

Area flower shop prepares for big day of business for flowers, fragrances

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JOSH RADTKE/THE STATE NEWS

Rose leaves fall to the floor as the stems are cleaned. Ruth Leyrer, a Lansing resident and owner of Bancroft Flowers, 1417 E. Michigan Ave., in Lansing, will use the roses in Valentine's Day floral arrangements.

The State News

MSU BESTS RIVAL U-M IN ANN ARBOR

Roe has first career double-double

By Cash Kruth

THE STATE NEWS

Ann Arbor — An MSU men's basketball team that loves to push the ball up court and a Michigan team known for its love affair with the 3-point shot each fell victim to unfriendly baskets and lockdown defenses Tuesday night, as the No. 9 Spartans come away with a 54-42 win at Crisler Arena.

"I do think we're gaining some confidence and I think we're realizing our defense is the key," said MSU head coach Tom Izzo, whose team held the Wolverines to 4-for-24 3-point shooting. "I think when you have a game where you don't shoot as well like (MSU had against) Northwestern... (you

learn that) sometimes you have to win ugly." With the win, MSU improves to 20-4 overall and 10-2 in the Big Ten, including 6-0 on the road in conference play. The Wolverines fall to 15-10 overall and 5-7 in the conference.

In a slow-it-down game that suited both of their best attributes, MSU senior guard Travis Walton and freshman forward Delvon Roe shined.

Walton, MSU's standout perimeter defender, held U-M's 6-foot-5 scorer Manny Harris (17.5 points per game) to seven points on 2-for-6 shooting, including 1-for-6 from beyond the arc.

Roe, MSU's blue-chip recruit from a year ago, posted his first career double-double with

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Fans travel to represent team deep in Wolverine territory

By Nick Krizinski

THE STATE NEWS

The rivalry between MSU and Michigan fuels Spartans' spirit more than any other game, regardless of the sport. And for some MSU students, the more than 60 miles that separate the two campuses wouldn't stop them from making an away game feel more like home.

"The rivalry is important for fans, for bragging rights and such," said Brian Riedy, an international relations senior who ventured to Ann Arbor to see the Spartans' 54-42 victory against the Wolverines Tuesday.

Riedy said he bought his tickets back in December.

"I went to the Michigan game during the football season as well, and I just wanted to go see this game," he said. "Especially since this is an important game for MSU in the Big Ten."

Before the game, Riedy said he was expecting a tough fight between the two schools.

"Michigan's been very erratic with beating good teams, and I'm hoping that Michigan State will prevail," he said.

Riedy's roommate, political science and economics senior James Lim, was equally pumped.

"Either we should crush them or Michigan will surprise us like they did a few years ago," Lim

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Above: Sophomore guard Durrell Summers shoots over Michigan guard Zack Novak and forward DeShawn Sims in the second half Tuesday at Crisler Arena in Ann Arbor. The Spartans defeated the Wolverines 54-42. Summers finished with eight points.

Left: MSU head coach Tom Izzo scolds freshman forward Delvon Roe after he was substituted for in the second half. Roe was 5-for-7 from the field and finished with 14 points and 10 rebounds.

For a photo gallery and more stories from Tuesday's game in Ann Arbor, visit stateneews.com/multimedia.

BUSINESS

City Council considers establishing retail district on Abbot Road

By Jeff Kanan

THE STATE NEWS

Retailers could fill all four corners surrounding the intersection of Abbot and Lake Lansing roads if 2.1 acres of land is rezoned to make a retail sales district the city is considering.

At its weekly meeting Tuesday, the East Lansing City Council discussed traffic patterns on the two roads and use permits for one of the corners of the intersection, which is currently occupied by a vacant lot. The other three corners already are occupied by retailers.

"This is the third or fourth

time council's looked at it, and we're looking at what use could be to traffic patterns in the area," Mayor Vic Loomis said.

No developers are looking into the space in question, officials have said, but the city would like to rezone the area in an effort to make it more appealing to potential developers.

In other business, the council discussed updating the city's code regarding taxi cab drivers and drug tests.

Drivers aren't required to undergo drug tests, but City Clerk Nicole Evans said the tests can assure that drivers

have good morals and intentions.

"As far as drug testing, that is something new, and it allows us to test the moral character of these drivers," Evans said.

East Lansing's taxi cab companies came under fire in 2007 when accusations were made by former Big Daddy Taxi employees that cab drivers had operated under the influence of marijuana and distributed alcohol to minors.

The council also considered a proposed sign ordinance that would better address the latest technologies to signs.

Discussion centered around the acceptability of sign usage

on commercial property and to advertise neighborhood get-togethers.

"I think the technology does bring about the making of different types of signs, but one question I have about the usability of the sign ordinance — can people read it and understand it?" Loomis said.

The city faced a lawsuit several years ago requiring it to remove billboards from building tops, said Howard Asch, director of code enforcement and neighborhood conservation for East Lansing.

The city hasn't faced much issue with signs since then, he said.

On the agenda

The East Lansing City Council is considering rezoning to create a retail sales district near the intersection of Abbot and Lake Lansing roads

No developers have considered the space recently, but the city is looking to draw developers to the area.

SOURCE: CITY OF EAST LANSING

HIV AWARENESS

MSU student organizations, area leaders get tested to spread awareness about HIV, page 3A



Weather

Thunder Storms

High 49° | Low 35°

Three-day forecast, Page 2