

# DeMarti leads Titans

The Macomb Daily Sports Staff

Stevenson's Drew DeMarti continues to be red hot on the ice early in the 2009-10 high school boys hockey season.

## H.S. Hockey Roundup

DeMarti was a part of all four goals, scoring three of them, to lead the Titans over L'Anse Creuse North, 4-2, in a Macomb Area Conference White Division game, Saturday night.

DeMarti has 24 points through six games.

Justin Zyvon had a goal and three assists for Stevenson (2-0-0, 5-1-0) and Mitch Brinker had three assists. Goalie Mason Henige made 24 saves.

Robert Ochmanski and Brandon Rentz each scored for LCN (3-1-0, 5-1-1), while Matt Orlando and Adam Ficorelli each had an assist.

**WARREN-STERLING UNITED 4, ROMEO 3:** Mike Merola led the Thunder (1-2-0, 4-2-0) with three goals and David Pomaville added the other tally, which proved to be the game winner. Mike Perini had four assists and Marty Case had a pair of assists. Goalie Zach Nagi made 37 saves.

## H.S. Schedule

- MONDAY, DEC. 14**
- Girls Basketball**  
Sterling Heights at New Haven  
Ford at Anchor Bay  
Madison at Warren Woods-Tower  
Peck at Memphis  
Parkway Christian at Calvary Christian
- Gymnastics**  
Beverly Hills Groves at Fraser
- TUESDAY, DEC. 15**
- Boys Basketball**  
Anchor Bay at Stevenson  
Fraser at Center Line  
Chippewa Valley at Grosse Pointe North  
Lincoln at Clintondale  
L'Anse Creuse at Cousino  
Harper Woods at East Detroit  
Highland Park at Eisenhower  
Ford at Rochester Hills Stoney Creek  
Romeo at Utica  
L'Anse Creuse North at Fitzgerald  
Madison at Roseville  
Warren-Mott at Lamphere  
New Haven at Lakeview  
Sterling Heights at Warren Woods-Tower  
Armada at North Branch  
Lutheran North at Notre Dame Prep  
Dryden at Memphis
- Girls Basketball**  
Almont at Armada  
Richmond at Imlay City  
Regina at Cabrini
- Girls Hockey**  
Regina at Plymouth United
- Swimming**  
Anchor Bay at Grosse Pointe North  
Center Line and Sterling Heights at Lake Shore  
Chippewa Valley at Eisenhower  
Cousino at Roseville

# Lions lose only bright spot on day

By Paula Pasche  
Journal Register News Service

**BALTIMORE** — Running back Kevin Smith had played his best game of the season a week ago at Cincinnati and was quite possibly the only bright spot in the Lions' offense in Sunday's 43-3 loss to the Ravens.

Then, early in the fourth quarter, after catching a pass from Daunte Culpepper, Smith's left knee buckled, forcing him down.

"I was catching a pass in the flat. I wanted to stop and make a cut, but my knee got stuck and I felt a lot of pain. I knew I was hurt pretty badly right away. It was the worst pain I've ever felt," Smith said.

Wide receiver Calvin Johnson was the last player to wish him well as he was taken on a cart to the Lions' locker room.

Smith said there is not an immediate prognosis and he'll have tests done today. Schwartz called the injury "significant."

Smith carried the ball 21 times for 69 yards and had a pair of catches for 19 yards.



## Notebook

was playing his butt off. He wasn't quitting, he was trying to gain yards, he was trying to get first downs, he was trying to get it in the end zone as that game was winding down," coach Jim Schwartz said.

Even though his yardage hadn't been the best of the season, both Schwartz and offensive coordinator Scott Linehan agreed that Smith had his best game against the Bengals.

If Smith is done for the season, it's likely he'll be replaced by veteran Maurice Morris, who had three carries for 11 yards after Smith left the game.

Smith was one of three players injured on Sunday.

