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NEWS

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Grand River named among 10 worst roads

By JAN JEFFRES
 Staff Writer

Once the place to travel if you were heading from Detroit to Lansing, Grand River Avenue in Novi is no longer an impressive strip of pavement.

Last week, the portion of Grand River between Novi Road and Meadowbrook Road made the AAA Top 10 list of worst roads in Michigan, based on input from over 350 callers to the auto club's hotline.

"Full of potholes, a disgrace," one disgruntled participant told the AAA.

The complaint is justified, according to Kim Harrison, a New Hudson resident who works in Novi and finds the condition of that stretch of the avenue "very poor" and even "unsafe."

"I come from Lyon Township and it's fine and you come to Novi, which is the pits and in Farmington, Grand River is nice," said Harrison, who sells personal insurance.

"They should fix it even if they use gum, the potholes are so bad. They fill with water and you don't seem them until you hit them."

Grand River Avenue is under the jurisdiction of the Oakland County Road Commission, not the City of Novi.

"Oakland County spends less on roads than any other county in its category."

City Manager Ed Kriewall

"They (the county) will just tell you they don't have any money. That's the case," Novi City Manager Ed Kriewall said.

"It'll probably have to be widened and improved some day. The city might have to pay for it at some time. The county road commission doesn't have any money. Oakland County spends less on roads than any other county in its category in the country."

Part of the problem, Kriewall added, is that the county doesn't use any of its general fund for roads, but relies instead on gas tax money and funds from the state.

While Kriewall agrees that Grand River is bad, Novi Road is worse, he said, especially between Nine Mile Road and Grand River.

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Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Wasting no time

After a half-day of school before Easter vacation, Benjamin Jylkka, 9, buries his brother Matthew, 7, in the sand of Power Park's volleyball courts. The boys were with their mother,

Patty, and they were wasting no time getting into the swing of spring because of the break in the weather. Spring arrived last week, although winter still rages elsewhere in the country.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Jerald, Lynn and Kim Zwar operate a pet-sitting service.

Pet-sitters?

Novi family provides needed service for absent pet owners

By JAN JEFFRES
 Staff Writer

For these baby sitters, there are no diapers to change, no bedtime stories to read and absolutely no arguments about what's on TV.

But sometimes their charges whine. Occasionally, one might nip or have an accident on the carpet.

A lifelong love of animals has

become a rewarding career for the Zwar family of Novi. Their business, Pet Stop Pet Sitting Service, offers a home care alternative to kennels for companion critters when their owners are working or out-of-town.

At any given moment, the five-member family is making the rounds of 40 to 50 households.

Continued on 14

A sign of the times

City seal tells a history of the Novi community

By JAN JEFFRES
 Staff Writer

Call it a case of evolution. Located recently in City Clerk Tonni Bartholomew's files were copies of the three City of Novi seals. Since 1969, the uniquely Novi design has been adapted twice, demonstrating the theory that less is more.

"I advised Tonni to hang on to the one remaining copy of the original city charter. The importance of this is that it is the only place that the original city seal can be found ... What is nice is that we have simplified the city seal over time yet we have preserved the original theme," City Manager Ed Kriewall said in a March memo.

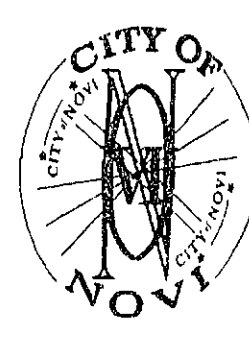
Novi was incorporated as a city in February, 1969. Past issues of *The Novi News* show that in May of that year, the Novi Jaycees invited local residents to design a seal. Charged with the task of choosing the Great Seal of Novi were the City Council and the

OFFICIAL CHARTER

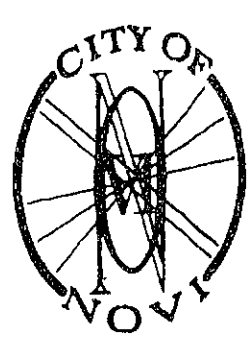


Oakland County, Michigan
 The city seal as of 1969 ...

OFFICIAL CHARTER



Oakland County, Michigan
 ... in 1977 ...



... and today.

Jaycees. The local paper announced that the winner would be named on May 19, 1969, at Mayor's Exchange Day in Novi. On the big day, then-Mayor Joseph Crupi hosted the mayor of Sturgis, ending up the gala with a potluck dinner at the new Novi High School.

That was the year the high school graduated its first class of seniors. In 1969, featured in the paper - besides the big story of the city's incorporation - were weekly write-ups about local men serving in the Vietnam war.

What *The Novi News* didn't mention was the name of the artist who came up with the win-

ning design, versions of which appear on city stationery, the city charter and on signs at the city's gateways.

Some 28 years later, retired city clerk Gerry Stipp said the creator may have been a Willowbrook subdivision resident Robert Melsaac, who was presented with

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Tollgate revives old pond

By WENDY PIERMAN MITZEL
 Staff Writer

Call it a pond renaissance.

Forty years ago the low spot on Adolf and Ginger Meyer's farm at the corner of Haggerty and Meadowbrook roads began to fill with water. Many years later, the spot was dug out as a pond to capture the run off from the adjacent farmland.

Unfortunately, the pond became ripe with weed and algae because of the nutrients and sediment that drained from the farm fields and because it was so shallow. With the additional nutrients feeding the plant life and sunlight accessing the bottom of the pond, the poor quality plants crowded out plant life that sustains other plants and wildlife.

But now, that pond is facing a rebirth. Roy Prentice, farm manager for Michigan State University is overseeing the \$100,000 project that

Continued on 14



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Tollgate Farms manager Roy Prentice shows the silt removal process at the farm's pond.

Community Calendar

To have 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.

Thursday, April 3

Bloodmobile
The American Red Cross bloodmobile will be at Digital Equipment Corporation, 39500 Orchard Hills Place Dr., Suite 300, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. For an appointment, call 347-5096.

Optimist Club
The Novi Optimist Club meets at 7:30 a.m. at the Novi Civic Center.

Monday, April 7

M.O.M.S.
M.O.M.S., a support group for mothers, meets from 9:30-11:30 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church at Eight Mile and Taft roads. The group will meet upstairs. The program is the video series "Love and Logic" on Jim Faye. The first half of the series will be presented today and the second half on April 21. Child care is available for a small fee. For more information, call 348-4302 or 348-7632.

City Council
The Novi City Council is scheduled to meet in regular session at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Novi Civic Center.

Health tests
Community EMS will sponsor blood pressure 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 the Novi Meadows Clubhouse on Napier Road. For more information, call (810) 344-2167 after 6 p.m.

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 Tom Lahiff at 348-6019 evenings. Visitors are welcome.

Tuesday, April 8

Civil Air Patrol
The Sixgate Composite Squadron, Civil Air Patrol, meets at Novi Middle School, 25299 Taft Rd., from 7:30-9 p.m. Adults and youths who have finished the sixth grade are welcome. For additional information, call 349-2669.

CAC
The Cable Access Commission meets at 7 p.m. at 24021 Research Dr. in Farmington Hills.

Beautification Commission
The Novi Beautification Commission meets at 7:15 p.m. at the Novi Civic Center. Audience participation is welcome. For additional information, contact Ernie Anello at 348-9136.

Band rehearsal
The Novi Concert Band rehearses at 7:30 p.m. in the band room at Novi High School.

Camera Club
The Novi Camera Club meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center. For more information, call Hugh Crawford at 349-5079.

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, 344-4269 evenings after 6 p.m.

Wednesday, April 9

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 4-11 Education Center, Twelve Mile at Meadowbrook Road. For chapter information or an invitation to one of the meetings, call 642-7725.

Seniors potluck
The Novi Senior Social Club will gather at noon in the Novi Civic Center for their monthly potluck luncheon.

AARP Meets
The Walled Lake Area Chapter of the American Association of Retired People holds its monthly meeting at 1 p.m. at the Walled Lake Community Education Center, formerly Walled Lake Middle School, 615 N. Pentac Trail. Any community member 50 or over is welcome to attend. Call 960-8444 or 669-6299 for more information.

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

SPARK
The Society for the Preservation of American Racing Knowledge, the all-volunteer support organization for the Motorsports Hall of Fame of America, meets at 7 p.m. at the Novi Expo Center. The meeting is open to anyone interested in supporting the Hall of Fame and Museum.

Youth baseball
The board of directors of Novi Youth Baseball meets at 7 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center. The meeting is open to the public.

F.E.M.A.L.E.
The Novi Area Formerly Employed Mothers at the Leading Edge Chapter meets at 7 p.m. at the Providence Mission Health Center, 39500 W. Ten Mile Rd., Conference Room A. The purpose of the organization is to offer support for mothers who have chosen to interrupt their careers to care for their children. For more information, call Janet at (810) 476-5934.

Thursday, April 10

Playstructure Fundraiser
A fund raiser for the Tim Pope Memorial Playstructure will be held in the Atrium of the World Class Market, 32875 Grand River Ave., from 5-9 p.m. Tickets are \$50 per person with all proceeds going to the playstructure. For tickets or additional information contact Dan Davis, Novi Parks and Recreation at 347-0400.

Board of Education
The Novi Schools Board of Education meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Educational Services Building.

Parks meeting
The Novi Parks and Recreation Commission will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center.

Roses-West Rose Society
The Roses-West Rose Society meets from 7:30-9:30 p.m. at the Novi Community Center, 45275 W. Ten Mile Rd. Paul Hanish will speak on "Old Fashioned Garden Roses." For more information, call 347-0400.

Friday, April 11

Rummage Sale
The Women's Service Club of Meadowbrook Congregational Church will hold a rummage sale from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. The church is located at 21355 Meadowbrook Rd. between Eight and Nine Mile roads.

Saturday, April 12

Rummage Sale
The Women's Service Club of Meadowbrook Congregational Church will hold a rummage sale from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. The church is located at 21355 Meadowbrook Rd. between Eight and Nine Mile roads.

Elvis Night
American Legion Post 224 presents "Elvis Night," starring Sherman Arnold, at the Wixom VFW Hall, 2652 Loni Lake Rd. The dance begins at 8 p.m. and the show at 10 p.m. Tickets are \$10. The public is invited. For more information, call 624-9742.

Sunday, April 13

Antique Arms and Craft Show
The fourth annual Multi-Lakes Muzzleloaders antique arms and craft show will be held from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at 3800 Newton, Walled Lake. There will be costume assistants exhibiting pre-1840 clothing, camping equipment and muzzleloading equipment. Admission is \$3 for adults, children under 12 are free when accompanied by an adult. For additional information, call 363-9109 or 857-3766.

Comedy Showcase
Arbor Center, a bereavement service for children, teens and adults, presents a comedy showcase, "Laughing on the Outside." There will be two dinner seatings, 5:30 and 6:45 p.m., at Genitt's Hole in the Wall Restaurant at 108 E. Main St. Dinners will be followed by comedy performances. Tickets are \$50. For additional information, call 1-800-783-5764.

Monday, April 14

City Council
The Novi City Council will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the council chambers of the Novi Civic Center.

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

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

American Business Women's Assoc.
The American Business Women's Association meets at the Wyndham Garden Hotel, 42100 Crescent Blvd. in Novi. Social hour starts at 6:30 p.m. Dinner is at 7 and the business meeting follows immediately thereafter. For reservations, call Rita Engleton at (810)960-8300 daytime or (810)624-0282 evening, membership information call Betty Johnson (810) 960-9559.

Do you know your neighbors?

List shows 15 convicted sex offenders reside in Novi

By WENDY PIERMAN MITZEL Staff Writer
Sexual offender lists from both the City of Novi and Northville police departments show a total of 18 convicted sexual offenders live in the two communities.

