles, tonneau cover. \$9000.00. 586-337-9220. !IL212

2009 GMC Half ton pickup, extended cab with Leer top, trailer hitch, new tires, new brakes, excellent paint, no rust. 86,000 miles, \$11,000.00. 248-841-7598. !ILZ2012

2004 CHEVY Silverado 4x4 work truck, good condition, new brakes. 78,000 miles asking \$7,500. 248-705-2502. !ILZ2012

2003 GMC PICKUP, 8ft bed, remote start, auto, air. \$4500 in receipts. Exceptional condition, needs nothing done. \$6900.00. For pics call Mike 248-941-8140, 248-693-6936 !ILZ2012

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320 MANUFACTURED HOMES

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340 CHILD CARE

STATE LAW REQUIRES all childcare facilities to be licensed and some to be registered. Call Dept. of Human Services at 1-888-685-0006, with questions.

350 WORK WANTED

I AM SEEKING A part-time caregiving job in the Clarkston area, working for private individual or family. I am experienced, dependable and very trustworthy. Will also work midnights. Excellent references. \$15/hr. Four hour minimum. 248-790-3100.

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MAKE A DIFFERENCE. Caring, motivated people wanted to assist adults in our group homes. Holly, Oxford, Highland, Rochester Hills and South Lyon \$10.03 hr. to start with benefits available. 248-486-5368. I1LZ204
DRIVER WANTED, Porta- John Company. 248-989-6900 I1LZ414

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LABORER NEEDED. K & K Drywall. Pay depending on experience, up to \$20/ hr. Must have valid drivers license. 248-904-3094. www.KandKdrywall.com. I1C394

AIDE/ HOUSEKEEPER needed to help woman with Alzheimer's two or three afternoons a week. Help with shopping, tv channels, some light house cleaning, etc. 248-431-8016 I1LZ212

CERTIFIED MEDICAL ASSISTANT, minimum of 3 years Medical Assistant experience required. (Family or Internal Medicine preferred). Full Time with benefits. Please email resume to: contact@ccfamilydoc.com I1L211

FARM HELP: Tree farm in Oxford, inside/ outside work, part or full time positions, heavy lifting involved. 248-860-8832, info @wholesaletreesllc.com I1LZ211

NANNY/ DRIVER/ OCCASIONAL COOK needed for 14 and 15 year old girls. 2:30- 5:30, M-F. \$12/ hour plus mileage. Needs to be licensed driver, non-smoker, must like dogs. 989-574-7809 I1L212

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NOW HIRING Sat. & Sun 7:30 to approx 1pm plus 1 hour in the evenings, 2-3 weekday evenings, 12.00 to 15.00 per hour to clean and care for 10 horses. Must complete background check. Come join our team. Mike 989-737-0248 I1LZ193

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SHIPPING & RECEIVING - Auburn Hills manufacturer seeks an experienced Shipper to work in our manufacturing facility. Preferred skills will include experience using the UPS Worldship System. Apply on our website at https://hydra-zorb.com/blog/job-posts. I1LZ211

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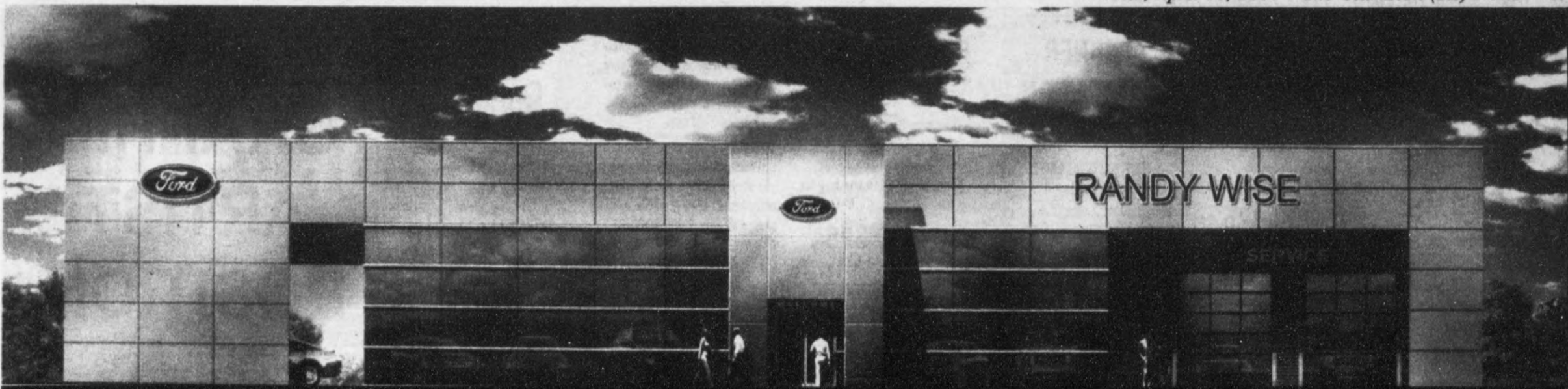
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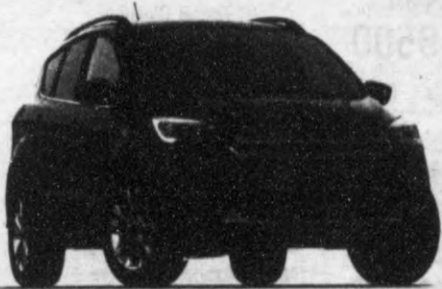
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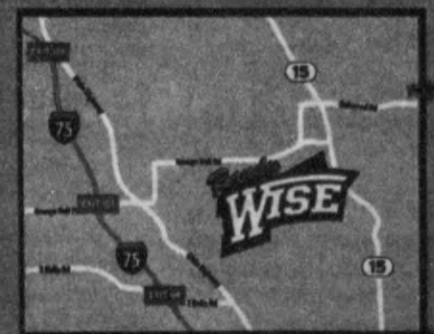
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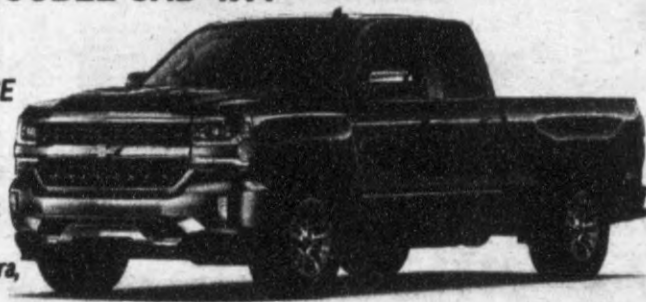


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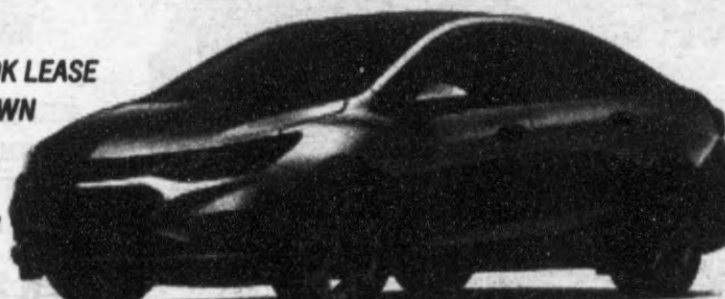
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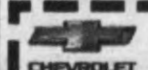
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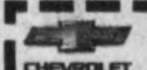
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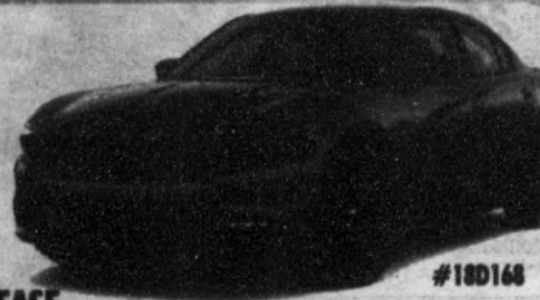
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Serena Chiappelli, as Anne Frank, and Lucas Bell, as Peter Van Daan, have a discussion in the attic.



Fearful of being found, the Frank and Van Daan families hide from the Nazis with help from their friends.

Drama club brings 'Diary of Anne Frank' to the stage

BY WENDI REARDON PRICE
Clarkston News Staff Writer

A tragic chapter in world history comes back to life as the Clarkston High School Drama Club presents "The Diary of Anne Frank," on April 27-28, 7 p.m., at the performing arts center.

The Frank family, a Jewish family living in Amsterdam, Holland, goes into hiding with the Van Daan family in an attic until they are eventually found by the Nazis during World War II.

Senior Serena Chiappelli steps into the shoes of Anne Frank, whose diary was found after the war ended.

She explained it was kind of difficult to get into the role of Anne at first.

"The struggles in my life seem so minute compared to what this whole family had to go through," Chiappelli said. "The whole cast has really helped each other get into those characters because it's really easy to get into the character. It's been interesting because it's something I haven't done. I normally play character roles. This is more a real life person. I had to take the attributes of myself and use it to drive Anne's character."

Senior Wes Hutchinson steps into the role of Anne's father, Otto.

"His main goal at all times is to protect himself, his family and all the others in the annex," Hutchinson said. "He's very gentle, very close to Anne. Playing the role is interesting because towards the end you get some of the aftermath. Trying to portray a role is carrying that burden of living with these people for up to two years, almost three years, all taken away from you including your family, is a challenge. It is

something that has to be done well because it is important."

Senior Autumn Steinman plays Mrs. Van Daan, also in the attic with her family.

"My character is very much a troublemaker," Steinman shared. "She loves to start drama. Everything has to be big. She loves her fur coat. She's very petty about things in a way. She doesn't necessary like the living situation she's in. She tends to be very extra in her actions and how she interacts with people in the home."

"Otto is pretty much the opposite of Mrs. Van Daan," Hutchinson added. "He tries to avoid trouble."

Helping conceal the families are Miep Gies, a business woman who lives downstairs, played by Zoe Nygaard, and Mr. Kraler, a long-term business partner of Mr. Frank and Mr. Van Daan, played by Charlie Lussenhop.

"She's not Jewish but she doesn't like what's going on," Nygaard said about Miep. "She is super scared of what's going on with the war happening. She helps the families and hides them in the annex with Mr. Kraler. She brings them food and books. She has a close relationship with them. She is very reserved, but also very kind-hearted and really brave especially being a young woman during this time and risking her life every day to save these people."

Mr. Kraler assumes all the legal holdings of the businesses of Mr. Frank and Mr. Van Daan as the Nazi regime was seizing any property owned by those in the Jewish faith.

"I assumed all responsibility for their properties and businesses," Lussenhop explained. "I am helping to keep them concealed. He

is nervous and under an enormous amount of stress even before the war broke out from the work he was doing. Also, just trying to maintain the businesses and know there is always the threat of the secret police finding out what he is doing. He is trustworthy and a good friend to do everything he can to help them."

For all five, it is their last show at Clarkston High School.

"It's eye-opening to the whole experience because a lot of it is really upbeat," Chiappelli said. "It shows the whole family dynamic and how they all connect with each other. It's been a really good experience, and I am glad this is my last show is because I think it has a powerful message. It's really cool to play this character as my last hurrah."

Steinman added it is meaningful to portray real people and trying to follow the story of who they are and what they went through.

"It's definitely more challenging than something fictional or comical," Hutchinson added. "You owe it to the history to portray it well. I really enjoy having the challenge of it. It's a nice ending to my high school acting career."

Nygaard explained it was a different experience because she is used to telling stories through music as she has only been in musicals and her last production was "Mary Poppins."

"I think it's harder but in the sense of acting, these emotions are emotions people had to experience," she added. "It's easier to feel those emotions because we know what happened in real life. I find myself being close to tears in scenes without even trying because it's such an emotional



Serena Chiappelli, as Anne Frank, shares her thoughts and hopes with her diary. Photos by Wendi Reardon Price

scene. It is hard to do something that happened in real life, but we owe it to these characters to do it well."

Lussenhop, who was also in "Mary Poppins," explained his last show was about how big and extravagant they could get to get the message across.

"With a story like this, where the story is so powerful and hard hitting, it's the opposite. It's about getting as intimate and personal," he said.

The show is being performed for eighth and ninth graders from Clarkston Junior High School, as they read *Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl* as part of their curriculum.

The cast invites the community to come out and watch the show.

"It's such a powerful story and

coming from the eyes of such a young girl," said Chiappelli. "It makes it even more mind blowing this young girl can have such a positive attitude throughout all the struggles in her life. It can impact everyone else's lives even the people who are watching it because they can see whatever they go through they can overcome it by keeping a positive mindset."

"The Diary of Anne Frank" is a play by Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett, based on *Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl*.

Tickets are now on sale at tix5.centerstageticketing.com/sites/clarkstonhigh or calling 248-623-4024. They are \$7 for presale and \$9 at the door.

The show is rated PG for mature themes and parental discretion is advised.

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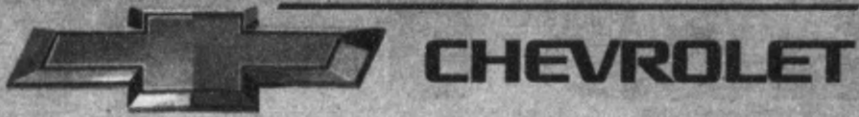
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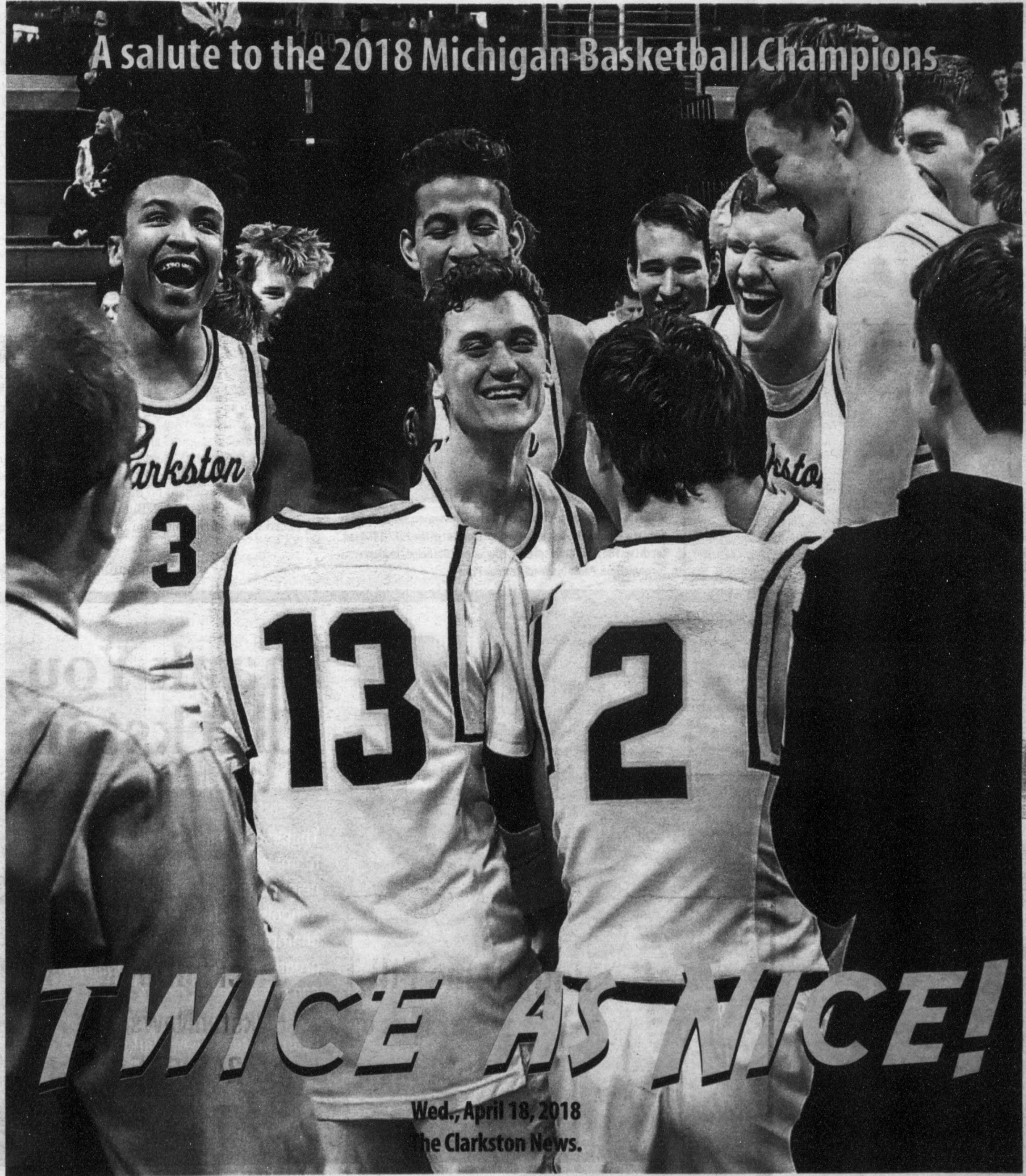
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A salute to the 2018 Michigan Basketball Champions



TWICE AS NICE!