Safety Louis Delmas wasn't able to play in the second half after injuring his ankle.

"I sprained it pretty bad, but I have to get back in the training

room and get ready for next week," Delmas said.

Long snapper Don Muhlbach injured a wrist and also got hit in the head and did not return to the game during the second half.

## Culpepper now 0-3

Sunday was Daunte Culpepper's second straight start where the Lions have not scored a touchdown. In his last opportunity at Green Bay on Oct. 18, the Lions were shut out, 26-0.

Culpepper (16 of 34 for 135 yards and two interceptions) started in place of Matthew Stafford, who aggravated his separated left shoulder late in last week's loss at Cincinnati. Stafford was listed as the third quarterback for the game.

"It was a tough one today, it was tough. We started off, we started slow, we didn't convert some third downs when we really needed them," Culpepper said. "Then we started going a little bit, get in the Red Zone a couple times and don't get touchdowns. It's tough. You have to be able to keep up with the other team. No matter what it is, offen-

sively we have to do better."

Culpepper is 0-3 this season and 0-8 as a starter with the Lions over the last two seasons.

Schwartz said he did not consider replacing Culpepper with Drew Stanton.

"We had enough other issues with out having to worry about quarterback," Schwartz said.

The coach also didn't want to comment specifically on Culpepper's play until he had watched game film.

## In and outs

Fullback Jerome Felton, who was not listed on the injury report this week, sat Sunday while Terrelle Smith got the start.

Other inactives for Sunday's game were: defensive back Jahi Word-Daniels, center Melvin Fowler, tackle Corey Hilliard, tight end Casey FitzSimmons (concussion), defensive tackle Andre Fluellen (groin) and defensive end Dewayne White (toe).

## This and that

DeAndre Levy started at outside linebacker in place of Ernie

Sims, who had missed four games with a hamstring injury. Sims returned and played. Sims finished with four tackles, while Levy had one. ... Cornerback Will James led all Lions with nine tackles. ... Defensive tackle Cliff Avril started at right end in place of the injured White. ... The Ravens were missing two key players in safety Ed Reed (groin/foot) and second wide receiver Mark Clayton (knee). ... Baltimore's 315 total yards in the first half marked the most in an opening half in team history. ... The Ravens have now won 12 of their last 13 home games against the NFC.

Summing it up

Lions cornerback Will James: "That was embarrassing. I think we need to perform better than that. I've got to watch the tape, but that was embarrassing."



Baltimore Ravens linebacker Antwan Barnes (50) tackles Detroit Lions quarterback Daunte Culpepper during the second quarter. Culpepper was largely ineffective throwing two interceptions and under throwing open receivers on many occasions.

# CAPUTO: What's changed?

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Where is Bobby Ross when you really need him? It was embarrassin' by every definition of the word.

Baltimore is Lions' head coach Jim Schwartz's hometown. The old Colts' marching band might have put up a better fight. Certainly, it didn't make any more noise than Schwartz when he started screaming at his defense. Not that it mattered. The Ravens were a 9-iron, the Lions' defense the rear passenger-side window of Tiger Woods' Escalade anyway.

That game summed everything this state has come to hate about the Lions. It was so bad, you'd thought it was Thanksgiving Day.

It was rainy. The conditions weren't the best for football. It's late in the season. Injuries have taken their toll on the Lions. It was a test of where the Lions are as a football team, in terms of effort and professionalism. They failed it miserably. They rolled over. It wasn't a poor effort.

It negated a pretty good try — if not result — the previous week at Cincinnati. The Lions continue to follow a tried-and-true method of failure:

Lack of talent. Plus uninspired effort on the road. Equals a 45-point loss. Wow. The Lions lost by six touchdowns and a field goal.

Back in the days of Wayne Fontes, before the Silverdome was sold at an auction at the dollar store, they called it "I-75 eyes." Guess that would be "Southfield Freeway eyes" now, given the location of the Lions' team headquarters in Allen Park.

