



THE CITIZEN JOURNAL

BOYNE CITY, MICHIGAN SERVING BOYNE CITY, EAST JORDAN AND SURROUNDING AREAS SINCE 1881 WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 2006

COMING EVENTS MDOT to hold forum

EAST JORDAN — The Michigan Department of Transportation will hold an open-house style meeting regarding roadway repairs scheduled for M-32 in East Jordan on Wednesday, May 24, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the East Jordan Civic Center, located behind the senior center. MDOT plans to resurface a half-mile of M-32 west of the Jordan River Bridge in East Jordan during late May and early June.

On July 10, reconstruction of 0.3 miles of M-32 will begin from the bridge to Third Street.

The work will include sidewalk and storm sewer improvements, along with curb and gutter installation, in the downtown area.

Graduation Saturday

BOYNE FALLS — Commencement exercises for the Boyne Falls High School graduating Class of 2006 will take place at 7 p.m. on Saturday, May 27, in the school gymnasium.

Drag Race scheduled

BOYNE CITY — The Boyne City Police Department's annual drag race fund-raiser will get underway at the Boyne City Airport on Sunday, May 28, from noon to 6 p.m.

Side by side 1/8-mile grudge matches and run for times will be featured, and there will also be full tree or pro tree options.

Open headers and sticks are allowed. Motorcycle racers must have full leathers or a Kelvar suit.

All drivers must sign a waiver prior to the race.

Entry fee for a car, truck or motorcycle is \$30. Spectators twelve and up can get in for \$10; children are free. A pit pass costs \$5.

For more information call Boyne City Chief Randy Howard at 231-582-0352 or e-mail smcrae@boyne city.com.

WEATHER

WEDNESDAY, MAY 24
 Hi: 76 Lo: 46
 Condition: Few Showers

THURSDAY, MAY 25
 Hi: 78 Lo: 52
 Condition: Scattered Thunderstorms

FRIDAY, MAY 26
 Hi: 68 Lo: 49
 Condition: Thundershowers

SATURDAY, MAY 27
 Hi: 76 Lo: 57
 Condition: Partly Cloudy

SUNDAY, MAY 28
 Hi: 85 Lo: 62
 Condition: Isolated Thunderstorms

MONDAY, MAY 29
 Hi: 84 Lo: 58
 Condition: Scattered Thunderstorms

TUESDAY, MAY 30
 Hi: 76 Lo: 53
 Condition: Isolated Thunderstorms

WEDNESDAY, MAY 31
 Hi: 75 Lo: 51
 Condition: Showers

INDEX

- CLASSIFIEDS 4
- CROSSWORD 15
- EDITORIAL 4
- CALENDAR 8
- OBITUARIES 7

Lookin' up old friends

Letters helped
 soldier survive
 days in Vietnam

By JANE BOOZE
 CONTRIBUTING WRITER

EAST JORDAN — It was 1970, and December was bringing it to a cold close when young Tom Durecki boarded a plane.

He wasn't bound for holiday celebrations with friends and family, but for Oakland, Calif., and then Vietnam.

Durecki had been drafted into the U.S. Army in June 1970 and had completed his basic training at Fort Knox, Tenn., and advanced training at Fort Polk in Louisiana. He was an infantryman, and he was going to join up with COD 57th Infantry, where he was to spend the next 13 months of his life.

Young Katrina Reid was boarding the same plane, in her case, homebound with her family after having spent the holidays in Michigan with relatives.



Tom Durecki of East Jordan had this photo taken in the early 1970s, while he was in the U.S. Army.

Tom remembers that she was wearing a pink mini-jumper, a white blouse, and nylons. She had a monarch butterfly press-on tattoo showing through the nylons. She had black hair and dark brown eyes, and—Tom said—she was gorgeous.

He, of course, was a young man in uniform. And what girl could resist a man in uniform, even in the early 70s, when the war that raged at home was almost as heated as the war in the jungles of Vietnam?

See LETTERS, page 2

New top dog

BCPS selects Shepherd
 supt. to succeed Cooper

By STEVE KLOOSTERMAN
 INTERIM EDITOR

BOYNE CITY — Bob Alger was in high spirits last Friday afternoon, May 19, after being selected by the Boyne City Board of Education as the district's next superintendent.

"I'm still floating around on cloud nine," Alger said. "I'm excited about it."

Alger, currently the superintendent of Shepherd Public Schools, was selected Thursday, May 18 at a special meeting. Alger and Mancelona Public Schools Supt. Matt Miller were the two final candidates considered by the board at the meeting.

"It's just a matter of the board trying to come to some sort of consensus as to where we are right now and what we need," Board President Ed Vondra said of the deliberation process.

Alger said he hoped to observe Boyne City schools in action before the end of the semester. He said one of the first things he hoped to work on at Boyne City was to swap ideas with high school principal Karen Jarema



BCPS Supt. Jim Cooper announced in February that he'd be stepping down. He will be succeeded by Bob Alger.

and other personnel for adjusting curriculum and classes to meet high school graduation requirements recently unveiled by the state.

"I think that needs some long-term planning to get all of that in place," Alger said of the requirements, which will be phased in by the state over the course of several years.

