

**GrandHavenTribune.com**

Grand Haven, Michigan



Say Hello to Big Savings

Loading recent news headlines... 

Home	News	Sports	Classifieds	Obits	Police	Entertainment	Sections	Weather	Blogs	Forms
------	------	--------	-------------	-------	--------	---------------	----------	---------	-------	-------

## Lakers provide some smiles

Tue, Feb 3, 2009



ERROR - Help?



to del.icio.us

Saturday, Spring Lake's varsity boys and girls basketball players had the chance to trade in their playing jerseys for coaching whistles, and they came away with a richly rewarding experience.

[Spring Lake High School hosted "No More Sidelines," an organization dedicated to helping special needs children by giving youngsters ages 8 and older the chance to play sports year-round and participate in community events and outings. The Lakers' boys and girls basketball players ran clinics for around 60 special needs athletes.](#)

"It's great program, one that I was very happy to be associated with," Spring Lake girls varsity coach Jim Warren said. "Almost immediately after it was over, the girls asked if they could do it again next year."

Warren said Spring Lake's varsity players and coaches helped guide the "No More Sidelines" children through a number of passing and shooting drills, which eventually transcended to full court action.

"It was all tailored to the kids. We tried to get them as many shots and scores as possible," he said.

"There were a lot of smiles and high-fives going on, which was just great to see. Plus, it was great to get our girls outside of their own world and help out with kids who are different from them. I think it helps teach that all people are valuable no matter what their ability may be."

### SPORTS HEADLINES

- [Buccaneer boys edged](#)
- [SL's Williamson signs Northwood](#)
- [GVSU recruits 36 for roster](#)
- [Wrestling roundup: SL closer step toward Lake](#)
- [Haven girls wrap up league title](#)
- [A romp for the 2nd time](#)
- [Harper, Buccaneers step show in 4th](#)
- [Bruinsma's 3-pointer at buzzer stuns Mona Sho](#)
- [Signing day quiet for local athletes](#)
- [GH girls bowlers settle with Grandville](#)



LAKESHORE FAMILY

231-672-3100

WWW.LAKESHOREFAMILYLC

### LOCAL NEWS Headlines



[Click to enlarge](#)

The Lakers' coaching obviously had a big affect on the children, as several grabbed their own personal cameras after the session and had their picture taken with several of the Spring Lake student-athletes, Warren said.

"I was so proud of our athletes, how they responded and interacted with the kids," said Spring Lake athletic director Cavin Mohrhardt. "It was great for everyone."

Cindy Blair started No More Sidelines in Muskegon three years ago to create an opportunity for her daughter to enjoy all the benefits that sports have to offer.

"We started in January three years ago, and we had seven young special needs kids in the program, my daughter being one of them," Blair said. "To be honest, she wanted a friend. She had siblings, and they participated in sports. You can't make anyone be your friend, but you can set the stage, and that's what started No More Sidelines."



[Click to enlarge](#)

Now the organization has 189 children involved from communities stretching from Grand Haven to Ludington. It is offerd sports year-round, including basketball and bowling in the winter months, track and field in the spring, softball in the summer, and soccer in the fall.

- [Two children injured by dog or](#)
- [Senior Games planned for Gran](#)  
[Aug. 8-11](#)
- [After Bay City death, BLP goir](#)
- [Chamber Forum Series to look](#)  
[Bottom Line' Feb. 17](#)
- [Region's business trends show :](#)
- [Filing deadline Tuesday for sch](#)  
[seats](#)
- [No 'no-wake' zone for Pigeon F](#)
- [Time running out to buy dunela](#)  
[Allegan County](#)
- [New clean air program replaces](#)  
[Action Days](#)
- [GH In-Water Boat Show's new](#)  
[Births](#)
- [Granholm: Hard times require t](#)  
[decisions](#)
- [Local lawmakers react to State](#)

## POLICE BLOTTER

- [SL man injured in 2-car Ferrysl](#)
- [Vehicles broken into along Lak](#)
- [Missing Mich. girl believed to l](#)  
[Rico](#)
- [About \\$400 in pennies swiped :](#)
- [Woman injured in crash with S](#)  
[truck](#)
- [Police: 11 county businesses so](#)
- [Woman sentenced in Craigslist](#)
- [Two hurt when car falls on ther](#)  
[Allendale](#)
- [Port Sanilac physician's license](#)
- [Snowmobilers leave tracks at F](#)  
[Cemetery](#)
- [Hunter rescued, arrested on fire](#)
- [Former Benzie County prosecu](#)  
[reprimanded](#)
- [Wis. man dies as 6 snowmobile](#)  
[U.P.](#)
- [Michigan, Ohio probe leads to :](#)
- [Police: Mich. baby smothered,](#)  
[meth found](#)
- [Runaway teen met man through](#)
- [Landmark Holy Name Cathedr:](#)
- [90,000 sex offenders removed l](#)

Blair said events such as Saturday's outing at Spring Lake really help members of the community learn about special needs children.

"We've been working very hard to integrate the kids," Blair said. "Our goal is to have them integrated with the kids they go to school with, and they almost all go to public schools.



[Click to enlarge](#)

"The kids are always very excited to have all their peers come to their school. That's a big deal. The other thing is, once they've befriended these kids, it's a wonderful integration for both the general education and the special needs kids. They get to see them on a level playing field."

No More Sidelines has a clinic at Muskegon Community College Wednesday evening and will play at halftime of the Jayhawks' men's and women's games Saturday.

The program will come to Grand Haven on Feb. 24 from 5:30-8 p.m. On March 14, No More Sidelines will hold its Set the State Gala at Above and Beyond in Norton Shores. This formal dinner and dance is the organization's once-a-year fundraiser to help cover the considerable costs it incurs on a yearly basis.

For more information, call (231) 724-7142, or visit [www.nomoresidelines.org](http://www.nomoresidelines.org).

- [Bay City snowmobiler dies in Midland County](#)

#### Arts/Entertainment

- [Shakira's gift: hometown school](#)
- [Benefit for local mission Feb. 12 in Muskegon](#)
- [Holland Chorale sings 'Love Notes' Feb. 13-14](#)
- [Activists, Ringling Bros. C square off over the treatment of elephants](#)
- [Civil War letters presented at Loutit District Library Feb. 12](#)
- [Springsteen is 'furious' with Ticketmaster](#)
- ['Idol' cuts more hopefuls in Hollywood round](#)
- [Clooney, Swank movies planned for Michigan sites](#)
- ['Extreme Makeover' family break on loan](#)
- [Interurban car discussed at museum Feb. 12](#)

#### AP Breaking News Video

**WE'RE SORRY**

The news feed is currently unavailable.  
Please try again later.