Wed., April 18, 2018
The Clarkston News.

Thank you for an exciting year

What can we say except for, "Thank You!" The last 12 months have shown what young people can do with hard work, dedication, skill, guidance and a little luck. The 2018 Varsity Boys Basketball team here in C-town was a team that was fun to watch — from the first tip off in 2017, to the last dribble on the hardwood at Breslin Center on March 24, 2018.

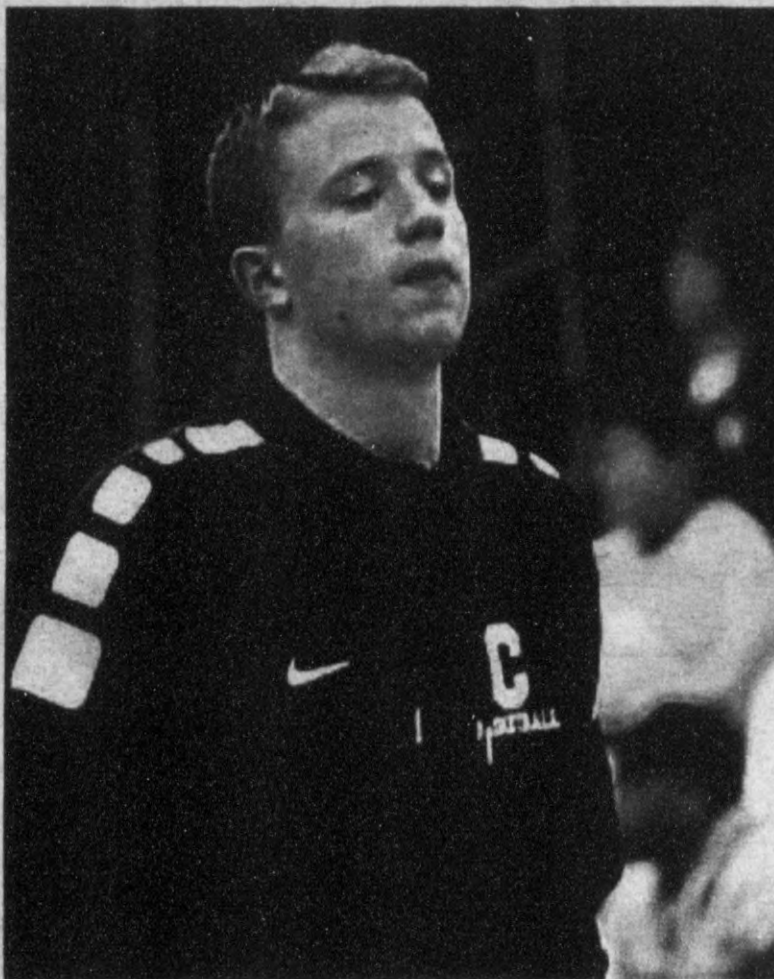
With targets painted on their backs from the get-go (seemingly sometimes even from powers high up the state high school sports totem pole), these 15 young men stuck together and handled themselves with poise and dignity. And, in the end brought home to Clarkston their second Class A title in as many seasons. The first championship (in 2017) was sweet; the second *Twice as Nice*.

So, thank you! Thank you players, coaches, and managers. Thank you, player parents. Your efforts in preparing your children for working hard and working smart, thus far, have paid off (and we expect this trend to continue in their futures). Thank you to the business sponsors of this section; without your support of this team, this commemorative section would not be possible. Thank you, readers and thank you, Clarkston.

Special thanks to Larry Wright and Renee Weaver-Wright for their assistance with photos this season

— Don Rush, April 18, 2018

It wasn't all sunshine & roses



While ruled ineligible to play for the Wolves this season, senior Thomas Kithier was none-the-less an important member of the 2017-18 squad. Coach Dan Fife said Kithier's presence during practice helped ready players for gametime. Photo by Wendi Reardon Price

This season ended beautifully for the Clarkston Boys Basketball team, as they earned their second straight Class A Championship -- but it started out with this tweet from *The Detroit News* sports department on Dec. 7, 2017. "BREAKING: In a stunning move today, the MHSAA ruled Clarkston's Thomas Kithier, a prized MSU recruit, ineligible for the entire basketball season over his transfer from Dakota."

During the ensuing weeks the story was all over the news, sports talk radio and social media while the case worked its way in court.

Clarkston News

By Wendi Reardon Price

Clarkston High School senior Thomas Kithier's attempt to play with his teammates on the boys varsity basketball team was denied on Jan. 11.

U.S. District Judge Marianne O. Battani ruled against his preliminary injunction which would have allowed Kithier to play. She cited he did not have a constitutional right to play extra-curricular sports and lack of precedent.

"We are disappointed," said Ven Johnson, attorney for Kithier. "Thomas and his family, we are all disappointed. We are working very hard on this to do what we know how to do to get him to play. But right now all that has happened is the judge said I am not going to block the MHSAA."

Continued on Page 21



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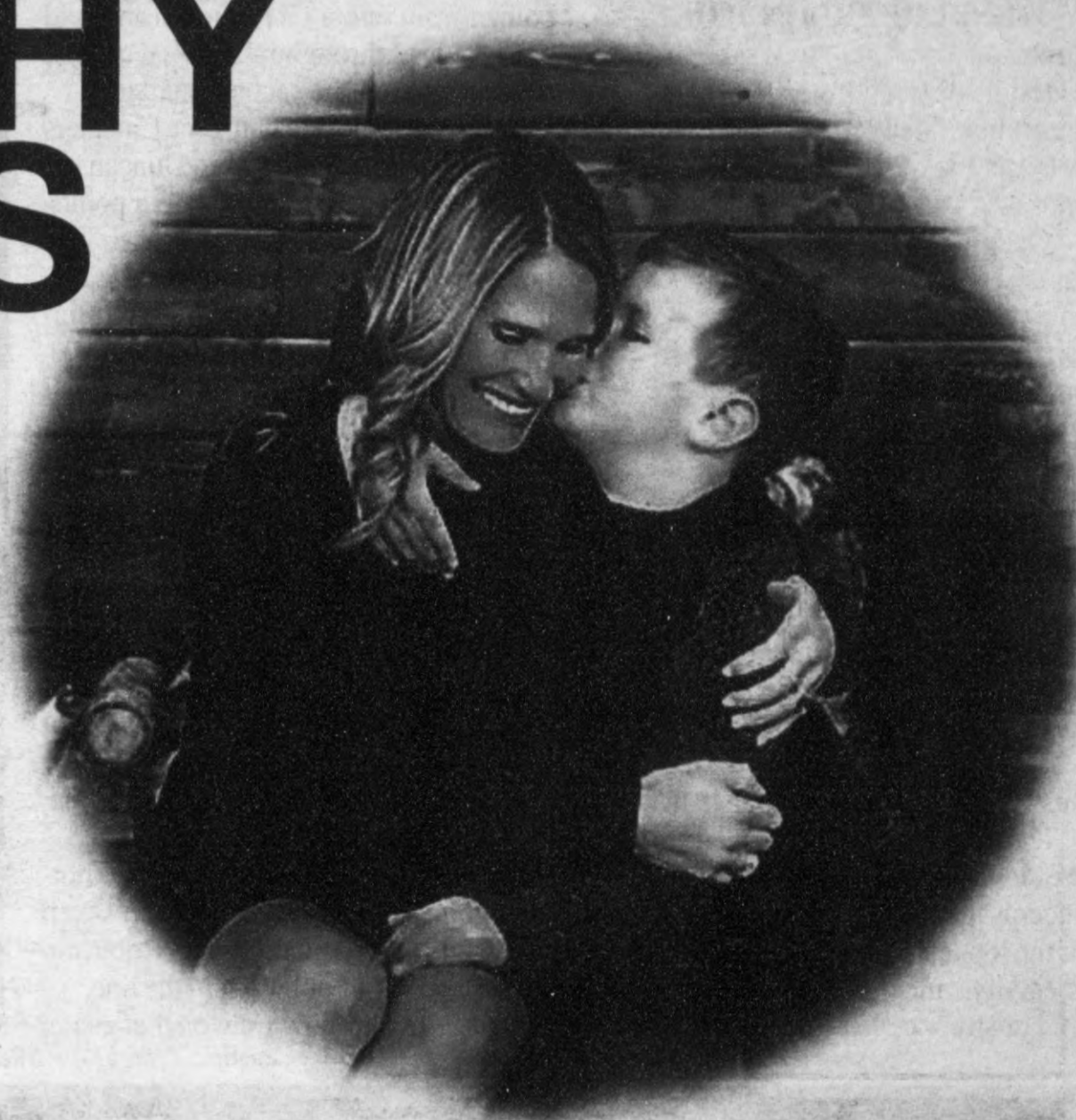
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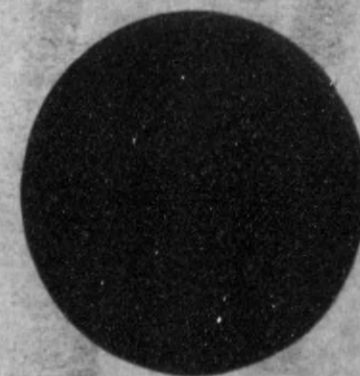
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Season starts with wins

BY WENDI REARDON PRICE
Clarkston News Sports Writer

Despite distractions on the hardwood, Clarkston's Varsity Boys Basketball team started its 2017-2018 season with two victories, last week.

"Opening up with those two tough teams is hard at the beginning of the season," said Dan Fife, long-time head coach for Clarkston Boys Varsity Basketball. "Kids are still coming out. They're not in as great shape as they are in the middle or end of the season. It's a tough game for them and us to win. Yet, you are trying to build character, understand how intense the game is, how much competition it is to win and how big the bullseye is."

The Wolves defeated Carman Ainsworth in their home opener, 67-64.

"It was an outstanding win," Fife said. "We didn't play our best defensively which concerns me. They have a good ball club. For the longest time they outcompeted us - mentally and physically."

Clarkston opened the game with a 3-

pointer from senior CJ Robinson and held onto the lead throughout the first quarter and for most of the second quarter.

With one minute to half-time Cavaliers Michael Fletcher and O'Mari Duncan put the away team in the lead with four points.

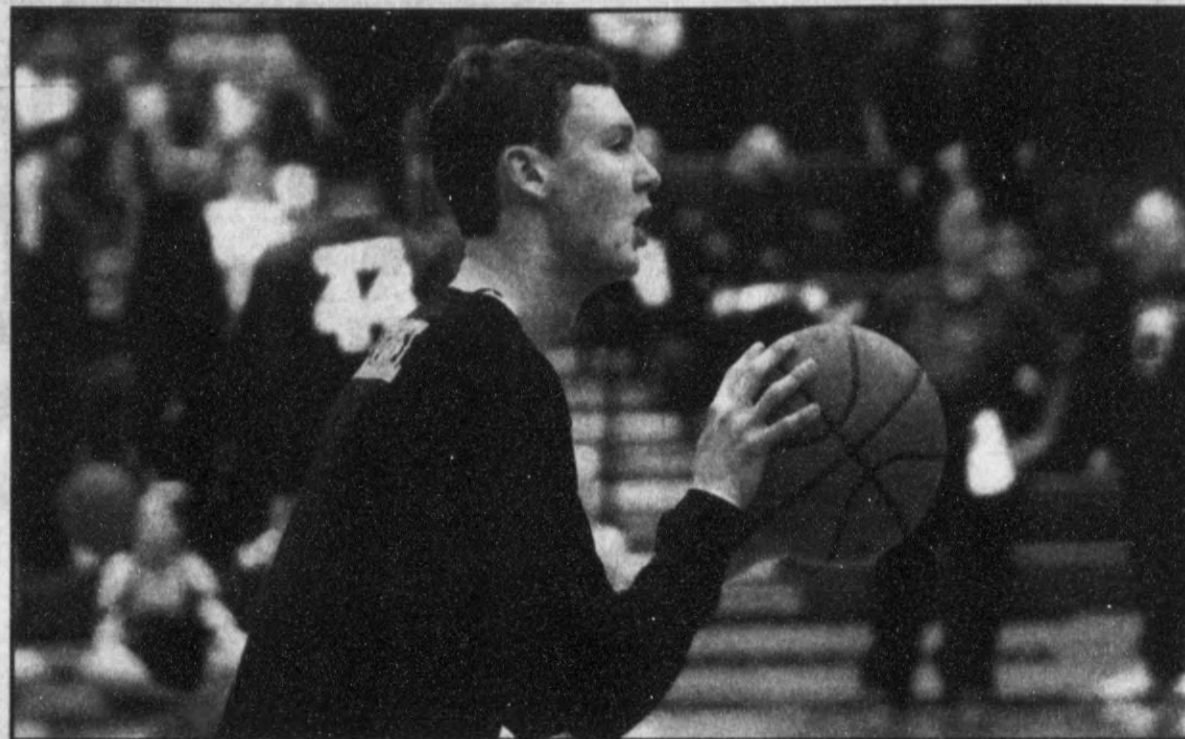
Carman Ainsworth built onto their lead going into the fourth quarter and led as much as 12 points with over seven minutes remaining in the game.

Senior Wolves Hank Schemmel and Taylor Currie scored a pair of baskets to close the gap before the Cavaliers scored again. Currie took aim, scoring another basket starting a 10-2 run for Clarkston which was topped off with a 3-pointer from senior Foster Loyer and cheers from fans in the packed gym.

The battle continued for the lead and with 3:14 left in the game Robinson put the Wolves into the lead with a 3-pointer and one point from the free throw line, 61-59.

Clarkston closed the final three minutes going to the free throw line seven times with Loyer, Currie and Robinson combining for 11 points from the line.

"I don't know how we won that game,



Senior Hank Schemmel and the Wolves warm up before the game. Photo by Wendi Reardon Price

but I think it was the perseverance of our kids and the character of our kids," Fife said. "They dug down deep. It's a teachable moment. We can watch film and teach a lot - they can see what we saw."

Loyer led the team with 32 points, going 11-for-12 on free throws. Robinson scored 20 points with three field goals and going 7-for-8 on the free throw line. Currie scored 14 points.

The Wolves opened the season with a 65-55 win over Wayne Memorial, Dec. 5.

Clarkston led going into half-time with seven points over the home team, 24-17. During the third quarter they 15 points, which Loyer scored two baskets within the first 48 seconds of the half.

Loyer led with 23 points. Currie scored 20 points and had 19 rebounds and Robinson had 11 points.

1
Week



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Wolf defense strong in victory

BY WENDI REARDON PRICE
Clarkston News Sports Writer

Wolves fans cheered as senior Max Anderson hit a 3-point shot with one minute remaining against Sterling Heights Stevenson last Friday.

One more shot from junior Josh Luther closed the game with Clarkston's fourth win, 88-37.

"I've been concerned about our defense," said Dan Fife, long time Clarkston Boys Varsity Basketball Head Coach, adding it's been awhile since they have played Stevenson. "They've been wanting to play us for a long time. We were good tonight. They aren't a bad team. We were just good - they caught us on the wrong night."

Clarkston opened the night with a 7-point run starting with a 3-pointer from senior Foster Loyer, followed by baskets from seniors Taylor Currie and Nick Wells.