Of those, 15 are from Novi, one from New Hudson, one from Northville Township and one from Northville.

The list became available to the public April 1 as a result of amendments to the 1994 Sex Offenders Registration law, requiring sex offenders to register their addresses with local departments who then send the information to the Michigan State Police. Governor John Engler signed the bill into law in January.

Local residents can obtain the information from local police departments, who have varying policies on how the information will be handled out.

However, police are cautioning those who read the list about how the information should be interpreted. Northville Police Chief Rodney Cannon said there is no indication of when the crimes were committed, what the sentence was or when the address was registered. Some of the addresses could be old and incorrect, he explained.

"I understand the theory behind it and I recognize the right of a person to know if a pedophile is living down the street so they can take the proper precautions... But if you're going to have a system you should get your ducks in a row and get your information up to date and accurate," said Cannon.

CHECKING IT OUT

As of April 1, the list of sexual offenders convicted of any of the four degrees of criminal sexual conduct is available for public viewing at local police departments. The list includes, names, addresses, zip code and offense by title. Also included are physical descriptions and date of birth.

NOVI
According to Chief Douglas Shaeffer the department will comply with any requests. They can be made during regular business hours from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. The department has requested the city attorney to check into any policies that should be developed. No signature will be required to view the list, he said. Although, police are still looking into the matter, Novi Police can be reached at 348-7100.

NORTHVILLE TOWNSHIP
All requests are to be made through the detective bureau at Northville Township Police Department from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Persons requesting information will be required to sign a sheet and will be able to view and take notes while a detective stands by. Northville Township Public Safety Director Chip Snider suggested interested persons call ahead to make an appointment at 349-9400.

NORTHVILLE
Requests can be made during regular business hours, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the front police desk. No copies will be made but notes can be taken from the list. Call Northville Police at 349-1300.

prosecute.
Northville Police information showed five registered sex offenders within the 48167 zip code that spans portions of Northville Township, Northville, Novi and New Hudson. Two offenders, a 55-year-old man convicted of criminal sexual conduct in the fourth degree and a 70-year-old man convicted of CSC II, were from Novi.

A 24-year-old woman from New Hudson is listed to have a record for CSC II, a 19-year-old Northville Township man shows a CSC II conviction and a Northville man shows a record for CSC in the third degree.

The City of Novi list at the Novi Police Department contains 13 names listed as having Novi addresses. Of the 13, one is an 18-year-old woman, the rest are men.

Five of the names are listed in the 48374 zip code west of Taft Road, four of the names are listed in the 48377 zip code north of I-96 and four names are listed under for CSC II, a 19-year-old Northville Township man shows a CSC II conviction and a Northville man shows a record for CSC in the third degree.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Featured builders

Scott and Donna Rumely, who will be at the upcoming Home Improvement Show at the Novi Expo Center April 3-6, manufacture and install enclosed patio rooms for Joyce Custom Enclosure Systems from their Walled Lake business/home.

Injunction confuses release of list

By WENDY PIERMAN MITZEL Staff Writer

A federal injunction on the Michigan law intended to make names and addresses of sexual offenders known to the public caused some confusion for local departments Tuesday.

Northville Township did not release the list of sexual offenders in that community on April 1 because, according to Public Safety Director Chip Snider, the department was still under the injunction.

"Until further notice we are out of the registry viewing business," said Northville Township Public Safety Director Chip Snider. According to State Sen. Michael

Bourhard's office, unidentified complainants filed a case in federal court challenging the constitutionality of the law and an injunction was in place until Friday when the request was rejected.

However, the complainants filed an appeal, which placed another injunction on the lists until Monday, when it was rejected and the injunction dismissed again.

Bourhard was the creator of the bill.

Snider said he was told the injunction was lifted Tuesday afternoon and made the list available by appointment beginning yesterday.

Novi's Lt. David Butler said he was under the impression the injunction was lifted but had also

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FAMILY & FRIENDS FRIDAY-FISH-FEAST

Cited while singing in the shower

A 17-year-old Novi boy was cited by police for loud music he was playing while taking a shower. March 22, police received a complaint about the noise and arrived at the house about 7:30 p.m. Police said there have been numerous complaints in the past about loud music and the teen said he was aware of the problem. Police said there were two other teens in the home during the incident.

Police News

BUSTED

A 33-year-old Milford man was arrested March 25 after police were alerted to the man's untraceable state by Twelve Oaks Mall security that night. An officer monitoring security radio heard the guards discussing a man sleeping in a car near the catalog doors. When they woke him up he was very upset and lost control, according to the report. He drove away as the guards looked down the license plate number. Police ran the plate through the computer system and uncovered the truck was stolen out of Detroit. Officers located the vehicle on I-96 heading east-bound and pulled the man over. Three cars in all arrived on the scene.

Police said they discovered a crack pipe, a black case with two needles and a bottom of a pop can used in narcotics and arrested the man. He told police he was a crack and heroin addict and last smoked the drugs five hours earlier. He was taken to the station and interviewed where he indicated he didn't know the truck was stolen and he got it from a friend who rented it from someone else. Police records indicated a lengthy history in various suburbs including robbery and stolen property.

APARTMENT MISHAPS

Two cars in the Manor Park apartments were the victim of a BB gun shooter March 26. A Cadillac and a Ford pickup were both shot with BB guns. The windows were smashed. On March 30, a Pontiac Grand Am was stolen from the parking lot of the Manor Park Apartments sometime between midnight and 2:30 p.m., police said.

PURSE ALONE

A 38-year-old Novi woman set her purse on the floor inside of K mart, March 29, and walked over two aisles only to find upon returning that her wallet had been stolen.

STOLEN

PICKED-ON TRUCK

An Austin Street man's 85 Ford pickup was the target of a windshield smasher and toilet paper decorator, March 29. Police advised the man to move the vehicle so it wouldn't be damaged anymore. The pick-up has been the target of such problems before, but the man said he was leaving it here. He wanted the responsible persons to "have to look at this person," he said.

NARCOTICS NECESSITIES

Novi Police pulled over a 1990 Ford Probe for having a defective brake light March 29. Officers said a consensual search of the car revealed two bottles of beer, a marijuana pipe and rolling papers in an Abundant box. A 19-year-old Wixom woman was cited for consumption under 21 and an 18-year-old Northville man was cited for possession of narcotics and minor in possession of alcohol.

Citizens with information about the above incidents are urged to call the Novi Police Department at 348-7100.

Novi Briefs

Target practice

Members of the Novi Camera Club and anyone who wants to join them will exercise their shooting skills on April 8, at 6 p.m. by capturing images of the historic Forest Farm, at the southeast corner of Tall and Ten Mile roads.

Special Meeting

The Novi Planning Commission will hold a special meeting on April 16 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. City consultant Brandon Rogers will present a workshop on architectural design.

Gypsy Moth impact explained

The Huron Valley Audubon Society will meet on Tuesday, April 8, at 7:30 p.m. at Kensington Metropark Nature Center. This month's program, "The Gypsy Moth and its Impact," will be presented by Gretchen Vogle of the Michigan State University Extension Service. This informative program will help you up-to-date on the status of Gypsy Moths in Livingston County and Southeast Michigan this year, and what can be done to prevent and control this pest.

For additional information on this program, call (610) 299-7303. Public welcome.

Library Briefs

Novi Library Home Page

Visit the Novi Public Library on the World Wide Web. The library's home page can be reached at: <http://novi.lib.mi.us/>.

National Library Week, 1997

National Library Week runs April 13 - 19 this year. The theme is "Kids Connect @ the Library." The goal is to encourage parents, grandparents, and caregivers to bring children to libraries to help connect them with books, computers, and other resources that will help them learn and grow throughout their lives. Activities will include: Kids Connect Bulletin Board - tell the library your top five reasons for using the library and staff will post your answers in the "real" library and in the "virtual" library on our web page, that is! Log on at the Library Day - Wednesday, April 16. The library will be offering two Internet demonstrations for "Log on at the Library Day" at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. The library will give some hints for how to search the Internet. Call (610) 349-0720 to register.

Novi school board toughens up its personnel policies

By WENDY PIERMAN MITZEL Staff Writer

"You shall not smoke on school property. Not any time, not any place. Not anyone."

That's just one of the policy revisions under scrutiny by the Novi Board of Education. Board members and a Policy Committee are in the process of planning down what changes are necessary to update the personnel policy for Novi Schools.

Some of the policies were last adopted in 1983, others in 1990. "We didn't have a lot of changes to make," said Trustee Julie Abrams. "Our policies were in pretty good shape."

Abrams is heading up the committee made of all seven trustees and personnel director Robert Schram. Each member reviewed a different section and will present their recommendations at board meetings for the next month or two.

A final draft of all the policies will appear on the consent agenda, a non-discussion item, at a July board meeting.

The changes thus far have been reviewed by a specialist at the Michigan Association of School Boards.

Abrams presented her set of findings to the board last month during a March 19 meeting. However, after a brief presentation President Ray Byers told the board it might be a better use of time to make changes with the administration independently and come back at the next board meeting with all the changes in place.

"That didn't sit well with Trustee George Kortlandt who said he would like to discuss it with the entire board present."

"What I want in policy is something specific. Something clear to people ... Leaving it too vague allows someone to sidestep."

George Kortlandt
School board trustee

He said his concerns included the definitions of some of the issues. He cited the policy against the "misuse" of prescription drugs by employees. Does that mean teachers can't give one another an aspirin during school or is it more serious? he queried.

"What I want in policy is something specific. Something clear to people ... Leaving it too vague allows someone to sidestep," he explained.

But Abrams argued against being too specific. "The more definitive the less flexibility you have," she said.

Kortlandt also asked if the definitions of sexual harassment could be more specific. I support the idea of the policy, he said, but what is "a sexual slur?"

"That (definition) belongs to the person who feels it offended," explained Byers. "... I don't think we can sit on policy 'Thou shalt' and 'Thou shalt not.'"

Selected school personnel policies

The following is a brief selection of several, but not all, personnel policies.

TOBACCO-FREE SCHOOLS ... The Novi Community School District enforces Enrolled Senate Bill 459, The Tobacco-Free Schools Law ... The Novi Community School District shall encourage staff who currently use tobacco products to participate in any available assistance program ... Staff, students, or any other persons are not to use tobacco products at any time in any district buildings/vehicles, stadium bleachers owned or operated by the Novi Community School District ... there will be no use of tobacco products on any school property ... The use of tobacco products ... in violation of this policy will result in disciplinary action ... The Tobacco-Free Schools Law makes the violation of this policy a misdemeanor with a fine of \$50. The Novi Police

Department will be notified of an infraction.

SOLICITING AND SELLING ... Employees shall not use school time, school facilities or school equipment (including computers and software) in connection with any personal activity for financial profit outside the regular school program ... Appropriate products or services available for sale or use by staff may be advertised on the e-mail staff bulletin board.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT ... No board member, staff member, volunteer or student ... shall be subjected to, or engage in, any form of sexual harassment or intimidation ... Sexual harassment means unwelcome sexual advances, requests for physical favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature ... To be "unwelcomed" a person must inform the offending individual that his/her comments or actions are unwelcomed and

must cease ... The Superintendent shall establish by regulation a sexual harassment grievance procedure and shall appoint at least one sexual harassment grievance officer ...

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE - EMPLOYEE ... Whenever an employee has been diagnosed by a physician as having a communicable disease, such employee shall report the diagnosis and nature of the disease to his/her supervisor. An employee afflicted with a communicable disease dangerous to the public health may be required to withdraw from active employment for the duration of the illness in order to give maximum health protection to other district employees and students. All district employees shall maintain the confidentiality of afflicted persons insofar as the health and safety of other persons in the district are not compromised and in compli-

ance with state and federal laws ... Communicable disease ... shall refer to any infectious or contagious disease as determined by the State Department of Health and Environment at the United States Centers for Disease Control.

