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THURSDAY
SEPTEMBER 29, 1994

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Number 104
Four Sections
54 Pages plus Supplements

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District continues debate on buildings

By SHARON CONDRON
Staff Writer

Novi School officials are moving ahead with their plans to either renovate or build a new middle school—or both.

The merits of two proposed plans will once again be debated by the Novi Board of Education at a special meeting tonight. Particulars of the two plans and their projected costs were presented to the board last Thursday for informational purposes only.

But the board is expected to meet again tonight at 7:30 p.m. with facility use and bond issue proposals being the only agenda item.

School officials said the new or renovated facility will be one that can accommodate the teaming concept school district officials are hoping to implement in the new building for middle school students.

The district is still exploring its options and has yet to settle on which grades will occupy the new or renovated structure. They are, however, closely studying two options, building a school for seventh and eighth graders or one for fourth and fifth grade students.

Either way, the existing middle school facility will need substantial updates to accommodate student growth and team teaching, school administrators said Thursday.

"I think our critical issue is to make the facilities that exist at Meadows and the middle school as modern and as student friend-

Continued on 13A



Two alarm fire?

No, firefighter Jeff Bailey, left, and Capt. Dan Roy test a new type of fire hose purchased recently by the Novi Fire Department. The outer surface is more resistant to fire and punctures while the inside is smoother, to cut friction on the water flow.

The result is a hose that shoots farther while using less water pressure, saving wear on fire truck pumps. So Bailey and Roy put the new hose to the test. Their findings—it works. The new hose beat the old for distance even with less pressure.

Photo by BRYAN MITCHELL

Fuerst farm gets stay from wrecking ball

By SHARON CONDRON
Staff Writer

Novi city and school officials have at least 90 days to decide the fate of the Fuerst property.

The 90-day stay of execution from the wrecking ball was awarded by the school board Thursday night at the request of the Novi City Council, local historians and concerned residents.

It was Ray Byers, vice president of the school board, who three weeks ago requested the board seek demolition bids for the farm buildings on the Fuerst property. His request made local headlines and spurred a flurry of action and reaction from city residents and elected officials.

Byers was on the defense Thursday as at least seven residents spoke to the board protesting the disposition of the land.

"I'm not out and about to destroy history that is significant, but I also don't think it is the responsibility of the school district to preserve historical monuments," Byers said. "It is the business of the school district to educate young people for a better world tomorrow."

Byers said he was not opposed to any local interest group taking over the preservation and maintenance efforts of the property, but said the job didn't fall within the purview of the school district.

His request drew sharp criticism from members of a district committee convened two years ago to study feasible uses for the property.

Margaret Schmidt was one of those who sat on the Fuerst Advisory

Committee. "The city administration is reviewing three options to save the Fuerst property from demolition, including an outright purchase, a joint purchase and a land swap. The story appears on page 13A."

sory Committee.

"I feel we were not listened to at all," she said about the committee's report released to the board two years ago. "We gave a report but it was obvious at that meeting it was not what was expected of us. Instead what was expected was for us to bring back a proposal to demolish that site. That was very clear to me."

"To demolish that site is not feasible," she continued. "We brought back a lot of ideas but we have never heard back from the school board since that meeting."

The experience, Schmidt said, will deter her from volunteering on a school committee in the future.

"I probably would never again volunteer to serve on a committee for this school board because of my own experiences. People have given a great amount of time and seen their efforts thrown out," she said.

Former city councilman Bill O'Brien echoed Schmidt's comments. As a fellow member of the Fuerst advisory committee, he too

Continued on 13A

M-5 will open in October

A "Grand Opening" is scheduled for October in Novi—and it's not for yet another store.

The first phase of the Haggerty Connector will tentatively be ready for drivers as of Oct. 24, according to information given to City Manager Edward Kriewall by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT).

The only segment to be functional for motorists at that time is the interchange for westbound Interstate 96 to northbound M-5 and for northbound Interstate 275, also to northbound M-5. Drivers will be diverted to Twelve Mile Road until the future Haggerty Connector, which will run to Pontiac Trail, is completed.

"What is significant here is that there should be a fairly dramatic reduction in 5 p.m. traffic on Haggerty Road, Meadowbrook Road and Novi Road from I-96 to Twelve Mile Road," Kriewall noted in a memo to the Novi City Council.

The city will conduct traffic counts on the above three roadway segments prior to the M-5 opening in the near future, to "benchmark" existing traffic there.

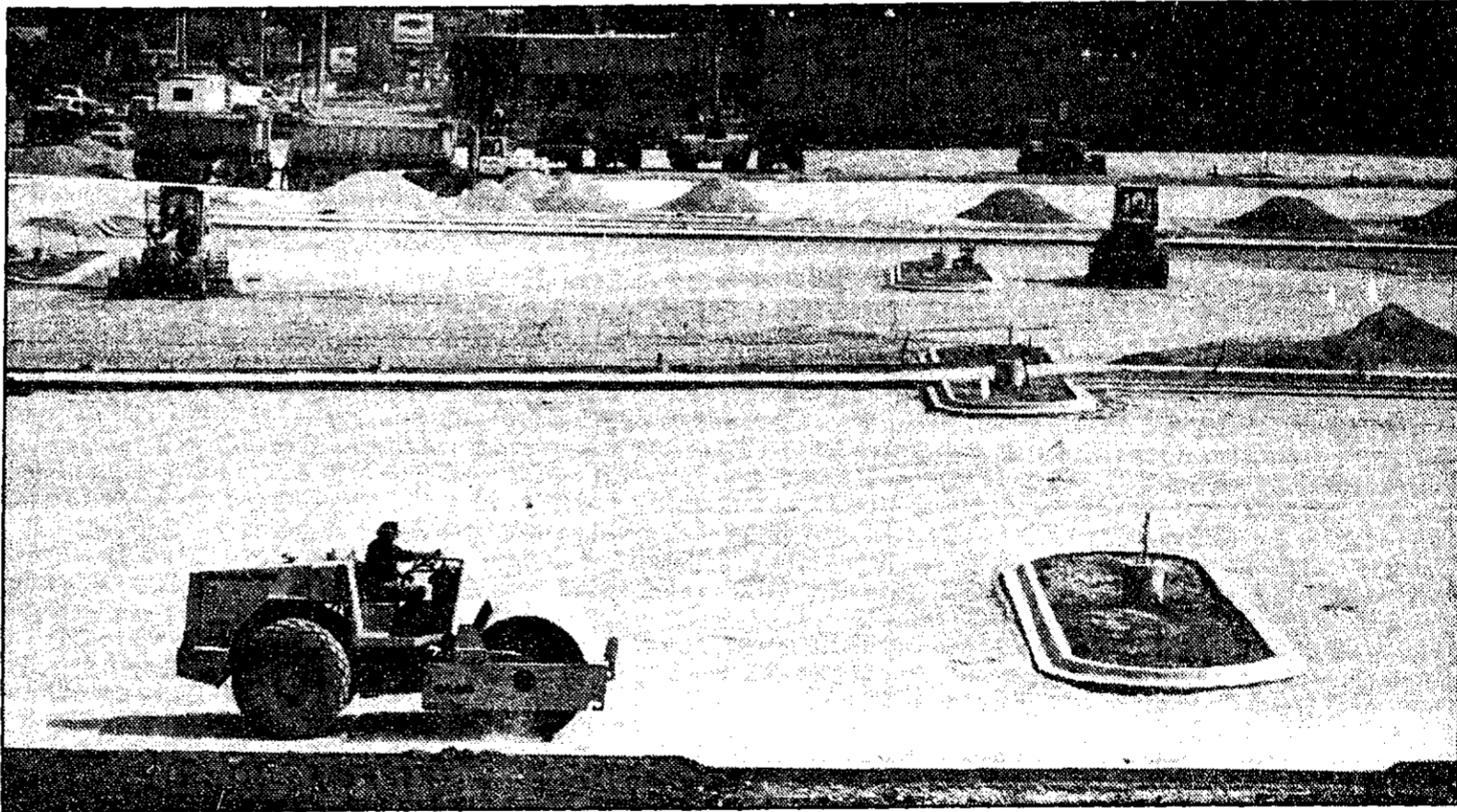


Photo by BRYAN MITCHELL

Work's begun on the site of Vic's Market.

Main Street clears another hurdle

By JAN JEFFRES
Staff Writer

The City of Novi and developers Evergreen III laid another "paving stone" Monday for what could become Main Street.

"We have before us this evening the culmination of almost 10 years of dreaming and almost five years of hard, hard work," Mayor Kathleen McLallen said. "No longer is it pie in the sky."

But the project might lose one previously enthusiastic supporter along the way, Council Member Robert Schmid, who wants assurances that rental housing won't be built adjacent to the "mini-downtown."

Some of the decisions which the council will make in the future on Main Street will require

five votes of support. Council Members Tim Pope and Carol Mason already say they won't back the joint public-private development. Without Schmid, the number of supporters would dwindle to four.

What the council majority agreed to do is to unleash the city's lawyers to draw up the paperwork. In the future, the council will have to approve a series of documents including:

- A \$1 per year lease to Evergreen III of city land by Fire Station One on Grand River Avenue. In return, the developer would build a public parking lot.

- An agreement to exchange city land on Novi Road, valued at \$645,000 for the road right-of-way for Main Street, valued at

\$666,000.

- An authorization to city engineers to seek bids for sewer and water lines for Main Street.

- An ordinance to be prepared by the city attorneys which would provide for tap-in fees or a special assessment district to reimburse the city for the \$316,000 in sewer and water lines to the project.

- A special assessment contract to build the \$1.6 million Main Street and \$1.4 million worth of sidewalk, landscaping and other amenities.

Onto all this was tacked a proviso that the city does not want rental units built next to Main Street.

The five-to-two vote to move ahead Monday came as a blow to Doug Erwin, co-owner of Erwin

Farms, who has collected almost 1,000 signatures from residents opposed to city money helping out Main Street.

"I don't believe it. I just don't believe it. Look it up in the dictionary. This is a subsidy," he said after the vote.

Erwin originally contemplated suing the city to stop the project, but says he was instead advised by his attorney to either start a recall campaign or get the word out to potential purchasers of bonds for the project's road, sewer and water lines that "two independent appraisers said walk away from the venture."

"One thousand people can't be wrong. One thousand people say

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In today's issue



A special section ...



Community Calendar

To get your organization's activities, regular meetings or special events listed in the Community Calendar, send information to Community Calendar, The Novi News, 104 W. Main Street, Northville, MI 48167.

Monday, October 3

City Council: The Novi City Council is scheduled to meet in regular session at 8 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Novi Civic Center.

Health tests: Community EMS will sponsor blood pressure testing and cholesterol testing in the Novi Civic Center from 7:30-9 p.m. in conjunction with the Novi City Council meeting.

Village Oaks PTO (VOICE): The Village Oaks PTO will meet 7:30 p.m. in the Village Oaks School Library on Willowbrook Road.

TOPS: Take Off Pounds Sensibly for all ages meets at 7 p.m. at Novi Meadows School, Room 6. For more information, call 348-9691.

Motor City Speak Easy Toastmasters: The Motor City Speak Easy Toastmasters Club meets from 7-9 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church, 777 W. Eight Mile. For more information call Charisse Ryan at 420-2045. Visitors are welcome.

Tuesday, October 4

Seniors meeting: The Novi Center Seniors will hold their general meeting at 11 a.m. in the Community Center of the Novi Civic Center.

Menopause Support Group: Providence Medical Center's Conference Room, 47601 Grand River Ave., hosts a monthly menopause support group from 7:30-9 p.m. for women with concerns about menopause. Call 390-4115 for more information.

Board of Appeals: The Novi Board of Appeals will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center.

Band rehearsal: The Novi Concert Band rehearses at 7:30 p.m. in the band room at Novi High School. For more information on the group, call manager Warren Ledger at 348-2955.

Chess Club: The Novi Chess Club will meet from 7-10 p.m. at the Novi Civic Center. There is no charge to attend and all players are welcome. For more information, call Tim Sawmiller, 344-9833 evenings after 6 p.m.

Amateur Radio Club: The Novi Amateur Radio Club meets at 7:30 p.m. at the Novi Civic Center. For more information, call 348-0009.

Wednesday, October 5

Athletic Boosters: The Novi High School Athletic Boosters Club will hold its monthly meeting at 7 p.m. in room 107 of the high school.

Planning Commission: The Novi Planning Commission will meet in regular session at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Novi Civic Center.

Business Network International: The Farmington Hills chapter of the Business Network International, made up of members from 10 neighboring communities, meets at 7 a.m. at the Tollgate 4-H Education Center, Twelve Mile at Meadowbrook Road. For chapter information or an invitation to one of the meetings, please call 642-7725.

Thursday, October 6

Novi schools: The Novi schools Board of Education will meet in regular session in the Educational Services Building.

Monday, October 10

City Council: The Novi City Council will meet at 8 p.m. in the council chambers of the Novi Civic Center.

Library Board: The Novi Library Board will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Novi library building.

Tuesday, October 11

Band rehearsal: The Novi Concert Band rehearses at 7:30 p.m. in the band room at Novi High School. For more information on the group, call manager Warren Ledger at 348-2955.

Camera Club: The Novi Camera Club meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center. For more information, call Hugh Crawford at 348-5079.

Chess Club: The Novi Chess Club will meet from 7-10 p.m. at the Novi Civic Center. There is no charge to attend and all players are welcome. For more information, call Tim Sawmiller, 344-9833 evenings after 6 p.m.

CHADD: Children with Attention Deficit Disorders of South Western Oakland County, serving the Novi school district, will hold a support group meeting at the Spirit of Christ Lutheran Church, 40700 W. Ten Mile (between Meadowbrook and Haggerty roads). Registration begins at 6:45 p.m. and the meeting at 7 p.m. Parents, educators and health care professionals are welcome. There is a \$5 donation for non-members. For information, call the hotline: 486-2876.

Wednesday, October 12

Lions Club: The Novi Lions Club will meet at Kim's Gardens at 6:30 p.m. for dinner followed by a meeting.



Photo by BRYAN MITCHELL

Seniors walk for charity

If you saw a lot of people circling the Novi Civic Center last Thursday, it wasn't an impromptu parade. Members of the Novi Senior Center were walking to raise money for the Alzheimer's Association Detroit Area Chapter. The rewards were sweet. Not only

did the seniors help fight one of America's most dreaded diseases, but afterwards, they were refreshed with ice cream sundaes. Here, Eileen O'Brien (left) and Dorothy Ovsby are seen scooping up the yummy stuff.

Novi police respond in numbers to house party

By SHARON CONDRON Staff Writer

Novi Police crashed a loud party on Sept. 10 at the same location where they broke up a similar shindig almost a month ago.

This time, officers made sure no one got behind the wheel drunk.

Officers were confident that each vehicle that drove away had a sober driver, an officer wrote in the report of the recent incident.

Ten on-duty officers responded to the first of several complaints calls a police dispatcher received Sept. 10 about the party. They were briefed at the station while a plain clothes officer monitored the party.

Once the police brigade arrived on the scene, officers marked cars were positioned in a way to allow traffic flowing off the property to exit in one-way direction. Two officers were left at Nine Mile Road to monitor those drivers leaving the party. Police were checking each and every driver for sobriety and his or her passengers for open intoxicants. Breathalyzer tests

were given freely, officers said, and some drivers were changed to allow others to drive home.

Police found three underage teens at the party, only one was intoxicated. The 15-year-old who was intoxicated was taken back to the station and released to his mother, the report indicated.

The only arrest made at the scene was that of the party host. He was cited for open house party and operating a public address system. He posted bond and was released that same day.

There was no indication in the report that police saw or seized any narcotics on the scene. There was however a keg of beer on the back patio and several parties had their own stash on alcohol. It was all confiscated when the house was secured.

An officer remained outside the home well after the party was shut down to ensure that none of the 100-125 guests returned to the home.

On Aug. 14, it took two police officers more than an hour and a

half to close down a party of more than 100 guests—most of whom were intoxicated and under age. In some cases, some guests were no more than 16 years old, police reports stated.

Guests at the August party were spotted by officers drinking beer and smoking marijuana through pipes inside the home. Several of them fled the scene when officers arrived, most of the others waited until police finally got the party under control and contained after 1 a.m.

The woman responsible for hosting the party was the only one arrested at the scene even though police observed several underage parties drinking and smoking.

She was charged with hosting a loud, open house party, obstructing police and furnishing alcohol to minors in her home and for she herself being a minor in possession.

Police personnel admitted after the Aug. 14 bust, it was conceivable that some party goers drove away from the home drunk.