Stevenson closed the gap to one point

off a field goal with four minutes remaining in the first quarter, their third within 90 seconds. Clarkston scored three points off a basket from Currie and one at the line from Loyer, putting the score 15-11.

The Titans scored one more basket to put themselves two points away from the Wolves. It sparked a 13-point run from Clarkston which ended with a 3-pointer from Loyer at the buzzer.

The Wolves finished the first half with a 50-23 lead, scoring five points in the final minute with two points from Loyer on the line, one point from senior CJ Robinson and a dunk from Wells.

The second half provided more opportunities for players to come off the bench. "They did very good - same enthusiasm, same intensity," said Fife. "It goes back to what I think Clarkston Basketball is all about - defense. We made a lot of baskets out of our defense. That is always my gauge is our defense. I was proud of them tonight. I don't want to get too excited - I want to make sure they play like that all the time. If they

do, we will be good."

Loyer led the team 25 points with three field goals and going 10-for-11 on the free throw line. Currie scored 20 points and Robinson had 13 points.

Anderson, seniors Chase Wasilk and Demond Mills-Bradley had one field goal each.

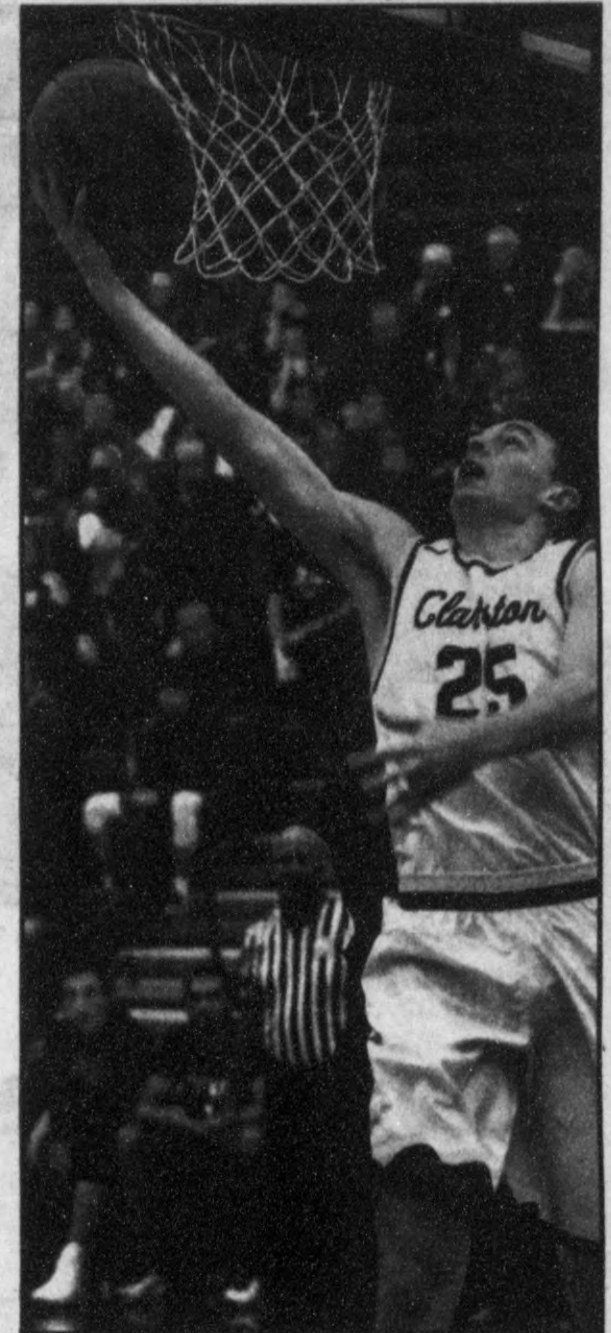
JV also defeated Stevenson, 62-28. Junior Desmond Mills-Bradley and sophomore Cole Donchez scored 13 points each. The freshman won their game, 61-22 with Isayah Harris leading with 15 points.

The Wolves opened the week with a win over Lake Orion on Dec. 11, 69-34. Loyer led the team with 20 points. Robinson scored 14 points, Currie had 11 points and Wells had ten points.

Next for Clarkston is an away game on Thursday at Orchard Lake St. Mary's Prep, 3535 Commerce Road.

"St. Mary's will be a tough place to play," said Fife. "It's a different environment there."

Nick Wells makes a shot in the first half. Photo by Larry Wright



2
Week



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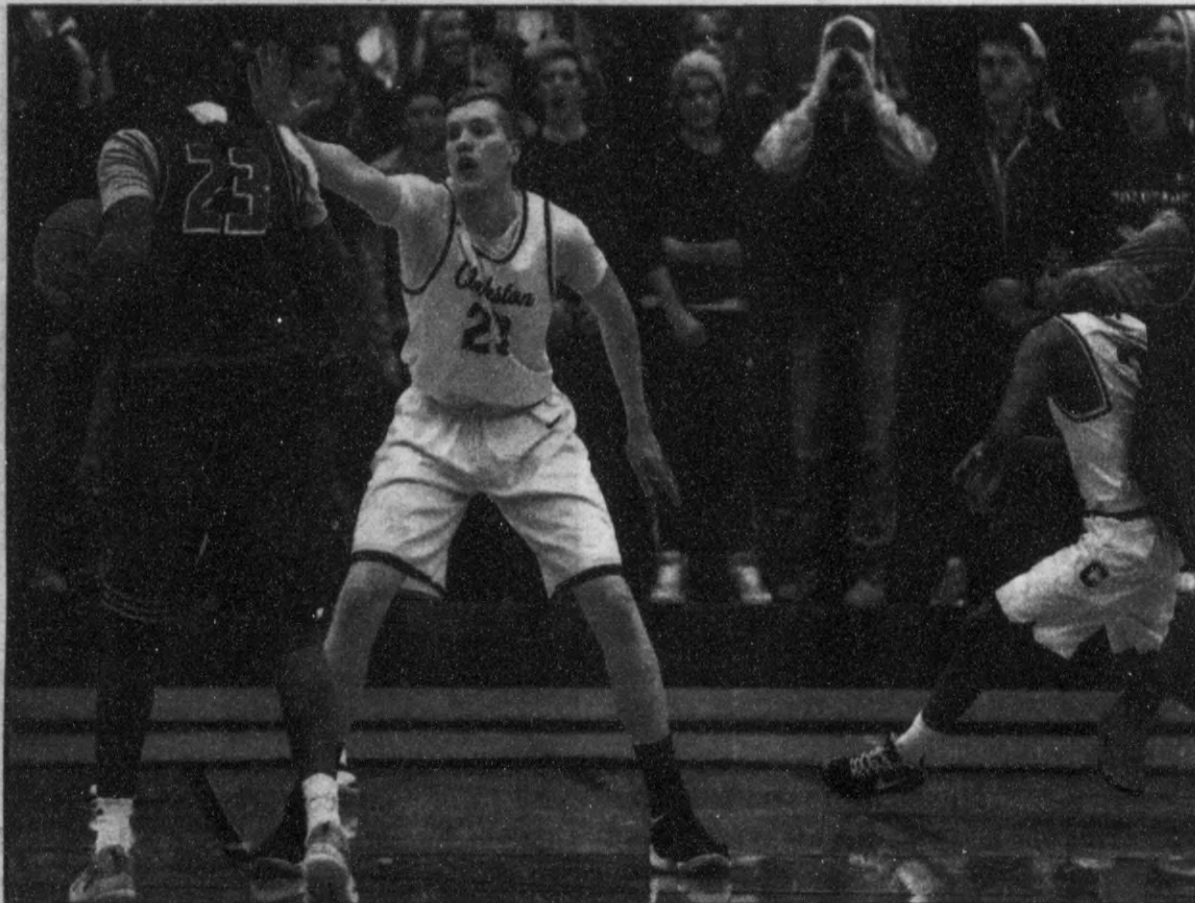
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Taylor Currie blocks Southfield Arts & Technology during the first half. Photo by Larry Wright

Shooting power to open 2018

BY WENDI REARDON PRICE
Clarkston News Sports Writer

Clarkston's cagers opened the new year with two wins in the OAA Red including a win over Southfield Arts & Technology, who they lost to last season, with a 75-47 score last Friday.

3 Week

"We started off on fire," said Dan Fife, long time head coach for Clarkston Boys Varsity Basketball. "When you shoot that well it's hard for anybody."

The Wolves and Southfield A&T were tied at five points with 4:38 remaining in the first period, it would be the last time for the Warriors as senior Foster Loyer broke the tie less than a second later with a free throw shot.

Clarkston added two more points from senior Nick Wells after he caught a long pass from Loyer. The gap continued to grow as senior CJ Robinson sank three of his field goal attempts within a span of 90 seconds, putting the score 17-7.

The Wolves closed the first quarter with a 24-7 lead with a basket from Loyer and five points from Wells, which included a field goal. Clarkston defense kept the Warriors to ten points in the second quarter while Wolves offense added 18 to the scoreboard closing the half, 42-17.

"Our league is very tough so we have to come every day with the same thought

in mind - everybody wants to beat us," said Fife. "Southfield does a good job - they beat us last year. They lost all their kids - which will be us next year when we lose all our seniors."

Loyer led the team with 19 points, including going 4-for-4 on the free throw line. Robinson scored 15 points, including four 3-pointers. Wells and senior Max Anderson had one 3-pointer during the game.

"It's a good win for us," Fife added. "We moved the ball pretty good."

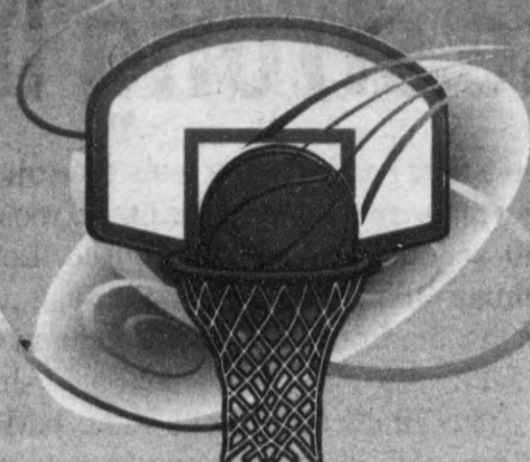
The Wolves also defeated Bloomfield Hills on Jan. 3, 62-35. Loyer led the team with 31 points. Robinson scored ten points and Wasilk had six points.

"Bloomfield plays pretty well," said Fife. "They will be alright this year. They competed hard."

The JV and freshman teams also posted wins for the week. JV remained undefeated with a 48-27 win over Bloomfield Hills and a 53-29 win over Southfield A&T, putting their record, 8-0. The freshman Wolves defeated Bloomfield Hills, 42-26, and Southfield A&T, 59-44, to move to 7-1.

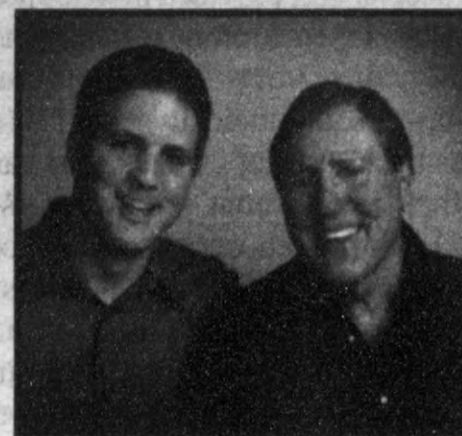
The Wolves opened the week on Tuesday at Troy. The varsity players head to Warren Fitzgerald on Saturday to play Detroit Pershing at 7 p.m.

The teams are back home on Jan. 19 against North Farmington. Miracle Minute will be held for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society during the night.



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Loyer smashes record at varsity win

BY WENDI REARDON PRICE
Clarkston News Sports Writer

It was a good visit to Detroit as Clarkston Boys Varsity Basketball posted their ninth win and senior Foster Loyer broke a team record.

Loyer scored nine field goals in the Wolves' 84-50 win over Detroit Pershing in the Horatio Williams Foundation MLK Freedom Classic last Saturday.

The field goals put him at a total of 215, sliding him into first place over Dugan Fife's 212.

"I am proud of him," said Dan Fife, long-time head coach. "He earned it. After the game he asked can we shoot tomorrow - that's who he is all the time."

Fife added the game was good for the entire team.

"Pershing's a good team," he said. "They've got a long history of success in their basketball program. It was a good day that turned into a great day for us to win."

"We played the ball well," Fife continued. "We played hard. We shot well."

We just played well. We had a good game - everybody played well. It was just a good team for us to play down in that environment. It was a great atmosphere. The place was packed with people from all over the metro-Detroit area. The atmosphere was a good setting for our kids to be in. It was intense."

Fife added playing in the intense environment will help the boys as the season continues.

"They didn't let the nerves or the atmosphere change who they were as players or their roles," he said. "It was good for our entire program to be there and be under those circumstances."

Loyer led the team with 36 points, seven rebounds and six assists. His nine field goals put him in second place in the team's records for single game field goals.

"Foster shot well, very well in that game," Fife said.

The Wolves opened the week with a 59-54 win over OAA Red newcomer Troy, Jan. 9.

Both teams finished the first quarter tied at 15 points each before Clarkston took the lead going into the second half. They held onto the lead going into the

fourth quarter.

They found themselves trailing by one point with two minutes remaining in the game after Troy went on a 21-8 run to put the score at 50-49.

Loyer helped boost the team making nine of his ten free throw shots and scored a total of 44 points during the game.

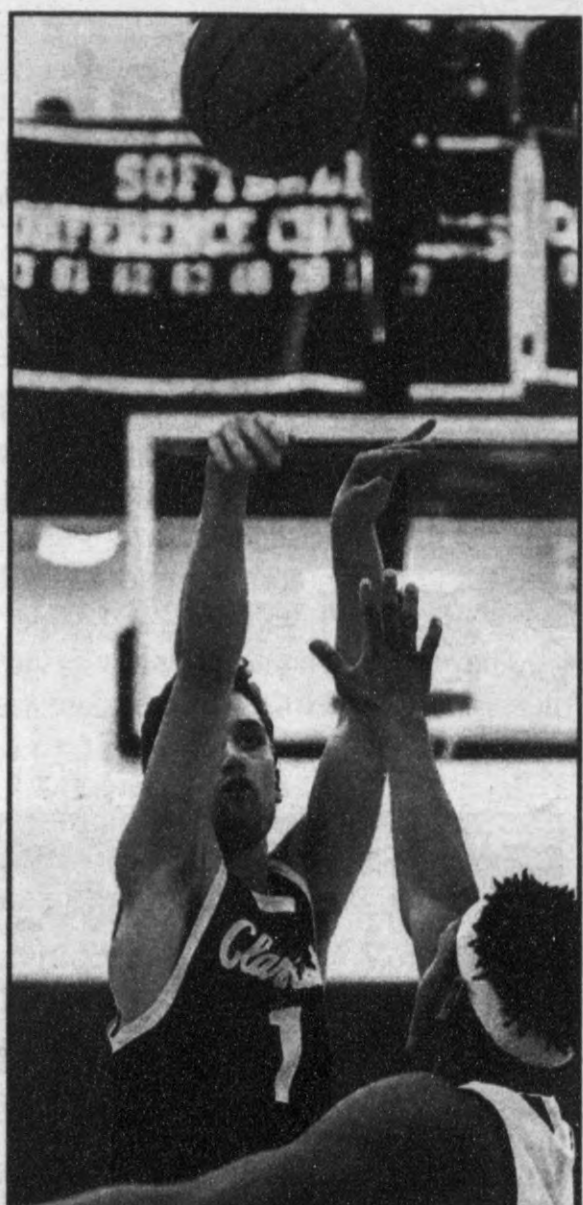
Join the Wolves (9-1, 3-0 OAA Red) this Friday as they host North Farmington. JV begins at 5:30 p.m., varsity follows.

Clarkston High School senior Foster Loyer received a nomination to play in the 2018 McDonald's All American Games.

Loyer, who recently scored 44 points in the Clarkston Boys Varsity Basketball 59-54 win over Troy, joins six other players from Southeastern Michigan as well as over 700 seniors from throughout the nation.