TEACHING STAFF PROBATION AND TENURE ... All teachers during the first four full school years of employment shall be on probation, after which they may be granted tenure. During this probationary period, the Board will ensure that the teacher is provided with an individualized development plan and given an annual year-end performance evaluation, as provided for under current law. Additional performance evaluations or classroom observations, in addition to those required under the Teacher's Tenure Act, may be required as noted in the current negotiated agreement.

Molester nets 15-30 years in jail

Editor's note: Although publication of the perpetrator's name may also identify the victim in this case, the name is being published with permission of the victim's father. The victim has moved out of town.

By WENDY PIERMAN MITZEL Staff Writer

Jeffrey Paul Baker was sentenced to 15 to 30 years in prison March 18 for sexually molesting his step-daughter.

The 32-year-old Novi man pleaded "no contest" in February in Oakland County Circuit Court to two counts of criminal sexual con-

duct in the first degree against his 11-year-old step-daughter.

"If anybody deserves 15 to 30 years, it's Jeffrey Baker," said Assistant Oakland County Prosecutor Joyce Todd. "He's a dangerous man."

This was one of the more egregious cases he handled because of the length of the molestation and other factors," Todd added.

The sentencing did not violate Baker's "Cobb agreement," which included a guideline of 8 and 15 years for Judge Stephen Andrews. The 15-year minimum stayed within the guidelines, explained

Todd.

Under the "Cobb Agreement," had the judge sentenced him to more than 15 years, Baker would have been able to take back the plea and go to trial.

Baker was charged last October after Novi police completed a month-long investigation that resulted in what prosecutors and police called a very strange case.

According to police, the young girl first confided in a friend last summer, who told her mother. She then contacted the girl's biological father, who filed a police report in September.

The physical evidence in the case included signs of vaginal intercourse between the girl and the step-father, police said. Police also found videotapes that provided more evidence of the incidents.

Baker has two children, ages 6 and 2, with his wife of seven years.

Novi Police Det. David Molloy said the young girl is receiving counseling and appears to be adjusting well in her new home.

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REAL ESTATE WEEKLY



By John DiMora

Coldwell Banker's #1 Agent in The State of Michigan

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Many people recognize a decorating style they like when they see it, but they find it difficult to put together colors, fabrics, furnishings and window treatments to create the look they want.

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Right of spring

Gina Capizzani, a 31-year employee of Dinsler's Green House, prepares a few trays of the annual New Guinea Impatiens Monday. Dinsler's, which sells the impatiens for \$2.95 per four-inch

pot, will really begin to see business pick up towards the end of April as planting season hits Michigan, and employees are getting ready for the seasonal rush.

Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Computer snafu stalls release of annual report

By WENDY PIERMAN MITZEL Staff Writer

The Novi Police Department is unable to release its annual report of crime statistics due to a computer snafu at the Court and Law Enforcement Information Management System in Oakland County.

According to Chief Douglas Shaeffer, the department stopped releasing figures a couple months ago after he noticed the numbers didn't appear to match the number of dispatch calls coming in to his department.

The numbers were just swinging so wildly, he explained, adding that the results even showed murders occurring in the city, although no murders were committed last year.

The department pays \$50,000 a year for CLEMIS to track data, according to Brenda Borders, finance director for the department.

Novi downloads its information to CLEMIS which sorts it all out and sends it to the state and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

However, with the new system currently being installed at the Novi department, the controls will

be held locally next year.

Shaeffer said some of the problem may have come from changes in national standards of reporting.

"The entire system of reporting has changed," said Shaeffer, in defense of CLEMIS. They started counting different categories... It added an awful lot to the confusion."

John Mahoney, director of information technology for Oakland County, confirmed the problems were due to computer changes and changes in the codes used to track the data.

"Having gone through the recent conversion the state had us do... apparently the conversion of the crime codes resulted in some inconsistency," Mahoney explained.

Shaeffer said the department is required to compile and submit figures to the state but is attempting to work out the issue. Mahoney said CLEMIS serves 40 to 50 other departments in the county. "I'm sure all of them have got a couple of numbers off," said Mahoney, who indicated the problems are being worked out and should be fixed soon.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

A little time on the court

Alison Morris, 13, and her brother A.J., play tennis on the Novi High School courts during last Thursday's beautiful weather, just enough time to get some practice in.

last Thursday's beautiful weather, just enough time to get some practice in.

School district discusses use of old Meadows building

By WENDY PIERMAN MITZEL Staff Writer

The Novi Community School District is holding another meeting to discuss the development of an alternative elementary school to be housed in the Novi Meadows building.

The next discussion night is set for Tuesday April 8, 7 to 9 p.m. at the Instructional Technology Center. Parents, business owners, students and anyone else from the community is invited to attend and brainstorm on the idea.

Nearly 20 people appeared at a March 13 community-wide meeting to begin the discussion process.

Traynor said the district is hoping to select approximately 20 to 30 people from all walks of the city will be selected to serve on a cadre

or team that will explore the issue and create the new school. The cadre will go on site visits to other alternative schools and research the issue while designing the curriculum, building and staffing of the new school.

The administration hopes to open the new elementary in 1999.

Not only could the new school change education, across district attendance would eliminate the need to redistrict elementary school boundaries in Novi as the new building opens and could be one way to offer "choice" within the district, said Superintendent Emmett Lippe.

The passage of the 1995 bond issues for Novi Schools resulted in the funding for the new Middle School to be built this year and to renovate the existing Novi Meadows building into a fifth elementary school.

But because of logistics and changes in education, administrators aren't all too sure they want to design an elementary school around just principals and instead are looking for new ways to develop the fifth school.

The premise for the change includes these common denominators, according to hired consultant Francine Smithson: The new school would be housed in the Novi Meadows building and attendance will be drawn from all areas of the district. It will use innovative teaching methods and the expenditures for the program will be comparable to other elementary programs within the district.

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Capital Capsules

Gov. John Engler has appointed:

- Lynn Alexander of Bloomfield Hills as director of the state Office on Services to the Aging. Alexander served on the Commission on Services to the Aging since 1993, served on the White House Conference on Aging, and has degrees in social work and psychology. Meanwhile, Engler announced an executive order transfer the Aging office from the Department of Management and Budget to the Department of Community Health.
- Judy Dunn of Bloomfield Hills and Sister Mary Martinez of Livonia to the Community Service Commission, which encourages community service leadership. Dunn, a small business owner, will represent business interests. Martinez is Madonna University's director of the office of multi-cultural affairs and will represent trainers of disadvantaged youth. Their terms expire Oct. 2, 1999.
- Beverly Papp of Bloomfield Hills to the Library of Michigan board. Papp is director of the Farmington Community Library and will represent the Michigan Library Association.
- Teri Iannuzzi of Farmington Hills as director of the Michigan Standards Commission for a term ending March 18, 2000.
- Catherine A. Gatecliff of Brighton to the Construction Safety Standards Commission for a term ending March 18, 2000.
- Gatecliff is owner, executive vice president and secretary-treasurer of Pipe Systems Inc. and vice president of Construction Training Services. He will represent construction management.
- Katherine J. DeGrow of Easton Rapids as executive director of the Michigan Women's Commission.
- A former member of her local school board and the State Board of Education, DeGrow had been director of communication services for the House Republican majority office in 1995-96 and was president and owner of Creative Ink, a newsletter production company.

Resources will hold a workshop in Livonia on "Tools for Brownfield Development." Topics will include sources of funding, brownfield redevelopment zones and local experiments.

The workshop is scheduled for April 10 in the Livonia Civic Center, 32777 Five Mile. There is no charge, but you must register in advance by calling Laurie Stallworth, DNR Environmental Response Division, 517-373-9540. Other sites are April 15 in Gaylord, April 17 in Big Rapids and April 25 in Kalamazoo.

CAMPING?

DNR has a new number to call if you wish to reserve a campsite in a state park during the 1997 season. It is 1-800-44-PARKS. The line is operated by Consolidated Market Response, Inc., a new service provider with more than 200 operators available during peak periods.

Reservations can be made from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. weekdays and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekends. Have your MasterCard or Visa credit card ready.

A reservation or cancellation costs \$5, a change in schedule, \$4. You may request a general area within a campground but not a specific site. Reservations must be made for at least two nights at a Lower peninsula campground and one night at an Upper Peninsula campground.

Written confirmations will be mailed more than seven days before your arrival date. Reservations may be made as late as two days before your arrival date.

"We're confident callers will get the quick and efficient service they deserve. If they don't, we want to hear about it immediately," said Rodney Stokes, chief of DNR's parks and recreation service. His office's number is (517) 373-9900.

Last year 163,000 camping reservations were made.

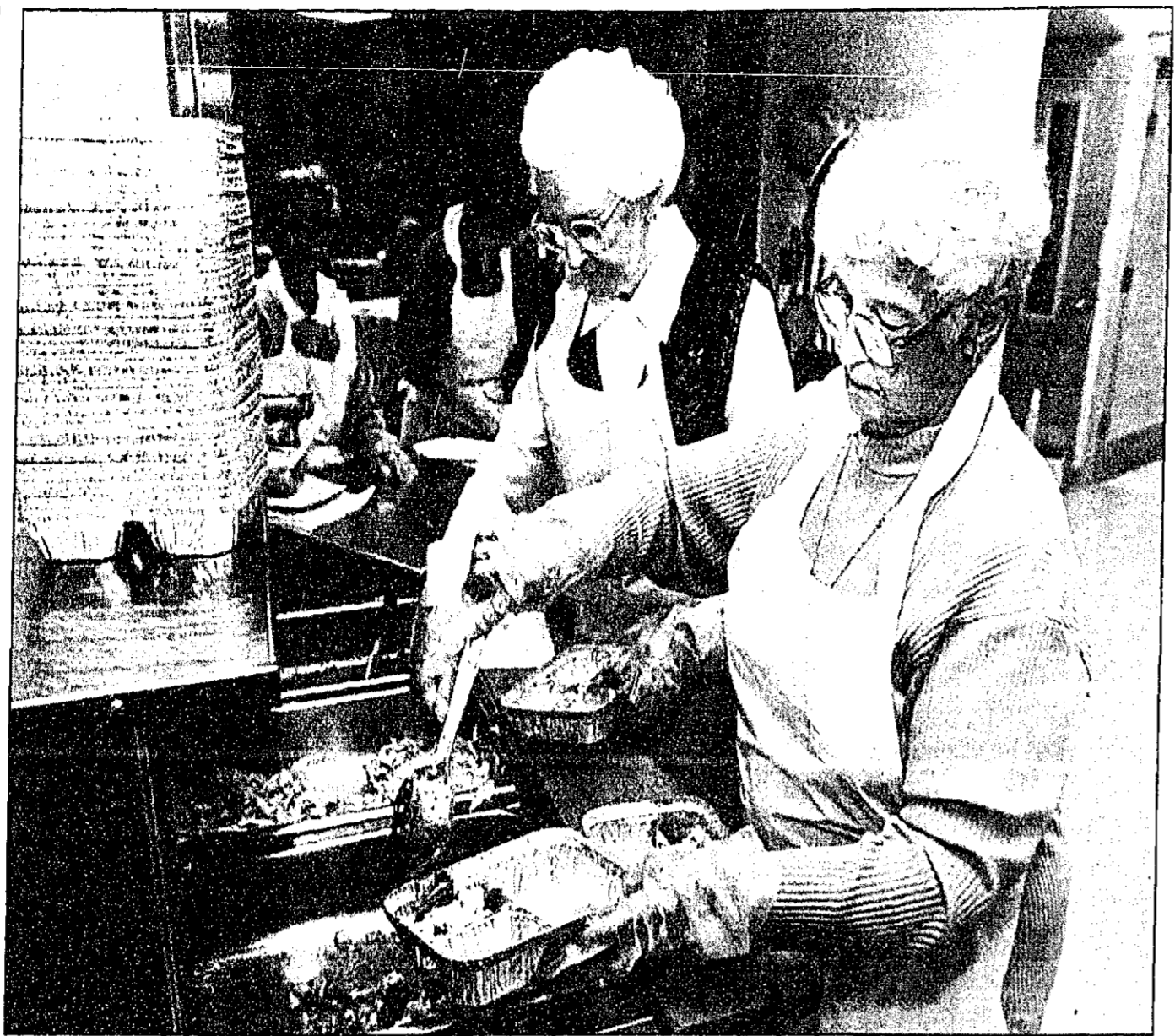


Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Let's do lunch

Volunteers Clara Lutz, left, and Marion Koons put together about 80 hot meals to be distributed to homebound seniors in the Novi, South Lyon and Wixom areas. The effort, coordinated at the Novi Senior Center by Mercy Services for Aging, delivers the meals weekdays and is totally funded by donations from the recipients. Lutz volunteers for the program each weekday.