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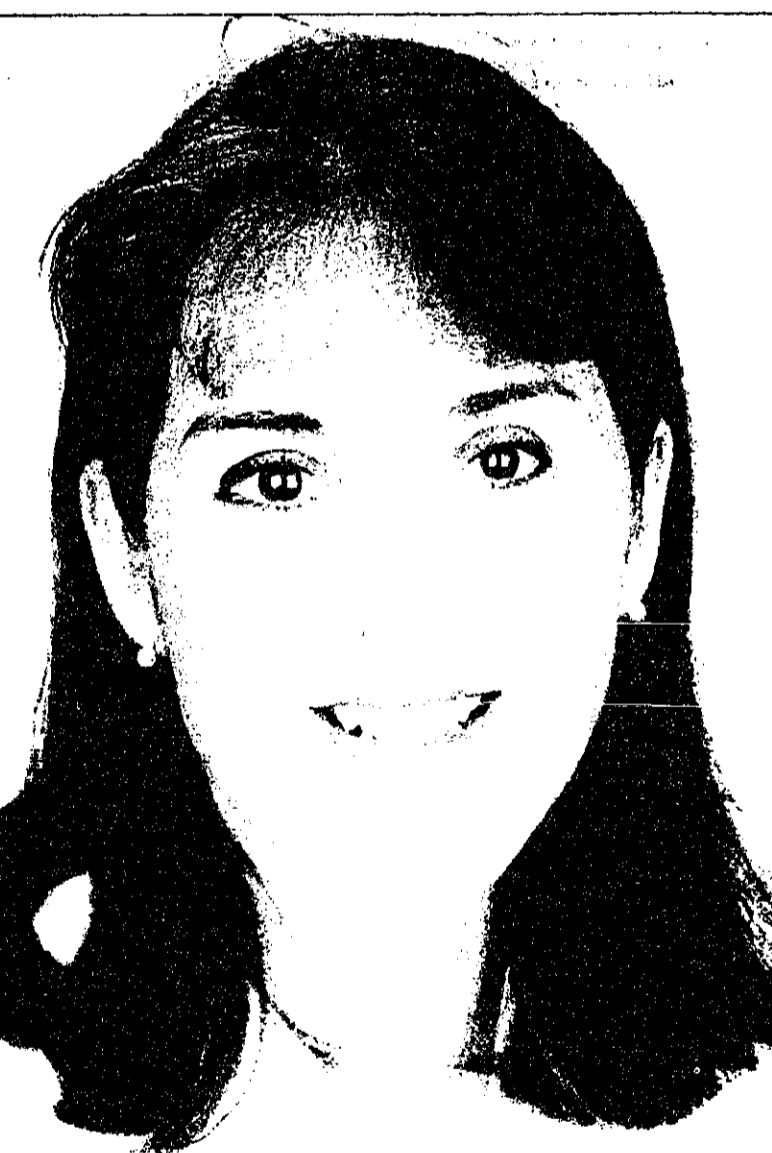
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Breastfeeding Your Baby: Off to a Good Start

Learn the basics of breastfeeding by attending a class presented by the University of Michigan Health Center in Northville on:

Wednesday, October 5 • 6:30 p.m.

Patricia VanBonn, R.N., lactation consultant from the University of Michigan Medical Center Perinatal Nursing, will discuss how you can maintain your milk supply, avoid common problems and find community resources. Also discover how to combine breastfeeding with work, including recommendations for breast pumps, storage and using formula. Support persons are encouraged to attend.

Call 313/998-6497 to register. A \$15 fee is payable at the door.

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Employee denies embezzlement

A meat salesman for the Butcher's Choice Meat shop on Grand River Avenue told police he didn't steal \$643 worth of meat from the shop as the owner accused him of embezzling on Sept. 15.

Police News

Instead, the vendor said he took 60 boxes of meat from the store and returned only 26. The other boxes and the profits from the ones he did sell were stolen from him the night before in Flint.

The vendor claims at least \$500 of his total sales were stolen from his pants pockets by a prostitute he commissioned in her room the night before he returned to the meat store empty handed.

The other boxes of meat he said may have been stolen from his truck outside the woman's room. The man told police he searched all over the streets of Flint that evening looking for the woman, but he said he never found her. He returned to work the next day to explain the shortfall and learned he would probably be fired over the incident after he paid the money back. He stands by his story and has agreed to take a polygraph.

ASSAULT AND BATTERY: An 11-year-old boy claims a 45-year-old neighbor slapped him while he and two friends were playing in the commons area of the Deerbrook Subdivision on Sept. 11.

HOME BREAK-IN: A North Haven home was broken into on Sept. 13 and more than \$16,250 worth of jewelry, guns, audio, visual and sound equipment was stolen. Police said there were no signs of forced entry to either the front or back door of the home. The home-

owner's son had lost his house key and may have left the door open. A neighbor said he heard the family's dog barking that day but didn't see anything suspicious when he looked out the window.

Witnesses at the scene said they saw the woman turn left in front of the cyclist. The Novi cyclist was thrown from his bike and suffered multiple injuries. He was taken to Botsford Hospital.

The woman told police it was her birthday and that she had been out celebrating. But a check of the woman's license showed her birthday was almost a month earlier. She failed several sobriety tests at the scene. That's when police searched her car and discovered the cocaine in an envelope. They confiscated the drug and \$192.50 in cash from her purse.

ARMED ROBBERY: A Novi teenager told his father he had been beaten with a baseball bat by an unknown white male while he

rode his bike near West Lake and Northaven on Sept. 18.

The teen said he was riding his bike when his assailant jumped out from behind some bushes and began swinging the bat at him. He was struck several times before he turned over the \$2.75 he had in his pocket to the unidentified white male. The teen was treated at Providence for his injuries. Police were unable to find any evidence of the attack at the scene.

USE OF EXPLOSIVES: A Farmington Hills man told police he saw a Novi business man using explosives in a vacant field behind his Grand River business on Sept. 14.

The man said he saw the detonator wires laying across the parking lot and leading into a heavily weeded field. The man told police he watched the field until he heard loud explosions coming from the area. He confronted the business man who produced a permit allowing him to use and possess explosives. The explosion in the field led to a 10 inch crater, the report indicated. The man told police what he had heard and seen. Police are investigating the incident.

There were no signs of forced entry into the building, the police report indicated. School officials did say, however, a set of keys to the building is missing.

Novi Briefs

Instant Mastery: Get a grasp on how the City of Novi envisions its future by picking up a copy of the shiny new "Master Plan For Land Use" brochure. The full color document, with a fold-out map, explains in a compact and readable form the nitty-gritty on Novi planning, including local demographics, future city goals and the parks and recreation master plan. Ten thousand brochures have been printed.

You can pick up a copy at the Novi Civic Center. Copies are also being mailed to homeowners associations and placed in packets given to new Novi residents.

No Room at the Inns: Last weekend's Meisel-Sysco Food Show at the Novi Expo Center brought in hordes of visitors, many of whom booked rooms at the four major local hotels, City Manager Edward Krevall said Monday.

In the recent past, several of the hotels had difficulty keeping their rooms filled. "Hotel occupancy is up in the City of Novi and the region. Last weekend, you had to drive all the way to Ann Arbor to get a hotel room," he said.

"Hotels that had been sagging on the tax rolls are returning to the profitability column. The Expo Center has turned around the hotel industry."

Correction: The outline on a front page photo of the Sept. 29 edition of *The Novi News* incorrectly identified Janine Sturm and Linda Shapona as "former Chamber directors." That's news to them. Sturm is currently the director of the Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce and Shapona is the director of the Canton Chamber of Commerce. The guy in the center was correctly identified as Gov. John Engler.

Correction: Hours of operation for the Clothes Closet of Northville were incorrectly listed in *The Novi News* last week. The correct hours would be, on Monday, from 9 a.m. to noon and from 7 to 8 p.m.

The Log Book

The following is a complete list of the emergency runs of the Novi Fire Department for the last week. Each incident is listed by type, location, time and the engine and station number which responded to the call.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19
Injury accident, Twelve Mile and Novi Road, 9:06 a.m., Squad 2.
Medical, 24616 Simmons, 2:23 p.m., Squad 4.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20
Medical, 22125 York Mills, 8:27 a.m., Squad 4.
Medical, 27790 Novi Road, 8:13 p.m., Squad 1.
Fire alarm, 31088 Columbia, 9:11 p.m., Engine 1 and 2.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21
Care fire, Town Center and Eleven Mile, 2:39 a.m., Engine 1.
Transformer fire, Cherry Hill and Highland, 8:25 a.m., Engine 1.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22
Medical, 31205 Wellington, 2:15 a.m., Squad 2.
Truck fire, I-96 and I-275, 3:52 p.m., Engine 1.
Service call, 35887 Villagewood, 5:04 p.m., Squad 3.
Fire alarm, 45925 Eleven Mile Road, 9:42 p.m., Engine 4, 1, 3.
Medical, 23860 Meadowbrook, 11:27 p.m., Squad 3.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23
Care fire, 27775 Novi Road, 11:01 a.m., Engine 1.
Injury accident, I-96 and Haggerty, 11:36 a.m., Squad 1.
Injury accident, Haggerty and Ten Mile Road, 12:53 p.m., Squad 1.
Medical, 42463 Park Ridge, 6:33 p.m., Squad 1.
Medical, 40580 Village Oaks, 8:23 p.m., Squad 3.
Smoke investigation, 41484 Belden, 9:45 p.m., Engine 1 and 2.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24
Smoke investigation, Haggerty and Twelve Mile Road, 10:01 a.m., Engine 1.
Medical, 20920 Glen Haven, 3:20 p.m., Squad 3.
Structure fire, 46777 Twelve Mile Road, 6:36 p.m., Engine 4, 1.
Medical, 25656 Jackson, 10:03 p.m., Squad 1.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25
Medical, 27023 Barra, 0:09 a.m., Squad 1.
Trailer fire, Rousseau, 0:28 a.m., Engine 2, 1.
Trailer fire, 50679 Oregon, 1:05 a.m., Engine 4, 1.
Medical, 22632 Winfield, 9:54 a.m., Squad 3.
Medical, 30290 Montmorency, 1:45 p.m., Squad 2.
Injury accident, Novi Road and Grand River, 2:45 p.m., Truck 507.
Investigation, South Lake and Novi Road, 4:12 p.m., Engine 2.
Investigation, Spring Lake and Crest, 6:06 p.m., Engine 2.
Medical, Novi Road and I-96, 11:26 p.m., Squad 1.

Fuel spill, Ten Mile and Novi Road, 8:46 a.m., Engine 1.
Gas leak, 30915 Decker, 8:48 p.m., Engine 2.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22
Injury accident, Novi Road and I-96, 10:17 p.m., Squad 1, Engine 1.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23
Care fire, 27775 Novi Road, 11:01 a.m., Engine 1.
Injury accident, I-96 and Haggerty, 11:36 a.m., Squad 1.
Injury accident, Haggerty and Ten Mile Road, 12:53 p.m., Squad 1.
Medical, 42463 Park Ridge, 6:33 p.m., Squad 1.
Medical, 40580 Village Oaks, 8:23 p.m., Squad 3.
Smoke investigation, 41484 Belden, 9:45 p.m., Engine 1 and 2.

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Council says 'no thanks' to Bosco rezoning

By JAN JEFFRES
Staff Writer

Paul Bosco, who has permitted Novi Youth Baseball to play ball on his land for over 25 years, struck out with the Novi City Council Monday in a request to increase the zoning density of the property, now that he plans to build a subdivision there.

The consensus agreed that Bosco's been a good neighbor, but that the city should hold the line with residential/agricultural or one-acre lot zoning in west Novi.

"I played third base at lot 47 for several years. Mr. Bosco did a lot for the community. It's not a matter of thanking Mr. Bosco by giving Mr. Bosco rezoning," Council Member Tim Pope said.

Pope, Mayor Kathleen McLallen and Council Members Robert Schmidt and Rob Mitzel opposed the rezoning. Bosco sought a change to single family residential for 120 acres on the south side of Eleven Mile Road, west of Beck Road. He owns and lives on 80 acres and has a purchase option on the remaining 40.

Under residential/agricultural, the subdivision may only have 40 homes. With the switch to R-1, single-family residential zoning, 78 houses could be built.

Bosco permitted Novi Youth Baseball the free use of part of the property as Bosco Field.

"There is not doubt Mr. Bosco

Planning appointment proves difficult

By JAN JEFFRES
Staff Writer

If you picked one word to describe the Novi City Council's working style Monday, harmonious would not be it.

Acrimonious might be more like it.

Following the city charter, Mayor Kathleen McLallen's assignment was to nominate two candidates for the Planning Commission to fill the seats vacated by Irene Cahill and Lodie Richards. The council was then charged with approving her choices. They usually didn't.

And McLallen was taken to task by Council Members Tim Pope and Carol Mason, the only two she did not consult about her recommendations.

Mason says she was denied her "consulting rights" and accused McLallen, who took office in November 1993, of being "dictated" by developers and city hall.

"I have a vote that's on 24 hours. That's a disappointing thing as far as I'm concerned. That's stacking your own decision," Mason said.

Mason also protested that McLallen had asked candidate Victor Cassis to withdraw his application.

The end result is that Jacques Hodges will serve as a commissioner until June 1996 and Peter Headley will be on the job until June 1995, if he agrees to resign as an alternate to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

But the road to that end was a rocky one. McLallen had a field of

17 to choose from. Hodges and candidate Robert Dietrich were the first two the mayor selected. Seeing she lacked sufficient support, she withdrew Dietrich and ran through a list of three other candidates before the council majority agreed to Headley.

Dietrich is senior product buyer with Detroit Diesel Corporation and a director of the City of Novi Homeowners Association. Hodges, who is currently not employed, has a bachelor of science degree in urban and regional planning and 14 years of experience in community development.

Council Member Tim Pope said he couldn't approve either Hodges or Dietrich because they did not stand firmly in favor of large lot zoning in west Novi and residential zoning along the Haggerty Connector.

Pope called for the appointment of Cassis, a well-known businessman and community activist married to former city council member Nancy Cassis.

Council Member Robert Schmidt also was opposed to the choice of Hodges and Dietrich, who with other applicants were interviewed by the council several weeks ago.

"Neither one of them had read the master plan, which I thought was somewhat unique. Their philosophy was in total disagreement with the master plan, as least as far as western Novi, so I find your choices somewhat amusing," he told McLallen.

Mayor Pro Tem Hugh Crawford look exception to this. "I don't think they (Hodges and Dietrich) disagreed with the master plan. I

District taking count of students

By SHARON CONDRON
Staff Writer

Official fourth Friday student enrollment counts should be in Novi School administrators' hands by Oct. 7.

Shortly afterwards, school officials will be awaiting Adult Education head counts to determine the district's state mandated revenues for the 1994-95 school year.

James Koster, assistant superintendent of operations, said Thursday he anticipates having a revised budget to the Board of Education by the end of October or at the first board meeting in November, depending on when his revenue figures are approved by the state.

A preliminary budget of \$34,056,099 was approved by the board in July. The revised one must be \$421,000 less than the

original budget, according to the board directive Koster was given when the preliminary budget was adopted.

"It will show a \$421,000 deduction or increase in revenue," Koster assured the board Thursday.

The final budget is critical to the board's discussion of future facility use and new construction, said Trustee Stephen Hitchcock. If the board makes a decision on which schools need to be renovated and if a new facility needs to be built, a bond issue to pay for the construction work will need to be passed soon.

Earlier this year, Koster and his district facilities committee had targeted a December bond election. But talk of a winter election seemed to lose its bite when board



Search and rescue

Novi firefighters test their search and rescue ability. Capt. Dan Roy observes Jeff Bailey and Steve Heim as they work as quickly as possible to find a prone "victim" in a "burning building." The men have their face masks covered to block their vision, simulating the smoky conditions of actual fire. Each Novi firefighter is tested yearly on a variety of skills such as these.

Photo by BRYAN MITCHELL

Two dropped from parks panel

By JAN JEFFRES
Staff Writer

While Parks and Recreation Commission veteran Dennis Colligan was unanimously reappointed to a new term, two longtime members of the commission were not selected to serve again.

The Novi City Council replaced David Ruyle and Nick Valenti, both of whom held the job since 1988, with J.R. Attych and Charles Staab. The term of office is three years.

Colligan has been on the Parks and Recreation Commission since 1991.

Ruyle in the past has been outspoken about what he characterized as the council's foot dragging in purchasing park land.

Novi City Clerk Gerry Stupp said it was hard to tell how some council members cast their votes. The commissioners are selected by the entire council.

"Those people did not put their names on their ballots," Stupp said Tuesday, explaining that she has two "mystery" ballots which were turned in unsigned by Council Member Robert Schmidt and Mayor Kathleen McLallen.

Contacted later, Schmidt said he

was voted for Valenti and Ruyle.

Ruyle also won the approval of Mayor Pro Tem Hugh Crawford and Council Member Tim Pope. Valenti also won the support of Crawford and Council Member Carol Mason. Staab was OKed by Council Members Rob Mitzel, Joseph Toth, Pope and the mayor. Attych won his votes from Toth, Mitzel, McLallen and Mason.

A total of eight applied for the three openings. Other applicants were Peter Light, Connie Lake-Noble and Arnold Rzepecki.

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Bills to protect teachers from zoning ordinances

By TIM RICHARD
Staff Writer

Local governments would have to allow home music lessons in single-family residential zones under bills nearing passage in the Michigan Legislature.

There was some grumbling from the Michigan Townships Association and a few home-rule purists, but the House Local Government Committee sent to the House floor with one dissenting vote. Final passage is likely by next week.

"Should a teacher have to fight this in every city, township and village in Michigan?" asked Betty Stasson, the West Bloomfield piano teacher who started the battle several years ago when she was issued an ordinance violation for operating a home business.

"There's a crisis," added her husband, Earl Stasson, a violin and viola teacher, retired Detroit high school fine arts department head and adjudicator for bands and orchestras. "School budgets are being cut. Programs are being deleted. This makes the private music teacher come to light."

"It's ironic we should have to defend this in each community," said Christie Otter, a Livonia piano teacher. "Industry is allowing people to work in the home. Children are able to jump on their bikes or walk to my house."

Added her husband, Ernest Otter: "At 7:30 each morning, she (a neighbor girl) walks across the street from her babysitter, takes a music lesson, then walks to school." The aspiring pianist wouldn't have time to seek public transportation to a commercial zone if music teachers couldn't work at home, he said.

The problem was not that cities and townships were mean to music teachers, Betty Stasson said. It was that a complaining neighbor would take advantage of a vaguely drafted ordinance to complain that the teacher was running a business from their homes. Such ordinances barring or restricting home businesses are common.

Sens. David Honigman, R-West Bloomfield, and Jack Faxon, D-Farmington Hills, sponsored three bills to amend the city, township-village and county zoning acts to require that home tutorials in the fine arts be permitted in single-family residential areas.