The 41st Annual Boys Game is March 28 at Philips Arena in Atlanta, Georgia and will be on ESPN.

Players were selected by high school coaches, athletic directors, principals and members of the McDonald's All American Games Selection Committee.



Foster Loyer shoots one of his nine field goals against Detroit Pershing, Jan. 13. Photo by Larry Wright

4
Week

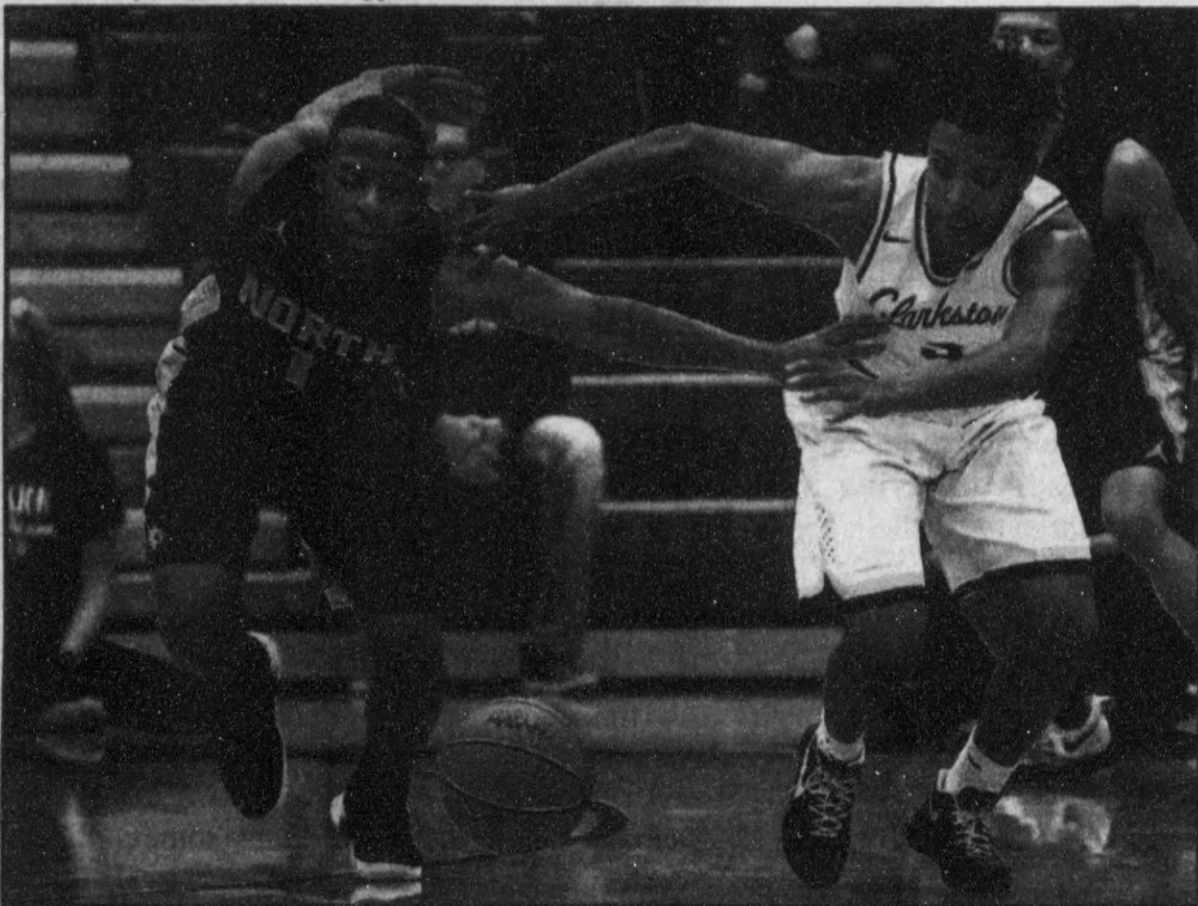
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CJ Robinson, right, and North Farmington's Kamon MacNear rush to the ball to gain control for their teams. Photo by Larry Wright

Fierce defense on Raiders

BY WENDI REARDON PRICE
Clarkston News Sports Writer

Cagers went on a shooting spree in the first half to close out their OAA Red foes North Farmington last Friday, 42-15.

"I thought they did a heck of a job tonight guarding people - like old Clarkston (basketball). It is the kind of effort you need to have all the time," said Clarkston Boys Varsity Basketball Head Coach Dan Fife. "Defense was much better. I have been getting on them about their effort guarding people."

Within the first 22 seconds of the game, senior CJ Robinson scored a 3-point shot and teammate senior Nick Wells added one more field goal to put the Wolves up, 6-0.

Clarkston would continue the scoring frenzy going on a 26-0 run going into the second quarter.

The run included three more field goals from Robinson and two field goals from senior Foster Loyer.

"We shot the ball well early and they just got out," said Fife. "It's tough for a young team to come back."

North Farmington's Donny Dreshaj broke the run with 4:40 remaining in the first half to put the Raiders on the board for two points.

Senior Chase Wasilk gave Clarkston

more edge, scoring his own field goal before Robinson scored one point on the free throw line to close the half, 30-2.

Fife explained focus didn't change for the team with the huge lead.

"I have been getting on them about their effort continually," he said. "I don't want anything to change regardless of the score in how we approach the game. Often times in a game like that you might lax and that's how you hurt yourself. It's what would happen to me. I would turn an ankle."

Robinson led with 16 points during the night and Loyer had 13 points.

"They are two as good guards as there are in the state," Fife added. "Those two together, they move the ball well and play well together, share the ball well. Even in high school when you have to guard two or three players. It's tough no matter who you are."

The Wolves (10-1, 4-0 OAA Red) host West Bloomfield this Thursday and during the night will raise money for the Chad Tough Foundation.

Fife added his concern still remains on Clarkston's defense.

"Offense will work itself out," he said. "Often times if you don't shoot well, you don't guard well. I want our defense to get better. You have to guard people and have them earn their wins."

They head to Hazel Park next Tuesday and are back at home as they host Bloomfield Hills.

Currie brings the heat

BY WENDI REARDON PRICE
Clarkston News Sports Writer

Senior Taylor Currie reached up to the rim and put the basketball through, boosting the No. 1 ranked Clarkston Boys Varsity Basketball team last Thursday during their win over West Bloomfield, 61-48.

Currie finished the night leading with 29 points, scoring 15 in the second half.

"He did a good job off the boards and scoring," said Dan Fife, head coach. "He had a lot of good looks. His height was the difference. His play was the difference. Sometimes it's just getting him started, getting him a basket when he starts getting his confidence. Then, he is good."

The Wolves were the first to score within the first 15 seconds off a basket from senior Nick Wells.

Moments later West Bloomfield's Donavan Moore tied the score with two points for his team.

The Wolves battled a tough defense from their visitors but it didn't stop them as they went on a 8-point run with baskets coming from seniors Foster Loyer, CJ Robinson and Wells to break the tie.

The Lakers put six points on the board but it wasn't enough to close the gap as Currie scored his first basket of the night and Loyer put five points on the board which included a field goal.

Tre Harvey finished the first quarter scoring for West Bloomfield with one minute to go to finish the quarter, 17-11.

Wells got the scoring going again in the second stanza with his two points. Currie scored the next four baskets for Clarkston as the Lakers closed in.

With three minutes to go, West Bloomfield scored on a field goal and a basket for five points, closing the Wolves lead to three points, 29-26.

Currie found an opportunity to score as the Lakers guards were outside the parameter and he moved inside to put in his two points with 1:08 to go.

Loyer worked his way around Trebon Mosley, stepping to the left and throwing the ball in for three points seconds before the half closed, 33-28.

Currie led with 29 points and had 15 rebounds and five blocks.

Fife added he has seen improvement and growth from him this season including Currie's understanding of the game

and knowing how much harder he needs to play.

"He has a year experience and had a great state tournament game last year," he said. "He is just building on it."

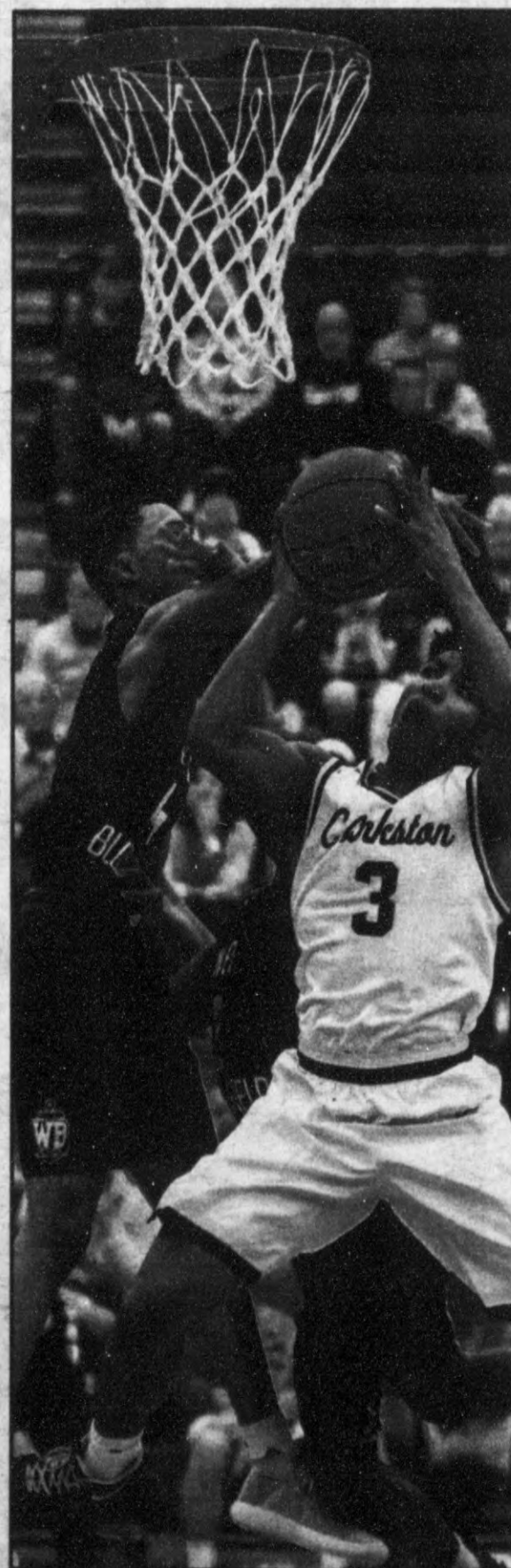
Loyer scored 17 points as Robinson had nine points and Wells had six points.

The Wolves (11-2, 5-0 OAA Red) opened the week against Hazel Park.

"They are a good team so we will see," Fife said. "It will be a good game."

They are back home on Friday as they host Bloomfield Hills, who they defeated Jan. 3, 62-35.

6
Week



Senior CJ Robinson goes for the basket despite a block from West Bloomfield in the second half. Photo by Larry Wright/Wright Action Pix

Loyer joins 2K club with 3-pointer

BY WENDI REARDON PRICE
Clarkston News Sports Writer

With two minutes remaining in the third quarter against Bloomfield Hills, senior Foster Loyer scored on a 3-pointer, marking his 2,000-point achievement in the Wolves' gymnasium.

"I am proud of him," said Clarkston Boys Varsity Basketball Head Coach Dan Fife. "It not only says a lot about our players playing with him, but him as well. He's a good player. It's good for our program to have someone like him come through."

Loyer moved up to third in the Clarkston Boys Basketball record books with most points. He is 32 points away from Dugan Fife's record and 287 from Dane Fife's first place record. As for Michigan High School Basketball History, Loyer became the 41st member of the 2,000-point club.

"He passed me a couple weeks, and I am okay with it," coach smiled.

The Wolves defeated Bloomfield Hills, 75-29 marking head coach Dan Fife's 690

win, putting him third in state history for wins.

"We shot the ball well, as well as you can shoot for a game," said Fife. "I don't think we could have shot any better."

Loyer opened the game with a three-pointer off an assist from senior Taylor Currie. Senior Nick Wells added two points to the score before the Blackhawks scored.

The Wolves finished the first quarter in an 11-point run, capped off by two field goals and a lay up from Loyer, 22-8.

Clarkston held Bloomfield Hills to four points during the second quarter as they scored 23 points during the stanza with Loyer, Wells, CJ Robinson and Demond Mills-Bradley boosting the score with a total of four field goals.

"I don't pay attention to the scores," Fife admitted as the half closed, 45-12.

The Wolves created a bigger gap in the score during the third quarter as they held their opponents to five points. The Blackhawks scored twice with a basket and a field goal, sending both teams into the final eight minutes, 64-17.

The running clock allowed Clarkston to put in players off the bench as senior Tristen

Mysen and junior Jakob Jensen scored two points each, and sophomore Matthew Nicholson scored three points. Freshman Garrett Dellinger, standing 6'6", ended the game with a pair of baskets in the final 36 seconds.

Loyer led the team with 31 points and scoring off six field goals. Wells had 12 points and had two field goals and Robinson scored 11 points and had three 3-pointers. Currie had five points.

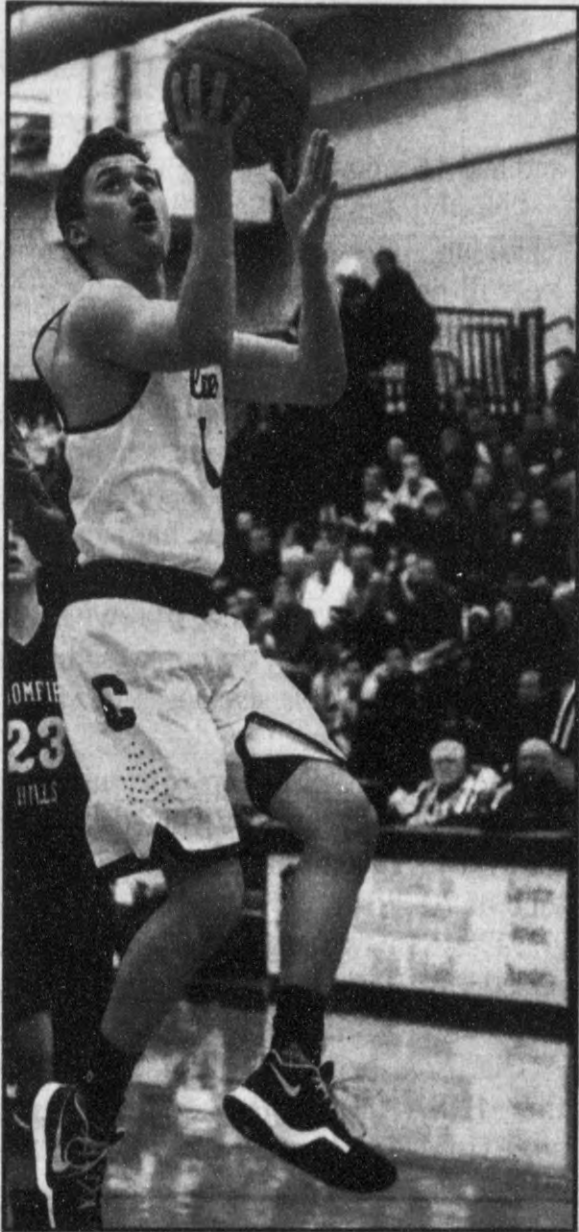
"Nick came out and shot the ball well," Fife said. "All of our subs came in and did great tonight, not that they don't always do, but they were extra special tonight. It really helps. We gained some confidence."

The Wolves defeated Hazel Park on Jan. 30, 70-39, with a 20-point run in the first half.

"It doesn't look like it was tough, but it was tough," Fife said.

Loyer led with 34 points. Currie scored 18 points during the game.

Clarkston, ranked No. 1 in the state with a 13-1 overall record and 7-0 in OAA Red, heads to Southfield Arts & Technology this Friday. The Wolves are back home when they host Troy next Friday, Feb. 16.



