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Maple Valley celebrates homecoming week

Last week the students at Maple Valley High School took part in a variety of activities to celebrate homecoming week, which culminated with the big game on Friday night when the Lion's took on Webberville.

During the week students participated in a variety of lunch-time activities to earn points for their class, such as half court shot, bat spin 'n' throw and more.

During the pep assembly students pumped up their spirit with the school fight song, an introduction of the

homecoming court, games and more.

There were dress-up days such as patriotic day, plaid day, university day and class color day. On Thursday, each class dressed up to represent a different decade. The seniors got in the groove for the '60s and '70s, the juniors sported a variety from the '80s, the sophomores donned a sophisticated '40s look while pony-tails, poodle skirts, bobby socks and leather jackets were derigueur for the freshman class dressed in the

fashions of the '50s.

The Powder Puff football game on Wednesday night raised \$1,900 for Norma Jean Acker's leadership classes.

"We really had a great showing," said Acker. "The money we raised will be used to sponsor a variety of activities in the school and community throughout the school year."

Dave and Becky Anderson were the grand marshals of Friday night's Homecoming Parade which featured members of the homecoming court, the high school athletic teams and more. Each class had a float representing a different decade.

On Saturday, the homecoming dance, sponsored by the leadership classes, was held at the high school.



The class of 2003 won this year's Powder Puff game. Here the winning team poses for a photo. (photo by Cindy Gatewood)



Sophomores Jasmine Miller and Tara Gordenski model '40s style fashions.

Nashville council discusses hunting rules, teen activities

by Sandra Ponsetto
 Staff Writer

There wasn't much action, at last week's regular meeting of the Nashville Village Council, but there was a lot of discussion.

Issues discussed ranged from ordinance enforcement, the use of firearms within village limits to new playground equipment for Putnam Park and options for providing recreational activities for local teens.

The council heard a report from Nashville Police Officer Bill Gutchke regarding his efforts to enforce the village's blight or junk ordinances.

Gutchke suggested the

village may be better able to encourage people to clean up properties that are in violation of local ordinances if there was a day once or twice a year that the dump was open to the public free of charge.

"There are some people that leave stuff lying around. It's either that they don't have the time or don't have the money," said Gutchke. "Tires cost like \$2 to drop them off at the dump. I had a guy who had a whole bunch of them. It would cost him quite a bit of money to get rid of them all. He's getting rid of them little by little."

Council member Ralph Kirk noted the village already offers free dump days.

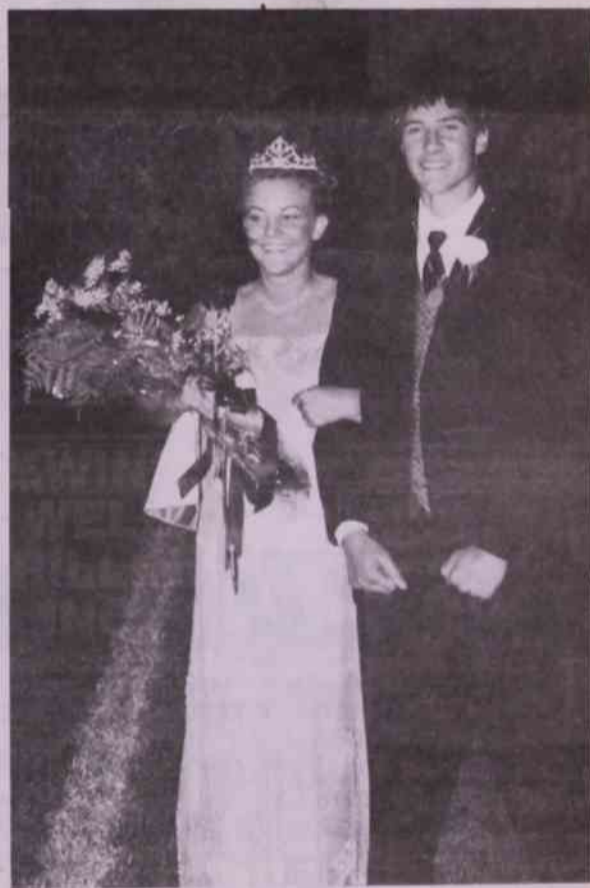
"I think we've done that the last two or three years, offered a free dump day," he said.

Other council members expressed their surprise, saying that they did not know about the free dump days either.

Gutchke suggested the village could advertise the free dump days in the Maple Valley News and put fliers up around town at local businesses to let people know when they can dump free of charge.

"If you advertise it good enough, and I go there and say, 'you have 20 tires sit-

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Queen Krystal Root (left) and King Owen Blakely reigned over the Maple Valley High School Homecoming festivities this past weekend.



Junior Donna Cripe runs for a several yard game during the Powder Puff football game last Wednesday. (photo by Cindy Gatewood)

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ting here,' and they say, 'Well, I know, but I haven't had time or I don't have the money,' I can say, 'At such and such a date, they had two days when you could have been down there that were advertised in the paper and at local businesses,'" said Gutchke. "Then it would look better when I go down there and enforce the ordinance.

"If you want to clean up the village, you don't want the cars laying around, you don't want the garbage in

people's yards, it would help if there was more advertising (of free dump days)," he added.

Council member Steve Wheeler looked at a copy of Gutchke's report and asked about the ones that were given extensions.

"The extensions are when they are removing it (debris). They have gotten to the point where they have so much stuff that they can't get rid of it in a few days," responded Gutchke. "As long as they are improving,

I'm not going to write them a citation."

The council also questioned Gutchke about how and when the police department enforces ordinance violations.

"I'm getting the feeling that we're assigning a person one day to do nothing but these ordinances," said Kirk. "And that kind of relieves them (other police officers) of doing any ordinance work during the rest of the week. I would think that if we see it, we respond to it."

Gutchke responded that on his routine patrols, he will often respond to two or three ordinance violations. But, one day a week is his agenda to follow up on the violations.

Nashville Police Sergeant Jeff Miller, who attended the meeting, explained that Gutchke normally works the night shift. With decreasing daylight during the evening

hours, they found it necessary to have him come in during the day, once a week, to follow up on ordinance violations.

"We want to make contact with these people at a reasonable hour," said Miller.

Kirk expressed concern that all ordinance violations were not being addressed.

"We are actively and aggressively going out and seeking out those people (who are in violation) and doing it in such a way that we don't agitate public opinion as to how we do it," said Miller.

Under the new business section of the agenda, council member Ed Sheldon presented for discussion a proposed ordinance restricting hunting within the village limits.

The ordinance proposed by Sheldon would make it unlawful for anyone to hunt within 500 yards of any home, building or public road. It did not address the discharge of firearms within the village limits for other purposes such as target practice.

Sheldon said he wanted the council to discuss the proposal before they put it on the agenda for a public hearing at the council's regular meeting Oct. 10.

Kirk questioned the section, stating that it would be unlawful to discharge a firearm within the village limits.

"If you have a critter tearing up your buildings, or threatening animals you have outside, your dog or cat, you're telling me that you can't pick up a gun and kill that critter and get rid of it?" he asked.

Sheldon responded that currently if a person wants to discharge a firearm within the village limit to get rid of a nuisance animal, a permit is required.

Ron Ohler, a resident of Nashville asked how long the ordinance banning the

discharge of firearms within the city limits had been on the books.

"When Gene Koetje (a former Nashville police chief) was still my neighbor, he told me specifically that I could discharge a firearm within the village limits as long as the projectile did not traverse any street or alleyway.

