

Lifespan *news*

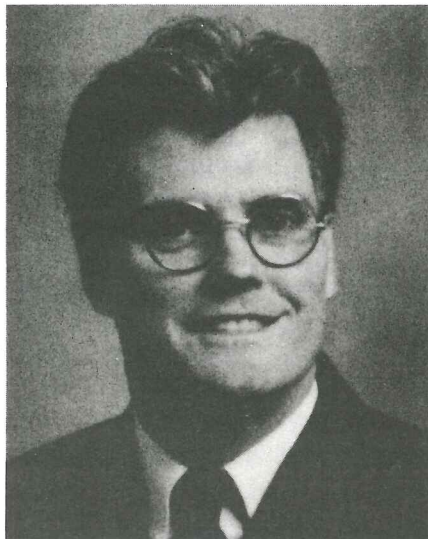
Volume 30 Number 5

Serving Southeastern Michigan Since 1970

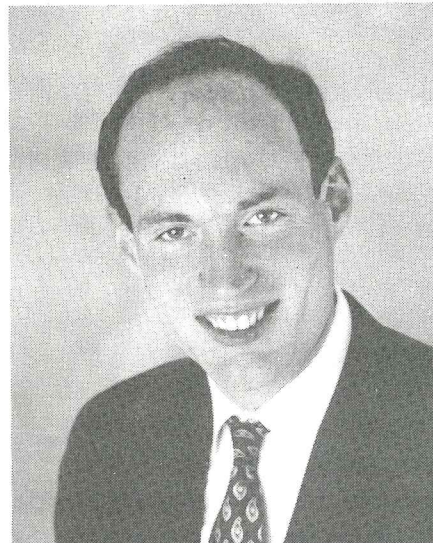
July/August 2001



Right to Life - Lifespan Invites You to Breakfast



Mark Pickup, Disability Rights Activist



State Senator Thaddeus G. McCotter

Saturday, October 27

9:00 - 11:30 a.m. • Registration: 8:30 a.m.

Burton Manor

27777 Schoolcraft, Livonia

(south side of I-96 service drive, between Inkster and Middlebelt)

Reservations are required by Wednesday, October 17

\$18.00 per person (\$7.50 for students 21 or younger)

Make check payable to: Right to Life - Lifespan and mail to:

28200 Seven Mile Rd., Suite 127, Livonia, MI 48152

For more information, see page 3, and/or call (248) 777-9090 or (734) 422-6230

News & Notes

New website for women

The Michigan Department of Community Health unveiled a new web site designed to assist women who are facing unexpected pregnancies. The web site, www.mdch.state.mi.us, will provide women with factual information regarding fetal development, adoption, abortion methods, complications related to abortion and alternatives to abortion. (On the left-hand side of the menu of this website's home page, find "Other Important Issues;" select "Informed Consent for Abortion.")

In Michigan, abortion providers are required, by the Women's Right to Know law, to provide women with basic information before an abortion is performed. A woman must be given information about what abortion procedure she will have, the name of the doctor who will perform the abortion, depiction of the gestational age of her unborn child, other options to abortion like adoption, and at least one day to review the material.

The state-operated web site became a reality when Michigan lawmakers realized evidence began to mount that abortion providers were attempting to avoid a Women's Right to Know law by setting up web sites that contained false information and advertisements for no waiting period with "informed" consent through their web sites. Although the state web site will not answer every question or concern regarding abortion, it will provide a foundation of information.

Can we do any less?

Pro-life candidate George W. Bush may have won the presidential election, but six months later his candidacy is paying off for pro-abortion organizations. With Bush in the White House, many pro-abortion organizations are catching a windfall of financial contributions and new members.

"We are raising \$1 million a month and are way ahead of our own projections," said Steve Jost, communications director for the National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action

League. "There has been, among our supporters, a certain amount of complacency in the past eight years," Jost said. "Now, people are waking up to the fact that Bush's policies and initiatives are just way outside of the political mainstream." In March, as Bush and congressional Republicans began work on a series of pro-life measures, NARAL launched a four-year, \$40 million fund-raising effort to fight it.

Pro-life organizations are encouraging pro-life advocates to help them with the legislative fight with their donations and support. Support your local pro-life organization, Right to Life - Lifespan! See page 11.

Calendar of Events

July 29...Bowling for Life, p. 7
July 31-Aug. 5...Davisburg Fair
Aug. 21-Sept. 3...State Fair
Sept. 14-16 Troy Daze
Sept. 16 Concert, p. 3
Oct. 7 LIFE CHAIN, p. 9
Oct. 27 .. Breakfast, pp. 1, 3
Nov. 7..Entry deadline for Student Essay Contest, p. 2

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email: lifespan@tir.com



Pro-Life Student Essay Contest

ELIGIBILITY:



Any student in grades 9-12, in public, private or home school, who resides in Wayne, Oakland or Macomb Counties, is eligible for the contest except for students in the immediate family of a board member of Right to Life - Lifespan.

RULES:

1. The topic of the pro-life essay entry must feature one or more aspects of abortion, infanticide or euthanasia. The essay must be titled.

2. The essay shall be a minimum of 500 words, a maximum of 1000 words. No poems will be accepted.

3. The essay should be typed, but may be legibly handwritten.

4. Each entry must be the student's original work. One entry per student.

5. On the BACK only of the last page of the essay, the student must PRINT neatly his/her name, address, phone number, age and grade, name of school, plus the names of his/her parents or guardian.

6. Each entry becomes the property of Right to Life - Lifespan, and each student who enters the contest assigns copyright for the entry to Right to Life - Lifespan.

