

AT A GLANCE

Plays open in East Jordan and Boyne City

"Annie Get Your Gun" opens in East Jordan's high school auditorium Friday, March 11, and "Honk" makes its debut the following evening, March 12, at the Boyne City High School auditorium.

Both shows are the culmination of many weeks of work by students, crew members, stage designers and support staff. The effort that has gone into sets alone makes both shows worth twice the price, even before the audience is treated to exemplary student performances.

"Honk" will have five performances, March 12 and 18 at 7 p.m., March 13 at 2 p.m., and two on Saturday, March 19 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.

"Annie Get Your Gun" will also be presented five times, with 7 p.m. performances on March 11, 12, 18 and 19, and a 3 p.m. performance on Sunday, March 13.

Repairs set for Boyne City's East St. bridge

North East Street, between River and Water streets in Boyne City, will be closed so the East Street bridge deck and railings can be repaired.

The Michigan Department of Transportation has tentatively projected street closure for the week of April 4, with a targeted completion date prior to Memorial weekend.

"The reason they are closing the bridge, rather than keeping one lane open, is to expedite the process," said Boyne City city manager, Mike Cain. Cain also said that there are plans available at city hall if any one is interested in looking at them.

Detour routes have been established, with truck traffic from Boyne Falls on M-75 being rerouted to East Division, then to South Lake and from there to State Street. Car traffic will be directed from Water to Lake to State streets.

There will be a public informational meeting, which has been tentatively scheduled for the week of March 21. The exact time and location is yet to be determined.

For more information, call Gary Niemi, development engineer with M-DOT Transportation Service Center, or Judy Browning, resident engineer with M-DOT TSC at (231) 941-1986.

Old time fiddlin'



Musicians came from all over Michigan to participate in the Fiddler's Jamboree held at the Harvest Barn church in East Jordan last Saturday. This group played for the Saturday night square dances. There were over 56 individual fiddlers that participated in the Jamboree, with about half being under 20. For more information on the Jamboree, see page 4.

PHOTO BY VIC RUGGLES

EJHS physics class wins top honors

By JANE BOOZE
Staff Writer

The East Jordan High School physics class, under the direction and constant pressure of teacher Lance Bailey, took both first and second place in the state-level Rube Goldberg Machine Contest.

Rube Goldberg was:

A.) a cartoonist. Well, he didn't start out that way. B.) He was an office boy in the sports department at a San Francisco newspaper, but that was C.) after he convinced his father that he should be an artist, D.) which was after he'd been working in the San Francisco Water and Sewer Department — after E.) graduating from the University of California Berkeley with an engineering degree, F.) which he earned due to the insistence of his father, but G.) Reuben Lucius Goldberg had wanted to be an artist from the beginning.

It all sounds backward and convoluted, but that's the way Goldberg liked things, and his nationally renowned, Pulitzer Prize-winning cartoon, "INVENTIONS," proved it. Goldberg's cartoons were famous for depicting people doing simple things in complicated, convoluted ways, us-



Pirates of the Caribbean win first place in the Rube Goldberg Machine Contest. Standing behind their product are creators, from left, Kyle Peters, Ian Sibinic, Ashlyn Brown, Nina Peters, Justin Roberts, Kari Skop, and, in front, Kalla Bennett. Not pictured: Christine Jackson, Tom Krause, Steve Nowka and Peter Sladick.

ing simple machines, handy objects, animals, plants and many, many steps.

Goldberg died in 1970, but his work spawned a contest that has achieved

national status and attracts a cult-like following. It started at Purdue University with collegiate-level contests, but has now spread to high school and

middle school teams.

This year's Michigan high school contest was held at Lake Superior State University, and for the first time,

the state contest went by the national contest rules.

The national challenge for 2005 was to remove both old batteries from a two-battery flashlight, install new batteries and turn the flashlight on in 20 steps or more. The more the merrier, in fact.

Goldberg has inspired budding engineers to find ways to complicate even the simplest of tasks to a degree that taxes the imagination and tickles the funny bone.

Contest instructions recommend that participants start with the end action — getting the flashlight to go on — and work backwards, describing and illustrating each step as they go. The steps — all 20-something of them — have to work to trigger the next step, in order to accomplish that simple end result.

The two East Jordan teams, one with a Willy Wonka Everlasting Gobstoppers theme and the other with a Pirates of the Caribbean theme, said that the hardest part was the planning.

Senior Ashley Nichols, who was on the Gobstoppers team, said they spent two weeks planning their machine before they even started build-

Please see PHYSICS on page 14

Area lawmakers join forces to push economic package

By DENNIS MANSFIELD
Contributing writer

GAYLORD — A quartet of state legislators representing several northern Michigan communities stood shoulder-to-shoulder last Friday in announcing what they hope will be a package of bills designed to stimulate the region's economy, increase tourism and enhance transportation options for area businesses.

State senators Tony Stamas, R-Midland, Jason Allen, R-Traverse City, and Michelle McManus, R-Lake Leelanau, along with Rep. Kevin Elsenheimer, R-Bellaire, joined together Friday in announcing the "Northern Michigan Initiative" legislative package during a press conference at Jay's Sporting Goods in Gaylord.

"We think we have some good solutions," Stamas said in his opening comments Friday.

"There's a lot of exciting things happening in Lansing,"

added McManus. "I think this (package) is one of the more exciting things.

"Some legislators forget there's this other part of Michigan," she said. "They forget there's this part called northern Michigan."

The local legislators are hoping that by working together they can introduce legislation that will rejuvenate the region's economy, as well as benefit rural communities throughout the rest of Michigan.

According to Allen, 57 of the state's 83 counties are rural. A county is defined as being "rural" if its population is 70,000 or less. "It does benefit the whole state," Allen said about the initiative.

The economic package consists of three basic parts, including the creation of a "Great Lakes Recreational Pass," a multi-state/federal agreement allowing individuals to purchase one pass to visit select parks and forest recreation areas throughout Michigan and neighboring states. The pass

"We work very hard to make sure there's more than hicks and sticks above I-69. We need to make sure our communities, our part of Michigan, are funded."

— State Sen. Jason Allen



State senators Jason Allen, R-Traverse City; left, Michelle McManus, R-Lake Leelanau, and Tony Stamas, R-Midland, along with Rep. Kevin Elsenheimer, R-Bellaire, joined together Friday in announcing the "Northern Michigan Initiative" legislative package during a press conference at Jay's Sporting Goods in Gaylord.

would emulate the "Northwest Pass" created by a partnership between Oregon, Washington and the National Park Service.

"Tourism is a focal point of northern Michigan's economy," Allen said. "This legislation will shine a light on all the natural wonders contained in our great state, helping to attract tourists and improve the business climate of northern Michigan."

"We think this would be a big part of making this hap-

pen," Stamas added.

The two other elements of the Northern Michigan Initiative would offer shortline railroads a single business tax credit of up to \$1,000 per mile for track maintenance expenditures and targeting community development block grants to rural areas.

The legislators said the CDB grants can be used to im-

Please see ECONOMIC PACKAGE on page 14

Sweet season

■ *As the sap begins to flow, maple syrup makers head to the sugar shack*

These days the formerly pristine snow in the Korthase sugar bush is being tracked by more than just foraging deer. As the season approaches spring-like daytime temperatures

combined with winter nights, sugar makers across the north are checking out their maple groves and readying their equipment for work.

Randy and Bruce Korthase have it down to a science — literally — with sap being routed to holding tanks in the basement of their sugar “shack” by way of plastic tubing that winds its way through the woods, making a strategic stop at every sugar maple along the way.

The Korthase woods, what is known as the sugar bush, has a long tradition of sap harvesting. The Korthases host Boyne City second-graders every year, and one of the sights they see is a stone-lined pit in the ground, where Native American sugar makers once boiled down the sap for its sweet bounty.

But the Korthases do it the new-fashioned way. The Korthase syrup-making industry started with Henry Korthase years ago. He was an entrepreneur, running logging camps, raising ginseng and farming before he finally settled on stone masonry and construction as a way to earn a living. But it was seasonal work, and one season led to another, with sap ushering in the spring.

Hank took to gathering the sap and selling the resulting syrup at \$4 a gallon.

“He made it more to make it than anything, because he liked it,” said Hank’s great-nephew, Bruce.

“You happily start,” said Randy, half-complaining. “Then you realize you will be doing it the rest of your life because you can’t quit.”

Why?
“You just can’t quit,” he said simply, as if that settled it.

In 1982, Hank moved into Grandvue at the age of 94. Bruce rented his uncle’s place, and Randy came home from Niger, where he had been in the Peace Corps.

“Randy had too much time to think while he was there, and he came home and wanted to make syrup,” Bruce said. “Norm McGeorge, Uncle Hank’s nephew on his wife’s side, showed us the ropes. We learned the basics from him. He’s been involved ever since, as has his brother, Cliff, amongst many other people.”

“We made most of our mistakes down there,” Randy said, gesturing towards Korthase Road and the original site of the sugar shack. “So then we moved up here in 1987 — we built this at Christmastime. They’re called a sugar house, a sugar shack — sugar palace, Dad calls it.”

Every year the brothers and their cohorts have added on. Once it was two different buildings and then they joined them. They got a new evaporator (“As we got money,” they explained) and every year they upgrade some part of the tubing system.

“Whether we want to or not,” Randy said.

They didn’t start with tubing, but with about 200 buckets. They realized early on that that was too

much work, and installed the tubing and a vacuum system.

“It lowers the pressure in the tubes, which facilitates the flow,” said Bruce.