"We've got 14 acres inside the village; now we hunt that property," said Ohler. "I'm a federal firearms dealer. I take customers out there and we test fire firearms."

Further discussion and examination of the firearms ordinance revealed that the current village firearms ordinance does forbid the discharge of firearms in any street, alley, park or any public area of the village. It does not address the discharge of firearms on private property.

"It just isn't right because there are too many people that hunt now. There are too many kids," said council member Mary Coll. "The kids that live down Brumm (Road) can't ride their bikes because people are hunting. There are school buses going by. If they want to hunt, get out of town. I just don't feel they ought to be hunting where there are children. They can hunt, but kids can't skateboard down the sidewalk."

Kirk said he didn't agree with the two items in the proposed ordinance.

"Number one, I think 500

yards is too great a distance. And, number two, I disagree with saying you can't fire a firearm within your own property, if it doesn't leave your property," he said.

Sheldon responded, "Okay, you have this ordinance that says you can shoot your gun on your property if it doesn't leave your property. Say, accidentally, you shoot this weapon, and it leaves your property and it kills somebody, how do you feel about that?"

"You're not thinking about the wide picture."

Council President Frank Dunham reminded the council that they were just discussing the possibility of adopting the ordinance, they were not in the process of debating it for adoption.

Wheeler said he felt the council should take more time to review the proposed ordinance, that it wasn't a final proposal, but Sheldon had a good start on it.

Dunham noted that it would be possible for someone outside the village limits to discharge a firearm within 500 yards of a building or public property that is within the village.

"That's outside the village limits we can't do anything about that," said Sheldon.

Council member Carroll Wolff said, "Before we develop any ordinance or anything, it should be checked into how far our authority goes in regulating what a person can do on their own

Continued next page

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property." Dunham said that current state ordinances prohibit hunting within 150 yards of an occupied dwelling.

"That would be more than adequate, I think, if the state guidelines were followed and enforced," he added.

After further discussion, the matter was tabled.

During the council's informal round table discussion, members brainstormed about what could be done to provide activities for local teens who hang-out downtown in the evenings and sometimes get into trouble.

"I've been talking to a lot of the teens in town, and unfortunately there is nothing for them to do," said Coll. "A lot of these kids have nothing to do in this town so they are going to get into mischief."

"I would like to see something done for these kids - a place where they could go," she added. "These kids aren't bad. They don't have a

place to go. So, what are they supposed to do?"

Council members asked why the teens weren't using the basketball court in the park.

"When they go up there, they get the police called on them. I know for a fact that they do," replied Coll. "So, they started going to the Kellogg School and hanging out. Unfortunately, that didn't work out because if they were just a little too loud, they got in trouble again."

"They just need to be off the streets," she continued. "The only place that helps them is Jerry down at the bar. He let's them go in there and shoot pool, but they can only go up to a certain time. That's pretty bad when the only place the kids have to go is a bar."

Coll said that although a church youth group meets downtown on Wednesday nights, and the teens would be welcome to attend, they simply don't feel like they

would fit in.

"We need activities here in Nashville, and we need it bad," said Coll.

The council discussed a variety of ideas, including lighting the basketball courts later in the evening and being more tolerant of the extra noise and activity that it would bring.

"It doesn't hurt to think about ideas," said Wheeler. "When we think about objections, we need to think about what we can do to abate the noise. Is there a better place we can put it? Can we plant trees to block the noise?"

Sheldon said that he attended a parks and recreation meeting in Battle Creek last year, and they said that one of the biggest things going right now for kids and adults is skate parks.

"There's lots of stuff to do and they are not that expensive," said Sheldon. "It gives something for just about everybody in the com-

munity to do. It's not just skateboarding. They got stuff for roller-skates, skateboards, bikes. They also have picnic areas included so the whole family can come and let the kids go and have fun."

"I think it would be a very good idea for the future of this town," he concluded.

"I'd like to see the basketball court lit up. I'd like to see one of these skate things put in and lit up," said Kirk.

The council discussed the possibility of getting the community involved in developing a park or recreation center for the village.

Local businessman Jeff Beebe, who attended the meeting, suggested that the village council could also call upon business owners to help with plans for improvements to parks.

"I'm about halfway to where I want to be on having a good idea of what it would cost to have a decent park in this town," said Sheldon.

Sheldon said he wants to have a park where people of all ages can go and have fun.

"That's the thing with people, they want to have something to do," he said.

"And the teenagers, that's what they want," said Coll.

"They want a place where they can go; hang out in their own clique and create a little noise - you know that's going to happen. A place where they are not going to get the police called on them."

In related discussion, Sheldon asked the council for feedback on the playground equipment he had proposed buying for Putnam Park. The equipment would be for infants to children seven years of age.

Sheldon said play equipment currently at the park is geared toward older children in the 8-12 year age group.

Kirk suggested trying to tie the new equipment in with additional improvements to the park, including a new skate park.

Other discussion included improving the appearance of

downtown, including banners, better lighting and more.

Beebe suggested a Downtown Development Authority like the one in Hastings, which allowed that town to install antique style lighting, brick pavers, planters and other streetscaping.

"I think we need to think in terms of what the strengths and weaknesses of the village are," said Wheeler. "And, I think one of our strengths is we do have people who are willing to volunteer their time."

"What I'd like to see is us try to foster community coalitions where you go out and you work with your civic organizations, your church groups, maybe your school board and try to get more people with ideas and a little more energy than the seven of us can generate on our own," he added.

"Maybe one night instead of a council meeting, we could have a town meeting and invite people from different groups to come and kick ideas around."

Next Red Cross blood drive will be Oct. 10

There will be a blood drive for the American Red Cross Thursday, Oct. 10, from 1 - 6:45 p.m. at Castleton Township Hall which is located at 915 Reed St. in Nashville.

Donors must be 17 years of age or older and should have ID.

"Our goal for this drive is 50 units," said Judy Hook the Nashville Red Cross chairwoman. "With the help of our regular and new donors, we should have no trouble meeting that goal. Nashville and the surrounding areas are very loyal in their donations."

Hook said that donors come from Battle Creek, Hastings, Charlotte and Woodland, as well as Nashville and Vermontville.

Hook said that the blood drives are so successful because of community in-

volvement.

"In the Nashville and Vermontville areas we have nine churches that donate refreshments; we're lucky to have their support," she said. "These churches also post the upcoming drives in their church bulletins as a reminder to all to attend."

It takes three men to set up and take down the units at each drive and at least 12 volunteers to work the stations, noted Hook.

"These drives are truly community affairs," she said. "We try very hard to make everyone feel welcome and comfortable, a lot of very sick people are relying on these donations; it's a matter of life and death. Give the gift of life, please!"



Judy Hook, the Nashville chairwoman for the Red Cross, and volunteer Ardie Baum present donor William Thompson with his one gallon pin during the August blood drive.

Important issues identified by Eaton County youth

An informal survey of middle school and high school youth was conducted by the Youth Advisory Committee of the Eaton Community Foundation in late spring of 2002. The survey targeted youth in grades 7-12 in the communities of Grand Ledge, Vermontville, Charlotte, Eaton Rapids, and Bellevue. One hundred and thirty four youth responded.

Youth were asked to identify what positive resources or activities were available to them in their communities. The resources they cited included neighborhood projects for youth, youth support groups, church involvement, after school jobs and youth volunteer activities.

