



DETROIT LIONS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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JOHN GODDARD OF ROYAL OAK SHRINE NAMED LIONS COACH OF THE WEEK

ALLEN PARK, MICH. – The **Detroit Lions** have named **John Goddard** of **Royal Oak Shrine Catholic** as the 2008 week seven winner of the **High School Coach of the Week Program Presented by Motorola**.

Goddard guided his Knights to a 48-0 victory over Allen Park Cabrini on Sunday (Oct. 12) to stay unbeaten at 7-0 for the 2008 season. The Knights are currently ranked No. 3 (Division 7) in the state by the Detroit Free Press and have outscored their opponents 257-57.

Goddard is in his 16th season as head coach at Shrine where he has a record of 100-52 and has led his team to nine state playoff appearances. He has been a high school head coach for 35 seasons compiling a career record of 195-90 and is a member of the Michigan Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

Goddard and the Knights are preparing to host Madison Heights Bishop Foley (4-3) in a Catholic League playoff game this Saturday (Oct. 18).

Coach of the Week Program

Each week throughout the 2008 nine-week high school regular season, one coach that best develops his players' character, discipline and football skill will be recognized for his commitment to the team, school and community. The winner is selected by a panel of three newspaper writers -- **Mick McCabe (Detroit Free Press)**, **Jane Bos (Grand Rapids Press)** and **Hugh Bernreuter (Saginaw News)**.



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This season's program will award \$22,000 to aid in the development and promotion of high school football in the state of Michigan thanks to contributions from the National Football League, the Detroit Lions and presenting sponsor Motorola.

Each winning coach throughout the regular season will receive a \$2,000 donation to his school's football program. All weekly winners will be honored at an awards ceremony during the Lions-Saints game on December 21. During the ceremony, the Lions will also introduce the High School Coach of the Year. This year's Coach of the Year will receive a \$4,000 donation to his team's football program.

In addition to the monetary award, all winners receive a framed certificate signed by Lions' head coach **Rod Marinelli**, National Football League (NFL) Commissioner **Roger Goodell**, as well as former Detroit Lion and current NFL Director of Football Development, **Gene Washington**. Winning coaches also receive a personalized game ball, and a Detroit Lions "Coach of the Week" hat.

In its twelfth year, the Detroit Lions High School Coach of the Week program has awarded \$234,000 to high school football programs throughout the state of Michigan. For more information on the Detroit Lions High School Coach of the Week program, contact Chad Walker at (313) 216-4000.