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THE MONROE SUNDAY NEWS

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STATE WRESTLING CHAMPS: DUNDEE 35, RICHMOND 26

Vikings bring home title

BY NILES KRUGER
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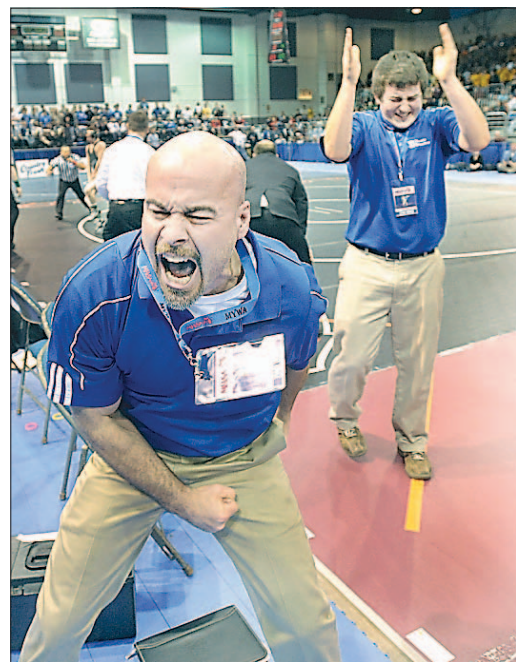
BATTLE CREEK – His teammates looked at him like he was crazy. Brendan O'Connor was jumping up and down and celebrating after Dundee' High School's wrestling team won a District championship a few weeks ago. "I was going nuts," Brendan said. "The guys said, 'Yeah, we do that all the time.'" It was something new for the wrestler who started his high school career at St. Mary Catholic Central High School. Now, Brendan knows what knows what Dundee wrestling is all about. The Vikings won the seventh state title in school history Saturday, capturing the Division 3 crown at the Kellogg Arena.

"To win a state championship is always great. Never does it get less great. But to beat a quality team like Richmond, this is a great win."

—Tim Roberts
DHS wrestling coach

And they did it in style. Dundee wrapped up the win a 35-26 win over Richmond High School in the finals as Sean Keilitz and Brendan came through with upset wins over state

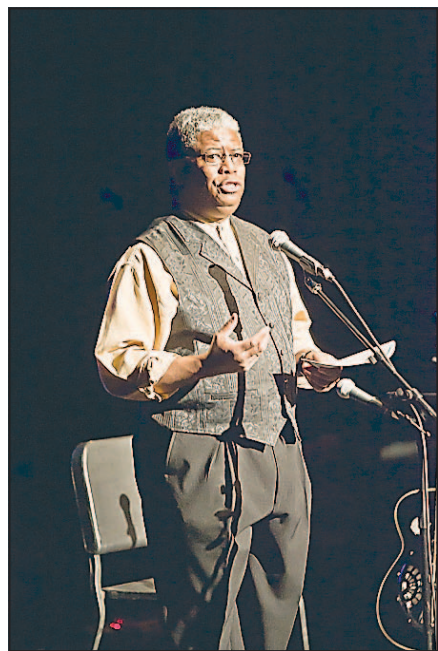
qualifiers in the last two matches. And they beat their arch-rivals, defeating a team that had forced the Vikings to settle for second place in two of the past three seasons. "This is amazing. It's the best feeling in the world," said Brendan. "I'm speechless," said heavyweight John Marogen. "This is the worst interview in the world." For coach Tim Roberts, it meant tossing a huge monkey off his back. His team lost in the finals four times in the past five years. "To win a state championship is always great," he said. "Never does it get less great. But to beat a quality team like Richmond, this is a great win."



— Evening News Photos by TOM HAWLEY

Dundee High School wrestling coach Tim Roberts roars and assistant coach Garrett Stevens (right) shows disbelief after the team won the Division 3 State Championships over Richmond Saturday in Battle Creek.

On a Saturday night in Monroe, they come to sing the blues



— Evening News photos by ED KELLER

The Rev. Robert B. Jones (above) serves as master of ceremonies for the Monroe County Black History Month Blues Series Big Gig Saturday night at the La-Z-Boy's Meyer Theater Monroe County Community College. Also playing were the Lionel Young Band and John Latini.



Featured performer and one of the founding members of the all-female blues group Saffire — the Uppity Blues Women Gaye Adegbalola pays tribute to Ann Rabson, her long-time friend and fellow Saffire member, who died Jan. 30. Ms. Rabson often performed in Monroe.