When asked to prioritize youth needs in their commu-

nities the top five issues included: teen pregnancy, drug abuse, teen suicide, poor grades and peer pressure.

The survey was completed by 37 percent males and 63 females, 92 percent Caucasian and 8 percent minorities.

These results have helped the Youth Advisory Committee to set grant application selection criteria for Eaton County. Future grant applications that address one of the five Eaton County youth needs will be given higher funding priority.

Youth grant applications are now available by contacting Mona Ellard, (517) 543-2310 or (517) 372-5594. The grant deadline is Oct. 23, 2002.

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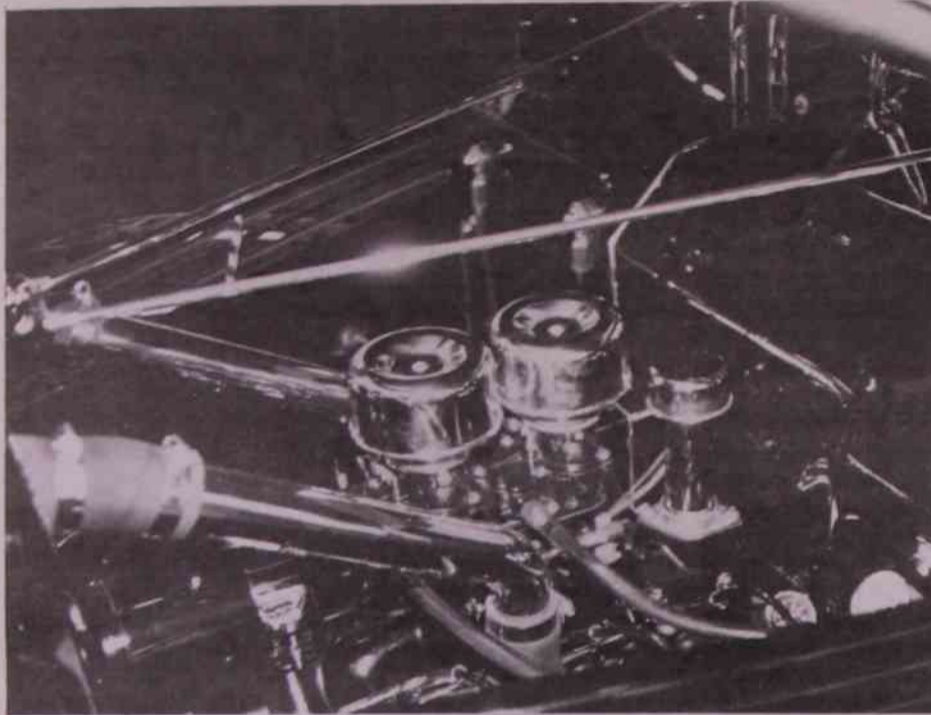
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Nashville man's 'Resto Rod' takes first in show



The flat-head V-8 engine of Ralph Rasey's '38 Ford gleams with chrome and paint.

by Sandra Ponsetto
Staff Writer

Ralph Rasey's '38 Ford two-door Standard took first place in the Resto Rod class at the 23rd Annual Street Rod Nationals North meet held in Kalamazoo last month.

The National Street Rod Association sponsored event attracted approximately 3,000 cars built in 1948 or earlier. There were several

different classes in which cars could be entered, reflecting the type and degree of customization.

Rasey estimates there were, "a couple hundred" cars in the Resto Rod class. Resto Rods, are cars that retain much of their original lines and appearance even though they have been customized.

Rasey, though obviously proud of his car, declines to

take sole credit for its prize-winning condition.

"I had a lot of help," he said modestly, gazing at its black, mirror-like finish.

"I bought it in the fall of '98 and it had already been painted. It needed engine work, a new interior and suspension work. I looked at it and thought maybe I could do something with it."

Rasey said he did a lot of the detail work, chose the color-scheme and fabric for the car's new interior, and decided what modifications would be made to the exterior and engine.

"But, a car like this is not something you do yourself," he said. "No one person does it all. Dave Groh of Yesteryear Ford in Mason did a lot of work; Stu's Auto Trim in Eaton Rapids did the interior work and Ron Smith from Mason did the paint."

Rasey also credits his girlfriend Anne Staup for all her help.

"We spend hours cleaning the car before a show," he said. "We spend a lot of time waxing it."

But, it's not all work for Rasey.

"The highlight is the way it drives. It really drives and handles nice," he said. "I



Ralph Rasey of Nashville poses with his 1938 Ford Standard which recently won first place in the "Resto Rod" class of a National Street Rod Association meet.

drive my car. I don't trailer it. I've put about 4,000 miles on the car since I've had it."

Rasey said the car's stock engine is a flat-head V-8.

"Having a stock engine is probably what helped me earn the Resto Rod Award," he said.

Although it is a stock engine, Rasey has made some modifications. Underneath the hood, everything gleams under a shiny coat of chrome or black or red paint.

His modifications under the hood haven't been merely cosmetic.

"It's probably got about 100 horses. When I got it, it probably had around 85 (horses)," said Rasey. "To increase the power, we bored out bigger pistons, put in a 3/4 camshaft, dual carbs, a Fenton header and dual exhaust."

Outside modifications have been minimal.

"The outside of the car is basically the way they built it," said Rasey. "I just put on fancy wheels, white wall tires, bumpers and mirrors."

For the interior of the car, Rasey chose a gray and black color scheme that compliments the car's original interior details.

The shiny black dashboard, gleaming with chrome accents, looks stock until Rasey pushes a button on a remote control. The glove box slowly flips open to reveal an AM/FM stereo receiver with CD player glowing with blue electric light.

Other modifications included adding safety features like seatbelts, hydraulic brakes, radial tires and more.

Rasey's car won the "Safety in Design" award at the Charlton Park Car Show earlier this year.

"I think that award also helped me win in Kalamazoo," he said.

Rasey said his love of cars started when he was about 13 years old and he drove for the first time.

"It was a Model A truck," he reminisced. "That's what I drove for the first time out here on my parents' farm. I drove that truck and I was hooked."

Rasey said he has always been interested in "fat-fendered cars" and has

wanted to own and restore an old car since high school.

"I had a '47 Ford when I was in high school. I had it about four or five years, but I couldn't do too much to it because I had a limited budget," he said with a smile. "But some of the tools I use on this car are the same ones I used in the '50s and '60s."

Rasey said that since he bought his car four years ago, he has had it driveable in the summer and in the shop for restoration and modifications every winter.

"I've attended shows for years, but this has been only the second year that I entered my car," he said.

While Rasey, a member of the Nashville Route 66 Car Show committee, said that winning awards is quite an honor especially from the National Street Rod Association, that's not what it's all about for him.

"There are hundreds of friends you meet at car shows. Everyone is willing to help out. They have leads, or they know someone that can help you with your car; it just goes on and on," he said. "A lot of different people have helped me, and that's what it's all about. The people I meet every year are more important than any award I ever got."

Maple Valley FFA Alumni meeting set for Oct. 14

The Maple Valley FFA Alumni will meet Monday, Oct. 14 at 7 p.m. in the Agriscience Room at Maple Valley High School.

On the agenda for the meeting are the FFA National Convention, fundraisers and the adoption of a constitution and bylaws.

The Maple Valley FFA Alumni is open to any person who is interested in

helping the Maple Valley FFA Chapter in their activities. Members do not have to be former FFA members. Parents and other community members are welcome to join.