"I'm certainly not going to come in and make a whole bunch of changes," he added.

See ALGER, page 2

Fun pickins



Rylee Kibler, a student at East Jordan Elementary, stands near to the morel he entered in Saturday's Mushroom Pole event. The morel, the dark mushroom to the left of Kibler, won him the "Biggest Mushroom" category. Kibler refused to tell where he had found the monster morel. See story, page 16.

Auto parts plant opens in East Jordan

EAST JORDAN — The Toronto-based LexaMar Corp. has begun assembly operations in a 40,000 square foot section of the Lake Street Center in East Jordan, according to Floyd Wright, managing partner of the Center.

LexaMar will assemble automobile components at the plant, which will employ about 15 people at the outset.

Wright and his partner, Stephen Wirt, purchased the vacant

120,000 square foot building in 2005 from DURA and have since attracted 10 tenants, leaving about 20,000 square feet still available.

LexaMar is the largest of the ten businesses and organizations currently occupying the building.

Other tenants include North Central Michigan College, East Jordan EMS, Phoenix Trailers, Aloha Plumbing; Jordan Construction, Curves, Vivaci School of Music and Art, Hilltop Truck-

ing and DURA.

East Jordan Mayor Mark Postma called the LexaMar announcement, "exciting for the City of East Jordan."

"LexaMar is a vital ingredient to the re-birth of industrial activity in the Lake Street Center and the retention of jobs in the area," Postma said. "We are highly appreciative for the selection of East Jordan as the site for this new plant."

Wright sees the LexaMar op-

eration as a "fulfillment of the vision Steve Wirt and I had when we purchased the building over a year ago.

"I had no idea we would see this level of occupancy this early," he added. "I appreciate the support of the community leadership in helping us reach this level of success."

Floyd and Todd Wright Builders are also part owners of the Main Street Center in downtown East Jordan.

Open seat

Hawkins resigns
 from Boyne Falls
 school board

BOYNE FALLS — Jim Hawkins, board treasurer of the Boyne Falls Public School Board of Education, announced he was resigning at the board's meeting last week.

Hawkins cited increased duties with his responsibilities as Boyne Valley Township fire chief as the reason he was stepping down.

"I've been taking an EMT class and a Firefighter II class," said Hawkins in an interview after the meeting. "I just felt like I haven't been giving the school 100 percent."

He added that serving on the board had been a challenge recently because of budgeting decisions, although that was not his main reason for resigning.

"The last two years have been difficult in that way, because we've had to make some hard decisions about cuts," Hawkins said. "But I did enjoy it."

Hawkins said he would continue his activity in the sports boosters program and elementary school basketball.

"I will miss him as a board member," said Supt. Gary Urman. "He was the treasurer of the board and he did a very thorough job of preparing himself as the treasurer of the board."

Board member Kurt Wilson was appointed as acting treasurer, Urman said.

Urman said the board is accepting letters of interest from individuals interested in being appointed to Hawkins' seat on the board.

Letters of interest should be addressed to Marvin Schwem, BFPS president, and must be delivered to the school office by Friday, June 9, at 4 p.m.

NEIGHBORS

Here's an update on the Boyne City High School Reunion Cruise: Bill and JoAnn Moore, Carl and Sue Charon, Jim and Cam Camburn, Danya Bryan Liverance and her husband, Doug, Sandra Rose Hart and husband, Bill, have already booked for the January fun.

They are anticipating a wonderful time on the sea and looking forward to many more joining them. It's six months away, but cabins go fast.

For those planning on the western Caribbean with your classmates in a seven day 2007 shipboard reunion, try to make your plans and booking as soon as possible.

"We'd all hate to miss your presence because of procrastination," said Sandra.

Call Carl Charon. Nelda Stanley or myself and we can put you in touch.

The Kelsey family met at the Compound to celebrate the 80th birthday of Lloyd and Mother's Day with Joyce.

Great-grandson Clayton learned to balance a two-wheeler: grandson Daniel announced his engagement.

Some climbed Avalanche, some played Bocce and some enjoyed Veteran's Park. All enjoyed walleye plus for the weekend. Clayton, the entertainer, kept all laughing and kept "Grandpa-Great" a year younger by singing, "Heighy Heighy. Great is 80."

Compassionate Hearts Family Fund-raiser was a great success last Saturday night.



nancy northup

The community showed generous support, and the many of them that turned out at the Boyne City Eagles, a not only had a great time enjoying the music by the Back Porch Pickers, but also enjoyed the wonderful food and playing games.

By the end of the evening, more than \$600 was contributed to towards the emergency needs of area folks.

Much appreciated was the generous help of 32 volunteers with the games, cooking and raffle, as well as the 12 women who provided awesome baked goods.

Raffle winners of the bikes were Corky and Bob Hyde and Randy Danforth of Madison Heights. The golf bag went to Marty Moody. Sally Pasque says it never ceases to amaze her how wonderful people really are. She says she feels so blessed and wants everyone to know Compassionate Hearts have been able to help 24 families and others in need since September by coordinating with schools and the Ministerial Association.

