



NOVI NEWS

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Thursday, August 17, 2000

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Volume 110 Number 35

Novi, Michigan

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INSIDE

Senior of the year



Novi Parks and Recreation names Alison Welsh as Senior of the Year. Welsh is active in theater productions. — Page 5A

Bright lights, big city



Michigan Attorney General Jennifer Granholm, a Northville resident, prepares for her speech at the Democratic National Convention today in Los Angeles. And hey, who's that guy with her? Looks familiar — Page 4A

LIVING

The aaaah factor



We asked readers to submit their pet pictures and really each and every one is adorable. But we had to select a winning photograph. See them all on — Page 1AA

SPORTS

Lacrosse in lead

The Novi lacrosse team is already being predicted as one of the state's top teams for the next two seasons. A big part of this is goalie Kelly DeNeen, the winner of this year's Don Sill award for the lacrosse team's Most Valuable Player. — Page 1B

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Outsiders to intervene in drainage dispute

State and county officials will help resolve dispute over drainage in Quail Ridge.

By Andrew Dietderich
STAFF WRITER
A third party organization consisting of state and county officials will solve a dispute between the city of Novi and Northville Township.

Oakland County and state officials have made a number of decisions regarding the Quail Ridge drain, which is rapidly eating at the backyards of several Northville Township residents.

Among the decisions were:
• petitions filed on the part of Wayne County and Northville Township requesting formulation of an intercounty drain are acceptable;
• correction of the drain is practical;
• the drain should be reconstructed;

the city of Novi, Northville Township, Oakland County and Wayne County will share the cost.

"It's a good thing," said Don Weaver, director of public services in Northville Township. "The main reason is that we were not getting any cooperation from the city of Novi until we initiated this."

The Quail Ridge Drain flows south through Northville Township from the city of Novi through the backyards of several township residents on its way to Mill Pond.

Weaver said the problem has worsened over the years as development in Novi has led to water draining more quickly in Quail Ridge. The large amount of paving around the drain means less barriers water must encounter before reaching the body of water.

As a result, the faster moving water slices through earth at a rapid pace. The Novi City Council and the Northville Township Board of Trustees met last month to discuss the issue and agreed to split the

Continued on 14

Better very late than never



From left, WWII veteran Richard Hoffman, Mayor Richard Clark and Congressman Joseph Knollenberg, R-Bloomfield, who is handing Hoffman the medals he earned in the war.

After 50 years, veterans of WWII finally get their medals

By Randal Yakey and Stephanie Fordyce
STAFF WRITERS

They didn't receive their medals on time, but that doesn't detract from the service they gave to their country during World War II.

So 55 years after they earned the recognition, former U. S. Seaman First Class Yeoman Mike Brennan and former U.S. Army Combat Battalion Engineer Richard Hoffman finally collected their honors from Congressman Joe Knollenberg, R-Bloomfield, at Monday night's Novi City Council meeting.

"What they did and the courage they showed was amazing," Knollenberg said.

The ceremony was an outgrowth of the World War II Recognition Day staged by the city of Novi in July. City officials contacted Knollenberg about veterans who had been overlooked when the medals were handed out after the war.

"Mr. Hoffman fought with General Patton's Third Army 319th Combat Battalion in what every American will remember as the Battle of the Bulge."



At long last, former WWII sailor Mike Brennan gets his medals from Congressman Joseph Knollenberg. Brennan's story is on page 19A. Richard Hoffman's story is on page 12 A.

Continued on 13

Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Piecing together a new play

A peek at what it takes to produce a Novi Theatres production.

By Stephanie Fordyce
STAFF WRITER

Putting together a theatrical production from scratch takes a lot of work and preparation.

Just ask Mary Kay Davis and Shelly Dzwonkowski, who wrote and directed the Novi Theatres' original production of "Fractured Fairy Tales."

For three weeks, from July 11 to July 27, the cast and crew practiced three days a week, four hours a day.

The production hit center stage on July 28-30 at the Novi Civic Center. The Novi News followed the progress of the event, from practice



Erika Alpert (the Queen), Kyle Shull (Chancellor), Nina Abboud (Snippet), and Scott Schwarzloz (the Prince) rehearse a scene from Mary Kay Davis' play at the Novi Civic Center. A full page of pictures of the work in progress is on page 2A.

to performance. Davis said she's been dreaming up the idea for about two years, but just recently decided to sit

down and do it. "I always wanted to do a fairy tale parody," she said.

Continued on 3

Neighbors rally due to sex offender

Apartment dwellers say resident with CSC conviction is threat to children's safety.

By Randal Yakey
STAFF WRITER

Residents of a Ten Mile Road apartment complex are launching a public information campaign because one of their neighbors is listed on the Michigan Public Sex Offender Registry.

According to Novi Ridge resident Scott Trump, the individual's presence in their midst and also near Orchard Hills Elementary School is unacceptable to him and several of his neighbors.

The man, now 18, was convicted of criminal sexual conduct three years ago. To protect the victim, the man's name will not be used by the Novi News.

Residents, right by the walkway, kids use to get to Orchard Hills Elementary School," Trump said. "There are a lot of children around here. People have the right to know."

