

# Genesee County's inmate program takes hold in Minneapolis

■ County torn apart by George Floyd riots copies Swanson's I.G.N.I.T.E. program

By Sharon Stone  
Genesee County Sheriff Chris

Swanson traveled to Minneapolis, Minnesota to take part in a Monday, Sept. 20, news conference with Hennepin County Sheriff David Hutchinson. The two sheriffs announced the establishment of H.O.P.E (Helping Others by Providing Education) at the Hennepin County Jail. The Hennepin County Jail, formally

called the adult detention center, is a pre-trial facility in downtown Minneapolis. The H.O.P.E. program will mirror the I.G.N.I.T.E. program that Swanson established at the Genesee County Jail in 2020. The I.G.N.I.T.E. program, which stands for Inmate Growth See **PROGRAM** on 7



Chris Swanson  
Genesee County sheriff



David Hutchinson  
Hennepin County sheriff



Hogan Road Bridge to be replaced in 2023

SEE PAGE 2



## Fenton Township man charged

■ Facing felonious assault, domestic violence and resisting police

By Sharon Stone  
Jack Edward Boshell, 51, of Fenton Township, was arraigned Monday, Sept. 20 in Genesee County 67th District Court on one count of felonious assault, assaulting/resisting a police officer and domestic violence.



Jack Edward Boshell

The charges stem from an incident that the Genesee County Sheriff's Office responded to in Fenton Township See **ASSAULT** on 6

## Police appreciation event attracts hundreds



Mitchell Ferguson grills hot dogs at the Police Appreciation Picnic on Saturday, Sept. 18. Hundreds of people attended the event, put on by Concern Over Police Safety (C.O.P.S.) and enjoyed free food, bounce houses and music.

See story on Page 8. Photo: Hannah Ball

## Construction starts on multi-purpose building

■ 44,000-square-foot facility will have fitness room, running track, gymnastics, auditorium and more

By Hannah Ball  
Argentine Twp. — Construction has begun on what will be one of the largest recreational facilities at Linden Community Schools (LCS). Donned in hard hats, LCS administrators, teachers and students posed with shovels and a mound of dirt Friday, Sept. 17 to celebrate the start of construction on the 44,000-square-foot multi-purpose recreational facility to be built between Linden High School and Linden Middle School.

"This center is a 44,000-square-foot new building that will further See **BUILDING** on 9



“Fenton is a better place than residents stooping to hating a dog, significant others, children, etc. If you have problem with a neighbor than just talk to them or mind your own business. Don't attack a family that gives back to a community and loves everyone with open arms.”



“To the Hotliner who doesn't understand why people say they were born and raised in Fenton. Because they're lifelong residents and don't want growth. I've stayed this long because I appreciate small town living. If I wanted city life I would have moved there.”



“Looking for driving rules and tips? Read 'What Every Michigan Driver Needs to Know' from the SOS. You'd be surprised by what you think you know.”





### STREET EXPERIENCE CHANGES HOURS

Organizers of the Street Experience, which has been taking place Thursdays and Fridays in downtown Fenton from 5 to 9 p.m. have made a time change for the event. Beginning this Thursday, Sept. 23, the road closures will end at 8 p.m. due to it getting darker earlier. There is one exception for Witches Night Out, which is happening Oct. 8, when the roads will remain closed until 9 p.m.



The Hogan Road bridge over the Shiawassee River in Fenton Township will be replaced in 2023. The \$1.57 million cost will be shared by Fenton Township, the Genesee County Road Commission and the Michigan Department of Transportation. *Times file photo*

## Hogan Road Bridge to be replaced in 2023

■ Fenton Township, Genesee County Road Commission and MDOT will provide funds

By Hannah Ball

Fenton Township will pay \$188,400 toward the replacement of the Hogan Road Bridge over the Shiawassee River. Construction is expected to take place in 2023.

The entire project is estimated to cost \$1.57 million. On Monday, Sept.

20, the Fenton Township Board of Trustees authorized a letter of support to the Genesee County Road Commission (GCRC) committing the \$188,400.

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will pay 95% of construction costs, which is \$1,193,200, and the GCRC will pay \$188,400.

The township's commitment of \$188,400 toward the \$1.57-million project will not be expended until 2023, however, the township has already begun to "set aside" a portion of its fund balance each year for this project, according to meeting minutes.

## TRI-COUNTY FUNDRAISERS

COMPILED BY SHARON STONE

### 45<sup>th</sup> annual State Road Elementary Craft Show

This year, State Road Elementary in Fenton is hosting its 45th annual event this Sunday, Sept. 26 outside at the Fenton High School parking lot, rain or shine. In past years, it has been held inside at the end of November. All proceeds for the event (entry cost, vendor fees, etc.) go toward the State Road Elementary school in Fenton. The proceeds support State Road field trips, assemblies, classrooms, the wooden structure, field day, a nurses station, extra clothing, and many more things. The Craft Show is the largest fundraiser of the year for the school. The event starts at 10 a.m. and ends at 4 p.m. The cost is \$5 per vehicle and all parking will be across the street at the AGS Middle School (handicap spots available at the high school). They will be hosting more than 80 vendors of handmade products from around the Midwest. This is a juried show, so each vendor is hand-selected by their committee. This year, they are excited to also host food trucks. The Fry Guy, the Brew Buggy, and D&W's Street Eatery will be serving great eats on location at the high school.

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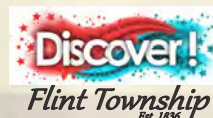
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# Linden homecoming dance is Saturday

■ Schools return to in-person homecoming celebrations

By Hannah Ball

The Linden High School (LHS) homecoming dance is this Saturday, Sept. 25, with the majority of homecoming festivities taking place next week.

LHS Principal Darin Dreasky said he hopes the students are happy to have these events in person.

“We are happy to be able to offer our students and their guests an opportunity to participate in homecoming activities even if slightly different from years past,” he said. “Our class advisors and student council have been fantastic as always.”

LHS did not have a dance in 2020 due to the pandemic. This year, the football dance will take place at the high school stadium.

Dreasky said they had originally scheduled the dance for Saturday, Oct. 2, however, they discovered a conflict with the stadium.