About 30 Concord Academy Boyne students, K-2 grade, entertained Litzbenburger Place residents with great music and song Thursday.

It was especially nice, and was directed by music teacher

Gwen Sarya. Their visit was enjoyed, as were the cookies and lemonade they enjoyed with the Litzbenburger Place residents on Thursday's rainy morning.

With the attendance of their principal Larry Kubovchick, kindergarten teacher Laura Chirilla, first-grade teacher Joy Stary, and second-grade teacher Joslyn Cleary, most of the seats were filled.

These precious little children and their leaders are already planning their next visit with us. We're glad they know we appreciate seeing their happy smiles and seeing their efforts in hauling all their equipment out and visiting.

Nels and Louisa Northup of Boyne Falls have returned after a two-week trip. They spent time with their daughter, Jenni Witer, and her family in Anna, Ohio, while visiting to witness their granddaughter Allison's first communion.

They went on to Evansville, Ind., for a visit with their daughter, Kathy Gross, and her family. Then, they visited former Boyne residents Leone (Bricker) and Buddy Dewing in Albuquerque, N.M., also catching up with John Holowasko there. In Denver, Colo., the Northups had another enjoyable "Boyne" visit with Carlene and

John Bricker and family, and in Independence, Mo., they were impressed with President Harry Truman's museum. En route to home, they spent Mother's Day in Grand Rapids with daughters Lori Bailey and husband Bill, and Kim Martin and children.

And I know they had a great time everywhere, but are glad to be home.

Nancy Marie Steuer of Willow, Ala. was in Boyne on May 5-8, for the burial of her sister, Norma Jane Steuer.

While here, she visited with some of her friends, former sister-in-laws and brother-in-law, including Florence Burns and Bonnie and Lyle Blanshan. Nancy also got to visit with Florence's son Daniel Baker and his wife, who were up from Manistee.

Michelle Metzger graduated from North Central Michigan College in Petoskey with an associate's degree on Friday, May, 12.

A celebration dinner and family

gathering was held in Michelle's honor before the ceremony. Michelle plans to attend Ferris State University in the fall to continue her college education.

Michelle, a 2004 graduate of Boyne City High School, is the daughter of Karen and Tom DeNike of Boyne City and Gary and Sandi Metzger of Elmira.

Patricia Dean from Coppersville picked Nancy Steuer up at the Grand Rapids airport on May 5, and they motored to Boyne City where they were guests at the home of Judy Follette.

On May 8, Pat and Nancy drove to Battle Creek where Nancy has a home, where she stayed to visit friends until her return to Alaska on, May 13.

Items of interest for the Neighbors column may be called in to 231-582-9174 or e-mailed to neighbors@gtlakes.com. Note, there's a new deadline time — Fridays at noon.

GET SOME GOOD NEWS

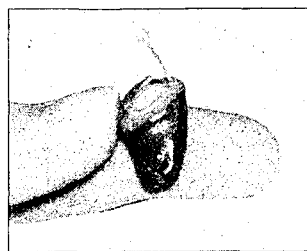
Every week, readers like you get the good news delivered to their door.

We are dedicated to bringing you stories that make you laugh and cry, and most of all, make you informed.



THE CITIZEN-JOURNAL

A Hearing Loss Is More Noticeable...



Than A Hearing Aid.

SCHEDULE AN EXAMINATION WITH AN AUDIOLOGIST.

Colleen Keith, M.A., CCC/A
Karen Solovey, Au.D., CCC/A

Petoskey Ear Nose & Throat Specialists
560 W. Mitchell, Suite 250
Petoskey, MI 49770
231-487-3050

You're Invited
90th Birthday Celebration
for Irene Glazier
May 28th
Chandler Township Hall
2-5 p.m.
- No Gifts -
- Cards Welcome -

Boyne City School Boosters 300 Club Drawing and the \$100 winner is... Bev Paquette
May 20, 2006
Thank you for your support.
-All proceeds benefit the Booster project -

IN-OFFICE WHITENING



ZOOM! As seen on TV's Extreme Makeover!
Dr. Dennis E. Kirkby is excited to announce the addition of the ZOOM! Chairside Whitening System to his practice. No more trays or strips to wear for days in approximately one hour your teeth can be dramatically whiter. The convenience of ZOOM! makes it the perfect choice for the busy individual. Take the first step to feeling good and looking great. Contact Dr. Kirkby's Office at (231) 582-6944 for more information or to schedule an appointment. YOU OWE IT TO YOURSELF!!!
Introductory offer of \$350
Call our office today & schedule your appointment.
Dr. Dennis E. Kirkby, D.D.S • Dr. Viviana Vagalau, D.D.S
112 E. Main Street, Boyne City • 231-582-6944

Buy life insurance and save on your home and car.