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The Log Book

The following is a complete list of the emergency runs of the Novi Fire Department for the week ending March 30. Each incident is listed by type, location, time and the engine and squad number which responded to the call.

MONDAY, MARCH 24
 Medical, 20330 E. Glen Haven, 12:45 a.m., Squad 3.
 Medical, 20600 Woodland Glen, 12:51 a.m., Squad 1.
 Investigation, 24710 Portsmouth, 11:02 a.m., Squad 2.
 Medical, 23851 W. LeBost, 12:45 p.m., Squad 3.
 Fuel spill, Novi Road and Ten Mile, 1:26 p.m., Engine 3.
 Wire down, Clark Street and Eleven Mile Road, 3:46 p.m., Engine 1.
 Investigation, 42910 Ten Mile Road, 4:51 p.m., Engine 1.
 Wire down, 44170 Grand River, 5:16 p.m., Engine 4.
 Investigation, 47965 Nine Mile Road, 8:32 p.m., Squad 4.

TUESDAY, MARCH 25
 Injury accident, Pontiac Trail and West Road, 3:10 a.m., Squad 2.
 Stand by, 30595 Ten Mile Road, 9:07 a.m., Response 510.
 Medical, 45175 Ten Mile Road, 2:58 p.m., Squad 3.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26
 Medical, 24467 Venice, 1:40 a.m., Squad 4.
 House fire, 24280 Coral Lane, 8:09 a.m., Engines 1 and 3.
 Fire alarm, 23175 Crescent, 8:35 a.m., Engines 2 and 4.
 Service, 40352 Harrison, 9:37 a.m., Squad 1.
 Garage fire, 25896 Clark St., 10:17 a.m., Engine 1.

THURSDAY, MARCH 27
 Service, 39584 Blakeston, 2:11 a.m., Squad 1.
 Medical, 23562 N. Rockledge, 7:31 a.m., Squad 3.
 Stand by, Country Place, 11:08 a.m., Response 510.
 Fuel spill, Twelve Oaks Lot 26, 1:39 p.m., Engine 1.
 Brush fire, Meadowbrook and Ten Mile, 5:49 p.m., Engine 1.
 Fuel spill, Ten Mile and Cranbrook, 6:39 p.m., Engine 3.
 Medical, Twelve Oaks Mall, 7:41 p.m., Squad 1.
 Investigation, Thirteen Mile and Plateau, 8:56 p.m., Engine 2.

FRIDAY, MARCH 28
 Medical, 45600 Ten Mile Road, 6:43 a.m., Squad 4.
 Medical, Thirteen Mile and Old Novi Road, 1:52 p.m., Squad 2.
 Medical, 50577 Ten Mile Road, 3:08 p.m., Squad 4.
 Injury accident, Perry's and Twelve Oaks, 4:30 p.m., Squads 1 and 2.
 Medical, 22502 Mansion, 8:27 p.m., Squad 3.

SATURDAY, MARCH 29
 Service, 39584 Blakeston, 4:47 a.m., Squad 1.
 House fire, 24446 Red Wing, 11 a.m., Engines 1 and 4.
 Rubbish fire, 2203 Novi Road, 12:07 p.m., Engine 2.
 Medical, Novi Police Department, 5:02 p.m., Squad 3.
 Medical, 22502 Mansion, 11:01 p.m., Squad 3.

SUNDAY, MARCH 30
 Injury accident, 1-96 and Novi Road, 12:38 a.m., Squad 1.
 Service, 39584 Blakeston, 7:12 a.m., Squad 1.
 Medical, 24505 Meadowbrook, 8:02 a.m., Squad 1.
 Car fire, 1-96 and Beck Road, 11:20 a.m., Engine 1.
 Medical, 31150 Wellington, 1:17 p.m., Squad 2.
 Medical, 41746 Tamara, 1:21 p.m., Squad 3.
 Investigation, 23560 E. LeBost, 9:04 p.m., Squad 3.

Loss of spouse led to suicide

By WENDY PIERMAN MITZEL Staff Writer

A 70-year-old Novi man was found dead in his apartment March 25 from a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head.

According to Novi police, a friend with Floyd T. Doyle the day before his death and said he was upset about his wife's death last year.

Co-workers became concerned about Doyle, known better as Joe, when he didn't answer his door at 9:30 that morning. After trying several times to reach him, they entered the apartment with a key and found him lying at the foot of his bed.

A friend and co-worker told police she was with Doyle the previous afternoon. He seemed depressed about his wife's death and was crying when they parted, according to police.

Mr. Doyle was born Sept. 7, 1926, in Hemlock, Mich. He is survived by sons, Howard and Robert; daughters, Josephine and Josephine; and a sister, Mary. He had two granddaughters.

Services were held on Wednesday, April 2, at Holy Cross Church in Novi.

Arrangements were made by O'Brien Chapel/Ted C. Sullivan Funeral Home, Novi.

Filing date nears for election

By WENDY PIERMAN MITZEL Staff Writer

Time is running out for Novi school district citizens who wish to run for a position on the Novi schools Board of Education June 9.

Citizens of the school district who wish to run for election to one of the four-year seats must pick up and fill out a petition and return it to the Educational Services Building by 4 p.m. on April 7.

Two seats are up for reelection this year. Any takers will have to challenge incumbents John Street, Vice President, and Trustee John Balagna, who have both announced their intention to run again.

Street announced March 19 his intention to run for election to one of the four-year seats on the board when many exciting changes take place in the district, including the block schedule pilot program at Novi High School and the construction of the new Middle School. Street first ran for election in 1989 and won reelection in 1993.

Balagna announced at a March 6 meeting that he would run again. He was appointed to the seat last spring and elected for one year in June of 1996.

The last day to register to vote is May 12. Voters can register at any Secretary of State's office and the City Clerk's office.

Wheeler's get club on the road

The Working Wheelers may be the new kids on the block, but they don't lack any energy getting things started, or keeping things moving.

The club spans Novi, Farmington Hills, Commerce Township, Farmington, Walled Lake and West Bloomfield.

Members have their choice of weekly rides during the summer, and for the zealous of the group, the brave ride all winter long.

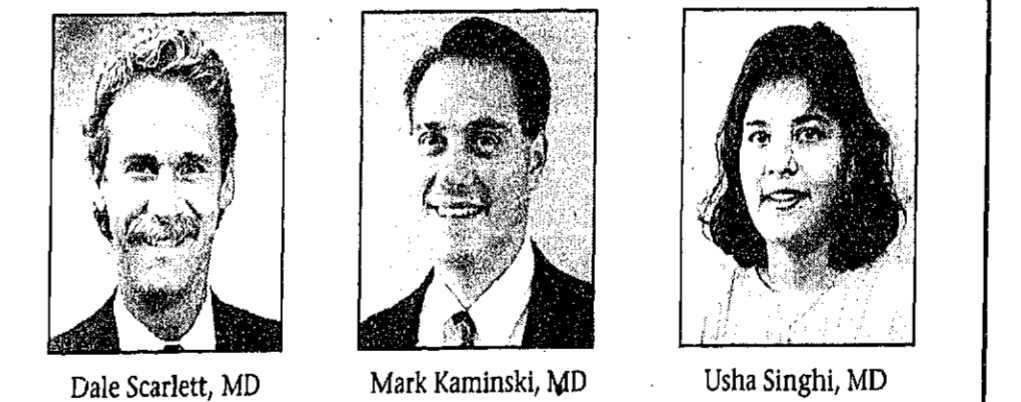
Members also receive a newsletter highlighting club, local, state and national bicycling activities and items of interest.

The club will hold its general membership meeting on Thursday, April 17, at the Oakland Physical Therapy Center which is housed within the Providence Park Medical Center located at Grand River and Beck in Novi. There's no charge for the meeting, and non-members are welcome.

For information about the meeting, membership, and upcoming rides, visit the WWCC web site at www.freeway.net/southfield/wheelers.html, or send an e-mail to wwccycling@aol.com or mvarana@esmail.com, or contact Marie Varana at (810) 488-1364.

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 Not valid on previous purchases. This is a some-as-cash offer. Financing is subject to credit approval on the Best Buy Card. Offer is for individuals, not businesses. As of 3/25/97, the Best Buy Card Annual Percentage Rate (APR) is 27.25%, APR may vary. Minimum monthly payment charge of 1% of balance may apply. Credit is provided by Bank One, Dayton OH or Bancard National Bank USA. January 1998 Financing: Financing is a Deferred Interest. With Payments program. If balance is not paid in full by the plan expiration date, or if minimum monthly payments of 3% of balance, or 1% (whichever is greater) are not made, interest will be assessed from the original date of purchase on the average balance. The following qualify for 1998 financing all appliances \$299 and up. For complete financing details please refer to your credit application, credit statement or Best Buy in-store customer information.
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TWO DAY

40-

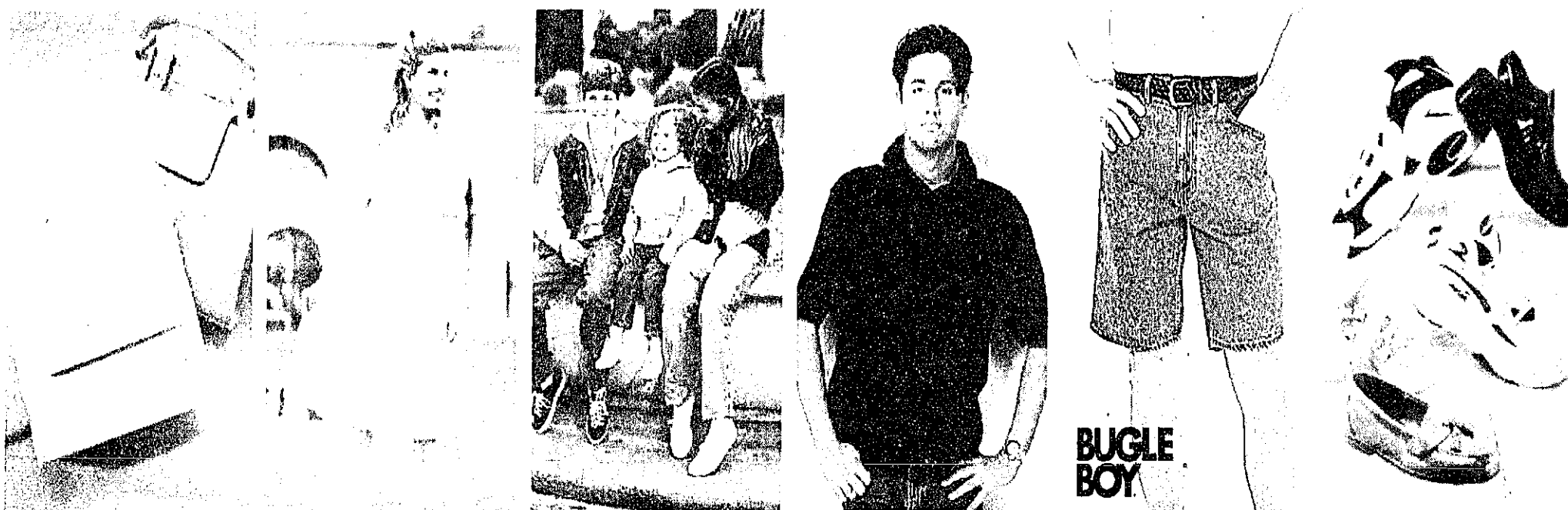
On These



40-50% Off Misses' corporate casual separates. Selected tops, jackets, pants & more in spring colors & neutrals. \$30-\$96, sale \$18-\$48