“It had already been booked for the entire day which eliminated that day to hold the event. The next date that made sense was to look at the Saturday preceding, which was available. So we decided to use the homecoming event as a kick-off



In 2019, Linden Homecoming King Brenden Miller is hoisted up by his friends and classmates in celebration during halftime at the Linden High School powderpuff game, which took place Sept. 24. This year's powderpuff game is Tuesday, Sept. 28. *Times file photo*

for the week,” Dreasky said. The powderpuff game is Sept. 28. On Monday, Sept. 13, the Linden City Council approved street closures for the Linden High School homecoming parade for Friday Oct. 1. Organizers requested to close Broad Street, Hyatt, Stan Eaton Drive and S. Bridge Street for the parade procession. Closures begin around 4:15 p.m. and are projected to end around 6:15 p.m. after the parade is done. The football game will take place on Oct. 1 after the parade at 7 p.m.

“We are happy to be able to offer our students and their guests an opportunity to participate in homecoming activities even if slightly different from years past.”  
**Darin Dreasky**  
*Linden High School principal*

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Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Saturday & Sunday  
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## Building Brands

## Your brand is your best recruitment tool

**H**ave you ever handed over a check for \$18,000 to a worthy cause? Have you ever seen someone carrying a sign in a parade with a logo on it that you helped create? Have you ever helped a business get customers in their doors thanks to a marketing message you wrote?

People who work for View Newspaper Group have had the pleasure of experiencing all of this and more!

And like almost every business in the world, we're hiring. As you may have noticed in the pages of this paper, we have a few open positions, one in our advertising department, one in our administrative department and one on my team. (See page 19 for details on the newly created Content Creator position that will assist both the brand and editorial teams.)

We're not alone. A CNBC article on the topic from early August said that The Department of Labor reported that some 8.7 million potential workers are looking for a job, while the job placement site Indeed estimates there

are about 9.8 million job vacancies. Yes, that means there are about a million more job openings than workers.



Emily Caswell

The article details what some businesses are doing to entice applicants, offering things like signing bonuses and out-of-the-box perks like pet insurance.

The reality is, however, not all workplaces are in a position to offer monetary perks and some potential

employees want more than cash to seal the deal. So, how do you stand out and

get the qualified candidate you need? Your brand is the most important tool, of course, and there are some ways you can leverage your brand to become a candidate's top pick.

An inc.com article from way back in pre-pandemic 2017 had some great insight and tips for recruiting talent thanks to a 2015 LinkedIn report (even back then "53 % of US leaders agreed that competition was the largest hurdle to acquiring talent"). Here are some ways to use your brand to its full potential and some examples of how that looks for our brand.

See **BRAND** on 5



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All submissions, if approved for publication, must be 50 words or less and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Tri-County Times. We reserve the right to edit for clarity, length and liability.

**VACCINATION DOES NOT** equal patriotism.

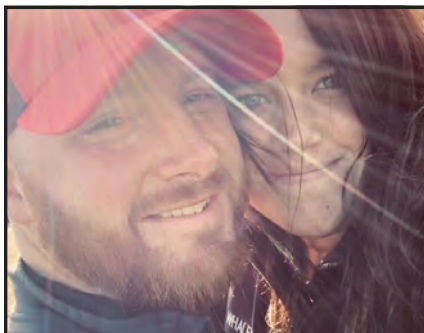
■■■  
**WEARING A SEAT** belt won't cause me health issues like wearing a mask will. Will any of you pro-maskers even look at the side effects of wearing a mask? They're far worse than the coronavirus, aka flu, aka cold.

■■■  
**WHEN WILL THIS** country ever get any good news? From corrupt politics to the Chinese-born pandemic to parents fighting with schools and the price of everything rising, and illegal mandates weighing on our souls, when will things return to normal? That is a serious question.

■■■  
**TO PEOPLE RIPPING** those who don't support being forced to wear masks and get vaccinated. Where are you on lack of the world not holding China accountable for knowingly unleashing COVID-19 on us with no repercussions? You would rather squash our rights instead of making China accountable. I got vaccinated.

Compiled by Hannah Ball, staff reporter — Question asked to Tri-County Times' Facebook followers

## What's your favorite memory of John's Pizzeria?



"Going in there with my mom and grandma and being taught life lessons from Delio. That was our go-to family spot for as long as I can remember. A lot of my favorite memories of all three of them were at the restaurant."

**Pat Whalen**  
Fenton



"When my mom died in 2015, we had trouble finding a place to have lunch after the funeral. John's Pizzeria was able to get our 100+ group in, which was great because it was always my mom's favorite pizza."

**Ryan Tackabury**  
Flint



"Lake Fenton Moms started a tradition of going there for dinner before our mother/son dance. They were so good about accommodating our big group of crazy boys."

**Melissa Hoover Polidan**  
Fenton



"My parents threw me a college graduation party there. Then years later, we threw my grandparents 50th anniversary party there. Lots of Shirley temples and love from Delio and Sandy. Sandy gave so much back to our community."

**Caroline Schupbach Ogden**  
Fenton

## | streettalk

## BRAND

Continued from Page 4

**Career trajectory:** Let talent know what there is for them now and in the future at your workplace.

**Until the pandemic,** View Newspaper Group grew each year since its founding in 2003, making room for career growth along the way. Despite the whirlwind of the last 18-plus months, opportunities continue for career development within our organization, and that will continue to look better as 2020 recedes our rearview.

**Expectations and workload:** This one is simple: make it clear what is required from each new hire.

**Day in the life:** From the article, "At the end of the day, work is work. A programmer can be a programmer anywhere. The companies that win top talent can differentiate their organization and show potential candidates why being a programmer for them is different. Good or bad, people want to know what life will look like once they join your company."

This is where our brand really shines when it comes to recruitment. It's true our team members could work a lot of places, sometimes for more money, but they choose us because no matter your role at View, the endgame is the same; newspapers make a difference in the communities they serve. They hold government

accountable, they keep communities informed and entertained and they serve as an official record keeper. The View Newspaper Group goes beyond that and gives back to the communities where we publish in both time, money and in-kind advertising to area nonprofits. Our in-house events alone have raised more than \$140,000 for area nonprofits in just eight years. Our team members serve on nonprofits boards and volunteer in various capacities. When the pandemic hit, we didn't slow down. We continue to deliver local news that our readers need. Very few companies can say they do as much for their community as we can.

**Employee perspectives:** From the article, "Job descriptions and information from recruiters are one thing, real-life testimonies directly from the horse's mouth are something entirely different."

It's so true that the best brand ambassadors a company has is its team members. We're proud to have many team members who have been with View for 20 plus years. That speaks volumes.