"They can still regulate traffic. They can still regulate signage. They can still regulate noise," Honigman told the House panel.

Lobbyist Gene Thornton said the Michigan Townships Association neither supported nor opposed the bill, but MTA would resist applying it to apartments. He disputed the assertion there would be "no cost" to local units because many would have to rewrite their zoning ordinances to conform to state law.

"The House Local Government Committee approved the bill with only one dissenter. Democratic co-chair Agnes Dobronski of Dearborn.

Supporter Penny Crissman, R-Rochester, said the music teachers' network is fantastic. "I've heard from every little kid in my district who wants music lessons."

Although voting yes, Rep. Harold Voorhees, R-Wyoming, called the bill "an infringement on local government authority. Every local government gets it shoved down their throat."

Faculty working to pass OCC tax

By TIM RICHARD
Staff Writer

There's no friction between Oakland Community College and its faculty union—at least as far as a tax rate hike is concerned.

"The OCC Faculty Associations looking forward to working with the board on the millage," union president Rod Chase, a math instructor on the Royal Oak Campus, told the OCC board Monday night.

"The Faculty Association has been an absolutely wonderful," replied an enthused Chancellor Patsy Fulton.

Afterwards, the OCC board met for less than an hour in closed session to ponder collective bargaining strategy. Its contract with OCCFA, an affiliate of the Michigan Education Association, expires

in mid-1995.

The OCC board has decided to seek a property tax rate increase next March 17. It hasn't decided how much to ask or how to earmark the new revenue.

"Where will the earmarked funds go? What is the party line?" asked trustee Carol Crew, newly elected to the board last June.

"We'll have a work session and talk with you more," Chancellor Fulton promised.

OCC's millage rate currently is the lowest it has been since the two-year college was founded 30 years ago: 0.85 mill, or 85 cents per \$1,000 of state equalized valuation.

Voters in 1964 approved one mill for operations, and the board levied other fractions for construction in bond issues. Today the bond issues have been paid off and that millage zeroed out. The original one mill for operations has shrunk to 0.85 because of the Headlee tax limitation amendment—cutting rates when assessments grew faster than inflation.

Meanwhile, here is what has happened to OCC's revenue over the last 20 years, according to a college spokesman:

- State aid has slipped from 41.5 percent of the budget to 23.5, with no political hope in Lansing of much increase.
- Tuition and fees have nearly doubled—from 20.5 percent to 39.2 percent.
- Property taxes have stayed about the same—36.5 percent two decades ago, 35.1 percent currently.

The OCC "party line" is likely to

Remodeling show opens at Expo Center today

The second annual Fall Remodeling Show opens Thursday, Sept. 29, and runs through Sunday, Oct. 2 at the Novi Expo Center.

"Last year's show was so popular that we just had to make the Fall Remodeling Show an annual event," said Robert R. Jones, president of the Builders Association of Southeastern Michigan, which sponsors the event.

Visitors can stroll through landscapes designed to stimulate the senses; increase their homeowner

Library Notes

Book Talk: *Having Our Say*, by Sarah and A. Elizabeth Delany, will be discussed at the next Novi Library book discussion group Monday, Oct. 3 at 7 p.m. For more information, call the library at 349-0720.

Design a Plate Day: The Novi Library will be sponsoring its annual Plate Day soon. Children will draw designs on special paper with special markers. These designs will be transformed into durable works of art.

Eight 30-minute design classes will be held: on Saturday, Oct. 15, at 11 a.m., 11:30 a.m., noon and 12:30 p.m.; on Tuesday, Oct. 18, at 4 and 4:30 p.m.; and on Wednesday, Oct. 19, at 4 and 4:30 p.m.

Children must be registered to participate. To register, call the library at 349-0720. Children will be limited to designing one plate each. The cost is \$3.

Fatal accident

David Lee McDonald, a 19-year-old Wixom man was killed Monday night when the Mercury Tracer he was driving smashed into the trailer end of a semi truck on Grand River Avenue east of Meadowbrook around 6:40 p.m. McDonald was taken to Botsford Hospital where he died at 7:25 p.m., Novi Police said. Police said McDonald was heading west on Grand River when he collided with the truck which was pulling out of a drive on the north across the street from Whitehall Convalescent home. The accident remains under investigation.



Photos by BRYAN MITCHELL

Groups lining up against Con-Con

By TIM RICHARD
Staff Writer

Baseball great Yogi Berra would call it "deja vu all over again."

Anti-tax gadfly Bill McMaster is starting a new organization to support Proposal A and calling it "Citizens for Michigan."

That's the same name George Romney picked in the early 1960s when his bipartisan moderate supported a state Constitutional Convention (Con-Con). The Romney CFM was supported by the League of Women Voters and the state Jaycees.

Voters adopted the reform constitution in 1964.

Every 16 years, state voters must decide again whether they want a new Con-Con. In 1978 a Con-Con was rejected by nearly 3-1. The same question comes up Nov. 8.

McMaster's Taxpayers United Inc. is calling for a "yes" vote. Other major groups, conservative and liberal, are uniting to say "no."

Quoting himself in a news release, McMaster, a Southfield public relations man, said a Con-Con "may be our last chance as ordinary citizens to reverse the upward spiral of taxation in Michigan and cut the size of our state government by 20 percent."

If Con-Con wins, voters would nominate candidates from legislative districts in a partisan primary by the end of March 1995. The general election would be held by May 8. Delegates would convene in Lansing in October.

"There is not a compelling reason in 1994 that justifies a wholesale rewrite of the current Michigan Constitution," countered Lynn Larson, a vice president of the Michigan Education Association.

MEA is one of 10 groups supporting "Michigan Citizens to Keep Our Constitution." Others are the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, Farm Bureau, League of Women Voters, AFL-CIO, PTA, Michigan Municipal League, State Police Troopers Association, Michigan Association of School Boards and Common Cause.

The committee said its poll shows Proposal A has 32 percent support, 36 percent opposition and 32 percent undecided. EPIC-MRA did the poll Aug. 14-19.

If Con-Con is rejected Nov. 8, the question will appear again in 2010 and every 16 years thereafter.



Volunteer Notes

Haunted Help Wanted: The Novi Jaycees are "scaring up" assistance in the construction and operation of the 1994 Haunted House. Construction is already underway, and operation will begin in mid-October. If you are interested in joining in on this ghoulishly good time, contact Mike at 348-8352.

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SHOW OPENS TODAY AT 2 P.M.

Public Access

The following is the MetroVision Channel 12 community access program schedule for the coming week.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 3
 10:00 a.m.—Travels with Kay Spain I
 10:30 a.m.—Women on the Move
 11:00 a.m.—Coffee and Conversation
 11:30 a.m.—(cont'd)
 12:00 p.m.—F.H. Police Journal
 12:30 p.m.—Dollars and Sense: with J.R. John Goodman
 1:00 p.m.—Seniors on the Move
 1:30 p.m.—The World of Life: The Way Out
 2:00 p.m.—Multiple Sclerosis
 2:30 p.m.—Kids Lip Sync
 3:00 p.m.—(cont'd)
 3:30 p.m.—(cont'd)
 4:00 p.m.—Novi Skits-O-Frantics
 4:30 p.m.—(cont'd)
 5:00 p.m.—(cont'd)
 5:30 p.m.—(cont'd)
 6:00 p.m.—Home for Life: Door Repair
 6:30 p.m.—Bagels and Talk with Tracy and Phil
 7:00 p.m.—Impact Video
 7:30 p.m.—Adventures with Pirate Pete
 8:00 p.m.—Adults Lip Sync
 8:30 p.m.—(cont'd)
 9:00 p.m.—(cont'd)
 9:30 p.m.—Groove Session: Mary T and Coco
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4
 10:00 a.m.—Drawing Men to Christ
 11:00 a.m.—Happiest People Alive
 11:30 a.m.—Money Talks
 12:00 p.m.—Adventures with Pirate Pete
 12:30 p.m.—Spontaneous Seniors
 1:00 p.m.—(cont'd)
 1:30 p.m.—Driving is a Privilege

2:00 p.m.—Salon Glamour and Etiquette with Gloria: Hand to Hand
 2:30 p.m.—(cont'd)
 3:00 p.m.—Good Health: Antioxidants
 3:30 p.m.—Founders Festival Parade
 4:00 p.m.—(cont'd)
 4:30 p.m.—(cont'd)
 5:00 p.m.—Lansing Connection
 5:30 p.m.—Living with Your Addictions
 6:00 p.m.—Jr. Japanese: Lesson 38
 6:30 p.m.—Business and Residential News
 7:00 p.m.—Cash Talks: Judge Sosnick
 7:30 p.m.—F.H. Police Journal
 8:00 p.m.—Salon Glamour and Etiquette with Gloria: Hands to Health
 8:30 p.m.—(cont'd)
 9:00 p.m.—Let's Talk with Ben Marks: Governor John Engler
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5
 10:00 a.m.—Legislative Forum
 10:30 a.m.—The Job Show
 11:00 a.m.—Study in Scripture
 11:30 a.m.—Oakland Press Perspective
 12:00 p.m.—The Way, The Truth and the Life
 12:30 p.m.—Abundant Life Arabic Ministries
 1:00 p.m.—Rising Tide
 1:30 p.m.—(cont'd)
 2:00 p.m.—The Road: Motorcycling
 2:30 p.m.—(cont'd)
 3:00 p.m.—N.F.H.S. Percussion Ensemble Marching Band
 3:30 p.m.—(cont'd)
 4:00 p.m.—Crisis in the Modern Family
 4:30 p.m.—(cont'd)
 5:00 p.m.—Legally Speaking
 5:30 p.m.—Groove Session: Mary T and Coco
 6:00 p.m.—Spontaneous Seniors

6:30 p.m.—(cont'd)
 7:00 p.m.—Know your Rights: The Lease Agreement
 7:30 p.m.—A Culinary Adventure: Novi Hillon
 8:00 p.m.—Motorsports
 8:30 p.m.—(cont'd)
 9:00 p.m.—Law Talk: Oakland County Prosecuting Attorney
 9:30 p.m.—(cont'd)
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6
 10:00 a.m.—Senior Messenger
 10:30 a.m.—(cont'd)
 11:00 a.m.—Neighborhood Meeting
 11:30 a.m.—Bagels and Talk with Tracy and Phil
 12:00 p.m.—Cash Talks: Judge Sosnick
 12:30 p.m.—Senior Spotlight: Health Care Choices
 1:00 p.m.—Novi's First City Council
 1:30 p.m.—(cont'd)
 2:00 p.m.—My Vote Counts
 2:30 p.m.—Chi-Aerobics: Lesson 27
 3:00 p.m.—Business and Residential News
 3:30 p.m.—Viewpoint
 4:00 p.m.—Law Talk: Oakland County Prosecuting Attorney
 4:30 p.m.—(cont'd)
 5:00 p.m.—Night Life
 5:30 p.m.—(cont'd)
 6:00 p.m.—Coffee and Conversation
 6:30 p.m.—(cont'd)
 7:00 p.m.—Travels with Kay Spain I
 7:30 p.m.—Dollars and Sense with J.R. John Goodman
 8:00 p.m.—Novi News Week
 8:30 p.m.—D.A.S.H. Dakota Fire Safety
 9:00 p.m.—Farmingston Focus: Road Improvement Plan
 9:30 p.m.—Scary Tales from Novi
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7
 Pick of the Week. Call 553-7303.

Walled Lake bond millage fails

By CAROL WORKENS
 Special Writer

The \$116 million bond issue that went before Walled Lake school district voters Tuesday failed by 542 votes.

Final figures put the no votes at 4,748, and the yes votes at 4,206.

According to Lois Lange, director of personnel and community relations.

"It is a little early to have plans," she said. "We're into band aid approaches to the problem until we regroup and analyze what to do next."

This is the second time the bond proposal has failed. The current

\$116 million bond proposal is the reworked and scaled down version of the \$135.5 million proposal the district unsuccessfully put before the voters in October 1993.

Had the bond issue passed, \$49 million was earmarked for building, equipping and furnishing one new elementary school in Novi and two new middle schools, one of which would have been in Wixom.

Central High School was to receive \$42.5 million to add new classrooms, parking areas, a pool, technology, and complete building renovation.

District-wide technology conversion accounted for \$16 million.

Networking capabilities, new computer and scaled down version of the existing labs and one networked computer per classroom were part of the package.

Renovations to most of the buildings throughout the district to bring them up to baseline standards as set by a Citizens Review Committee accounted for \$8.5 million.

Renovations would have included mechanical/electrical ventilation, ceilings, lighting, floor coverings, rest rooms, classroom storage, parking lots, security fencing and water filtration that would have brought the older buildings in line with the newer buildings.

Novi native takes a high seas adventure

By JAN JEFFREES
 Staff Writer

Some people dream about "running away to the sea."

Vince LeBlanc did it. The 1984 Novi High School graduate has cruised the Mediterranean Sea, the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, the Red Sea, the Persian Gulf, the Caribbean Sea and the Indian Ocean as a professional sailor.

He's the member of a time-honored calling, a seaman in the U.S. Merchant Marine, a non-military nautical force which ships out on commercial ships such as tankers and freighters.

"There's not many left. It's a dying breed for the U.S.," LeBlanc said recently.

His career in the Merchant Marine has given LeBlanc a chance to live experiences which sound like chapters from a Joseph Conrad novel—packing his sea bags, steering his ship through the Suez Canal, standing on a pirate watch in the Straits of Malacca.

LeBlanc says the glamour is there, but a sailor's life is first and foremost hard work.

"There's a lot of accidents. It's a dangerous job. You have to be really careful. You have to concentrate all the time," he said.

"You get to see all the supplies that people just take for granted, all the things we have to load and carry to keep the country going, the oil in the tankers."

He's back in town for now, but before he signs on for a four- or five-month stint on another ship, he's likely to be heading west on his motorcycle.

Hailing from landlocked Novi makes LeBlanc a little different from others who sail the seven seas. Most of the American sailors he meets come from coastal towns where their families have sailed on the Great Lakes, for generations.

LeBlanc decided to sign up for training during the Persian Gulf War, which increased the job opportunities for sailors, because commercial shipping lines were recruited to haul war material to the Middle East. After three months of boot camp-style training in Maryland, he joined the Seafarers International Union and ended up in Saudi Arabia, where he was given a gas mask and restricted to ship.

"We were bringing all the junk back here, live shells, tanks, howitzers, for six months after the war," he said.

Generally, he ships out with a crew of 30 to 40 other sailors and officers. Quarters may range from a cramped room shared with another sailor to a private cabin and bathroom. They usually have a TV room with a ping-pong table, but most of the sailors spend their free time, what little there is of it, reading. Otherwise, they're chipping and painting the ship, swabbing the deck, anything that's needed.

It took him awhile to get his sea legs. "You get on a ship and it's rocking back and forth and you're tumbling around and a week later you're walking a straight line."

While at sea, he's weathered storms and hurricanes.

Going through storms at night is pretty exciting. "The waves come over the bow. I had lightning flash 30 feet in front of me. It blinded me for awhile," LeBlanc said.

"It gets rolling. You have to secure things. You wake up and chairs are flying back and forth, books are flying off your desk."

Typically, he stands a four-hour sea watch then is off for eight hours.

LeBlanc's watch has often been at night, giving him a chance to gaze at the stars, "unbelievable at sea." The Indian Ocean at night is particularly breathtaking, when the sea is gilded with minute phosphorescent animals and dolphins break through the surface, their bodies aglow with the light.

LeBlanc says the dolphins seem to want to communicate with the sailors, frisking and leaping in front of the ship as if they're playing, the pranks "better than Sea World."

He's also spotted sharks and killer whales, these in the Straits of Hormuz. But the human predators are the most dangerous. In the Straits of Malacca a 24-hour pirate watch must be kept. Contemporary pirates don't raise the Jolly Roger with a flourish. They sneak up in a speed boat at night, board a ship with grapnel-and-hook and dash off with their plunder.

"You just wake up and the microwaves and VCRs are gone," LeBlanc said.

His job has taken him around the world, from Boston to Boston. He's visited Israel, Egypt, Korea, Sumatra, Singapore, Hawaii, dozens of ports of call but rarely in one place more than a week at a time.

While LeBlanc says he doesn't plan to be a sailor for the rest of his life, he's currently considering signing up on a deckhand on a cruise ship in Hawaii, which would give him more time to explore the islands.

"I'd hate to go back to a 40-hour a week job," he said.

"People either like this or they hate it."



Photo by HAL GOULD

Vince LeBlanc dropped by his hometown of Novi between trips to sea in the Merchant Marine.

Obituaries

IRENE AGNES BANGO
 Irene Agnes Bango of Livonia died Sept. 21 at her home. She was 63.

Mrs. Bango was born Feb. 18, 1931, to John and Katherine Sylvester in Bedford, Pa.

Mrs. Bango was a bookkeeper and computer operator with GIG Tool Company in Novi. She enjoyed helping other people with their problems and also loved oil painting.

Surviving is her husband, Tony; her son, Anthony; her daughter, Lori (Jeffrey) Heidelberg of Novi; three grandchildren, Steven Bango, and Jake and Ingrid Heidelberg; and her sisters, Katherine Kremenski and Theresa Ziembka.

Services were held Sept. 24 at the First United Methodist Church. Memorials to the charity of choice will be appreciated.

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Maybury Park is getting ready for Halloween

The fifth annual Haunted Forest walk at Maybury State Park will be held the evenings of Friday, Oct. 28, and Saturday, Oct. 29. The walk, "Maybury Madness," will consist of a guided tour along a path where the participants will experience spooky Halloween encounters. The event will provide a unique, fun activity for the youth of Northville. The Haunted Forest is sponsored by Northville Parks and Recreation.

Large group ticket sales (more than five) will begin Oct. 3; individual ticket sales will begin Oct. 10. Tickets are \$7 and include admission to the park. All profits will be donated to the Northville Parks and Recreation park projects.