This is a team clearly playing out the string — and there is no excuse for it.

They are not a team that was expected to contend for a playoff spot and therefore suffered the disappointment of having a losing season. The Lions are allegedly a work in progress. Entering Sunday there was

still a quarter of the season remaining. The Lions haven't won a road game since the last weekend of October in 2007. They still have step after step to climb up the ladder.

It begins with playing not only hard in every game, but each snap. This team just surrenders sometimes, especially on the road. Honestly, nobody expects that much from this team other than an honest effort. Hate to use another old Bobby Ross statement, but that was "playing only for their paychecks." It showed utter disrespect for the great game of football.

There is still a losing culture. Schwartz has done some things to try to change it — beginning by not saying much, but letting changing starting positions and curtailed playing time do the talking for him.

But he can't say, as Ross once did, "I don't coach that kind of football" because he just did. Ultimately, the way the Lions folded Sunday is a reflection of Jim Schwartz more than anyone else.

Do his players respect him and his staff? Didn't seem like it, based purely on the bottom line Sunday.

It was at these times, Ross would threaten to issue "a bus ticket out of town" to slacking players.

Thing is, he never did actually issue them. Always idle threats.

If the Lions don't play harder in the last three games of the season, the line should be long at the bus station.

Sure, football is a game of talent, but its ultimate deciding factors are determination, effort, tenacity, resolve, objective, indomitability and toughness.

The Lions displayed none of the above Sunday. One word, however, aptly described what took place.

Regression. As Bobby Ross would say. "Ugly, Ugly, Ugly."

Contact Pat Caputo at pat.caputo@oak-press.com.

# LOSS: 'There's accountability in this business'

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"It's not us, it's not going to be us and there's going to be some accountability for us," the coach said. To be specific, jobs are on the line.

When Schwartz was asked specifically if jobs could be lost, he said, "There's accountability in this business. You can't perform like we have and not expect that."

In other words, yes. "We're going to do everything we can, and we're going to put the players on the field that are going to do it the way we want them to do it," Schwartz said.

The coach has given the players today and Tuesday off so the coaches can determine where they will go from here. Tuesday is a normal day off, Mondays they usually meet and have walk-throughs.

**Notice**  
City of Eastpointe  
RESIDENTS OF EASTPOINTE are advised that the City ordinances applicable to snow and ice removal operations will be strictly enforced this winter (see Section 1022.29 of the ordinances). Snow not removed within twenty-four (24) hours after it has fallen or accumulated may be removed by the City and the cost charged to the landowner.  
**David D. Bk**  
City Clerk  
M.D. 12/14/09 3792455

"I think guys are going to be on the edge of their seats, (asking) 'Am I that guy?' I don't think you can call it a day off. We're going to find out. I know the coaches aren't going to take the day off," said center Dominic Raiola, who is also the offensive captain.

Schwartz did not see this coming. In recent weeks, even though they didn't have the wins to show for it, the offense and defense had shown signs of progress.

"I know there's issues, I know there's injuries, I know there's all these different things. We have to make a stand and this is unacceptable," Schwartz said.

During game preparation and even meetings on Saturday, the coach thought his team was ready to play and admitted he was way off on that.

"There was nothing to the effect of coming out flat, I wasn't concerned about that. I was con-

cerned about tackling No. 27 (running back Ray Rice) and obviously we didn't do a very good job of that," Schwartz said.

Rice set career highs when he carried the ball 13 times for 166 yards and caught four passes for 53 yards for a total of 219 yards. At halftime he had 204 yards from scrimmage, which was 30 more yards than Detroit's offense had accumulated.

"He played just like we thought he would. He is very explosive, and he is dangerous. He earned everything he got today," said safety Louis Delmas, who did not play the second half due to an ankle injury.

In the third quarter, with the Lions down 34-3, Schwartz called a timeout to pull his defense to the sidelines and give them an earful.