If you're in the process of hiring, what are you highlighting about your brand to get the best recruits? Email me at [ecaswell@mihomepaper.com](mailto:ecaswell@mihomepaper.com). Emily Caswell is the Brand Manager of VIEW Group, the branding division of View Newspaper Group.

## HOT LINE CONTINUED

**GENERAL MILLEY MUST** resign, face court martial for treason and be incarcerated over China contact behind Trump's back. Pelosi is running the U.S., telling Biden what to say and do. Pelosi must resign over corruption to notify China and Russia of any

potential military action while Trump was president.

**FACT: THE AVERAGE** electric vehicle is 50% plastic (by volume). Plastic is a petroleum (fossil fuel) product. So in reality, your precious electric vehicle is actually an oil car.

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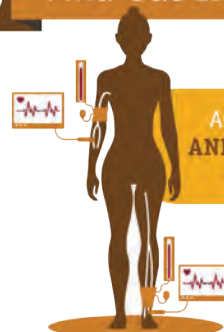
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### The United States Supreme Court's Shadow Docket, precedent, stare decisis, and overruling prior precedent

On Sept. 1, the United States Supreme Court issued an unsigned 5 to 4 opinion in *Whole Women's Health v Jackson*, rejecting an expedited request to delay the implementation of a new Texas law, which effectively bans abortions.

The majority indicated that it wasn't basing its decision on any conclusions about the constitutionality of the law. The dissenters rejected that assertion.

The opinion made national news primarily because of a belief by some that it signaled the beginning of the end for *Roe v Wade* and the right to an abortion.

Additionally, it is noteworthy because it came from the courts so called "Shadow Docket."

This is a term used to describe a longstanding court procedure allowing decisions to be issued quickly, with little or no explanation, in emergency situations.

If *Roe* is ultimately overruled it would mean that the court didn't follow past "precedent" and "stare decisis."

These two legal principles require a court to follow its own or a higher court's previous rulings as to a legal issue. Indeed, stare decisis is Latin for

"to stand by things decided."

There are exceptions, however, and since the Supreme Court was established March 4, 1789, there have been more than 300 times when prior precedent was overruled.

One of the most famous examples is *Brown v Board of Education*, a 1954 case which ruled that the "separate but equal" provisions of Kansas state law were unconstitutional overruling the 1896 case of *Plessy v Ferguson* which upheld this racial segregation doctrine.

While there are no absolutes, the court has indicated in the past that there must be one or more special reasons to not follow precedent beyond disagreeing with it.

The past cited reasons are as follows:

- The quality of the prior decision's reasoning;
- Whether the prior precedent is "unworkable" and too difficult to follow;
- Inconsistency with other related decisions;
- Changes in the understanding by the Justices and society of the prior decision's underlying facts;
- The degree of reliance on the prior precedent.

No one knows what the Supreme Court will ultimately decide as to overruling, abandoning, or narrowing *Roe v Wade*. A pending Mississippi case to be heard Dec. 1 may provide the answer.

What we do know is that only time will tell.

## ASSAULT

Continued from Front Page

on Saturday, Sept. 18. Sheriff's deputies were dispatched to the 3400 block of W. Ray Road for a domestic with weapons complaint.

Upon arrival, deputies made contact with the female victim, a Fenton Township resident. She told the deputies that her boyfriend, Boshell, woke up and allegedly assaulted her while she was lying on the couch watching television. She said she went into the garage and he followed her.

The woman reported that Boshell allegedly attempted to hit her with a metal pipe and she blocked it with a chair. She said she ran outside and hid

behind a tree. She called 911 and waited for police to arrive.

Sgt. Andrew Snyder said once deputies arrived, Boshell locked himself inside the home and refused to exit. A request for additional deputies was made. Deputies were assisted with officers from Linden and Metro Police.

Forced entry was made into the residence and Boshell was later found hiding in the rafters over the garage. He refused all orders from the deputies and resisted arrest. Boshell was ultimately arrested and taken into custody.

Boshell was released on personal bond with multiple conditions. A probable cause conference is scheduled for Sept. 30 at 1 p.m.

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## PROGRAM

Continued from Front Page

Naturally and Intentionally Through Education, the 571 inmates have the option to take online courses while behind bars so they can create a better life when they're released.

Hutchinson told the room of reporters that if you use a jail correctly, it can be a tool for reform. He is convinced that H.O.P.E. will make inmates better people.

Swanson and Hutchinson met in Arizona and Hutchinson said he knew he wanted to use the methods Genesee County was using. He said his jail would be offering all of the 600-plus inmates the opportunity to participate in a path to formal education, financial planning and community services, such as skilled trades jobs.

Hutchinson said AutoZone, which was the first building to be burnt down during the Minneapolis riots, has come on board as a significant partner in the H.O.P.E. program. He added that this opportunity of having a second chance will provide the skills to be better people, it will reduce recidivism (the tendency of a convicted criminal to reoffend), and provide jobs, which will provide opportunities for people to buy cars and take vacations. "It's an opportunity for a second chance," Hutchinson said.

Swanson introduced himself at the press conference. He echoed what Hutchinson said about second chances and added that everyone has been given a second chance and who are the sheriffs to deny that second chance. "You will have the opportunity to choose a different direction in your life," Swanson said.

Swanson said this initiative is a calling to change the culture. "Lives can be impacted," he said. "Unity can be the better option over destruction."

In the spring of 2020, while the world watched the riots in Minneapolis in response to the death of George Floyd, local police agencies braced for protests and riots. Police officers and Genesee County sheriff's deputies had been monitoring the event and met the protesters wearing riot gear and holding batons.

The protesters, initially sitting down at the station, indicated that this was

intended to be a peaceful demonstration. After some brief conversation, Swanson removed his helmet and put his baton on the ground as a sign of peace. After explaining that the officers were only there to ensure the protesters "have a voice," Swanson asked the group what was needed from them. After several chants of "walk with us," Swanson and the other officers ultimately joined the march.

During the Monday press conference, Swanson said, "Walking was the best decision I've made as a police officer. It opened the door."

Swanson said launching the I.G.N.I.T.E. program was in response to the data showing that 90% of inmates return to the streets, many are addicted or co-addicted to drugs, many have mental health issues and many have the reading level of

a fifth or sixth grader. He said current data shows that inmates have gone up two grade levels in reading and testimonials by inmates and their family members indicate the I.G.N.I.T.E. program is working.