If you have any questions contact Maple Valley FFA Advisor Aaron Saari at (517) 852-9971 or (517) 645-0364.

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Maplewood Elementary intern, full time social worker benefit program

by Sandra Ponsetto
Staff Writer

Having a full-time social worker to help with crisis intervention and to serve as a liaison between the school and the families of its students has been a boon to Maplewood Elementary this year.

"Having a full-time social workers means we can have instant contact with families when there is a need," said Maplewood Principal Fred Davenport. "A social worker plays the roll of Lausanne between the school and families.

This year Stephanie Hirschert Walton is the full-time social worker at Maplewood. Last year she split her time between Maplewood and Fuller Street Elementary.

"I was thrilled when they decided to hire me full time at Maplewood," said Hirschert Walton.

Hirschert Walton noted that before she had to serve 900 students in two schools in two different towns.

"It was pretty frustrating because I would spend 2 1/2

days at Fuller and 2 1/2 days at Maplewood; if there was a crisis it could get pretty chaotic."

Now if there is a crisis at Maplewood, Hirschert Walton is there to intervene on a moment's notice.

"When there are problems that may be caused by emotional or home issues, she knows about that, and we can have instant access to her, and we can address those issues before we progress," said Davenport.

In addition to crisis intervention, Hirschert Walton has a myriad of other duties that include: providing special education evaluations, making outside referrals as needed, psycho/social evaluations for "at risk" children, doing home visits, providing therapeutic interventions for individuals, groups and families (for problems such as abuse, trauma, loss, etc.).

Lauren Metiva, a social work intern from Michigan State University has been at Maplewood on Wednesdays and Thursdays observing, learning and assisting.

Hirschert Walton said that Metiva has assisted in crisis intervention already and will start running her own small groups soon.

This year, Hirschert Walton held group sessions for new fourth, fifth and sixth grade students.

"We met during lunch time and did short activities and talked about what it was like to be a new kid," she said. "For some it was just a benefit to meet other new kids."

Last year, because she was split between two schools Hirschert Walton wasn't able to run a group for new sixth grade students.

Hirschert Walton also leads PALs (Peer Assistant Leaders), the school's student leadership group which teaches students how to be leaders and peer mediators.

Home visits are also a large part of what Hirschert Walton does for Maplewood and she said that she does these visits for a variety of reasons.

"We do home visits to find out why a student may not be coming to school - are there health or emotional issues? Sometimes we want



Maplewood Elementary School social worker Stephanie Hirschert Walton and Michigan State University intern Lauren Metiva look over some papers in their office at the school.

to contact parents to do a re-evaluation; some parents work and it's hard for them to meet with us during the school day, some don't have phones. We try to look at other resources for families and find support systems for them," she said.

Part of Hirschert Walton's duties includes providing parent education.

"Right now, I'm trying to coordinate more parent education courses and bolster participation in our PTO," she said.

"If we can stem some of

the problems that afflict communities and homes such as violence and abuse, which can effect school performance, then there is only one way for school performance to go and that is up," said Davenport.

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Church adds 2nd service

Peace United Methodist Church, located between Hastings and Nashville, is adding an 11 a.m. worship service to its schedule, beginning Sunday, Oct. 13.

The church also will continue its 9:15 a.m. worship service every Sunday.

The 11 a.m. service will be held during the school year.

"We wanted to make it easy for parents of small children to be there," said Pastor Susan Trowbridge. The 11 a.m. service is the church's response to requests from some of the young mothers in the congregation, she said.

The church is located at 6043 M-79 Highway, about four miles west of M-66.

Chili cook-off set for Friday

The Maple Valley PTO will have a chili cook-off Friday, Oct. 4, at 6 p.m., just prior to the last home game of the Maple Valley Lions.

The cook-off will be held at the Fuller Street cafeteria.

Teams wishing to enter their favorite pot of chili can call Janice Dixon at 726-1145.

"Everyone is welcomed to stop by and taste the entries before heading out to the game," a spokesperson said.

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Fiddlers Philharmonic to play in Nashville

The Saline Fiddlers Philharmonic is coming to Nashville at 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 13, at the Nashville Baptist Church, 312 Phillips St.

The concert will be the

NEWEST CITIZEN

GIRL, Rachel Kaitlyn McClure was born to Mike and Cara (Spoelstra) McClure at Georgetown Healthcare System in Georgetown, Texas on Aug. 12, 2002 at 2:44 p.m. Rachel weighed 8 lbs. 14 ozs. and was 20 1/2 inches long. Rachel was welcomed home by her sister, Lauren, and her brothers, Cody and Jason. Proud grandparents are Ted and Marie Spoelstra of Nashville, MI and Gary and Beverly McClure of Paragould, AR.

fifth time the student group from Saline has come to Nashville.

Since their first season in 1994 the fiddlers history is impressive, recording four cd's, touring the U.S., Canada, the District of Columbia, three foreign countries, playing twice at the White House and twice at the Kennedy Center, and at the 2001 Inaugural Ball. They have played more than 400 times for hometown audiences across Michigan.

The concert is open to the public and anyone who is interested in a fun afternoon of good company, excellent music and old fashioned music is encouraged to attend.

A free-will offering will be taken to benefit the Saline Fiddlers Philharmonic.

The event is sponsored by the Nashville Strings.



The Saline Fiddlers Philharmonic will play at the Nashville Baptist Church at 2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 13.

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Vermontville GFWC's 'Salad Bingo' will be held Thursday

It's more than just bingo and it's more than just salad, it's a culinary adventure when the General Federation Woman's Club (GFWC) of Vermontville has its fifth annual "Salad Bingo" at 5 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 10, in the Maple Valley High School cafeteria.

"Some of the more interesting salads we've had over the years include 'frog-eye salad' and 'popcorn salad,'" said Joyce Rathburn of the Vermontville GFWC. "The frog-eye salad is made with this really tiny pasta that looks like tapioca, green pistachio pudding, Cool Whip and pineapple and more."

"The popcorn salad was a big hit. Everyone was asking the lady who brought it for the recipe, but she lost it. It was a very unique recipe."

Rathburn said that each lady in the club brings two salads large enough to feed 20 people and they all try to be very creative.

"We have taco salads, pasta salads, crab and chicken salads," she added. "The dessert salads are very interesting; not just the plain Jell-O salads you might expect."

The evening's entertainment is sometimes unexpected as well.

Rathburn said that an Elvis impersonator showed up at last year's bingo.

"It's an opportunity for people to come out and have some good food and a lot of fun," said Rathburn.

The proceeds from the Vermontville GFWC's salad bingo are all put back into the community.

"In years past, we have bought trees for Main Street, donated to the restoration of

the Vermontville Opera House, the Boy Scout's Christmas in the Village, contributed to the purchase of a defibrillator for the fire department and helped the library with its wish list," said Rathburn, citing just a few of the charitable donations and activities the club has taken part in during its 63-year history.

Rathburn said that more than 40 individuals and merchants from around the area contribute to the bingo's success by donating prizes or the funds used to purchase them.

"We have wonderful participation from merchants in Lake Odessa, Vermontville, Nashville, Marshall, Charlotte and Hastings," she said.

Rathburn noted that bingo prizes range from \$25-\$50 in value. Prizes not given

away during the bingo are given away as door prizes at the end of the evening.

The doors open at 5 p.m., dinner will be served at 6, and bingo starts at 7.

Tickets for the dinner and bingo cards cost \$8 and may be purchased at the Vermontville Village Office or from club members.