When you buy life insurance from us through Auto-Owners Insurance, you'll receive special discounts on your home, mobile home or car insurance. We'll save you money. As an independent Auto-Owners agent, we take great interest in you -- as well as your home and car. We are specialists in insuring people -- and the things they own.
Auto-Owners Insurance
Life Home Car Business

KF KORTHASE FLINN
Insurance & Financial Services
1150 Boyne Ave.
Boyne City, MI 49712
(231) 582-6512
A legacy of trust and expertise

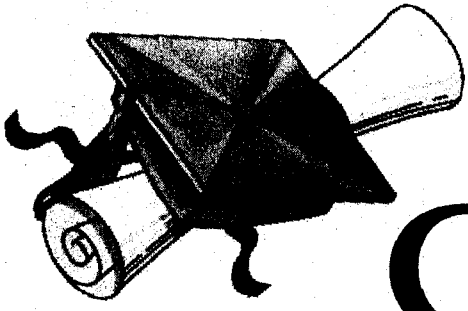
Unlimited Internet Access Only \$9.95/mo.
FREE 24/7 Customer Support
Customizable Members Page
Instant Messaging
No Contract
FREE Invoice Billing! Call Today!
Web Accelerator Only 15/mo.
Serving Bellaire!
1-877-CORECOMM
CORECOMM

Don't Wreck Your Life!

BETTER CD RATES
5.10% APY*
14-Month Term \$1,000 minimum deposit
Renews automatically

Visit your local Citizens Banker or call (800) 444-6989 to take advantage of this great rate.

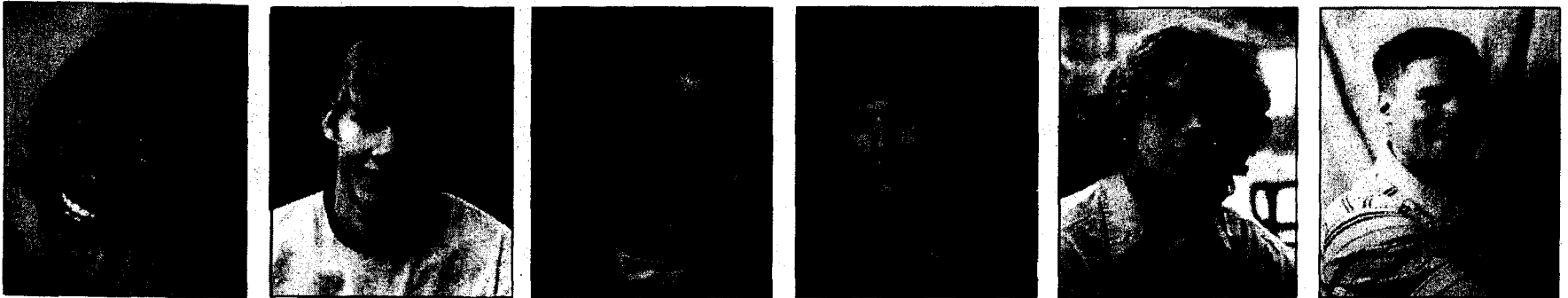
Make it happen. **CITIZENS BANK**



CONGRATULATIONS Boyne Falls Class of 2006

*Motto is:
In the end its
not the years in
your life that
count, its the life
in your years.
Abe Lincoln*

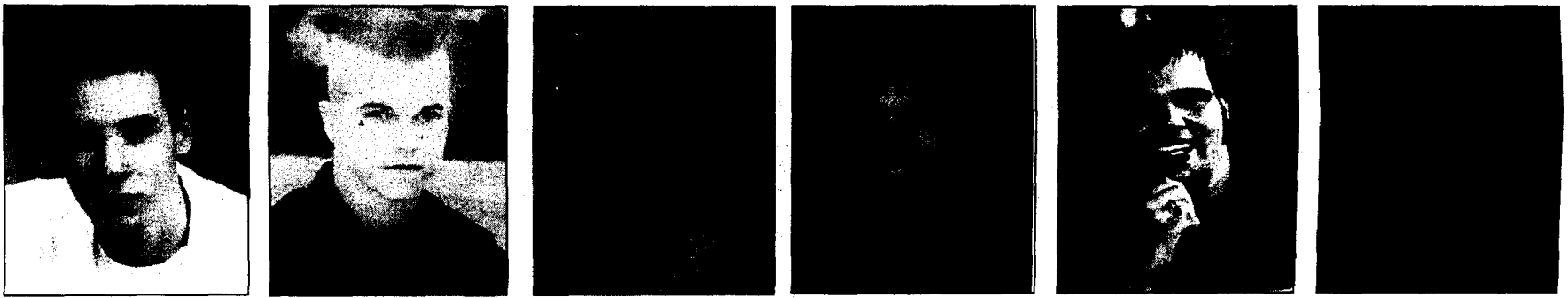
Class Colors: Forest Green & White Class Flower: Tulip Class Song Here I go again, by Whitesnake



Tiffany Burks Timothy B. Crego Jr. Pamela N. Dixon Christopher J. Faulknor James R. S. Goss Victor J. Hart II



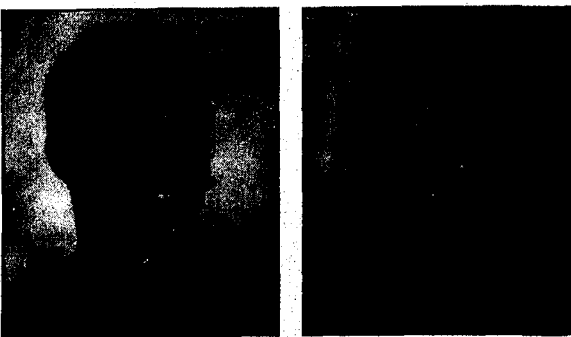
Jake W. Himmelspach Christina M. Hodgkin Katelyn R. Jarema Shawn M. Kilmer Benjamin J. Kondrat Darryl J. Kowalski Jr.