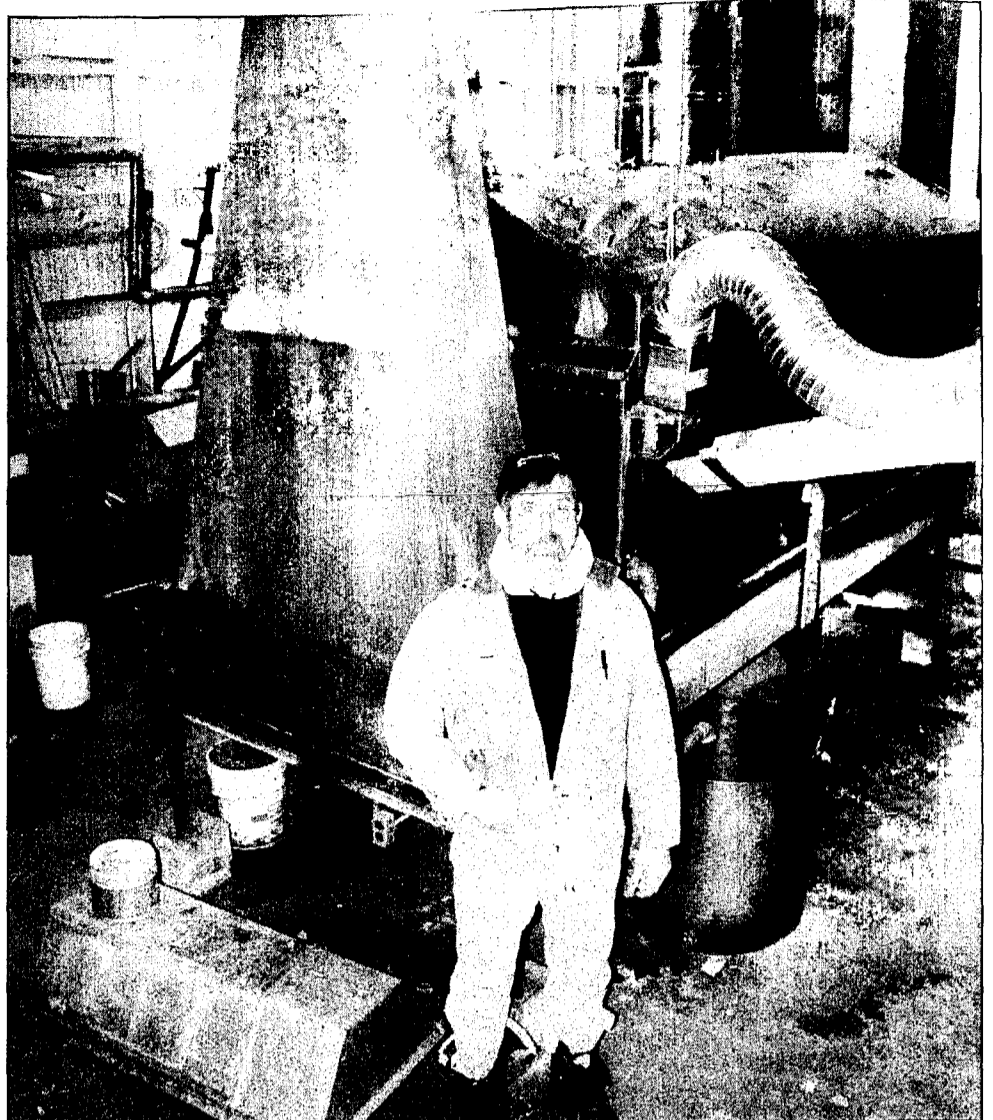
“It works because the pressure inside the trees is greater than outside. That’s what makes the sap flow,” Randy explained. Atmospheric pressure, if it gets too high, will stop sap flow. The brothers also built the sugar shack in a low spot on the sugar bush, so most of it is gravity-fed.

And then there’s the high-tech boiling-down process. The sap is emptied into the evaporator: a huge Willy Wonka-esque contraption with a smokestack at one end and an enormous fire box at the other, connected by sixteen feet of sap-converting pans. The finishing pan is in the front and in the back, hidden from view, is a pan with channels where the sap, boiling already from being steam-heated, runs. Between the channels there are thin walls through which the tall smoke stack draws fire, further heating and condensing the sap.

“The best heat transfer is from flame, that’s the highest heat,” Randy said. “The flame will go back the whole 16 feet because of the tall stack.”

The “steam-away” is an add-on to the boiling process, and it captures the steam that was going up the stack, where it is used to preheat the sap.

“We were still spending too many hours,” Bruce said.



Bruce Korthase is dwarfed by the tall smoke stack that draws flames back the entire 16-foot length of the sap-boiling pans. The firebox, fed with culled wood from the sugar bush, is at the far end.

“We were tired of throwing wood on the fire,” Randy interrupted.

“Yeah, at two in the morning,” Bruce said, and added the steam-away almost doubled production.

The Korthases try to boil all the sap in the same day it’s gathered. They are able to boil 400 gallons of sap an hour, with their efficient system. The sap will usually stop running on its own as the temperatures drop at night, but it is unpredictable.

“Sometimes it stops because it’s too cold, sometimes because it’s too warm,” Randy said. Sometimes it doesn’t stop at all. “One time we boiled for almost a week straight. That was the pits.”

The quantity of syrup any one season will produce is also unpredictable. They have had as few as 300 gallons

at season’s end and as many as 800.

“It’s just whatever happens after you tap,” said Randy, always reducing things down to their simplest terms.

It is simple, somehow. The huge evaporator, the stainless tanks for holding sap, the blue tubing that snakes through the woods are all combined with the smell of wood smoke, wide plank floors, and homemade door latches that make use of materials at hand and the ingenuity of man.

And then there is the striding through the woods in deep snow streaked with blue shadows.

“It is like spring training in baseball,” said Bruce.

“You start out always wearing your coat, your hat and boots, and by the end you are out in your shirtsleeves.

It reminds you that summer will come — again.”

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Grinding to a halt in Boyne

■ Darren McCarty and his band coming to town

The Wolverine-Dilworth Inn will be kicking off Boyne Mountain's Crazy Days festivities with a special guest of its own when Darren McCarty comes to town for St. Patrick's Day.

McCarty is most well-known for his hockey playing. A three-time Stanley Cup winner playing with the Detroit Red Wings, he is a member of the "grind line," so named because it is the workhorse of the team, a defensive line whose job is to grind down the opponent.

But McCarty has a softer, gentler side. He is the lead singer for the band Grinder.

Okay — so it's not really all that much softer and gentler. It is a rock band that plays "stripped down rock and roll with a little bit of punk," according to McCarty. It is named for his style of play: it's hard-hitting, tough, in-your-face music, played by a band that wants its audience to have a good time.

Six days after the Wings won the Stanley Cup in 1997, defenseman Vladimir Konstantinov and team masseur Sergei Mnatsakanov were in a tragic car accident en route from a team golf outing that left both paralyzed.

The career-ending car accident was responsible for McCarty diversifying his career portfolio. Red Wings trainer John Wharton was putting together a band to make a tribute album to the two injured Red Wings, and McCarty asked to be allowed to contribute.

The rest is musical history. The Grinders have been playing since 1997 as a summertime band, rolling over the roads in an RV and playing in such diverse places as Moscow — and Boyne City.

This year, of course, there is no need to wait until summer to get their show on the road, and they are launching a Canadian tour with a stop in Boyne.

"They are playing considerably more," said Grinder's manager Reed Hurrell. "They are doing some big tours. This is their first date on the Canadian tour."

"Of course they're good. They get a lot of media coverage because they're a great band with a great media persona (in McCarty)," he said.

The band members, sans their famous lead singer, have been together for 20 years, and are a very solid unit. McCarty lends media weight to the front line, as well as making a strong musical contribution.

Originally Grinder was asked to play for the Wolverine Dilworth for Crazy Days, but by that time the Canadian tour was scheduled, so they offered to come for St. Patrick's Day instead.

"It's probably even better," said Hurrell.

McCarty, originally from Canada, makes his home in the suburbs of Detroit now — near the hockey arena, where he skates for several hours most days. He is also close to the warehouse where he practices with Grinder.

That leaves him time to spend with his four children, Griffin, Emerson, Avery and Gracy.

"Darren's out of season right now," Hurrell said. "He's got competitive fire, and with no hockey, it's all directed my way. I took a body check in the RV the other day — across the table. The table got the worst of it."

"He's got so much energy and it's all directed at me. And sometimes it's unfortunate," added Hurrell, with a grin in his voice. "It's good we have that kind of relationship."

McCarty is a recovering alcoholic. In 1999, his father got cancer, and McCarty founded the McCarty Cancer Foundation. He made a commitment to his dad to quit drinking, and while his father has since died, the commitment keeps him strong.

"The foundation is a part of everything he does," said Hurrell.

There will be a \$10 cover charge for the Grinder date at the Wolverine/Dilworth inn, and the crowd will be 21 and over. For information on dates and the Grinder album, see the website: grinderband.com — and check it out even if you don't need any information. It's a fun, interactive site with lots of photos and a chance to listen to the band.



Boyne City paramedic Shirley Matz, EMS director John Lamont and EMT Ray Niedling are happy with the addition of the ECHO car that has enabled Boyne City to upgrade to an Advanced Life Support service. The car allows them to make the best use of their emergency personnel.



Jay Peck, director of East Jordan EMS, stands beside the East Jordan ECHO unit. EJ's car has been in service for almost three years and has significantly reduced response time.

Communities benefit from E-cars

E-car, ECHO car, Paramedic unit — they're all names for the same animal: a car outfitted with all the components for an advanced life support emergency medical system.

East Jordan has had its ALS system in place for quite a long time, even before it got an ECHO unit about three years ago. Boyne City implemented its ALS system when it acquired the paramedic car in September 2004. Both services agree that the car is worth its weight in gold.

"It provides quicker response time," said Jay Peck, East Jordan EMS director. "We average about five minutes quicker. Is that a big deal? When someone's not breathing, it's an eternity. Try holding your breath for five minutes and see how much difference it makes."

"When someone calls 9-1-1, they need someone right away, and they want someone there as fast as possible," he said. Besides, the ECHO unit allows better utilization of resources.

"Our unit is staffed 24-hours a day, rather than on-call, meet-you-at-the-station responses," said John Lamont, Boyne City EMS director. "If ALS skills are not needed for a patient, the paramedic can stay in the area. About 40 percent of our runs require a paramedic in the transporting vehicle. With our run volume, we're busy enough that the second unit gets used a lot, and we can maximize the use of the paramedic," he said.

"It's working really well," Lamont added. Peck said that the ECHO car also allows the paramedic, who is first on scene, to instruct the transporting vehicle how to respond en-route. Sometimes they are able to take it a little slower — good to know in bad weather — sometimes they need to make sure lights and sirens are on and get there as fast as is safely possible.

Lamont said that one thing EMS services battle is their own history. It is a relatively new service. When he started out, he worked from a funeral home, where ambulance service was provided for about \$25. The term "ambulance driver" originated then, because providers often had little or no training and there was usually only one crew member, who literally loaded the patient in the back of a car (often a hearse — and not because they were dead), jumped in the driver's seat and drove the "ambulance" to the hospital, with the patient alone in the back.

A lot has changed since the 1960s and 1970s, when that practice was still common, particularly in rural areas. Ambulances now have to have crews of at least two licensed people so that one person can stay with the patient at all times.

It takes two years of schooling to become a paramedic. "The drug box is a loaded weapon," said Peck. "You have to know what you're doing. You can't be too tired, too stressed. At 2:30 in the morning, mess up a decimal point and see what happens."

"We need to educate people on what the role of an 'ambulance driver' is to paramedicine," Peck said.

EMS does not have the luxury of bright lights and sterile, clinical conditions. It is providing emergency pre-hospital care in difficult and often dangerous conditions, without which the patient could suffer additional pain or injury, or could die.

And yet, EMS is expected to be self-sustaining financially.

"We charge," Lamont said. "When you have a house fire, you don't get a bill from the fire department. The police department doesn't bill you. But if you utilize EMS, we are expected to generate our own operational revenue."

"We should be the third branch of public safety: fire, police and EMS," he said. Instead, EMS is forced to try and cover its costs by accepting third party payments in which they have no control over what they — Medicaid, Medicare — will pay. And by billing patients whose insurance often will not cover emergency medical services.

"It's because historically it was a funeral home service — nonprofessional," Lamont said. "But now we make a significant difference at a scene."

Peck added another dimension to what he believes EMS provides. "At no point is it acceptable not to be compassionate," he said. "It doesn't matter what you just walked away from or into — you have to maintain compassion."

"In rural areas, it is the exception to have a paid EMS service. Most of our providers are volunteers, who have undertaken a lot of training, are compassionate, work late nights, make sacrifices — their families make sacrifices," he said. "I want all our faces to be familiar and friendly."