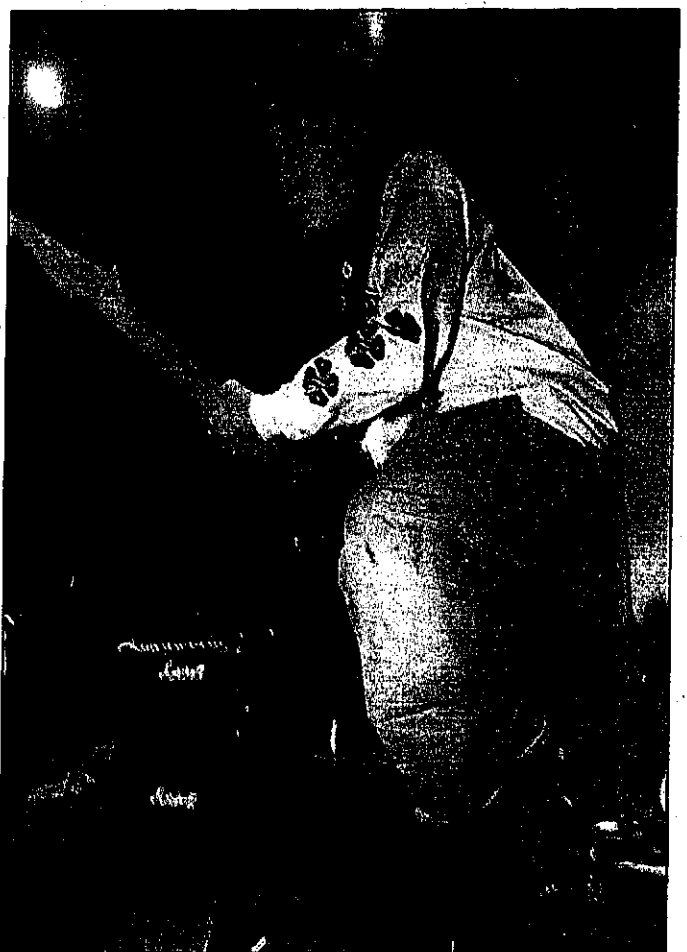
Some of the apartment residents say they are fearful, some are enraged and many are wondering how a convicted sexual offender in their midst will have an impact on their lives.

The case pits personal privacy rights of the individual versus the public's right to know. The police say the perpetrator of the crime has a right to live without being harassed, but several Novi Ridge residents said they are worried for their children's safety. They said they are so fearful that they will not allow their names to be used in the newspaper.

Trump said that he found the man's name on the Michigan State Police Public Sex Offender Registry on the Internet and has written a flyer to let his neighbors know the offender's address.

After a man with two criminal sexual conduct convictions was sentenced for raping and murdering Megan Kanka, a 7-year-old New Jersey girl in 1994, President Bill Clinton signed Megan's Law two years later. The law requires states to disclose to the public

Continued on 15



The band 9Miles2go got the crowd revved up at Novi-palooza.

Three local teenage bands rock city hall

By Stephanie Fordyce
STAFF WRITER

Punk rock and ska exploded like a nuclear weapon on Aug. 12, as four local bands unleashed Novi-Palooza.

The sold-out show, held at the Novi Civic Center, attracted a youthful mass of all ages and, hair color for three hours of solid punk music.

Band 9miles2go headlined the show, along with Mega Men, Matress Testars and Janitor Jake -

all from Novi. "These guys prove they can put on one hell of a live show," said Freddie Khumer, 18, of Livonia. "For as young as they all are, they are really talented."

Complete with stage diving and mosh pitting, the close-knit concert put the city on the map of the loud and unique. The members of the band not only put the show together, but raised money to rent the room.

The show opened with the bands

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BACK STAGE WITH THE NOVI THEATRES



A few days before their show, Snippet (Nina Abboud) and the Prince (Scott Schwarzloz) rehearse a scene.

Grace Dzwonkowski, left, and Kristeen Crosser work the lighting board during a "Fractured Fairy Tales" dress rehearsal.



Costumers Peggy Schwarzlose, left, and Julie Landry, right, help access Millie DeBenedet into her Fairy dress during an early production rehearsal at the civic center.



Stage director Alicia Hirschfeld pushes a prop into place.



"Fractured Fairy Tales" stage director Alicia Hirschfeld talks to propless-person Andrew Nickels during a Wednesday rehearsal at the Novi Civic Center.

Photos by John Heider (except where noted)



Director and writer of the play, Mary Kay Davis, right, gives instructions to her stage-bound actors and actresses during a recent rehearsal. Co-writer and co-director Shelley Dzwonkowski, left, looks on.

At left: A scene from "Fractured Fairy Tales" is rehearsed at the Novi Civic Center theatre. This rehearsal taking place a few days before the performance incorporated more precise use of stage lighting and sound as their opening performance neared. Right: The finished product. The cast of "Fractured Fairy Tales" in full costume and makeup performs at the Novi Civic Center on Sunday July 30th.



Photo at right by Bob Ahrens.

Fractured Fairy Tales

Written by Mary Kay Davis and Shelly Dzwonkowski
Directed by Mary Kay Davis and assisted by Shelly Dzwonkowski
Stage Manager: Alicia Hirschfeld
Set Design, Lighting and Technical Director: Kristeen Crosser
Costume Designer: Julie Landry, assisted by Peggy Schwarzlose
Sound Designer: Matt Wickert

THE CAST:

