

MONDAY

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Over Briarwood settled

By PS

Briarwood and Briarwood Partners developers are hammering out a settlement to a lawsuit which would allow a "downsized" version of the proposed development on the hotly debated Ten Mile and Beck Road corner.

"It will be a smaller version of what they wanted, but we haven't worked out the details yet," said Novi City Attorney David Fried. "It won't be a grocery store or anything like that — it'll be something smaller."

The shopping mall controversy was scheduled to go to trial on Thursday in front of Oakland County Circuit Court Judge Francis X. O'Brien, but attorneys opted to avoid litigation costs and compromise.

The opposing parties hope to iron-out the

details of the unrevealed agreement by the end of the week. Fried would not reveal any zoning specifics until that time.

However, he did rule out possible money damages in association with the expected settlement. Briarwood Partners' attorney Norm Hyman could not be reached for comment by press time.

Principal developer Walter filed suit against the city in April, 1989, in an attempt to force reinstatement of the commercial zoning needed to build the controversial strip mall on the northeast corner of Ten Mile and Beck roads.

Debate over the proposed mall began more than two years ago, when the city opted to rezone the 10-acre area from a mixture of residential and business (B-1) use to a single B-2 site.

The B-2 zoning allowed for construction of a grocery store, commercial center, restaurant and a gas station on the corner — all of which

were within the city master plan's guidelines.

The city council, however, revoked that zoning after a residents' advocacy group known as Citizens for Responsible Development (CRD) launched a petition drive to overturn the zoning.

The city rezoned the entire 10 acres to B-1 zoning, to the dismay of CRD. The B-1 zoning called for a reduction in the size of the grocery store and disallowed the accompanying development, but it still allowed commercial development.

The matter came to a head after Novi residents placed the issue on an election ballot and voted to rescind the B-1 zoning, causing it to revert back to its original mix of B-1 and residential zoning.

Walter's case alleged that zoning matters cannot be decided by referendum elections; therefore, the court should reinstate the B-1 classification for all 10 acres.

Governor speaks to Novi chamber

By SHEILA PHILLIPS
Staff Writer

A crowd of 200 people packed Victor's restaurant in Novi Thursday morning to have breakfast with Gov. James Blanchard.

The governor spoke to members from five area chambers of commerce chapters on the state's business climate and reducing auto insurance premiums by 20 percent statewide. He also professed a "firm" commitment to limiting property tax assessments to the rate of inflation while continuing to keep a balanced budget for the ninth year in a row.

Meanwhile, he defended his

"I believe a gas tax will create more hardships than it solves. That is why I'm actively lobbying in Washington against the tax."

James Blanchard
Governor

stance on prison funding, saying that it has already kept an additional 15,000 prisoners off the street. He maintained that these new facilities were not built at the expense of education as some Republicans allege.

In addition, Blanchard criticized

President George Bush's idea of a gasoline tax hike, which was shot down by legislators the next (Friday) morning, saying it would deliver a significant blow to Michigan's already "fragile economy."

"I believe a gas tax will create more hardships than it solves,"

After his speech, the governor Blanchard told the crowd. "That is why I'm actively lobbying in Washington against the tax." also unveiled for the press a 60-point plan for better quality of life within the state, entitled "Governor Blanchard's Strategy for Michigan's Future." Main ideas included community bond banks to match local infrastructure upgrades, industrial development funds and state-initiated job training insurance.

In an interview following the breakfast, Blanchard answered the following questions:

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Novi News wins 5 MPA awards

The Novi News won honors in five categories of the recent Michigan Press Association Better Newspaper Contest. Among those honors was a second place award in the General Excellence category for Class B (circulation 5,000 to 10,000) weeklies.

Additionally, the News' sister publication, *The Northville Record* picked up an additional two awards and the four other publications of the HomeTown Newspaper chain — *The Milford Times*, *The South Lyon Herald*, *The Brighton Argus* and *The Livingston County Press* — won another 13 awards. All told, HomeTown Newspaper publications won a total of 21 awards in the contest out of 57 available to Class B weekly publications.

HomeTown Newspapers actually swept awards — taking first, sec-

ond and third places — in three categories, including General Excellence, Sports Coverage, and Lifestyle/Family Sections.

Further, a new honor awarded to the publication which wins the highest number of awards in the contest, known as the "Michigan's Best Award," went to *The South Lyon Herald*.

Here's a list of the awards and what the judges said about *The Novi News*:

• **Second place, General Excellence.** "A clear, well-organized layout and strong news coverage. Photos are run big and generally evoke emotion (avoid people's backsides, please). Interesting local editorial/opinion pieces."

• **Second place, Feature Stories, to Editor Bob Needham for a story entitled, "50 year commit-**

ment." Said the judges, "Needham took a potentially hum-drum retirement story and made it come alive as readers get slices of (Oakland County Sheriff) John Nichols' fascinating career."