7. The essay shall be judged on content and style.

8. All entries shall be considered by impartial judges selected with experience in the content. Judges reserve the right to award no prize winner if no entry is deemed meritorious of the prize.

9. Decisions of the judges shall be final.

10. All entries must be received by **noon, Wednesday, November 7, 2001**, and mailed or delivered to: Student Essay Contest 2001, Right to Life - Lifespan, 28200 Seven Mile Rd., Suite 127, Livonia, MI 48152.

PRIZES:

First Prize: \$1000 Savings Bond

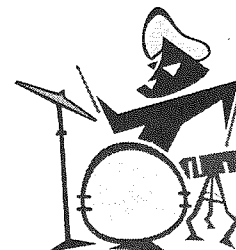
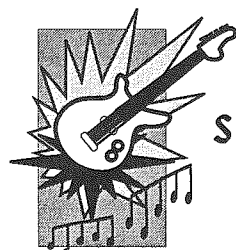
Second Prize: \$400 Savings Bond

Third Prize: \$200 Savings Bond

Prizes will be awarded at the Rally for Life, in January, 2002. The first-prize winner shall also be invited to read the winning essay at the Rally, and the winning entry shall be printed in *Lifespan News*. For more information, call Lifespan's Main Office (248) 777-9090.

Pro-Life Teen Concert

Sunday, September 16th • 4 - 10 p.m.



Featuring:

Madison Greene • Acoustic Folk

Johnny Respect • Punk Rock

Shrine of the Flower Teen Life Band • Contemporary

Fisher's Net (tentative) • Pop Rock

Place: Wired Frog • 21145 Gratiot, Eastpointe

More details in next issue of *Lifespan News*
For information, call (248) 777-9090 or (248) 816-1546

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**General Meeting/Legislative Update • Is the "Brave New World" Upon Us?
Join Us For Breakfast • Saturday, October 27**

Featured Speakers

More details on page 1!

Mark Pickup describes himself as "incurably ill and disabled with chronic, progressive multiple sclerosis." However, in spite of that, or perhaps because of that, Mr. Pickup has become one of North America's most eloquent critics of euthanasia and physician-assisted suicide. A passionately committed disability rights activist, his commentaries are widely published to much acclaim. Mr. Pickup serves as community representative for the Ethics Committee of the University of Alberta Hospital (Canada). He received a Governor General's Medal for community service (the governor general is the Queen's official representative in Canada); the William Kurelek Award in recognition of his work to foster respect and appreciation for the dignity and worth of human life; and the Monsignor Bill Irwin Award for Ethical Excellence. In addition, he was the subject of a national television documentary. In his campaign to educate and persuade, Mr. Pickup has spoken to many, many hospital staffs and health care workers, universities, community organizations, and government committees in both the United States and Canada.

—"His credentials are those of a man who went to the edge and looked over. He returned convinced that healthy societies cannot relegate any one, any group, to the void." —*Montreal Gazette*

—"I was privileged to hear Mark's testimony at the National Right to Life Convention last month, and I knew I needed to have him share his inspiring message with you!" —*Diane Fagelman, President, Right to Life - Lifespan*

Senator Thaddeus McCotter is a lifetime resident of Livonia. He graduated with honors from the University of Detroit in 1987. He earned his J.D. at U of D in 1990 and was admitted to the State Bar of Michigan in 1991. In 1989, even before he earned his J.D., McCotter won his first elected office as a Schoolcraft Community College Trustee, and his political career was launched. Since then, he has held many coveted appointed and elected positions in city, county and state government. As a Wayne County Commissioner, McCotter was the driving force behind the successfully adopted Wayne County Charter's "Super-Majority Amendment."

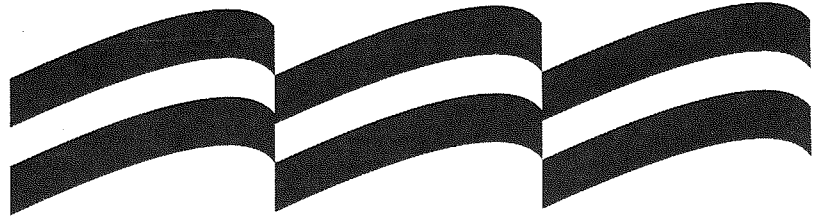
He was elected to the Michigan Senate in 1998, and as a senator, he has a 100% pro-life voting record.

His committee assignments include:

- Local, Urban and State Affairs (Chair)
- Government Operations (Chair)
- Judiciary (Vice Chair)
- Economic Development, International Trade and Regulatory Affairs (Vice Chair)
- Reapportionment (Vice Chair)

He is married to Rita Michel, a registered nurse. They have two sons, George and Timothy, and one daughter, Emilia.

See page one for registration information!



LEGISLATIVE



Addresses

President

President George W. Bush
The White House
Washington, DC 20500
Opinion Line (202) 456-1111, M-F, 9-5
Fax Number: (202) 456-2461
e-mail: President@whitehouse.gov

Dear Mr. President:

U.S. Senators

The Honorable (Carl Levin, Debbie Stabenow)
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-3121

Dear Senator (last name):

U.S. Representatives

The Honorable (first and last name)
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 224-3121

Dear Congressman or Congresswoman
(last name):

Governor

The Honorable John Engler
P.O. Box 30013
Lansing, MI 48909
(517) 373-3400
Opinion Line: (517) 335-7858
e-mail: migov@aol.com

Dear Governor Engler:

Michigan State Senator

The Honorable (full name)
P.O. Box 30036
Lansing, MI 48909
(517) 373-1837

Dear Senator (last name):

Michigan State Representative

The Honorable (full name)
P.O. Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909
(517) 373-1837

Dear Representative (last name):

Stem Cell Research

The issue of stem cell research is extremely complex. If we were to obtain information only from the media, the sheer number of terms used when discussing the issue would cause our heads to spin. Reproductive cloning, somatic cloning, embryonic stem cell research, therapeutic cloning, federal funding, left-over embryos, pluripotent and on and on and on.