Both services credit the amount of help that they have received. Wilson Township recently donated a Stryker stair chair to Boyne City's EMS, and a portable ventilator to East Jordan's. Peck said that the East Jordan E-car was the result of a gift from the Little Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, and the Charlevoix County Community Foundation.

And maybe most important of all, the services are working together.

"There is a lot of camaraderie," Lamont said. "We are working together, there's no parochial attitude. We are using a systems approach — working together we do a better job."

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OPINION

A bit of magic

My daughter, Katie May, is a little bit magic. She used some of it on me and Three Men and a Tenor.

Some of you have heard of them. Some of you have seen them perform. Three tall guys and one short guy, and all four can really sing. So they book dates and do performances and that's how Kate met them.

Or saw them, let's say.

Three Men and a Tenor performed at an assembly at the

East Jordan schools when Kate and her brother Sam first attended there. Immediately after school that day I was picking them up and we were going to Alpena to visit my aunt for the weekend.

All the way over to Alpena, I heard all about Three Men and a Tenor, which, you know, was fine for the first ten or fifteen ... or twenty or

thirty minutes, but after a while it wore a bit thin. Especially as they both kept interrupting their own narrations with hilarious laughter so that it was a little bit hard to understand what they were saying.

So when we got to Alpena, I warned my aunt how it might be. They seemed pretty unlikely to get off that particular track right away.

Let me tell you something about Katie. She doesn't get off track. She can listen to the same song 487 times in a row. She knows the movie "Boondock Saints" backward and forward. She wrote fan mail to director Troy Duffy and actor Norman Reedus, and ended up with pen-relationships with both for a couple months.

Once she and my niece were instant-messaging a guy who identified himself as Prince William (Haley was writing to Prince Harry). Katie May kept corresponding — for a couple weeks — just so she could trip the guy up. She asked him hard genealogy and events questions. Kate finally decided (since he insisted he was the Prince — and knew all the answers to her questions) that he was WAY too obsessed with His Royal Highness, and quit writing to him.

Several months later a couple British Sun reporters came to East Jordan to look for the girls that were writing to the Prince — following a tip from the royal's roommate at Eton. They took about 50 rolls of film of Kate and Haley, and said things like, "This will be the first time the Prince actually sees you." I am serious. But the reporters ended up calling back later to say that, after reading the transcripts that Katie (fortuitously ... and oddly) kept, it couldn't have been William — he used the word "pants," you see, and a royal would have said "trousers."

Whatever. I think it was Prince William. Kate knows every word to the movie "The Princess Bride." I mean every word. But she has no connection to any of the royalty or actors in that movie, no correspondence with Mandy Patinkin, Robin Wright or Andre the Giant, so that is sort of incidental in this story.

So back to Alpena that weekend; it was now Sunday. Three Men and a Tenor had worn off a bit, so we were talking about other things, finally. We were taking a walk on the Lake Huron beach when suddenly my daughter screeched, "Three Men and a Tenor!" and there they were, three very tall guys and a short guy, walking along the beach, too.

And then, in this strange dream-sequence sort of way, we were all standing together, talking about things, and I realized that Katie, who was in ninth grade at the time, was standing off with one of the very tall men, and the two of them were performing, in turn, all the parts for all the characters of "The Princess Bride." Just like they were old friends, school buddies, kindred spirits.

That's about all. Okay, so it's not what you'd call a relationship exactly, but it was — well, very Katie May.

So tonight I am home, watching Fred McMurray in "Double Indemnity" and falling asleep on the couch. And Kate calls. She has a surprise for me. And she hands the phone to a man who says, "We are going to do something, and then you are going to guess who we are," and he proceeds, with a lovely lot of other voices, to sing to me. It sounded beautiful, in a cell-phone reception kind of way.

He said, "Who are we?" and I said, "You are either a man or a tenor." Turns out he was a man, but the tenor was there, all right. They had come for dinner in the restaurant in Mt. Pleasant where Kate, now 22 years old, works.

But you know ... it was her special magic at work. Because there I was, falling asleep on the couch with an old movie, and Kate pulled a gift out of her hat for me, and I was serenaded awake, and laughing. And they are guys that came in for dinner, and wound up singing into a cell phone for the hostess's mother.

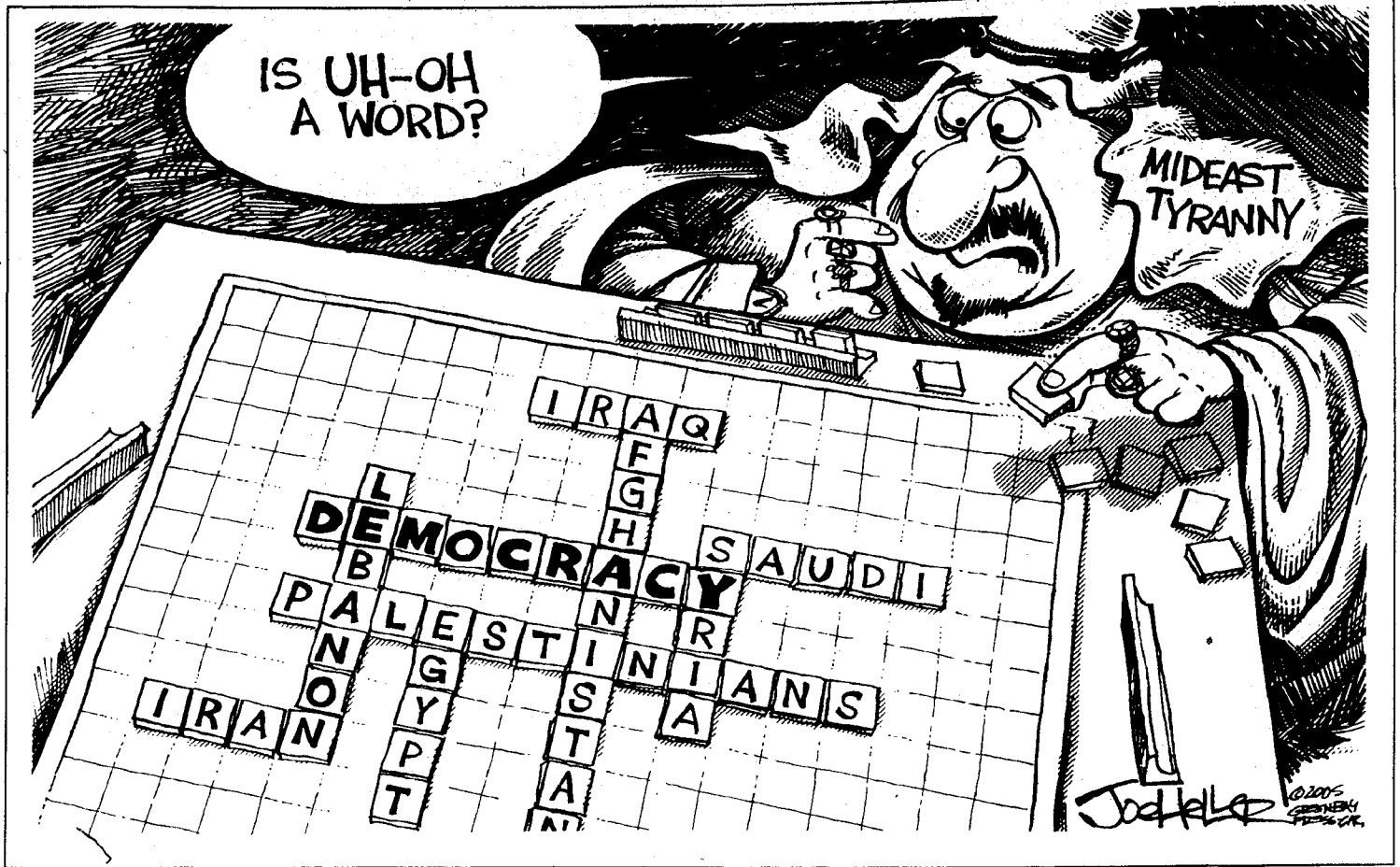
She couldn't talk — she was at work. But she loved me, she said, and she would talk to me later. Of course.

But what amazing company I am in, knowing Katie May.

LAST CALL



Jane Booze



GUEST COLUMN

Schools join forces to provide support for troops

By MAXINE HOUGH

Time is running out to remember our troops with cards, letters and packages for Easter.

If you intend to mail chocolate Easter bunnies, etc., to troops overseas, be sure the ingredients are not "chocolate" but "chocolate flavored." Chocolate should ship OK to addresses in the States — an APO or FPO address is NOT in the States, but is overseas.

The last two Boyne City Legionnaires still serving overseas are expected back in the States the first part of April. Their names and addresses are:

• SRA Shawn Weisler, 447 AEG/ESFS, APO AE 09321;

• SSGT Russell G. Gilmore, HHC 2/7 CAV ICD, APO AE 09313.

It is probably too late to mail them packages but not too late for cards and letters.

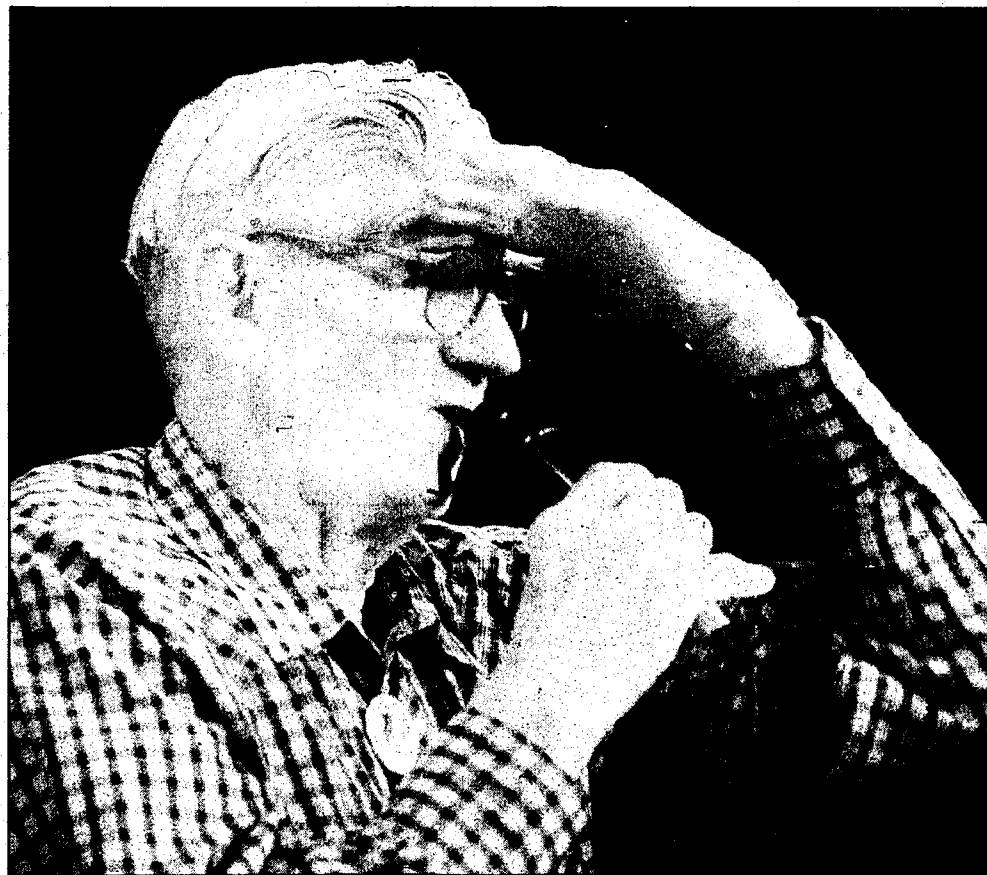
The successful fund-raiser sponsored by the Boyne Falls PTO with McDonald's of Boyne and coordinated by Becky Palmiter continues to move ahead for the benefit of troops. Palmiter has succeeded in enlarging the troop support area to include all of Charlevoix County; she has enlisted coordinators from East Jordan and Charlevoix.