Don't be bystander; add your voice to community read

HEAVEN SENT

BY JOHN A. ZARB

In February, 1992, my company transferred me to Belgium for a four-year assignment as a director in our European operations. As part of my duties, I was required to travel back to the United States once or twice a month.

After 18 months, or about 24 round trips, I received an unexpected letter from British Airways with a paid ticket on Flight #1, New York to London, on the Concorde – SST. The Concorde was not your typical commercial airplane. It resembled the U.S. Air Force B-1 Lancer Bomber. It flew to altitudes and at speeds which no other carrier could achieve.

The Concorde area at New York's JFK airport was like no other — it was more like an elaborate hotel lobby than it was an airport gate. Shortly, we boarded. What struck me first was the interior size — it was almost as narrow as a standard corporate jet. The 100 seats were all first class, gray leather and plush. Headroom was more limited than expected but understandable given the thickness of the fuselage needed to withstand the pressure imposed on the plane at high altitudes.

Soon, the long-awaited "cleared for takeoff" announcement was broadcast and off we rolled, much like any other plane I had flown until the pilot pushed it a bit. Suddenly, we were pinned against the seats and we all watched New York City disappear.

The pilot came on the loud speaker and wel-



comed us aboard. He explained that FAA regulations denied an after-burner take-off in New York City as it would literally blow out the windows of the very same skyscrapers we were just admiring. He said that such an event would take place as soon as we had passed land, east of Maine.

It was no time before the captain chimed in:

See **STORY**, Page 7A

Monroe County residents are invited to share their stories — either through oral or written essays or via an object — as part of the One Book One Community program centered on the novel "One Amazing Thing" by Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni. For details on how to do so, see Page 1C. There and here you'll also find stories already submitted.



Mr. Zarb lives in Luna Pier.

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STELLA M. FARNER, 60, of Monroe
JAN FIX, 72

RYAN M. FOX, 25, of Maybee
JANICE K. GIMMEY, 62, of Monroe
DANIEL A. HINDBAUGH,

54, of Maybee
LINDA S. MANOR, 61, of Monroe
EARL NIEMANN, 96, of Monroe

Weather Details, 6A
TODAY Mostly cloudy
35°

TONIGHT Mostly cloudy
20°

Governors warn cuts threaten economic gains

WASHINGTON (AP) — Washington's protracted budget stalemate could seriously undermine the economy and stall gains made since the recession, exasperated governors said Saturday as they tried to gauge the fallout from impending federal spending cuts.

At the annual National Governors Association meeting, both Democrat and Republican chief executives expressed pessimism that both sides could find a way to avoid the impasse as another crisis between the White House and Congress that hampers their ability to construct state spending plans and spooks local businesses from hiring.

Hawaii Gov. Neil Abercrombie, a former congressman, noted that the cuts — known in Washington-speak as “the sequester” — could lead to 19,000 workers laid off at Pearl Harbor, site of the surprise attack in 1941 that launched the United States into World War II. Today, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam supports Air Force and Navy missions.

“That will undermine our capacity for readiness at Pearl Harbor. If that doesn't symbolize for the nation ... what happens when we fail to meet our responsibilities congressionally, I don't know what does,” Abercrombie said.

The budget fight came as many states say they are on the cusp of an economic comeback from the financial upheaval in 2008 and 2009. States expect their general fund revenues this year to surpass the amounts collected before the Great Recession kicked in. An estimated \$693 billion in revenues

is expected for the 2013 budget year, nearly a 4 percent increase over the previous year.

“It's a damn shame,” said Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley, a Democrat. “We've actually had the fastest rate of jobs recovery of any state in our region. And this really threatens to hurt a lot of families in our state and kind of flat line our job growth for the next several months.”

At their weekend meetings, governors were focusing on ways to boost job development and grow their state economies, measures to restrict gun violence and implement the new health care law approved during Obama's first term.

Some Republican governors have blocked the use of Medicaid to expand health insurance coverage for millions of uninsured while others have joined Democrats in a wholesale expansion as the law allows. The Medicaid expansion aims to cover about half of the 30 million uninsured people expected to eventually gain coverage under the health care overhaul.

Yet for many governors, the budget-cut fight remains front-and-center and fuels a pervasive sense of frustration with Washington.

“My feeling is I can't help what's going on in Washington,” Gov. Terry Branstad, R-Iowa, said in an interview Saturday. “I can't help the fact that there's no leadership here, and it's all politics as usual and gridlock. But I can do something about the way we do things in the state of Iowa.”

Indeed, right now no issue carries the same level of urgency as the budget impasse.

► FROM PAGE 1A

Story (cont.)