For more information, call Rathburn at (517) 726-0524.

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Area Obituaries

Denise Marie Wells

VERMONTVILLE - Denise Marie Wells went home to her loving Lord and Savior Jesus on Monday, Sept. 23, 2002.

Mrs. Wells was born March 10, 1952, in Detroit, Mich.

She moved to the Vermontville area in 1980 and proceeded to make the entire community her friend. Helping others was her greatest pleasure including, Christmas baskets, Vermontville Fire and Ambulance as a First Responder, room Mom, baseball Mom, many will remember her years as

at the Ole Cookstove alongside her husband Nyle, and the list goes on.

She is survived by her best friend and husband Nyle; children, Annie Wells of Lansing, Ryan (Michelle) Wells of Charlotte, Dena Burton of Lansing; the joy of her life five grandchildren, Ravin, Kali, Brian, Austin, Cameron; parents, Fred and Maryann Gagne; sisters, Peggy (Gary) Peterman, Teresa (Bryan) Hall, Eva (Mark) Wozniac, Maryann (Terry) Walter; brothers, Paul and Freddy Gagne; father-in-law, Laws Carroll;

mother-in-law, Phyllis Wells; sister-in-laws, Sally (Steve) Remple; brother-in-law, Robert (Sandi) Wells; sister-in-law, Faith (Chris) McDowell; grandfather, William Skelly; special aunt and uncle, Betty and Sterling Wells; 23 nieces and nephews, as well as an innumerable host of friends.

She was preceded in death by her son David in 1976.

Funeral services were held Friday, Sept. 27, 2002 at Pray Funeral home. Rev. Glenn Litchfield and Rev. Don Roscoe officiated. Interment was in Woodlawn Cemetery in Vermontville, Mich.

If desired, memorial contributions may be made to the Grace Community Church Building Fund.

Further information available at www.prayfuneral.com.

Arrangements were made by Pray Funeral Home.

Margaret Johnson to celebrate 90th



13, 2002. The celebration will be at her home at 315 N. Taffee Drive in Hastings from 2-5 p.m.



Come one come all to share stories with Margaret Johnson, family, and friends on this special day as she celebrates her 90th birthday. Her friends, Tom, Audrey, Shannon, Ryan, Jamie and Sherry will be giving her an open house in her honor on her birthday Sunday, Oct.

Free elder law forums planned

Members of the community are welcome to attend a series of four free forums over the next four months that deal with legal issues for older residents of Maple Valley.

The forums will be held on the second Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. in the cafeteria at Maple Valley Jr./Sr. High School. The forums are being offered through Maple Valley Community Education.

The programs was designed by the Elder Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan in cooperation with the Eaton County Guardianship/Conservatorship Coalition.

Kelly Reed, an attorney with the Elder Law section of the State Bar of Michigan, will be the presenter for the following forums:

• Oct. 8, Forum A — Protecting Against Vulnerability in Later Life.

You or a loved one may become unable to manage your affairs effectively. What alternatives are there

to court supervision (guardianships)? What can be done now to make arrangements for future needs, including financial and medical decisions? How do durable powers of attorney and patient

advocate designations (advance medical directives) work?

Nov. 12, Forum B — Planning for a Second Mar-

See elder forum, page 9

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Local 4-H club celebrates first anniversary



4-H Leader Bonnie White poses with (from left) TJ Peck, Nichelle Curtis, Aaron Curtis, Alicia White and Jennifer Curtis, who were recognized as being 4-H members for more than one year.



Maple Valley Lightning Bolts 4-H leaders are: (from left) Bonnie White, Stacy Peck, Fran Vandler, Gary White, Sharon Curtis and Craig Curtis.

September was a special month for the Maple Valley Lightning Bolts 4-H Club because that is when they

marked their first anniversary as a new 4-H club in Barry County.

To celebrate the special occasion, Lightning Bolt members and leaders participated in their own awards banquet at the Nashville Community Building in Putnam Park.

After a potluck dinner, Alicia White and Jordan Beachnau gave a short speech about the many activities of the club during the past year.

Each member of the club received a service pin and a certificate indicating how many years they had participated in the 4-H program. Leaders were also presented with certificates recognizing their service to the club.

The Lightning Bolts begin their new year Tuesday, October 15 when they meet at the Community Building in Putnam Park at 7 p.m. for their first general meeting of the year.

Anyone interested in joining the Lightning Bolts is welcome to attend. For more information call Bonnie White at (517) 852-9189.



The Maple Valley Lightning Bolts 4-H Club recognized its first year 4-H members at their banquet last month. Pictured are (from left): Alyssa Sueme, Nick Peck, Alysha Curtis, Leader Bonnie White, Emma Vandlen, Kristen Iszler, Jordan Beachnau, Brandon Demars, Evonne Demars and Joey Smith.



Young Clovers recognized at the Maple Valley Lightning Bolts anniversary dinner are (from left) Garret Smith, Noah Weidig, Wesley Weidig, Leader Bonnie White, Dale White and Nick Iszler.

PUBLIC HEARING

The Village of Nashville Planning Commission will hold a public hearing and Special Meeting on October 15, 2002, at 6:00 p.m. in the council chambers.

SUBJECT: To discuss updates in the Zoning Ordinance Chapter 3 (specifications for private streets) & Chapter 14 (parking lots). If you would like to comment in writing please drop off or send them to the Village Office, 206 N. Main, P.O. Box 587, Nashville, MI 49073, by 5:00 p.m. on 10-15-02.

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PUBLIC HEARING

The Village of Nashville will hold a public hearing on October 10, 2002, at 7:00 p.m. in the council chambers.

SUBJECT: To hear public discussion on increasing the cost of regular parking tickets to \$10/\$15/\$20 and handicap parking tickets to \$50/\$75/\$100 (Ordinance #2-23-78 & 3-27-69), also the designation of handicap parking spots (Ordinance #12-15-54). If you would like to comment in writing please drop off or send them to the Village Office, 206 N. Main, P.O. Box 587, Nashville, MI 49073, by 5:00 p.m. on 10-10-02.

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REGISTRATION NOTICE FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2002

To the qualified electors of Vermontville Township Eaton County State of Michigan

Please take notice that a General Election will be held in Vermontville Township on Tuesday, November 5, 2002. The **LAST DAY** for receiving registrations for the General Election will be **MONDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2002**. Persons residing in Vermontville Township registering after 5:00 p.m. on Monday, October 7, 2002, will not be eligible to vote at the General Election.

I will be at my home 5150 Round Lake Rd., Vermontville from 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. for the purpose of receiving applications for registration of the qualified electors in Vermontville Township or by calling 517-726-0032 for a special appointment.

Marcia K. Grant
Vermontville Township

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Oct. 1 Poultry Development Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Extension Office.
- Oct. 5 Clothing, Textiles, Food and Nutrition Training, Kettunen Center.
- Oct. 6 Open Speed Horse Show, 10 a.m., Expo Center.
- Oct. 7 Barry Co. K-9 Klub, 6:30 p.m., Riveredge Kennels.
- Oct. 9 Horse Judging Meeting, Stacey Compeau, 7 p.m.
- Oct. 11 4-H Goat Leader Training, Kettunen Center.
- Oct. 12 Card Quest Trail Ride, Yankee Springs Horseman's Campground.
- Oct. 14 Poultry Leaders Training, & PM HHS Cafeteria.
- Oct. 14 Horse Development Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., HHS Cafeteria.