"I didn't like the fact that the ball was getting run down our

throats, and I called the team over to let them know how upset I was going to be if they scored a touchdown and tried to rally them to see if it would make a difference. Obviously it didn't," Schwartz said.

Two plays later Willis McGahee ran 19 yards for a touchdown.

The Ravens finished with 548 net yards of offense, a team single-game record. They ran for 308 of those yards, including five rushing touchdowns, another team record. In comparison, the Lions offense finished with 229 net yards — 10 yards less than Ray's total.

Quarterback Daunte Culpepper (16 of 34 for 135 yards, two interceptions), who started in place of the injured Matthew Stafford, should not take the blame for all of the offensive woes, but he was a part of it.

upset and they keep getting big plays, so you're fighting yourself really. I don't see no giving up. I don't know what the problem is."

Raiola sees it the same way on the offense. There are issues, plenty of them, but giving up is not one of them. At least, the way he sees it.

"I can tell you from an offensive standpoint when I was out there it didn't look like anybody quit," Raiola said.

Footo and Raiola's perspective is important, but the opinion of Schwartz and his coaching staff is the one that matters most.

# COACH: Takes in poor effort by players

Continued from Page 1B

over and over until he finds some answers, and perhaps he'll share that with the media at this afternoon's news conference.

But team captains, linebacker Larry Foote and center Dominic Raiola, didn't see quit in the eyes of their teammates. And obviously they were both on the field looking for it.

Foote, who spent the last seven years as a member of the Pittsburgh Steelers' tough defense, thinks it could be that everyone is not mentally tough enough.

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**Macomb Twp Board of Trustee Meeting held November 24, 2009**  
**Macomb Township, 54111 Broughton Rd., Macomb MI 48042**

- 7:00 p.m. Meeting called to order by Supervisor Grabow, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call by Clerk Koehs - all members present.
- Approval of Agenda Items - **Approved**
- Approval of the Bills - **Approved**
- Approval of the previous Meeting Minutes from November 10, 2009 - **Approved**
- Consent Agenda - **Approved**
- Public Comments
- Request Approval 2010 Meeting Schedules for Board, Planning Commission and Zoning Board Appeals meetings - **Approved**.
- Request for Sidewalk Inventory - **Approved**
- Request to extend Closed Circuit TV System at Town Hall - **Approved**.
- Bid Award-Senior Center Replacement Doors - **Approved**.
- Request to Reconfirm mandatory Retirement at Age 60 under Act 345 Retirement System - **Approved**.
- Request to Start Recruitment Process - Purchasing Specialist - **Approved**.
- Request to Attend MI Public Employer Labor Relations Seminar - **Approved**.
- Request Postage to Mail Tax Bills - **Approved**.
- Request to Purchase Tires for JCB Loader - **Approved**.
- Supervisors Comments
- Clerk Comments - Request to Allow Planning Commission to Conduct Public Hearings to Review Entire Zoning Ordinance - **Approved**.
- Request to Initiate Recruitment Process for Deputy Building Official - **Approved**.
- Request to Direct H/R Director to Not Conduct Annual Compensation Review - **Approved**. To Executive Session at 9:47p.m.
- Treasurer Comments
- Trustee Comments - Request to Authorize Supervisor to Develop Mileage Reimbursement Policy - **Approved**. To Executive Session at 8:02p.m.
- Unit 3-Card 21 LLC;Tax Tribunal - **Legal Counsel to Sign Consent Judgment**
- Ozzad Property Management vs. Mac Twp - **Authorize Legal Counsel to Continue discussions with Plaintiffs**.

ADJOURNMENT  
Board meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

**Michael D. Koehs**, CMC  
Macomb Township Clerk

The full text of the meeting minutes is available at Township website: www.macomb-mi.gov and upon request from the Township Clerk.

M.D. 12/14/09 3792210