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The Holland Sentinel

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WEATHER

Thunderstorms likely

The forecast: Mostly cloudy in the morning, then thunderstorms likely. Breezy. Winds 15 to 25 mph. Tonight, thunderstorms likely in the evening.

Today's high 76 Today's low 54

Complete weather news on Page A12

SPORTS



VICTORY: New Jersey Devils captain Scott Stevens holds the Stanley Cup Monday night after Game 7.

Devils take Stanley Cup

The New Jersey Devils used the greatest home-ice advantage in NHL history to win the Stanley Cup. The Devils, who went 12-1 at home in the playoffs, won 3-0 Monday over Anaheim in Game 7. See story, B1.

Panthers ready for playoffs

West Ottawa takes on Mount Pleasant today in a Division 1 state quarterfinal baseball game at Central Michigan University. The Panthers and the Oilers feature strong starting pitching and balanced lineups. See story, B1.

LOCAL

Community shares ideas

Neighbors of the E.E. Fell and Community Education buildings had a chance to tell city officials how they would like to see the buildings used when they are vacated by Holland Public Schools. See story, A3.

Music director takes job

The Holland Symphony Orchestra will share music director Mirihiko Nakahara with orchestras in Washington state. Nakahara plans to commute for the next two years. See story, A2.

Eighth grade makes move

Fennville eighth graders have a new home in the middle school building, after nearly 20 years in the high school. See story, A3.

Deaths in today's Sentinel

- Agnes Bast, 86; David B. Fallon Sr., 76; Alondra Garcia, infant; Warren Mahlebashian, 83; Johanna Siegers, 87; James C. Smith, 64

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Table with 3 columns: Births, Bridge, Business, Classified, Comics, Community, Crossword, Horoscope, Lottery, Opinion, Police Log, Sports, TV, Movies

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Last Steketee's to close its doors

Chain was once one of the region's leading retailers

HOLLAND TWP.

"It was simply a business decision," said Simmons, whose company acquired the Steketee's chain in 1991. "We're a Southern-based company and our endeavors in the northern part of the country were unsuccessful."

One of the original tenants in Westshore Mall when it opened in 1988, Steketee's will be replaced by Dunham's Sports, a sporting goods chain that plans to open in the fall, according to Jean Nobsch, marketing director for the mall.

Founded in Grand Rapids in 1862 by the son of one of the founders of Zeeland, Steketee's was long one of West Michigan's most prestigious retail names. When the Steketee family sold the business to Dunlap, the chain had six stores — two in Grand Rapids and one each in Holland, Grand Haven, Kalamazoo and Muskegon.

"It was known for the quality of its merchandise and the courtesy of its sales staff," said Tom Krupiczewicz, a 27-year Steketee's employee who now works at the Westshore Mall store. Please see STORE, A5



CLOSING: The last Steketee's store, located at Westshore Mall, will close next month.

Slow going



JAM: Traffic on River Avenue backs up on Monday afternoon at the intersection of River and Howard avenues as BPW crews worked to repair a water main that was damaged Sunday.

Weapons hunt slows as team awaits new orders

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — U.S. military units assigned to track down Iraqi weapons of mass destruction have run out of places to look and are getting time off or being assigned to other duties, even as pressure mounts on President Bush to explain why no banned arms have been found.

After nearly three months of fruitless searches, weapons hunters say they are now waiting for a large team of Pentagon intelligence experts to take over the effort, relying more on leads from interviews and documents.

"It doesn't appear there are any more targets at this time," said Lt. Col. Keith Harrington, whose team has been cut by more than 30 percent. "We're hanging around with no missions in the foreseeable future."

Over the past week, his and several other teams have been taken off assignment completely. Rather than visit suspected weapons sites, they are brushing up on target practice and catching up on letters home.

Of the seven Site Survey Teams charged with carrying out the search, only two have assignments for the coming week — but not at suspected weapons sites.