The support program includes ALL military personnel on active duty — whether overseas or in the States. Palmiter has succeeded in starting troop support

programs in the Boyne City Schools with the Student Council in BCHS overseeing activities there; the BCMS will be mailing packages to troops and the BCES students have a post-card writing project every Wednesday morning. They have invited members of the community to join them at that time to write cards to the troops.

Funds raised by the McDonald's pie sale are held in a special account of the Boyne Falls PTO. As president of the Boyne Falls PTO, Palmiter asks that anyone who needs money for postage or "things" to purchase for our troops, to contact her.

(Maxine Hough is a member of the American Legion Post #228, Boyne City.)



Don Craven of Morley calls a square dance at the Fiddler's Jamboree Saturday. Square-dance calling was once a more common "calling," with grange halls filled with dancers on weekend evenings.

Fiddlers heat up the night

The Fiddler's Jamboree packed the house on Saturday, March 5, with fiddling enthusiasts and fiddlers from all over Michigan, hosted by the Harvest Barn church in East Jordan.

The fun started shortly after noon when the first fiddlers took the stage, and continued all afternoon, ending with circle and square dancing until 10 p.m.

From young fiddlers to callers who have been around the dance floor a time or two, the annual event appeals to all age groups.

One of the organizers, Dudley Stevens, said, "I would say 56 individual fiddlers participated, and the Crooked Tree Arts Council string band — probably 20 — went up as a group. Maggie Poxson had a group of kids and also Judy Slocum who had some kids there. There was a big array of fiddlers, some from almost to Minnesota — six hours away.

"This was a pay-back here for us, because I would say half of our individual fiddlers were under 20. A lot of young fiddlers and super talented. We had a really good turn out of young people. Really good."

The "pay-back" reference is due to the fact that the money collected at the Fiddler's Jamboree is used for student scholarships, providing private lessons for young fiddlers and going to a collection of for-loan violins. This year the pay-off for those scholarships was evident in the plethora of young and talented musicians.

"But we definitely had our ages 5 to 95 covered," Stevens said.

The Jamboree had about 1,300 fiddling aficionados in attendance as well, with 300 returning for the dance.

The Citizen Journal

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NEIGHBORS

By NANCY NORTHUP

A HAPPY surprise call came in from Janet (Munson) Muldrum! She and hubby, Clarence Muldrum are enjoying Florida's Plant City and visits with her niece Suchara and Roy McLain there and also with former Boyne resident, Barbara (Ostrander) and husband Joseph Medlin, in Clearwater.

SCOTT HOBBS has returned to his home in Fullerton, Calif. after spending the past eight months with his parents, Morrie and Sue Hobbs, working hard in therapy and recovering from a 35-hour brain surgery procedure.

FORMER BOYNE resident Dick Dunsmore had surgery on Feb 26. Brother-in-law, and sister Harley and Ann Parks went down for a few days to visit. Dick is now home in Redford and doing well.

ACTIVITIES OF the Boyne Area Senior Center this week: Wednesday, March 9, serving meatloaf, cards and foot clinic; Thursday, March 10, chicken parmesan noodles and bingo; Friday, March 11, polish sausage; Monday, March 14, baked chicken and bingo; Tuesday, March 15, Swiss steak; Wednesday, March 16, mac & cheese and cards.

A COLORFUL lift from a dreary long winter was a welcome scene for residents of Litzenger Place this week! The entryway of exit #5 is now freshly painted with a bright robin's egg blue, thanks to maintenance crew member, Brenda Miller, and adorned with eye-catching Birdhouses, skillfully hand

crafted by head of maintenance, Ray Detcher, and the detailed artistic and decorative painting of them all, by resident, Judy (Hartley) Owen. A greatly appreciated team effort goes out to each of you!

CELIA MCGEORGE, the wife of Dan, was honored with a baby shower at the fellowship hall of the Free Methodist Church last Saturday, Feb. 26. Hosted by Marvel Gould, Wilma Bellville and Margaret Bennett, there were 33 family members and friends sharing baby shower fun, refreshments and lots of gifts for Celia and Dan's fourth child, which is soon to arrive!

FORMER EXCHANGE student from Thailand, Wichanee Tonvorakul (Meen), and friend Ae recently visited "Grandpa and Grandma," Morrie and Sue Hobbs. Meen is in her sophomore year at Western Michigan University.

HEARTFELT SYMPATHIES go out to the family and friends of longtime Boyne resident, Gordon Kane, who passed away this past Friday. He would have been 88 years old in May. Also Bob Anzell of Boyne City, Milford Hayward, 80, of East Jordan, and former owner of Fox's Variety Store in Boyne City many years ago, Lucille Fox, who passed away in Traverse City this past Saturday. All will be greatly missed.

MORRIE HOBBS received a call from Florida vacationers, Carl and Sue Charon last Friday. They had enjoyed a cookout with former Boyne residents Gary and Judy

(Hrushka) Coon. The Charons are also visiting Paul and Dorothy Pfahler and enjoying Tiger baseball games in Lakeland.

WEEKEND VISITORS at the Bob and Shirley Mathers home were their granddaughter Heather Hutchinson, a student in Greenville, N.C., and Shirley's sister and husband, Sandy and Ron Sniegowski of Ludington.

THE DELTA Delta sorority met at the home of Joyce Johnson this past Wednesday, March 2.

AN AWARENESS Plug-In Reminder goes out about telephone scams. They seem to be targeting the elderly and it is happening in this area. Even though it may sound persuasively official, and no matter how good the deal sounds, do not ever give the caller your account numbers or other pertinent information. Check it out with the Better Business Bureau or other reputable agencies.

JESSIE WILLSON is home after an eight day stay in Northern Michigan Hospital. She's still a little weak, but says, in her nice strong voice, "I'm getting there!" She sure has appreciated receiving so many lovely cards, food brought in by her many friends and family members, "everyone has just been wonderful!" As Feb. 15 was her 94th birthday a belated "HAPPY BIRTHDAY" to you, Jessie!

To submit an item, call Nancy at 582-9174 or e-mail to neighbors @gtlakes.com

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Boyne Falls Public School

NAME: Amber Matelski
 PARENTS: Jeff and Shawn Matelski
 GRADE: First
 FAVORITE CLASS: Snack time
 HOBBIES AND INTERESTS: Eat
 FAVORITE SPORT: Basketball
 FAVORITE COLOR: Purple
 NOMINATING COMMENTS: "Amber always comes to school with a great attitude," said Ms. Disney. "She works hard and always strives to do her best. Amber is a good friend to all her classmates. She is very deserving of this "Student of the Week" nomination. Congratulations Amber!"



Amber Matelski

Boyne City High School

NAME: Alison Anzell
 PARENTS: Pat and Beth Anzell
 GRADE: Senior
 HOBBIES AND INTERESTS: Shopping, reading, watching movies, and taking naps
 SCHOOL ACTIVITIES: National Honor Society, and soccer
 FUTURE PLANS: "To attend Grand Valley State University in the fall and take general studies until I determine my major."
 NOMINATING COMMENTS: "Alison is a hard working, pleasant person to have in class," said Debbie Neidhamer. "She is a leader in the classroom, a conscientious student and in "real life" her pleasant personality will carry her far. Congratulations, Alison."



Alison Anzell

East Jordan Middle School

NAME: Katie Carter
 PARENTS: Bob and Sue Carter
 GRADE: Sixth
 NOMINATING COMMENTS: "Katie is a very nice young lady," said Anne Petrie, Wendy Crick, Paul Keyser, and Craig DeHoog. "She is a self-motivated worker who strives for high quality work. She is kind and helpful to her peers."



Katie Carter

East Jordan High School

NAME: Cody Goedike
 PARENTS: Tresa and John Twichel and Robert Goedike
 GRADE: Sophomore
 HOBBIES AND INTERESTS: Basketball and snowmobiling
 FUTURE PLANS: Going to college to be a pediatrician
 FAVORITE CLASSES: Chemistry
 NOMINATING COMMENTS: "From the moment I met Cody last September and was told I could remember his name by thinking of "Special Agent Cody Banks", I knew I would enjoy having Cody's humor as part of MST this year," said Mr. Essenberg. "Congratulations on being chosen Student of the Week."



Cody Goedike

"Cody is just a great student to have in class because he comes in each day with a positive attitude, and a willingness to work," said Mrs. McPherson. "He has been doing an awesome job in class this semester. Keep up the good work Cody!"
 "Cody's performance in class has greatly improved this semester," said Mrs. Sitkins. "He's handing in assignments on time. He listens attentively and participates in class discussion. There has also been improvement in his maturity level."
 "Cody is a great student to have in class. He pays attention, comes in for extra help when he needs it and takes responsibility for his grades," said Mrs. Moeke. "Keep up the hard work Cody!"
 "Cody always seems to look to the bright side," said Mrs. Cardwell. "His sense of humor and positive attitude lighten challenging tasks. He is a hard-worker with a great attitude."
 "Cody is a great student," said Mrs. Richardson. "He always approaches his work with a positive attitude and his best effort, and he always seems to be in a good mood. It is an absolute pleasure to have him in class."

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

EASTER EGG HUNT
Sunday, March 27
 The Boyne Area Cub Scouts will hold an Easter egg hunt in Veterans Park in Boyne City at 2 p.m. All kids ages 2-12 are welcome to come. Prizes will include bikes for boys and girls of all ages.

EJ LITTLE LEAGUE SIGN-UP
March 12, 15, 19
 East Jordan Little League will hold registration sign-up for Tee Ball through boys and girls 11 and up on Saturday, March 12 from 9 a.m.-noon; March 15, 6-9 p.m.; and March 19, 9 a.m.-noon at the high school cafeteria. Payment is due at registration and some financial assistance may be provided.

COFFEE HOUSE
First & third Saturday
 The Open Door Saturday Coffee House in East Jordan meets from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Senior Center on Main Street in East Jordan. Saturday, March 19, Southern Praise will perform. Donations will be accepted at the non-denominational family event. Pizza, coffee, tea and pop are available. The public is welcome.

FOOD PANTRY
Every Sunday
 The East Jordan Baptist Church holds a food pantry every Sunday from 3-5 p.m. at the church, located at 812 Ontario Street. For

more information, call 536-7155.

COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTER
Mondays
 The Seventh Day Adventist Community Service Center is open every Monday from 6:30-8:30 p.m., located on Park Street in Boyne City. For information, call 582-0089.