Correction:

In a photo that appeared in last week's edition of the Maple Valley News, the uncle of angling sisters Brittney and Breann Gardner should have been identified as Phil Rathburn.

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MAPLE VALLEY SCHOOL LUNCH MENUS

Elementary Schools
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Lunch Menu
Wednesday, Oct. 2
Cheeseburger, broccoli/cheese, pear halves, cookie, 1/2 pt. milk.
Thursday, Oct. 3
Fuller Hungry Howies. Pizza, tossed salad, peaches, fortune cookie, 1/2 pt. milk.

Friday, Oct. 4
Taco, whole kernel corn, fruit cocktail, brownie, 1/2 pt. milk.
Monday, Oct. 7
Hot dogs, green beans, pear halves, churro, 1/2 pt. milk.
Tuesday, Oct. 8
Nachos, baked beans, fresh fruit, cookie, 1/2 pt.

milk.
Note: Maplewood Elementary will be serving breakfast this year starting the first of the school year.

Maple Valley Jr./Sr. High School Lunch Menu
Wednesday, Oct. 2
Choose One - Grilled cheese sandwich, pizza, chicken sandwich, burger bar. **Choose Two** - Garden salad, tomato soup, pear halves, juice, Milk.

Thursday, Oct. 3
Choose One - Spaghetti, cheeseburger, pizza, taco bar. **Choose Two** - Garden salad, green beans, peaches, juice, Milk.

Friday, Oct. 4
Choose One - Burrito, pizza, chicken sandwich, salad bar. **Choose Two** - Garden salad, whole kernel corn, fruit cocktail, juice, Milk.

Monday, Oct. 7
Choose One - Ravioli, pizza, chicken sandwich, salad bar. **Choose Two** - Garden salad, green beans, pear halves, juice, Milk.

Tuesday, Oct. 8
Choose One - Double dogs, cheeseburger, pizza, taco bar. **Choose Two** - Garden salad, baked beans, fresh fruit, juice, Milk.

Elder forum, from page 7

riage at Middle Age or Older.

How can you protect both your children and your new spouse financially? Should you have a prenuptial agreement, and if so, what should it cover? Should it depend on how long your new marriage lasts? What are the legal limits and requirements? How can you protect your assets should your new spouse have catastrophic medical needs?

Dec. 10, Forum C — Housing Options for the Elderly.

This program will provide information about housing options available to elders, including: level of care and the financial and legal issues associated with these options. The program will include information about services available to support elders who desire to remain

in their homes, and the rules for protecting assets for elders who seek Medicaid assistance in a Medicaid certified nursing home.

Jan. 14, Forum D — Understanding the Basics of Estate Planning.

This program will introduce participants to those legal documents they can have prepared in anticipation of death and incapacity. Among other things, the program will explore the advantages and disadvantages of using a revocable living trust, versus a will, as the primary estate planning instrument. The program will address the current status of the federal estate gift tax, and how estate planning documents can be tailored to achieve favorable tax results.

For more information, or to register call Mike Sparks at (517) 852-1889.

HS weight room open to community

Officials at Maple Valley High School have announced that the weight room at the school will be open for community use from 6-7:30 p.m. Monday through Friday throughout the school year.

National Ads

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anniversary
 from left: Alyssa Sauer, Nicole Vander, Kristin Taylor, Justin and Amy Smith.
 celebrating Bob's anniversary on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
 Correction: In a photo that appeared in last week's edition of the Maple Valley News, the order of the wedding scenes from left to right: Kristin Taylor, Justin and Amy Smith.
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Maple Valley equestrian team wins district competition

The Maple Valley equestrian team completed a very successful season with a fourth place finish for the Division A and a first place finish for the Division C team in District IV.

The Division C team will go on to the state meet which will be held at the state fairgrounds in Detroit Oct. 24-27.

This is the first time Maple Valley has placed first in the district.

Other teams competing in District IV were Okemos, Holt, Haslet, Stockbridge, Portland, Pottsville, Grand Ledge, Charlotte, Eaton Rapids, Olivet, Lakewood,

Equestrian team to hold pop can drive

The Maple Valley Equestrian Team will be holding a pop can drive to raise money for their trip to the State Meet in Detroit Oct. 24-27.

Members will be going door to door to collect cans Oct. 6 or Maple Valley students can bring cans to school where there will be a receptacle. If you have cans to donate, call Jill Vanderhoef at (517) 726-0251 after 5:30 p.m. All donations will be greatly appreciated.

Saranac, Dansville, Mason, Ionia and St. Johns.

Teams compete with their horses at three separate meets to accumulate points. The team with the most points from each division goes on to the state meet.

Sixteen riders joined the team this season which made it possible to have both a Division A team and a Division C team. Division A teams are made up of 11 riders or more, Division B is six to ten riders and Division C teams have five riders or less.

Maple Valley's Division C riders earned a total of 161 points this year. They were seniors Kaylene Rutledge and Kristen Vanderhoef; sophomores Jessica Ellison and Jessica McMillen and freshman Andi Cohoon.

Vanderhoef led the team

with 61.5 points; Cohoon had 44, Rutledge 36.5, Ellison 19, and McMillen had two honorable mentions.

The Division A riders were seniors, Jennifer Dunn, Amanda Scramblin and Sue Splieth; juniors, Caitlin King, Donna Cripe and Melissa Jewell; sophomore Laura Trumble and freshmen Sarah Trumble, Lacey Ward, Sarah Vanderhoef and Jennifer Ellison.

Vanderhoef led the Division A team with 36 points, followed by Scramblin with 35, Trumble with 27, Ward 23, King 20, Dunn, 7, Splieth, 5, and Jewell with 4. The team members' total of 157 points earned them fourth place in their division.

The Maple Valley equestrian team is coached by Jill Vanderhoef, Don Jewell and Tammy Flower.



Leading the parade...

Dave and Becky Anderson, the Grand Marshals of Maple Valley's Homecoming Parade wave to the crowd.

Lions win own tournament

For the third time this season the Maple Valley boys' varsity soccer team beat Saranac.

This time on Wednesday Sept. 25 the Lions won 4-0.

Owen Blakely and Deng Chol scored in the first 10 minutes to give the Lions a 2-0 lead.

Alvaro Uranga and Akok Malek scored Valley's other two goals.

Coach Josh Meersma said he was glad to see his offense putting the ball in the net against Saranac after they had trouble with it

against Delton on Monday Sept. 23.

Maple Valley fell 3-1 to Delton. The game was tied 0-0 after a half, but Meersma said that he felt his team dominated the game, but just a couple of lapses cost the Lions.

The Lions hosted the Maple Valley Invitational Saturday Sept. 21 and won their own tournament.

Before their first game of the tournament Meersma told his players, "you just don't lose your own tournament."

The Lions didn't, taking home first place.

In the first match of the

day Valley defeated Saranac 5-1.

In the championship the Lions outscored Olivet 2-1.

After Olivet took a quick 1-0 lead the Lions marked up on Olivet's better offensive players and held them in check for the rest of the game.

The Lions scored on a free kick late for the go ahead goal, and actually had chances for a bigger lead with shots going off the Olivet goal posts.

Maple Valley will host Walter French on Tuesday Oct., 1 then Lions host Dansville Monday Oct. 7.

Gospel benefit concert planned

A gospel concert at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 12, at Peace United Methodist Church, will benefit cerebral palsy sports teams.

Scheduled to perform in concert are Ray and Millie Overholt, Hosea Humphrey, Genny Wilson, "Bought and

Paid For" and "The Brydes of Christ."