Clifford W. Leazier III Matthew J. Matelski Tiffany M. Matelski Trevor A. Matelski Jeffrey S. Miller Annie R. Pernicano
Valedictorian



Carissa K. Reynolds Zelva Montes Santos Andrew J. Schwem Clarissa S. Sevenski Jack L. Sevenski Brad M. Smith



Nathan J. Wasylewski
Salutatorian Christopher G. Zimmerman

Sponsored by these proud businesses:

Jake's Place
2670 US-131 South
Boyne Falls
549-3346

Dairy Queen
201 E. Water St.
Boyne City
582-9153

Eyes On Main
102 E. Main St.
Boyne City
582-6704

**Bay Winds Federal
Credit Union**
www.baywindsfcu.com
547-4483

**Cherry Hill
Greenhouse**
03094 Cherryhill Rd.
Boyne Falls
549-2210

**Boyne Country
Books**
125 Water St.
Boyne City
582-3160

**Lynda's Real
Estate Service**
112 S. Park St.
Boyne City
582-9555

**Steven M. Baker
CPA**
109 Water Street
Boyne City
582-7211

**Century 21 Up
North**
231 E. Water St.
Boyne City
582-6554

Parrott Island
500 N. Lake St.
Boyne City
582-8267

**Ralph W. Gillett,
CPA**
106 Water Street
Boyne City
582-6421

**Chipman's
Plumbing**
664 State Street
Boyne City
582-7151

Citizen-Journal
112 South Park
Boyne City
582-6761

Matelski Lumber
02822 M-75
Boyne Falls
549-2780

**Up North
Party Store**
1176 M-75 South
Boyne City
582-6461

*Graduation is
May 27th at
7:00 p.m.
in the school gym*

Double trouble

EJ sluggers swept in doubleheaders

By PHIL TROMBLEY
SPORTS WRITER

INDIAN RIVER — Inland Lakes handed the East Jordan girls varsity softball team a 9-3, 4-3 doubleheader sweep on Friday, May 19.

Pitching by the host Bulldogs held East Jordan to just four hits in the opening game and five hits in the nightcap.

Jessica Roberts had a double, while Andrea Chew and Alex Snowden both singled in the first game and Jenaye Chew had two singles.

Jessica Roberts, Emily Bajko and Misti Massey all singled in the second game.

Kalkaska 11-6, East Jordan 1-1

Kalkaska hurler Kaitlyn Raymond held the Red Devils to just two runs in two games to lead the Blazers to an 11-1, 6-1 sweep on Monday, May 16.

Raymond fanned 6 batters and scattered 5 to win the opener, and then came back to send down 4 and allow 7 hits in the second game.

See DEVILS, page 11

'Jackets sting Loggers

By ANDY TAYLOR
SPORTS WRITER

VANDERBILT — Samantha Dudley bashed out a triple, double and a trio of singles for Vanderbilt during a doubleheader with the Boyne Falls girls varsity softball team, helping top the Loggers in both games, 12-1 and 8-1, on Friday, May 19.

The first game was a solid one on the part of Vanderbilt, as winning pitcher Michele Dudley allowed just one run on no hits, while walking 4 and striking out 5.

Annie Pernicano shouldered the loss for Boyne Falls, with 8 strikeouts.