OES CHAPTER 95
First Monday
 The OES Evangline Chapter 95 meets the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Masonic Lodge, 212 N. Lake Street. All OES members are invited. For membership, call 582-6819 or 582-0506.

BOYNE FOOD PANTRY
First & third Mondays
 Food pick-up hours are on the first Monday of the month from 10 a.m.-noon and third Monday from 5-7 p.m., or on Tuesday if a holiday falls on Monday. The food pantry is located at 401 State Street.

SCRAPBOOKING
First Tuesday
 Come join the scrapbooking group at the Boyne District Library in the community room from 5-10 p.m. Everyone is welcome to bring any projects you are working on.

ADULT OPEN GYM
Tuesdays
 The East Jordan Commu-

nity Education Adult Open Gym will meet every Tuesday, Nov. 23 through March 29, from 7-9 p.m. at the East Jordan Elementary School gym. The cost is \$1. No children or students will be permitted to play; participants must be at least 18 years old, and should bring their own equipment. For more information, call 536-2250.

VETERAN ASSISTANCE
Tuesdays
 A Service Officer will be at the American Legion Post #228 of Boyne City every Tuesday from 4-6 p.m. preceding weekly bingo. Any veteran seeking assistance may visit the Post at the corner of Lake and Main streets or call 582-7811 at that time.

JV VFW POTLUCK
Third Tuesday
 A potluck dinner of the Jordan Valley VFW Post 7580 and Auxiliary is held at 6 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month at the East Jordan VFW Hall. For more information call 544-5312.

JORDAN VALLEY VFW MEETING
Second Tuesday
 A meeting of the Jordan Valley VFW Post 7580 is held at 7:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month at the East Jordan VFW Hall. Information: 544-5312.

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP

First Wednesday
 The Alzheimer's Association Support Group meets the first Wednesday of each month from 3:30-5 p.m. at the Charlevoix County Adult Day Center (Senior Center). The Center is located at 116 Main Street in East Jordan. For information, call Barb Shooks at 231-536-5300.

BOYNE VALLEY LIONS CLUB MEETINGS
Wednesdays
 The Boyne Valley Lions Club holds weekly meetings every Wednesday from 12 noon until 1 p.m. at the Boyne District Library.

EJ FOOD PANTRY
Thursdays
 The East Jordan Food Pantry is located at 601 Bridge St., in the basement of the Health Center. Pickup or donation hours are held Thursdays at 9 a.m.-noon.

KIWANIS OF BOYNE
Thursdays
 Interested persons are invited to join the Kiwanis of Boyne for coffee, camaraderie, and community service every Thursday morning at 7 a.m. at Robert's Restaurant in Boyne City.

GRANDVUE AUXILIARY
Second Thursday
 The Grandvue Auxiliary meets the second Thursday of each month, except for the months of January and February, when no meetings are held. For more information, call 582-6278.

AA MEETINGS
Weekly
 The Boyne Valley Group of AA meets in the basement of St. Matthew's, 1303 Boyne Ave., Boyne City. Times: Sunday 1 p.m.; Monday noon, 8 p.m. (Big Book Study); Tuesday noon; Wednesday noon, 8 p.m.; Thursday noon, 6:30 p.m. (Step Study); 8 p.m.; Friday noon, 8 p.m. (Grapevine Study); Saturday 10 a.m. Meetings are closed and non-smoking. The first Friday of each month is an Open Talk/Potluck at 7 p.m., with meeting at 8 p.m.

ALANON
Thursday nights
 Al-Anon meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. at St. Matthew Church, 1303 Boyne Ave., Boyne City.
 (To have an item included in the calendar, call 582-6761.)

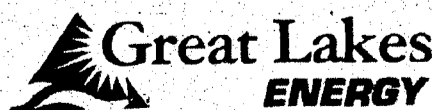
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EJ native writes about his time in Alaska

By JANE BOOZE
Staff Writer

A taste of Alaskan adventure is coming to East Jordan when one of its native sons shares video and stories at the Jordan Valley District Library this week.

Keith Evans was raised in East Jordan, one of five siblings. He loved to hunt and fish, was an avid fan of Jack London and the great outdoors.

When he was 12, he promised his mother that he would never get married, but rather build a cabin and take care of her there.

He graduated in 1954, after a stellar high school career that left him buried in varsity letters and under the influence of some quality teachers and life experiences.

Coaches Gale Saxton and Dan Devine had an impact, with Devine being instrumental in getting young Evans a full-ride scholarship to Michigan State University. But it was teacher Letha Larsen who had the most profound impact.

"She told me, 'I think you would make a good teacher,'" Evans said, and after all this time, it choked him up a little. "It was probably one of the most influential statements of my life."

So off he went to MSU, though a year later, longing for the small town, he enrolled at Northwestern Michigan College in Traverse City.

And he reneged on his youthful promise to his mother. He married Gail Krahnke of Charlevoix, a former Cherry Queen and the love of his life. He has been married to her now for 50 years. His mother didn't mind.

In 1959, Evans took a job with the Traverse City Public Schools and worked for 18 years at what is now the West Junior High, though at the time, it was the only one. He left the junior high school in 1977, where he was the principal, and accepted a high school principalship in Suttons Bay, where he remained for three years, and then became the administrator at the Traverse Bay Area Tech Center.

For eight years he was administrator there, and then TCAPS offered an early retirement incentive, and Evans took it.

But his high school teacher was right. Education was in his blood, and he signed up for the University of Alaska-Fairbanks placement service, and in this way heard about an administrative position open in the Lower Yukon.

"We met in Anchorage in August of 1988, and I was hired," he said. Gail was still teaching in Traverse City, and she did not follow him to Alaska, so the move ushered in a long-distance relationship that they both knew their marriage would endure.

"I lived in a little village called Mountain Village," he said. "There were about 800 Yupik Eskimos, and the village was on the Yukon River. I had 11 schools scattered across 22,000 square miles, with 25 miles of road. We did

a lot of flying. That was my first four years."

He did a lot of hunting and fishing, too, and fortunately for posterity, he took lots of video and wrote letters home.

"I sent monthly reports back to the tech center — thought they'd be interested," he said. He said that when he had an excursion or adventure, normally he would come home and write down his thoughts. And of course, everything was on video.

Gail visited him there, and got video-taped. He came back to Michigan to visit her, and thus four years passed in Mountain Village.

And then in 1992, Evans was hired to be the elementary school principal in Dillingham on Alaska's southwest coast. The principalship lasted two years before he moved on to become Dillingham's superintendent. And all the while he wrote the news, and sent it back home.

By the time Evans had been in Alaska for nine years, Gail was retired from her teaching position in Traverse City.

And so, finally, he decided to retire for good, and return to northern Michigan.

But his friends kept wondering why he didn't publish those tales he'd been sending home for years.

In 2002 Evans published a compilation of 17 true stories, which he titled "Dead Caribou Bags Hunter."

"It's a composite of stories that took place up there. They're not all about hunting and fishing," he said. "There's one about catching eels on the Yukon River in the winter — through the ice — and one about what goes on in pubs at the end of the Iditerod. But that's all I'm going to tell you; I don't want to give everything away."

While he was in Dillingham, Evans found an 80-acre parcel on a remote lake — with a road leading to it, though — and bought it with a friend. They built a cabin on it, and he goes back every fall, hunting, fishing and adding to his repertoire of stories and the magnificent video library, with its images of wildlife, breath-taking scenery, Mountain Village, "subsistence fishing," and myriad other frontier things. Many of us will never know these things first hand, and so are grateful for Evans' eyes and storytelling bent.

Evans will be narrating that accumulated video at the Jordan Valley District Library March 9 at 7 p.m. and will have copies of his book to sign and sell.

"I lived in a little village called Mountain Village. There were about 800 Yupik Eskimos, and the village was on the Yukon River. I had 11 schools scattered across 22,000 square miles, with 25 miles of road. We did a lot of flying."

— Keith Evans



Eagles lend a hand

Ken Visser, right, president of Northwest Michigan Habitat for Humanity, accepts a \$500 donation from Boyne City Eagle Member Gordon Burns, project director of the East Jordan construction site. Habitat for Humanity is nearing the drywall phase on its Boyne City home and the East Jordan site will be completed by the end of February. A third home in Alanson will be started as soon as the snow clears. Jimmy Carter will be in Michigan working on homes in Detroit and Benton Harbor for the two weeks prior to June 24 and Habitat affiliates across the state are expected to dedicate in excess of 200 homes on that date. Visser said this is only possible with financial support from individuals, churches and groups like the Eagles, with donated materials from many suppliers in the area and many volunteer hours.

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East Jordan students jump their hearts out

Kelly Neer's East Jordan Elementary School gym students jumped ropes for their own heart's sake recently and raised money for the American Heart Association while they were at it.

The gym was divided into seven stations, every one a cardio work-out using jump ropes, but the youngsters running from station to station and leaping like frogs at one event after another didn't seem to notice the exertion.

The month of February was geared toward the heart, with Neer telling her students how important exercise — including jumping rope — is for their heart health. The students also were asked to collect donations for Jump Rope for Heart.

"They weren't asking for pledges, just donations," Neer said. The students raised more than \$5,000, with about 150 children participating in the all-day events.



Students Cheyenne Manwell (left) and Brittney Wells jump rope at the East Jordan Elementary Jump Rope for Heart event recently. The students raised more than \$5,000.



Main Street grand opening

With FIA board member Oral Sutliff and administrator Penny Drury looking on, Grandvue resident council president Paul Niedling cuts the ribbon that allows access to Grandvue's new Main Street. Main Street features a theater, street-side café, beauty/barber shop, library and chapel. Grandvue is planning an open house for area residents when all construction is complete.

COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

Boyer City creates information hotline

What do you do when it's after 5 p.m., Boyer City City Hall is closed and you have a question about a city meeting or the operating hours of the Avalanche warming house?

The city now has a 24-hour information hotline you can call. It is updated on a weekly basis and includes general city information, such as the weekly schedule of city meetings, as well as various announcements.

The hotline number is (231) 582-0333.

Stock car fund-raiser on tap at high school

The Micro-Reality 1/10th scale stock cars are coming to a race-track near you on March 10, to raise money for the Boyer City High School Performing Arts.

The races will be held at the BCHS gymnasium, with spectators getting a chance to "drive" the mini stock cars around a banked, oval track at scale speeds of 200 mph. Each car looks like real NASCAR — only two feet

long. Proceeds generated will go toward funding Performing Arts Center programs other than those produced by the school.

The event will begin at 5 p.m. and run until 9 p.m. Tickets are available at the Boyer City Chamber of Commerce, Boyer Country Books and Boyer City High School.

Tickets cost \$10 each and enter participants into a drawing for the showdown race for first, second and third place cash prizes. You may also buy tickets the night of the event, or "Pay-to-Play," with each race costing \$3. Admission to the event is free.

planned for the first and third Saturdays of the month.

Frieda Lewitt, contact person, requests that guests RSVP regarding attendance. For an event schedule or for more information, call Lewitt at (231) 347-5747 or (231) 632-1095.

Grief support seminar starts March 23

St. Joseph and St. John Catholic Churches along with The Healing Circle are sponsoring a grief support seminar on working through death, divorce, heartbreak, and other losses.

