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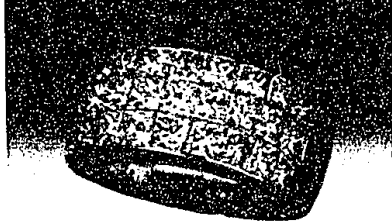
Can-do spirit



JOHN STORMER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Helping the needy: The student council at Clarenceville's Botsford Elementary School recently held a food drive and collected more than 1,000 cans of food for needy families this holiday season. Getting ready to deliver the cans to nearby food banks are Heather Ringrose (left), student council vice president, and Danielle Manning, student council president. Both are fifth-graders at Botsford. The Clarenceville district includes parts of Farmington Hills, Redford Township and Livonia.

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**Language, math tutors needed
for special Madonna program**

A tutoring program, directed by Sister Mary Martinez at Madonna University, is seeking volunteers to teach elementary school youngsters language and math skills Saturday mornings beginning in January.

The Tutoring Team has worked with first- through sixth-grade students from O.W. Holmes School in southwest Detroit for the last four years. Many of the youngsters are from families of non-native English speakers — Arabic, Hispanic and Romanian, said Sister Martinez, project director, who heads the Madonna University's Office of Multicultural Affairs.

"Many don't speak English at home so what they get at school and through the tutoring program is especially important," Sister Martinez said.

Holmes principal Gerald Ernatt said the tutoring sessions have had a "significant impact on the achievement, attitudes and self-esteem" of students.

Ernatt and Sister Martinez are seeking to expand the program to 50 tutors this year.

"This is our eighth year (for the Tutoring Team program)," she said. "Last year, we had 37 tutors, but Mr. Ernatt said many more students are interested in the program this year."

The school has 600 students, more than 300 of whom come from bilingual homes. About 20 percent are African Americans.

The Tutoring Team works Saturdays 10 a.m. to noon Jan. 14 to April 1. The orientation is at 10 a.m. Jan. 7 at the school, 4833 Ogden, south of Michigan Avenue. To become a tutor, call Martinez

at (313) 591-5170.

The goal of the program is to match a tutor with the same student for four months.

"The children look upon you as teachers, and they are so happy to have a teacher all to themselves," Sister Martinez said. It's more important that would-be tutors be willing to give time to kids than that they have above-average language or math skills, she said.

Tutors are high school and college students, business and industry professionals and retirees. Several have been with the program for five years or more.

Thelma McNichol of the Detroit Public Schools is the education coordinator and Alicia Juarez is the tutoring coordinator.

The program was recognized as a "Daily Point of Light" in 1992 by President George Bush.

Sober drivers to light up Friday

Michigan motorists are being asked to use their headlights all day Friday, Dec. 16, as part of a national campaign for safe and sober driving.

"Lights on for Life" is a symbolic one-day campaign to recognize people killed and injured in alcohol-related crashes. The event also serves to reinforce the message behind the "Drive Michigan Safely" campaign, which urges

motorists to be safe and courteous. Police stations around the state will be taking part.

"This is a special opportunity to remind motorists to drive safe and sober," said Betty J. Mercer, executive director of the Michigan State Police office of highway safety planning. "Alcohol does impair driving ability and is a factor in more than 40 percent of the

state's fatal crashes."

State police studies have also shown that headlight use during daylight increases visibility and reduces traffic crashes.

December has been designated National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month by a nationwide coalition devoted to preventing crashes caused by impaired driving.

**Catholic Central students qualify
in state mathematics competition**

Several area Detroit Catholic Central students have qualified for the second part of the 58th annual Michigan Mathematics Prize Competition.

The students are: Michael Buchanan and Rohan Kenneth of Farmington Hills, Scott Chemsell

and Greg Tracy of Livonia, Greg Obrecht of Northville, Bill Bosberger of Plymouth, David Cain and Ben Mumma of Redford and Tomas Sirpadas of Novi.

The students placed among the top 7 percent of 14,000 state stu-

dents who took the test Oct. 14. The qualifiers took part two of this exam this month. The top 50 will receive college scholarships ranging in value from \$400 to \$2,500. The competition is sponsored by the Mathematical Association of America's Michigan section.

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