Swanson asked the Minneapolis community to support Hutchinson's H.O.P.E. program. He asked that every inmate take the opportunity to better themselves.

Johnell Allenbey, who spent 29 years in prison for murder, worked with Swanson as a Genesee County Ambassador on ways to provide educational opportunities for inmates. Swanson retold a conversation he had with Allenbey. He said he told Allenbey, "I'm a white sheriff and I take care of people, ones who don't look like me. The system can change."

Allenbey and Percy Glover, another Genesee County Ambassador, eventually were deputized for Genesee County. Swanson said, "There's hope."

Allenbey told the reporters, "This is a historical moment, a new era of time." He added that the Minneapolis sheriff indicated enough is enough. "Do something radical," Allenbey said he told Hutchinson. "This is a life changing event. We have to listen to each other."

"It (I.G.N.I.T.E) changed culture and it changed how we look at each other. Character and merit — it can work for everyone."

Swanson told the audience that 17

other counties also have committed to his program.

Hutchinson, who likened Swanson's enthusiasm to the Energizer bunny, said he and the other sheriffs are just "trying to make people better."

Hope Patterson, program manager for adult education for Minneapolis Public Schools, said she knows this program will be successful. "We'll teach them how to get their GED or diploma. If they're not educated, they'll come right back in. This is better for all of us," she said.

Hutchinson said Hennepin County is just beginning this program and their goal is to make it big with private partners helping, similar to Genesee County's program.

Hennepin County Sgt. Adam Hernke is overseeing the implementation of H.O.P.E. He said they are nearly ready to begin, but more local help, partners and community colleges are needed.

Hutchinson said, "We need to treat everyone like they're humans. I hope every single inmate will do this. This is day one of many many days of success."

## HOT LINE CONTINUED

**THERE IS NO** time in history that the people who are forcing mandates on us were the good guys.

■■■  
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■■■  
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■■■  
**THE MURAL IN** Linden serves no purpose. It is time to change it. Gemma shouldn't have any say in the matter. It belongs to the city. Linden needs a mural that represents it without wondering what it means.

■■■  
**EW! THAT'S DISGUSTING.** I'm not picking up dog poop on Margaret Drive.

# Thank You!

**The members of the Fenton, Michigan  
Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3243  
wish to convey our sincere gratitude  
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Ken Sturgis and his crew!*





# Police appreciation event attracts hundreds

■ **Former lieutenant who was stabbed at Bishop Airport attends event**

By Hannah Ball

**Fenton Twp.** — Hundreds of people attended the annual Police Appreciation Picnic at Mueller's Orchard on Saturday, Sept. 18.

Hosted by Concern Over Police Safety

(C.O.P.S.), the event had free hot dogs, ice cream and refreshments for people and families who came out to show appreciation to law enforcement.

"It's bringing together people and police officers to say, 'hey, thank you so much for what you do.' It's just a really fun, relaxed family event," said Herman Ferguson, creator of C.O.P.S. "I'd like to say thank you to the Mueller family for letting us have this beautiful thing here."

Children played in bounce houses as adults watched and enjoyed the sunny weather. David Potts, from a quartet singing group, sang the national anthem as the crowd turned its attention to a large American flag hoisted on a tall crane.

Numerous police officers, in uniform or in casual attire, attended the event, including retired Lt. Jeff Neville, who was stabbed in the neck by an attacker at Bishop International Airport when he was on duty in June 2017.

"It's a great turnout. It's good to see people come out here and support police," he said.

Neville has been invited to a few police appreciation events. He said the overall atmosphere of these events is positive.

"I think it's probably even more positive this year than it was even last year. Last year, the police were getting kind of beat up quite a bit in the public, in protests and things like that. I think it's kind of turning. People are realizing that we need police to have a safe, orderly society," Neville said. "And it gives police officers a chance to bring their families on their off times if they want to and do the bounce houses, have some hot dogs and ice cream at no cost. It's nice."

He now has a career in real estate in the Grand Blanc area.

Highland resident Jacob Bilanow, deputy with Genesee County Sheriff's Office, said this was his first police ap-

preciation event.

"It's going really well. Everyone's enjoying themselves," he said, adding that it's "awesome" what C.O.P.S. does to help officers.

He said this past year has been going "really good. I've been fortunate. Also, the people have been very supportive."

Angie Moore, daughter of Herman Ferguson, said she loves the purpose of the event.

"I love that it helps promote the positive effects of police officers on our area. I just think it's a great way to bring our community together and bring some fun for the kids," she said.

Ferguson thanked their sponsors, which includes Lasco Ford, Uncle Ray's Dairyland, who brought an ice cream cart, Dave Lamb Heating & Air Conditioning, Bren-Mar Construction, Dewey's Auto Center, Fenton Glass, VG's and Leo's Coney Island.



Parents watch as children play in the bounce house at the Police Appreciation Picnic on Saturday, Sept. 18. *Times file photo*

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Linden Community Schools holds a groundbreaking ceremony for the 44,000-square-foot multi-purpose building on Friday, Sept. 17. Photo: Hannah Ball

## BUILDING

Continued from Front Page

connect our district to our community,” said Russ Ciesielski, superintendent of LCS, during the groundbreaking ceremony. “Planned amenities include a fitness room, community space for events, an elevated running track, a wrestling room, gymnastic space with 300 seats, a gymnasium space which includes a portable turf system for activities such as volleyball, basketball, baseball, softball, soccer, lacrosse and football.”

See a video rendering of the facility at [lindenschoolsbond.com](http://lindenschoolsbond.com).

Southfield-based Barton Malow will serve as the construction manager on the bond program.

This building is made possible by the \$55-million bond initiative to help improve school facilities, which was passed by Linden Community Schools voters in 2020.

“The bond initiative was focused on four general areas — to expand and enhance the instructional environment, enhance student safety and school security, modernize, upgrade and construct school facilities, and upgrade technology and the technology infrastructure,” Ciesielski said.

Some of these projects will take place over the next six years. This includes remodeling and updating furnishings in every classroom, a new collaboration zone and media center at Linden Elementary and Linden High School and secure front entrances in all district buildings. It also includes relocating the early childhood center to Hyatt Elementary and building a STEM space, installing instructional technologies, and the new multipurpose

center for students and the community.

“This is not a new beginning but it is the next step in making Linden a great school system and a great community. On behalf of Linden Community Schools, the Linden Board of Education, and our students, thank you very much for your support,” Ciesielski said.

