

Rob Bachman is surprised by the Energizer Bunny as he is notified he is a finalist for the Energizer Keep on Going Hall of Fame.

Going, and going, and going ...

Township man a finalist for Energizer Hall

BY TONY BRUSCATO
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Ron Bachman, who had his deformed legs amputated at the age of 4, hasn't let that stop him as he literally keeps on going, and going and going.

Because of his spirit that has led him to become a nationally known motivational speaker telling middle and high school kids to keep on going and pursue their dreams, Bachman is one of 12 finalists for the Energizer "Keep Going Hall of Fame" award.

Friends and relatives surprised Bachman, 50 of Plymouth Township with the news at E.G. Nick's restaurant Tuesday morning.

"Isn't this cool," said Bachman as he saw a life-size Energizer Bunny, pounding on his trademark drum, walk toward him shortly before noon as the announcement was made.

Bachman was nominated by Kathy Vander, Bachman's friend of 20 years and his former teacher at the Specs Howard School of Broadcast Arts in Southfield, who produced a



Ron Bachman, left, is congratulated by his father, Bob Bachman, on becoming an Energizer Keep on Going Hall of Fame finalist.

documentary film — *Walk this Way* — about Bachman.

"There's no other person on this planet who has kept going more than this guy, despite everything that's gone on in his life," said Vander, of Berkley. "He's impacted a million kids, there's always a smile on his face and he keeps on going."

After Bachman had his legs amputated, he learned to walk on his hands. He wore artificial

legs through high school, but has tossed them aside in favor of a scooter.

"Of course, in the beginning, it was devastating, but it's just who you are and you keep on going," Bachman said of having his legs amputated. "Through my family I was constantly told 'There's nothing you can't do.'"

"The hardest part is school

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