Senior Foster Loyer jumps up to score against the Blackhawks on his way to his 2,000-point milestone. Photo by LW

7
Week



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Wins after snow break

BY WENDI REARDON PRICE
Clarkston News Sports Writer

It wasn't a pretty win, but the Wolves topped another OAA Red opponent as they defeated Troy last Friday, 58-49.

"It was a good win for our kids late in the year," said Clarkston Boys Varsity Basketball Head Coach Dan Fife.

He added he has seen both teams play better.

"We had a long time between games," Fife explained. With the boys game against Southfield Arts & Technology being postponed due to weather on Feb. 9, they had gone two weeks between contests. "Maybe I didn't work them hard enough in practice over break."

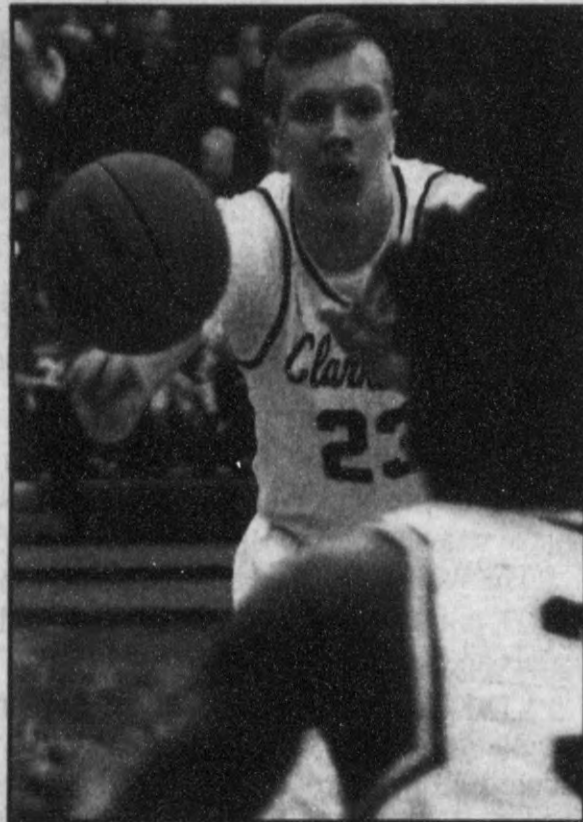
He added the tough win will help as the Wolves go into the last two weeks of the regular season and get ready for playoffs in March.

"For them to realize you can't just come out, show up and beat people," Fife said. "Everyone wants to beat you."

Troy was the first to score as they put three points on the board in the first 30 seconds. The lead didn't last for long as seniors Foster Loyer and Taylor Currie scored one basket each. Troy took the lead back with a basket to be met with a field goal from senior CJ Robinson.

The quarter closed with the Wolves holding onto the lead after Currie scored four more points to put the lead, 11-8.

Clarkston kept ahead of the Colts as they battled the pressure and tight guarding by the Colts' defense. They outscored their visitors 15-9 with contributions from Loyer, Currie, Robinson and senior Hank Schemmel, closing the first half, 26-17.



Senior Taylor Currie quickly passes the ball to senior CJ Robinson. Photo by Wendi Reardon Price

The Wolves opened the second half with four points from Loyer and Robinson with Troy meeting the challenge with two baskets of their own. Both teams battled back and forth with shots, closing the third stanza with Clarkston still in the lead, 36-27.

Troy closed the gap to five points with 98 seconds left in the fourth quarter after working on scoring more. Loyer and Robinson met it with six points to close the game, 58-49.

Loyer led the team to 30 points, going 7-for-7 on the free throw line. Robinson and Currie contributed 12 points each. Robinson scored on two field goals during the night. Senior Leon Ayers led the Colts with 17 points.

Clarkston Freshman Basketball improved their record to 12-3 as they defeated Troy, 50-48. JV also won their game 43-36 to put their overall record at 14-1.

The Wolves (14-1, 8-0 OAA Red) opened the week against Romulus. They head to North Farmington on Friday. They travel to Southfield Arts & Technology on Saturday to make up the cancelled Feb. 9 game.

Defense strong into postseason

BY WENDI REARDON PRICE
Clarkston News Sports Writer

The Wolves took down three more foes as they head into their last week of the regular season.

The Clarkston Boys Basketball team opened last week against Romulus for a crowdpleasing 90-53 win.

The first half was close as the Wolves ended with the upperhand, 44-40. They were able to keep ahead with key shots which included a pair of 3-pointers from seniors Demond Mills-Bradley and CJ Robinson with less than three minutes to go after the Eagles tied the score a 32-32.

Clarkston widened the gap going on a 20-point run in the third quarter with 11 points from senior Foster Loyer and seven points from senior Taylor Currie.

The Eagles scored a lone four points on the Wolves' defense as the third stanza closed with Clarkston in the lead, 68-44.

"We turned up defense," said Dan Fife, long-time head coach. "We played hard on defense, and we were able to score off our defense. Often times when kids make shots, they play better defense. It was a good win for us. Their kids played well. The second half we just shut them down. It takes all five, it doesn't take one guy when you are guarding like that."

Loyer led with 33 points and had 11 assists. Currie had 25 points and 17 rebounds as Robinson had 19 points and six assists.

The Wolves defeated North Farmington last Friday, 57-27. Loyer led with 22 points as Currie scored 13 points and Robinson had 11 points.

The boys also defeated Southfield Arts & Technology, 72-29. Robinson led with 19 points. Loyer scored 16 points and had three assists and Currie scored ten points

and had 11 rebounds.

"North Farmington and Southfield are rebuilding," Fife said. "They are doing what we will be doing next year. We have 11 seniors graduating this year."

"We got a lot of other kids playing time and that helped them as well as helping the team," he said. "We will just see how we play as long as we come out playing Clarkston Basketball - play hard and play smart."

The Wolves opened the week at Bloomfield Hills. They are home for the last game of the regular season as they host Hazel Park on Thursday.

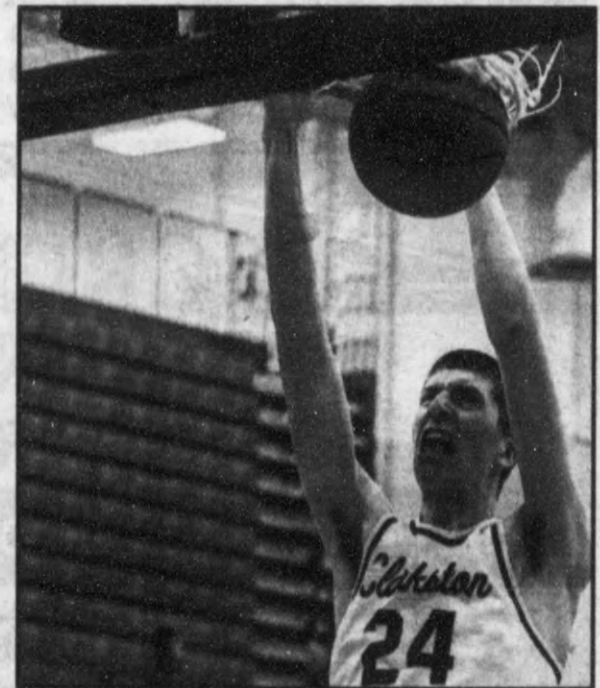
The Vikings will attempt to avenge their only loss for the season on Thursday which the Wolves gave to them on Jan. 30 to the tune of 70-39.

"Those are two really good teams," Fife added. "We are in it, right down to the nitty gritty. Every game is major."

Clarkston opens the post-season with the MHSAA Boys Basketball District semifinals against Lake Orion on Wednesday, March 7 at home, 5:30 p.m.

8
Week

9
Week



Sophomore Matthew Nicholson. Photo by Larry Wright



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Clarkston makes it an even dozen in league titles

BY WENDI REARDON PRICE

Clarkston News Sports Writer

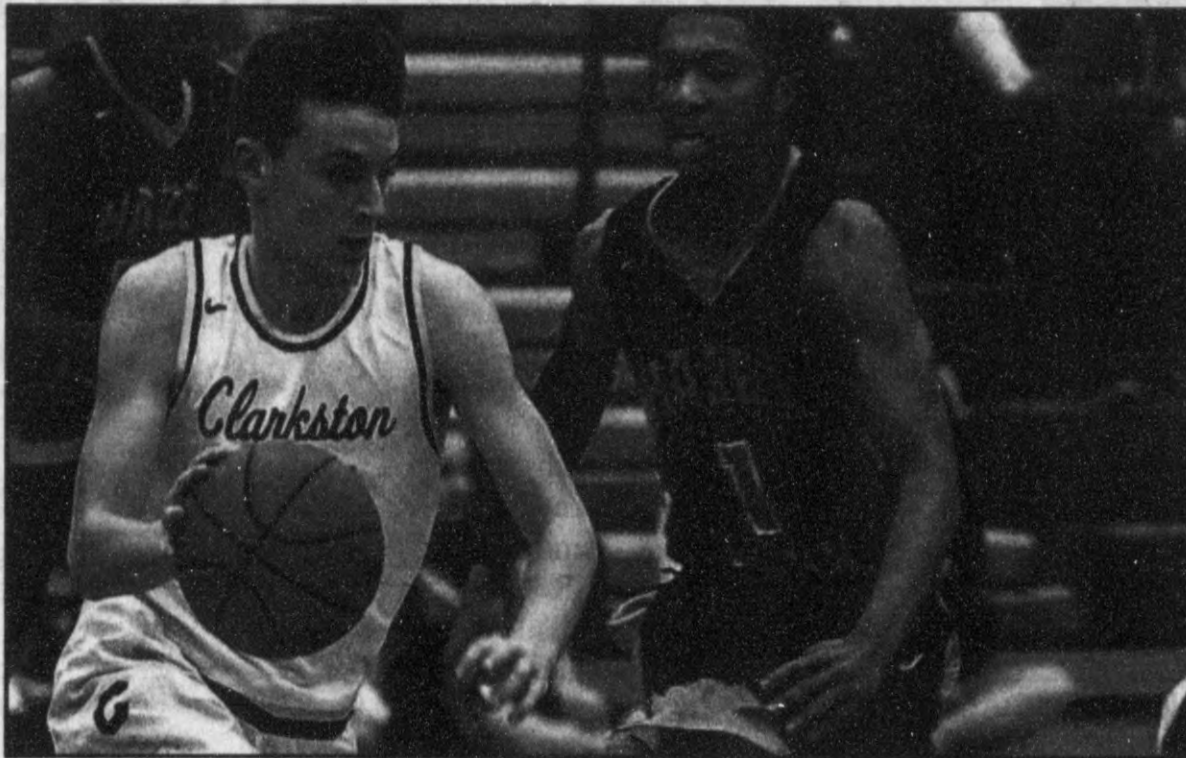
Cagers knocked out Hazel Park in the running for the OAA Red league title last Thursday as they claimed their 12th consecutive league title with a 48-38 win.

"It was a great win," said Dan Fife, head coach for Clarkston Boys Varsity Basketball. "You could tell our kids were exhausted, but Hazel Park played Tuesday night, too, in a tough game against Troy."

Not only were the Wolves going into the game to defend their title, but they were without senior Foster Loyer who wasn't in the game due to a torn meniscus in the knee from the previous game on Feb. 27.

"It was a good character win for our kids," Fife said. "I didn't know what to expect tonight with Foster out - how the kids would respond, and we are playing a team if they win they tie us for a league championship. Most of them have been playing with Foster for three years. He is

10 Week



Senior Nick Wells runs past Hazel Park's guards during the Wolves' 48-38 win last Thursday. Photo by Larry Wright

pretty much the leader on the floor."

He added all the players had a tremendous input on the final result of the game.

Hazel Park opened with the first point made on the free throw line before senior CJ Robinson put the Wolves into the lead.

The Vikings came back to take the lead

by scoring seven points. Clarkston closed in with contributions from seniors Robinson, Taylor Currie and Tieler Houston.

With 89 seconds left in the first quarter Currie put the Wolves into the lead, 11-10, and blocked Hazel Park's next shot before the stanza closed.

The battle continued and the score remained close during the second quarter by a few points. The Wolves pulled away in the final 20 seconds with a 3-pointer from Houston and a basket from Robinson at the buzzer to close the first half, 26-23.

Robinson and Houston led the team, scoring 13 points each. Houston scored two 3-pointers in the win. Currie had ten points and Wasilk had eight points.

"Houston had some big baskets," said Fife. "Him and Chase were outstanding. They did a lot of good things in the game. Taylor was outstanding on the boards tonight. He got a lot of rebounds."

The Wolves opened last week with a 66-60 win over West Bloomfield. Loyer led the team with 25 points. He had seven rebounds and six assists. Currie had 12 points and 14 rebounds. Wasilk had eight points and six rebounds. Clarkston (19-1) opens the post-season with the MHSAA Class A Boys Basketball District semifinals against Lake Orion on Wednesday.

"It's a lot easier to practice after you win and sometimes you need to lose so you can regroup the kids," said Fife. "We just have to concentrate on doing our practices a little differently."



Congratulations!

Way to go Clarkston Wolves! Your hard work and dedication makes our community proud. Keep up the good work in all your endeavors present and future!

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Tina Zudell, CHS Grad & Realtor



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- 1 Foster Loyer, G, 6-0, Sr.
- 2 Joshua Luther, G, 5-9, Jr.
- 3 CJ Robinson, G, 5-11, Sr.
- 5 Tristen Mysen, F, 6-6, Sr.
- 13 Demond Mills-Bradley, G, 5-9, Sr
- 14 Max Anderson, G, 5-9, Sr.
- 15 Tieler Houston, F, 6-2, Sr.
- 20 Jakob Jensen, G, 6-2, Jr.
- 21 Hank Schemmel, F, 6-6, Sr.
- 23 Taylor Currie, C, 6-9, Sr.
- 24 Matthew Nicholson, C, 6-10, So.
- 25 Nick Wells, F, 6-2, Sr.
- 31 Chase Wasilk, F, 6-5, Sr.
- 32 Thomas Kithier, F-C, 6-8, Sr.
- 42 Garrett Dellinger, F-C, 6-6, Fr.

Assistant Coaches:

Eric Chambers
Tim Wasilk

Captains

Foster Loyer
CJ Robinson
Nick Wells

Athletic Trainer & Manager

Shane Kerbelis
Mason Kochanski

Head Coach:

Dan Fife

Regular Season Record: 19-1

Districts:

Clarkston 62, Lake Orion 50
Clarkston 77, Oxford 35

Regionals:

Clarkston 71, Troy 46
Clarkston 58, Orchard Lk. St. Mary's 35

Quarterfinal:

Clarkston 52, Carman-Ainsworth 31

Semifinal:

Clarkston 74, Warren DeLaSalle 49

State Championship

Clarkston 81, Holland West Ottawa, 38



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Photo by Larry Wright/Wright Action Pix

Seniors secure 40th district title Leaders to the end

BY WENDI REARDON PRICE
Clarkston News Sports Writer

Fans at Clarkston High School erupted in cheers as head coach Dan Fife held up the district trophy, Friday night.

The Wolves defeated Oxford, 77-35, for their 40th district win.

"When we're shooting like that, it's an easy coaching job," said Fife, long-time head coach of the boys varsity basketball team. "Defensively we were pretty good, too. It was a good night for Clarkston Basketball."

The coaches played all 11 of their seniors, most of whom scored including Max Anderson who had five points with a basket and a crowd-pleasing field goal, and Tristen Mysen with a dunk in the last 25 seconds.

"It was great getting all those guys in and the thing is, it was the seniors' last night on this floor," Fife said. "They had extra incentive. It was nice to see all the seniors play and most of them scored."

Seniors Taylor Currie, CJ Robinson, and Chase Wasilk were on fire from the start, scoring six points within the first 90 seconds, to Oxford's two points.

After Oxford's Nolan Harding scored on a field goal with 3:51 left in the first stanza, Currie scored two points and both Robinson and senior Foster Loyer hit a pair of 3-pointers to push their lead to 20-8.

Currie closed the quarter with four more points giving the Wolves a 12-point lead, 26-14.

Loyer opened the second quarter with a pair of field goals. Four more points came from Robinson and Mysen before Oxford scored two of their four points in the stanza with four minutes to go.