Haunted Forest tickets will not be sold at the park. Only those with tickets will be admitted to the event. Tickets will be on sale at Northville Parks and Recreation, 303 W. Main Street, during normal business hours.

Groups interested in participating in the Haunted Forest may do so in a variety of ways:

- Create and operate a Haunted Forest "scene." A reimbursement of up to \$50 for supplies is available.
- Volunteer at the event. Security, guides, ticket takers and refreshment servers are needed.

If your group is interested in becoming involved with the 1994 Haunted Forest, contact Michele Siemasz or Nickie Ross at Northville Parks and Recreation at 349-0203 by Sept. 16.

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Tempers raised over Main Street

Continued from 1A

we don't want our money used for a private developer," he told the city council.

Erwin earlier charged that it was illegal for the city to lease the fire department land, because the site was purchased by the voter-approved police and fire millage. However, City Manager Edward Kriewall said that land for the station was actually donated by a Farmington Hills industrialist.

Council Member Rob Mittel said the city's action was essentially just proceeding with the southeast section of a Novi Road/Grand River Avenue ring road that has been long planned by the city.

"I view it as a guarantee that we're moving forward with the road. Typically, developers donate right-of-way and this is a master planned road... Some people have labeled this as a subsidy of a private company but it is the acquisition of right-of-way," Mittel added.

Schmid started out by saying he gave his "100 percent support" to Main Street. But that began to dwindle when he contemplated a proposal by Singh Construction Company to build 250 rental units adjacent to the project.

"It's critical to the development of Novi that this will create one of the nicest residential

School shows sense of community

By YVONNE BEEBE
Staff Writer

Monday's Northville Board of Education meeting was filled more with smiles and laughter than stoic policy making and voting.

The meeting was held at Thornton Creek Elementary School with more students in attendance than parents and administrators.

Thornton Creek students gave a special presentation for the school board that served as a festive way to celebrate the first month the school has been open.

Judging from the enthusiastic comments and expressions on many of the children's faces, the students feel comfortable calling Thornton Creek home.

As part of the school's presentation to the board and administration, students from different classes explained to the group how they feel about the new school.

"I like Thornton Creek because you can see what time it is from the inside and the outside," said first grader Lindsay Williams, referring to the large clock perched over the main entrance of the school.

First grader Matthew Book, said he likes Thornton Creek because of the air conditioning, the big clock outside and because everything is new.

Second grader Justin Smith said he likes the school because the students and teachers are very nice.

The large group of fourth-graders narrated the story through a song about how the villain tried to steal away the sweet heroine, but when he realizes he will never have her love, he ties her to a mill-rail track.

The hero saves the girl just in the nick of time as a locomotive comes barreling down the tracks.

Board President Robert McMahon said he was delighted by the performance and is glad to see the school is running smoothly.

Thornton Creek Principal Mary Najarian said there is a real sense of community feeling between the students and parents. Everyone is new this year, and the students really pulled together, she said.

Homeowners group taking over lights contest

Unlike the Grinch, the City of Novi Homeowners Association isn't exactly smiling Christmas, as a gift, at least this aspect of the season. Novi's public relations director Cindy Stewart asked the group

to take one job off her busy hands, selecting the winners of the city's annual holiday outdoor decorating contest.

The homeowners' group will do the legwork, or more likely driving

around work, of selecting the finalists, association president Ruth Ann Jirasek said, while the awards, typically a City of Novi ornament, will still come from Mayor Kathy McLellan.

The association is also considering a neighbor versus neighbor holiday outdoor decorating contest this December, which should give cause for rejoicing to Detroit Edison.

NOTICE OF THE LAST DAY FOR RECEIVING REGISTRATIONS FOR THE STATE GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD IN THE CITY OF NOVI ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1994

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that any qualified elector of the City of Novi, Oakland County, Michigan who is already registered, may register for the State General Election to be held on the 8th day of November, 1994 at said City.

The City Clerk will be at the Clerk's Office on each working day during regular working hours until and including Tuesday, October 11, 1994, for the purpose of receiving registrations of qualified electors of the City of Novi not already registered.

On October 11, 1994, which is the last day for receiving registrations for said Statewide General Election to be held on Tuesday, November 8, 1994, the Clerk will be at his office between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Providing Eastern Time, for the purpose of receiving registrations of qualified electors.

Applications for Absentee Ballots are available at the office of the City Clerk, GERALDINE STIPP, CITY CLERK, (92-29-94 NR, NN) 810-347-0456

NOTICE CITY OF NOVI REQUEST FOR SPECIAL USE PERMIT TUP94-038

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Susan Osborne, representing JoAnn Fabrics & Crafts, is requesting a temporary use permit to allow placement of a storage trailer at 43570 West Oaks Drive, for the period October 1, 1994, through February 1, 1995.

A public hearing can be requested by any property owner of a structure located within 300 feet of the boundary of the property being considered for temporary use permit.

This request will be considered at 3:00 p.m., on Wednesday, October 5, 1994, at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 Ten Mile Road. All written comments should be directed to the City of Novi Building Official and must be received prior to October 5, 1994. (92-29-94 NR, NN)

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, October 5, 1994 at 7:30 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider NOVI PLACE/CHILLI'S RESTAURANT, SP 94-30, located west of Hogarty Road between Eight Mile Road and Nine Mile Road for POSSIBLE SPECIAL LAND USE APPROVAL, WOODLAND PERMIT, AND PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN APPROVAL.

LOCATION MAP
SCALE: 1" = 3/4 MILE

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments will be heard at the hearing and any written comments may be sent to the Department of Community Development, 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 until 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, October 5, 1994.

NOVI PLANNING COMMISSION
ROBERT TAUB, SECRETARY
STEVEN COHEN, PLANNING CLERK

(92-29-94 NR, NN)

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CITY OF NOVI NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, October 19, 1994 at 7:30 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider MAP AMENDMENT 18-526, located at the southeast corner of Twelve Mile Road and Napier Road for POSSIBLE RE-ZONING FROM R-1 AND R-1 TO MH DISTRICT OR ANY OTHER APPROPRIATE ZONING DISTRICT.

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments will be heard at the hearing and any written comments may be sent to the Department of Community Development, 45175 Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 until 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, October 19, 1994.

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Architect gives board a review of building plans

Continued from 1A

order to accommodate the study body at the middle school level, under option one the district would have to renovate 152,000 square feet of the middle school complex. Another 2,800 square feet in the Novi Meadows courtyard would have to be enclosed to provide year-round instructional space.

In option two, the district would have to renovate at least 160,000 square feet and add 68,000 square feet to the complex to accommodate incoming students.

Falls said the middle school complex needs substantial updates to accommodate the teaming teaching approach. Among the updates on the list are movable walls to allow for team teaching, air conditioning and carpeting; an auditorium large enough to accommodate the entire student body for school assemblies and fine arts presentations; a larger green space or recess area for students; new ceilings, lights and larger administrative offices.

Inside, several classrooms would need significant updates including the removal of islands once used as chemistry labs, adding sinks, adding coat hangers and adding storage areas to regular rooms.

The addition of storage space inside classrooms would eliminate the need for fourth grade lockers and maintain a "much more elementary school flavor," Falls said.

Under either plan, Novi Middle School and Novi Meadows would see the biggest changes to accommodate the biggest enrollment increases.

Cost estimates provided by the architect are just that projected costs. Hall said there could be some increases or decreases in the costs of renovations but little difference in new construction costs.

City reviewing 3 options for estate

By JAN JEFFRES
Staff Writer

A bit of local history could change hands in the not-so-distant future.

Novi city officials will meet on Oct. 24 with their counterparts from the Novi school district to discuss a land swap or purchase to bring the historic Fuerst property into city hands.

"There's two or three options. It could work out," City Manager Edward Kriewall told the City Council Monday.

Kriewall explained that the city is exploring three ways to put under its protective wing the old farm complex at the southeast corner of Taft and Ten Mile roads. The property might be purchased outright. Or the city and school district might consider a joint land purchase elsewhere, with the district's share of the purchase price reflecting credit for deeding the Fuerst site to the city. The city's portion of the purchase would be used for park land.

A third possibility is a swap of some of the city's land at the Novi Civic Center complex, which is adjacent to Novi High School, for the farm buildings.

Two issues related to how the October meeting would be conducted sprouted up at the council table.

Council Member Tim Pope asked Novi's city attorney David Fried to draft a legal opinion on whether or not the school board and the city council could meet in a closed, executive session to discuss the property.

"I believe it should be discussed publicly," Pope explained.

Fried agreed that a land swap might not be a proper topic for a closed meeting.

"I have some problems with it. It doesn't quite fit the purpose," he said.

"For this session, it might not be for the purpose of keeping the price from leaking out."

Fried explained that the Open Meetings Act permits governments to hold closed sessions when discussing the purchase of property, because a public display of a government's interest in land could serve to drive the price up. He agreed to research whether the Fuerst land proposals legally qualify for a non-public session.

To Council Member Joseph Toth, the whole concept seemed shady.

"Why should I as a taxpayer, when I pay taxes to the Novi school system, sit down in a private transaction and discuss property already owned by me as a taxpayer?" Toth asked.

"The school district and the city are two separate taxing authorities," Fried explained.

Toth also protested the plan not to televise the meeting on Cable Channel 13.

"I think they (the school board) would rather have it in the activities room," Kriewall said.

The activities room, unlike the council chamber, is not set up for televising meetings.

"I prefer to have the public see us meet, rather than have us meet in the back room," Toth said.

"Mr. Toth, the public is always welcome to come to the meeting," Council Member Robert Schmid told his colleague.

The 7:30 p.m. session remains scheduled for the activities room in the Novi Civic Center.

School board gives estate reprieve

Continued from 1A

wondered what the point of the group's deliberations were two years ago.

"I thought that (the study committee) was fluff," he said. "It was some sort of political thing. It was like 'let's form a committee to talk about it until it dies,'" he said.

Trustee John Streit came to the board's defense. He said that after the committee made its recommendation, the board entertained Trustee Michael Meyer's motion to demolish the buildings but the action died 4-3.

As chair of the board then, Byers cast the deciding vote then not to raze the buildings.

City Councilman Tim Pope was also at Thursday's board meeting, said the sisters liked the idea of converting the farm into an educational center for kids.

"They loved that idea," he said.

But the idea got nixed when the district lost funding for the project, Barr said. Now what is most important is that the land is used by city and school officials as the sisters had requested.

"We promised then it would be used by the city and schools," Barr. "And I just wanted to take this opportunity to share with you what the sisters wanted."

Barr, who claims to have known the Fuerst sisters better than those seated in Thursday's board meeting room, said the sisters liked the idea of converting the farm into an educational center for kids.

The councilman applauded the school board for getting the ball rolling on the future of the property. He said he understands school finance reforms have out the district's budget back. But he said the fate of the land should be a community responsibility.

"This really is a community responsibility," Pope said. "... You were helpful once with the pres-

Board Trustee asked Barr if the district ever promised the sisters the buildings would be intact if the deed for them was turned over to the school, Barr said no.

Mutch, who is also a Novi planning commissioner and mother of three, urged the board to delay any demolition.

"Novi school board has an opportunity to reach beyond this room, beyond the classrooms and to contribute positively to the quality of life of all of Novi's residents," Mutch said by preserving the land the farm buildings.

Byers then made the motion to delay action. It passed 7-0.

audience applauded comments by saying he hoped to get this kind of response from the community when he raised the issue three weeks ago. He then put the motion on the table to start demolition for 90 days or until the city and schools can reach an accord.

"We are having difficulty with the property," he said. "But I said what I said to get an audience here," he continued. "I said it to the media because it was about time we brought this thing to a head. The goal was achieved."

Byers then made the motion to delay action. It passed 7-0.

Police go on a wild turkey chase

Two Novi police officers on patrol stopped traffic Friday at rush hour on Nine Mile Road at Novi/Farmington Hills border. The police brought their vehicle and all others to a halt near the I-275 bridge, while they struggled to do a good deed, rounding up two Tom turkeys on the lam.

Yep, real, live gobblers. One officer commenced chasing the cul-

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14A
THURSDAY
September 29,
1994

As We See It

City must be careful on solicitor rule revisions

Almost without exception, the groups that come knocking at Novi doors, seeking donations or conducting fund raising sales, are simply trying to support good causes. No one, we're sure, wants to hinder those groups or stand in the way of their causes.

On the other hand, they can be bothersome.

The Novi Police Department reports that it has received 69 complaints about solicitors so far this year. Residents of the Deerbrook Subdivision say they were targeted by no less than three fund raising organizations in one recent week. Perhaps most significantly, the newly-formed City of Novi Homeowners Association (CNHA)—an umbrella organization for a subdivision associations—believes this is one of the most common complaints of local residents. Ruth Ann Jirasek, president of the CNHA, said it was one of the topics most frequently brought up in the group's early meetings over the past winter.

As a result, CNHA is proposing a possible rewrite of the city's solicitation ordinances, which restrict door-to-door canvassing to the hours between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. It also requires that groups first register with the police department.

Among the ideas for rule changes is to further restrict solicitations to the hours of 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. or dusk, and to prohibit those under age 18 from going door-to-door without an adult. CNHA is also mulling the idea asking the city to require solicitors to name the subdivisions they will be targeting when they register with police.

Jirasek explained no proposal for rule changes will be made until after the group's general membership meeting in January. Then it would have to go through the city's ordinance review committee and pass muster with the City Council before it could take effect.

Of course, we can appreciate the frustration of Novi homeowners and the need for a change in the rules. But care must be taken in revamping these rules. Get too restrictive, to the point that organizations believe they are effectively barred and the reaction could be a constitutional challenge. There is, after all, a First Amendment right for religious organizations to spread their gospel door-to-door.



Government

basics, regardless of whether you want to hear about it, and political groups are within their rights to come knocking in search of money and support.

We doubt local groups would be the ones to make such a challenge in court, but Novi is a favorite target for outside organizations too, since it is seen as wealthy in their eyes.

At the same time, civic organizations which rely on door-to-door fund raising should take this as a warning. They should recognize that residents are just about at wit's end with the frequency with which groups come looking for a hand out. They might do well to give some thought to curbing the activity and finding other ways to raise cash for their projects.

Better yet, perhaps the two sides should get together to see if they can brainstorm some solutions that would be workable to both. Just as the homeowners got together to discuss their mutual concerns, perhaps the local school, church and civic support groups might send a few representatives to meet with CNHA and come to understanding about how these fund raising efforts can be accomplished without creating ill will among homeowners.

For example, homeowners might come to an agreement like scheduling all the local drives in a single month, to get them out of the way and avoid the bother of the other 11 months. Perhaps they could reach agreement on the hours of the day for door-to-door canvassing, or on the frequency with which homeowners will get hit up.

Then at least the pressure will be off the neighborhoods a little. Residents might look a little more favorably. And certainly they'd know that anyone pounding on the door outside the agreed upon times or months would have to be an outside group. And they could make their donation decisions accordingly.

Say no to Proposal A

It's good that Michigan voters have an automatic duty, every 16 years, to decide whether to rewrite the state constitution. When big changes are necessary, people don't have to conduct a tiring, expensive petition drive.

That's why Proposal A is on the Nov. 8 ballot—the present constitution puts it there.

We, however, recommend a "no" vote. There is no need to call a Constitutional Convention (Con-Con) in 1995 to do a wholesale revision of the 1963 document.

In 1908 it was different. We were in the bipartisan Progressive Era of Teddy Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson. That Con-Con gave us municipal home rule and a State Board of Education.

In 1963 it was different. We were gratified at the bipartisan, moderate leadership of George Romney's Citizens for Michigan, joined by the state Jaycees and League of Women Voters. Some folks wanted more reform, some none at all.

That Con-Con gave us: the balanced budget requirement, the elimination of dozens of free-standing commissions, authority for a flat-rate income tax, county home rule, an expanded State Board of Education, better governance for the 11 regional universities, elimination of the justice of the peace courts, professionalized district courts, a new Court of Appeals and more.

Last March voters approved the biggest

change in school funding in 50 years—wholesale cutting of school operating property taxes, firm state responsibility for school funding through a sales tax hike, a cap on soaring property assessments, and a host of education reforms that are now being implemented. Voters said yes, emphatically, by a 69-31 margin.

We would put those long-sought and hard-fought gains at risk if we considered any plea to rewrite the state constitution from scratch.

Moreover, no Progressive or moderate reform movement is on the horizon suggesting we need such a revision. Quite the opposite. So the prudent answer—for Republicans, Democrats, Libertarians and the uncommitted—is to reject a new Con-Con.

Is this constitution perfect? No one ever said that, not even in 1963.

Can there be improvements? Yes. And we'll have a chance to say yes or no—one at a time—to excessive court appeals, parks funding, trial court reforms, a one-house legislature, the death penalty and other constitutional issues as amendments are crafted by lawmakers or petitioned for by the populace.

We would issue one warning. The 1960s reformers worked publicly for five years before winning. So beware of any last-minute, fly-by-night campaigns advocating a yes vote. Michigan doesn't need a new constitution. We urge a "no" vote on Proposal A Nov. 8.

A little training does a lot



Michael Malott

Imagine the horror of watching a co-worker, or a friend, or a loved one collapse without warning on the pavement due to a heart attack.

Imagine the horror of having to stand by, watching his or her life slip away, unable to do anything about it because you'd never taken a first aid class or been trained in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

Fortunately for Kevin Prieve, that wasn't the case. When he suffered what was described as a "massive heart attack" while loading a truck at the Marquette Corporation on Hespil Drive, three of his co-workers swung into action.