Peace United Methodist is located on the corner of M-79 and Barryville Road west of Nashville.

A free-will offering will be taken.

Youth asset building workshop scheduled

A workshop entitled, "Everyone is an Asset Builder," will be held Tuesday, Oct. 8, at 7 p.m. at Maple Valley High School.

The workshop will give a basic overview of the strength-based, asset approach to building strong youth. The emphasis will be on the need for more assets in the lives of youth and how to make it happen. It will also show how everyone can build assets for youth.

This workshop offered through the Eaton Intermediate School District is in part a response to the results

of an informal survey conducted by the Eaton County Foundation last spring.

The survey targeted youth in grades 7-12 in Grand Ledge, Vermontville, Charlotte, Eaton Rapids and Bellevue. A total of 134 youths from those communities responded to the survey.

The youths were asked to identify what positive resources or activities were available to them in their communities. The resources they named included neighborhood projects for youth, youth support groups, church involvement, after school jobs and youth volunteer activities.

The youths were then asked what needs they saw in their communities. The top five needs or issues included: teen pregnancy, drug abuse, teen suicide, poor grades and peer pressure.

To register for the workshop contact Jennifer Kuchera at (517) 852-9275. Child care is available, but you must call.

Correction

The headline in an article last week misidentified the organization donating banners. The headline should have read "Vermontville Maple Syrup Festival Corporation donates banners to village." Also, the banners are being donated to Vermontville, not Nashville.

Golf scramble scheduled

The Nashville United Methodist Church is hosting a men's and women's 9 hole golf scramble at Mulberry Fore Golf Course in Nashville on Saturday, Oct. 19. There will be a shotgun start at 2:30 p.m.

Golfers are requested to arrive at 2:15 to register. The cost is \$12 per person and includes a cart and a burger spread after the golf.

Invitations have been sent to all Nashville and surrounding area churches.

"The purpose of this outing is fellowship and fun, and the opportunity to become better acquainted," said Russ Keech, one of the organizers of the event.

However, Keech stressed that the event is open to everyone not just church members.

"In addition to people associated with a church, we'd like to cordially invite participation by anyone who enjoys golf and is interested in learning more about an individual church and its activities," he said.

For non-golfers there will be activities in the clubhouse. The cost of the meal for those individuals will be minimal.

For more information, or to register by Wednesday, Oct. 9, call Keech at (517) 852-9845 or Sandi Christie at (517) 964-2516. When registering, please give the names and average golf score of each person participating. To avoid confusion, groupings will be made prior to the 19th. Small prizes will be awarded.



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Lions take advantage of Webberville

By Jon Gambee

Sometimes life just isn't fair. Poor Webberville came into their game against Maple Valley Friday winless in four tries. Maple Valley came in off a rare loss, an even rarer shutout loss, and a week to get pumped up. I'm not sure what it's like to spend a week with Gunther Middelstaedt after a shutout loss, but you can imagine. It must be a little bit like spending your honeymoon in your mother-in-law's trailer. You're where you want to be. Your with whom you want to be with. But you're really not having a good time.

To add to their impending misery, Webberville came in on Homecoming weekend. To say that the crowd was pro-Lion is an understatement. If there were 1,000 people at the game, approximately 951 were Maple Valley fans (and that's counting the Webberville team and coaching staff).

So you're coming in winless, you're on the road, you're playing a team rich in tradition and coming off a shutout loss, and your entire fan base could have come in a Yugo.

Add a sophomore quarterback with exactly zero varsity experience and an offense with all the imagination and innovation of an afternoon nap and you've got the ingredients for a disaster.

To make a long story short, Maple Valley 44,

Webberville 0.

To make a long story even longer, consider the following statistics: Maple Valley 512 total yards, Webberville 131. Maple Valley 472 yards rushing, Webberville 61. Maple Valley 17 first downs, Webberville 5.

The Lions scored on their first two possessions, taking only six plays each time. It was 16-0 before Webberville had a chance to say "We give."

It took two penalties to stop Maple Valley on its next possession but Webberville could not take advantage. The Lions took the ball right back with a Jimmy Hirneiss interception two minutes into the second quarter and three plays later, Hirneiss raced 49 yards for another Lion touchdown and the game was officially out of reach.

On their next possession, Webberville would have gone three and out again but for a roughing the punter penalty that kept their drive alive. But all that got them was close enough to put their next punt attempt into the end zone, forcing Maple Valley to start from their own 20, their deepest setback yet. Brian Dunlap got three yards and after an incomplete pass made it third and seven, Hirneiss broke free off a crushing block by Eric Smith and raced 77 yards to make it 28-0 at the half.



The Lions' Jimmy Hirneiss pulls a Webberville pass out of the night sky. (Photo by Perry Hardin)

By the third quarter, Mittelstaedt was playing everybody. Before it was over 12 different players ran the ball for Maple Valley and Mittelstaedt used three different quarterbacks. Still, the Lions scored twice more in the third quarter, on at 54 yard run by Smith and on a 21 yard field goal by Jeff Taylor.

They wrapped things up early in the fourth quarter when Corey Caudill scored from eight yards out. Then with the clock running, the Lions moved down to the Spartan two yard line and Mittelstaedt chose to let time expire without trying to add to the score.

Hirneiss, who didn't even carry the ball in the second half, ran for 129 yards in only three carries and scored twice. Smith finished with 106 yards and two touchdowns and Dunlap with 107 yards and one score. Smith added two extra points to account for 16 points.

On the defensive side of the ball, Hirneiss intercepted

two passes and Dunlap and Cole Hansbarger each recovered a fumble.

"I thought we played very well on both sides of the ball," Mittelstaedt said after the game, "but I was especially proud of our defense."

"We didn't want to run up the score and I didn't know we had such a large advantage in total offense, but I credit the defense with giving us great field possession all night and stopping them



Lions running back Eric Smith brushes away a Webberville tackler. (Photo by Perry Hardin)

from every getting anything going.

"We played everybody early and everybody played hard. That's all you can ask as a coach."

The Lions moved to 4-1 on the season and this week will entertain Dansville for Parent's Night, the final home game of the regular season.

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Eighth-grade cagers remain undefeated

Maple Valley's eighth grade girls' basketball team visited Springport Wednesday Sept. 25 and came away with a 32-21 non-conference win.

After a slow start, the Lions found the basket again and again in the second half. After a spirited halftime talk the Lions came out and owned the court for an ugly win, but a good win.

Springport was physical and tough, but Valley was patient and persistent on defense, and ended up coming home with the win.

The girls are now 5-0. On Monday Sept. 23 the Lions traveled to Leslie for a tough fought conference win, 26-16.

After being down at the half 10-6, Valley's vaunted defense shut down the Hawks in the second.

Every team player contributed to this cause with their tough defensive play.