The seminar will be held the fourth Wednesday of the month beginning March 23 and continuing through Dec. 28, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at St. Joseph's Church, 207 Nicholls St. East Jordan.

The facilitator is Theresa Prymuszewski of The Healing Circle, who is a national certified counselor, certified poetry therapist, spiritual director and reiki master.

All are welcome to attend the free seminar. For more information contact Prymuszewski at (231) 499-4476.

Over 40 singles group to meet in Petoskey

Zion Lutheran Church in Petoskey is sponsoring an over-40 singles group called "Singles for Christ," to provide area singles with a way of meeting new friends.

An initial meeting will be held March 19 at 6 p.m. at the church, located at 500 W. Mitchell St. in Petoskey.

Usually the meetings and events will be

COLLEGE NEWS

BENJAMIN PLACE of Boyer City, **RUTH HOWELL** of Boyer Falls, **SHAWN GRUTSCH** of East Jordan, and **KENNETH SLOUGH** of Ellsworth, were all named to the Alma College Dean's List for the Fall 2004 term.

Place is a 2004 graduate of Boyer City High School and is the son of Andrew and Cindi Place of Boyer City. Howell is a 2001 graduate of Boyer Falls High School and is the daughter of Tom and Laurie Howell of Boyer Falls. Grutsch is a 2002 graduate of East Jordan High School and is the son of Thomas and Sally Grutsch of East Jordan. Slough is a 2001 graduate of East Jordan High School and is the son of James and Kathryn Slough of Ellsworth.

LEAH HERRICK of Boyer City and **NICKOLAS MOES** and **LACEY TAYLOR** of East Jordan, were all named to the Lake Superior State University Dean's List for the Fall 2004 semester. Herrick is a senior majoring in

Elementary Education, Moes is a sophomore majoring in Business Administration-Management and Taylor is a junior majoring in Fire Science.

KELLIE BARBER of East Jordan and **LINDSAY PEMBERTON** of Walloon Lake were among the December graduates at Central Michigan University. Barber graduated with a Master of Arts degree and Pemberton graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree.

AMANDA KORTHASE of Boyer City and **TINA CLARK**, **CAROLINE GOEBEL**, **HEATHER JONES** and **NICOLE PECK**, all of East Jordan, were all named to the Dean's List for the Fall 2004 semester at Grand Valley State University.

RENEE ROBERTS of East Jordan was named to the Dean's List for the Fall 2004 semester at Saginaw Valley State University. Roberts is the daughter of Ed and Connie Roberts of East Jordan.

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We, the members of Girl Scouts of the United States of America, united by a belief in God and by acceptance of the Girl Scout Promise and Law—do dedicate ourselves to the purpose of inspiring girls with the highest ideals of character, conduct, patriotism, and service that they may become happy and resourceful citizens.

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I will do my best to be honest and fair, friendly and helpful, considerate and caring, courageous and strong, and responsible for what I say and do, and to respect myself and others, respect authority, use resources wisely, make the world a better place, and be a sister to every Girl Scout.

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Daisy Girl Scouts	Kindergarten
Brownie Girl Scouts	1st, 2nd, 3rd Grades
Junior Girl Scouts	4th, 5th, 6th Grades
Cadette Girl Scouts	7th, 8th, 9th Grades
Senior Girl Scouts	10th, 11th, 12th Grades

THE GIRL SCOUT PROMISE

On my honor, I will try:
To serve God and my country,
To help people at all times,
And to live by the Girl Scout Law.



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Scouting... Timeless Values

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

SCOUT OATH

On my honor I will do my best
To do my duty to God and my country
and to obey the Scout Law;
To help other people at all times;
To keep myself physically strong,
mentally awake, and morally straight.



Above, members of Girl Scout Troop #540 along with junior aide Halle Poole made a quilt that was auctioned off to support the Charlevoix County Humane Society.



East Jordan Brownie from troop #369 displays the badges that she's earned throughout the year.



Girl Scout troops #532, 275, 373 await the campfire at the International Scout Rally in Hessel.



Below, working hard at earning achievements, these Scouts have completed woodwork projects.



Above, Troop #53 Scouts brave the elements at the Buck Patrol. They won the Klondike trophy.



Girls from Brownie Troop #535 explore "Harry Potter and the Secrets of Nature" at Shelding Tree Nature Center.



Below, Troop #374, along with male escorts, puts on an annual prom fashion show.



Boy Scouts, right, in a group photo take pride in their uniforms & badges.



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ALIVE and WELL

Scouting remains an important part of children's lives

By JANE BOOZE
Staff Writer

Pam Crouch of Boyne City has been scouting since her youngest son, Caleb, joined Cub Scouts when he was in first grade. It has been seven years since then, and she is still going strong — as is Caleb, who "crossed over" to Boy Scouts a year ago.

That's how it works for adults in scouting. Many of them get involved when their kids do, becoming Den Mothers or Brownie leaders and moving up with their kids until the coveted moment when a Boy Scout becomes an Eagle, or when a young lady launches out of Girl Scouts into college or a career with the solid base of life skills that scouting promotes.

Cub Scouts has a hierarchy of dens as the little guys move from grade to grade, going from tiger, bear and then wolf to Webelows. They are Webelows in fourth- and fifth-grades, and after that they cross over into Boy Scouts.

All along the way, like Girl Scouts, they are earning badges and achievements.

"The idea is that you earn your level's badge," said Crouch. There are 12 requirements throughout the year that a scout must meet to merit the badge.

In the meantime, the Cub Scouts, Brownies, Girl and Boy Scouts stay pretty busy building, cooking, doing service work and making friends.

"We need parental involvement," Crouch said. "This is not drop-your-kids-off-and-leave-them. It is necessary for parents to be involved."

Becki King, an East Jordan Brownie leader, said that is not a problem in her troop.

"We have about 85 girls participating in Girl Scouts in East Jordan," she said. "We average one adult for every two kids a lot of the time. When we are going someplace out of town, that is a very good thing. Sometimes that's not necessary, but rarely do we have a hard time getting parents to help out."

"The more the parents are involved, the more the boys are," Crouch said.

Another characteristic of scout parents is that many of them were scouts themselves. Take Carl Cotanche, a Boy Scout leader in Boyne City.

"My grandfather was in the Detroit area when he started Scouts. Later he moved his family north, and eventually my mom became a cub scout leader in Walloon Lake," he said. Cotanche and his two brothers all became Eagle Scouts. "When you have an active troop quite a few will go all the way through."

"Right now I am the assistant scout master in Boyne City," said Cotanche, the father of two Boy Scouts. "They have worked their way up. My wife did Cub Scouts, I did Webelows. When they became Boy Scouts, I became the assistant scout master."

"There is a lot of family involvement," he added. "but it is mostly moms doing Boy Scouts right now."

One of the benefits that Cotanche sees from scouting is for boys whose fathers are absent.

"When dads aren't around, (Boy Scouts) help a lot,

because they can go camping and socialize with other boys," he said.

Camping is still the thrust of Boy Scouts, Cotanche said.

"A major part is still skills for survival, wilderness and camping. There are badges for emergency preparedness and first aid," he said. He feels his own boys have learned more than they would have if he had just camped with them himself, because besides the "basic stuff, just being out in the woods," they have had opportunities to take leadership roles within the troop.

Besides, there are other leaders with diverse skills.

"They can learn more — they have more mentors than just me," he said.

Girl Scouting has a little different emphasis.

"We focus less on outdoors than what's in the world in general," King said. "We want girls to have a chance to see what girls can do. They earn 'Try-Its' by trying new things. We want them to find out what's out there for them."

In addition, the Girl Scouts have an organized "Thinking Day," where all the troops are encouraged to teach their girls something about other people, other places and possibly other needs than their own. The East Jordan girls will be thinking about the tsunami for Thinking Day, and will be encouraged to donate to its victims through their schools.

The Boyne Area Girl Scouts is a strong group, too, with 188 girls participating and the most adults registered in 11 counties.

"I think we are unique in that we are growing," said Tammy Whitley, Boyne Area Girl Scouts service area manager.

The Girl Scouts are celebrating their 93rd anniversary: Boy Scouts are even older.

In spite of the outdoor emphasis, the Boy Scouts participate in many non-camping activities as well. A big event is the Pinewood Derby, where the boys build cars to certain specifications and race them in March.

"It's pretty intense — the boys love it," said Crouch. In addition, the boys went on a hayride in the fall and had a cake-bake, where the decorated cakes are auctioned off.

"Oftentimes you go home with your own cake, because your son wants that cake," Crouch said.

"Scouting gives them a chance to explore, work with others, learn responsibility. It is noncompetitive (except for the Pinewood Derby), more cooperative; it encourages excellence in different skills, with each boy excelling in his own skills," Crouch said.

In that way, the underlying philosophy of Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts is the same: a family-oriented organization for activities, with the goal of raising responsible, competent and confident adults.

The Girl Scouts are selling their famous cookies right now — an annual occurrence many people look forward to. A portion of the money raised stays with the local troops.

"Scouting gives them a chance to explore, work with others, learn responsibility. It is noncompetitive, more cooperative; it encourages excellence in different skills, with each boy excelling in his own skills."

— Pam Crouch

Arts center hosts Peace Coffee House Saturday

The Jordan River Arts Center on Main Street in East Jordan is hosting the Peace Coffee House on Saturday, March 12 from 8 - 11 p.m. with guest performers and an open stage.

Starting the evening will be local folk artists Dale Scott and Pete Gehrig, who combine their talents to bring a fun mingling of guitar, horn and any number of other instruments. Their repertoire includes original and traditional folk tunes.

Up-and-coming Lansing-based artist Jen Sygit takes the stage next with her original folk tunes and guitar accompaniment.

Her music is a reminder, according to Peace Coffee House organizers Rick and Tracy Meisterheim, that "old souls do live in young minds."

Backed by members of the bands "Steppin' In It" and "Hot-Toe-Mitty" as well as former guitarist with Lare William's Band, Ron McKeever, Sygit has a debut CD called "Here to There."

"Here to There" demonstrates her comfort and versatility in performing a wide range of musical styles," writes Meisterheim. "Whether delving into mournful blues tunes, haunting folk ballads or rousing bluegrass numbers, Jen's rapidly growing repertoire of original songs has surprised many with its sophisticated lyrics and intense emotion."

Sygit is an Interlochen alumnus and composes music primarily for guitar, but also plays ukelele and dobro, as well as the clawhammer banjo.

After these performers, there will be an open stage. Admission is \$7 for adults and includes refreshments; children are admitted by donation, as patrons are able.

For more information call Rick or Tracy at 231-525-9168, or E-mail rickandtracy@yahoo.com.



Jen Sygit

WEEKLY Health Tips

By Steve Czerkes
Pharmacist

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According to a new study, using a "two-pronged" approach to managing cholesterol is more effective against progression of heart disease. Simultaneously using one medication to lower the bad cholesterol (LDL) and another to raise the good cholesterol (HDL) appears to slow the build up of plaque in the arteries more than just one drug alone. This combination therapy adds niacin (member of the vitamin B family) to a cholesterol lowering statin. Combining the statin with the niacin slowed disease progression 68% more than using the statin alone. Ask your doctor or pharmacist for more information.