“Greetings again, Concorde flyers. We are about to execute the after-burner sequence which will result in our attaining supersonic speed and put us at an altitude higher than any commercial aircraft can fly — 12 miles above the Earth.”

And away we went! Again, we felt the amazing power of the four Rolls-Royce engines, but this time the after-burners ignited, causing g-forces as powerful as that of an F-15 fighter jet. We didn't feel the sonic boom that resulted when we exceeded the speed of sound, Mach 1.

Once settled in, the highly professional team of flight stewards began to serve the 31 passengers a royal feast. I struggled to decide between the choices we had for our dinner entrée: lamb, prime rib or swordfish. It took three flutes of champagne to reach a decision. Absolutely grand!

When the chance presented itself, I asked the purser if there might be a possibility to peek into the cockpit; I had told him that my company was involved in the manufacture of the plane in Toulouse, France. He returned with an invitation to follow him to the cockpit door, where I was

let in and offered a look.

The cockpit was cramped compared to conventional passenger jets but very efficiently laid out. I was completely overwhelmed by the view from the cockpit; I could see the curvature of the Earth like never before — not just a slight arch, but a very pronounced curve highlighted by the setting sun behind us. I noticed the gauges, many made by my company, ALT — 62000 feet and SPEED — MACH 2.02 (1,537 mph at that altitude).

The descent and landing at London's Heathrow Airport was breathtaking. It was fast and direct as the Concorde uses about 90 percent of its 100 tons of fuel while flying supersonic over the ocean and has little room for error when it comes to circling or re-approaching.

While I did not know a soul on board this flight, I had a feeling of peace and tranquility beyond which I had experienced. The view from my small window became a private portal between me, my God and those who I loved. This New York-to-London adventure, all 3 hours and 19 minutes of it, was the ride of my life and one which I will always treasure.

► DEATHS

Jan Fix

Aug. 25-1941-Feb. 18, 2013

Jan Fix died on Monday morning at the age of 72. Jan was born in Monroe, MI on August 25, 1941, daughter of the late Marvin Payne and Wynifred Payne (Gaynier).



She graduated from St. Mary's Academy in Monroe in 1959 and went on to earn her Associate's Degree from Oakland Community College in 1987, her Bachelor's Degree in 1989 and her Master's Degree in Clinical Psychology in 1990 (Summa Cum Laude) from U of D — Mercy.

She worked at Macomb Family Services as a clinical psychologist.

Jan is survived by David, her husband of 51 years; brother, Jay Payne and his wife Holly; son Christopher and his wife Lynette; son Timothy and his wife Nancy; daughter Deanna; 8 grandsons, 4 granddaughters, and 7 nieces and nephews.

Memorial services for Jan are pending and being arranged by her immediate family and being held at the Shrine of The Little Flower in Royal Oak, MI.

Expression of sympathy are asked to be a donation to the Greyhound rescue <http://www.greyheart.org> in Jan's name.

Cleotha Staples dies at 78

CHICAGO (AP) — In a family of vocalists, it was Cleotha Staples' smooth and velvety voice that helped set apart the sound of the influential and best-selling gospel group The Staple Singers.



CLEOTHA STAPLES

Staples, the eldest sister and member of the group her father Roebuck “Pops” Staples started in the 1940s, died Thursday at age 78. She was at her Chicago home and had been suffering from Alzheimer's disease for the past decade, said family friend and music publicist Bill Carpenter.

The group included sisters Pervis, Yvonne, Mavis and Cynthia, but Cleotha was the backbone, defining herself by being the “strong, silent type,” said Carpenter, author of “Uncoloudy Day: The Gospel Music Encyclopedia.”

“When she was young they used to call her granny because she acted like a granny in terms of being wise and always sure of the best thing to do,” Carpenter said.

Mavis Staples credited her father's guitar and Cleotha's voice with creating the group's distinctive sound.

“A lot of singers would try to sing like her,” Mavis Staples said in a statement. “Her voice would just ring in your ear. It wasn't harsh or hitting you hard, it was soothing. She gave us that country sound.”

Staples, known as “Cleedi,” was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame with her family in 1999 and received a lifetime achievement award from the Grammys in 2005.

The Staple Singers' first No. 1 hit was “I'll Take You There” in 1972 and followed with top 40 hits “Respect Yourself.”

Earl H. Niemann

Dec. 15, 1916-Feb. 20, 2013

Earl Niemann, 96, of Monroe died unexpectedly at 9:05 p.m. Wednesday at Mercy Memorial Hospital.