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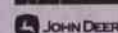


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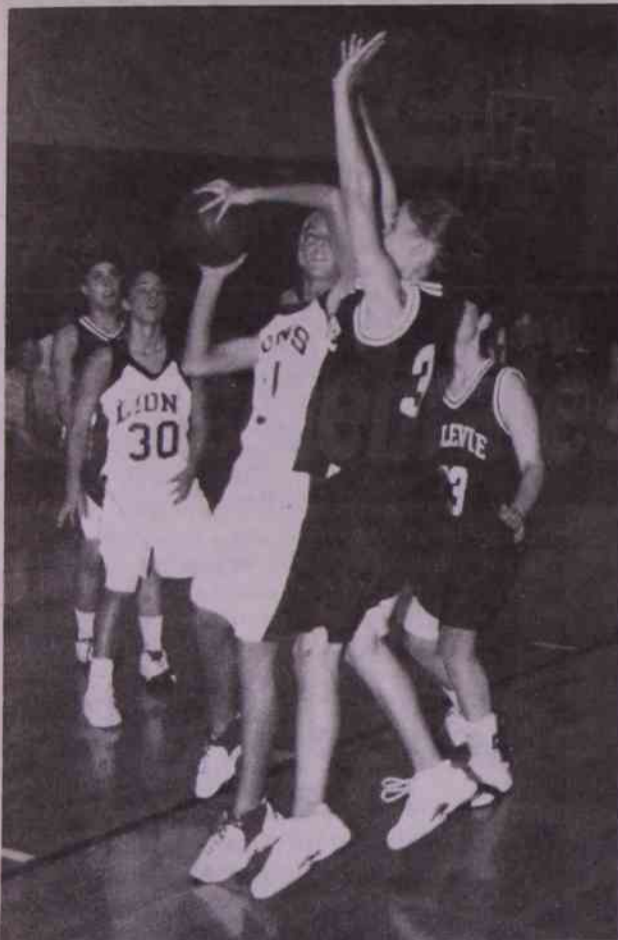
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A+ in chemistry leads to victory



The Lions' Briann Treloar tries to go through Bellevue for two. (Photo by Perry Hardin)

Megan Garvey and Briann Treloar have been filling up the score sheet all season for the Maple Valley girls' varsity basketball team, but Lions' head coach Craig Kitching says that the most important part of the team's success this season is the chemistry.

"I'm proud at the way the girls have accepted rolls. They know what their rolls are and they are working hard as a team to pull together," says Kitching.

In their 55-43 win Thursday Sept. 26 against Bellevue Treloar led the Lions with 16 points and Garvey had 14.

Jessie Grant, who Kitching calls the team's "floor leader" scored 9, which is right around her average for the season, as well as averaging about 5 assists and 5 steals a game.

Ashley Gordeneer the Lions starting center is doing a good job of playing D and rebounding, and doing the tough work down in the "trenches" as Kitching calls the low post.

Japanese exchange student Akiyo Ueshima is one of the players coming off the bench for the Lions. Kitching says that she's a "wonderful athlete. We bring her off the bench" and the Lions get a lift from her defense and hustle, and "magnificent attitude."

Sophomore Kortney Ewing and junior Chayla Robles also come off the bench to give the Lions a lift.

Treloar and Garvey led the Lions in scoring in the team's 62-48 victory over Leslie, Tuesday Sept. 24 with 22 and 13 points respectively. Then right behind them was Slovakian exchange student Veronika Pitukova with 10.

In the win over Bellevue the Lions had a 34-20 halftime lead before Bellevue stepped up their game and held the Lions to only 2 points in the third quarter while scoring 13 of their own.

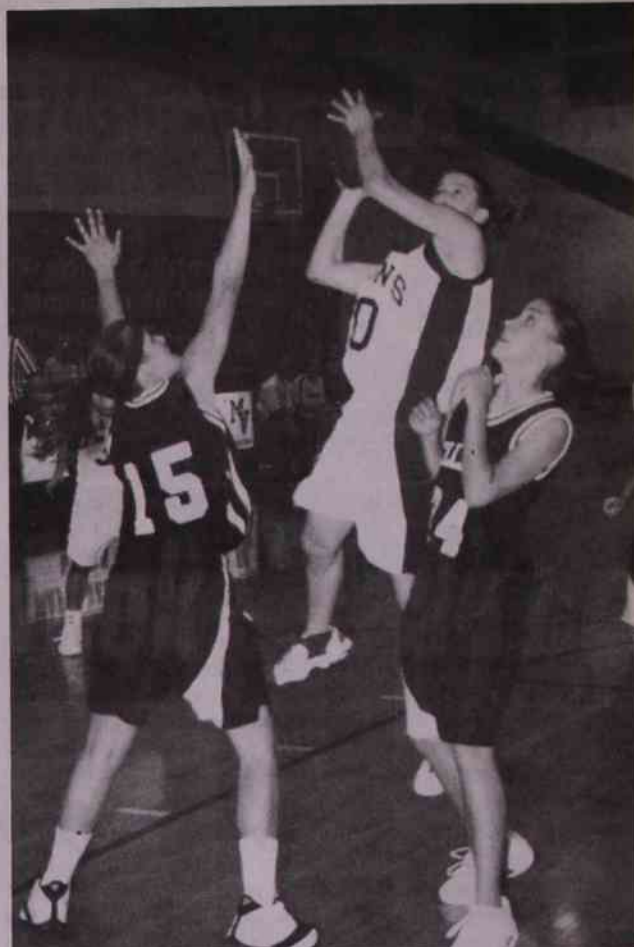
Kitching didn't think his team did anything wrong. Bellevue had worked hard to figure out Valley's defense, then "played excellent defense, and hit open shots."

Valley righted the ship in the fourth quarter, moving the ball outside and Bellevue chose to foul during the last minutes of the game.

The Lions hit 10 of 11 freethrows in the fourth and went on to victory.

Against Leslie on Tuesday Sept. 24 the Lions hit 19 of their 26 free throw attempts for the game, building a 10 point half time lead, and just extending it through the final two periods.

The Lions visit Dansville Tuesday Oct. 1 in another SMAA matchup. Then Kitching says, "if we get by Dansville the next two games are for the top of the



Valley's Jessie Grant gets over the Bellevue defense and looks to the rim. (Photo by Perry Hardin)

conference," against Lansing Christian in Maple Valley Thursday Oct. 3, and at Olivet Tuesday Oct. 8.

Lansing Christian has only one loss so far this season in the league, that came to undefeated Olivet.

Maybe 'golf is golf,' but Lions leads SMAA

"Golf is golf," says Maple Valley's boys' varsity golf coach John Hughes, "They're just kids, and it's golf."

Hughes didn't want to get too excited over the fact that his kids have won 4 of the 5 SMAA Jamborees they've participated in so far this season.

Right now Leslie is the closest team in the conference to the Lions. Leslie has finished in second place, be-

hind Valley in each jamboree, except for the one on the Lions' home course. The Lions finished second to Leslie at that match.

Valley's fourth jamboree victory came Monday Sept. 23 on Webberville's home course, Oak Lane.

Adam Gonser shot a 39, and his teammates Collin McLean, Garrett VanEngen, and Todd Cupp all finished at 40 for the first place team score of 159. Leslie finished 4 shots behind the Lions.

Valley finished third at Eaton Rapids Saturday Sept. 21, falling to champion Harper Creek and to Eaton Rapids.

Nick Burpee shot a 77, and McLean an 80 for the teams individual scores.

Cupp and Gonser combined for an 84 playing bestball.

And VanEngen and Nathan Carney shot a 78 in the scramble.

Way back on Friday Sept. 20, the Lions finished seventh at the Clinton County Invitational where they faced a lot of tough talented teams.

Hughes said that his

teams final score of 325 was a good score for us, and the Lions did have two players take home medals.

Burpee and McLean both finished in the top 10 for the day.

The Lions went to Lansing Christian for the seasons final jamboree on Monday Sept. 30, and get ready to battle it out for the SMAA title at the SMAA Invitational on Saturday Oct. 5 in Mason at the El Dorado.

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