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Hospital foundation sponsors estate planning seminar

A free Estate Planning and Money Management Seminar specifically designed for women will be held on Wednesday, March 23, at 2:30 p.m.

The free program will be held in the large conference room on the lower level of Charlevoix Area Hospital and is open to women of all ages.

Some of the topics will include planning for a child's or grandchild's education, savings, insurance, a review of monthly spending, savings accounts, CDs, taxes, planning for retirement, money management, and steps to an effective estate plan.

Katrina Martin, an attorney with Joseph, Corcoran, Telgenhof & Snyder; John Doskoc, a certified financial planner; and Craig Leppin, a financial advisor with Waddell & Reed will present the program.

The seminar is free. It is sponsored by the Charlevoix Area Hospital Foundation Planned Gifts Committee, and is the first in a series of estate and financial planning seminars that will be held this year.

For reservations or for more information, call the Foundation office at (231) 547-8502.

CLUB NEWS

Study Club

The Monday Study Club of Boyne City will meet on Monday, March 21, at 1:30 p.m. at the Boyne District Library community room. Virginia Kessler will give a program on "Irish in song." Hostess will be Midge Ackland, Sally Ellingwood and Betty Aldread.

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It's sign-up time for Little Leaguers

East Jordan Little League will be registering players on Saturday, March 12; Tuesday, March 15; and Saturday, March 19, at the East Jordan High School cafeteria.

Registration fees are: Tee Ball (ages 5 - 6), \$25; girls (ages 7 - 9) \$35; girls (ages 10 and up) \$40; boys (ages 7 - 10) \$35; boys (ages 11 and up) \$40. The family rate is \$60.

Registration times are March 12 from 9 a.m. to noon; March 15 from 6 to 9 p.m. and March 19 from 9 a.m. to noon.

Payment must be made at the time of registration by cash or check, made payable to East Jordan Little League. Financial assistance is available if needed.

Fees for late registration, after March 19, will increase by \$50 per family, and no registrations will be accepted after April 1.

Boyne City Little League will hold one more opportunity for parents to register their children this Saturday, March 2, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Registrations will be held in the lower level of the Boyne District Library.

You may also register online at www.eteamz.com/boyne-citylittleleague.

Little League is open to boys and girls, ages 5-16 who live in Boyne City, Boyne Falls and Elmira.

Players must be at least six years old by Dec. 1, 2005. The registration fee is \$40 per child or \$80 per family. When registering, players will need a copy of their birth certificate.

For more information, call Tina at 582-2646.

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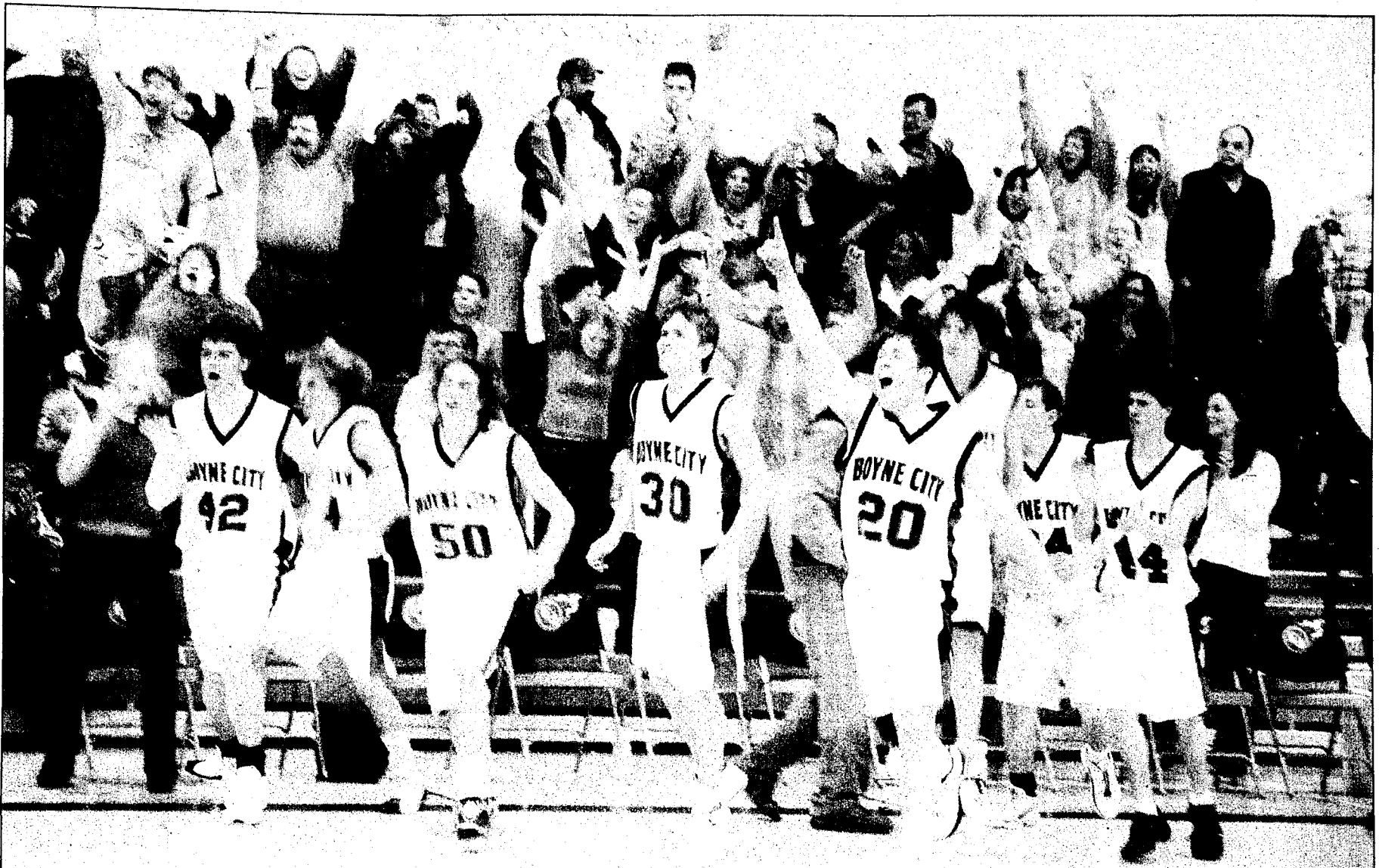
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SPORTS



It was a glorious moment for the Boyne City Ramblers and their fans and tremendous disappointment for East Jordan when the final buzzer sounded in last Wednesday's district game. After losing twice in the regular season, Boyne City beat East Jordan to earn a berth in the district championship game Friday night.



Boyne City's Caleb Helsley drives on East Jordan's Kyle Daneff during the final minutes of Wednesday's game. The two seniors led their teams offensively with Helsley scoring 14 points to share scoring honors with Grant Ameel, while Daneff closed his high school career with 19 points and 13 rebounds.

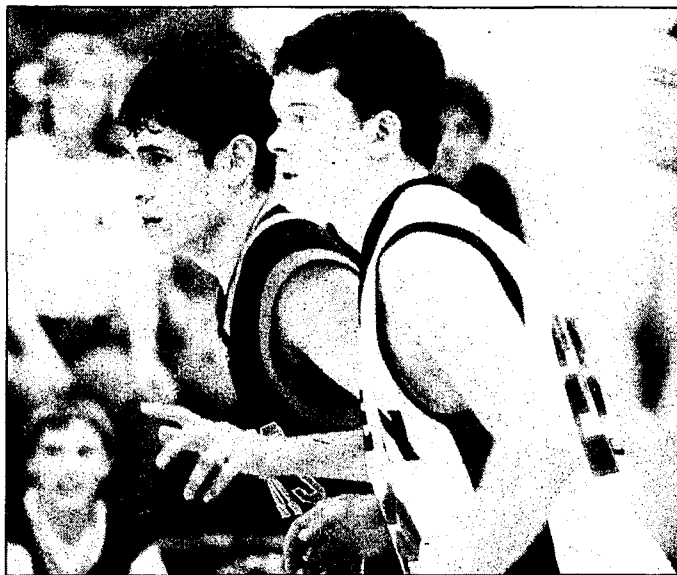


Huddled around their coach, Lance Bailey, the Red Devils get ready to head back to the court after a timeout.



The Boyne City student body stayed on their feet for much of the championship game and their team gave them plenty of reason to cheer.

March Madness



Drew Mittig and the rest of the Boyne City Ramblers never let Greg Oldman drift too far away, but still the Harbor Springs senior broke free for 38 points in an offensive explosion those who packed the East Jordan gym Friday night will be talking about for years to come.



Side-stepping a Harbor Springs defender, Grant Ameel finds an opening and drives to the basket. Ameel scored 17 points and grabbed five rebounds in the district championship game.

■ Harbor wins district title with exciting victory over Ramblers

By PHIL TROMBLEY
Sports Writer

Harbor Springs' Greg Oldman poured in 38 points, including 13 of his team's 16 point fourth quarter output, to lead the Rams to a 64-61 victory over Boyne City in the championship game of the Class C district tournament at East Jordan on Friday, March 4.

The title win moved Harbor Springs into the Petoskey regional opener tonight against Lake Michigan Conference rival Traverse City St. Francis.

Boyne City started well in the final game taking an 18-13 lead after one quarter and making it a seven point 37-30 bulge as the teams headed to the locker room for the half.

"Our transition defense held Harbor Springs to just one shot and our shot selection kept the tempo where we wanted it," said Boyne City coach Tim Smith.

The tide turned after the break when the Rams out shot the Ramblers 18-8 in the third quarter to take a 48-45 lead.

"We had a phenomenal first half, but we really had a bad third quarter. That's been our Achilles heel all season," said Smith.

The Rams and the Ramblers played even over the final eight minutes scoring 16 points apiece.

Olmstead paced three Boyne City players in double figures with 18 points, while adding six rebounds and three assists. Grant Ameel contributed with 17 points, five boards and two assists and Reed Ameel added 12 points, 11 rebounds and four helpers.

Jesse Oldman added 12 points for Harbor Springs.

"These guys came within one possession of a district championship in large part due to our senior leadership. This team never quit."

Tim Smith,
BC head coach

NEXT UP FOR BOYNE FALLS: REGIONAL SEMI AGAINST FAIRVIEW

Loggers leave no doubt in winning districts

By PHIL TROMBLEY
Sports Writer

Boyne Falls varsity basketball coach Frank Hamilla wanted his team to come out strong and send an early message to Wolverine when the Loggers went up against Wolverine for the Class D district championship game at Boyne Falls on Thursday, March 3.

Offensively Boyne Falls did just that and senior Josh Jarema was the delivery man as he poured in 28 of his game high 33 points before the break. The Loggers rode Jarema's hot hand to a 60-25 half-time lead which powered Boyne Falls to an 84-45 title winning victory.

Defensively the Loggers held the Wildcats to six points in the opening period and 19 points in the second stanza.

"We had talked about taking the wind out of their sails right from the beginning and being up by 25 after one quarter we accomplished that," Hamilla said.

"To score 60 points in one half is doing a pretty good job."