Ron Keteihut, Kyle Schull, Millie DeBenedet, Lauren Sorrentino, Ashley Marshall, Alyssa Tomasik, Ben Landry, Katie Johnson, Katie McLallen, Caitlin McCormick, Alex Baum, Kimmy Warnke, Enka Alpert, Scott Schwarzlose, Max Landry, Brett Schwarzlose, Karen Janik, Jason Gauruder, Sarah Tomasik, Barrett Schwarzlose, Grace Dzwonkowski, Megan Ignash, Justin May, Jason Margolis, Meghan Downey, Alleigh Wickert, Elizabeth Williams, Cameron Lewis, Lauren Bartlett, Courtney Williams, Ellen West, Caitlin O'Hearn, Nina Abboud, Linda Janik, Laura Janik, Kathryn Sleih, Jackson Landry, Carla Wetter, Kelly Bradford, Katie Morrison, Kimmy Hornacek, Amy Johnson, Amber Aschwanden, Stephanie Berent, Lindsey Bartlett, Amanda Costello, Caitlin O'Rourke, Kaitlin Willett, Marissa Allen, Melissa Schmidt, Heidi Tobe, Alexandra Blakeney, Andria Davis, Kristin Bradford, Caitlin Williams, Brittany Marshall, Maggie Willett, Elaine Mitra, Marie Ross, and Zachery Steiber.

BACK STAGE WITH THE NOVI THEATRES

From script to stage, youngsters master the theater

Continued from 1

Davis said she worked with Dzwonkowski on the play for two solid months. "It was a lot of work, but we really enjoyed it," she said. "It was so much fun developing each character and personality."

The children's play is about a young boy named Jeffrey, who watches his bedroom come to life each night after he's read a bedtime story.

The humor of the script continues as the comical character Fairy retells the traditional fairy tales, adding new endings and twists.

"It's basically a story about mixed-up fairy tales," said Ron Keteihut, who played Jeffrey.

Stories that get "rearranged" in the production included "Beauty & The Beast," "The Emperor's New Clothes," "Sleeping Beauty," and "Little Red Riding Hood."

Davis said a big influence on the play was the television show "Seinfeld."

"I love how they interweave the storyline, so that's what I wanted

to do with this play," she said.

Costumes for the play were designed by Julie Landry, assisted by Peggy Schwarzlose and lighting and sets were designed and built by Kristeen Crosser of the Hibbery Theatre.

With 63 characters, the cast of 60 ranged from ages seven to 18. Davis said the program has grown immensely since it first began. At first they only had 15 kids, and now they have 60-85 auditioning.

"We have a wonderful program here in Novi," Davis said. "As Linda Wickert always says, 'our theater program is the best kept secret in Novi.'"

Following is a week-by-week look at the creation of a Novi Theatre production.

WEEK ONE: Now that the parts have already been assigned and the cast has been memorizing their lines since May, it's time to learn stage direction, or what's known as blocking. Davis said the summer

"It was cleverly written and the kids did a fantastic job."

Dave Demarest, audience member

productions are easier because the actors already have their lines memorized, which allows them to "jump right into blocking." Costume fitting also begins.

"This is when you have a better idea of how the play is going to look," said Jason Margolis, who plays Chief Billy Bob.

WEEK TWO: Now it's time to make use of the props and introduce more stage set-ups. The cast and back stage crew gets added direction from Davis as well as stage placement. Twins Linda and Laura Janik, 12, who play the Ministers of Fashion, said with the debut only a week away, the pre-play jitters are setting in. Especial-

ly since it is the first time either of the sisters have been in a play. "It's hard to do the expressions and emotions," said Linda Janik.

So far, the young men say the play has gone smoothly and that they are pleased to be involved in such a great production.

"This is by far the funniest play we've ever put on," said Ben Landry, who plays the lovable, comical character Wolf.

Jason Gauruder, who plays the Arms Master, said this is his first time being a part of the Novi Theatre group and that he has had a lot of fun.

"I will definitely do it again," he said.

Scott Schwarzlose, who plays Harold Prince, said being involved in a play such as this is a lot of fun, especially with someone like Davis directing it.

"Mrs. Davis is the bomb," he said.

during intermission, as excitement behind the scenes fills the air. In the boys' dressing room, some guys prepare for upcoming scenes and costume changes while others relax and play cards.

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"Mrs. Davis is the bomb," he said.

Schwartzlose agreed that because everyone is so nice, it's not only a great way to spend the summer, but to also make a lot of friends.

Before there was any more time to ask questions, Davis came in to say it was time for the second act to begin.

BRAVO: "The play was really cute," said Novi resident Judy Demarest. "It was cleverly written and the kids did a fantastic job."

Demarest's husband Dave agreed.

"It was good, very funny," he said. "It was cleverly written and the kids did a fantastic job."

Stephanie Fordyce is a staff writer for the Novi News.

Her e-mail address is sfordyce@ht.homecomm.net.

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Granholm speaks today at convention


By Mike Malott
HomeTown News Service
mmalott@homecom.net
LOS ANGELES — Jennifer Granholm wouldn't say earlier this week what her speech Thursday before the Democratic National Convention in Los Angeles would be about. The Northville resident, Michigan delegate and state Attorney General declined to leak any tidbits from her talk to the press because she couldn't. Her address was still in the typewriter. "We're not sure where they want us to focus," she said. "They are still sending us some information. It is still being drafted." Granholm, like a number of other prominent Michigan Democrats, was added to the speaking list just as the convention was getting underway in the Staples Center Aug. 14-17. Originally, the only Michigan off-

icial that had been included on the list by the Democratic National Committee and the Gore campaign was Congressman David Bonior. On convention eve, additional Michigan names began popping up — Granholm; Detroit Mayor Dennis Archer; and Congresswoman and Senate candidate Debbie Stabenow, both spoke Monday night; and state Representative Kwame Kilpatrick, well known in Democratic circles for his style. Granholm is set to talk Thursday at 2:37 p.m. Los Angeles time. "My three minutes of fame," she said, "Michigan is one of just a handful of states that are considered the battleground in the presidential election," Granholm explained. "They want to highlight us because we are so critical to tipping the election one way or another. "There will be a heightened emphasis on the state," Granholm said, noting that the symbolic passing of the