Co-worker Tom Swartz, who is required to be certified in CPR as a result of his position as a drill sergeant in the Army Reserves, put his training to use and began mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. Marquette employee Linda Winberg, who took a CPR course three years ago, began massaging his chest. Co-worker Tom Lafrate had never taken a CPR course, but proved to be a quick learner. With a few instructions, he was able to jump and spell the

other two. Altogether, the trio kept the CPR going for 10 minutes or more until emergency personnel could arrive and take over, rushing Prieve off to the hospital. As a result of their efforts, Prieve is alive and recovering today. He said his doctors may let him return to work next week.

And Swartz, Winberg and Lafrate are Novi's newest heroes.

According to his medical records, Prieve "died three times" that day, but thanks to the training, persistence and quick action of his co-workers, he's alive to tell about it.

The events of that day show the value of CPR training. It doesn't take much of an investment, just a few hours and a willingness to learn. The Novi Fire Department offers a course in CPR, as do most local hospital community outreach departments.

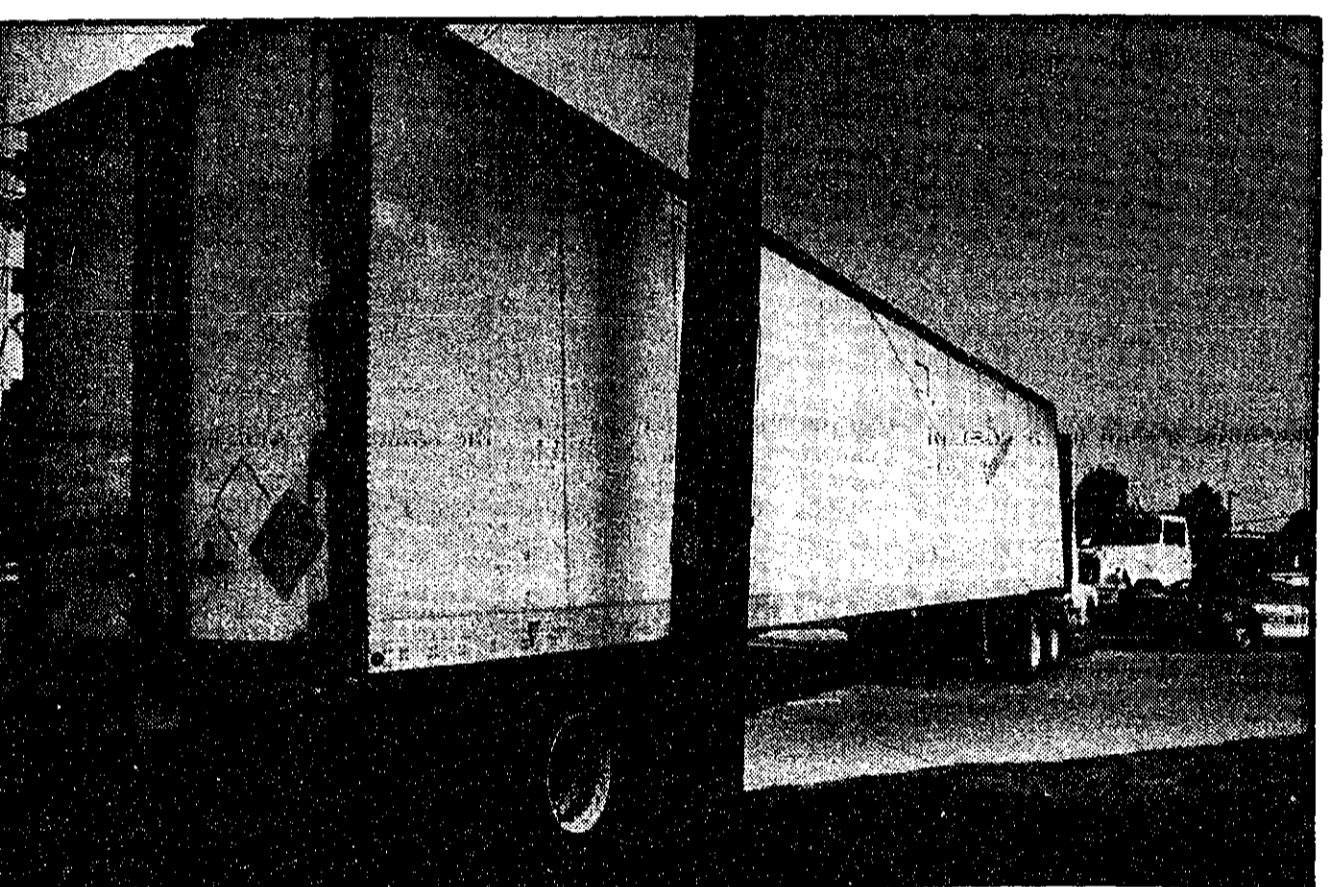
It seems to me it's an investment well worth making, both by individuals and by local businesses, which can sponsor CPR instruction programs for their employees. Many already do. More should.

Which would you prefer to attend a funeral? Or pat someone on the back in celebration of their heroic deeds?

Michael Malott is the Managing Editor of The Novi News.

Moments

By Bryan Mitchell



This truck maneuvered to get around an accident at Novi and Nine Mile roads last week.

Close call

How involved are you?



Yvonne Beebe

Last Thursday I had the privilege of sitting in on a training session for new Northville Youth Assistance volunteers.

At first when I told NYA Director Mary Ellen King that I would sit in and observe it was the beginning of the week and I was gung-ho on the idea. But once Thursday rolled around, I felt bitter about the prospect of missing the season premiere for the last hour or so was feeling pretty good.

However, I managed to hoist myself up from my comfortable position (it was not as easy as it sounds), plaster down my freshly formed couch hair and attend the meeting.

Once I sat down with the some 20 new volunteers, who were not attending the session out of any sense of obligation, my opinion of the meeting did a 180-degree turn around.

The focus of that evening's discussion was effective communication skills—mainly how to lend a caring, helpful ear to someone without alienating them with parental advice like, "Well, if I were you," or, "I think you should..."

NYA is a program that sets up youths aging anywhere from kindergarten to high school age to spend quality time with volunteering adult. Currently, the program has 63 volunteers and about 45 are matched with a child.

NYA reaches referrals from Northville schools, city and township police departments, local churches, juvenile court and family members. Kids who are referred may be having trouble coping with varying situations or have gotten into some sort of trouble.

The focus of the program hinges on the idea that these youths can benefit from additional guidance and friendship with an outside adult, someone who will listen to their problems and concerns objectively.

King said volunteers are expected to spend anywhere from an hour-and-a-half to two hours per week with the youth. Some of the activities a volunteer and the youth can do include attending athletic events like a basketball or hockey game, going to a movie or just spending quality time together to discuss topics that weigh heavy on the youth's mind.

Freshman volunteers are required to attend the three-hour training sessions once a week for five weeks. There are two training sessions per year, one in the fall and the spring. Sessions focus on dealing with anger, conflict resolution skills, substance abuse, self-esteem and communication skills.

During the meeting I got the chance to talk with some of the new volunteers. They cited the desire to be involved in the community and to help a troubled youth who may need some extra support as reasons for getting involved with NYA.

During my brief conversations with some of the volunteers, I could feel my alter ego pointing an invisible finger at my laziness. "How involved are you within the community?" a little voice not unlike my own asked. "Well, I'm busy, and I work a lot," I rationalized.

But I'm sure these people work a lot too. I'm sure they have busy schedules, like everyone else on the planet, not to mention families to attend to as well.

So these some 20 new volunteers and the 63 other NYA volunteers deserve a hearty pat on the back for devoting their time to someone else who may need it. In the end, they are not only helping one person, but making a personal contribution to the community.

So, after all, the Thursday night meeting did not kill me, or make it difficult to get out of bed the next morning. I even walked away with some valuable knowledge on the right way to listen to someone who has a problem, not an unfamiliar situation with my group of friends.

And besides, I only missed half of "Seinfeld."

Yvonne Beebe is a staff writer for The Northville Record.

A closer look at GOP's right wing



Phil Power

To hear the folks on the right wing of the Republican Party tell it, they're just a bunch of average, middle-of-the-road, God-fearing Americans who support traditional family values.

Probe a little deeper, though, and you get something quite different.

Take as a case in point the questionnaire put out by an outfit called Citizens for Traditional Values at the Republican State Convention last month.

Administered to all candidates for contested offices, the results were supposed to give delegates some ideological signposts before casting their votes. Candidates were asked to indicate whether they agreed or disagreed with various statements, and the results were distributed on the convention floor.

Here are some questions asked of candidates for the Michigan State University Board of Trustees (with the position preferred by Citizens for Traditional Values in parentheses):

• The theories of creation and evolution should be given equal time in government schools. (Support.)

• Private, Christian and home-school teachers should be required by law to be certified in the subjects they teach. (Oppose.)

• An abstinence-only sex education curriculum should be taught in government schools. (Support.)

• Doctor-assisted suicides should be legalized. (Oppose.)

• Current gun laws should be expanded to regulate the sale of guns or make certain types of guns illegal to purchase. (Oppose.)

• Legislation should be passed allowing for voluntary prayer in government schools. (Support.)

• Legislation should be passed making it illegal to possess child pornography. (Support.)

Alert readers will wonder: What has any of this to do with running a university? I'm a regent at U-M. The things we try to deal with are tuition restraint, adequate financial aid, deteriorating state support, maintaining an aging physical plant and minority enrollment. Our views on school prayer or gun control or doctor-assisted suicide might be of interest to those trying

to determine ideological stance, but they have nothing whatsoever to do with policymaking at a university.

In fact, that's exactly what the Citizens for Traditional Values questionnaire was all about: It was a litmus test of the relative conservatism of the candidates. Republican Party officials said frankly that anyone scoring 50 percent on the quiz wouldn't have stood a chance at the nomination.

None of the candidates who replied scored less than 94 percent, which indicates how powerful the right wing was in defining the ideological requirements for nomination at the GOP convention.

And all of this is taking place while Republican Gov. John Engler is working his hardest to broaden the party's appeal through tax cuts for property owners and paint Democrat Howard Wolpe as a raging liberal.

Average, middle-of-the-road, God-fearing American voters in Michigan might do well to ask candidates nominated at the Republican State Convention just how they scored on the Citizens for Traditional Values questionnaire.

Phil Power is chairman of the company that owns this newspaper. His Touch-Tone voice mail numbers is (313) 953-2047 Ext. 1880.

Solution simple at Fuerst estate

To the Editor:

I read all the continuing controversy about preserving an important piece of Novi history—the Fuerst Farm. I share your concern about this fine old property going the same way that numerous other old properties have gone—up in a cloud of smoke because someone kid needed something to do.

Protecting this property from further damage is very easy if those in command will quit bickering long enough to do something quite simple—call an alarm company. Explain the situation, which should take no more than 15 minutes, sign a contract with an alarm company, which might take 30 minutes; and then rest easy while the silent alarm which will summon help quickly stands guard 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, for a cost of about \$40 per month, including the phone line.

I have such a system in both my homes and it is a wonderful feeling to know that if somebody tries to break in while I'm away the sheriff will very likely catch them in the act before they have a chance to burn the joint down.

Now, get busy and do something like this before it's too late. Surely a relatively small expense like this could be approved without as much debate as the Great Health Care Reform now in progress in Washington!

Doug McCormick

Letters

Need for fields is no surprise

To the Editor:

My family and I moved to Novi in 1981. The following spring, my son joined the Novi Youth Baseball League. The next year, I became active in the NYBL and remained so until 1990.

The fact that NYB needs these fields is "no" surprise. During the eight seasons that I was active, we were all aware that the day would come when Mr. (Paul) Boes would want to sell his land for another purpose other than a charitable donation.

This is no surprise. I have personally talked to our former mayor, council members, Mr. (Dan) Davis' predecessor and Mr. Davis over the years. I saw members of the present NYBL go before council and ask for their participation. They would have received more attention had they been proposing a strip mall or a downtown for Novi.

Mr. Davis and Novi City Council members should give the needs of the kids who want to play baseball very serious consideration. You have known of the problem for 10 years now.

The time to act is now or our time to act will be at the next election!

Jerry Coonce

Novi schools do excellent job

To the Editor:

Everyday we read in the paper or hear on the news, "Are our schools doing their job?" I just want to let people know I feel Novi schools are doing an excellent job.

I always thought school was set up and everyone followed the same path. Well, let me tell you, I sure found out differently. Novi has a lot of resources and if you have some concerns about your child's education, contact one of your child's teachers or the school office. Don't be afraid to get involved!

Many people at Novi High have been helpful but here is one teacher that went beyond helpful. Mrs. Jan Thibadeau. This teacher knew what was available, what the student should be held responsible for and what needed parent intervention. She went beyond the requirements of her job and put forth extra energy, even when my son and myself were ready to give up. She knew

what had to be learned by the school of hard knocks, and what needed a warm and understanding word or adult guidance. She runs a program we were all able to live with.

Remember, schools can only help if we let them know we have concerns. It is a group effort between educators, parents and the child. My son is a "high school graduate" due to his hard work, Mrs. Thibadeau's dedication and our family's support and encouragement! No one can do it alone!

Joyce Duvall

Appreciation night not listed

To the Editor:

It is nice that there is a Community Appreciation Night in Novi, as there was on Sept. 16. But the community should be made more aware of it.

Diane Casanova

State's taxpayers win a close one



Tim Richard

Taxpayers won one in the Michigan Supreme Court last month, but it was not a close one to close for comfort. The fact that this case got as far as it did should make us all wary about the lawsuit-happy mentality alive in this state.

Anthony Mason, 10, and his friend were running a race on June 10, 1987, at the intersection of Outer Drive and Merit in Detroit. Anthony ran into the street. A driver ran a red light. Anthony smashed into the side of the car and suffered a closed-head injury.

I did some heavy thinking about this case. I drove past my old grade school on Bentler, a residential street in northwest Detroit, and recollected the way we were taught traffic safety. In kindergarten or first grade, we memorized a song whose theme was: Never run into the street. We had regular visits from a ventriloquist cop with a wooden friend called Jerry McSafe.

It was hard to conceive of a 10-year-old running into a street, particularly on Outer Drive.

Tajana Mason, the mother, got a settlement from the driver, but she wanted more. She tried suing the City of Detroit, but Judge John H. Galls Jr. dismissed it because city streets weren't involved.

So Mason sued the crossing guard and Wayne County, which has jurisdiction over the street. A sympathetic circuit court jury let the crossing guard off the hook but awarded Mason a \$2 million judgment against Wayne County, even though the county pleaded governmental immunity.

A Court of Appeals panel upheld the verdict, reasoning that county responsibility to keep the roads safe for travel "includes the duty to post adequate traffic signage, including school signs..."

Wayne County appealed to the highest court, joined by the Michigan Department of Transportation and the County Road Association.

Michigan's Supreme Court is fractured, not just divided; these days, issuing a majority opinion (four justices), a concurring opinion (one) and a dissent (two). That's bad practice and makes me nervous.

Justice Patricia Boyle's majority opinion reversed the lower courts and favored

Wayne County. "By statute, governmental agencies are immune from tort liability while engaging in a governmental function" with certain narrow exceptions. The failure to install school warning signs wasn't one of those exceptions, she wrote. The county's duty extended only to the improved portion of the highway and didn't include sidewalks or crosswalks.

Justices Robert Griffin, Dorothy Comstock Riley and James Brickley agreed. Chief Justice Michael Cavanagh concurred in part, dissented in part.

Dissenting was Charles Levin, regarded as the most liberal justice, joined by Conrad Mallett Jr.

Levin said keeping the road "safe and fit for travel" extends to pedestrians. As an authority, he quotes part of an earlier case—his own dissent.

Levin and Mallett totally lost sight of the facts that the kid raced into the road and the driver ran a red light. It's a case to keep in mind when supporters of Proposal C decry the sharks of the trial lawyers association, who oppose all tort reform.

Tim Richard reports on the local implications of state and regional events. His Touch-Tone voice mail number is (313) 953-2047 Ext. 1881.

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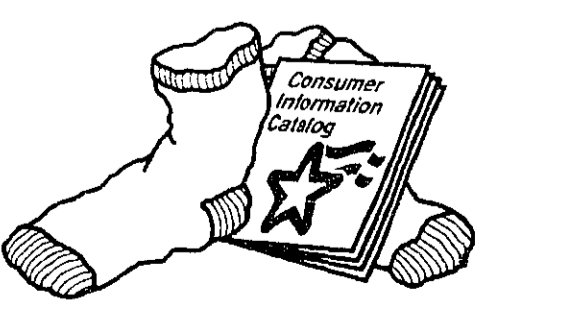
POOLS a go go

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the NOVI NEWS **Living**

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Back from Labor Day walk

HELTER SKELTER:
Vincent Bugliosi speaks locally

A PIE IN THE FACE:
Soupy Sales says it's an art

PETER PAN:
Novi youth readies for 18th play

B
THURSDAY
September 29,
1994

His is 'A Ministry of Presence'

Holy Cross will honor Fr. Harding for 25 years of service

By CAROL WORKENS
Special Writer

The Rev. Leslie F. Harding has managed to combine his "ministry of presence," a philosophy he describes as the ability to minister to people at anytime, with his love of aeronautics.

The Canadian born Harding became Vicar of both the Church of The Holy Cross in Novi and St. Stephen in Hamburg on Sept. 1, 1969.

Harding was able to arrange for a "tentmaker priest" to take over St. Stephen's. "Tentmaker priests work at their own jobs during the week and (minister at their parish) on the weekend," said Harding. At the same time, "St. Anne's Episcopal Church in Walled Lake became vacant," explained Harding. "The Bishop asked me to take St. Anne's on along with Holy Cross and that's the way it's been since."

Parishioners have planned a special evening of recognition for Rev. Harding on Sept. 30 at Novi Hilton. Over 100 parishioners and members of the community are expected to attend the celebration of Harding's 25 years of service.