This article is an attempt to clarify some of these terms and issues and to present the arguments being put forward by those who support stem cell research and those who oppose it. Make no mistake—this is an incredibly complex issue and those who would persuade you to their point of view are truly passionate about the reasonableness of their positions. These are generally people of good will who hope to uphold what they see as a completely rational and moral stand on an issue that will have an impact on generations of people to come.

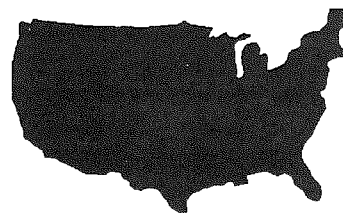
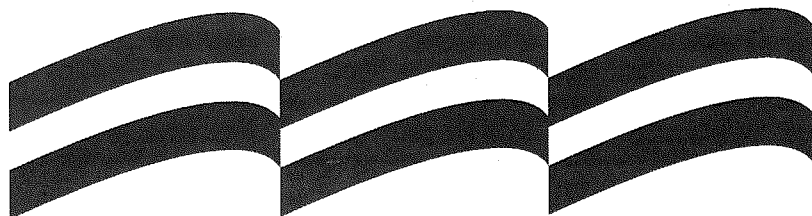
Each year, budgets must be approved for almost all divisions of the federal government. Since 1995, a provision of the annual Health and Human Services (HHS) appropriations bill, the DICKY AMENDMENT has prohibited federal funding of any "research in which a human embryo or embryos are destroyed, discarded or knowingly subjected to risk of injury or death."

The effect of The Dickey Amendment was to prohibit any researcher or research facility that received federal money for any purpose from engaging in research on human embryos that destroyed, discarded or knowingly subjected them to risk of injury

or death. It is important to note here that earliest embryonic life occurs when the human egg is fertilized by the human sperm. Since it is a biological fact that human life begins at this moment, when we speak of embryos or embryonic life, we are talking about the very earliest stages of human life.

In 1998, Dr. James A. Thompson, a developmental biologist at the University of Wisconsin became the first person to isolate stem cells from human embryos. He did this research not in a laboratory at the University of Wisconsin, which accepts federal dollars, but in the laboratory of the WICELL RESEARCH INSTITUTE, a corporation set up as a subsidiary of the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation, the nonprofit group that holds the patent to Dr. Thompson's work. The location of the WiCell laboratory has never been disclosed and is strictly off limits to reporters.

This discovery by Dr. Thompson was important because stem cells found in human embryos appear to have the *potential* to grow into *any* kind of cell or tissue in the human body. At this time, and this is critically important, scientists do not yet know exactly how to get stem cells to grow into muscle, nerve, blood, heart, liver, etc., etc. cells but they believe that with further research, they will be able to cause these stem cells to become such tissue. With that idea in mind, researchers are hoping that embryonic stem cells will become the basis of treatment and cures for such conditions such as Alzheimer's, Parkinson's Disease, diabetes, spinal cord injuries, repairing damaged tissues and/or organs—the list seems almost endless. In their enthusiasm,



UPDATE



scientists, whose business it is to investigate, want unlimited supplies of these human stem cells to study. It is common knowledge that federal grants provide a great deal of money for research of all kinds, and therefore, scientists are seeking federal money for their research.

Now, from a governmental perspective, the problem becomes clear. The Dickey Amendment prohibits paying for research that destroys a human embryo. Extracting the stem cells from the human embryo kills the embryo. Therefore, such research cannot be paid for with federal money from HHS. **It is very important to note here that research on human embryos that results in the death of those embryos is taking place every day in facilities that are privately funded.**

When this situation was presented to the Clinton Administration, HHS and the Clinton Administration worked out what they believed to be an appropriate compromise. Recipients of HHS research money could not directly kill the human embryo to extract the stem cells, but they could use the stem cells that someone else had extracted and request and be given federal money for research on these stem cells. This "compromise" was pronounced shortly before Mr. Clinton left office.

After his election to the presidency, George Bush placed a moratorium on this compromise so that his administration could review the policy. Mr. Bush had said, while running for the presidency, that he was opposed to federal tax dollars being used in research that destroyed human embryos.

Now come the arguments for and

against federal funding of embryonic stem cell research. Put quite simply, the pro-life position is and has always been that human life begins at conception, when egg and sperm unite, and should be protected and respected, regardless of age, condition of dependency or stage of development.

Those who would have federal funding of stem cell research, maintain that the embryos used for such experimentation would come from "left-over" embryos at infertility clinics. Such embryos are generally created in in-vitro treatments for infertility. Embryos not implanted into the woman are generally frozen and stored for future use. Some IVF clinics have specific protocols in place that require the infertile couple to state what they want done with any stored embryos. Other clinics do not and simply store such embryos indefinitely. It is known that successful implantation of such embryos decreases as the time they are left in a frozen state increases.

Stem cell researchers claim that these "left-over" embryos would be discarded anyway; that the possible life-saving and life-enhancing potential of the stem cells contained in these embryos is too important to cast off, and that research on these stem cells presents the perfect opportunity for finding cures for the conditions mentioned above. They also maintain that additional uses may only become apparent after using the stem cells extensively in research settings.