Linden Board of Education President Scott Maker said the building will serve as a keystone for significant improvements through the district.

“It’s envisioned and designed to serve the needs of the entire population from the youngest to the oldest,” he said. “We all recognize that schools are the heartbeat to keep a community alive and without strong schools, many areas experienced decline in business and population.”

As times change, Maker said school districts need to remain relevant and grow with the needs of the students, parents and community.

“To grow, you need to invest, and our community has continued to support us by investing in the future of Linden Community Schools. We look forward to the continued growth in our surrounding communities. With that will come greater demand for excellence in academic and extra extracurricular opportunities for our children and lifelong enrichment for the entire community,” he said.

Maker also gave thanks to the parents and community members who took part in surveys, as well as the strategic planning leadership group, Ciesielski, and the other board members.

“Most of all, we thank the community — our voters who continue to support our children and provide the best educational resources possible,” Maker said.



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Write the name and location of your entry in the space provided next to the category. Mail this entire page to: Tri-County Times, Att: Best of the Best, 256 N. Fenway Dr., Fenton 48430 **OR** Vote online at [tctimes.com](http://tctimes.com), click on the Readers Choice Link found on the home page. All ballots must be received by 10/4/21. Minimum of 25 categories must be filled in for ballot to be counted. One ballot per person. Winners will be announced in a special section published 10/31/21

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Barbecue	Drink Special	Movie Theater
Bartender & Workplace	Donut/Bagel Shop	New Restaurant
Breakfast	Family Restaurant	Pizza
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Catering	Fish & Chips	Seafood Restaurant
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Coffee House	Happy Hour	Waiter/ Waitress & Workplace
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Dermatologist		Write In:





Lake Fenton's Reid Shumaker throws a pass downfield in a recent contest. Lake Fenton defeated Corunna 32-13 on Friday. Photo: Mark Bolen

# Blue Devils improve to 3-1, defeat Cavaliers, 32-13

By David Troppens

It seems with every week, the Lake Fenton varsity football team has had another high emotional challenge as the Blue Devils prepared for their upcoming game.

The run of these games began during the second week of the season when the Blue Devils wanted to erase the memories of the 62-15 spanking Swartz Creek handed them last year. The Blue Devils did just that, earning a 13-0 victory.

Last week the Blue Devils wanted to prove they belonged as one of the elite teams in the Flint Metro League Stars Division. And while the Blue Devils lost 48-40, Lake Fenton pretty much did that as well losing a thrilling contest that could've easily gone the other way.

Last Friday the Blue Devils had one more challenge. In a game that could've seen them either improve to a nice and lofty 3-1 or fall to 2-2, Lake Fenton faced a talented Corunna squad

at home. Once again the Blue Devils responded, earning a 32-13 victory. Lake Fenton varsity football coach Marty Borski admitted it wasn't easy to get the team mentally motivated for a third straight big contest, but the Blue Devils figured a way to do it.

"This week was a struggle," Borski said. "We had three physical football games in a row and this one was very physical as well. It wasn't pretty. We

**See DEVILS on 16**

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2021 | **PAGE 12** | MYFENTON.COM/SPORTS

## Sports Times

### Eagles' offense gets stronger vs. Bronchos, 40-0

By David Troppens

**Linden** — For the first two weeks of the season, the Linden varsity football team's offense didn't like its traditional self, scoring just a combined 14 points in losses against Notre Dame Prep and Goodrich.

But during the last two weeks, it seems the Eagles have found their magic once again when they have the ball. A week after scoring 47 points in a 47-21 victory against Kearsley, the Eagles defeated the Holly Bronchos 40-0 in a contest that had to be the squad's most complete effort of the season.

"The offensive line is getting better," Linden varsity football coach Denny Hopkins said. "They were young and they are getting better. We are running the ball hard and we are throwing the ball a lot better and more efficient."

"Our defense played really well and they are getting better and better. And we need them to."

During the team's third game of the season, the ground game was potent with running back Bryce Eliuk scoring on five TD

runs. This week, it was quarterback Brandon Green who did the share of the scoring with his legs. He scored on TD runs of 2, 12, 5 and 10 yards and also threw a TD pass. Green was efficient with the passing game. He completed 13-of-17 passes for 147 yards and the score. And, of course, there's Eliuk. While he didn't run for five TDs this week, he did collect 76 yards on just 12 carries. He did have one TD, scoring on a six-yard run. Another big aspect of the victory was the Eagles turned it over just once, and it didn't hurt them.

"Coach talks about our RPO play (run pass option play)," Green said. "If the pass is open, I throw the pass, and I think I did a lot better job reading that today. The line has improved big time."

Meanwhile, the Bronchos, who were playing without six starters, struggled on offense. Holly mustered just 41 yards total offense, collecting all those on the ground. The Bronchos' biggest play from scrimmage the entire game was a 12-yard

**See STRONGER on 16**



Fenton's Jake Nichols runs downfield in a recent game. Photo: Mark Bolen

### Fenton's ground game leads to victory vs. Swartz Creek

By David Troppens

It was the Jake Nichols show at Fenton High school Friday night.

In a game that featured a lot of offense with a decent amount of it coming on the ground, Nichols scored three rushing touchdowns in the Fenton varsity football team's 41-27 Flint Metro League Stripes Division victory against the Swartz Creek Dragons.

Of course, the Dragons are known for their running game and all four of their scores came on TD runs, but the Tigers had four rushing TDs of their own, with Nichols scoring on runs of

**See GAME on 16**



(Above) Holly's Ashton Dehart finds running the ball against Linden's defense quite the challenge. Linden posted its first shutout of the season against Holly. (Left) Ethan Gomez tries to sneak a little farther upfield before being hit by Holly's Duane Lane (right) and Deshawn Willis (33).

Photos: Christopher Summers



# Fenton volleyball claws out three-set victory vs. Bronchos

By David Troppens

**Holly** — The last two seasons the Holly varsity volleyball team ruled the Flint Metro League Stripes Division, winning the last two titles.

Prior to that, the Fenton Tigers had won all but two Metro crowns from 2008 through 2018.

But the fall of 2021 sees both of them in sort of a rebuilding mode. Fenton is further ahead with the process considering this season's team has four seniors compared to just one for Holly. However, both are looking for their stronger days to come later this season when their inexperienced players have more varsity experience.

