

# STATE FOOTBALL FINALS

SPORTS, 1B, 4B, 5B



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# Tiger Woods hurt in crash

SPORTS, 1B



# The Detroit News

Saturday, November 28, 2009

Metro Final

## Black Friday's deals lure Metro shoppers in droves



Photos by Charles V. Tines / The Detroit News

A crowd goes for the DVDs at the Auburn Hills Best Buy, where the doors opened at 5 a.m. Friday with many shoppers already in line.

### Sales appear strong, but analysts expect rest of season to be flat

BY JACLYN TROP AND JENNIFER YOUSSEF  
The Detroit News

Metro Detroiters filled local malls and shopping centers Friday for the traditional start of the holiday shopping season, but some experts warn that traffic may not remain brisk through the weekend, despite ongoing discounts, or for the rest of the season.

Sales and foot traffic figures won't be available until today, but in Metro Detroit, Friday's numbers seemed to be on par with last year's levels, said retail analyst Kenneth J. Dalto of Kenneth J. Dalto & Associates.

The day is a seasonal shopping anomaly because of the deep discounts and extended store hours, and not necessarily a harbinger, he said.

**More online:** Browse a photo gallery of Black Friday shopping at [detnews.com/business](http://detnews.com/business).



Nationally, retailers suffered the worst sales decline in several decades last holiday season, but the good news is that they're heading into the 2009 Christmas selling period armed with lean inventories and more practical goods on their shelves that reflect shoppers' new psyche.

With the U.S. unemployment rate at 10.2 percent in October and Michigan's jobless rate at 15.1 percent, and consumers struggling with tight credit, many analysts expect total holiday sales to be about even with a year ago.

Please see *Shoppers*, Page 7A



At Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi, shoppers load up on bargains on Black Friday.

## More Metro kids qualify for lunch aid

Middle-class districts experience surge in free, reduced-price meals

BY MAUREEN FEIGHAN  
The Detroit News

The number of kids eligible for free and reduced lunch is surging in school districts across Metro Detroit as the region's economy continues to falter, and in a surprising twist, middle-class districts are seeing some of the biggest upticks.

The Troy School District has seen a 91 percent increase in the number of kids eligible for free lunch in the last three years, according to figures from the state's Center for Educational Performance and Information. Livonia Public Schools' numbers are up 50 percent. And Center Line Public Schools' has seen a 70 percent jump in those eligible for free meals.

Figures for the current school year aren't available yet, but sev-

**Database:** See how many students are eligible for aid in any Michigan school district at [detnews.com/schools](http://detnews.com/schools).



eral district officials say they expect the numbers to keep rising until the region's economy improves.

"We've had a substantial increase," said Bob Freehan, a spokesman for Warren Consolidated Schools, which has seen a 41.8 percent increase since the 2006-07 school year. "And this has been happening over the last several years."

"As the plants began their layoffs, we had a number of families moving back in and living with their parents, single moms in

Please see *Lunch*, Page 5A

## State dinner crashers met president in line

BY JASON HOROWITZ, ROXANNE ROBERTS AND MICHAEL D. SHEAR  
Washington Post

Washington — Getting to the president is not supposed to be this easy.

The White House said late Friday that Michael and Tareq Salahi, the Virginia couple auditioning for a Bravo reality TV show, not only got past layers of experienced, executive-branch security, they shook the president's hand in the Blue Room of the White House during the Obamas' first state dinner.

Late Friday, the White House released a photo of Michael Salahi's audience with the president, with Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh nearby.

The security breach has caused finger-pointing inside the White House, bewilderment among Tuesday night's guests — and late on Friday, prompted an apology from the Secret Service.

A statement by Director Mark Sullivan said the agency was



Samantha Appleton / The White House

This photo released by the White House shows President Barack Obama greeting Michael Salahi at the state dinner Tuesday night.

"deeply concerned and embarrassed by the circumstances surrounding the State Dinner" and added that "the preliminary findings of our internal investigation have determined established protocols were not followed at an

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### Today's weather

HIGH  
44  
LOW  
32

### Bloom: GM on IPO track

Washington — General Motors Co. should make an initial public offering by the end of next year, but any offering from Chrysler Group LLC is likely to be later, White House auto adviser Ron Bloom tells The News.

BUSINESS, 8B

### Iran gets U.N. censure over nukes

Vienna — The board of the U.N. nuclear agency on Friday backed a demand for the U.S. and other major powers that Iran stop building a newly revealed nuclear facility.

NATION & WORLD, 8A

### 2 win suit over concert arrest

Detroit — Two Ontario men will be paid \$350,000 each by the city of Royal Oak after a judge ruled they were wrongly arrested.

METRO, 3A

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