Michigan Attorney General Jennifer Granholm, center, meets with Michigan delegate Ron Thayer and former Michigan governor James Blanchard at the Democratic Convention in L.A.

can-appointed incumbents. "I don't think the coalitional effect is mythical," Granholm said. "If they are coming out to support Gore, they are more likely to vote for Democrats further on down the ballot, and same is true on the other side, although Michigan has that large block of independent voters who will cross over and vote based upon the person." Granholm predicted the Gore-Lieberman ticket will play well in Michigan. "Gore has helped to preside over this fabulous economy. Secondly, Lieberman brings so much value, substance, (and) soul to this ticket," she said. She called the line-up a "fabulous one-two punch." Granholm has only been to one previous national party convention, four years ago in Chicago. And this time, she gets to address the party from the podium. "Pretty cool, huh," she said.



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Senior Citizen of Year is a hit in Novi

BY STEPHANIE FORDYCE
Staff Writer

"Due to her phenomenal commitment to the community, Alison Welsh has been named Senior Citizen of the Year by the Novi Parks and Recreation."

or whines, is always friendly and extremely helpful," said Special Recreation Director for the Senior Program, Kathy Crawford. "She would say she is a 'behind the scenes' person and she is, but without her, there would not be a scene."

Volunteering her time, energy, and talent to virtually every senior and parks and recreation program, those who know her say it's an honor that is well deserved. "For me and The Novi Theatres, Alison is more than a performer and a volunteer, she is a wonderful friend and without her involvement, we would be much less than what we are today," said Artistic Director of the Novi Theatres, Linda Wickert.

"More important than all the things she does for me and the shows, she always has a shoulder to lean on, a word of encouragement and never holds back on her expression of appreciation for any little thing anyone does. She enjoys working with and supporting the other seniors as well as the children and young people in the Broadway musicals."

Alison Welsh, far right, practices for a Novi Senior Center play.



Alison Welsh, far right, practices for a Novi Senior Center play.

"I saw they had all these great events going on, so a friend and I decided to join some of their classes," she said. "I've been here ever since."

CD's and hook the piano to a computer. "Now the piano will play for rehearsals without an accompanist, thereby saving us considerable money in fees and freeing up a person who can direct the chorus," she said.

"I sincerely doubt that we would have a Senior Variety Theatre without Alison's quiet coaching, dedication and hard work," Crawford said.

"Whatever needs to be done... She is always there no matter how big or small the task."

"She recognized the difficulty we were having in rehearsals due to our poor, 'tired' piano so she donated her own," she said.

current 90." Welsh has even helped with the success and growth of senior volunteer initiatives for the plays. "Alison sort of paved the way in the Senior Usher group," Crawford said. "By being one of the first members and an active participant in many things, a lot of people looked to her to see if the experience would be good before they joined. Everyone trusts Alison. If she says it's great, they believe it. We now have over 65 ushers."

"When she's not busy with all the plays and productions, she's filling in as an exercise leader for the senior's Body Recall class. Welsh explained that the course works with weights and other exercises, which helps her with her arthritis. She even appeared in a video about the class on cable.

"Because she has been an active participant three days a week for the past two years, Welsh has taken the initiative to learn all of the exercises, plan an hour and a half program to music and is willing to step in any time, even the last minute, to lead the class when the instructor is absent. Crawford explained she has led the class approximately 20 times this year. As if she hasn't done enough, she also volunteers her time one day a week at Botisford's Drakeshire Center.

It's almost show time as the Novi Theatre Senior Variety Series gets ready for the upcoming production "Show Stoppers." The seniors have prepared all summer long to jazz up the stage with a multitude of singing, dancing, and comedy. The entertainment extravaganza is September 13-17 at the Novi Civic Center Stage Shows on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday evenings and Sunday's performance begins at 2pm. Tickets are on sale now at the Novi Parks and Recreation Department located inside the civic center on 10 Mile Road. Call (248) 347-0400.

accomplish a task, she suddenly appears with a suggestion and an offer of help to do it, which quickly makes every thing possible."

Welsh was nominated for the Margaret Whitehead Senior Citizen of the Year award, in which she became a finalist at the state level. Welsh's thoughtful nature and generous spirit has won her the friendship of everyone who knows her, said Novi Senior Center Manager Janet McAlpine. "She is the first to remember a birthday, show concern, give a hug, offer encouragement, lend a hand, visit the sick and a hundred other things," she said. "She is the best kind of volunteer, reliable, resourceful, rational and highly respectable. As good a volunteer as Alison is, she is an even better friend."

