

Ironworker dies at new Clarkston High

BY CAROLYN WALKER
STAFF WRITER

A 43-year-old ironworker plunged to his death while working atop the new Clarkston High School about 10:55 a.m. Monday morning, casting a pall over the construction of the building that is scheduled to open next August on Flemings Lake Road in Independence Township.

"A lot of guys from the iron workers went home. Some of them went with him (to the hospital). These guys are just trying to deal with that," said Craig Kahler, director of business services for Clarkston Community Schools, from the scene of the accident. "You don't know how to react. You want to believe it's not true."

According to Lt. Dale LaBair of the Oakland County Sheriff's Department substation in Independence Township, Frank A. Blissett Jr., a Fenton resident, fell some 40 feet from the gym

roof while he was welding panels.

"He fell and we don't know whether a panel collapsed, causing him to fall or whether he fell causing the panel to collapse," LaBair said.

Rescue personnel from the Independence Township Fire Department were called to the scene and they administered lifesaving techniques but their efforts were unsuccessful and Blissett was pronounced dead at Pontiac Osteopathic Hospital, LaBair said.

A spokesperson for POH said Blissett died of head and chest injuries.

Blissett, who was married and had one son and one daughter, was an employee of Cadillac Iron Company of Sterling Heights. An employee there who answered the phone said the company would make no comment on the accident.

On Monday afternoon, field safety officers from the Michigan

Occupational Safety and Health Act (MIOSHA) went to the scene to investigate and try to determine what caused the incident.

It is required under state law that MIOSHA investigate accidents and report violations where fatalities occur or where three or more individuals are injured in a single incident, said David Foster, regional supervisor for the construction safety division.

Foster said it could be days or even weeks before they know exactly what caused Blissett to fall to his death.

Blissett was a lifelong resident of Fenton. He was a 1975 graduate of Central Michigan University and was a member of local No. 25 of the International Association of Bridge Structural and Ornamental Iron Workers.

He is survived by his wife, Yolanda; son, Frank III of Sault Ste. Marie; daughter, Elizabeth Blissett of Fenton and a host of other relatives.

SEMCOC wants action on roads

BY TIM RICHARD
STAFF WRITER

The road funding work of the Michigan Legislature got less than a perfect report card from the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments staff.

Meanwhile, a key state legislator called for a comprehensive look at road safety, including prohibiting passengers in the bed of a pickup truck.

SEMCOC, a seven-county planning agency, said the legislative package will raise just \$257 million for road repairs, "less than half of the \$575 million needed and sought in the SEMCOC principles."

The staff report, signed by Carmine Palombo, SEMCOC's transportation programs director, said the Legislature drifted from using one fund for distribution.

"Three cents of the gas tax will continue to be distributed through the Act 51 (of 1951) formula, as will the one-time \$59 million (from interest on the state's 'rainy day' fund). The remaining one cent of gas tax increase goes directly to the state's critical bridge account," Palombo wrote.

He said the Legislature did write in efficiency standards, cost savings and reforms. He said the new laws require state Treasury audits of local road agencies, require the Michigan Department of Transportation to implement new pavement manage-

ment system, and limit state and local administrative costs to 10 percent of revenues.

They also require competitive bidding and that contractors to provide warranties of their work.

Rep. Frank Fitzgerald, R-Grand Ledge, said the Legislature should try to reduce the death toll of 1,605 when it returns to work Sept. 23.

Citing the Jackson County crash that claimed 11 lives, Fitzgerald called for prohibiting passengers from riding in the backs of pickup trucks.

The House in 1992 passed such a bill sponsored by then-Rep. William Keith of Garden City, but it died in the Senate when farm interests objected.

Fitzgerald's package of bills, supported by Gov. John Engler and Secretary of State Candice Miller, would:

- Require use of seat belts and make it a primary offense.
- Fitzgerald scoffed at the contention such a law could lead to civil rights abuses. Michigan requires seat belts but allows police to enforce the law only when a driver is stopped for another offense.

- Place more restrictions on second and third offenders.

- Regulate jet skis and personal watercraft on state waterways.
- Tighten oversight of limousine drivers - a response to the crash that critically injured two members of the Red Wings.

This is your Summer to Shine!

Donate Your Vehicle Directly to St. Vincent DePaul

- Free Towing
- Any Condition Accepted
- Help Us Help Others

1-800-309-AUTO (2886)

Your Donation is Tax Deductible

Thank You For Your Support

SAFARI SOCCER

PROWLING THE PALACE

TOMORROW NIGHT • 7:30pm
vs. Portland Pride
Independed Species Wildlife Card Packs for the first 4,000 fans, compliments of Wildlife/Parade Co.

SUNDAY NIGHT • 7:00pm
vs. Dallas Sidekicks
Safari Saver for the first 5,000 fans, compliments of Equity Residential

Tickets at The Palace & Pine Knob Box Offices and Charge: (248) 645-6666 or call (248) 377-0100.

SAFARI.

This Sponsor of Safari Soccer is the Gold Sponsor of the Grand Slam.

www.safarisoccer.com

Annual R-Gang Car Show peels out Aug. 10

The third annual R-Gang Car Show, a family-oriented car show highlighting classics and hot rods from the early 1930s to the 1990s, will be held 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 10, in Clintonwood Park in Independence Township.

The show is co-sponsored by the R Gang Rods and Customs Club

and Independence Township Parks and Recreation. All proceeds will be donated to Ronald McDonald House of Detroit, located on the grounds of Children's Hospital.