40% Off Misses', petites' and plus-size coordinates. Selected career and casual pieces in spring styles & colors. Reg. \$26-\$86, sale \$15.60-\$51.60

10⁹⁹ 45% off juniors' Elmo screen-printed tee. Reg. \$20. Knit hang-down shorts. Solids and plaids. Reg. 11.99, sale 6.99



40% Off Entire Stock Leather handbags. Reg. \$20-\$69, sale 12.00-\$41.40. 40% off all Moments, sheer hosiery & single-pk. anklets, sale 1.20-\$3.30

40% Off Entire Stock Dresses for newborns-girls 4-16. Reg. 10.99-\$6.99, sale 6.59-\$22.19. 40% off girls' 4-16 Ocean Pacific® apparel. 9.99-\$12.99, sale 5.99-\$7.79

40% Off Entire Stock Kids' outerwear. Great selection of spring styles for infants, girls 4-16 and boys 4-20. Reg. 10.99-\$45.00, sale 6.59-\$27.00

40% Off Young men's tops from Rhinoceros. Active knit styles in extended sizes M, L and XL. Reg. \$22-\$25, sale 13.20-\$15.00

40% Off Entire Stock Men's Bugle Boy® denim shorts and jeans. Just in time for summer. Reg. 21.99-\$28.99, sale 13.19-\$17.39

40% Off Selected athletic, dress and casual shoes. For men, women and kids. Reg. 9.99-\$79.99, sale 5.99-\$47.99

Plus, save 10-50% on these outstanding

For Her

- 25-30% off all misses' knit tops, blouses & sweaters, sale 11.99-29.99
- 20-25% off all misses', petites' & plus-size Lee® denim and casual pants & shorts, sale 18.99-31.99
- 30% off all misses' twill drawstring pants, sale 13.99
- 25-40% off all misses', petites' and plus-size coordinates & related separates, sale 18.00-\$1.60
- 20-40% off all misses' activewear, sale 7.99-28.50
- 30% off entire stock maternity sportswear, sale 9.80-35.00

- 20-30% off fitness, sale 6.99-41.25
- \$10-\$20 off all misses', petites' & plus-size dresses, sale 29.99-79.99
- 33% off entire stock spring outerwear for her, sale 26.79-73.69
- Sale 9.99-14.99 Juniors' tie-dyed tees. Reg. \$14-\$20
- 33% off all juniors' sweaters, knit and woven tops, sale 5.35-\$22.10
- Sale 2/\$11 or 5.99 ea. Entire stock juniors' bike shorts.
- Sale 28.99 Juniors' Levi's® basic jeans. Reg. 39.99
- Sale 24.99-26.99 Jrs.' Levi's® shorts.
- 33% off sleepwear & loungewear separates, sale 10.04-16.74

- 33% off fashion jewelry, sale 2.67-22.11 Excludes famous makers.
- 25-33% off entire stock watches, sale 10.49-412.50
- 50-55% off entire stock sterling & gold-filled jewelry, sale \$3-\$40
- 55% off entire stock Black Hills' Gold™ jewelry, sale 24.75-162.00
- 33% off all other mini- & handbags & purse access., sale 2.34-30.82
- 35% off all Bodysource® sets. Reg. \$6-\$20, sale 3.90-13.00
- 33% off all women's sunglasses. Reg. \$15-\$28, sale 10.05-18.76
- 33% off all women's belts. Reg. \$10-\$22, sale 6.70-14.74

For Kids

- 30% off all kids' name-brand apparel, sale 3.49-19.59
- 30% off all kids' short sets and rompers, sale 8.39-13.99
- 25-30% off entire stock kids' swimwear, sale 6.29-27.74
- 33% off all boys' Bugle Boy®, Izod®, Dockers® & Carter's® tops and bottoms, sale 8.03-20.10
- 25% off all kids' name-brand sports apparel, sale 7.49-35.99
- 25-33% off all infants' and kids' basics & accessories, .62-44.99
- 20-30% off all toys, .51-135.99

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When you take an additional 25% off the already-reduced clearance prices.

Final prices given at register. Clearance prices represent savings off original prices. Selection varies by store. Interim markdowns may have been taken. Sorry, no price adjustments given on prior purchases.

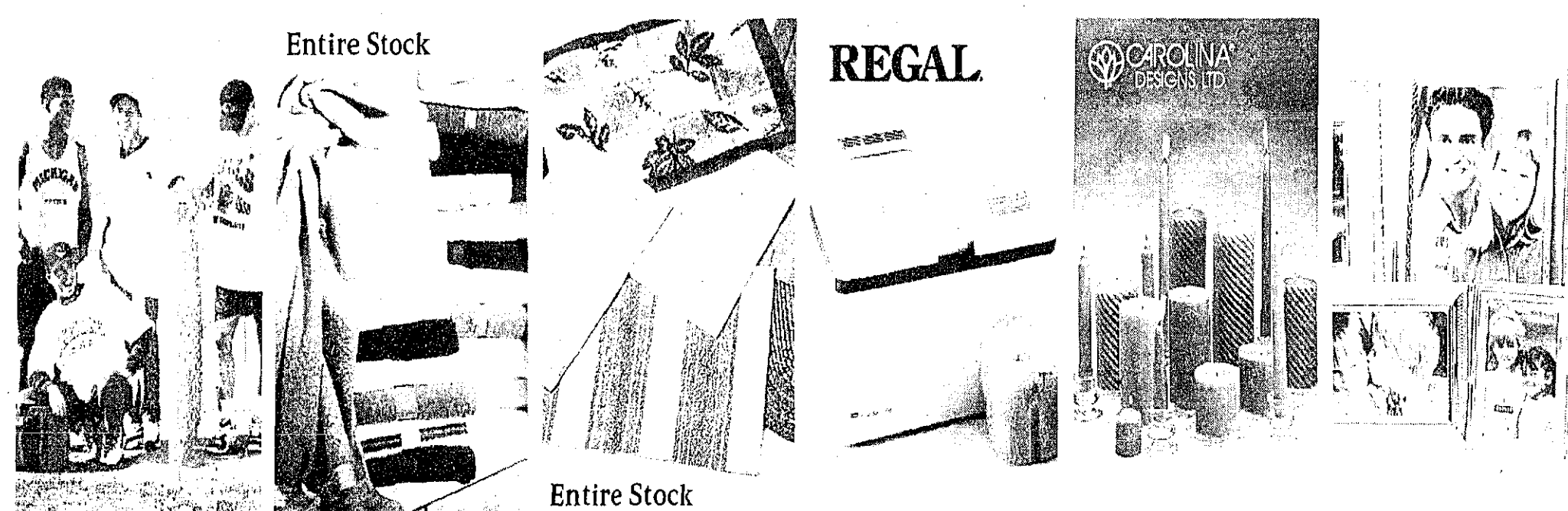
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40-50% Off Selected adults' team and name-brand apparel, outerwear and accessories. Reg. 6.99-\$44.99, sale 4.19-\$44.99

40-50% Off Bath and beach towels. Jacquards, embroidered, prints, more. Includes hand and fingertip towels. Reg. 2.99-29.99, sale 1.49-17.99

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50% Off 40% off all rug grips & carpet protectors, sale 2.39-8.99

40% Off Entire Stock Regal® 2-lb. Kitchen Pro™ breadmaker. Features 6 menu settings and a large viewing window. Reg. 199.99, sale 99.99

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40% Off Entire Stock Frames and photo albums. Reg. 79-39.99, sale .47-23.99

40% Off Entire Stock 40% off framed art. Reg. 12.99-159.99, sale 7.79-95.99

ENTIRE STOCK items for your family & home!

For Him

- 25% off all dress shirts and neckwear, sale 10.50-27.00
- 30% off all Croft & Barrow® sport shirts, sale 15.40-23.80
- 20-30% off all activewear. Reg. \$8-\$38, sale 5.99-26.60
- 30% off all young men's screen-printed tees, sale 11.20-14.00
- 25-30% off Lee®, Levi's® & Sonoma tops and shorts, sale 11.99-18.20
- Sale 19.99 Entire stock men's Lee® Regular & Relaxed Fit jeans.
- Sale 16.99 All Lee® Prewashed jeans & Lee® Riveted denim shorts.

- Sale 21.99 Entire stock Levi's® Prewashed Indigo Jeans.
- Sale 29.99 Levi's® Red Tab Wide Leg jeans. Reg. \$40
- \$4-\$11 off all Haggag® Wrinkle-Free Cotton® pants, sale 29.99-36.99
- \$8-\$14 off all Dockers® cotton pants, sale 27.99-39.99
- 30% off all Croft & Barrow® & Requirements socks, 1.60-4.89
- 30% off belts, wallets & all Hanes® 3-pk. underwear, sale 4.19-22.75
- 30% off entire stock men's athletic socks, sale 3.49-8.39
- 25-33% off adults' sports apparel, sale 3.74-50.24

Athletic Shoes

- 20-30% off entire stock men's, women's and kids' Reebok® shoes, sale 18.89-59.99
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- \$5-\$15 off men's and women's golf, cross-training, walking and running shoes, sale 19.99-79.99
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- 25-50% off all bedding and accessories, sale 3.99-187.59

- 40% off all window treatments, Reg. 11.99-99.99, sale 7.19-59.99
- 33% off all table linens, chair pads, decorative pillows and bath accessories, sale .66-66.99
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- 45-60% off wheeled carry-ons, sale 38.49-131.99

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Tollgate sets out to revive old pond on site

Continued from 1
will serve as an educational tool as well as an example of proper wetland maintenance for developers in the suburbs.

In 1987, Michigan State University purchased the property as an extension program and educational center.

The intent of the project is to enable developers and landowners to understand how to create a proper wetland system that functions well and still looks pleasant.

"We want to create something not only environmentally sound in design but palatable to the landscaper... It looks nice and increases property values," explained Prentice, adding that many developers have expressed an interest in this sort of project.

Sue Tepatti, wetlands consultant for the City of Novi, said the project will be advantageous to land developers because the city is very stringent on water management practices and design.

"These are some different design principals they can use," she said. "To get there, though, the mucky water topped grasses are wrought with heavy equipment tracks that created a dirt walled water basin to hold the dirty pond water dredged and sucked up the hill into the temporary holding tank."

The dredged water will be flushed back into the pond through a pipe system until full.

The dredging of the pond will be complete in a month but most of the plantings will be done in the fall. Prentice said he welcomes the public to stop by and watch the progress and transformation. It should be mostly completed in 1998, he said.