While the controversy over funding has been occupying the editorial pages of almost every newspaper in the country, most taking a position in

favor of federal funding of embryonic stem cell research, other research has been continuing on extracting stem cells from adult, already born, living human beings. Researchers in this field have been studying such stem cells for a number of years and have determined that stem cells can be found in almost every tissue and organ in the adult human body, including fat tissue, and can be scientifically forced to become tissue of a type different from the organ from which it was taken.

So, the dilemma faced by President Bush is this: prohibit federal funding of embryonic stem cell research because of his moral and ethical opposition to the destruction of human life or permit federal funding of such research because the embryos will be lost in any case, and possible good may come from research on such embryos. Each argument is compelling on its face, but there is more to compound the president's difficult decision.

Recently, three strongly pro-life Republican leaders, Orrin Hatch, Connie Mack, and Strom Thurmond have urged Bush to permit the funding of the research. They site the seriousness of the diseases that might be cured (former President Reagan has Alzheimer's) and the fact that the embryos will be thrown away in any case. Mr. Bush's secretary of HHS, Tommy Thompson is a strong supporter of embryonic stem cell research. Senator Trent Lott appears to be leaning toward support also. There are those who feel that this is hypocrisy at its worst. Critics maintain that such pro-lifers would be unwilling to permit a 15-year-old girl, pregnant be-

continued on page 8



Chapter

Office hours

MW 10-2; TThF Closed
Mary Cascos, Ofc. Mgr.

Fair volunteers needed

Lifespan will again be at the Michigan State Fair and will need volunteers to work their booth. Your admission is FREE, and if you are a new volunteer, you will be placed with an experienced veteran. We will need two volunteers for each four-hour shift. The Detroit office is responsible for filling Monday, August 27 and Tuesday, August 28th. Shift times are 9:45 a.m.-2:00 p.m.; 2:00-6:00 p.m. and

6:00-10:00 p.m. Call now to get your desired shift. Besides having a great time exploring before or after your shift, you will also feel good about helping us spread the pro-life message to the thousands who walk by our booth. Call 313-640-8534 today.

Memorials

Donations can be made in memory of loved ones who have died or in honor of someone special for a birthday, birth or anniversary. Send donations to the Detroit office at 17336 Harper PMB #293, Detroit, MI 48224. Your memorial will be published in the next *Lifespan News* and a card will be sent, upon request, to the person or family who is being honored or remembered.

2002 Entertainment Books

The new 2002 Entertainment Books will be in the office by September. The price has been reduced to only \$30, but the book still contains hundreds of 50% and two-for-one discounts on things you love to do and places you love to go. New this year will be discount coupons to Meijers and Krogers. The books make great holiday gifts and for only \$30, you can afford to buy two! Call 313-640-8534 today.

Detroit Office

17336 Harper PMB 293
Detroit, MI 48224-1980
(313) 640-8534
Fax (same as phone)

Office hours

MWF 9-3
Irene Tharp, Director
Diane Trombley, Ofc. Mgr.

NRLC 2001

Working Together... For Their Lives

Renewal, reinvigoration, education, sharing, laughing, crying and above all reaffirming that people of good heart, people who love, people who care, people who tell the truth will prevail—all these things and more is what the National Right to Life Committee sent home with those who attended their convention last month.

There is always a difficulty choosing what workshops to attend—should I go to the one on media relations or the one on newsletter production. How to decide between the workshop on RU486 or the one on stem cell research. The one on how

to combat the efforts of Planned Parenthood sounds good but so does the one on the effects of the McCain/Feingold legislation that impacts directly on pro-life speech. Well, you can't go to them all, but each session is audio-taped and available to all of us in Lifespan.

The highlight of each day is the general session. From singer Pat Boone, we learned of a compelling new video that can't help but touch the hearts of those who see it. From Wesley Smith, author of two books on euthanasia, we heard about the frightening eroding of our ability to control our own medical care. He encouraged us to fight hard to retain our rights to medical care and to join with other groups who are doing the same.

Sean Hannity, of the Fox TV News show "Hannity and Colmes," encouraged us to find ways to offer real concrete assistance to women facing crisis pregnancies—shelter, jobs and medical care.

At the closing banquet, Father Frank Pavone, from Priests for Life, told us to, above all, keep our eye on the goal—reverence, respect, dignity and

protection for all human life. The steps are long and difficult on the path to that goal. It is easy to stumble and lose our footing by criticizing other groups or by refusing to recognize the work done by groups different from our own. (He cited Atheist and Agnostics for Life—a group before which he has spoken.) He encouraged us to look forward, not back, to refuse to be defensive about our pro-life work and beliefs and to always, always, keep our eye on the goal—to love, to care, to work and to win.

Mark Your Calendars

Mother's Day Dinner

May 7, 2002

San Marino Club, Troy
Guest Speaker: Fr. Frank
Pavone, Priests for Life
Tell a Friend!

Oakland/Macomb Chapter Coventry Place

1637 W. Big Beaver Rd., Suite G
Troy, MI 48084-3540
(248) 816-1546
Fax (248) 816-9066
e-mail: rtlspan@htdconnect.com

detroit

oakland/macomb

News

wayne west/downriver

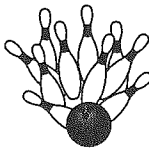
Office hours

M-Th 10-4; F Closed
Patricia Holscher, Director
Linda Kournoian, Ofc. Mgr.

Reminder: 19th annual "Bowling for Life"

Don't get left out of the fun! Join other proliferers on **Sunday, July 29, 2 to 5:00 p.m., at Woodland Lanes, 33775 Plymouth Rd., Livonia, to bowl 3 GAMES FREE** and help Lifespan financially. Get your families or church members to make up a team or come alone—no one is a stranger in a pro-life crowd.