The two area rivals faced off recently with the Tigers capturing a 25-15, 25-12, 25-12 road victory against the Bronchos.

"We are progressing pretty well," Fenton varsity volleyball coach Jenna Long said.

"We are serving a lot tougher. We have two setters, actually three that set off and on for the team. Our setters are growing. We have Adrie (Staib) and she's really coming along. ... Overall we've been pretty successful. We are a young team. We have three sophomores so we are still pretty young."

The Bronchos have only one returning player or coach back from last season. That's how new Holly is.

"We have all sophomores," first-year varsity volleyball coach Courtney Stack said. "We have all new varsity players. We have only one returning varsity player and that's Bella (Smith), and she's our captain. The rest are from the JV and freshman teams last year, so it's a brand new team. And everyone of our coaches are new, so it's a whole new program."

The Bronchos appear to be

going through some growing pains with their youth and the Tigers were able to take advantage during the contest. The Tigers' strongest hitter was Staib who finished with a match-high nine kills. However, there was some offensive balance with Grace Pierle collecting six and Maddy Stevens chipping in five. Sienna Sahr also had three kills.

At times the Bronchos struggled with their passing resulting in limited kills during the match. Holly's kill leader was Hanna Robarge with four, while Amanda Welch had three. Smith had two attacking kills and two block kills as well. The Bronchos also suffered through 12 hitting errors compared to just six for the Tigers.

"We still have some chemistry stuff we have to clean up on the team," Long said.

**CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM**



Fenton's Sienna Sahr attempts a kill against Holly blockers Hannah Robarge (left) and Angelina Azbell. Photo: Christopher Summers



Fenton's Grace Olsen competes in January's state meet. Olsen broke the pool record in the 200 individual medley and 100 butterfly in Saturday's meet. Photo: David Troppens

## Fenton swimmers post three impressive victories at quad meet

By David Troppens

The hits keep on coming for the Fenton varsity girls swimming and diving team.

The Tigers have hardly started their season and are already breaking all sorts of pool and school records.

The Tigers continued that trend with victories against Brighton (99-86), Grand Blanc (99-87) and Midland Dow (101-85) in a Saturday event.

The Tigers broke new varsity and pool records in two relays. The 200 med-

ley relay team of Sophie Stefanac, Tess Heavner, Grace Olsen and Sana Saab broke the pool and varsity record with a first-place time of 1:48.02.

The 200 freestyle relay team of Olsen, Sophie Stefanac, Saab and Heavner also accomplished the same feat with a first-place time of 1:38.92.

In individual events, one fun swim had to be the 200 individual medley where Olsen and Heavner finished 1-2 for the Tigers with Rose Haney finish-

**See SWIMMERS on 15**

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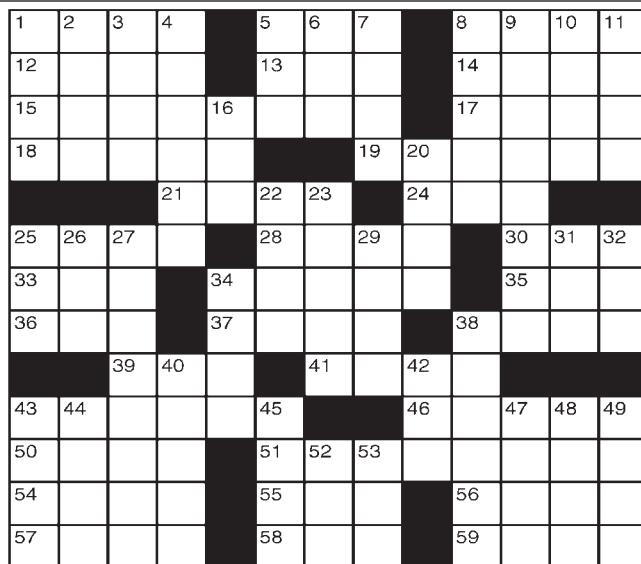
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## Midweek Crossword

## ACROSS

- 1 — Valley, Calif.  
5 Indent key  
8 Booty  
12 Portent  
13 Hot temper  
14 Corduroy ridge  
15 Arm of the Arctic Ocean  
17 Desire  
18 Sub detector  
19 Sunflower State  
21 Study all night  
24 Pvt.'s superior  
25 Salamander  
28 Canal feature  
30 Acapulco gold  
33 "The Greatest"

- 34 Continental cash  
35 "Awesome!"  
36 Sweetie  
37 Apple computer  
38 Memory unit  
39 A billion years  
41 Crazy  
43 Treat badly  
46 Available  
50 Contented sounds  
51 Left the band  
54 "— Rhythm"  
55 Actress Mendes  
56 Now, on a



memo

- 57 Cuts off  
58 Gym unit  
59 Egyptian deity

## DOWN

- 1 Scatters seeds  
2 Texter's "As I see it"  
3 Chow —  
4 Unbroken  
5 "— the sea-son ..."  
6 Exist  
7 Toucan's feature  
8 Tried to hit a

homer

- 9 Veteran's tale  
10 Pond growth  
11 Pop music's Bee —

- 16 Goof up  
20 Requests  
22 Grad  
23 Aesopian ending  
25 "Unh-unh"  
26 "Evil Woman" gp.  
27 Port authority?  
29 Designer Chanel  
31 Squealer

32 Poetic tribute

- 34 Drei minus zwei  
38 Dwarf tree  
40 Expels  
42 Camp bed  
43 Postal delivery  
44 "Othello" villain  
45 Ornamental jug  
47 Pitch  
48 Jai —  
49 Band in Boston?  
52 Prior night  
53 Snooze

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## Midweek Sudoku

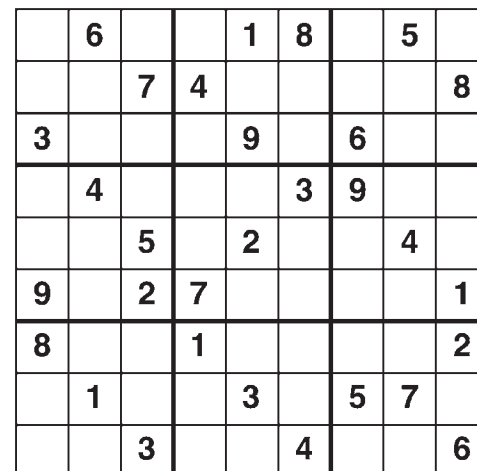
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DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

