

“Meet the Spartans”

Young Spartan football fans: Circle August 12 on your calendars

EAST LANSING, MI. - Michigan State's 2006 preseason football calendar features two events for children on Saturday, Aug. 12. First, MSU's coaching staff and players will conduct a youth football clinic for children, ages 8-12, from 10-11:30 a.m. on the practice fields behind the Duffy Daugherty Football Building. Second, children 12 and under are invited to attend the fourth-annual "Meet The Spartans" autograph and photo session from 6-7 p.m. at Meridian Mall in Okemos, Mich.

Clinic participants and their parents are requested to enter the practice fields through the



William McElroy (30) hits pay dirt last year

gate on Shaw Lane. The purpose of the clinic is to introduce youngsters to the game by stressing fundamentals. No football gear is required and admission is free. In spring 2005, nearly 600 children participated in the youth football clinic.

For youth clinic participants, Spartan head coach John L. Smith and his players will be available for autographs on the practice fields for approximately one hour, from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. A complimentary hot dog and soft drink will be provided to all football clinic participants.

During the youth football clinic, children - ages 6-10 -

can learn how to sign up for an opportunity to become a Kickoff Kid at a 2006 Spartan home football game. Two children are selected for each home game to join the Michigan State team on the sidelines. After each Spartan kickoff, one child will run on to the field and retrieve the kicking tee. Winners, determined by random drawings, receive two tickets to the game and a Spartan football jersey.

The Michigan Education Savings Program sponsors the Kickoff Kid program for the sixth-straight year.

In the evening, members of the 2006 football team will be available for autographs and

pictures for one hour in the Center Court area of Meridian Mall. The MSU dance team and cheerleaders will help distribute free schedule posters.

Due to time constraints, fans are limited to one autograph per player, so requests for multiple autographs from the same player are strictly prohibited. (Please note: Coach Smith will not be able to participate in the autograph/photo session at Meridian Mall.)

Last year, nearly 3,000 fans attended the event in Meridian Mall.

Spartan Notes:

2006 Kickoff Luncheon set

The Mid-Michigan Touchdown Club, a chapter of The National Football Foundation, invites college

football fans to attend the 2006 Kickoff Luncheon, scheduled for Thursday, Aug. 3 from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Eagle Eye Golf Club in Bath, Mich. Central Michigan head coach Brian Kelly, Eastern Michigan

head coach Jeff Genyk, Michigan State head coach John L. Smith and Western Michigan head coach Bill Cubit as well as selected players from each program will gather to preview the upcoming season.

First two home games to be televised

Michigan State's first two home football games in 2006

will be televised by ESPN Plus Local, according to selections announced recently jointly by the Big Ten Conference and television networks. Michigan State's 2006 season

and home opener, Sept. 2 vs. Idaho, will kick off at noon EDT, while the Spartans' Sept. 9 home game against Eastern Michigan will be televised at 3:30 p.m. EDT.

Notre Dame

Michigan State's Sept. 23 home football game against Notre Dame will be televised by ABC, with

kickoff set for 8 p.m. EDT. The 2006 MSU-Notre Dame contest marks the 40th anniversary of the 1966 "Game of the Century" between the second-ranked Spartans and top-ranked

Irish that ended in a 10-10 tie. It also marks just the sixth night game in the 83-year history of Spartan Stadium.

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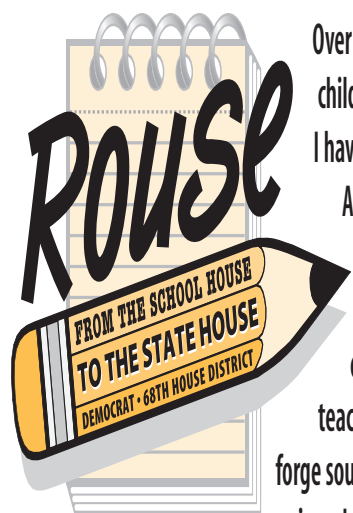
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As a legislator, I will bring my skills as an educator, communicator, and manager to the table. Creative problem solving aimed at meeting constituent needs and furthering the best interests of our community and the state are my goals.

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By

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Celebration Announcements is a celebration news column that publicizes special occasions, events and celebrations of families and friends in The Michigan Bulletin newspaper's reading community, celebrating their Events of Life.

Celebration Announcements announces their parties, festivals, receptions, galas, holidays and other Events of Life that take place in The Michigan Bulletin's reading community.

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