We've added bumper bowling for children. The prizes for most money collected, high games and high series are great! Everyone has a good time; it's a good cause and everyone gets a free gift certificate donated by area merchants. Call for complete details and pledge sheets.



LIFE CHAIN

Good news! Wayne West/Downriver has taken responsibility for another Life Chain at the intersection of Wayne and Warren Rds. along with the one on Middlebelt Rd., from Jamison to 7 Mile Rd. It's going to take a lot of proliferers to cover these areas.

If your church is not participating in a Life Chain, ask your pastor to support this pro-life effort and become a part of a national

event. When pastors become actively involved, usually their congregations are eager to join them. If your church has not received a registration form, call 248-777-9090.

State Fair

Volunteers are needed to work at our pro-life educational booth at the Michigan State Fair. The WW/DR shift is August 21 through August 26. If you have not done this before, you will be paired with an experienced worker.

Our presence is important because many people only know what they see or hear from the media regarding abortion and euthanasia, and many churches do not address these issues either. At the fair, we have the opportunity to share the realities of these Life issues and suggest legislative action. Our fetal models are a big hit with the youngsters who are sometimes learning their first biology lesson at our booth.

Fairs are fun and enlightening—you won't be disappointed! Call 734-422-6230.

Lost!!!

Lifespan's set of "fetal models" is lost. They are in a 16" x 17" gold box which reads, "How You Were Born" with the name, "Life Cycle Books" printed on it. If you have borrowed them in the past two years, please check your church, school, closets, car trunk, basement and storage area.

I know no one would deliberately keep them, but may have used them for a special occasion and forgot to return them. If you have them, please call as soon as possible.

Please respond promptly to Membership Renewals

Wayne West/Downriver Chapter
27592 Schoolcraft
Livonia, MI 48150-2203
(734) 422-6230
Fax (734) 422-8116

From the President's Desk

Dear Friends,

As I attended the National Right to Life Convention last month in Charlotte, North Carolina, I thought of you, the members of Lifespan. I found it humbling to be able to represent you at this conference. I found myself contemplating our pro-life movement in the Detroit metro area—the past, present and future. So much of this year's convention addressed issues other than abortion—bioethics, human cloning, fetal stem cell research, end of life care, respect for the handicapped and terminally ill.

Thirty-one years ago, when many of us met to reorganize Lifespan and Right to Life of Michigan, we knew that it was important to have a strong local and state pro-life group. We knew our fight was no longer going to be limited to abortion. History had taught us that abortion was only the beginning of the dehumanization process. Infanticide and euthanasia would soon follow. This is why our first name, "People Taking Action Against Abortion," was changed to "Lifespan." The name depicted our purpose—to promote and enhance a respect for all innocent human life from conception to natural death. It was soon after that time that the National Right to Life Committee was formed, and in 1974, they asked all pro-life groups in the country to add "Right to Life" to their name. The purpose of this was to link all pro-life groups with a common name. So we did as recommended and changed our name to "Right to Life - Lifespan."

Today, the number and scope of right to life organizations have grown tremendously, and they are a force with which to be reckoned. The enemy is out there, however, and they are strong, they are determined and they have big financial supporters.

continued on page 11

Stem Cell Research

continued from page 5

cause of a lapse of judgment, to have an early-term abortion, but would approve the destruction of an early embryo to find a cure for a relative with diabetes.

A few days after the announcement made by Hatch, Mack and Thurmond, Representatives Dick Armey, Tom Delay and J.C. Watts, all strong pro-life supporters urged the president not to permit funding, saying, among other things that such research is exploitative and unnecessary.

Pious and altruistic editorials and columns have been written by those who support funding and those who oppose it. Each writer tries to capture the moral high ground with his/her rhetoric. If one reads enough of these items, it creates a desire, first expressed by William Shakespeare, to scream, "A pox on both your houses," and then to find a quiet desert island somewhere. Unfortunately, Mr. Bush does not have this luxury. He must make a decision.

There have been a few compromises presented to him. He could allow funding for research on only those stem cell lines already in existence. The scientists don't like this one (or anything less than full funding for that matter) maintaining that there are not enough cell lines in existence to provide adequate research. He could increase funding for adult stem cell research but not embryonic stem cell research. Pro-life people like this one. It is their contention that to permit embryonic stem cell research, no matter whether privately or publicly funded, is the "camel's nose under the tent" scenario and that it will be impossible to stop more, and perhaps prevent less acceptable, research in the future. This is not terribly far-fetched. Great Britain has recently passed a law making it legal for scientists there to clone human embryos in order to kill them 5-7 days later to extract their stem cells, thereby assuring a steady supply of such cells produced under laboratory conditions. They, of course, prohibit continuing the life of these embryos to produce a cloned human being, but there are scientists here in the United States

who have said they plan to do just that. The semantics being used in this scenario are quite interesting. **Reproductive cloning** is the term applied to the creation of a cloned human being and most scientific circles say that no one is proposing that we do that—at this time. **Therapeutic cloning** is the term applied to the creation of a cloned human embryo, the sole purpose of which is to kill it within 7 days to extract its stem cells.

Another compromise offered is to turn the whole matter over to the legislature. Such an action would, it is offered, provide for in-depth discussion of all aspects of this troubling issue and arrive at a consensus on the appropriate position of the United States on the issue of embryonic stem cell research.

