

# Short-term shops may boost city



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# SPORTS

The Detroit News Tuesday, November 10, 2009 | Section B



## DeHaan, MSU women aim for Final Four

COLLEGE BASKETBALL, 3B

# Martin supports Rodriguez

U-M AD says of embattled coach: 'This guy is a winner. This guy's not used to losing.'

BY ANGELIQUE S. CHENGELIS  
The Detroit News

**Ann Arbor** — The man who hired Rich Rodriguez as Michigan's football coach said Rodriguez's job is secure.

Rodriguez, in his second season with the Wolverines, has watched his team nosedive since a 4-0 start. They have lost five straight Big Ten games, are 5-5

and remain one game from bowl eligibility with games at Wisconsin and home with Ohio State left.

Michigan athletic director Bill Martin, who announced last month he will officially retire from that job on Sept. 4, 2010, vociferously defended Rodriguez during an interview Monday.

"He's not going anywhere,"

Martin said of Rodriguez, who replaced Lloyd Carr, who retired after the 2007 season following 13 years as head coach.

"Rich is an outstanding coach. There is no question he's got my total support. I think the world of that guy. Is he perfect in every respect? Nobody is. But he works hard. He'll get it right."

Martin and Rodriguez shared an emotional moment together after Saturday's 38-36 loss to Pur-

### AD apologizes for incidents

Michigan athletic director Bill Martin apologized to two security employees for separate incidents at Michigan's press box.

Martin admitted to physical contacts with the employees, who did not admit Martin to the press box because he did not have a credential.

The employees did not pursue criminal charges. **Story, 4B**

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### Mother ailing, Thomas coaches

Isiah Thomas lost his college coaching debut as Florida International fell, 88-72, Monday night at No. 6 North Carolina.

"The thing I liked about our team was we fought!" Thomas said.

Thomas, a former Pistons great, spent Sunday in Chicago with his 86-year-old mother, **Mary**, who had open-heart surgery.

He planned to return to Chicago today.

"My mom raised me basically to fight, just as I'm trying to put it in our team," Thomas said.

"Last night, when I was speaking to her, she just said she's going to fight to live."



Thomas



David Guralnick/The Detroit News

Rich Rodriguez has lost five consecutive Big Ten games since beating Indiana.



Daniel Mears/The Detroit News

Lions receiver Calvin Johnson had nine passes thrown his way but only two receptions.

## Johnson: I'm fine with Stafford

Star receiver says he's frustrated with losing, not rookie QB

BY TIM TWENTYMAN  
The Detroit News

**Allen Park** — Receiver Calvin Johnson is frustrated.

In his first game back from a right knee injury that kept him out for two games, Johnson caught just two passes for 27 yards Sunday in yet another Lions loss, this time in Seattle.

Johnson has gone over 100 receiving yards just once (Oct. 4 at Chicago) this season. He has 24 catches for 352 yards and only one touchdown, which is two fewer receptions than running back Kevin Smith.

Television cameras caught a visibly frustrated Johnson coming off the field a number of times in Seattle. At one point on the sideline, cameras caught a chilly exchange between quarterback Matthew Stafford and Johnson. Stafford looked like he was trying to talk to his upset receiver, but Johnson seemed to completely ignore him.

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### HOCKEY HALL OF FAME

# A CLASSY CLASS



Bruce Bennett/Getty Images

From left to right, Brett Hull, Lou Lamoriello, Brian Leetch, Luc Robitaille, and Steve Yzerman pose with their Hall of Fame rings before Monday night's induction dinner and ceremony at the Hockey Hall of Fame.

## Memories of Wings' 2002 Cup team dominate Hall of Fame talk

BY CHRIS MCCOSKY  
The Detroit News

**Toronto** — Steve Yzerman stood in the middle of a large circle of media Monday, wearing his Hockey Hall of Fame blazer and his brand new Hall of Fame ring several hours before the formal induction ceremony and he was struck by how easily his career could have gone a completely different direction.

"There is such a fine line between winning and losing," Yzerman said. "I came into the league in 1983 and retired in 2006. You win three Cups and

**"The greatest thing was how everyone just put their egos aside and played the game."**  
Brett Hull, on the 2002 Red Wings

you say, 'Wow, it was a successful career.' But the 19 other years weren't so successful. You grind it out just to win one Cup and you can consider yourself a success."

Yzerman, Red Wings captain for 20 seasons, went into the Hockey Hall of Fame Monday with former teammates Brett Hull and Luc Robitaille, as well as former New York Rangers defen-

seman Brian Leetch and longtime New Jersey Devils general manager Lou Lamoriello.

"I just feel really lucky," Yzerman said. "Mr. (Mike ) Ilitch bought the team in 1982 and I was drafted in 1983 and we were able to build a team that eventually won a bunch of Stanley Cups. I was just real fortunate to play with such great players, with

great coaches and for an ownership group that insisted on and demanded winning."

Ilitch was on hand for the ceremonies, along with the most of the Wings' front office — including Ken Holland, Jimmy Devellano, Jim Nill and Mike Babcock, along with current captain Nick Lidstrom and former Wings Chris Chelios, Gerard Gallant and Bob Probert.

"I feel like a hockey dad," Ilitch said. "Steve was 17 years old when we drafted him. He came in wearing a red tie and Mrs. Ilitch

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Dale G. Young/The Detroit News

MSU guard Kalin Lucas pulls up and hits a jumper for two of his 18 points.

### Shorthanded Spartans cruise in exhibition

With three key players on the sidelines, Michigan State cruised past Grand Valley State, 76-53, Monday in an exhibition game at Breslin Center.

The No. 2 Spartans played without forwards **Raymar Morgan** (left ankle sprain) and **Delvon Roe** (concussion) and guard **Chris Allen** (unspecified injury).

**Kalin Lucas** scored 18 **Draymond Green** 15 for MSU.

### U-M, MSU on ABC next week

There will be a college football doubleheader on ABC for state college football fans a week from Saturday. Michigan's game against Ohio State will air at noon on Nov. 21, followed by Penn State at Michigan State at 3:30 p.m.

### Contact us

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