The new water combined with special plantings, trees and additional wetlands will bring in a better diversity of plants and encourage wildlife back to the area. Prentice said.

Tepatti called it a "reclaiming" of the old values of the pond, for example fish and fowl breeding habitats.

Prentice said amazingly the fish already in the pond appear to be unaffected and will suffer no damage from the dredging of the pond.

Prentice said it's important for the water quality to be good because it continues to flow through the county drain system and into other water systems.

"Water doesn't just sit in one spot," he said. "...Everybody deals with any problems we create here."

Because of its university affiliation the farm was not subject to Novi ordinances but did have to work through the Oakland County Drain Commission and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality.

MSU has owned 60 acres of the property since 1987.

It leases the other 100 acres owned by the Americana Foundation, created by Novi farmer

Adolph Meyer who believed in the preservation of farmland and rural culture.

The project is a joint effort between MSU, Oakland County, the MSU Departments of Fisheries and Wildlife and Institute of Water Research, the MDEQ, the Americana Foundation and Aquest, a private consulting firm.

PLOTTING PARADISE

- The pond will be lowered to 12 feet deep
- The farm field tiles under the soil will direct the water to two catch basins that will filter the water and funnel it to two water gardens with tiny waterfalls before entering the pond.
- A dock will hang over the water for students to get a better view.
- Pathways around the area will direct students to signage detailing the wildlife and plant life in that section.
- The project also includes an amphitheater of grass for workshops and programs.
- As many as 100 Michigan State University master gardeners will help to landscape and care for the surrounding area filled with shrubbery, trees, flowers and other plants.
- Once the temporary water basin is no longer needed, the mud walls will be leveled out to create a community garden, where community members can purchase a small plot of land to grow a garden.
- On April 23, Tollgate will hold a program in conjunction with the pond project to discuss development in regulated wetlands. The program will run from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. To register call Oakland County Extension at (810) 858-0887.

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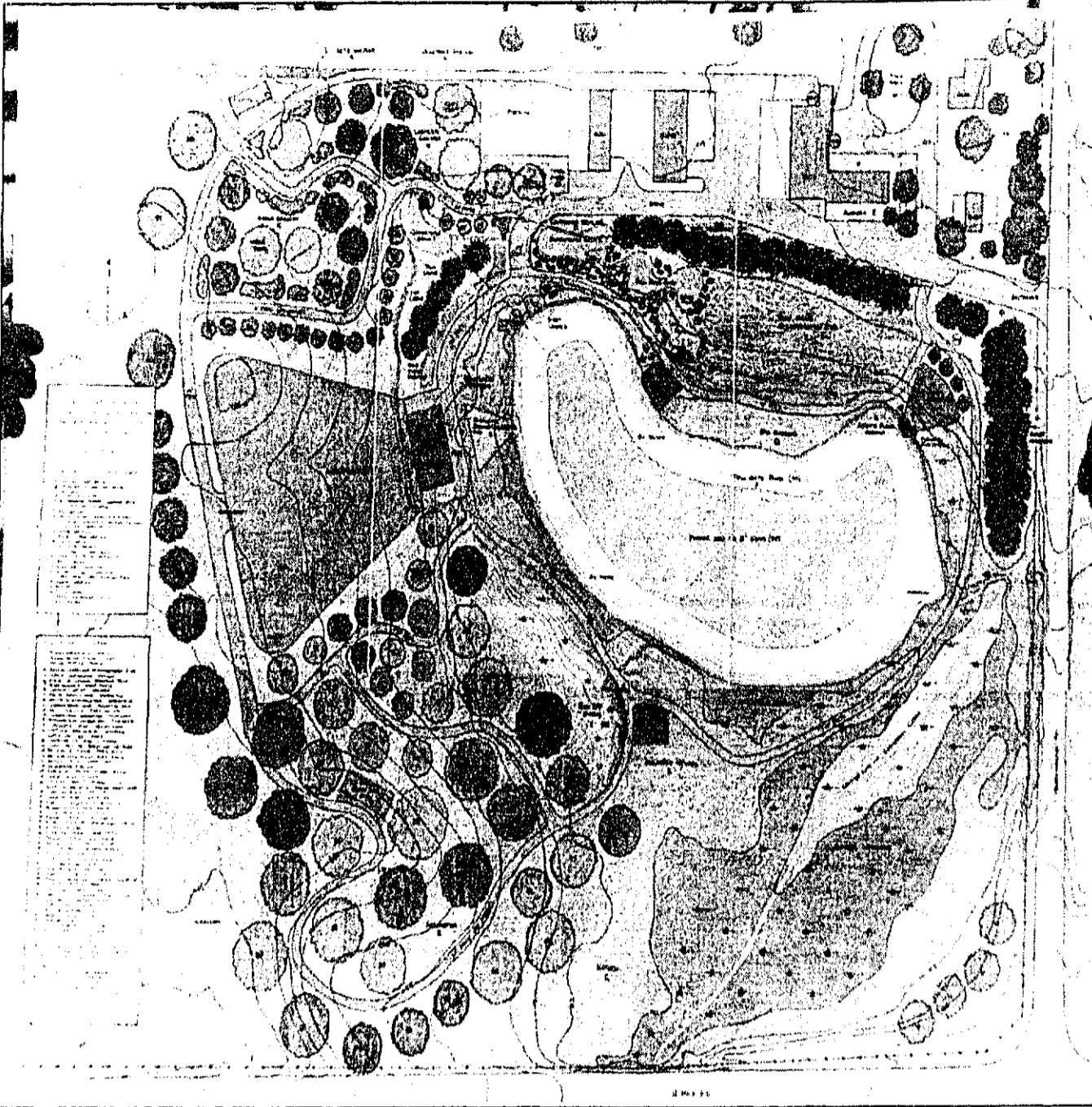
Adolph Meyer who believed in the preservation of farmland and rural culture.

The project is a joint effort between MSU, Oakland County, the MSU Departments of Fisheries and Wildlife and Institute of Water Research, the MDEQ, the Americana Foundation and Aquest, a private consulting firm.

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Adolph Meyer who believed in the preservation of farmland and rural culture.



A map of the planned revived pond at Tollgate Farms. Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Adolph Meyer who believed in the preservation of farmland and rural culture. The project is a joint effort between MSU, Oakland County, the MSU Departments of Fisheries and Wildlife and Institute of Water Research, the MDEQ, the Americana Foundation and Aquest, a private consulting firm.

The project is funded by the Americana Foundation, created by Novi farmer Adolph Meyer, to further natural preservation.

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Seal tracks history of community

Continued from 1
"I might be wrong, I can't be absolutely sure," Stipp added.

"I think the guy was a commercial artist. He wasn't just a rank amateur."

Appropriate to the late 1960s, with its fondness for Op art, the abstract design features Novi as sixth gate on Grand River Avenue, once the toll road to Lansing.

Along with a series of stars, appropriate for the 1960s space age, the design features three dates "1830 founded, 1850 adapted and 1909 City of Novi."

The one that was chosen had a lot more knots on it. It would just get reworked from time to time. It was too hard to duplicate it," Stipp said.

But by the late 1970s, the design was replaced by a November 1977 action of the city council, with the new seal to take effect on Jan. 1, 1978. While the pared-

down, disco-era look simplified the design, it retained features such as the stars. That same November, voters supported a rewritten city charter.

Twelve Oaks Mall opened in 1977. President Jimmy Carter was invited to attend the opening of the new Novi High School building, but declined. And also in November of that year, voters approved a city bond issue to purchase 71 acres of land at Tenth and Ten Mile roads from the Novi school district. They also approved building a new parking station on the property and expanding the Novi library for city offices.

What happened after that is that it was determined by someone that the original city seal was too complex and somewhat over done. Along the way, the city seal was revised to retain some of the original elements," Kriewald said.

Although the look is new, it keeps the imagery envisioned by the artist. And that's what makes the Novi seal a one-of-a-kind design.

Michigan Edison officials, retirees and stockholders cheered the Michigan Public Service Commission staff plan to bring competition into the electricity market starting July 1.

They dominated MPSC's hearing March 26 in the Wayne County Commission auditorium in Detroit. Consumers Energy, which has much of the outside electric market, also agreed in written comments to the PSC that competition is the way to go.

"We support the staff plan because all customers will benefit immediately from reduced electric rates," said Edison's Anthony F. Earley Jr., president and chief operating officer, in a formal reply to MPSC's plan. He estimated rates would drop 8 percent, or \$295 million.

The catch: how to recover "stranded costs," which the utilities say should be picked up by customers who switch providers. Residential customers who switch would pay rates 13 percent higher.

"Many large industrial groups and our attorney general, Frank Kelley, are calling on the MPSC to reverse an agreement made by the government during the long-standing regulatory environment... We (shareholders) take these threats seriously."

"Stranded costs" are costs a utility pays in a regulated, monopoly environment to generate electricity, including transition costs, that

may not be recovered if customers switch in a competitive market.

Electric customers who leave Consumers Energy would pay about 1.45 cents per kWh, according to its new release. Those who stay with Consumers Energy would pay transition implementation charges.

Competition would be phased in between July 1, 1997 and 2001. MPSC members John Strand, John Shea and David Svandula listened without comment as a dozen persons spoke. Supplies.

Alma Staffworld, former Democratic state representative from Detroit who used to chair the House Public Utilities Committee and now is on Edison's payroll, said the MPSC staff plan promotes fairness.

"It allows all customer groups to purchase open-access power in 1997. It demands reciprocity (for unregulated Michigan jobs and revenues). And it allows utilities to recover stranded costs" by protecting shareholders, said Staffworld, whose title is community outreach liaison.

Ronald Robinson complained he "couldn't get past a secretary" to sell Edison officials about his idea to cut the cost of generation 90 percent. He didn't elaborate.

Joanne Romey, a retired Edison supervisor in customer service, praised the MPSC report, saying the plan would provide reliable service, lower rates, provide new options, and honor Michigan's high environmental standards.

Ray Marrattonin, an Edison retiree, praised the report and said Edison has "worked to minimize outages during storms."

Upper Peninsula resident Henry Peters, who picked up news of the hearing on radio, complained the UP was considered as a nuclear dump site. He chided MPSC for holding no UP hearings. "What place is there for energy conservation in all this restructuring?" Peters asked without getting an answer.

The MPSC will hold hearings at 1:30 p.m. April 2 in Grand Rapids City Commission chambers and at 1 p.m. April 3 in the Mount Pleasant City Commission chambers. To send written comments, refer to case U-11290 and send to: Michigan Public Service Commission, PO Box 30221, Lansing 48909.

ANN ARBOR FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW

APRIL 3-6

An American Bouquet

Cited by House Beautiful magazine as one of the nation's finest shows.

ADMISSION: Adults \$9 at door, \$8 in advance until April 2 by phone 313-763-7135 or at Kroger Stores. 4-12 yrs. \$3, under 4 yrs. free.

LOCATION: Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds Ann Arbor, 194 to exit #175 go south and follow signs.

PARKING/SHUTTLE: Free parking at show grounds. Free shuttle every 15 minutes at Briarwood Mall Sears.

SENIOR DAYS: Thur.-Fri., April 3-4, \$1 discount off the door price.

Presented by: University of Michigan Matthaei Botanical Gardens

For information call 313.998.7002

349-3816

Northville Physical Therapy is conveniently located at 332 E. Main Street, Suite A

Whether you have a chronic case of arthritis, an aching shoulder after a tough weekend of tennis, or are in need of a fitness program, you can benefit from physical therapy. All it takes is to know to ask for it (and usually a physician's referral), however, all too many people are unaware as to what physical therapists provide to improve strength, endurance, range of motion, and coordination. Modalities range from massage and hydrotherapy to electrical stimulation and ultrasound treatment. Physical therapy may also help relieve the pain that prevents so many people from engaging in healthy movement.