In any case, the issue is already before the U.S. Congress. A number of measures have been introduced before both the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives. Representative Chris Smith, a pro-life Republican from New Jersey introduced the Responsible Stem Cell Research Act of 2001 that would change federal law to allow funding of stem cell research which would not involve the destruction of human embryos (it promotes adult stem cell research). Representative James McDermott, a Democrat from Massachusetts introduced the Stem Cell Research Act of 2001 that would allow funding of stem cell research involving the destruction of human embryos. Senator Sam Brownback, a Republican from Kansas, and Representative Dave Weldon, a Republican from Florida, have introduced the Human Cloning Prohibition Act that would prohibit the use of cloning to create any human beings, including human embryos (this addresses the issue of therapeutic cloning mentioned above).

By the time this article goes to press, Mr. Bush may have already made his decision. I do not envy him. No matter what he does, one side or the other, will condemn him as heartless and uncaring, or having violated his campaign promise and caving in to those who disregard the respect deserved by human life. If he is able to reach a compromise of some kind, then neither side will be satisfied, and

the issue will continue to be debated and discussed. And that may not be all bad. If we can generate light on the issue and turn down the heat, if we can make our hearts listen to the inner voice that should guide us all, we may be able to reach the right position. I am a registered nurse. I listen to the arguments put forward about cures for diseases I have seen first hand. I have seen the pain and sadness of a young person suddenly paralyzed in an auto accident. I have seen my own brother, aged 51, struggle with the devastating effects of Parkinson's Disease, with which he has lived since the age of 40. My education and profession cry out to me to cure these things. However, the very core of my being recognizes that human life begins at conception. I have spent over half my life in the pro-life movement. I am committed to the protection of human life in all its forms and all its stages. What can I do? What position should I maintain? I have truly struggled with this question. It is one of the few times in my life that I can honestly say I have been conflicted by a pro-life issue. But someone helped me to resolve my uncertainty. He surely did not mean to help me out of my dilemma but syndicated columnist Richard Cohen provided my answer. In a column published in the July 10th edition of the *Washington Post* entitled, "Pro-Life With an Asterisk," Mr. Cohen takes to task those pro-lifers who have encouraged the president to fund embryonic stem cell research. While I feel he may be judging them too harshly, the article made me understand that I could not be pro-life with an asterisk. Just as one cannot be a little bit pregnant, so too, one cannot be a little bit pro-life. Human life, in all its forms, is sacred and must be protected. I must and do believe that the great scientific minds that can find cures for terrible diseases using the stem cells from killed unborn babies (for that is what they are) can also find cures for those diseases using adult stem cells. It has been said that when God closes a door, He opens a window. When the door to embryonic stem cell research is closed, I know that a window will be opened and a fresh approach to acceptable research will be found.

—Diane Trombley, Media Relations Director



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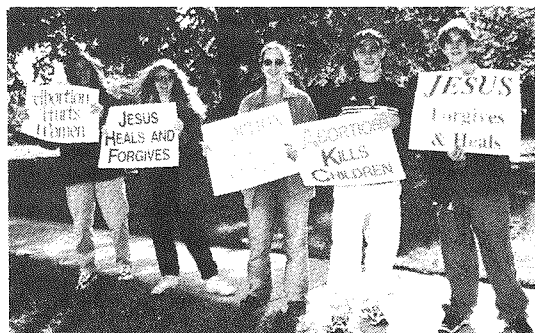
12th Annual LIFE CHAIN

of Metro Detroit

National Life Chain Sunday

October 7, 2001 - 2:00 to 3:30 p.m.

- Woodward, from 10 to 12 Mile Rds.
- Gratiot, from 13 to 16 Mile Rds.
- Gratiot, at 6 Mile Rd.
- Middlebelt, from Jamison
(2 blks. so. of 5 Mile Rd.) to 7 Mile Rd.
- At intersection of Wayne & Warren Rds.



Oakwood Community Church
Ortonville

Our Lady of La Salette Catholic
Church, Berkley

Our Lady of Loretto Catholic
Church, Redford

Our Lady Queen of Heaven
Catholic Church, Detroit

Peace Lutheran Church
Waterford

Plymouth Church of the Nazarene

Plymouth Salvation Army

Resurrection Catholic Church
Canton

Right to Life - Southeast Macomb

Thousands of participants will stand on the sidewalks in witness to their commitment to love and protect the unborn and their mothers. LIFE CHAIN challenges the community to be aware and to care. The signs will deliver the messages that **Abortion Kills Children, Adoption is the Loving Option, Abortion Hurts Women and Jesus Heals and Forgives**. This is what is known as a LIFE CHAIN. This peaceful, prayerful event will provide a visual statement of unity by the metro Detroit church community. Our twelfth annual LIFE CHAIN is scheduled in conjunction with National Life Chain Sunday. **Will you invest one afternoon to help save a lifetime? Invite your church or group to become one of the co-sponsors of LIFE CHAIN. Call (248) 777-9090 for details.**

South Hill Baptist Church, Milford

Ss. Augustine & Monica Catholic
Church, Detroit

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic
Church, Troy

St. Fabian Catholic Church
Farmington Hills

St. Genevieve Catholic Church
Livonia

St. Hubert Catholic Church
Harrison Twp.