See SOFTBALL, page 11

Too much to handle Kalkaska blazes by EJ kickers

By PHIL TROMBLEY
SPORTS WRITER

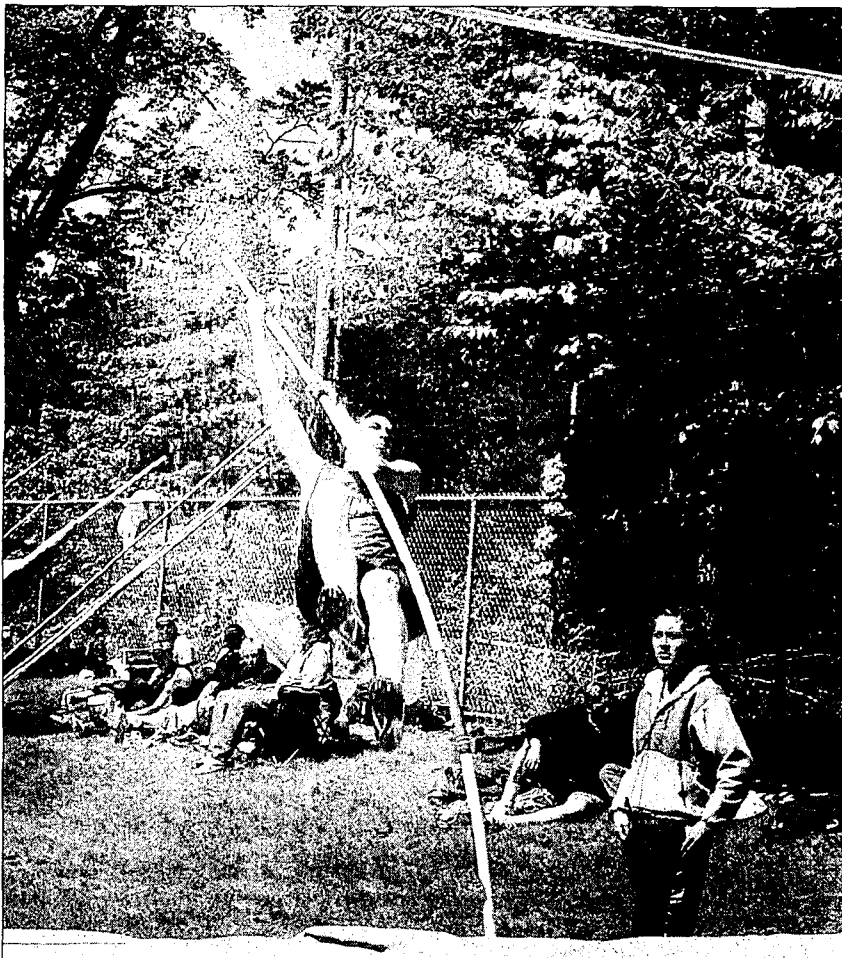
KALKASKA — Erica Fox scored 2 goals, while Lindzie Lugiewicz and Kim Sills added 1 goal each for the host Blazers as Kalkaska defeated the East Jordan girls varsity soccer team, 4-2, on Monday, May 15.

Katherine Rowley tallied both East Jordan goals and Melanie Hillaker assisted on both of the Rowley's strikes.

Red Devils goalkeeper Brandie Boike made 18 saves, coming on strong to prevent any second half goals, East Jordan coach Pete Elliott said.

"Brandie is growing into the position and made some outstanding stops," Elliott said. "Katherine and Melanie's midfield partners BobAnn Fick and Jeanne Schultz also played well, and Jeanné had her best game of the season."

Race to the finals



Above, East Jordan's Jaleesa Baier gets off the starting line during a qualifying heat in the 200-meter dash at the Division III track and field regional invitational on the Red Devils home field Saturday, May 20. Baier finished second overall in both the 100- and 200-meter events.

Photos by
Dennis Mansfield

Left, Boyne City's Ethan Mapes looks to go up and over during an attempt in the pole vault at Saturday's regional invitational. The Ramblers boys track and field team finished 12th overall with 8 points, ahead of Suttons Bay, Inland Lakes and Houghton Lake.

EJ, BC track standouts advance to state meet

By PHIL TROMBLEY
SPORTS WRITER

EAST JORDAN — Inland Lakes scored 78 points to capture a girls Division III regional track championship, held in East Jordan on Saturday, May 20.

The Bulldogs finished six points ahead of runner-up Charlevoix.

The East Jordan girls varsity track team finished third with 69 points, followed by Benzie Central (50), Kingsley (48), Lake City (41), Harbor Springs (32),

Boyne City (32), Manistee (32), Suttons Bay (24), Elk Rapids (22), Kalkaska (14), Roscommon (7), Mancelona (3) and Houghton Lake (0).

Inland Lakes won the girls 800-meter relay (1 minute, 53 seconds) and the 1600-meter relay (4:13) as well as getting 3 first place finishes from Jasmin Pomeroy in the 100-meter dash (12.3 seconds), the 200-meter dash (26.2 seconds) and the 400-meter dash (59.9 seconds).

The East Jordan girls captured 2 victories as Ashley Skrocki won the 100-meter hurdles with a time of 15.6 seconds, and the 400-meter relay team of Sierra Richards, Sierra Roberts, Skrocki and Jaleesa Baier won with a time of 50.9 seconds.

Other local results included Caitlyn Wonski of Boyne City (2nd in pole vault; 8 feet, 9 inches), Jaleesa Baier of East Jordan (2nd in 100-meter dash, 12.7 seconds; 2nd in 200-meter dash, 26.7 seconds), Natasha Bell of Boyne City (3rd in 100-meter dash, 12.9 seconds), Sierra Roberts of East Jordan (3rd in 200-meter dash, 26.9 seconds), Skrocki (5th in 300-meter hurdles, 49 seconds) and the East Jordan 1600-meter relay team (2nd, 4:14).

"Our team is very happy about finishing in a seventh place tie

with excellent teams like Harbor Springs and Manistee." Boyne City girls head coach Andy Place said. "We are a young team and did not have a state meet qualifier last year, so our team is excited to be sending Caitlyn Wonski and Natasha Bell to the state finals."

Charlevoix took the boys regional title with 114 points followed by Kingsley (65), Roscommon (59), Kalkaska (49), Benzie Central (47), Harbor Springs (42), Lake City (36), Mancelona (30), Manistee (28), Elk Rapids (24), East Jordan (13), Boyne City (8), Suttons Bay (7), Inland Lakes (5) and Houghton Lake (0).