Lt. Col. Ronald Haan, who runs team 6, is using the time to run his troops through a training exercise.

"At least it's keeping the guys busy," he said.

The slowdown comes after checks of more than 230 sites — drawn from a master intelligence list compiled before the war — turned up none of the Please see IRAQ, A5

RCA shies away from growth targets

Church delegates will vote today on expansion plan

HOLLAND

Hope College, had been scheduled to vote on the 10-year plan Monday. However, a lengthy floor debate delayed action until today.

"I think it will pass overwhelmingly," said the Rev. Marlin Vis, campus minister at Grand Valley State University. "People want to make a statement that we're doing something. The alternative is to give up."

"I think this goal says we haven't quit," he added. "We're still working. We're moving forward."

The RCA has seen a slow but steady decline in membership since the mid-1960s.

The plan outlined Friday by General Secretary Wesley Granberg-Michaelson set a goal of 1,100 congregations by 2013, up from 943 now. In his address to delegates, Granberg-Michaelson said that to meet that goal the RCA would have to start about 320 new congregations and target about 400 existing churches for revitalization.

However, an amendment approved by a 118 to 114 vote Monday eliminates the numerical goal

and any timeline for growth, and changes the word "congregations" to "ministries."

The original text stated, "Following Christ in mission together, and led by the Holy Spirit ... we commit to become 1,100 fruitful and faithful congregations by 2013 for the glory of God." The amended text says in part, "Following Christ in mission together and led by the Holy Spirit, we commit to grow fruitful and faithful ministries, wherever possible, in concert with our ecumenical partners for the glory of God."

Please see RCA, A5

Holland, Zeeland elect school board members

Voters also renew millage for Holland Community Aquatic Center



DeJong Grose

Susan DeJong and Steve Grose will become the newest members of the Holland Board of Education.

DeJong and Grose finished first and second respectively in a three-way race with Kim DeJong Monday.

DeJong received 1,353 votes, Grose 1,268 and DeJong 746. About 8.4 percent of the district's 22,561 registered voters participated in the election.

"I look forward to serving the community on the board. It's an awesome responsibility and I thank the people for the support they've given me," said Grose, 36, a member of Johnson Controls' improvement team and the father of three young children. "I'm excited."

"(Holland) is a great district," said DeJong, 50, a sales assistant at Hilliard Lyons who's been a mem-

ber of the Holland Athletic Boosters since 1999 and whose two sons have gone through Holland Public Schools. "I have a lot to learn and can't wait to get started."

DeJong said she was happy the election will put at least one parent of elementary-age students on the school board.

"I'm excited for Susan and Steve," she said. "I know they'll do a great job and service to our kids and our community."

Voters also renewed the 0.85-mill tax for the Holland Community Aquatic Center by a vote of 1,651-199 and renewed the non-home-stead operating millage 1.615-164.

Please see HOLLAND, A5

Millage renewals for recreation department, schools are approved

By LESA INGRAHAM Staff writer

Two incumbents will remain on the Zeeland Board of Education following Monday's election.

Carol Slagh and Gary Scholten defeated challenger Lisa VanderKolk for two four-year seats on the board.

Slagh, 41, received 1,128 votes. She has been on the board since her appointment in 2001.

"I'm honored. I'm excited that the voters have confidence in me," Slagh said after the election results were announced.

She said she plans to concentrate on maintaining academic excellence, completing the transition to two high schools, contract negotiations and budget pressures during the next term on the board.

Scholten, 57, received 1,056 votes. He said he plans to work hard during his next term to con-

Area election results, A5.

tinue the success of the schools. "We have many challenges — flat revenue, increasing student achievement for each child and maintaining community value in a growing district," Scholten said. "I am committed to do my part to represent the community and to keep Zeeland moving forward."

Scholten, who is starting his fifth term on the board, said he will focus on balancing the budget, completing the transition to two high schools, opening a new elementary school

Please see ZEELAND, A5



Scholten



Slagh