St. Hugo of the Hills Catholic
Church, Bloomfield Hills

St. James Catholic Church
Ferndale

St. John Bosco Catholic Church
Redford

St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic
Church, Warren

St. Jude Catholic Church, Detroit

St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic
Church, St. Clair Shores

St. Maurice Catholic Church
Livonia

St. Mel Catholic Church
Dearborn Heights

St. Priscilla Catholic Church
Livonia

St. Raphael Catholic Church
Garden City

St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic
Church, Redford

St. Stephen Lutheran Church
Waterford

St. Theodore Catholic Church
Westland

St. Thomas More Catholic
Church, Troy

Ward Presbyterian Church
Northville

Sponsored by Right to Life - Lifespan



and WUFL/1030 AM



Family Life
RADIO

A Special Person

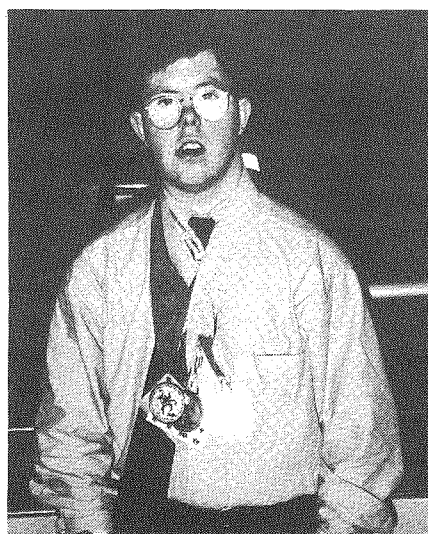
By Jay Gierak

Pat Lowry, special assistant to Coach Merchant and U of D's varsity football team, carried the Cubs' winning attitude [in March] to the World Special Winter Olympics in Anchorage, Alaska, winning a gold, a bronze, and two silver medals in snowshoe racing. "Pat really raised the roof, both in the races and on the podium," said his mother, Yvonne Lowry. "He was a real crowd-pleaser, and got everyone cheering and yelling. We were just so happy with the whole thing."

Pat was one of 2,750 young developmentally impaired athletes from 80 countries competing in this year's World Special Winter Olympics, which ran from March 2 through March 11. While Pat competed in snowshoe racing, other events included alpine and cross country skiing, speed and figure skating and floor hockey. Participants are chosen for the World Special Olympics based upon their success in state and regional competitions. Pat represented the Great Lakes region, including the states of Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Illinois and Kentucky. The United States sent 590 athletes to the competition this year.

Training for the World Special Winter Olympics was a serious matter for Pat, who found out last November that he was going to the World games. He trained solo on a treadmill, ran in boots, worked with the women's Special Olympic team coach both at Glenhurst Golf Club and a local park when there was snow. He also trained in Traverse City for both the Regional and World Special Winter Olympic competitions under coach Paul Balliet, a special education teacher from Gaylord, Michigan. Pat's snowshoes are 27 inches long and consist of an aluminum frame attached to a boot. The races are run across both ice and deep snow and include a 5 kilometer cross-country race, as well as 100 meter, 400 meter and 400 meter relay sprints run on a special track.

"It was the most wonderful time of my life," said Mrs. Lowry, who noted that over 7,000 volunteers worked to make the Anchorage games a success. "The Pointer Sisters opened the games and were fabulous," she said, noting that the opening and closing ceremonies were replayed on the PAX television network. "They really got that place rockin' and rollin'. The people of Anchorage were all so wonderful." Mrs. Lowry also noted that in attendance was Eunice Kennedy Shriver, sister of President John F. Kennedy and Robert Kennedy. Mrs. Kennedy Shriver founded the first Special Olympics in 1964 in her backyard to provide athletic events for her disabled sister, Rosemary, and she came to the Anchorage games with her husband, Sargeant Shriver, who was the first Director of the Peace Corps. Also in attendance



Pat Lowry wearing his Special Olympics medals

were Mrs. Kennedy Shriver's daughter, television broadcaster Maria Shriver, and Maria's husband, Arnold Schwarzenegger. Pat graciously agreed to permit the famous movie star to have his picture taken with the Cubs' own Special Olympic champion. The World Wide Wrestling Federation wrestler, "Mr. Outrageous," wearing his championship belt, also asked to have his picture taken with Pat.

Like the regular Olympic games, the Special Olympic athletes live together

at the competition in special quarters away from their families, where rules reinforcing the concept of "team" are strictly enforced. Team members also wear uniform winter-wear provided through corporate sponsors, including Northwest Airlines and Columbia Sportswear. Pat and the rest of the snowshoers stayed at Elmendorf Air Force Base outside of Anchorage, where they had a chance to trade stories and techniques. Pat learned, for example, that the Egyptian Winter Special Olympics team did all of their training in the desert sands. Despite this difficulty, the Egyptian team earned one medal at the games.

It was swimming in local Special Summer Olympics games that first spurred Pat's interest in athletic competition. "Pat never had the spirit of competition until he became a participant in the Special Olympics," Mrs. Lowry said. "But once he started competing, he loved it. He especially likes meeting the other athletes." Mrs. Lowry said that although Pat loved the competition, he found that swimming was not his strength, so Pat tried a variety of other athletic events until he discovered snowshoe racing, at which he excels. He hopes to be chosen to attend the next World Special Winter Olympic games, scheduled to take place in 2005 in Japan.

Pat has worked as Coach Merchant's special assistant to the Cub football team for the past two years, assisting with water, equipment and a variety of other duties. "He loves working with the team, and really feels that it's his team," said Mrs. Lowry. "He would come home all upset if the team lost." But now she thinks that Pat has realized that no matter the score, "he's a winner." Mrs. Lowry said that Pat especially likes it when players on the team talk to him. Pat, who just turned 21 this April, plans to continue his winning tradition by again working with the football program this fall.

*—The Cub News, University of Detroit High School and Academy
Mr. and Mrs. John Lowry are members of
Right to Life - Lifespan*

Donations have been made In loving memory of:

Howard Hoeflein

Given by William & Joan Forrest

Carol Scherbarth

Given by Laurence & Judith McKinny

Right to Life - Lifespan

Oakland/Macomb Chapter

In celebration of 25 years in the priesthood:

Rev. Kenneth Kaucke

Given by Jean & Terry Hanigan

In honor of 50th wedding anniversary of:

Bill & Marge Dettloff

Given by Bill & Linda Seng

Donations may be made in memory of loved ones who have died; a memorial card will be sent by Lifespan in your name to the family of the deceased. Donations may also be made to honor someone special, and near and dear to you, for a particular occasion, or just because...