Demitrius Burks added 10 points and hauled down 14 rebounds to back up Jarema, while Boyne Falls hit for 28 two-point baskets, six threes and 10 of 15 free throws to dominate the action.

Larry Wells scored 12 points and John Egas added 10 points to pace Wolverine.

"Winning the districts was one of our goals that we set in the beginning of the year and it's one step towards our tournament run," Hamilla said.

With the district championship in hand Boyne Falls advances to face Fairview in Wednesday's regional opener at Traverse City West. Tip off is set for 7 p.m.

Looking forward to the match up Hamilla said. "They are probably one of the quicker teams we've played this year. We'll see if we can get some points off of our press."



After thoroughly dominating Wolverine on both ends of the court, Boyne Falls celebrated their district championship. The Loggers return to action Wednesday when they face Fairview at Traverse City West.

COURTESY PHOTO

Districts

Continued from page 9

Playing in their final game for Boyne City were Reed Ameel, Olmstead, Drew Mittig, Caleb Helsley, Jordan Sweet, Bill Kurtz and Collin Babb.

"These guys came within one possession of a district championship in large part due to our senior leadership. This team never quit," Smith said.

■ Ramblers move on

In the post season play the bar gets raised to a higher level and the Boyne City varsity basketball team responded to the challenge when the Ramblers went up against the Red Devils in the Class C district semi-final game on March 2.

Boyne City avenged two regular season losses to East Jordan with a 58-55 victory which eliminated East Jordan and moved Boyne City into the championship game against Harbor Springs.

"The game was the complete opposite of the first two games we played this year where we had 15 point leads and lost. This time they were ahead early and we pulled out the win," said Boyne City coach Tim Smith.

"We knew this was going to be a difficult game as both previous games with them came down to the fourth quarter," said East Jordan coach Lance Bailey. "It was an extremely physical and intense game which you expect in our district."

Fast Jordan forged a 21-11 lead after one quarter and held a 30-26 advantage at the half before stretching the margin to 10 points early in the fourth quarter.

"We were able to maintain a lead most of the game, but we really struggled in the last two and a half minutes of the game on the offensive end. Boyne City extended their half court man-to-man defense and put the pressure on us,"

Bailey said.

That man-to-man pressure by the Ramblers keyed a comeback effort that saw Dillon Olmstead hit a three-point basket with two minutes to go to cut the margin to 50-49.

Grant Ameel followed quickly with a three pointer of his own to give Boyne City a 52-50 edge with the clock running down. East Jordan tied the contest 52-52, but Olmstead put Boyne City ahead 54-52 sinking two free throws and Grant Ameel sank a pair from the line to make it a 56-52 Boyne City lead with 30 seconds remaining.

Following an East Jordan time out to set up a play, East Jordan's Kyle Daneff hit a shot from long range to pull his team to within one point at 56-55. East Jordan was then forced to foul and Helsley sank two more charity shots to close out the scoring.

A last second three-point attempt by East Jordan stayed out and the exciting win went to the Ramblers.

"They made two free throws and we had one more shot for a three, but it didn't go. The kids left it all on the court. March Madness took its toll," said Bailey about the hectic finish.

Helsley and Grant Ameel paced Boyne City with 14 points and eight rebounds each, while Olmstead chipped in with 10 points and four assists. Reed Ameel and Drew Mittig added nine points apiece.

Daneff led East Jordan with 19 points and 13 rebounds. Tyler Spence added 15 points, Tom Krause had nine points and four assists and Andrew Streufert had six points and four assists.

The game marked the final appearance in an East Jordan uniform for seniors Tom Krause, Ryan Peterson, Caleb Brown, Spence, Daneff and Tim Kraemer.

"We have some outstanding basketball players in this group and I'm going to miss them. Most importantly they were leaders on this team and in this school. I wish them all the best of luck," Bailey said.

BC netters end season with win over Grayling

The Boyne City varsity volleyball team defeated Grayling last Tuesday 12-25, 25-19, 25-23, 24-26, 15-9 to end the season on a winning note.

"Everyone did a great job tonight. It was nice to end the season with a win and be able to play everyone," said Boyne City coach Cassie Parker.

For the Lady Ramblers, Jessica Nichols had 25 digs, eight kills and five aces; Emily McLane had 10 kills, three blocks and four aces; Lindsay Baic had 27 digs; and Emma Clemens had 15 assists.

Baic, Jennie Connell and Ashleigh Wiltjer all turned in 100-percent serving performances.

BOYNE AREA HOCKEY

Ice Dog Pee-wees

Five different Ice Dogs found the twine when the Boyne City Ace Hardware pee-wee hockey team downed the Gladwin Vortex 5-2 on Sunday, Feb. 27, to claim first place in the Kalkaska Sudden Death Tourney held at the Kalkaska Kalesium.

Harmon Grubbs, Cameron Robinson, Graham Young, Miles Wilkes and Evan Maunders all scored for the Ice Dogs, while Grubbs, Robinson, Young, Wilkes, Garrett Kruskje and Katie Cannon all picked up assists.

Robinson and Bryan Wonski tallied two goals each and Corey Cook recorded three assists as the Ice Dogs shut-out Kalkaska Skate North 7-0 to open the tournament.

Brock Sanderson, Sam Mussio and Adam Parada scored one goal each and Mussio, Parada, Cannon and Spencer Korhase each added one assist.

Game two saw Boyne City defeat Cheboygan Lahaie's Auto 2-1 as Mussio and Cook scored one goal each with Parada and Grubbs getting the assists.

Wonski picked up two goals in game three when Boyne City topped Gladwin by a 4-2 score. Wilkes and Sanderson tallied one goal each and Parada had one assist.

Goalie Keegan Reynolds yielded just five goals while earning four wins at the three-day event.

Paul Bunyan Midgets

The Boyne Area Hockey Paul Bunyan Lanes Midgets hosted the St. Ignace on March 5 and earned a 4-0 win.

The game was a defensive battle as it remained scoreless until the last minute of the second period when Russell Williams scored two consecutive power play goals on blasts from just inside the blue line. Ryan Hennessy assisted on both, along with Darren Looze the latter. Troy Scarbrough, with an assist by Matt Kopke, found the net just 14 seconds into the third period, and later Eli Barsy ripped the twine with a pass from Gabe Korhase. Nick Ferree was the winning goalie.

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Physics

Continued from front page

ing it.
 "We had a lot of ideas, like we were going to use a helium balloon for one step," she said. "But we had to go with things that were going to be reliable." They abandoned the balloon, figuring that they could not guarantee the direction of its drift when it was cut loose by the preceding step.

The machine had to be designed so that every time it was set up — the machines were disassembled for transport — it would still work.

"That was hard," Nichols said. "If you were off a centimeter it wouldn't work." And every reassembly was off a tiny bit, so the teams were constantly tweaking and repairing their projects.

The teams were anticipating a lot of tough competition at LSSU. Bailey had prepared them for that. They got themselves ready by being in tough competition with each other. As it turned out, though, the teams were each other's biggest challengers.

"My expectations were much higher — we thought we were going to have more competition," said Ashlyn Brown, of the Pirates team.

Kaila Bennett, also a Pirates teammate, said, "Our biggest competition was in our school." "I think if the whole class had done one project," Nina Peters, Pirate, said, "it wouldn't have been as good, because we were competing against each other."

The Pirates team took first place, and the Gobstoppers took second. This was a pleasant surprise for the Pirates team.

"All the boys on our team are crappy in Woods," said Bennett. "All the geniuses are on the Willy Wonka team."

But the hard work and friendly competition paid off at LSSU.

"We blew everyone out of the water, because ours were finished and they worked," said Nichols. It is a condition of the competition that the flashlight must turn on when the batteries are loaded into it.
 "And they looked cool," added Wonka teammate Katie Diller.

And so the students walked away with the competition, earning the two top spots, separated only by one act of "human intervention." The Pirates had to give their machine a hand only once, the Gobstoppers twice — both very good.

The students universally credited Bailey's "contagious" enthusiasm for the project, but their teacher had given them added incentive: If they placed first or second, they would not



The Everlasting Gobstoppers fell just short of first place behind fellow East Jordan physics students. Described by their classmates as "geniuses" these inventors are, from left, Devin Brown, Stephanie Mills, Ashley Nichols, Alan Timme and Katie Diller. Not pictured: Harrison Hansma, Gabe Korthase and Corey McKenney.

have to take his final exam.
 "There was no chance we would get that," Nichols said. "I think that's the only reason he offered it."

Bailey confessed.
 He said that his students' projects were phenomenal in comparison to the other schools. "I commend the kids. They put in a lot of extra time and weekends. And they learned a lot," he said. "But when I saw the other projects I thought, 'Oh, they're going to do well.' And then I thought, 'Oh no, they're going to win!'"
 "It's a good thing," he added quickly. "And they put in five times the amount into the project than they ever would have studying for

the exam."
 The teams plan to take their show on the road for the national competition, which Bailey promises will be fierce. The hurdles will be schedules and financing, but the students and their teacher are planning the trip to Wisconsin to compete in the nationals.

"It would be a riot," Bailey said. "The rules will be extensive and the expectations will be high." Bailey said that the stress levels at LSSU were tremendous, and of course they would be even higher at nationals.
 But these are kids that can make a simple thing complicated and still make it work. Surely they can make a difficult thing seem simple.

Economic package

Continued from front page

prope and upgrade infrastructure in local communities, helping those communities develop and compete for new businesses and jobs.

And Allen said the lawmakers are working hard to make sure such grants aren't only awarded to the more well-populated areas downstate.

"We work very hard to make sure there's more than hicks and sticks above I-69," Allen said. "We need to make sure our communities, our part of Michigan, are funded."

Allen said the CDB grants are very flexible and can be used for a variety of projects, such as water and sewer improvements, or even housing developments.

"They're very loosely defined," he said. "But we need to make sure we get our fair share."

The lawmakers said grants could also help rural communities address an unemployment rate that averages more than 8 percent and runs as high as 17.7 percent in some areas.

"Our rural communities are just as important as our large cities," McManus said. "We need to focus on decreasing unemployment across the whole state, especially in the rural areas where Michigan residents are being hard hit."

"As legislators, we realize without good infrastructure ... it makes it hard for businesses to grow," she added.

And Stamas said the federal tax credit

for shortline railroads is another key component of the package, because of the need to make sure area businesses can effectively ship goods and services to other markets.

"I've talked to businesses ... on how critical having good rail lines would be," he said. "Because Michigan has two peninsulas, our businesses face unique transportation challenges. One of the most helpful things we can do to help northern Michigan businesses is ensure they have efficient, reliable and economic transportation options."

As of Friday's press conference, the lawmakers said work on writing the legislative package isn't yet complete. But McManus said the various bills should be ready to be introduced later this month, possibly in the next two weeks.

McManus added she and her fellow lawmakers will be looking to make an aggressive push to get the package passed by both the House and Senate, and get the legislation before Gov. Jennifer Granholm.

"I think there's a very good chance to get it done this year," McManus said.

"It's anybody's guess," she added. "Things in Lansing can take a very long time, or they can take very little time."

Both Allen and Stamas are optimistic that the Republican initiative will receive support of other lawmakers, even those representing downstate communities, as well as the governor.

"I think we can make a good case," Stamas said.

"This helps all of Michigan."

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