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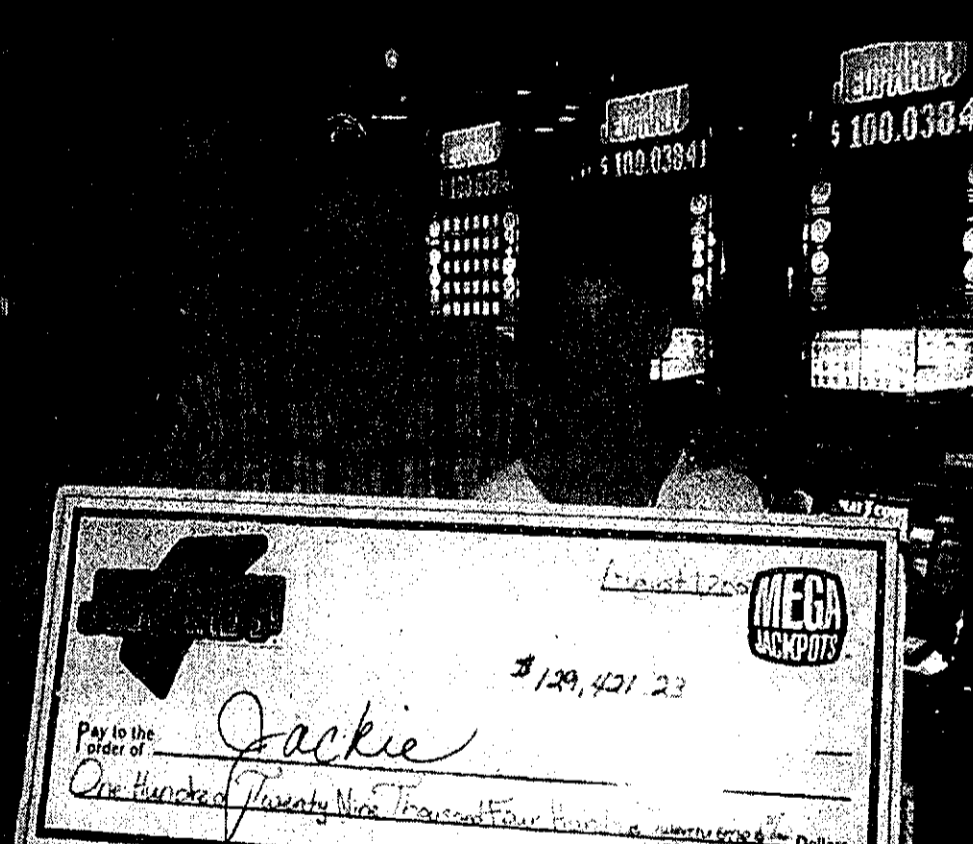
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Roommate feud gets violent

FIGHT WITH ROOMMATE

A Novi woman, 30, who two weeks ago was arrested for assaulting the father of her one-year-old child, was at it again last week.

This time it was her roommate. When police arrived at the woman's Shorecrest Drive residence they found the roommate, 22, outside the home on Aug. 11 screaming and bleeding from the face.

The roommate told the police that she took the suspect to a house party in Walled Lake where the woman urinated on herself and then urinated on the floor of the home. The two women were asked to leave the home and returned to their residence where the beating occurred, according to the victim.

The victim told police that she and the suspect began arguing inside the car in front of the home, when the suspect flicked a cigarette in her face. The suspect then grabbed the victim by the hair and began punching the victim in the face, according to the report.

When police went inside the home to question the suspect, the report said she was highly intoxicated, uncooperative and holding her child.

The woman was arrested by police and the child's father was called to take the baby.

Police News

The same woman was arrested by police on Aug. 1 after she allegedly assaulted the father of her child. Both incidents occurred at 11 in the 37000 block of Shorecrest. The father now resides in the city of Berkley, Michigan.

KEEP TALKING

A dispute among co-workers resulted in one being knocked out and the other suspected of assault and battery on Aug. 9.

According to police reports, a Dearborn resident was knocked out after he allegedly harassed another coworker at a local factory in the 20,000 block of Venture.

The suspect, whose identity is being withheld by Novi Police, reportedly told police that he was making "insulting remarks" and been "mouthing off" for the past two weeks.

The suspect told police that the victim wouldn't shut up so he "knocked him the hell out."

Police report that the victim was struck a number of times in the head, nose and possibly mouth. When police arrived on the scene

blond hair.

HOME BURGLARIZED

A Novi man returned home to find his front door broken open and a semi-automatic weapon missing on Aug. 14.

According to police, a neighbor originally called police to report that the front door of the home was open and the home owner was not around. When police arrived on the scene, they found the front door ajar and the appearance of a break-in.

When the homeowner arrived at the scene, it was confirmed that a Glock semi-automatic hand gun was missing from the home, along with a number of other items.

A witness reported to police that there was a male subject hanging around the home while the owner was away.

The suspect was described as a black male approximately 5'-5" or 5'-8" inches tall with short black hair and wearing casual shirt and slacks.

Police continue to investigate.

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

Novi Briefs

CHIEF SHAEFFER'S CLASSIC

The Douglas Shaeffer Charity Golf Classic to benefit cancer research and treatments will be held Friday, Sept. 22 at Links of Novi. Registration and lunch at 11:30 a.m.; shotgun start at 12:30 p.m.

These golf packages are available:

- \$1,500 — Includes golf for four people, lunch, gourmet dinner and auction, refreshments, hole sponsorship and two tickets to Private Celebrity Sponsor Reception the night prior at the Huron River Hunting and Fishing Club.
- \$1,000 — Includes golf for four people, lunch, gourmet dinner and auction and refreshments.
- \$250 — Includes golf for one person, lunch, gourmet dinner and auction, and refreshments.
- \$125 — Includes gourmet dinner and auction only and refreshments, for one person.

The golf classic is named after Novi Police Chief Douglas Shaeffer, who recovered last year from cancer. One hundred percent of all proceeds benefits cancer research and treatment organizations. Call (248) 346-6162.