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♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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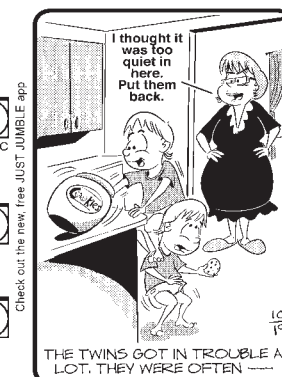
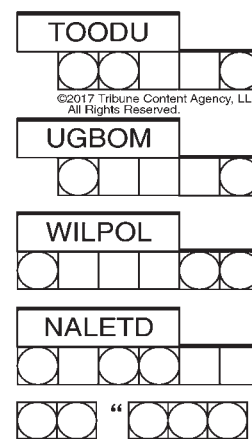
## Midweek Jumble

## JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME  
by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answers in this Sunday's edition of the Tri-County Times

## Horoscopes

For the week of  
**September 20, 2021**

## ARIES

Mar 21/Apr 20

If you're single, get prepared to mingle, Aries. If you're attached, then your relationship will only grow stronger in the days to come. Romance is in the air, so embrace it.

## TAURUS

Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, even if you're feeling a little stuck in your relationships, do not push others away. There may be a solution you're simply not seeing. Delve deeper.

## GEMINI

May 22/Jun 21

Gemini, it may be time to break away from the typical routine at least for a little while. This can offer you a new perspective that puts you on an interesting path.

## CANCER

Jun 22/Jul 22

Someone close to you may be thinking of a reinvention and wants your opinion, Cancer. Support this person and all the changes he or she desires.

## LEO

Jul 23/Aug 23

Good habits will pay off in the days to come, Leo. So if you're ready to make some changes, think about those that will improve your overall health and well-being.

## VIRGO

Aug 24/Sept 22

Virgo, if you're feeling pressured to have fun, then you probably will not enjoy yourself no matter how hard you try. Try not to force things and take them as they come.

## LIBRA

Sept 23/Oct 23

A place you always enjoyed visiting may no longer hold the same appeal for you, Libra. That's okay because everyone grows and evolves. Enjoy finding a new source of inspiration.

## SCORPIO

Oct 24/Nov 22

You must make yourself available if you expect others to want to share ideas or information with you, Scorpio. So far you may have been a bit distant. Change this.

## SAGITTARIUS

Nov 23/Dec 21

Figure out where your comfort levels lie, Sagittarius. Only then will you know just how far beyond those levels you're willing to push yourself to try new things.

## CAPRICORN

Dec 22/Jan 20

Even though you have strong instincts about something, your emotions also may be running hot. Therefore, you might not be able to trust your instincts just yet.

## AQUARIUS

Jan 21/Feb 18

Aquarius, your energy levels could be waning, but that's because you have been pushing yourself very hard lately. It's time to rest to be recharged for later.

## PISCES

Feb 19/Mar 20

Don't let others be your sole focus this week, Pisces. Figure out how to put yourself first without ignoring those around you.



# Area XC teams compete at Duane Raffin Festival of Races

By David Troppens

**Holly** — One of the largest if not the largest prep cross country race in the state took place Saturday when the Duane Raffin Festival of Races took place at Springfield Oaks County Park.

There were four area high school teams at the event — obviously the Holly cross country squads and also the Fenton squads.

The Fenton varsity girls cross country team was the area's top performer, taking fourth in the Division 1 women's race. Nina Frost paced the Tigers by placing 12th (20:20.1) while Emily Grob was 17th (20:41.1). The rest of the scoring five included Emma Dubie in 30th (21:08.1), Landis Canada in 47th (21:31.6) and Izzy MacCaughan in 48th (21:33.4). There were 113 runners in the D1 girls varsity race.

The Fenton varsity boys placed sixth with 176 team points. Michael Crane led the Tigers by taking 12th (16:47.3) while Nathan

Katic was 20th (17:05.3). The rest of Fenton's scoring five were Aidan Brzezinski in 39th (17:32.1), Josh Maier in 43rd (17:37.2) and Gavin Thomas in 62nd (17:57.8).

Holly's boys took eighth with 189 team points in the D2 men's event. Mason Rosa took 16th to pace the Bronchos (17:27.7), while Zachary Rockafellow was 28th (17:51.7). The rest of Holly's scoring five were Benjamin Baxter in 37th (18:11.4), Grant Hoffman in 50th (18:36.6) and Brandon Strickert in 72nd (19:28.6).

The Holly girls didn't have enough runners to compete as a team, but that didn't keep Ashley Sobczynski from placing third in the D2 women's race. She posted a time of 19:02.0. East Lansing's Anna Delgado (18:42.5) won the event while Allen Park's Lisa Luecke was second (19:00.9). Other Holly runners were Jessica Booher in 71st (23:36.0), Hannah Lee in 93rd (24:46.2) and Alison Rockafellow in 108th (25:33.4).



The Fenton girls finished fourth in the Division 1 race at the Duane Raffin Festival of Races. Two of the Fenton runners were (left photo) Izzy MacCaughan (725) and Landis Canada (712). (Left photo) Luke Defina (742) competes for Fenton. Photos: David Troppens

## LF soccer captures Carman-Ainsworth tourney title, Holly Bronchos place third

By David Troppens

The Lake Fenton and Holly varsity boys soccer teams faced off in the opening round of the Carman-Ainsworth Tournament on Saturday, and both left with at least a victory.

The Blue Devils (4-2-1) were the most victorious squad at the event, defeating Holly 5-0 and then Carman-Ainsworth 5-1 to earn the tournament title. The Bronchos rebounded from the loss against the Blue Devils and defeated Kearsley 2-1 in the third-place game.

"Against Flushing we didn't come out," Lake Fenton varsity boys soccer

coach Sam Jawhari said. "We played to their level, so we got together for the Brandon game (a 1-1 tie) and I asked them to come together as a team and play a full 80 minutes. It started then. That was the beginning of the season and I want it to stay that way and keep the course. They are playing well together, keeping their shape and enjoying playing together."

The Blue Devils opened the tournament with Ashton Hunter and Lance Willman collecting two goals each in the victory against Holly. The fifth goal was a Ryan Daniels penalty kick goal.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

## SWIMMERS

Continued from Page 13

ing fourth. Olsen broke the pool record with her first-place time of 2:03.46 while Heavner had a state cut (2:06.55) and took second. Haney's time was 2:20.55.