• **Second place, Sports Coverage.** "A close second. Section head changes and less borders would be a welcome sight. Good photos and assortment of articles."

• **Honorable mention, Lifestyle/Family Section.** "Good variety in layout and headline style. Overall, headlines are weak, photos are too posed. I like graphics, logo. Inside pages could use more variation in story column width."

• **First place, Special Section, for supplement entitled "Neighbors."** "Very strong and interesting cover. Story variety and complete features of people makes this very interesting reading. Photography is

excellent. Advertising could be cleaner."

The list of MPA contest winners was announced this week in conjunction with National Newspaper Week, October 7-13. The theme of the 1990 observance is "Free Press—Free People, More News—More Views." National Newspaper Week is an occasion for a concentrated effort to stress the community service role of newspapers and the relationship between personal freedom and a free press.

The MPA contest had a record number of entries this year, with some 1,832 entries being submitted by 137 newspapers. The entries were judged by members of the Wisconsin Newspaper Association. Two hundred fifty awards were handed out, along with seven "Michigan's Best" plaques.

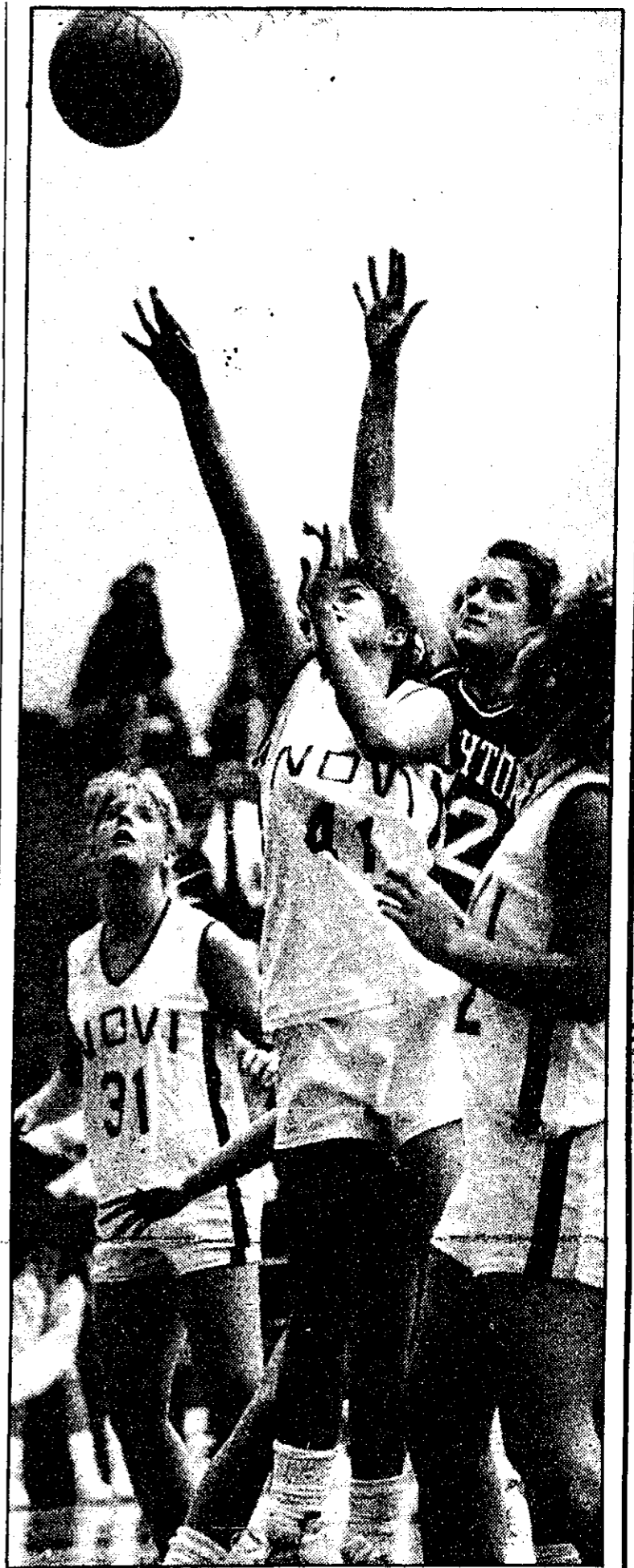


Photo by BRYAN MITCHELL

Take your shot

Number 41, Tammy Snider, of the Novi girls basketball team takes a shot in a game that ended up very close. The Novi girls beat Brighton 48-42 Tuesday, Oct. 2. The Novi girls also won in a game Thursday, Oct. 4, against Edsel Ford by a score of 41-31. Details of the games will appear on Thursday.

Inside

INCLUDED IN today's paper, as usual, is "Suburban Cable Weekly," your guide to television on the local cable system. The TV listings are keyed to the actual channel numbers on the local MetroVision cable system.