SUMMER TAXES

City of Novi property taxes are due at the treasurer's office on Aug. 31. Payments received after this date will be assessed a four percent penalty.

As stated on your tax statement: "Payments by mail will be recorded on the date received by the city, not by the date postmarked. Payments must be physically received by the treasurer on or before Aug. 31 to avoid penalty." And also, "City charter mandates 4 percent penalty after Aug. 31. Treasurer is not allowed to waive penalty."

FREE FOOD

Oakland Livingston Human Service Agency will be distributing free food through the Temporary Emergency Food Assistance Program. People who are income eligible and not registered may do so at the site by bringing social security cards for all household members, verification of household income and photo I.D. The distribution point is: Novi Senior Center, Sept. 12, from 12:30-2:30 p.m. Call Trudy Long at OLHSA (248) 209-2855 or 1-800-482-9250.

Novi woman still missing after canoe trip in Alaska, husband found dead in river

Library Briefs

LIBRARY HOURS

The Novi Public Library is open Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Friday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; closed on Sundays during the summer. The library is located at 45245 W. Ten Mile Road, just east of Tait. For more information, call 349-0720.

STORYTIME NOTES

The 2000/2001 Preschool Storytime brochures are now available in the library. Registration for Fall 1 Storytimes begins Aug. 28; the program starts Sept. 25.

The weather on the afternoon of their trip was windy, with waves of at least two feet on Naknek Lake.

A week-long search at Katmai National Park in Anchorage, Alaska for Novi resident Naomi Sugura has turned up no signs of her whereabouts, according to National Park Service officials.

On Aug. 8, the body of Sugura's husband, Atsushi Sugura, 38, was found shortly after the couple was reported overdue from a canoe trip. The couple entered a home on Cherry Hill in Meadowbrook Glen

subdivision. National Park Service staff at the Brooks Camp on Naknek Lake were notified at about 1 p.m. on Aug. 8 that the pair were late coming back from a canoe trip. The couple, both Japanese citizens living in Novi, had departed Brooks Camp the previous day on a two-hour canoe trip. An air search was quickly initiated, and the couple's swamped and beached canoe was

located within 15 minutes on Naknek Lake across from Brooks Camp. The canoe was found about three miles from the camp.

The couple had come to Brooks Camp on August 5 and was scheduled to leave early Tuesday afternoon. The couple was staying at Brooks Lodge.

Rangers discovered the body of Atsushi Sugura still in a life jacket, entangled with the canoe. A life

jacket and other personal effects were located washed up on the beach in the area. An Aug. 9 search had 20 Park Service personnel assigned to the incident, but the Novi woman's body was not recovered.

The weather on the afternoon of their trip was windy, with waves of at least two feet on Naknek Lake.

Catch late summer at Maybury State Park

PARK HOURS: Maybury State Park is open daily from 8 a.m. until 10 p.m. Farm hours are from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. daily. A state park motor vehicle permit is required for entry to the park. Additional information about programs or facilities may be obtained by calling the park office at (248) 349-8390.

SUMMER EVENING SERIES: Our popular Summer Evening Series comes to a close with this week's presentation. This series of presentations and hikes is a great way to enjoy summer evenings in the park. Program begins at 7 p.m. in the farm demonstration building.

• Aug. 17 - Outdoor Survival. What skills do you need for safe backpacking? Find out what to pack and what you need to know for a successful outdoor trip.

KIDS' GARDEN MONTH: August is Kids' Garden Month at Maybury Farm. Join us each Saturday in the farm demonstration building for a variety of programs and activities with a garden theme.

• Aug. 19 - 11 a.m. Seeds: Find out how the garden begins to grow and take a look at seed travel. 2 p.m. Flowers and Butterflies: See how flowers are designed to attract insects and take a butterfly hike.

• Aug. 26 - 11 a.m. Weather: Did you ever wonder how weather works? 2 p.m. Scarecrow Workshop: Help build scarecrows for the farm's garden and crop fields. Pre-registration required for this program only. Call the park office at (248) 349-8390.

ALL ABOUT OWLS: Can owls really see in the dark? Find out on Friday, Aug. 18 as Bird Rescue of Huron Valley presents All About Owls. The program will feature live birds and discussion about the adaptations that make owls successful night hunters. Meet at the farm demonstration building at 7:30 p.m.

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MOVIE GUIDE

- **COVETE GALT** (PG-13) 10:00, 1:30, 5:00, 7:30, 9:30
- **THE REPLACEMENTS** (PG-13) 11:40, 2:00, 4:30, 7:15, 8:30
- **AUTUMN IN BERKELEY** (PG-13) 11:00, 1:30, 5:00, 7:40, 9:50
- **MEET THE CHILD** (G) 11:50, 2:10, 4:40, 6:55, 9:10
- **HOLLOW BLADE** (R) 11:30, 1:55, 4:25, 7:00, 9:25
- **SPACE JOURNALS** (PG-13) 11:00, 1:30, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00
- **THE KILMURKS** (PG-13) 11:40, 2:05, 4:35, 7:05, 9:20
- **WANTED: KENNEDY** (R) 11:00, 1:30, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00
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Getting down at Novi-palooza

Local teens brought their bands to the fans at weekend musical fest at the civic center

Continued from 1

Janitor Jake and Mattress Testers, who set the stage for the night, playing about 30 minutes each, followed by Mega Men who played a solid 45 minute set.

While a majority of concertgoers, like Klunier, had come to see 9miles2go, the other three bands left quite an impression with first-time listeners.