"When I first took these two missions over, both of them required support either from larger churches or from the diocese. By putting two missions under one person, they are better able to afford a full-time ministry."

"Too often the priest did everything," Harding said of structure of the missions when he first became a priest. "That was both good and bad. I think today in the church we now have a very, very strong lay activity in positions of leadership. I'm the chief liturgist in the parish, and of course, I know were everything's at in the place, but it's even more wonderful when you have a strong lay group who have a strong sense of mission and are part of a worship committee."

"Your teachers in the church school—great bunch of gals and men—have a smaller church school, but those kids are going to learn and they're going to learn in a very vibrant way."

"Without that kind of lay ministry in both these parishes, I really couldn't handle it," he said.

"In the beginning you could walk the parish," said Harding. "If you stayed in the living room, the visit would last about 15 minutes. If you got to the kitchen, the visit could last one to two hours," said Harding. "We talk about whatever comes to mind."

"Eighty percent of the women would be at home," said Harding. "Now days, 80 percent are working, so I make appoint-

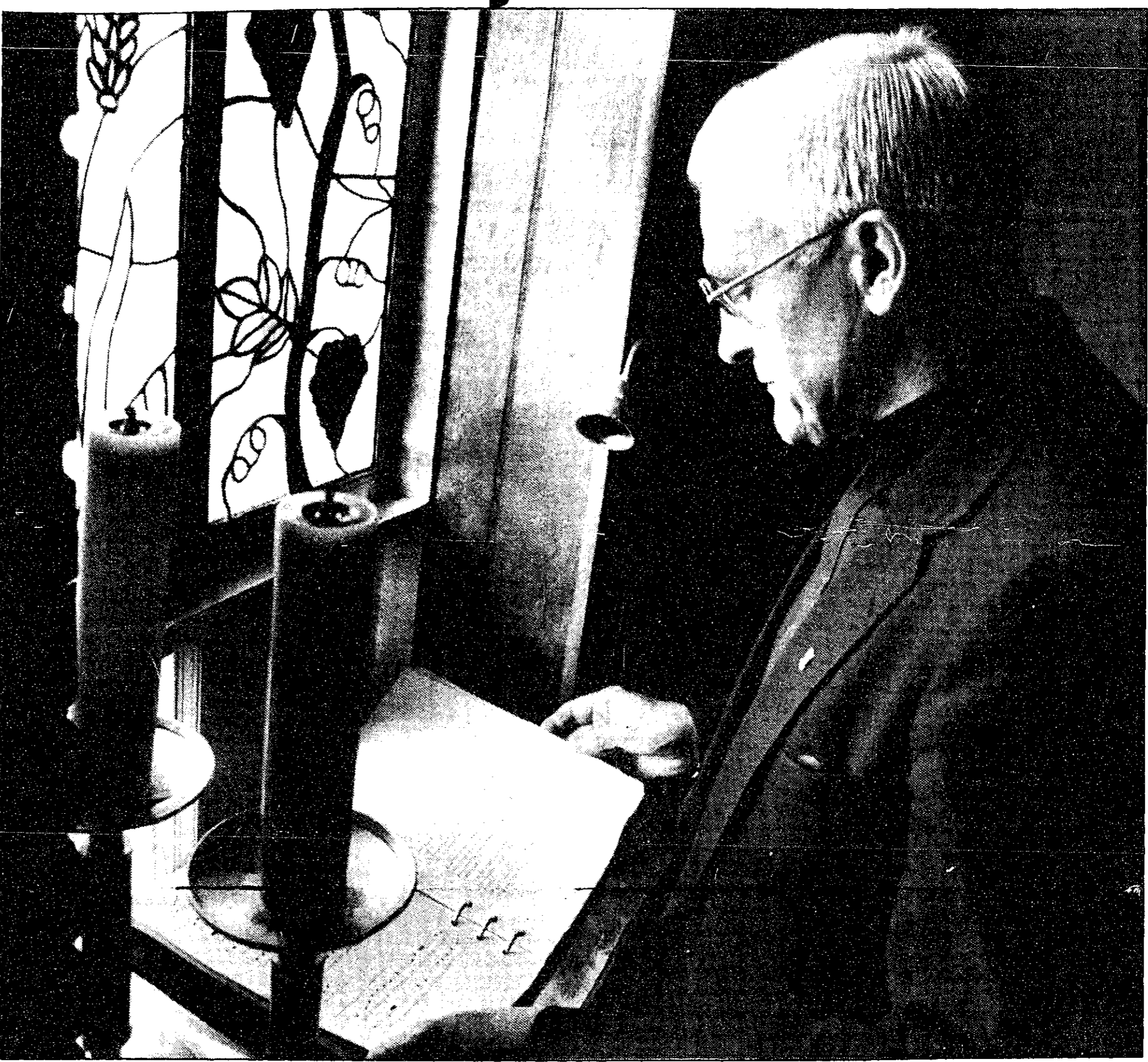


Photo by BRYAN MITCHELL

The Rev. Les Harding will celebrate his 25th anniversary in Novi this week.

ments and see people on their lunch hours."

Harding did not get the call to the priesthood until later in his youth. His dad, the Rev. C. Leslie Harding, C.D., took it for granted that his son would go into aeronautical engineering. "I've been airplane crazy since 1938," said Harding. "That was when I built my first model airplane. I was fascinated with flying."

"My senior year in high school, my dad said, 'You should be looking at college. We should go look at the aeronautical

engineering school at Western University,' which was the only one in the eastern part of Canada," Harding explained. "I said, 'Dad, I'm thinking about heading for the ministry.' Good thing there was a chair behind him because he fell in it."

"I can't (say I heard) any whistles and bells, and saw lights or heard voices ... although I do hear voices," joked Harding. "All of a sudden it was just a very, very strong feeling."

College went smooth enough, until the second year when Harding chummed up

with an aeronautical engineer who had come to Western to teach certain math courses. "We got to know one another and he was working on designing the CF100 and other neat things," said Harding. "I spent quite a bit of time with him. I didn't have the math but I had an innate sense about aerodynamics and so on, and we had a lot of good fun with this. Needless to say, I didn't do a whole lot of homework and a lot of studying that I should have and it cost me about four courses."

"That summer was a difficult one for me and I had to make a decision. My dad was a tremendous support. He was based at Clinton at that time and when he came into the VA hospital in London, he always stopped up (at college) and we had a half hour or hour. It was a case of talking it out and not saying 'You should.' There was none of that," explained Harding.

Continued on B3

Volunteer



JOANN DAYTON

Volunteer Dayton has three projects

By DOROTHY NASH
Special Writer

The basics of life—the food, clothing, and shelter part—are important, but so are the arts, which stimulate and inspire the mind.

Ask Joann Dayton, who is secretary of the Northville Arts Commission, which promotes three major projects each year.

1) The summer-time band shell concerts in Town Square Park.

2) The September Art Market during the Victorian Festival. It's "a juried show" in which prizes are given—\$500 for best of show and \$250 for second and third place.

3) Three art lectures in early spring, given by Michael Farrell, associate professor of art history at University of Windsor. Tickets are \$7 each or \$8 a piece if paid at the door.

Also, Joann Dayton said, the Commission expects soon to repeat a "coffee house" it once offered at the Cady Street Inn. They'll have local folk singers with instrumental music. They'll

charge \$5.

The Commission has talked, Dayton said, about uniting forces with the Plymouth Arts group in things like an arts and crafts show and a dinner theater.

And there have been dreams about owning a building for the performing arts and having classes of all kinds for various ages. Funding, however, is the problem.

Membership on the Commission, Dayton said, is limited to 15. Once on it, members seldom leave.

But, she said, "We do need volunteers to do lots of things"—things like taking tickets at the lectures, setting up and taking down chairs at the band concerts, and relieving artists, "giving them a break," at the Art Market.

If you want to register as a volunteer, call the Arts Commission at 349-6104.

Or if you just want to listen in on a meeting, you're invited—the third Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at city hall.

It's a Fact

City of Novi Tax Rates

tax rates for the last three years are as follows:

	1991-92	92-93	93-94
General Fund	4.37	4.37	3.94
Street Fund	0.76	0.76	0.71
Police & Fire	1.48	1.48	1.51
Library	0.84	0.84	0.79
Drain	0.76	0.76	0.71
Parks & Rec	0.40	0.40	0.37
Total Operating	8.61	8.61	8.03
Total with Debt	10.69	10.69	10.40

SOURCE: City of Novi 1994 Calendar

Hill family returns from 16th annual walk

Mary Kay and Harold Hill have returned from their trip for the Labor Day Mackinaw Bridge Walk. Mary Kay who is a senior citizen, age 78, made the walk for the 16th time, accompanied by her daughter, Barbara Speranza of Farmington. Hill has a well-decorated jacket with a colorful badge denoting every year she has completed the walk.

Novi Highlights

Large banner spelling out "Happy 90th Mom." Grandmother and Great-Grandmother.

NOVI ARTS COUNCIL

At the most recent general membership meeting of the Arts Council, the following new officers were selected: President, Ann Oberts; Vice President, Melissa O'Rear; Secretary, Donna Williams; and Treasurer, Warren Ledger. The outgoing treasurer is Kathleen Jolly who brought to the council her knowledge of the D.A. She will continue with the council. Becky Probst, who is the retiring secretary, also brought expertise from the Eastern Michigan University Theatre. She too will continue to work with the council. The outgoing president is Paula Joyner, who has served in that capacity for three years. She will continue to be involved as a liaison with the community and promotion of the arts in the Novi area. The break-out meeting was held at the Civic Center.

Other upcoming Arts Council projects include the Third Annual Holiday Arts and Crafts Show on Nov. 26. Later, the council will again be sponsoring its annual Photo Contest.

For more information, contact the Novi Parks and Recreation Office.

MEADOWBROOK CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

The church will be hosting its annual fall meeting of the Michigan Conference of Congregational Christian churches. The Reverend will give the keynote address. A seminar on Loren Mead's book, *The Once and Future Church*, will be presented. Clergy from around the state will be taking part, as well as the Chancel Choir from the church.

A very special program will be held Oct. 1 at 7 p.m. when a bit of Broadway comes to the area as David Reynolds and Jacqueline Bacus present their musical program, "Mostly Broadway." The musical journey will include selections from Broadway hits as well as songs from popular movies from the early 1930s through the early 1960s. Tickets are \$6.50 and include dessert and coffee after the performance. Call 348-7757 for more information.

Reynolds earned a bachelor of arts degree in music theory and history from the University of Michigan. Bacus earned a bachelor of science degree in speech and drama education from Mercy College and a master of arts degree in speech and drama from Wayne State University.

The evening will include music from Gershwin's "You Can't Take That Away From Me" to Verdi's "La Traviata."

On Oct. 3, the public is invited to participate in a Blood Drive from 2 to 8 p.m. For more information or an appointment, call the church office.

The M.A.S.H. annual road rally is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 8. Reservations must be made by Oct. 2.

The Women's Service Club will hold a Rummage Sale on Friday, Oct. 14 from 9 to 5 p.m. and on Saturday from 9 to 1 p.m. Later in the month on Oct. 22 there will be a live and silent auction. New items valued at \$20, craft items, items donated by a business, or donation of a service are needed. Call the church at 348-7757 for more information.

Novi Village by the Lake One of the most interesting programs the residents participated in this summer was a Hawaiian Luau. Families were invited and about 170 attended. Decorations included purple paper parrots, golden pineapples and cutouts of hula dancers and palm trees. The menu included egg rolls, baked ham, fruited chicken, mandarin coconut and marshmallow salad, etc. Entertainers were members of a group known as Tiniuu and the

Novi Highlights

its Performer's Showcase series. The most recent program was a display of the works of Mitchell Tolle. The event included a very successful reception, which included more than 100 participants. Special guests included the Mayor and council members. Tolle signed his art work and shared many personal experiences. He visited several schools to motivate and inspire students in the arts. Special music was presented by Battley's Harp and Hammer's Hammer Dulcimer. Those performers were scheduled for a second appearance this past Monday in the Atrium of the Civic Center.

Coming up as a part of the Performer's Showcase will be the White Stone Band on Oct. 3 at 7:30 p.m. in the Atrium. The public is invited.

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United Methodist church celebrates its 160th anniversary

By LEE SNIDER

Something old, something new. That, in a very real sense, was the theme of the 160th anniversary celebration of the First United Methodist Church of Northville that took place last weekend.

Members past and present attended ceremonies at Schoolcraft College on Saturday commemorating the milestone birthday of the venerable institution. A smaller celebration was held at the church, located at 777 W. Eight Mile on Sunday.

Faithful Past, Promising Future was the official name of the event, a designation meant to recognize both the church's long past and its bright tomorrow. First United is now in the process of raising funds to finance an ambitious 23,000 square foot expansion and renovation.

Saturday's program consisted of a banquet at Schoolcraft, with speeches, display tables and old photographs in addition to dinner. The church spent its early years at two modest locations at the intersection of Dunlap and Center streets. First in a white-frame building then, beginning in 1885, at the brick structure that now houses Open Door Christian.

According to Pastor Doug Vernon, the congregation "made a procession through the fresh fall snow" when moving from the old church to the current site in 1971.

Even after the move, the accommodations were somewhat spartan at first. "We worshipped in the fellowship hall for six years on folded chairs," he said. "We moved into the new sanctuary on Christmas Eve 1977."

The banquet was a warm occasion, with longtime church members sharing reminiscences about their spiritual family. Former Pastor Eric Hammer spoke, as did esteemed elders Rosella Lee, Dr. Russell Atchison, Ralph Gallagher and Glenn Long. Lee has been a member of the church since 1931 and Dr. Atchison began his affiliation in 1926. Atchison's wife, Ruth Marx, joined the congregation in 1931.

Three parishioners—Lay Leader Carol Munsell, Andy Conbr and Karen McLaughlin—also offered vision statements about the future.

Ed Meyer served as emcee for the event, and all members with more than 25 years of affiliation were recognized. The longest-running member of First United is Lela Peley, who joined in 1920.

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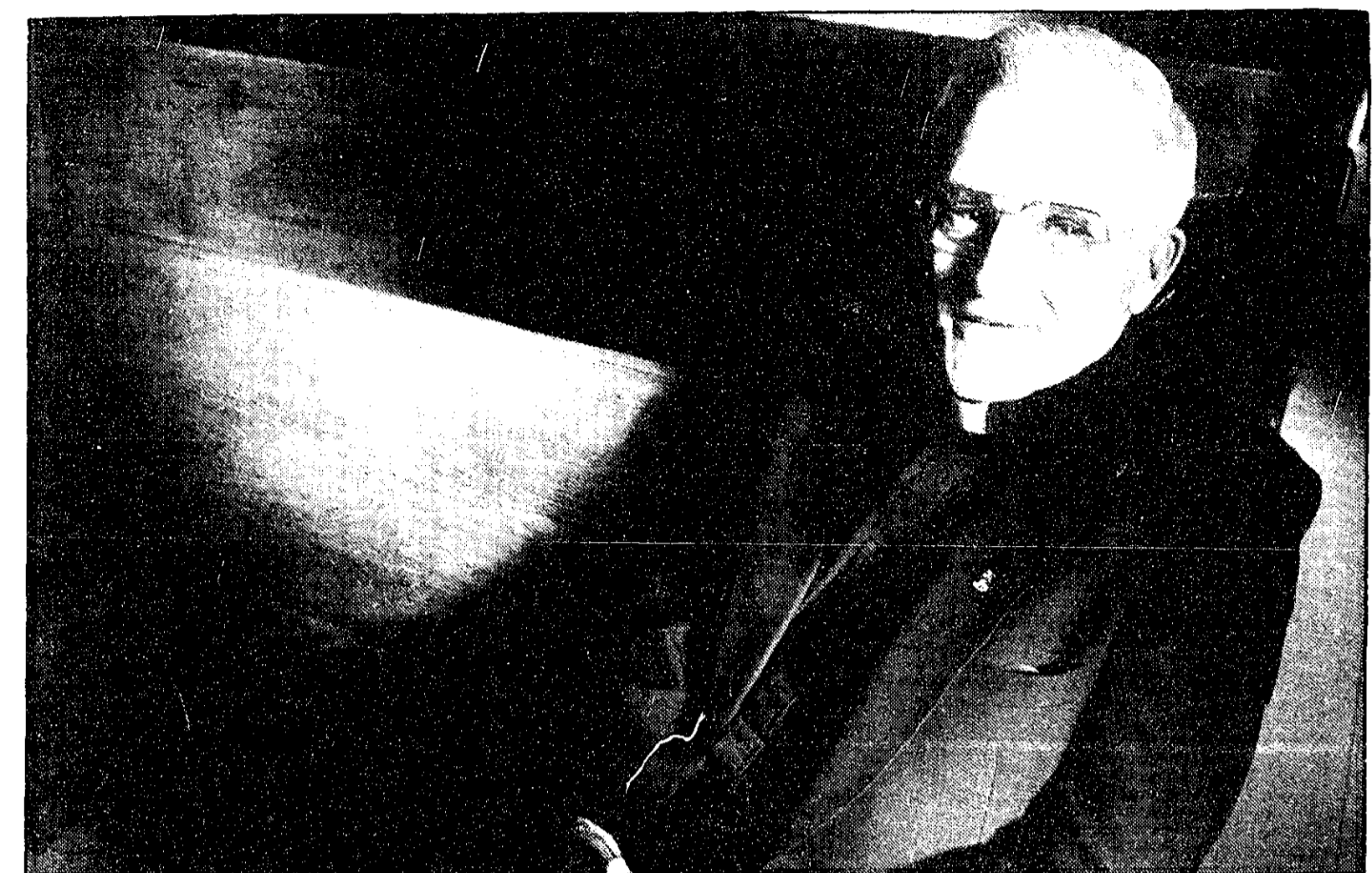
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Fr. Harding during a relaxing moment at the church.