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For results on your want ads call The Green Sheet at (313) 348-3022

Novi Briefs

Las Vegas Night: The Fraternal Order of Police, Lodge Number 128, will host a Las Vegas Night on Oct. 13 from 7 p.m. to midnight. The event will be held at the FOE lodge 3492, at 1721 Glengary Road, in Walled Lake. Proceeds will go to Local Youth Athletics, FOP building fund.

National winner: Gary McDade, of the Denny's Restaurant in Novi has been named the winner in a national foodservice contest sponsored by Heinz U.S.A. The "Heinz Rockin' Great American Classic Contest," awarded prizes to the individuals who submitted the most interesting and clever descriptions as to why they use Heinz Ketchup in their establishments.

Craft show: The Homespun Traditions Country Craft Show will be held Sunday, Oct. 21 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 39000 Schoolcraft. For more information, call Diane McDonald at 462-4096.

No contest! City Clerk Gerry Stipp, coordinator of the Novi Community Blood Drive, threw out the challenge. The city administration and department of public works would compete with the police and fire departments to see who could come up with the most blood donors.

The city won in the Sept. 18 drive, Stipp said, with 21 staffers presenting arms during the drive. Seven members of the police department and one fire department employee also donated blood. The fire department was handicapped in participating, Stipp said, because many firefighters had recently taken preventative anti-hepatitis inoculations and therefore could not give blood.

A total of 161 people participated in the annual blood drive and 148 pints of blood were collected for the Southeastern Michigan American Red Cross.

Alzheimer's Association: The Detroit Chapter of the association is recruiting volunteers to assist with its In-Home Respite and Adult Day Care programs. Both services, which are open to and utilized by residents of Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties, serve to relieve caregivers of persons afflicted with Alzheimer's disease or another irreversible memory impairment. Volunteers donate from four to 16 hours per month. They are provided with training and reimbursed for mileage. Day, evening and Saturday hours are available. For more information, call 557-8277.

Accident victim fundraiser: Residents of Willowbrook Subdivision are raising money to aid the family of a 2 1/2 year-old boy, who suffered spleen and closed head injuries after being hit by a vehicle in the subdivision over a month ago. The victim, Michael Zurek, is expected to be released from the hospital

within two weeks but further follow-up care will be needed. The subdivision is collecting donations to help pay for future medical bills as well as asking concerned citizens to supply the family with meals.

Checks can be addressed to Lynn or Dave Zurek, in care of W.C.A., P.O. Box 184, Novi 48376. Anyone wishing to donate a meal to the family when the boy returns home can contact Cindy or Jim Kuptz at 478-0892.

Bargain entertainment: Novi Community Education offers discount tickets for regional amusement parks.

Day trippers can get up to \$3.70 off the gate price for tickets to places like Boblo, Cedar Point, Geauga Lake, Kings Island and Sea World.

Tickets are available at the community education office, in the administration building on Taft Road below Eleven Mile.

Senior transit available: The Novi Parks and Recreation Department's senior transit system provides a lift-equipped van to Novi residents who are age 55 or over, or are physically handicapped.

Transportation is available from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays. Appointments should be made at least 48 hours in advance by calling 347-0400 between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. weekdays. Let the dispatcher know if you have a handicap or other special need. Donations are appreciated.

Share your skills: Novi Community Education is always looking for instructors for its adult and child enrichment classes.

If you have a skill, craft or hobby you'd like to share with others, call Novi Community Education at 348-1200.

Historical notepaper: The Novi Historical Society has notepaper for sale at the Novi Public Library and the Novi City Manager's Office. Each package contains 12 note cards, three each of four subjects. Price is \$3, including envelopes.

A gift of history: The Novi Historical Commission is accepting donations of artifacts for the city museum planned for the old Novi Township Hall.

The commission is seeking belongings of pre-1900 Novi residents, including photographs, farming and household implements, diaries and letters, as well as items documenting pre-1950 village, township and city governments and local events. This would include memorabilia of the Walled

Rec Briefs

Select soccer tryouts — The Northville Soccer Association will be sponsoring a Select team for boys born in 1981 if there is sufficient interest.

Play will begin in spring of 1991 and tryouts will be held in early November. Anyone interested should contact Larry Schlanser at 420-0285.

Novi hosts tournament — The Metro Detroit Amateur Softball Association has requested the City of Novi to host the 1991 National Women's "Major Softball Tournament."

The tournament will take place over Labor Day weekend next year. A formal presentation is being finalized and will make a presentation to the Novi City Council in the near future.

It is believed that the location and overall quality of Novi's Power Park/Civic Center facility is the primary reason the tournament is coming to Novi.

Team rollerblade — Team Rollerblade will be on hand at the Novi Town Center for demonstrations and other attractions on Oct. 12 from 3-7 p.m.

The public is invited to try rollerblades and it's free. This event is being sponsored by Running Fit.

For more information, call Running Fit at 347-4949.