"I've heard 9miles2go before and they're the tops, but these other bands were pretty sweet too. I was impressed," Klunier said. "I think they may have made a lot of new fans tonight."

As the most anxiously awaited band of the evening, 9miles2go, hit the stage, the crowd erupted into a frenzy of energy.

Belting out tunes such as "Let It Go," "Brand New Song" and "Sammy & Bailey," 9miles2go treated its fans to an eclectic catalog of their musical ability.

The band, made up of soon-to-be Novi High School seniors including guitarist and vocalist Bryan Beeler, bassist Chris Kaufman and drummer Derek Michelson, welcomed Mark Bonaventura from Mega Men on stage to join the band for a couple of songs.

"Close friend and avid fan of the band, Anthony Hood of Novi, said quite possibly the most memorable moment of the 9miles2go set was when Beeler dedicated the song "Fallen" to his grandfather.

"Everyone sat on the floor as a tribute while they played it," he said.

Beeler's younger brother Brent

explained that they had just gotten word the day of the show that their grandfather had suffered a stroke and was in the hospital.

As 9miles2go continued, the eager fans raged on to the band's witty lyrics and hybrid sound.

"People were going crazy," said Brent Beeler, "girls were even kissing their feet."

The show, which sold 200 tickets, was so popular, people had to be turned away at the door.

Bryan Beeler said that if the Novi Civic Center "lets them," they would definitely be back to play in the future, despite weary concert promoters.

The band that came out of nowhere, is soon to be heard everywhere, as 9miles2go gets ready for a heavy concert load.

"We have a lot of upcoming

shows including one at the Wired Frog on September 9 and Clutch Cargo's on September 30," Beeler said.

The band's highly anticipated second album, "Don't Be That Guy," will also be released at the end of August, Beeler said.

With the eager reception of the crowd, and the dynamic degree of heart from the bands, Novi-Palooza was the punk paradise everyone had hoped for.

"This is definitely a hip, happenin' place to be on a Saturday night," said Hood.

Stephanie Fordyce is a staff writer for Novi News. Her e-mail address is sfordyce@nlh.homecomm.net



9miles2go performs for fans at Novi-palooza at the civic center. Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Happy late Chinese New Year

Novi summer daycare program learns about Asian custom

By STEPHANIE FORDYCE

While the Chinese New Year may have been in February, that didn't stop the C.A.R.E. program from celebrating it in July.

Parkview Elementary's playground was transformed into a mini-Chinatown, decorated with magnificent paper dragons for the Year of The Dragon and lanterns.

Without a cloud in the sky and a playground filled with an abundance of tasty treats, goofy games, and extraordinary entertainment, kids of the Community Education program could not have enjoyed a more perfect afternoon.

"We had a carnival similar to this last year, but we didn't have a theme, so we thought this would be something more exciting," said C.A.R.E. Coordinator Paul Hendricks.

Hendricks, serving his second year as a C.A.R.E. coordinator, said the program began planning the event back in April.

He added that the kids not only helped run the activities, but par-

ticipated in the activities as well. "It's a lot of fun for them," he said.

The playground was packed with children laughing the afternoon away, enjoying a number of activities and games such as the bean-bag toss, Vetro wall, bowling, moon walk, face painting and basketball.

As the students played each game, their performance earned them tickets towards cotton candy, snow cones, and other goodies.

"The kids are on a bit of a sugar high right now," Hendricks laughed.

Aside from all the exciting activities, the children were even entertained with a magic show and a man on stilts making balloon animals.

While 7-year-old Andy Bagdady liked dunking participants in the dunk tank, he said his favorite event was bouncing in the moon walk. Although Kelsey Loomis, 9, enjoyed all the activities, she especially liked partaking in the jello-heating contest.

Loomis said the C.A.R.E. program has proved to be a great way to spend her summer.

"We go on lots of field trips, we watch movies and get snacks," she said.

"Plus, my parents say I get bored at home."

Loomis said she's already been to a gymnastics center and even went rock climbing at the Howell nature center.

Hendricks said the kids also go to the wave pool, play arcade games and receive visits from a number of guest speakers.

"It's a great outlet for kids to enjoy some fun activities and interact with others their age," he said. "And parents like it because it's safe and very secure here. We try to have a ratio of one adult for every 10 kids."

The program currently has around 160 kids enrolled and runs every weekday, from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Hendricks explained that C.A.R.E. is open for kids in first through seventh grade and first

kids are grouped by age/grade level.

"This is the first year we've added seventh grade," he said.

Depending on what school is available, each year the program moves to a different location, Hendricks added.

Friends Alexis Blum and Melissa Moss said the Chinese New Year carnival was full of excitement and that the festival was a great way to spend a sunny afternoon.

"I'm having a great time," Moss said. "This is so much fun!"

If you would like to learn more about the C.A.R.E. program and its summer long activities, call (248) 449-1716. Cost to enroll is \$25 per day and \$20 for each additional child.

Stephanie Fordyce is a staff writer for Novi News. Her e-mail address is sfordyce@nlh.homecomm.net



Jinli Han, 9, finds herself stuck to a Velcro wall until helped by Julie McGuigan during the C.A.R.E. Chinese New Year party. Photo by JOHN HEIDER

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BETTER LATE THAN NEVER FOR WWII VETERANS

Patton's soldier finally honored

BY STEPHANIE FORDYCE

Staff Writer
The Battle of the Bulge, which lasted from December 16, 1944 to January 28, 1945, was the largest land battle of World War II.