11 Week

The Wolves closed the first half with two more field goals from Loyer in the last 90 seconds for a quarter total of six, putting the score at 48-18. Loyer led with 33 points with nine 3-pointers for the night.

"I think his leg felt better," Fife said. "He was a bit more comfortable."

Currie and Robinson both had 12 points each.

"CJ and Foster are very good shooters," Fife added. "If we can get them good looks then they are going to make most of them when they are shooting that well."

The Wolves opened the playoffs with a 62-50 win over Lake Orion in the district semifinals, March 7.

Clarkston opened with the first five points with baskets from Currie and Wells plus a free throw shot from Robinson. It took the



Senior CJ Robinson fights through Lake Orion's Nathan Talbot in the district semifinals, March 7. Photo by Larry Wright

Dragons less than a minute to catch up as they hit the net with a basket and field goal. Wells brought the Wolves back into the lead but Lake Orion came back with seven more points. The first quarter closed with Orion in the lead, 14-9.

Loyer opened the second stanza with two baskets to close the gap by one point. Robinson broke the tie after catching Lake Orion's pass and heading down the court to score his own basket. The Dragons tied the score with one point from Jack Cummins. It would be the last time. As Loyer, Robinson, Currie and Wasilk combined for 13 points before closing the first half with a 28-19 lead.

Robinson led with 21 points, three assists, five rebounds and two steals. He scored off three 3-pointers. Loyer had 16 points, six of which came from two field goals. He also had six assists and four rebounds as Currie had 15 points, 12 rebounds and four blocks. Wells had eight points and seven rebounds.

During the night, Loyer also became the second player in state history to make 600 free throws in a career with his total of 602.

Clarkston (21-1) played Troy in the regional semifinals on Monday, which was played after press time. The winner moves on to the regional finals on Wednesday at West Bloomfield.

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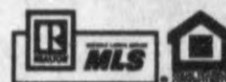
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Clarkston stops Eaglets' flight, moves up in brackets

BY WENDI REARDON PRICE

Clarkston News Sports Writer

Clarkston's cagers jumped to a quick start on their way to their 13th MHSAA Class A Boys Basketball Regional Championship last Thursday against Orchard Lake St. Mary's, 58-35.

"It's important for us to come out and make that first initial effort - that first punch," said senior Foster Loyer, who was named winner of the Hal Schram Mr. Basketball award on Monday afternoon. He added it was doing a lot of the little things Dan Fife, head coach, teaches them every day.

"Tonight we came out, threw that first punch and led from the get-go."

"They have been here before," added Fife. "They have been in these circumstances so they come out knowing they have to win. It starts with effort mentally and physically."

The Eaglets opened with the first opportunity to shoot and Lorne Bowman's

attempt missed.

Loyer connected a pass to senior Nick Wells, who scored to put Clarkston on the board and starting a 14-3 run with contributions coming from seniors CJ Robinson, Chase Wasilk, Taylor Currie and Loyer.

Robinson closed the first stanza with a three-pointer, his first of three for the night, which also put him as the 11th player in Clarkston Basketball history to make 100 career field goals. His total is 102 as he holds onto tenth place.

Loyer opened the second quarter with a 3-pointer and another two points from Currie put the Wolves lead to 22-5 before Eaglets' Bowman hit a 3-pointer.

The Wolves scored 16 more points to close the first half, 38-19. They held St. Mary's to 11 points in the third stanza to hold onto a 49-30 lead going into the final quarter.

"We know we have the bullseye on our back all the time," said Fife. "I have told our kids don't be nervous about scoring, be nervous about guarding. With that approach, they don't put a lot of pressure on themselves having to score. It's not so

much pressure to shoot. The shots they shoot, I am fine with them because I watch them shoot every day and how hard they work. Everybody knows where their shot is coming from."

Despite the defense pressure from Chizi Nwaopara, Loyer led with 24 points, six assists, seven rebounds and three steals.

"It's what all the great ones do," Fife said. "They don't let anyone take them out of the game - mentally and physically. He knows he is going to get that. Every game he plays, he has a huge bullseye. I have talked to him, not a lot but sometimes, about keeping his composure. He is a great competitor."

Robinson had 13 points, four steals, five rebounds, four assists; Currie had ten points, 12 rebounds, five blocks; and Wasilk had seven points, five rebounds, three steals and two blocks.

Bowman led St. Mary's with 18 points. The Wolves opened the regional tournament with a 71-46 win over Troy on March 12. Loyer led the team with 23 points, eight assists and seven rebounds. Robinson had 22 points, six assists, five rebounds and four steals; Currie had 16 points, 17

rebounds and four blocks; Wells had four points and ten rebounds; and Wasilk had four points, six rebounds and three assists. Clarkston (23-1) headed to their third quarterfinal in four years against Carman Ainsworth on Tuesday, which was played after *CNews* went to print.

"It's something we have been through. We go in each and every year - that's our expected outcome," said Loyer. "It's not a surprise with all the hard work we put in each and every day at practice, each and every day in the off season is what has gotten us here. We keep standing together and keep playing as a team and a family and we will be okay."

"I am proud of the way we played and represented our program," Fife added. "All the young kids can see how hard they play. It helps us in the idea we have had this bullseye, it's been growing here, for three to four years, and our kids have been playing with a lot of pressure."

The winner moves on to the state semifinals on Friday, for an opportunity to play in the state championship on Saturday. Both games are in the Breslin Center at Michigan State University.

12
Week

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Quarterfinal and Semifinal victories

Quarterfinal round, March 20:

Clarkston 52, Carman Ainsworth 31

"To get three of these, I don't know if our kids understand how tough this really is," Fife said, about winning the third quarterfinal playoff game in a decade. "To be honest with you, we have been playing with a bullseye on our back all year so everyone we play we have talked about if you get lax or let up then you will get beat. Carman Ainsworth is a good team."

He added defense was the strength during the win.

"Our offense was a little ugly, but we got it done," he said. "A lot of times when you struggle on offense, you don't guard. I thought we struggled on offense. Every basket was hard. We didn't get very many easy baskets."

The battle began with a close first quarter beginning with Cavalier Jamarreyon Houston scoring the first two points with Wells tying the score less than a minute later.

Currie added two points to the lead before Ja'Kavaien Lewis shot one point from the free throw line to narrow the gap.

The Wolves added 12 more points with five more points from Robinson, three from Wells and two from Currie and Loyer to close the quarter, 16-7.

Clarkston's defense kept the Cavaliers to five points in the second quarter before closing the first half, 27-12.

Loyer led with 19 points and had ten rebounds and six assists.

"He was struggling on shooting, but he still had confidence to shoot," said Fife. "He is such a competitor, he believes in himself. So many kids would miss shots and quit trying. Not Foster."

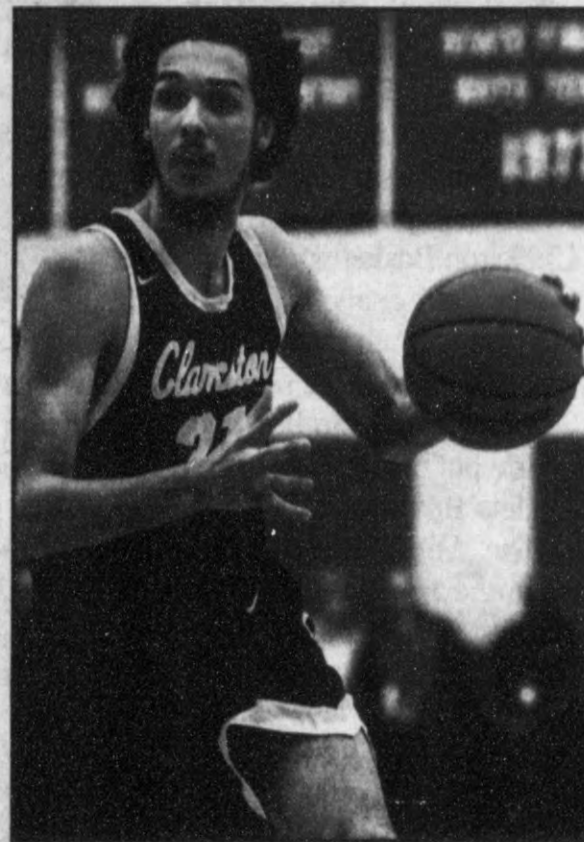
Robinson had 12 points, five rebounds, three assists; Currie had nine points, 11 rebounds, three blocks; and Wells had seven points, four rebounds and two steals.

The Wolves graduate 11 seniors who had a 97-6 overall record the last four years and led the team to two state championships.

"It's pretty impressive to me, I have been coaching my heart out," Fife said. "These kids have been fun to work with. I always say in my mind, you have to be happy with who you can lose with. These

kids, just the way they go about business when I'm not there. I don't have to be there. I don't have to tell them to get in the gym. These kids are extremely close

and have a great relationship on and off the floor. I believe it's going to carry on. These kids played with a bullseye for four years and continue to play like they have. It's a tremendous success story about who they were as kids and how they went about business."



Chase Wasilk heads to net against Carman Ainsworth in the quarterfinals. Photo by Larry Wright

Semifinal game, March 23:

Clarkston 74, Warren DeLaSalle 49

"It was a good win for our kids," Fife said. A couple did a good job at rebounding and getting loose balls - that's always important to us. I am happy with the win. Anytime you get to this level and win is good."

"Throughout the year we have seen pretty much every defense that could be thrown at us," Loyer said. "We work on each little thing. Honestly just to come with the mindset early in the game, we are going to attack and play hard. Tonight my teammates and myself came out and threw that first punch. We are going to make them adjust to us."

The Wolves jumped to the lead in the semifinal game against the Pilots with a

Continued on Page 22

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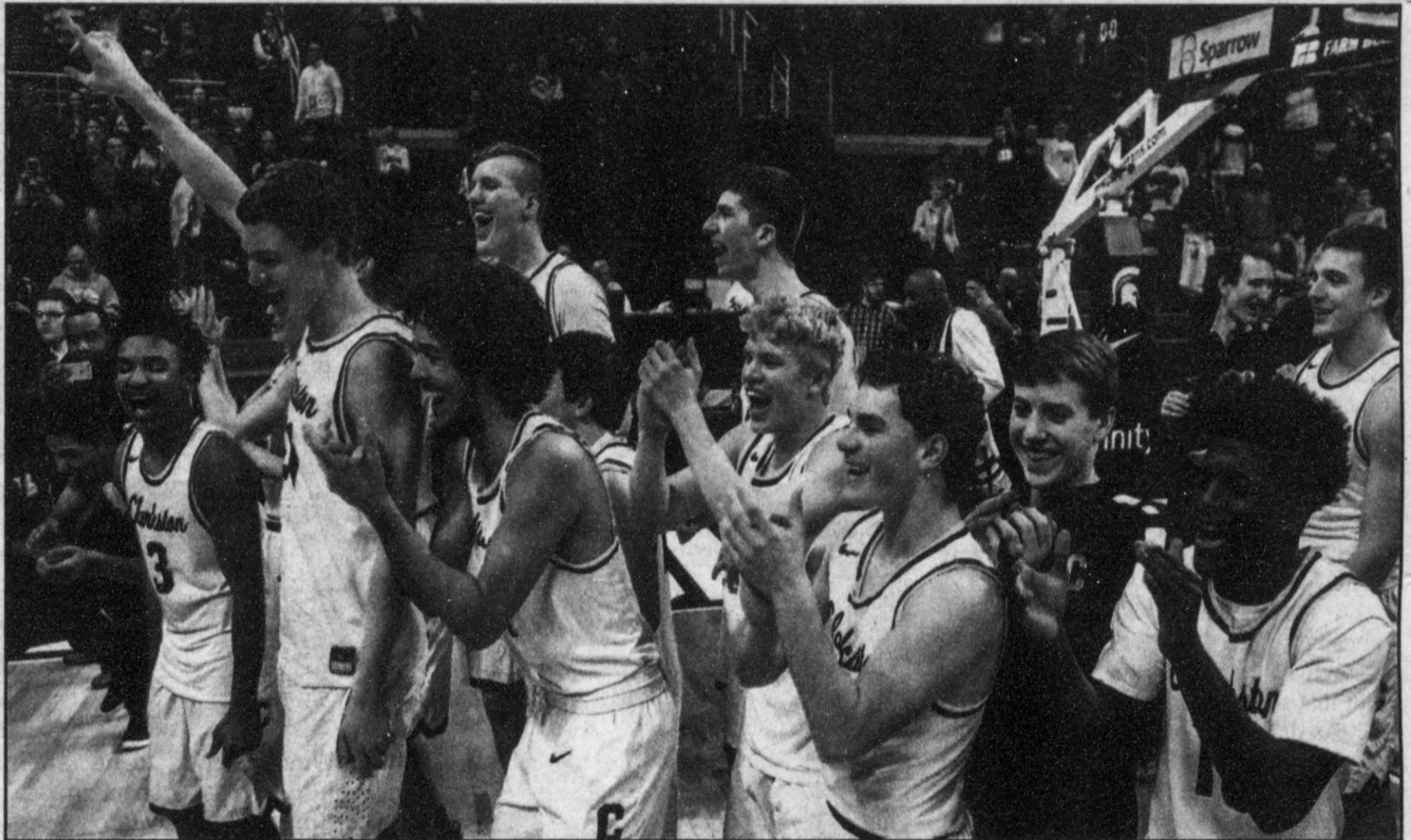
BY WENDI REARDON PRICE
Clarkston News Sports Writer

It was the ending all teams dream of – holding up the state championship trophy in victory. The Clarkston cagers dominated Michigan State University's Breslin Center to bring home a back-to-back MHSAA Class A Boys Basketball State Championship with a 81-38 win over Holland West Ottawa on Saturday.

"This one brought me to tears," said Dan Fife, long-time head coach for the Wolves. "Last night, I was up thinking about the kids and the pressure, this moment – what it could mean to our community and our kids. Clarkston is such a great community. If we would have lost this game, I would have felt like I let them down. It's such a special place. It's a great place to live. It's home."

The first championship was special to him because it was something he dreamed of when he played for Clarkston

Continued on Page 22



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Loyer's year to remember

Mr. Basketball

BY WENDI REARDON PRICE
Clarkston News Sports Writer

Head coach Dan Fife never doubted Foster Loyer was Mr. Basketball.

"What he has done for this program, what he has done, going about business. They don't come around like him very often," Fife said.

Loyer, who was awarded the 38th Hal Schram Mr. Basketball trophy on March 19, finished his high school career with 2,323 total points, taking over Dan's son Dane Fife's previous 2,287 record.

"It's an honor just to be recognized with the group of guys who have previously won it," Loyer said. "It's an honor to see all my hard work paying off."

At the beginning of his freshman year, already a starter for Clarkston Boys Varsity Basketball, the award wasn't his top priority. But that soon changed.

"As the season progressed, it definitely came to my mind as the ultimate goal," Loyer said. "About halfway through my freshman year I realized if I kept working hard, and I kept progressing the way I was, I would have a chance of winning it. Around that time the guys I had played against, guys I have played with, were seniors and they started winning it - that's when it became an ultimate dream of mine."

Loyer received the most votes from members of the Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan, earning 3,691 points to win Mr. Basketball.