You can live on after death by helping those whose lives are threatened by abortion, euthanasia or infanticide. A bequest in your will to Right to Life-Lifespan of Metro Detroit will be used to save the lives of many through our efforts. Please send donations to your local Lifespan office.

Entertainment Books

For every 2002 Entertainment Book pre-ordered until Aug. 1, receive a complimentary 2001 Values book. The 2002 Book costs only \$30. Call your local Lifespan office to order!

Infant abandonment law

When leaving work one afternoon, I stopped to admire a very little baby in our office complex. In talking with the woman, whose daughter was holding this precious little boy, I discovered he was seven weeks old and weighed 7 lbs. and 5 ozs.

The woman was a foster mom and said she was adopting him. She received the baby after a young girl gave birth to him after which her brother took him to a local hospital for care. Maybe you remember the story in the newspapers as I do. At first, the brother was afraid to tell the truth and said he found the baby in a dumpster. Later, he recanted this story and said he was helping his sister by taking the baby to the hospital.

This revelation about the baby really made me smile as I never did know the outcome of that story. Now, I know first-hand that the new "infant abandonment law" effective in Michigan on January 1, 2001 is really working. A birthmother or father really can surrender the newborn baby safely to a hospital, police or fire station for refuge (within 72 hours) and have protection from child abandonment laws. For further information, call 734-422-6230.

—Pat Holscher, Director
Wayne West/Downriver Chapter

Crisis hotline numbers

If you or someone you know is experiencing a crisis pregnancy, help is available. Call your Lifespan office listed on pages 6 or 7. Bethany Christian Services also has a 24-hour hot line number 1-800-BETHANY. Shel-

tering homes are available to women in crisis pregnancies, call Casa Vitae at (248) 559-5407 or Abigayle Ministries at (810) 326-0459.

For post-abortion counseling, call P.A.C.E. at (734) 455-5255 or Project Rachel at (888) 722-4355.

For people with life-limiting illnesses, call Angela Hospice (734) 464-7810 or Cranbrook Hospice (248) 334-6700 or Hospice of Michigan (888) HOM-5656.

Project Life, Archdiocese of Detroit, also offers pastoral guidance to persons considering abortion or assisted suicide. If a relative, friend or even yourself are in need of this counseling assistance, do not hesitate to call 800-281-2102.

From the President's desk

continued from page 7

The future of our movement lies with each of us. It is our responsibility to stay the course, to continue to support the pro-life movement and to be persistent in pursuing our goals until minds and hearts of this nation are changed.

What can YOU do to help? You can BUILD THE BASE OF THE PRO-LIFE MOVEMENT by renewing your membership and by getting at least two of your friends, family or neighbors to join LIFESPAN. Sign up a young person—get them involved early. By doing this, you will be a part of promoting and enhancing a respect for human LIFE. GOD BLESS ALL OF YOU WHO GIVE SO UNSELFISHLY TO THIS CAUSE!

Diane

Right to Life - Lifespan of Metro Detroit Membership Form

Right to Life - Lifespan believes that human life has value in all stages of development from conception until natural death, and is committed to speaking on behalf of those who cannot speak for themselves — the unborn, the aged, the incapacitated. Won't you please help in our struggle to preserve respect for human life? A contribution brings you the monthly newsletter as well as educational materials and special mailings.



_____ Annual Membership \$ 20.00
_____ Student/Senior Member \$ 7.00

_____ Monthly pledge \$ _____
_____ Other \$ _____

Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Please complete this form and return with your donation to: Right to Life - Lifespan, 28200 Seven Mile Rd., Suite 127, Livonia, MI 48152-3736. For more information, call 248-777-9090. Sorry, donations are not tax-deductible.

COLLEGE



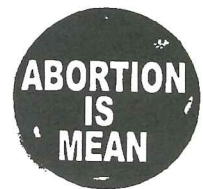
Do you have a son, daughter, niece or nephew, grandchild, sister, brother or friend going off to college in August or September? When he or she gets to their dorm, it is likely that they will find a "gift" box on the bed or the desk. These boxes frequently contain a candy bar, a toothbrush, a phone number from the local pizza delivery store and other such goodies. Unfortunately, more and more often they also contain the telephone number to the local Planned Parenthood clinic, and sometimes, birth control devices printed with a message to "be careful."



We, at Lifespan, would like to give your students a real gift package when they begin their college adventure. We would like to send a gift package that could turn out to be a real "gift of life" for some of our students.

If you provide Lifespan, Oakland/Macomb Chapter (248-816-1546), with the name and college address of your favorite student and \$5.00 for shipping, we will send him or her a Lifeline Gift Pack which will include:

- ★ A pro-life T-shirt
- ★ A pen with the notation "My Dad Loves ME"
- ★ A flexible 12-inch ruler that shows the accurate development of a baby in the inch increments
- ★ A button bearing the slogan, "Abortion is Mean"
- ★ A "Tiny Feet" lapel pin
- ★ A wall poster and bookmark, each of which shows a baby's hand being held safely by an adult's hand and the words, "Take my hand, not my life."
- ★ Two short educational pieces from Feminists for Life (appropriate for men too)
- ★ The e-mail address for American Collegians for Life
- ★ And last, but not least, a roll of Lifesaver candies—a reminder that life is sweet and to be savored



Right to Life - Lifespan of Metro Detroit

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