## **WEEK AHEAD**

GIRLS BASKETBALL REGIONALS CLASS A at DEARBORN HIGH MINEY, Nov. 23: Dearborn Fortison vs. II. Western, G. p.m.; Detroit Martin or King vs. Livonia Ledywood, 7:30

CLASS A at NOVI HIGH
, Nov. 23: Detroit Horthern vs.
n Marian, 5:30 p.m.; Plymouth
West Bloomfield, 7 p.m.
dety, Nov. 25: Championship
m. (Winner advances to state

Interfand Lesday, Dec. 3, of Breming, of Company of Com

## Juncos find Michigan weather milder



The winter bird feeding sea-son is upon us. Those of us

Those of us who consume the transfer of the who consume the transfer of the tr

juncos, southeastern Michigan is their Florida. According to the Feeder Watch program, sponsored by Sapsucker Woods and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, most feeder watchers have juncos visiting. In fact, 63 percent of 7,581 observations reported juncos at freeders. That makes it the most freeders. That makes it the most freeders. Next in line, and not far behind (68 percent), was the mourning dove. Doves are very prolific and have adapted to living in suburban areas readily.

one nesting on the ledge of my chimney. Both the junco and dove enjoy eating the porso milet seeds that are found in the premium mixes blended by the specialty hid feeding stores.

House finches were third on the list. It is amazing to me that this species has become so abundant, considering its relatively recent history in the eastern U.S.

In less than 60 years become

U.S.

In less than 60 years, house finches have expanded their range from the eastern seaboard to the Rocky Mountains.

Today, 62 percent of feeder watchers have them at their feeders. This is a very adaptable stagelies.

species.

More than half the partici-

More than hall the particle pants reported downy woodpeck-ers at their feeders. This insect enter has adapted easily to suct feeders. Insect caters, like downy woodpeckers, often substitute suct as a winter food supply. They have also capitalized on

the abundance of sunflower seeds aftered at feeders.

Downy's are enting seeds and taking advantage of this high energy source of food that is found at most feeders.

Though the black-capped chickadee may be the first bird to find your feeding station, they are not the most common species reported. They are fifth among the top ten.

Chickadees enjoy suet and sunflower seeds. Their rapid metabolism requires as much energy as they can get. A small body like theirs cools much faster than larger bodies.

Tied for fifth place with the chickadee is the American Goldfinch.

Most feeder watchers enjoy these birds because of their color, size, and pleasant vocalizations. Goldfinch enjoy thistle seed, but will ent sunflower sweeds as well.

seed, but will ent sunflower seeds as well.

They tend to be patchy in their distribution, so don't be sur-

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prised if you don't have any at your feeder.

Despite the fact that norther cardinals have only been nesting in Michigan for just a little over a hundred years, they too have adapted very well to our feeders. They are masters at extracting the kernel of a sunflowr seed from its husk. Their power ful bill cracks through the husk with little difficulty.

Blue jays are eighth on the list and enjoy sunflower seeds, like the last two on the top ten list,

the last two on the top ten list,

the white-breasted nuthatch and the turked timouse. Though these are the top for birds seen at feeders, they all ret most of their food from the wild. Our feeders really help them when their is an extended storp, but you will also see your feeder birds in the forests and mendows most of the time.

most of the time.
So enjoy them when they do come to your feeders, its much ensier to find them!





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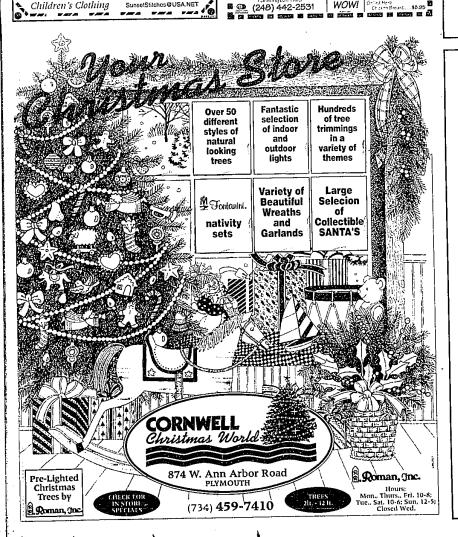






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