Friends may visit from 1 to 8 p.m. Monday, Feb. 25, at Rupp Funeral Home. He will lie in state at 10 a.m. Tuesday at Grace Lutheran Church, Monroe, with a service to follow at 11 a.m. Pastor Ron Schultz will officiate. Burial will follow at the Gethsemane Cemetery, Monroe.

Born Dec. 15, 1916, in Detroit, Michigan, he was the son of the late Henry and Clara (Gentzen) Niemann. He married Betty (Benjamin) Niemann on March 15, 1945, and they lived in Dayton, Ohio for a couple of years until moving back to Monroe.

He served in the Army from 1943 to 1946 and was stationed in England, France and Germany and attained the rank of Sergeant.

He was employed by Gruber's Food Markets and then Seaway Food Town as a refrigeration/heating maintenance man until his retirement in 1984. He was also a member of the

Stella May Farner

June 15, 1952-Feb. 22, 2013

Stella May Farner was born June 15, 1952, in Newport, Mich., where she resided her entire life.



She was the daughter of the late James Foster and Leona (Frey) Foster.

She graduated from St. Mary Academy and obtained her Cosmetology License from the State College of Beauty, formerly in the Downriver area.

Stella married the love of her life, John Farner, at St. Charles Catholic Church in 1973. From this union came the birth of two children.

For many years, Stella served others as a self-employed beautician. Stella's work took her to many local nursing facilities to cut hair.

Stella was a remarkable woman, always putting others first, and she was genuinely happy. There wasn't a day that went by that she was not seen smiling. She was an avid gardener and enjoyed the tranquility of her fish pond. Stella was an animal lover and over the years acquired many pets.

She was devoted to her family and loved spending time with her granddaughter. Stella was outgoing and liked to cater to her guests during family get-togethers. On nice days, she appreciated nature walks and riding her bicycle. In her spare time, she liked to

DEATH NOTICES

Linda Sue Manor

Feb. 23, 2013

Linda Sue Manor, 61, of Monroe died at 10:41 a.m. Saturday at Mercy Memorial Hospital. Friends may call from 2 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at Merkle Funeral Service, where additional arrangements are pending.

Ryan M. Fox

Feb. 22, 2013

Ryan M. Fox, 25, of Maybee died Friday in Pontiac as a result of an auto accident. Arrangements by Cover Funeral Home, Dundee.

Billy Robin Avent

Feb. 19, 2013

Billy Robin Avent, 57, of Toledo died Tuesday. Arrangements by Merkle Funeral Service, Erie.

Daniel A. Hindbaugh

Feb. 21, 2013

Daniel A. Hindbaugh, 54, of Maybee, MI, passed away Thursday Feb. 21, at Mercy Memorial Nursing Care Center, Monroe.



Daniel graduated from Dundee High School and was employed at Michigan Assembly Wayne, MI, where he worked in the tool crib for over 29 years.

He enjoyed gardening, woodworking and most of all, he loved restoring John Deere antique tractors.

Daniel is survived by his wife, Kimberly (Rautio), and a host of family and friends.

Visitation will be from 6 to 8 p.m. Monday, Feb. 25, and from 3 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 26, at Liedel Chapel-Martenson Family of Funeral Homes, 9061 Raisin St., Maybee, MI 48159 (734 587 8465), where services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 27. The Rev. Douglas Adams of Emmanuel Lutheran Church of Britton, MI will officiate. Interment will follow at London Township Cemetery.

Those wishing to make a donation, in lieu of flowers, are asked to please consider Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 9950 Ridge Hwy Britton, MI 49229.

Online condolences may be made at www.martenson.com

Janice K. Gimney

July 16, 1950-Feb. 19, 2013

Janice K. Gimney, 62, of Monroe, died at 11:38 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 19, at Mercy Memorial Hospital. Since her medical retirement, she had been in declining health for the past three years.

Born July 16, 1950, in Detroit, she was the daughter of Mike and Virginia (Forman) Radmanovich. She married Jerry M. Gimney on June 18, 1977, in Flat Rock, Michigan.

Janice was employed for 20 years by Ford Motor Company at the River Rouge Plant as a Fuel Tank Technician.

She enjoyed watching a wide variety of movies and collecting antiques, especially porcelain dolls.

Janice is survived by her mother and stepfather, Virginia and Richard Montgomery; a son, Brian (Dana) Gimney; and a sister, Suzanne (Randy) Mielnik, all of Monroe; and seven grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her father and a brother, Steven Radmanovich.

Janice was cremated in accordance with her wishes. A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. Tuesday at St. Joseph Cemetery in the Chapel of Light Mausoleum.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association or the American Lung Association.

Online condolences may be sent through www.rup-funeralhomeinc.com.

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