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HEALTH NOTE

by Dennis E. Engerer, P.T. GET MOVING

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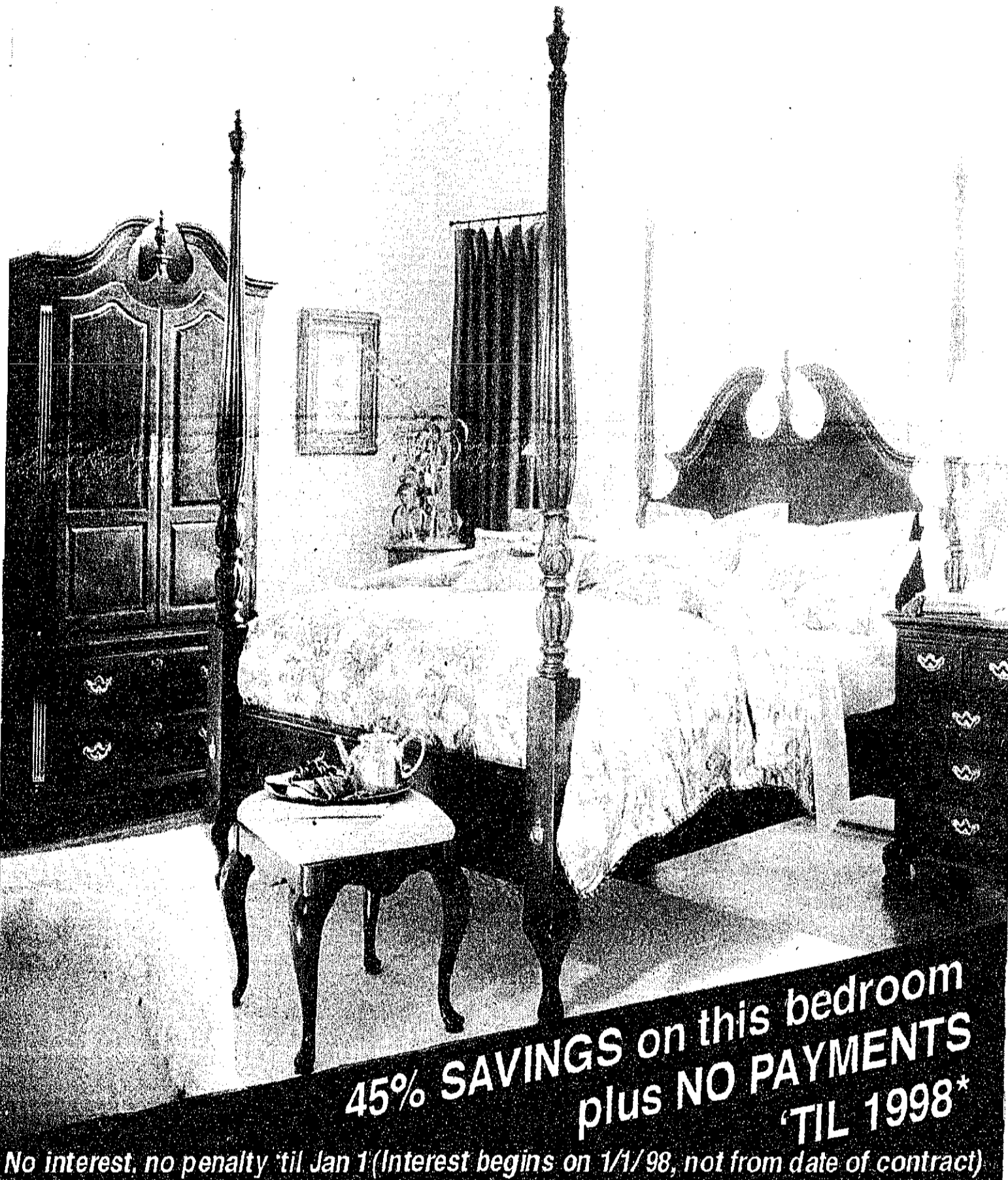
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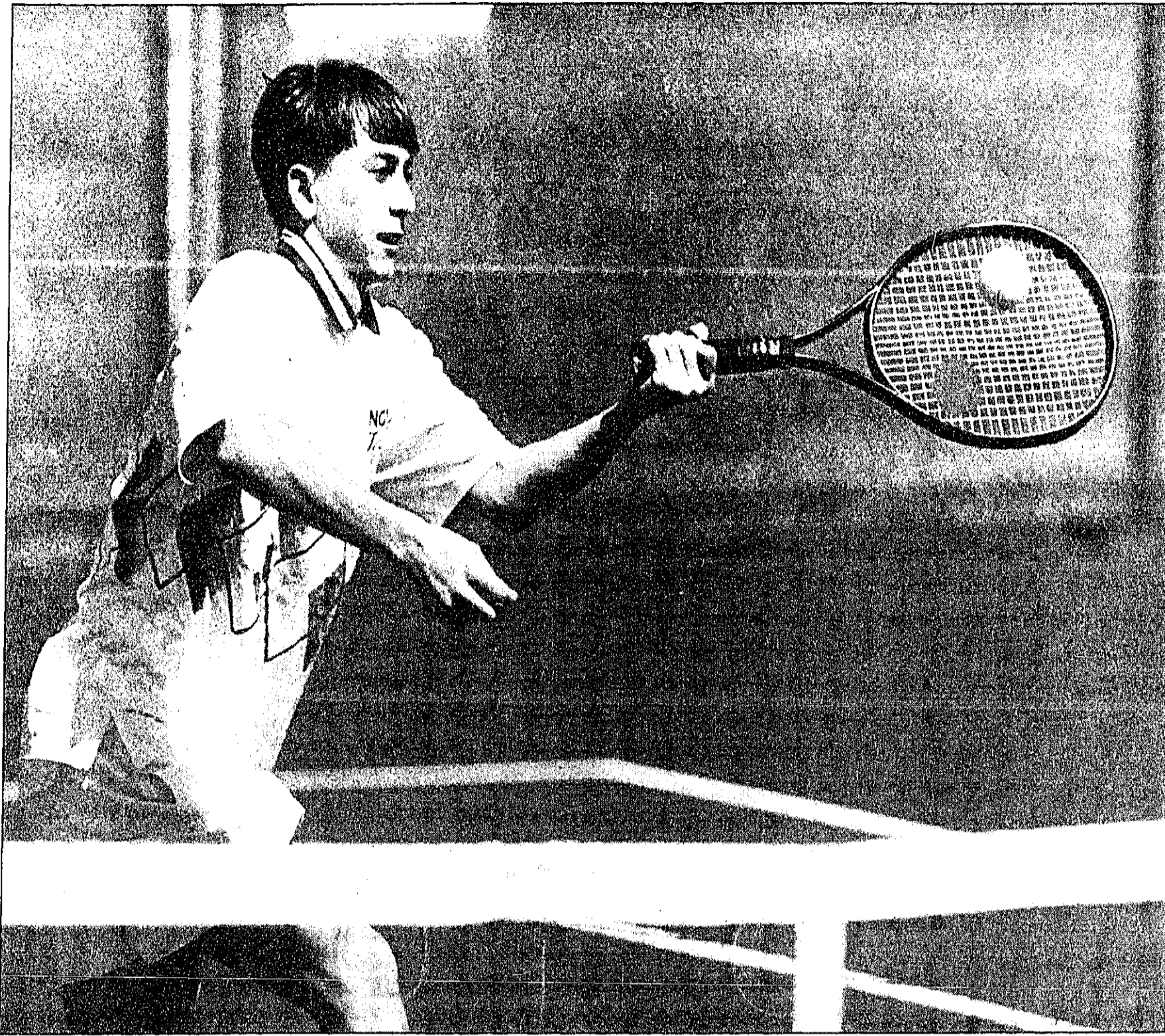
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Chris Duprey thinks the Wildcats have enough talent to beat Brighton and win their third straight KVC championship.

DEPTH of ATTITUDE

The Wildcats eye their third KVC title with hopes of a state finals birth

If attitude is everything in tennis, Novi High is beginning the 1997 campaign with a darn good one.

Not only do many of the Wildcats expect to take their third straight Kensington Valley Conference title, but they're aiming at becoming bigger fish in a larger pond.

"We haven't gone to the state finals," said junior singles player Rich Kowalczyk. "That's a big deal. A lot of seniors haven't done that. This year may be our best chance to do it."

With nine seniors on the varsity roster, he may just be correct. Chris Duprey, a veteran of both cross country and tennis at the high school, is going to give it his best shot.

"We all want to go to the state finals badly," he said, adding that he wasn't able to accomplish that feat in his running career. "I'd like to go to a state final before I graduate."

Unlike many squads that make the

finals, the Wildcats do not have a star player. Rich Vandermass, last year's No. 1 singles player, is the closest thing Novi has had to a headliner in the past few years.

The Wildcats do have a solid lineup, however, from first singles all the way down to fourth doubles. There'll be no easy points for any opponent, in other words.

"What we've lost in superstardom," says Duprey, "we've gained in depth."

The senior cited an example. "We could interchange anybody in one through four doubles and still be competitive," said Duprey.

Coach Jim Hanson agreed. "We have six or seven kids that we can mix or match with," he commented.

Hanson said the lineup will likely vary from match to match.

"We should be able to put forth a decent lineup and be very competitive," he added.

Novi will get a big test to start its season. The Wildcats play at Northville Tuesday, a team that's been in a thorn in their sides for years.

"They're very tough," said Duprey. "It'll be really tough to beat them."

The Wildcats should be ready, though.

The team practiced for about three weeks prior to Easter vacation. Many players also worked on their games over the past year, according to Kowalczyk.

"Most of us play in the off-season," he said.

As for the season-opener with Northville, Hanson wasn't sure how his lineup would shake out.

But look for Terdell Hayes, Duprey, Kowalczyk, Chris Chirgwin, Jukes Nann, Scott Baetens and Glenn Gabriel to all see time in singles throughout the season.