Charlevoix's Jeff Golovich won the discus (145-9) and teammate Nae Sotuyo won the 800-meter run (2:01), while the Rayders took the 400-meter relay (45.7 seconds), the 800-meter relay (3:33) and the 3200-meter relay (8:16).

The East Jordan boys varsity track team's Cody Thayer won the long jump with an effort of 20-7, while the Boyne City boys varsity track team's Taylor Voice was second in the pole vault with a clearance of 12 feet, to post the local boys state qualifying results. Voice also placed fifth in the high jump (5-9) and sixth in the 200-meter dash (23 seconds).

Rambler Marc Calo throws up an attempt in the shot put on Saturday at East Jordan.

Split

Ramblers reach finals, but lose at Hillman

By PHIL TROMBLEY
SPORTS WRITER

HILLMAN — The Boyne City boys varsity baseball team split its two games at the Hillman Tournament on Saturday, May 20.

The Ramblers defeated Tawas, 11-6, in the opening game before falling to the host school, 4-1, in the second game of the day.

Tyler Kruzal got the victory for the Ramblers when Boyne City tallied seven runs in the top of the third inning to turn a 3-1 deficit into a 10-3 lead versus Tawas.

The Ramblers added one run in the second inning, two in the fourth and one in the fifth.

Tawas scored three runs in the bottom of the sixth inning, but the Ramblers shutdown the comeback effort.

Kruzal struck out 10 batters, walked 8 and allowed 4 hits in 6 innings.

"Tyler pitched another good game," Boyne City coach Don Richards said. "He had some wildness, but he kept battling and did a nice job."

Sean Mills was 3-for-3 with a double, 2 singles and 2 RBIs to pace the hitters and Kruzal went 2-for-3 with 2 singles, 1 RBI and 1 stolen base.

Hillman broke up a 1-1 tie after 3 innings in the second game, scoring once in the fourth frame and twice in the fifth to earn the win with 7 hits for the game.

Will Brown took the loss for the Ramblers with 4 strikeouts and 3 walks in six innings of work.

See BASEBALL, page 11

No-hitter Pater blanks Bulldogs in Devils' win

By PHIL TROMBLEY
SPORTS WRITER

INDIAN RIVER — The East Jordan boys varsity baseball team earned a pair of non-conference victories on Friday, May 19, downing Ski Valley Conference foe Inland Lakes, 12-1 and 11-6.

Matt Pater tossed a no-hitter in the second game, striking out 1 batter and giving up 2 walks, while Shane Gardner was 2-for-3 at the plate with 1 RBI. Tom Pentecost went 2-for-4 with 2 RBIs to add to the Red Devil hitting.

The Red Devils tallied one run in the first inning and then tacked on four runs in the second and third frames to pull away from the Bulldogs.

Pentecost was the opening game winner with 4 strikeouts, 1 walk and 5 hits allowed. Dallas Dougherty (3-for-3) had 4 RBIs, Eric Hansen (2-for-4) had 2 RBIs and Andrew Streufert (2-for-4) had 1 RBI.

East Jordan scored 1 run in the first inning, 6 in the second, 1 in the fourth and 3 in the sixth, while Inland Lakes scored 2 in the fifth and 4 in the sixth.

Kalkaska 10-2, East Jordan 2-3

East Jordan and Kalkaska split a conference doubleheader on Tuesday, May 16, as the Blazers took the opener, 10-2, before the Red Devils came back to win the nightcap, 3-2.

Pater was the winning pitcher for East Jordan in the second game with 1 strikeout, 1 walk and 3 hits allowed.

See SLUGGERS, page 11

A 'Morel'-Booster

Good times and great picking a mainstay at festival

By GRETCHEN AUGUSTINE
STAFF WRITER

BOYNE CITY—Rylee Kibler can't tell you where he picked his prize-winning mushroom.

"It's a secret," the eight-year-old said.

But he sure can describe it: "It was big."

That's the reason Kibler, a student at East Jordan Elementary, won the biggest mushroom category in Saturday's Mushroom Pole event, part of the 46th Annual Boyne City Morel Mushroom Festival. Saturday's events also included the Boyne Valley Lions' National Mushroom Hunt and a showing of a documentary, filmed at last year's festival, among many other activities.

Carnival-goers soared over the crowds in Veterans Park and craft-seekers browsed vendors' wares, where popular items were wood or cement morel replicas that are surely easier to find than their natural counterparts.

In downtown Boyne, though, real morels were on display on the Mushroom Pole. The event, in its third year, awards morel-hunters for mushrooms in categories like biggest, smallest, most unique and best dressed.

Bernice Carson of West Bloomfield entered a mushroom that she knew was unusual when she saw it in the woods Friday.

"I think it's special," she said of the morel, which had an extra, very

small morel growing from its stem.

Carson won the Oldest Mushroom Picker category in the pole.

Marilea Grom, on the Boyne City Main Street board of directors, said the Mushroom Pole is a family event in which everyone can participate. She said people were so anxious to enter that they were already waiting when she and Main Street manager Kelly Larson set up the pole at 11 a.m. Saturday.