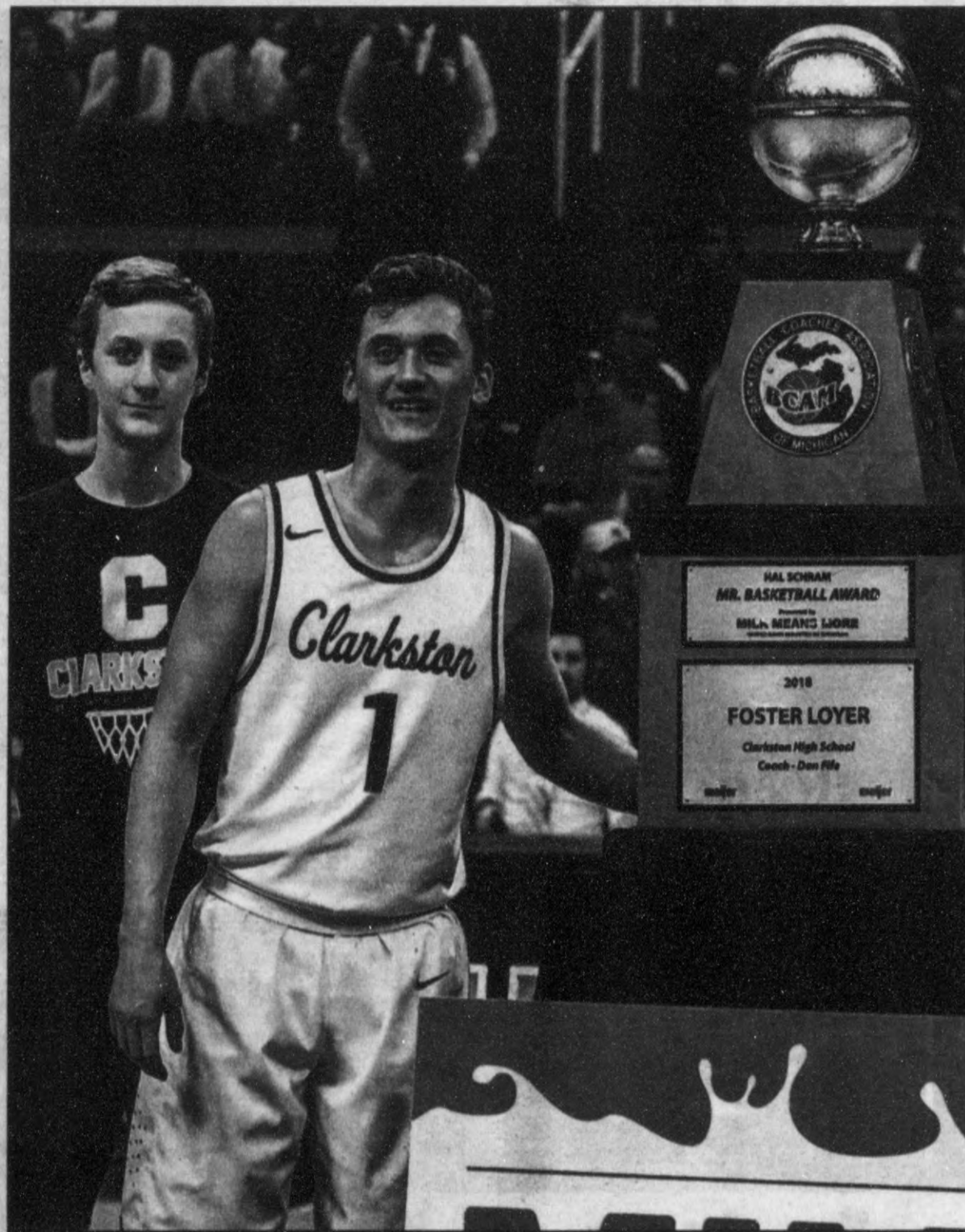
"From my parents, my family sacrificing the time they have. My dad putting in shots over the summer, over the weekend. It's huge for me," Loyer said. "The Clarkston program has done everything for me these past four years, from Coach Fife really trusting me and letting me run the show a little bit. Everyone who has been there for me these past four years, they have made me who I am today."

He added, without his teammates he wouldn't be where he is today.

"We had 10 seniors and they really accepted me as a freshman when I started the first game," Foster said. "It was huge, how much they helped me mature my freshman year. From there, each day I try to get better, them busting their butt to make me better every day in practice has made me perform the way I have in games."

After winning Mr. Basketball he led Clarkston to its second state championship, defeating Holland West Ottawa, 81-38.

"From there I have a lot of work to do this summer to get ready to play at MSU," Loyer said. "We are looking to repeat what they did in the Big Ten this year."



Foster Loyer, right, and his brother, Fletcher, take a moment between the first and second quarter of the championship game for a photo with the Hal Schram Mr. Basketball trophy. Photo by Larry Wright

Loyer and the 10 seniors left a legacy on Clarkston with a 97-6 record, four OAA Red League Championships, four district championships and three regional championships

Loyer left his mark on the Clarkston Basketball record with scoring 272 3-point field goals during his career, for first place.

Loyer put himself into the state history books as well. Adding 40 points to his total during the championship game over Holland West Ottawa, his 2,323 points puts him 11th in state history. He made 634 free throws to take first place, and his free throw percentage is 90 percent for 634 out of 704 attempts, for second place. He had 589 assists for sixth place and he made 272 three-pointers for seventh place.

"It's been surreal," he said. "It's not something I think about as we are playing. It

just happens. My teammates put me in the position to do it. My coaches put me in the position to do it. All the credit goes to them."

His advice to aspiring athletes, especially the young athletes who watch Clarkston Basketball, is anything is possible.

"I think the biggest thing is never let someone tell you, you can't do something because you are too small, you are too short," Loyer said. "Whatever the limitation they want to set for you is, don't let them kill your dream because with hard work and the time you put in, you will get a lot out of it. I think anything is possible and you should always work towards your dreams."

Loyer will be at the Breslin Center again wearing his Spartan uniform when the men's basketball season kicks off.

Loyer is the son of John and Katie and older brother to Fletcher and Jersey.

Forever No. 1

BY WENDI REARDON PRICE
Clarkston News Sports Writer

Senior cager Foster Loyer will always be No. 1, Clarkston Boys Basketball announced last Thursday via Twitter as his jersey, No. 1, was retired.

Michigan State University-bound Loyer finished his season named as the 38th Hal Schram Mr. Basketball on March 19, and aiding the boys through their success.

"What he has done for this program, what he has done about going about business. They don't come around like him very often," said Dan Fife, head coach.

"I just had to let him play," he smiled. "He came over the summer after his eighth grade year during open gym. It took two seconds to see what kind of player he is. I saw him play in eighth grade, now you see him with the older kids acting like he is one of them. I didn't have to coach him much. I just had to let him play."

He added Loyer is an all-around good person.

"He has strong character values," Fife said. "He is as good a kid off the floor as he is on the floor and the way he walks around school. The teachers marvel at how he is with kids in the classrooms. His mom says he is always helping with his brother and sister without her asking. I am so impressed with the person he is."

The Wolves finished the season as back-to-back state championships with Foster leading with a total of 84 points during the semi-final and final game at MSU's Breslin Center.

The points were just enough to put him in first place for the most points scored in the Clarkston Boys Basketball program with a total of 2,323 points, taking over his future assistant coach Dane Fife's previous 2,287 record.

"It's been surreal," he shared about breaking records. "It's not something I think about as we are playing. It just happens. My teammates put me in the position to do it. My coaches put me in the position to do it. All the credit goes to them."

Loyer also scored 272 3-point field goals during his career, for first place.

He put himself into the state history books as well. His 2,323 points puts him 11th in state history. He made 634 free throws to take first place, and his free throw percentage is 90 percent for 634 out of 704 attempts, for second place. He had 589 assists for sixth place and he made 272 three-pointers for seventh place.

Previously only five Wolf numbers were retired, Dan Fife, No. 33; Dane Fife, No. 12; Dugan Fife, No. 11; Tim McCormick, No. 40; and Steve Seacatch, No. 22.

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A sit down with Coach

It's been a helluva' 12 months for one Mr. Dan Fife, 36-year head coach of Clarkston High School's basketball program. Fife, a Clarkston man from way back (CHS class of 1967), saw his last two teams win back-to-back state championships, and his coaching wins, top the 700 mark. There's been a lot of hoopla and a lot of press. This year has had a ton of "ups", a few "downs" and more distractions than any high school coach would ever want his team to endure.

But, endure the 2018 Clarkston Boys Basketball team did, ending regular play with 19-1 record, a Mr. Michigan Basketball award and their second straight Class A Boys Basketball Championship.

Coach Fife took a few minutes out of his busy day and talked with *The Clarkston News'* sports reporter Wendi Reardon Price about this season and the last 12 months. — DPR

BY WENDI REARDON PRICE

Clarkston News Staff Writer

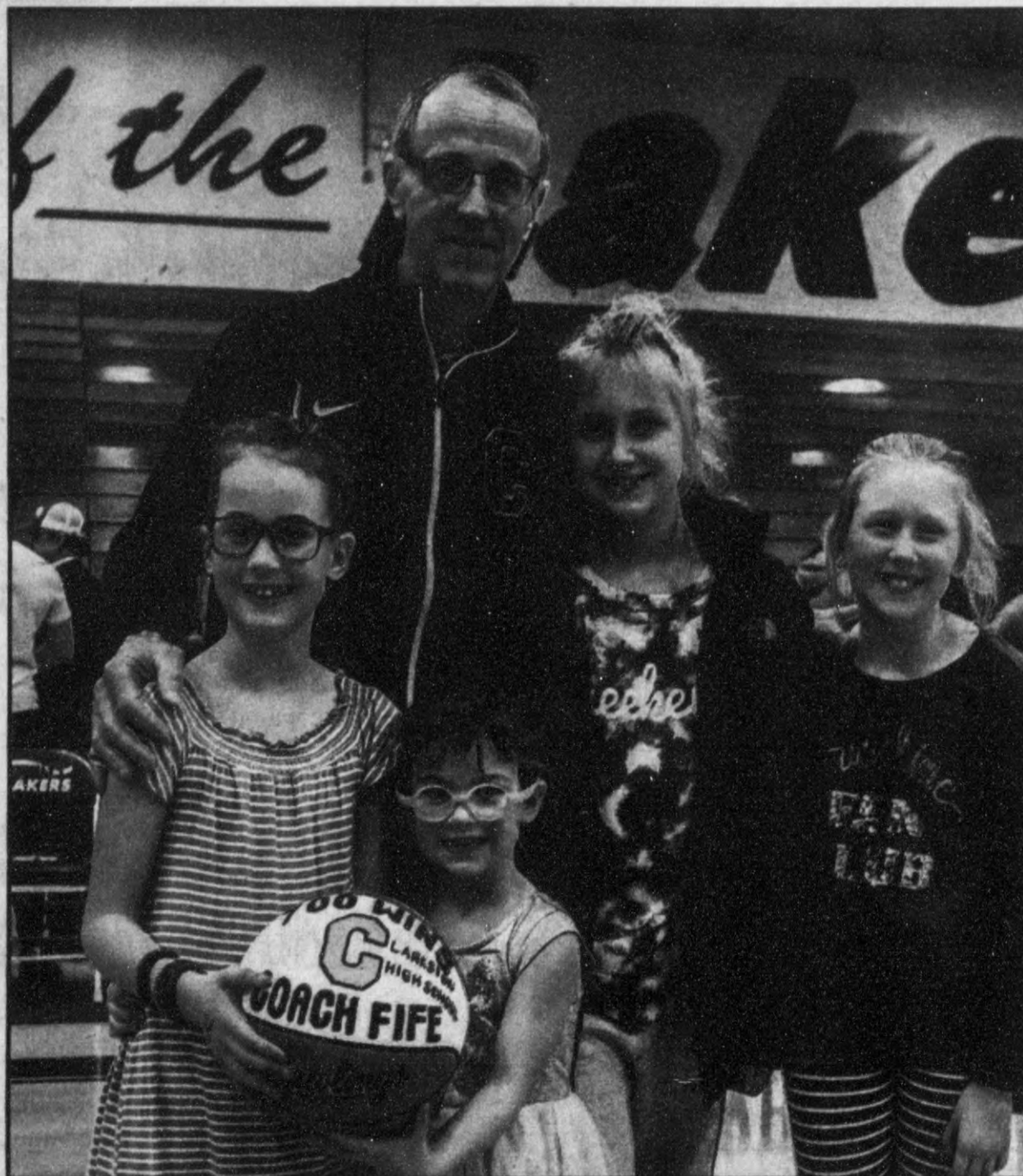
Congratulatory text messages continued to be sent to Clarkston Boys Varsity Head Coach Dan Fife days after the Wolves won back-to-back MHSAA Class A State Championships, dominating Holland West Ottawa, 81-38 on March 24.

He laughed when he shared a conversation with Clarkston Varsity Football Head Coach Kurt Richardson, who has experience as a back-to-back championship coach (The football team won state titles in 2013 and 2014).

"I said 'Kurt, you didn't tell me the second one is harder than the first!'"

Fife said, while the first championship was a "dream come true," the second was a "journey."

"It was just a journey because I don't think it's near as easy. The fact Clarkston



Coach Dan Fife and his granddaughters, Quinley and Raegan Fife, hold a "700" basketball presented to the coach after the regional win over St. Mary's. The design and painting is by Clarkston High School senior Christine Wakefield. Photo by Larry Wright

plays with a huge bullseye on its back means we get everybody's best shot," Fife said. "Whether it's the first or third game of the season — everyone wants to play and beat Clarkston."

"This team survived all of it. Sometimes it's not always clean how the other team's approached us. Our kids learned to play with discipline and understand what was coming. In a lot of ways it made them better, it made them grow in different ways."

"When some kid is trying to do something dirty on the floor you learn to not lose your composure."

Fife said making it to the Final Four is special because not only is all of Clarkston watching, but also many who lived here and have moved to other places in the state, or country.

"You feel like the whole town is there watching," Fife smiled. "Then, when you go into stores or walk down the street, somebody is congratulating you. It's truly, honest-to-God, a great community."

"They're supportive of their school

and what we are doing here in the school whether it's academics, athletics, CMSTech program, performing arts, cheerleaders, dance team — all our programs. I don't doubt the new programs, at some point, will get to the same point as the rest of us. It took me a long time. Coaches work together about our beliefs and how we go about stuff. I think sooner or later those teams will break through."

And, Clarkston has been the same since his days as a standout student athlete 50 years ago (1964-67), he said, reminiscing.

"Clarkston hasn't lost that," Fife said. "The community was a lot smaller then. But the fact they were so supportive of athletics was pretty special. To be honest with you, it was more than your mom and your dad and your teammates' families. It was outside that — wherever you went someone in town knew you. The whole town knew you."

It was the same way 12 months ago, when the 2017 team brought home the

program's first state title.

"From the moment we won the championship last year, every one kept saying Number Two is next year. For some reason it seemed to bother me. I was more nervous this year than last year."

Fife said the 2018 team — many who were on the 2017 squad — just played through the nervousness.

"You just get nervous about it," he said, adding Mr. Michigan Basketball Foster Loyer's knee injury in the second to last game of the regular season against West Bloomfield and CJ Robinson hurting his leg weighed heavy on his mind. "In our history something strange always pops up. There are a lot of reasons why we have lost some games. Things happen. In those games we weren't able to overcome."

Fife said the 2018 squad never let distractions get to them or anything outside practices or games influence their mental acuity.

"It's just who they are," he said. "We had so many kids back from last year, we had nine returning seniors who came back and stuck with it. They knew the process. They knew the expectations — which, oddly makes me nervous sometimes because sometimes the expectations are hard to fill. Our kids understood them and went about business with them. When our kids break huddle it's 1-2-3-family. In my mind, that's who we are, that's who we become. Our kids become a family. The outside influences don't change their thoughts about their teammates and the way we play."

Something which could have been a distraction included the Michigan High School Athletic Association ruling new Wolf Thomas Kithier ineligible to play his entire senior season after transferring from Macomb Dakato last summer. Kithier and his family fought the decision in court which was denied.

"He would come to practice and practice with our kids," Fife said. "To have someone that big guard our kids (Kithier is a 6-foot-eight, 225 power-forward), against our big kids honestly helped us. Our kids accepted him. It didn't turn out to be a negative in our program."

Surprisingly, what made this season special to Fife wasn't necessarily just the outcome. It was the team's approach to the game and practice.

"If they had a day off they wanted to make sure they made it into the gym to shoot," he said. "They didn't want to

Continued on Page 22

Congratulations Wolves!

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Kithier,

continued from Page 2

"I think the judge felt bad for the situation," said Steve Fishman, Kithier's attorney. "I think if it were up to her, she would change things but it's not up to her. Really the villain of this is the MHSAA that didn't give a hoot about Thomas Kithier and made a ruling to prove they can do it."

Johnson added the most important thing to happen was the judge denied motion for preliminary injunction.