Continued on 4

LACROSSE



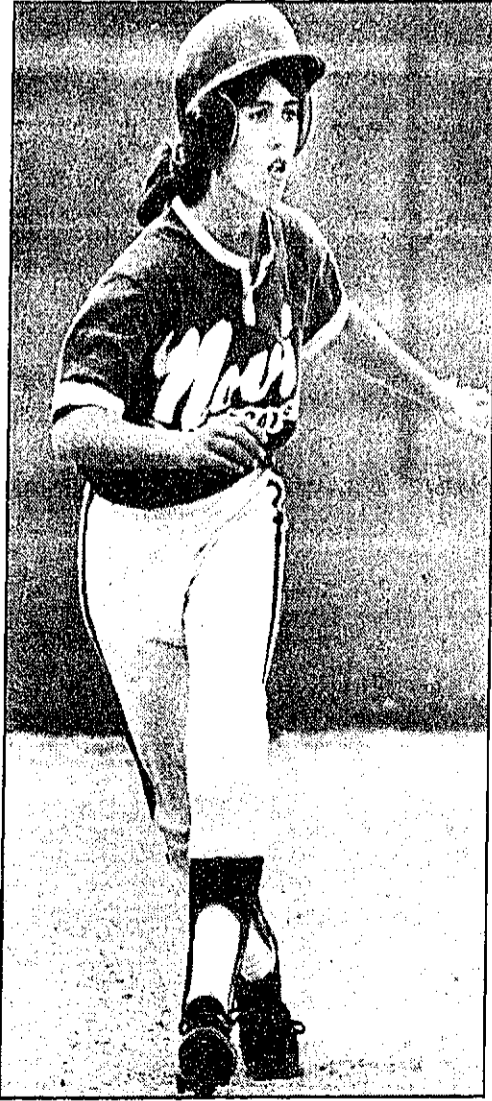
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SOCCER



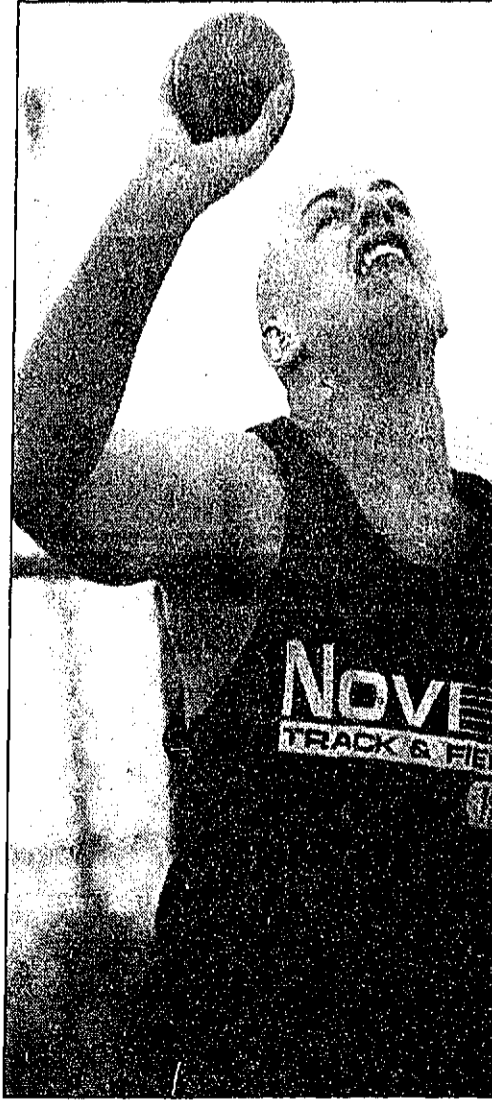
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SOFTBALL



PAGE ... 4B

TRACK



PAGE ... 4B

Movies

the NOVI
NEWS
12B

THURSDAY
April 3,
1997

'The Saint' returns to theaters on Friday

Val Kilmer plays the latest 'man of a thousand faces'

Simon Templar, gentleman and master thief, is equally at home negotiating with power brokers, seducing a beautiful woman, or dangling from the roof of a tall building. A man of a thousand disguises, Templar has eluded international syndicates, corrupt tycoons, and Interpol with equal ease. But he is more than a sophisticated thief. He is "The Saint," battling for justice where the law cannot or will not reach.

"The Saint," which stars Val Kilmer and Elisabeth Shue, is directed by Phillip Noyce from a screenplay by Jonathan Hensleigh and Wesley Strick and a story by Jonathan Hensleigh. Also starring in the action-adventure are Rade Serbedzija and Valery Nikolayev.

Simon Templar (Val Kilmer) is rich, sophisticated and almost supernaturally skilled at stealing even the most closely guarded of treasures. He is also cold and cynical, until his path crosses that of Emma Russell (Elisabeth Shue), a young scientist whose life is in terrible danger. Emma has discovered the key to Russian billionaire Ivan Treltjak's (Rade Serbedzija) overwhelming ambition — to crown himself the first Czar of the new Russian Empire — and he will do anything to neutralize the danger that she represents.

Stirred by long-dormant feelings, Templar desperately fights to protect Emma while struggling to master the one identity he cannot assume with ease — himself.

Director Phillip Noyce first discovered "The Saint" at the age of eight. A fan of the original novels written by Leslie Charteris, Noyce went on to see the Roger Moore television series then showing in his native Australia. Years later, when producer Robert Evans brought "The Saint" to Paramount, Noyce was given the opportunity to bring a '90s Simon Templar to the big screen. "I wanted to tell the story of how a sinner becomes a saint," says Noyce, "one man's struggle for redemption."

For inspiration, Noyce went back to the Leslie Charteris novels. "I realized what we had to do in order to reinvent the Simon Templar character was to tell the story that had never been told — how Simon Templar becomes a saint," Noyce explains. "In his hundreds of stories, the creator of 'The Saint,' Leslie Charteris, had never revealed the genesis of the character."

Noyce enlisted screenwriter Jonathan Hensleigh ("Die Hard With a Vengeance") to create a darker Simon Templar. According to Noyce, "We decided Templar's story should begin in an orphanage in the Far East where, as a child, he learns all the tricks that he is going to use to survive and prosper as an adult. Just as he did as a child, the adult Templar retreats from reality by using disguises which are really an escape, a mask hiding the real man."

For the role of Simon Templar, director Noyce chose Val Kilmer. "We didn't need just another action hero; we needed a real actor," says Noyce. "Val Kilmer was one of the few who had the true acting ability to play all the diverse characters that Simon Templar has to portray. Val has never been used in this way, and I think people are going to be quite surprised with what he comes up with in this movie."

To Val Kilmer, "The excitement of this project is creating a series and an introduction to this character. Templar has a morality and a code and, like many professional thieves, has no interest in harming people or killing them. He is not a bad man; he just grew up in the illegal world and that's what he does for a living."

In "The Saint," Kilmer actually plays over a dozen characters donning Templar's many disguises. Describing how Templar's disguises evolved, Kilmer says: "We started off just goofing around with ideas, seeing how far we could go. It was a lot of fun." At least once a week I'd come on set as someone else." According to Producer Mace Neufeld, "Val has been meticulous in developing his disguises. He developed them through body language, attitude, and dialect. His desire for authenticity and accuracy to perfect these disguises made him work very hard in the preparation."

To play opposite Kilmer in the role of scientist Emma Russell,

Noyce needed an actress who would be a catalyst for change in Simon Templar. "She has to radiate intelligence and innocence," says Noyce. "I have always admired Elisabeth Shue's work and as soon as I saw her in 'Leaving Las Vegas,' I knew I had found my Emma."

For Academy Award® nominee Shue, participating in "The Saint" was "a big adventure. I was definitely attracted to the big nature of this movie," she says. "I don't think I have ever done a film this big. Also, the main reason for doing this movie was to work with Val."

Shue's character, Emma Russell, represented a change from characters she has recently portrayed.

"It was very freeing to play someone who was free of deep pain and torture," Shue explains. "I was attracted to Emma most of all by her innocence, her spirit, her wonderment. Emma is somebody who has lived in an isolated world." In Shue's view, Simon Templar "represented all that Emma didn't know, and all that she needed to experience in her life."

Presented by Paramount Pictures and Rysler Entertainment, "The Saint" is produced by David Brown, Robert Evans, William J. Macdonald and Mace Neufeld. The Executive Producers are Paul Hitchcock and Robert S. Baker. Paramount Pictures is part of the entertainment operations of Viacom Inc.



Simon Templar (Val Kilmer) and Emma Russell (Elisabeth Shue) run through the streets of Moscow to elude pursuers in "The Saint." The action-adventure, presented by Paramount Pictures and Rysler Entertainment, is directed by Phillip Noyce.

"A New American Classic
in the tradition of *American Graffiti*. Sensational!

The most emotional, dramatic roller-coaster ride in years."
— *Larry Raloff*, FOX-TV, SAN ANTONIO

"Joaquin Phoenix and Liv Ullmann are two young stars on the rise."
— *Richard Squires*, CLEVELAND

Inventing the ABBOTTS

STARTS FRIDAY **AMC LAUREL PARK**

AMC OLD ORCHARD	AMC SOUTHLAND	AMC WOODS
BIRMINGHAM 8	GCC NOVI TOWN CTR.	SHOWCASE AUBURN HILLS
SHOWCASE PONTIAC 1-12	SHOWCASE STERLING HILLS	SHOWCASE WESTLAND
STAR GRATIOT	STAR ROCHESTER	UNITED ARTISTS OAKLAND MALL

THEY DON'T PLAY BY THE RULES

DOUBLE TEAM

STARTS FRIDAY AT THESE THEATRES

AMC AMERICANA WEST	AMC BEL AIR	AMC EASTLAND
AMC LAUREL PARK	AMC SOUTHWEST CITY	AMC STERLING CTR.
AMC WONDERLAND	NORWEST	QUO VADIS
RENAISSANCE	SHOWCASE AUBURN HILLS	SHOWCASE PONTIAC
SHOWCASE STERLING HILLS	STAR GRATIOT	STAR LINCOLN PARK
STAR TAYLOR	STAR WINCHESTER	UNITED ARTISTS FAIRLANE
UNITED ARTISTS OAKLAND	UNITED ARTISTS 12 OAKS	UNITED ARTISTS WEST RIVER

"MOVE OVER JAMES BOND, HERE COMES 'THE SAINT.'"

DIANE KAHNISKY, CBS-TV

"NON-STOP SPY THRILLS LACED WITH A WONDERFUL SENSE OF HUMOR. Val Kilmer is terrific!"
— GEORGE PENNACCHIO, ABC-TV

"'THE SAINT' IS A 'HOT TICKET.' Val Kilmer and Elisabeth Shue are a dynamic duo."
— STEVE OLDFIELD, FOX-TV

"LOADS OF NAIL-BITING EXCITEMENT! You'll really love this film!"
— DON BREWINGTON, AMERICAN URBAN RADIO NETWORKS

"VAL KILMER, MASTER OF DISGUISE. HE'S AT THE TOP OF HIS GAME."
— RICK ANTHONY, LASH MAGAZINE

"VAL KILMER DELIVERS BRILLIANTLY. SEE IT AND BELIEVE IT!"
— BONNIE CHURCHILL, NATIONAL NEWS SYNDICATE

VAL KILMER ELISABETH SHUE

THE SAINT

PARAMOUNT PICTURES PRESENTS IN ASSOCIATION WITH RYSHER ENTERTAINMENT
A DAVID BROWN AND ROBERT EVANS PRODUCTION VAL KILMER ELISABETH SHUE "THE SAINT" RADE SERBEDZIJIA COSTUME DESIGNER GRACIENE REVELL
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS PAUL HITCHCOCK AND ROBERT S. BAKER STORY BY JONATHAN HENSLEIGH SCREENPLAY BY JONATHAN HENSLEIGH AND WESLEY STRICK
PRODUCED BY DAVID BROWN ROBERT EVANS WILLIAM J. MACDONALD AND MACE NEUFELD DIRECTED BY PHILLIP NOYCE
CASTING BY JUDITH WATSON
COSTUME DESIGNER GRACIENE REVELL
HAIR BY JEFFREY WATSON
MAKEUP BY JUDITH WATSON
PRODUCTION DESIGNER JAMES H. HARRIS
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS DAVID BROWN ROBERT EVANS WILLIAM J. MACDONALD AND MACE NEUFELD
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HAIR BY JEFFREY WATSON
MAKEUP BY JUDITH WATSON
PRODUCTION DESIGNER JAMES H. HARRIS

STARTS FRIDAY, APRIL 4TH NO PASSES OR COUPONS ACCEPTED

AMC EASTLAND	AMC LAUREL PARK	AMC SOUTHWEST CITY	AMC STERLING CTR. 10
AMC WOODS 6	BIRMINGHAM 8	GENERAL CINEMAS CANTON	QUO VADIS
SHOWCASE AUBURN HILLS	SHOWCASE PONTIAC	SHOWCASE STERLING HILLS	STAR GRATIOT AT 15 MILE
STAR JOHN R AT 14 MILE	STAR LINCOLN PARK 8	STAR ROCHESTER HILLS	STAR TAYLOR
UNITED ARTISTS FAIRLANE	UNITED ARTISTS 12 OAKS	UNITED ARTISTS WEST RIVER	FORD WYOMING DRIVE 15A