Larson said people focus on the morel all weekend and the pole helps get them into Boyne City's streets.

"It's a little fun, a little unique that people would want to get out of the park," she said.

A little after noon, morel seekers in the official hunt returned from the hunting grounds with their mesh totes of mushrooms.

Lion Mike Brown said the hunt was successful as usual, despite the number of mushrooms being down from over-picking.

"It's all in good fun," he said, adding that with the changing weather, more mushrooms should pop up in the next weeks.

Money raised from the weekend's events helps pay for Lions programs that work to "solve blindness in our neighborhoods," Brown said.

Pamela Hall of Midland was named Grand Champion of the hunt after finding 31 morels.

"It wasn't the best



The sense of wonder and glee exhibited by this boy seemed to epitomize the good will rolling through the crowds at this year's Morel Festival.

year, but it wasn't the worst," Hall said.

She said she's been entering this hunt for eight years and admitted that this had the best weather. Some hunts have been held in the cold or even snow.

Hall has been on hunting morels since she was about 5 years old, when her proximity to the ground gave her special skills. She described morel hunting as a little like "an adult Easter egg hunt."

That fun of the hunt is one of the reasons Larry Joe Campbell and Jeff Boucher spent a year

making a documentary about morel hunting.

Campbell, a Cadillac native who plays Andy on "According to Jim," and Boucher, a Kalkaska native, grew up mushroom hunting. Campbell said.

He said describing to the morel to people doesn't get the point across.

"When I tell people how great the morel mushroom is they stare blankly at me," he said.

So he and Boucher decided to show them with a documentary.

Boucher said there's a unique subculture to the

morel, and the intent of the film is to show the passion and look at some of the debate within the morel community: Are mesh or paper bags better? Do the mushrooms grow, or do they pop up?

Campbell said he wanted to expose the mushroom to his friends who "live on cement in a big, huge city."

"(There's a) magic, really, to this fruit," he said.

—Gretchen Augustine is the editor of the Elk Rapids Town Meeting, a sister publication of the Citizen-Journal.



The morel mascot rides a fire truck in the sesquicentennial anniversary kick-off parade.



Above, some winners of the Boyne Valley Lions' National Mushroom Hunt show off their morel trophies. The winners were grand champion Pamela Hall with 31 morels, senior Sharon Szczesny with 11, resident woman Susan Florenski with 30, resident man John McNabb with 21, non-resident woman Kristy Szczesny with 23, and non-resident men Jeffrey Lange and Mike Osborne tied with 30.

Mushroom Pole winners

- Biggest Mushroom — Rylee Kibler, East Jordan
- Smallest Mushroom — Michael Bellomo, Boyne City
- Oldest Mushroom Picker — Bernice Carson, Boyne City
- Youngest Mushroom Picker — Gavin Peters, Hale
- Darkest Color Mushroom — Taylor Baker, Boyne City
- Lightest Color Mushroom — Lori Willard, Niles
- Most Unique Mushroom — Richard Henry, Carey, Ohio
- Best of Show Mushroom — Robert Wojan, Charlevoix
- Best Dressed Mushroom — Bill Kuhn, Boyne City
- Longest Distance Traveled to Pick a Mushroom — Paul Hartje, Baton Rouge.

Lions' National Mushroom Hunt winners

- Grand Champion — Pamela Hall, 31 mushrooms
- Honorable Mention — Sharon Szczesny, 11 mushrooms
- Resident woman — Susan Florenski, 30 mushrooms
- Resident man — John McNabb, 21 mushrooms
- Non-resident woman — Kristy Szczesny, 23 mushrooms
- Non-resident men — Jeffrey Lange and Mike Osborne, 30 mushrooms



Photos by Vic Ruggles and Gretchen Augustine

At left, Bernice Carson of West Bloomfield shows off her unusual entry in the Mushroom Pole.

Now Open **Cherry Hill Greenhouse**

Annuals
Patio Planters
Robust Hanging Baskets
Beautiful Geraniums

FLOWERS YOU MUST SEE!

Come on in and meet the Flockers before they fly away!

03084 Cherry Hill Rd. Boyne Falls
(across from old Boyne Mt. entrance)
Open 7 days • 549-2210

Internet Access!

Unlimited Hours, No Contracts!

\$9.95 PER MONTH! No Credit Card Required!

Surf up to **6x faster!**

- FREE 24/7 Technical Support
- Instant Messaging - keep your buddy list!
- 10 e-mail addresses with Webmail!
- SPAM Filtering - Reduce unwanted e-mails
- FREE Easy Setup Software
- Custom Start Page - news, weather, & more

Sign up online: www.LocalNet.com
LocalNet Call Today & Save! 533-6331
Reliable Internet Access Since 1994

Here's My Card!

REAL ESTATE

Century 21 Sue Grobaski
REALTOR®
Sales Associate

Up North
231 East Water Street
Boyne City, Michigan 49712
Business (231) 582-6554
Home (231) 549-2995
Fax (231) 582-9076
Each office is independently owned and operated.

Location, Location,
Location! Realtors to
Advertise your business
here, call Jayne Welsheimer
at 231-582-6761