Photo by BRYAN MITCHELL

Church honors Harding for 25 years

Continued from B1

Sull undecided about his future, he decided to visit his family and sort things out. "I went out with a crew on a C-119, what we call the Flying Boxcar, and the crew said, 'We have to give you a name padre, so you're going to be the Celestial Navigator.' It was a free ride out and they went on over the hump and I had two or three days home with Dad and Mum."

"When I got back to school, the preacher said, 'Well, Les, what do you plan to do?' I said 'I'm going to stay in theology. A d I did the next five years in four. I carried 21 to 22 credit hours a semester. I played five years of football, three years of basketball, and three years of track and field. It was great."

Harding graduated from the University of Western Ontario in London, Ontario in 1956 and was ordained into the priesthood in 1957.

While at the University of Western Ontario, he was a member of the University Reserve Training plan, similar to the ROTC. Attending classes during the year he was posted to air bases throughout Canada during the summer. Harding spent 14 years with the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) Reserves.

Since coming to Novi, Harding gives moral leadership lectures, which are necessary for the completion of each rank in the cadet program. "I talk about things that have to do with life, teaching them about themselves, and how to get along with others," said Harding. He is also available to the cadets for personal one-on-one support.

Once a year, he brings in rubber band model airplanes, said Major Linda Slatem. His devotion that day is based around how to build an airplane and how to build your life. Then everyone goes outside and flies their planes.

When the Civil Air Patrol is called on by Langley Air Force Base to do search and rescue operations, Harding goes along to give comfort to the families of victims, and to the squadron.

Not a man to sit behind a desk, the modest Vicar has been on numerous citizen committees in Novi, but wouldn't list them all if he could. The Civic Center Planning Committee, the Youth Assistance Program, and the Implementation Committee for a new police building are just a few of the projects he's worked on.

"People need a place to meet," said Harding of the importance of the Civic Center.

Even while in the RCAF Reserves, it was not uncommon for a commanding officer to call Harding on the phone and find him away from his desk. When one commanding officer finally tracked him down in an airplane hanger and asked why he was away from his desk, he replied, "This is where the people are."

Harding and his wife, Judith

Harding and his wife, Judith

Harding and his wife, Judith

Harding and his wife, Judith

Soupy Sales comes to Genitti's

By LEE SNIDER

Gag master Soupy Sales brings his stand-up schtick to Northville for shows Thursday, Sept. 29, and Friday, Sept. 30. The performances will take place at Genitti's Little Theatre, but the Friday show is sold out. The Thursday performance was added to accommodate disappointed fans who weren't able to make their reservations on time to catch the veteran comedian's first show.

Tickets are \$40 and include Genitti's acclaimed seven-course Italian dinner. For information, call (810) 349-0522.

Sales has realized success in a number of media, including television, radio, night clubs, records and even Broadway.

Detroit audiences can lay special

"It's not enough to 'catch a pie' in a comedy routine," he insists. "There must be a reason for it. The events leading up to such a climax have to be done in a reasonable manner in order for the situation to come off as funny."

Soupy Sales

No show ever finished without Sales taking a pie or two in the face, accompanied by spit-fire sound effects as if the objects had been shot from a long gun off-stage.

Following his stint in Detroit, Sales moved to the west coast and scored a hit with TV audiences in

Los Angeles. In 1964, Sales took his show to New York and in 1966 the program went national. From there, Sales debuted on Broadway and launched a long string of successes. Regular appearances on TV game shows followed, as did more stage plays, guest appearances, records and night club bookings. Beginning in 1978, Sales began co-starring on "Sha Na Na" for a three-year term.

Sales estimates he has been hit with pies more than 10,000 times. He describes pie receiving as something of an art form.

"It's not enough to 'catch a pie' in a comedy routine," he insists. "There must be a reason for it. The events leading up to such a climax have to be done in a reasonable manner in order for the situation to come off as funny."

The funds raised by the AAUW

AAUW benefit will feature The Fantastiks

The Eighth Annual American Association of University Women (AAUW) Theatre Benefit is currently being planned. The benefit will feature *The Fantastiks* at the Marquis Theatre in Northville on Friday, Oct. 21.

The *Fantastiks* reveals the folly and fragility of young love, age and human nature—truly a gem for everyone, as we recognize ourselves in its characters and situations and smile at what we once were, what we are and, perhaps, what we always will be. It must be good—it's been around Broadway for more than 25 years.

The funds raised by the AAUW

at this performance will provide scholarships for women with financial need to attend Schoolcraft College or Oakland Community College. The scholarships give these women a chance to gain financial independence through education that leads to a substantive job that allows self-support.

Audrey Jacobson and Lynn Clarke have graciously agreed to co-chair the event. Tickets are \$12 and include a wine and cheese reception at 7 p.m. prior to the performance at 8 p.m. Tickets can be obtained by contacting either Audrey (349-8055) or Lynn (349-4558).

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Thursday, October 6

Presentations begin at 2:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

St. Mary Hospital Auditorium
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Dr. K. C. Nair, Chairman, Department of Behavioral Medicine St. Mary Hospital, will discuss the causes, symptoms, and treatments of depression, followed by a short video. Participants complete an anonymous written form, which screens for symptoms of depression, and have an opportunity to discuss the results of the report with a mental health professional.

This nationwide program is sponsored by the American Psychiatric Association, National Institute of Mental Health, Harvard Medical School Department of Psychiatry, National Mental Health Association, National Manic-Depressive and Depressive Association, and McLean Hospital in Belmont, Mass.

Pre-registration encouraged/Walk-ins welcome.

To register call 591-2943
Light refreshments served.

St. Mary Hospital

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VINCENT BUGLIOSI

Manson prosecutor to speak in Northville

Author and renowned prosecuting attorney Vincent Bugliosi will kick off the 34th season of Northville Town Hall, Monday, Oct. 10. Bugliosi gained acclaim when he convicted the infamous serial murderer Charles Manson and later wrote the best-selling book *Helter Skelter*. Bugliosi was named as a replacement speaker for former U.S. Sen. William Proxmire, who had to cancel his engagement after becoming ill.

Bugliosi will give an address to the audience, then answer questions. He has indicated his willingness to talk about the controversial O.J. Simpson trial. Town Hall tickets are sold on a seasonal basis, so no exchange is necessary to gain admission for the new speaker.

Borders hosts talk of international artist

Borders Books and Music and the Detroit Institute of Arts will host a discussion of the art of internationally acclaimed artist Guillermo Gomez-Pena on Thursday, Oct. 6 at 7 p.m. Associate Curator of Education Nancy Jones will lead the presentation, focusing on the ways different peoples are stereotyped and how these impressions become accepted as an accurate reflection of the culture. She will also discuss the exhibition by Gomez-Pena and collaborator Roberto Sifuentes, *The Temple of Confessions*, which will be at the DIA from Oct. 14 to Nov. 6. Refreshments will be served.

Robert Jones and Matt Watroba will perform their own special blend of blues and folk to benefit the Detroit Radio Information Service, a radio reading and information service for the blind and print-impaired. The Jam for DRIS concert will be held Oct. 8 from 6 to 8 p.m. Free, but donation containers will be on hand, and a percentage of Saturday's sales will be donated to the information service.

Borders is inviting local educators (K-12) to a reception featuring children's book buyer Ruta Drumm.

On Campus

DAVID R. GILLAT of Wixom was one of 285 students who earned a 3.5 or better grade point average for the summer semester 1994 at Michigan State University.

ERIC BRUCE DOBRAS was one of 1,000 to receive degrees at Purdue University in August 1994. Dobras received a master of science in engineering from the graduate school.

JENNIFER R. LUNDGREN of Novi was placed on the Dean's List for the spring/summer semester at Grand Valley State University. Individuals also named to the list maintained a 3.5 grade point average while enrolled in a minimum of 12 credits.

Kansas State University awarded 535 degrees at the conclusion of summer school. PING ZHANG of Novi received a master of science degree and was one of 222 receiving master's degrees.

Military

Marine Cpl. KENNETH E. ALLBERT, a 1990 graduate of Walled Lake Central High School of Walled Lake, Mich., recently received the Navy Achievement Medal.

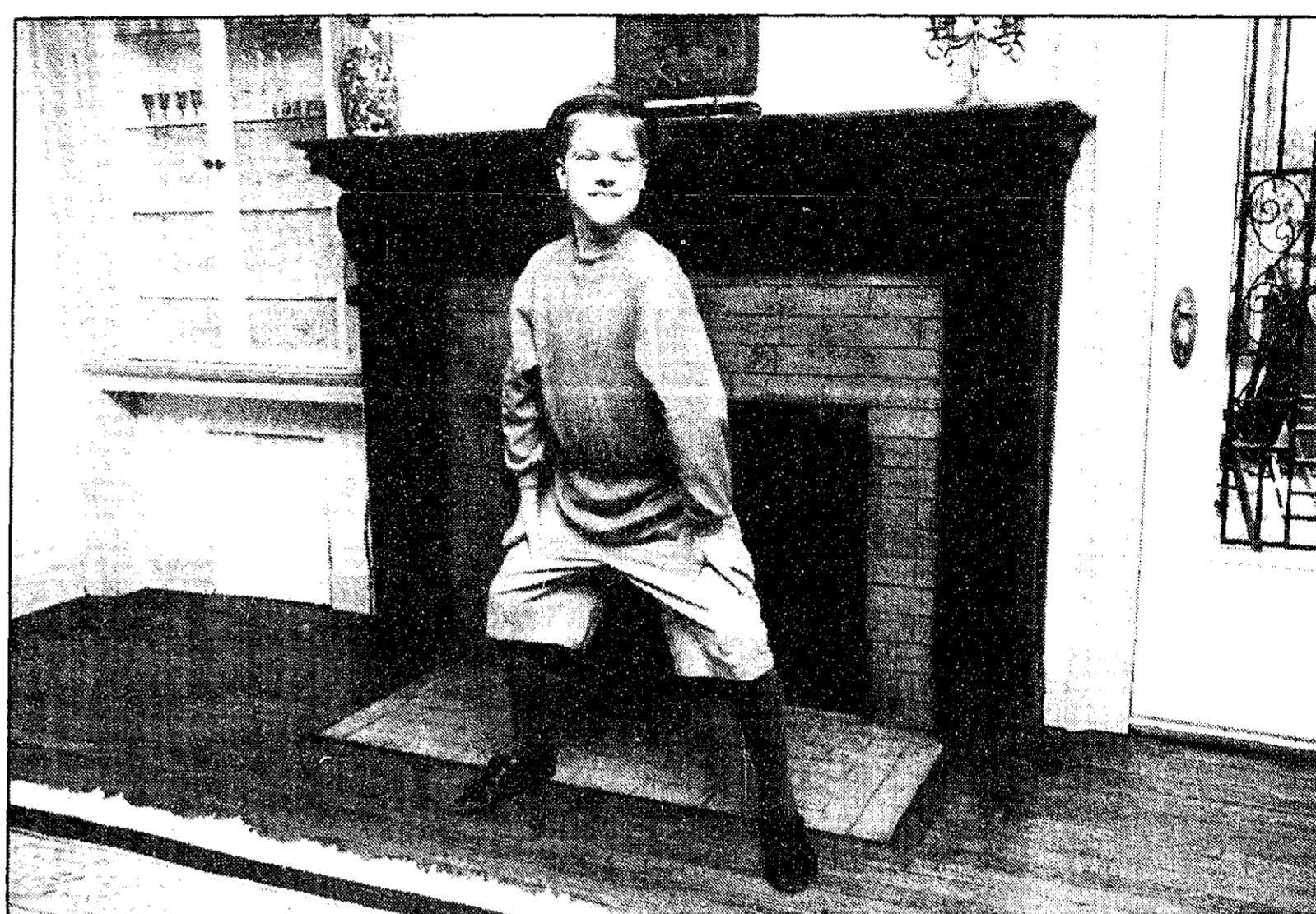
Allbert was cited for superior performance of duty while serving as a maintenance crew plumber with Headquarters and Service Battalion, Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego. The achievement medal singles out an individual service member for his initiative in making a significant contribution to the accomplishment of the command's mission.

The award, presented during formal ceremonies, is official recognition for Allbert's outstanding achievements and devotion to duty. Allbert is currently assigned with Marine Wing Support Squadron 172, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, Okinawa, Japan.

He joined the Marine Corps in June 1991.

Diversions

the NOVI NEWS
5B
THURSDAY
September 29, 1994



David Langham of Novi gets ready to star in his 18th play, Peter Pan.

Novi youngster stars in Peter Pan

David Langham of Novi, an eighth-grader at Novi Middle School, will perform the title role in *Peter Pan* this fall with Paper Bag Productions, a children's theater troupe.

Peter Pan will open Sept. 24 and run weekends through Dec. 18 at the historic Players Club, 3321 E. Jefferson, across the street from Harbortown in Detroit. Each performance will be preceded by lunch. On Saturday, lunch is served at noon and the show

begins at 1 p.m. On Sundays, lunch will be at 1 p.m., followed by a performance at 2 p.m. The price for lunch is \$6.50 per person. Group rates are available. Reservations can be made by calling toll-free, 1-800-824-8314.

Peter Pan is the 18th play in the past four years for Langham, who has also performed at Masonic Temple with the Michigan Opera Theatre and at Northville's Marquis Theatre.

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CHURCH DIRECTORY

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CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY 24000 W. 10 Mile Worship: 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 7:00 p.m. Pastor: Dr. J. J. Jones	FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE 311 N. Main Worship: 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 7:00 p.m. Pastor: Dr. J. J. Jones

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Movies

Wertmuller explores wonders of hope

Fate, in the contemporary form of a computer error, brings Marco Spirelli, an earnest teacher from Italy's urbane North, to the scrappy, ramshackle little village of Corzano, deep in the heart of Southern Italy.

The group accepts the computer error with grace, and assumes it will be quickly corrected.

Yet Spirelli soon finds that Corzano puts grace to the test. He discovers that his third graders are more likely to be black marketers than model students. His pupils are tiny trants, little deal makers and miniature mafiosi-in-training.

That's the story line for "Ciao, Professore!", a very funny adventure from Lina Wertmuller, the internationally acclaimed director

of such films as "Seven Beauties" and "Sweet Away."

Known for her explorations of such bold concepts as beauty, sexuality, revenge, madness and love, Wertmuller in this comic departure looks at the simple wonders of hope.

When a kind-hearted teacher from Italy's sophisticated North is sent by accident to a classroom in the heart of the corrupt and chaotic South, the clash of cultures is rife with comedy.

Played by Italian actor Paolo Villaggio, Spirelli finds himself in a town where even the most common childhood experiences, like being sick in bed, take on an absurdity of epic proportions. But out of this seemingly hopeless situation, comes an unexpected

primer on how to survive the most chaotic of circumstances.

Along the way, Wertmuller draws out some of the most naturalistic, and surprisingly adult, performances from children since "The Bicycle Thief."

"Ciao, Professore!" is based on the book "Io Speriamo Che Me La Cavo" (Me, Let's Hope I Make It), a collection of compositions and stories written by Neapolitan street kids for a favorite elementary school teacher. The essays were sassy and tough, yet filled with the kinds of hilarious and true observations that only children can make.

"I saw in these stores great testimonies to the realities of life and the Neapolitan spirit—from the very fresh, vibrant and humorous

point of view of the children," said Wertmuller who admits to having been profoundly moved and amused by the book.

"These children have a certain kind of wisdom—a wonderful candor. They can chronicle both the happiness and joy of this place and the cruelty of the Neapolitan underworld."

To capture the spirited street-kid's view of the world, Wertmuller created the contrasting character of Marco Spirelli, who arrives in Corzano with an entirely different, somewhat obstinate, view of reality.

Marco Spirelli is a wonderful teacher but he considers himself to be right about everything, as the Neapolitan reality—all over the world do," said Wertmuller. "But as

the teacher changes the children, the children change the teacher."

Wertmuller spent time with the entire group of 50, although not all of them ultimately appeared in the film.

"Choosing was the most difficult part," she said.

"Children are so wonderful. It is part of the true nature of childhood that the first task in life is to play...to put on shows."

They were charismatic. Wertmuller spent time with the entire group of 50, although not all of them ultimately appeared in the film.

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'Tender Mercies:' A compelling video

TENDER MERCIES
By Helaine Blinstock
Novel

Mac Sledge (Robert Duvall) was a celebrity, a former country singer/composer whose wife divorced him following yet another drunken skirmish, forbidding him to see his daughter.

Seven years later and still a boozier, he hits bottom as he scrapes himself off the floor of a run-down motel and confesses to the owner he can't pay the bill.

The motel proprietor, an attractive young widow, allows him to work off his debt if he pledges to stay clear of booze—and he keeps his promise.

Mac has meals with the lonely widow and her son, soon winning the lad's confidence and love. He replaces a father the boy never knew who died before he was born, leaving a young bride (Fess Harper) to raise the child and run the motel.

Mac quickly falls in love with the widow and is honest about his past, inspired to get on with life, he marries the loving woman and

Harrison Ford returns again as Jack Ryan, but this time he is fighting the Colombian drug war. Ah yes, a few conspiracies in the U.S. government, a gentle peace mission, some brutal ambushes and just an occasional small explosion.

Sound like another boring techno-thriller with scarce action? Well, maybe some of that is true, but the limited action scenes certainly get the blood moving and the seats shifting. On yeah, there's a little bit of cool, techno stuff thrown in there, too.

"Clear and Present Danger" is just another example of best-selling book turned into blockbuster movie; therefore a commendable three-and-a-half stars shine on this thriller (Scale is five twinklers with five the brightest). Not as good as its predecessors, but it wears shining qualities that the others could not afford.