"All we were asking her to do is basically pretend this is the end of the case which you all know will take a year to two years," Johnson said. "She said with all the case law out there the way it is, I can't do that. It's a really, really high standard. Obviously we are disappointed. The rest of the lawsuit continues."

Kithier filed a lawsuit against MHSAA, Chippewa Valley School District and individuals who claimed his move to Clarkston was not for academic reasons and it was athletically motivated.

Johnson and Fishman shared they would like the policy updated in the future.

Fishman shared Clarkston Athletic Director Jeff Kosin was in Lansing the same

day testifying for a bill to limit sanctions against students who transfer between school districts before the House Education Reform Committee.

State Rep. Jim Tedder, of Clarkston, was also there.

"Students move from one district to another every semester for a multitude of reasons. The former school district in conjunction with a private organization should not have the power to override an educational decision that parents made in the best interest of their child," Tedder said. "The enforcement of the 'transfer rule' as presently applied by the MHSAA is, at best, arbitrary, subjective and with complete disregard for what is in the best interest of a student's success."

The key provision of the bill specifically disallows a school district from prohibiting student participation in interscholastic athletics because he or she transferred from one district to another.

"As a parent, former teacher and coach, I recognize athletic participation is an integral part of a child's educational experience," said Tedder. "Clearly, this matter places the selfish interests of adults over the best interest of students; in my three years as a legislator few things have incensed me more."

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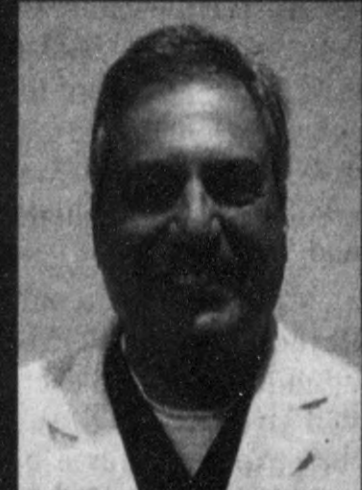
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Coach Fife reflects on the season, future

Continued from Page 20

take a full day off. They wanted to get into the gym and practice. I don't know if they loved to practice, but they certainly looked like they loved to practice!"

With a roster of 15, the Wolves this June will graduate 11 seniors, who over the last four years, recorded a 97-6 overall record and the two state titles.

"Oh wow, what a legacy these kids coming back next season have to live up to," Fife said. "The expectations are pretty high now. The expectation of our program now is win the league, win the districts, and have a good chance to win states regardless of who we have coming back."

He looks forward to having freshman Garret Dellinger, sophomore Matthew Nicholson, juniors Joshua Luther and Jakob Jensen expected to return next season as well as eight players from the JV team brought up this post season.

"The JV'ers worked with our players

the last part of the season just to give them experience and give them an idea what the expectations are, the thought process, how you go about going into the state tournament of play," Fife said. "I think that's beneficial. It doesn't rule out the younger kids coming up. I always say to our kids, 'individuals are made out of season, teammates are made during the season.'

"What they do in the off season is what they do on their own. I know when we've got somebody special because I can always tell who has and who hasn't worked in the off season."

Fife said players usually get together and work hard during the summer. It's not casual shooting, either.

"They shoot with effort and focus on what they need to," he said. "They don't shoot sloppy. They shoot like game conditions. They do their workouts with weights. They are focused on it. Once it gets in your blood, you love that feeling."

Fife said in sports you learn to work hard and to be humble.

"Athletics have a strange way of humbling you," he said. "About the time you think you are Superman, the game will bring you down to your knees, so you have to be careful and try not to get too full of yourself or get comfortable with thinking you know who you are."

"You have to continue to work in a positive manner, approach the game, be receptive to your strengths and your weaknesses and work on them. One of the biggest things college coaches ask me is one, 'does he work hard?' The second, 'can he be coached?' From the most part I have never had a player leave here where the coach didn't call and complement our kids on how hard they played and how hard they worked."

With 703 wins and two championships under his belt, Fife does see himself retiring... one day, but has no plans for the near future.

"What the two championships represent right now is I can look in the mirror in the morning and not be nervous," he smiled.

Twice as Nice!

Total dominance by Clarkston in title match

Continued from Page 17

and during his first 35 years coaching. But the championship in his 36th year coaching was more special.

"Having to go through a year from when we left this building, everyone starting talking about back-to-back," Fife said. "I know how hard that is because it took us so long to get the first one and if these kids can live up to the challenge. I can't say enough about these kids. You know it's in their hearts, once it's in your heart, you can't take it out."

He added they worked with each other and encouraged each other - they played together as a team.

"Along with our coaches Eric Chambers and Tim Wasilk, it's just a great group to be around," Fife said. "It's been a great team. It's been a tremendous honor for me."

Fife added the win was an outstanding performance for the players defensively and rebounding.

"The difference was we were able to come out from the start to get a lead and

set how the game was going to be played," he added. "We did a great job on defense. We talked about it last night watching film with the kids and they played about as well as they can play."

"To be honest, playing in this atmosphere on this stage, I think it definitely helped being here this year. There were no nerves. Our team came in, we weren't bright-eyed, we weren't scared playing under the lights," said senior guard Foster Loyer, who scored 40 points on their opponents. "Being here helped and coming into the game with the mindset to attack, working on my shots, so I was happy to be shooting that way."

He added he couldn't ask for a better finish to his high school career.

"To be able to make two state championships with my teammates, I don't think we could ask for a better end," he smiled, sitting next to senior starters Taylor Currie, CJ Robinson, Chase Wasilk and Nick Wells.

Semifinal, continued from Page 16

12-3 run with eight points from Loyer.

He went on to hit two more field goals in a span of a minute and another at the buzzer as the first quarter ended, 23-13.

"When he gets like that, we try to key in on getting him the ball, and he knocks it down for us," Robinson said. "Ultimately, it fares well for others. He does a good job of getting everyone in and supporting us."

Currie opened the second quarter with two points with DeLaSalle's Kole Gjonaj matching it with a 3-pointer.

Senior Hank Schemmel scored the next two points off Currie's rebound before Gjonaj scored two more.

Loyer led with 42 points, with four rebounds and three assists. He scored off seven field goals.

"I don't think in 31 years as a varsity coach anyone has remotely scored that many points," said Greg Esler, head coach for DeLaSalle. "The thing about Loyer is he is so good and so deceiving. He might not be the fastest but all the sudden he shoots a 25-footer, getting it to the rim. Everything we geared

towards was stopping him."

Currie had 16 points with 12 rebounds. Robinson had nine points with three steals and five assists.

"Foster and CJ are as good as guards as there are in the state," Fife said. "It's very hard to guard both of them. These guys can handle the pressure and different defense lines. These two guys have seen a lot of what other people are doing. It worked out well. Looking at the score, it didn't seem in my mind it was that big of a differential."

Wells had four points with six rebounds and three steals.

"Often Nick is matched up with a bigger wing," Loyer said. "For him to come out there and give us 100 percent every night, the rebounds he gets. Our whole team has gelled as a team. We know our roles and I think every guy on our team comes in each game, each practice and fulfills their role."

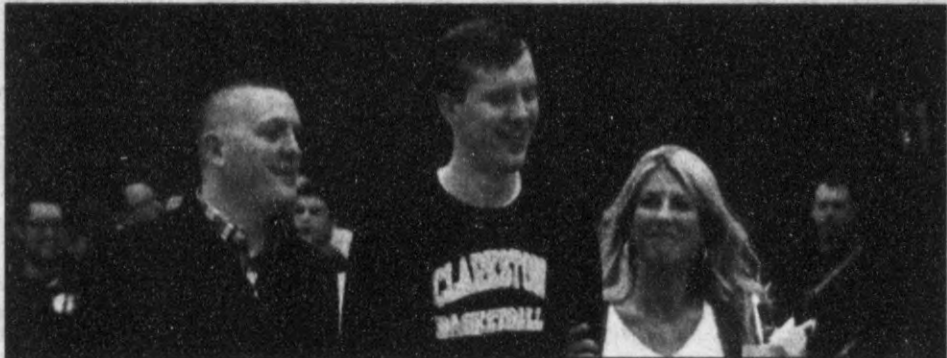
"Close to 180 teams start in Class A and we came down to Final Four," said Esler. "It certainly was one of our goals with nine seniors."



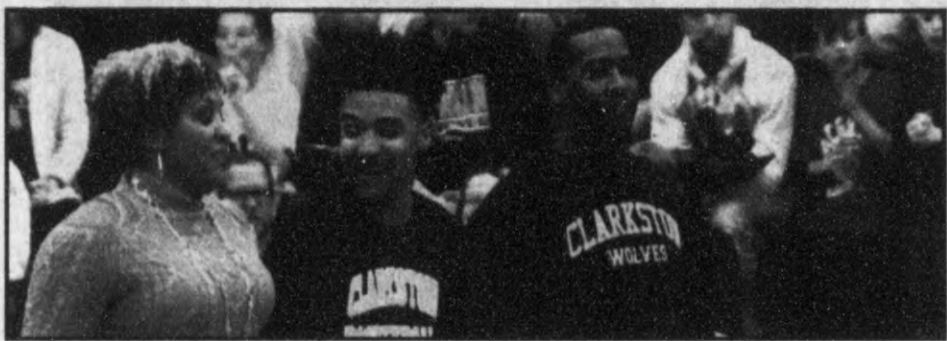
Max Anderson with his family.



Nick Wells with his family.



Taylor Currie and his parents.



CJ Robinson with his parents

Senior finals

The Clarkston Varsity Basketball team celebrated their 11 seniors during the last home game versus Hazel Park, March 1.

Congratulations Wolves - Max Anderson, Taylor Currie, Tieler Houston, Thomas Kithier, Foster Loyer, Demond Mills-Bradly, Tristen Mysen, CJ Robinson, Hank Schemmel, Chase Wasilk and Nick Wells. Good luck!

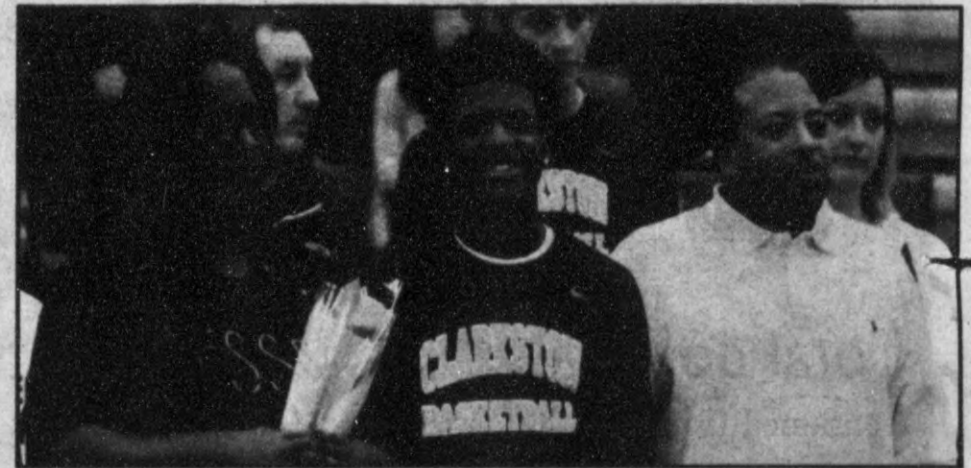
Photos by Wendi Reardon Price



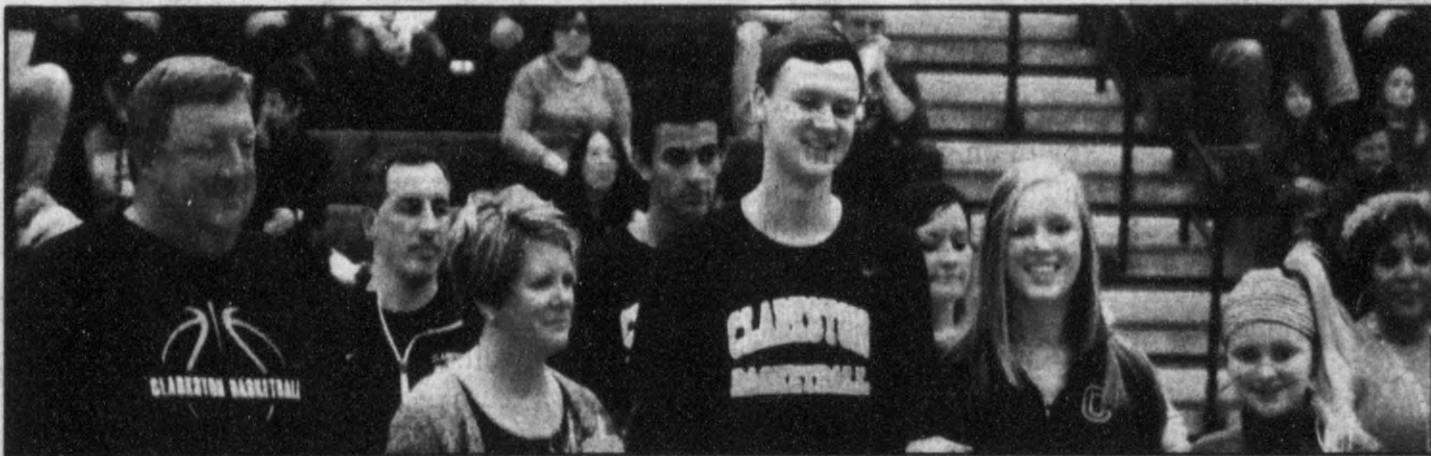
Tristen Mysen with his family.



Chase Wasilk with his family.



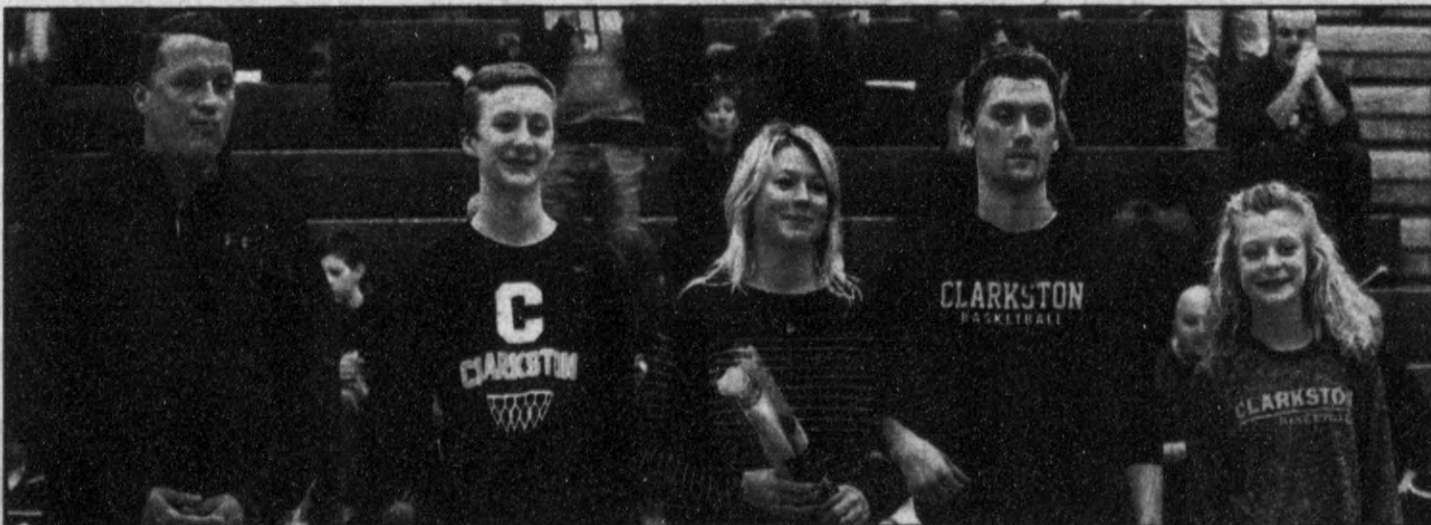
Demond Mills-Bradley and his parents.



Hank Schemmel and his family.



Tieler Houston with his family.



Foster Loyer with his family. Photo by Larry Wright



Thomas Kithier with his parents.

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for making this an exciting year on
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