Olsen also broke the Fenton pool

record in the 100 butterfly with a first-place time of 55.25 seconds. Heavner set a new varsity record with her first-place time of 1:05.55 in the 100 breaststroke. Stefanac had two state-cut second-place finishes. They were in the 100 freestyle (54.61) and the 100 backstroke (59.61).

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## Fenton boys tennis finishes second at weekend event

The Fenton varsity boys tennis team hosted a three-team meet with White Lake Lakeland and Port Huron and finished in second with seven team points.

Most of the Tigers' flights posted 1-1 records with all of the victories coming against Port Huron teams.

Sheldon Hand (No. 1), Remy Book (No. 3) and Cam Ruiz (No. 4) each went 1-1 during the weekend event. Hand won his match by a 6-0, 6-1 score while Book won his 6-2, 6-0. Ruiz won his match by forfeit.

In doubles action, all the Fenton squads went 1-1. Nate Dymond and Gavin Stuber (No. 1) won their match against Port Huron 6-3, 6-0 while the No. 2 team of Trey Hajec and Joe McCarthy and the No. 3 doubles team of Noah Gursney and Isaac Gurnsey each won their doubles matches vs. Port Huron 6-0, 6-0. Zach Michelson and Tate Webb (No. 4 doubles) won their match against Port Huron by forfeit.

## GAME

Continued from Page 12

18, 10 and 7 yards.

Fenton trailed 7-6 when Nichols scored his first touchdown of the contest. Set up by an 18-yard completion from Seth Logan to Kash Russell and then a 19-yard run by Nichols himself, Nichols scored on an 18-yard run. Fenton converted the two-point conversion and led 14-7 with 1:39 remaining in the opening quarter. Then, midway through the second quarter, Nichols had his second first-half run to paydirt. This one was from 10 yards out, giving the Tigers a 21-7 lead with 6:05 remaining in the opening half.

The Tigers weren't done scoring yet in

## DEVILS

Continued from Page 12

didn't have the best week of practice. Our first half of football we didn't play very well. We came out flat tonight and the kids knew it. Last week's Brandon game took a little steam out of us physically and emotionally. This was a trap game for us against a solid Corunna team for sure."

Lake Fenton (3-1) never trailed. The Blue Devils looked poised to score on

the opening 24 minutes. A 50-yard completion to Nichols along with a roughing the passer call against the Dragons helped set up Logan's 11-yard TD pass and run to Dylan Beverly. Fenton led 27-7 at the half, and the lead was never seriously threatened in the second half.

There was some scoring in the second half. Swartz Creek cut the gap to within two scores three times in the final two quarters. The first time came at 27-13 on a one-yard TD run by Evan Lloyd with 4:47 left in the third quarter. However, not long after the Dragons' score, Nichols scored his third TD of the game on a seven-yard TD run. Fenton led 34-13 with 10:26 left in the contest.

their first possession when Lake Fenton converted a fourth-and-1 play with a Reid Shumaker to Dalton Decker five-yard completion to the Corunna 27, but the drive ended with a turnover.

Corunna then drove to the Lake Fenton 10, but a third-down pass was defended by Zack Hall and the fourth-down pass went incomplete, giving the Blue Devils the ball back. Starting at their own 10, the Blue Devils put together the game's first scoring drive. Set up by a 77-yard pass

Swartz Creek cut the gap to 34-20 on a two-yard run by Tristan Hinkley, but Nolan Alvord followed with a 32-yard QB keeper, raising the gap to 41-20 with 5:19 left. Finally, Hinkley scored the game's final TD on a two-yard run.

The game's first two scores came in the opening quarter. Swartz Creek botched a snap on a punt helping set up Logan's 19-yard TD pass to Sam Claborn on a fourth-and-9 play. Fenton led 6-0 with 4:25 left. However, Creek scored about two minutes later on a 65-yard Lloyd TD run.

The Tigers (2-2) have their offense clicking again. After scoring just 21 points in their first two games, the Tigers have now scored 80 in their last two.

completion from Shumaker to Maverick Merrell downfield, the Blue Devils ended up scoring on an eight-yard TD run by Lucas Storm. Shumaker threw the ball as a defender had one of his legs in their grasp. It didn't matter because the throw was on target to Merrell.

"That's a scramble situation where the short receivers go short and the long receivers go deep, and I'm proud of Maverick who caught that pass," Borski said.

CONTINUED AT TCTIMES.COM

## STRONGER

Continued from Page 12

run by Kendall Murdoch on the second-last play of the first half. Unfortunately, there was only time for one more play in the half and that one went

for a loss of two yards.

"It's been a tough last couple of weeks," Holly varsity football coach Dallas Lesperance said, referencing last week's 28-6 loss to Swartz Creek as well.

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## PREP REPORT

### BOYS SOCCER

► **Fenton 7, Owosso 0** : Ben Chapple scored two goals off assists by Patrick Hamilton and Calvin Curtis and the Tigers had five other goal scorers as the Tigers remained undefeated in league play. Curtis, Gabe Grigorian, Gibson Lehman, Chase Gibson and Lalo Rivera-Gomez also had goals. Justin Miller, Zack Jones, Gabe Palmer, Rivera-Gomez and Tyler Behrens had assists. In net, Jasper Bakker posted his third shutout of the season, making six saves.

### GIRLS GOLF

► **Holly def. Fowlerville** : The Bronchos were paced by Alivya Boehm with a 51. Kendall Stilwell shot a 52 while Makena McGee shot a 54. Emalee Dietzen shot a career-best 68.

### VOLLEYBALL

► **Clio d. Lake Fenton** : The Blue Devils

lost 25-17, 25-17, 28-26. Kelsey Corkran led the squad with 11-for-11 serving while adding six digs and two blocks on defense. Mia Bicego had 15 digs.

► **Flushing d. Linden** : The Eagles lost 25-14, 25-22, 25-13. Korrin Moore and Gracie Pierscinski had four kills each while Pierscinski also had five blocks. Hannah Wasilewski had eight digs.

► **Linden at Reese Invitational** : The Eagles (10-8-3) had a strong showing, going 3-1. They Croswell-Lexington, Lakeville and Vassar but lost to Reese. Korrin Moore led the Eagles with 22 kills while Olivia Nester had 18 kills Grace Pierscinski had 13 kills and nine blocks while Kara Bigelow also had nine blocks. Brooke Durkac chipped in 10 kills and six blocks while Hanna Wasilewski had 21 digs. Nester had 11.

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