Now, I'm not going to try to use a play on words to put the movie name in my last plug, but this flick is clearly praiseworthy with no danger of being a bore, and presently in your local theater.

Sorry, go see it.

NAKED GUN 33 1/3
By Heather Wadowski
Northville

Leslie Nielsen is back as Frank Drebin, a retired cop who's called back on the job to catch an escaped prison convict who's about to bomb the city.

His lead? Tonya, a gorgeous nurse who's fallen for him.

The catch? His wife Jane, who wants a baby and feels that his job is keeping him from her.

Sound stupid? It is. But what do you expect from a "Naked Gun" film? But even though it's stupid, it's a good stupid. Basically, it will keep you laughing.

This movie gets three stars out of five. It's too short. It needs to go into more detail. And it needs to get more stupid-funny and less stupid-sick.

If you want a good laugh and you're open minded, see "Naked Gun 33 1/3: The Final Insult." If you want a good laugh and you're not open-minded, see something else.

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Peter Travers of ROLLING STONE says

"Quiz Show" is the best American movie this year.

Joel Siegel of GOOD MORNING AMERICA says

"Great filmmaking. Quiz Show will win a mantelpiece full of Oscar nominations."

David Ansen of NEWSWEEK says

"The fall season gets off to an auspicious, Oscar-contending start with 'Quiz Show.' Redford's best movie since 'Ordinary People.'"

Richard Schickel of TIME MAGAZINE says

"A smart, hugely entertaining depiction of a turning point in American cultural history."

★★★★★

SISKEL AND EBERT say

"Two enthusiastic thumbs up!"

GENE SISKEL says

"Quiz Show" is clearly one of this year's very best movies."

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the NOVI NEWS Sports

7B
THURSDAY
September 29,
1994

FOOTBALL:
Novi loses in OT /8B

BASKETBALL:
Huron rips Novi/10B

CROSS COUNTRY:
Young runners win at West-ern/10B

STATS:
Football, basketball highlight-ers/8B

Kickers dump Brighton 3-1, take lead in KVC

By SCOTT DANIEL
Sports Editor

There are big wins and then there are bigger wins. Novi High's 3-1 road victory over Kensington Valley Conference soccer superpower Brighton on Sept. 20 falls into that second category. All the Wildcats did was beat the state's No. 1 class A ranked team and take sole leadership of the league standings.

Nothing major, folks. Just the biggest win in the school's history.

"The guys played to the best of their potential," said coach Larry Christoff. "We deserved to win."

It was Novi's first KVC win over Brighton — ever. And you know what, it wasn't even close.

The Wildcats controlled the middle of the field with players like Dave York and Mark Schaefer. Joe Schimizzi and Chris Young dazzled and out hustled Brighton defenders to spur Novi's offense.

It was the game Novi became a force to reckon with in Michigan.

"I've never seen such self-motivation," Christoff said of his players. "The kids were so keyed up. I've

"I've never seen such self-motivation. The kids were so keyed up. I've never seen so many third and fourth efforts by the kids."

The coach gave as an example a play by Dave Stevens. He said the junior defender went some 40 yards away from his position to break up a Brighton play.

"It was a tremendous victory," said Christoff. The Wildcats are 8-1 overall and 6-0 in the KVC. Christoff said the Wildcats will have to continue to

play their best the rest of the league season to stay on top.

"Anything can happen," he added and noted that Novi must go through the league for a second time. "This is only the first round."

Novi controlled the game from the start. But it was a Bulldog miscue that gave the Cats the first half lead.

Schaefer tossed the ball towards Brighton's net on a throw-in. The ball dropped about six yards in front of the goal, deflected off a Bulldog and into the net. The goal came at the 21 minute mark of the first half.

Brighton tried to go on the offensive after the goal by moving some of its defensive players up. But Novi was equal to the task and took its 1-0 margin into halftime.

"We felt we could play with them," said Christoff. Young put the Wildcats in the driver's seat midway in the second half. Schimizzi saved a ball from going out of bounds on the left wing and hit Young with a pass. The Novi senior made no mistake and

made it 2-0 at the 65 minute mark.

Despite the lead, Christoff said he refused to drop his team back into a defensive shell.

"That's one thing I really don't do," he said. "When we try to hang on it seems to backfire."

Keith Barber made it 3-0 moments later. Dave Hart lost his bid for a shutout in the final minute of play as Brighton scored.

"It was time," Christoff said of the win.

Thursday's home win over the Highlanders wasn't as easy as it sounds.

The Wildcats had to go to overtime to get the win. Young got a goal in the first OT and Schimizzi got another in the second OT to give Novi the victory.

Christoff said the guys were a little flat after the huge Brighton victory.

"They weren't playing as well," he said. "We didn't have the same ball control."

Young got Novi's goal in regulation two minutes into the second half.

Tankers win fifth straight 99-87

By SCOTT DANIEL
Sports Editor

Five wins and no losses for the Wildcat swim team? Novi? No way!

Novi High earned its fifth straight win Thursday at home by beating a combined Walled Lake team 99-87. Coach Andrea Johnson said her team's sweep in diving led to the victory.

"I think the girls really came together in diving," she said.

Sarah Hofer, Audra Wolowicz and Dawn Kuzkuzek got the sweep for Novi in diving. That group's performance wasn't the only strong one for the Wildcats.

Novi, for example, took first and third in the 200-yard medley relay. Jamie Vandermass, Michelle Svelter, Lisa Newkirk and Michelle Pantaleo won in 2:04.69 while A.J. Utz, Shelley Williams, Heidi Zimmerman and Tammy Wet were third in 2:17.63.

Meghan Mutch placed second in the 200-yard freestyle. Roxanne Warner was fifth and Jeanie Smith was sixth. Svelter's 2:33.49 was good for second in the 200 IM while Erin Stevens was fourth in 2:46.84.

Vandermass picked up a win in the 50 freestyle. She swam a 25:57 race while Vet took fifth in 30:81.

Hofer won diving with 183.40 points. Wolowicz was second with 152.7. Kuzkuzek was fourth with 123.25 and Mona Benton had 120.6 points in exhibition.

Vandermass missed the state cut by a fraction of a second in

the 100-yard butterfly but won the race in 1:02.95. Christina Tardella was fourth in 1:17.93 and Stevens was fifth in 1:24.99.

Svelter won the 100-yard freestyle in 59.3.

"She finally broke a minute," said Johnson. "It was a big mental block for her."

In the 500-yard freestyle, Mutch had her personal best time with a 5:45.9 for second place. Warner also had a personal best in 6:15.47 for fourth place.

In the 200-yard freestyle relay, the team of Vandermass, Mutch, Newkirk and Warner were first in 1:51. Wei, Kuzkuzek, Tardella and Utz were third in 2:01.91.

Pantaleo won the 100 backstroke in 1:08.02 while Utz was fifth in 1:18.15 and Zimmerman was sixth in 1:18.73. Newkirk had a personal best in the 100-yard breaststroke with a time of 1:21.66 (first place).

The Wildcats closed the meet by winning the 400-yard freestyle relay. Svelter, Smith, Pantaleo and Mutch posted a time of 4:05.16.

Johnson was pleased to get the victory.

"We're all very happy," she said of Novi's perfect record. "It feels good."

NOVI 121, SOUTH LYON 55

Vandermass' performance in the 100-yard freestyle highlighted the meet. She made her second state cut in the event, according to Johnson.

The Wildcats won nearly every

Continued on 8

Runners win WLW invite

By SCOTT DANIEL
Sports Editor

The rest of the field should have stayed home. The way the Wildcat girls cross country team was running Saturday, it sure didn't matter much that they were there.

Novi High took five of the six top spots in the Walled Lake Western Invitational freshman and sophomore race. The Wildcats totaled 17 points while North Farmington was a distant second with 66.

"The girls ran very well," said coach Norm Norgren. "Things are coming together nicely."

Two varsity races are run each year at the invitational. Runners are invited into freshmen-sophomore and junior-senior groups.

While most teams are dominated by older runners, the Wildcats lined up 11 for the freshman-sophomore race. It wasn't even a contest.

Novi's top nine runners finished in the top 20. Each received a medal for their hard work.

Lorna Camp finished first overall with a time of 20:41. That's an outstanding time for the Walled Lake course, which is generally regarded as one of the toughest in the area because of the "hail."

The course is marked by a



Photo by BRYAN MITCHELL

Jamie Vandermass has qualified for two state meet events so far this fall. Here she tries her hand at the breaststroke.

Cor. dnuad on 10

Golfers fall to Bulldogs

By SCOTT DANIEL
Sports Editor

If the Wildcat golf team didn't have bad luck they probably wouldn't have any at all.

Novi High played some of its best golf of the season Thursday only to come up on the short end. The Cats hosted Brighton at the Links of Novi and came up with a score of 155-less than 40 shots per man.

Trouble was the Bulldogs also shot 155. The visitors were declared winners because their sixth man shot one stroke better than Novi's sixth man. Ughhh!

Coach John Peace was impressed with his team's performance despite the loss. He said the Wildcats started playing smart golf.

"We really started keeping the ball in play," Peace commented. The loss dropped Novi to 1-3 in the Kensington Valley Conference. If the squad can keep playing the way it did against Brighton, it could move out of the league cellar.

Brighton and Novi played at the Links' east course Thursday. Although it's short, it requires precise shot making.

Rich Vandermass didn't have any problems keeping it out of trouble. He shot a 36 to lead Novi.

Mu Naruse also played well with a round of 38. Chris Chign-winn took a 40 while Jeff Fannog and Taka Watanabe each had 41.

Netters whip Lakeland 8-0

By SCOTT DANIEL
Sports Editor

Saturday's Saline Invitational may not have gone well in the record book for Novi High, but coach Jim Hanson was happy with the result.

The Wildcats competed as part of a 14-team field. The tournament was broken down into pools where schools played each other round-robin.

Novi dropped all three of its matches. Hanson said, nonetheless, that the Wildcats played some of their best tennis of the fall.

"We played our best tennis of the week," he said. "I was very pleased with the way we played."

Host Saline won the tournament.

Emily Pippas, Susan Lemay and Cassie Lewis all won singles matches. Jackie Gabriel and Jennifer Dietze were the only doubles squad to win.

NOVI 6, LAKELAND 0

The Wildcats moved their Kensington Valley Conference record above .500 to 4-2 Thursday by blanking the Eagles on the road. None of the matches went past two sets.

Pippas defeated Kristin Whitty 6-0, 6-0 while No. 2 singles player Lemay won 6-1, 6-0 over Melissa Osterheart. Lewis beat Jenny Baecker 6-2, 6-3 and Jessica Roemer moved up from junior varsity to beat Holly Reed 6-3, 6-4.

"I wanted to see Jessica play," said Hanson.

In doubles action, Gabriel and Jill Kellogg won their match without losing a game. Sarah Ritter and Kristin Martell whipped Jenny Haney and Michelle Kurkowski 6-3, 6-4.



Photo by BRYAN MITCHELL

Mu Naruse gets out of trouble from a Links of Novi sand trap in a recent match.

Netters whip Lakeland 8-0

By SCOTT DANIEL
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Photo by BRYAN MITCHELL

Susan Lemay competes at second singles for the Wildcats.

At third doubles, Akiko Shiratori and Jenny Cowley beat Heather Weber and Danielle Dawson 6-2, 6-2.

Novi closed the match with a win as Beth Crowley and Alice Lin beat Julie Baker and Jenny Dudek 6-0, 6-3.

BRIGHTON 6, NOVI 2

The Wildcats hopes of repeating as league champs took a real hit Sept. 21 with the loss to the Bull-dogs.

In order for his team to have a chance, Hanson said they'll have to win their rest of their dual matches and the KVC meet to retain its title.

"It's a tall order," he said.

Both of Novi's wins came in doubles matches. Pippas beat Stacey Pearson 6-2, 6-1 while Kellogg played fourth singles and whipped Katie Shea 6-2, 6-4.

Ann Arbor Huron throttles cagers 61-40

By SCOTT DANIEL
Sports Editor

It takes more than one quarter to beat a good team. The Wildcat basketball team may have learned that lesson Thursday in a 61-40 home setback to Ann Arbor Huron. Novi High played a strong first quarter, but wilted under relentless River Rat attack and lost handily.

"We've got to put it all together against the better teams for 32 minutes," said coach Dennis Cichonski. Novi led 16-10 after the opening minutes. But Huron, essentially, put the game away in the second quarter by outscoring the Wildcats 22-6.

Cichonski said his team must find better consistency, especially offensively, if it is to compete with the Hurons of the basketball world. He was happy with the output against Ann Arbor.

"I was very pleased that we were able to score 40 points against this team," Cichonski commented. To be fair, Huron did possess much more size than the Wildcats. And the visitors used that size.

Ann Arbor continually dumped the ball into Julie Henderson and Kristy Bilbee, both of whom were a

"They wore us down."

Dennis Cichonski
Basketball coach

solid 6-foot. Bilbee scored 19 for the Rats and Henderson added 15.

"They wore us down," Cichonski admitted. Novi looked like it might pull an upset of Huron early in Thursday's contest.

After falling behind 3-0, Kelly Kearney swished a three-point bomb to tie it up. Megan Barton gave Novi a 5-3 at 5:35.

The teams traded the lead until late in the period. Laura Snider tied the game for Novi on a pass from Christine Edwards at the 1:12 mark.

Kearney then swiped the ball from Huron and found Edwards for a fast break lay up with 53 seconds left. Edwards added a pair of free throws and Barton scored on a fast break to give Novi a 16-10

lead at the buzzer.

The Wildcats used a full court trap to rattle Ann Arbor in the last minute of play. The River Rats took immediate control of the game in the second.

Huron tied it at 18 and then took the lead seconds later as Henderson converted after a Novi turnover.

Ann Arbor outscored Novi 14-4 the remainder of the half. Cichonski said his team has been getting itself in trouble late in the first half of games.

"We're letting down or making (too many) mistakes," he said. "We're going in with a double digit deficit."

Cichonski said the Wildcats have to keep it close to have a chance at winning.

"We don't have the luxury of being able to work ourselves out of a hole and coming back," he added.

Bilbee had 10 in the half while Henderson added eight. Edwards led Novi with eight.

Novi never got close in the second half. The River Rats, in fact, increased their 10-point halftime lead to 18 by the end of three quarters and 21 by game's end.

Barton and Edwards led Novi with 13 points each.

SOUTH LYON 41, NOVI 36

The Wildcats did dig themselves out of a hole against the Lions but weren't able to finish the job on Sept. 20.

Novi trailed the entire game until the fourth. The Wildcats rallied in that period, 19-6, and forced overtime.

Cichonski said that half court trap worked again for Novi.

"That created a problem for them," he added. "They seemed to panic."

Edwards had a huge fourth quarter. The senior got aggressive and drove to the hoop. She scored eight of Novi's 19 points.

Cichonski said they may have avoided OT with a little better free throw shooting. The Wildcats were just five of 16 from the charity stripe.

In the overtime, a pair of turnovers killed the Wildcats.

South Lyon got the ball on the opening tip and scored. Novi then made the turnovers and couldn't come back again.

Edwards had 13 points in the game.

Harriers take crown

By SCOTT DANIEL
Sports Editor

Don't look now, but Novi High has another highly successful cross country team.

While the girls' squad has been grabbing most of the headlines the past few years by winning everything in sight, the guys appear ready to share the spotlight. The Wildcats won the freshmen-sophomore portion of the Walled Lake Western Invitational Saturday-much to the delight of their coach.

"In a nutshell," he said, "we're back."

Novi easily beat the field despite missing two of its better runners. The Wildcats finished with 70 points while Walled Lake Central was second with 100 points.

David Walle will miss the rest of the season with a "chronic" back problem, said Smith. Jukes Namm missed the meet because of religious reasons.

"We have five super sophomores," Smith said. "If we can get all five together at the same time we'll really be something."

Scott Shepley took second overall in the race with a time of 18:16. Chris Duprey was 10th in 19:16 while Cameron Chipponeri was 16th in 19:37 and Jason Sabol 20th in 19:46. All four runners earned medals.

Jim Lee, a freshman, took 23rd place in 20:27. Brian Fischer was 26th in 20:37 while Mike Alberty 31st 20:55. Smith said Novi had the biggest contingent of runners in the race.

"We had 15 runners," he said. That had to be intimidating to other squads, he said.

The coach said he's very excited about Novi's future. And if that future is bright, Smith said middle school coach Eric Center deserves a lot of credit.

"We owe much of our success to him," he said. "He works very hard."

The Wildcats weren't quite as successful at the junior-senior level. Farmington Hills Harrison won that race and totaled 60 points. Novi was eighth at 163.

Adam Hagfors finished 10th overall with a time of 18:03. Rob Mutch was 25th in 18:45. Mike Girard 34th in 19:19. Ryan Henderson 44th in 19:46 and Adrian Snow was 50th in 20:11.

Saturday was Snow's first finished race this fall. The senior, who was one of Novi's top runners a year ago, has had knee problems this season.

But if he can make it at the Walled Lake course he can make it anywhere, Smith said.

"If he can do that it shouldn't be a problem (to run anywhere else)," he added.

Jeremy Maynard placed 51st in 20:14 while Joe Blackmore ran a nice race at 20:31.

The Wildcats return to action Saturday at Cass Benton in Northville. They run in the Redford Union Invitational.

Runners win at WLW

Continued from 7

steep, long hill that runners must traverse three times during the race. Norgren said he counseled his young runners about the obstacle.

Jenny Hampton placed second overall with a time of 20:47 while Katie Zimmerman was third in 21:08. Angel Root took fifth in 22:12. Michelle Harrison sixth in 22:22. Lauren Rice ninth in 22:34 and Meghan Kranyak 10th in 22:39. Kendra Metheny was 11th in 22:42 and Jenny Bovair was 19th.


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