Admission to the show is free, as are all of the activities associated with the show including adult

and children's games. The show raises money through car registration fees, sponsor awards and a raffle.

Car entrants pay \$10 to register. For more information, call Mike Green at (248) 969-0025 or Shannan Shidler at (248) 628-7419.

Kaplan students get into Law School.

Case closed.

9 out of 10 Kaplan LSAT students go to one of their top 3 school choices.

LSAT

August 9/23th
7-8 pm
Wayne State University
Call for details: 1-800-KAP-TEST

KAPLAN

1-800-KAP-TEST
www.kaplan.com

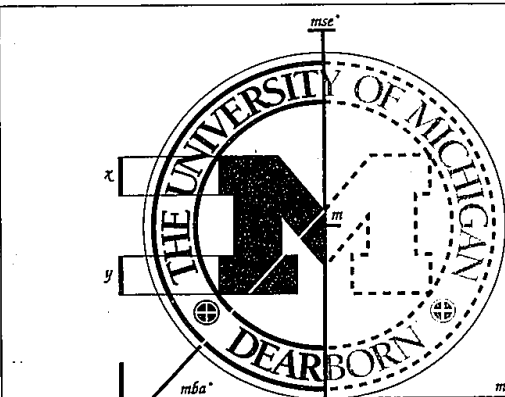
LSAT is a registered trademark of the Law School Admission Council.

CHIMNEYS ROOFS

- Cleaned
- Screened
- Repaired
- New
- Repaired
- Re-Roofed
- New
- Leaks
- Stopped

CROWN CONTRACTING, INC.
42910 W. 10 Mile, Novi
(313) 427-3981
SINCE 1952

(810) 344-4577



Design a bold new future with one of our graduate degrees in engineering or computer science.

It's called taking care of your own future. Engineers in all disciplines are in greater demand now than ever before. That's where we come in. We're the University of Michigan at the very convenient Dearborn campus. That's where you can come in, too. We offer evening classes in a variety of graduate engineering degrees. Our creative and experienced faculty will integrate theory and practice. You'll get a degree...from U of M. Yes!

A UofM Degree.
Closer to you now than ever before.

MSE in Automotive Engineering
(313) 593-5582

MSE in Computer Engineering
(313) 593-5420

MSE in Electrical Engineering
(313) 593-5420

DEng (Manufacturing)*
(313) 593-5582

MSE in Industrial and Systems Engineering
(313) 593-5361

MSE in Manufacturing Systems Engineering
(313) 593-5582

MSE in Mechanical Engineering
(313) 593-5341

MSE in Computer and Information Science
(313) 436-9145

MSE in Engineering Management
(313) 593-5361

Dual MBA/MSE Industrial and Systems Engineering degree
(313) 593-5460 or
(313) 593-5361

*A new degree from the Program in Manufacturing, College of Engineering, Arts, Sciences, and Technology, U of M Dearborn.

All term classes start September 3. Visit our web site on the Internet at www.umdearborn.edu/grad. For further details and an application portfolio, please call the specific office for your graduate program. For general information about our other programs, call the Graduate Studies Office at (313) 593-1494. Or send an E-mail: umgrad@umdearborn.umich.edu. We're conveniently located at 4901 Evergreen Rd., Dearborn, MI 48128-1491.

FOUR-DAY SALE

Heslop's
China & Gifts

TAKE AN ADDITIONAL 20% OFF
HESLOP'S EVERYDAY LOW PRICES ON
SELECT DINNERWARE, FLATWARE,
STEMWARE, AND GIFTWARE.

Heslop's brings you the largest selection of in-stock tabletop merchandise in Michigan. Choose from among such famous names as Atlantis, Black, Christian Dior, Cristal J.G. Durand, Dansk, Fitz & Floyd, Gorham, Lenox, Mikasa, Nikko, Noritake, Onoda, Pickard, Reed & Barton, Rosenthal, Royal Doulton, Royal Worcester, Sasaki, Spode, Towle, and Villeroy & Boch.



*Pavilion by Vista Alegre

Sale is not in addition to any other sale or previously marked down merchandise. Normal exclusions apply. Please ask a salesperson for details.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 7-SUNDAY, AUGUST 10

METRO DETROIT:
New Location! St. Clair Shores,
21429 Mack Ave. • (810) 778-6142
(North of Eight Mile Rd.)
Dearborn Heights, The Heights
(313) 274-9200 • (Ford Rd. between
Inkster and Beach Dwy.)
Livonia, Merri-Five Plaza • (313) 522-1850
(On corner of Five Mile and Merriam)
Novi, Novi Town Center • (810) 349-8090
Rochester, Meadowbrook Village Mall
(248) 375-0823
Sterling Heights, Eastlake Commons
(810) 247-6111 • (On corner of Hall
Road and Hayes Road)

Troy, Oakland Mall • (810) 589-1433
West Bloomfield, Orchard Park
(810) 737-8080 • (Orchard Lake and
15 Mile)

OUTSTATE:
Ann Arbor, Colonnade • (313) 761-1002
(On Eisenhower Pkwy., west of
Briarwood Mall)
Grand Rapids, Briarwood Village Mall
(616) 957-2145 (Briarwood Rd. and
Barton Rd.) Open Sunday!
Okemos, Meridian Mall • (517) 349-4008

INTRODUCE THE BIRDE-TO-BE TO HESLOP'S BIRDAL RECEPTION
at 10:00 AM on Sunday, August 10