More than a million men participated in this battle including some 500,000 Americans. Among them was Novi resident Richard Hoffman, who served in the U.S. Third Army under General George Patton.

In his three years in the service, Hoffman had seen the good, the bad and ugly sides of war, but still manages to look back on it as "his duty."

"I would never say I was hero. That's ludicrous," said the 75-year-old.

"We weren't heroes, we were just ordinary people serving our country. The only difference between me and the other guys was that I survived."

While Hoffman said he had given up three years of his life, he never felt cheated.

"Our lives were put on hold, but I never felt gyped because the whole world went," he said. "Everybody you knew went into the service. It was expected."

The avid coin collector, who now lives with his wife Mary in Novi, has two children Elizabeth and Paul and two grandchildren.

In 1943, an 18-year-old Hoffman, who had just moved from Detroit to Novi, was drafted

into the Army. In August of 1944, after D-day, he boarded the Queen Elizabeth out of New York along with 17,000 others.

They shipped out to France and marched inland into Utah Beach. Hoffman, a member of the 94th Division, 302nd Infantry Regiment, explained that the Allied forces had bypassed a pocket of a substantial amount of Germans, which his troop was sent to contain.

When the Bulge hit in December, Patton's 94th Division was called upon to attack.

"Patton was the best general the army ever had. He was a tough commander," Hoffman said. "Patton said, 'my men can get there in 24 hours,' so we were put on the back of these flatbed trucks and rode for 24 hours in the blizzarding snow and rain at 10 below zero."

"It was the coldest time of my life."

Hoffman said he wasn't afraid because no one knew what to expect.

"It doesn't occur to you because you're scared all the time anyway," he said. "You don't realize what's going to happen."

Hoffman said most of the time, the men didn't know where they were because they were in woods and villages.

"It was all a pile of rubble," he said. "When the 94th Division reached the Rhine River, there was much

bloodshed, said Hoffman.

"When we go to the Rhine, we had about a 70 percent casualty, that means every 7 out of 10 men were killed," he said.

Hoffman said by that time the Germans had started to withdraw from the Bulge and they drove east.

"This is where we got the reputation for being a 'Ghost Corps' because we floated back and forth up and down the main defensive line at the German border, which they called the 'Siegfried Switch Line,'" he said.

"So the Germans never knew where we were."

After they had captured the Siegfried Line, said Hoffman, they then occupied Treves, a fortified town.

"After we took Treves, we drove back to the Rhine, having captured nearly 17,000 German prisoners," he said.

"We were getting them so fast we couldn't do anything more with them so we set them in a field."

Hoffman recalled that they had tough resistance, but they finally got out of there and back through Belgium and France.

It was also on the way back that Hoffman ripped a Nazi arm band off a German soldier, which he stills has today.

On V.E. day, Hoffman said they celebrated with two victory parades.

While Hoffman was relieved it was over, the vivid memories will

never be forgotten.

For example, while the soldiers sought shelter in foxholes, Hoffman saw four men killed by a German ADA cannon after lighting a cigarette.

"The ADAs were deadly accurate, and these replacements, directly out of recruit camps and who had never been in battle, pulled out a pack of cigarettes," he said. "We yelled, 'don't light it,' but it was too late. It was a terrible waste of life."

As the war ended, Hoffman was assigned to the Information and Education Program in Czechoslovakia where he spent the rest of his term as a battalion accounting clerk as part of the army's occupational forces.

He was only 20 when he headed back to the United States.

"When they started to process me, the guy asked me how old I was," Hoffman said.

"The guy said, 'you can't be going home, you're not even 21.'"

In fact, Hoffman celebrated his 21st birthday on the victory ship home.

"It took us a couple months to get back to the states," he said. "I was a long trip. Some days, the ship would only travel seven miles in 24 hours."

Hoffman said despite the endless hours on the ship, the 30-foot waves, and the seasick soldiers, it was a definite change of pace compared to the military life.

Continued on 13



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Richard Hoffman wearing this uniform fought in the Bulge.

Cops want recruits for citizens police academy

The Novi Police Department will be holding their annual Citizens Academy this fall to give local citizens an opportunity to gain knowledge of the police department's personnel and policies.

The class is open to any resident of Novi, Walled Lake, Wixom, Waterford and South Lyon age 21 or older.

The classes are held three times a month in September and October and will concentrate on communications, investigations, narcotics, crime scene processing and will also provide a tour of the Oakland County Medical Examiner's office and the Michigan State Police Crime Lab and Evidence Room tours. For more information call the Novi Police Department at 348-7100.

Parks and Rec. meets

The Novi Parks and Recreation commission meets tonight at 7:30 p.m. in the council chambers of the Novi Civic Center.

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Late by 50 years

Two WWII veterans are remembered

Continued from 1

Mayor Richard Clark said. Hoffman was also in the Rhineland and Czechoslovakia during the American occupation of Germany, but it was in Patton's Ghost Corps where he was in the most danger. Hoffman was "floating up and down the front-line exposed to constant danger and enemy fire," Clark said.

"His record is quite extensive and quite deserving of a salute," Knollenberg said, upon awarding the medals to Hoffman.

Hoffman's wife, Mary, said they had lost hope after several attempts to try and attain them in the past.

"We tried for years to get his medals and we've never been able to get them," she said.

Hoffman now finally has his Bronze Star for heroic achievement, the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with four Bronze Stars for at least thirty days in each theater of war, the World War II Victory Medal with German Clasp, the American Campaign Medal (given for overseas service), the Good Conduct Medal, the Combat Infantry Badge, the Sharpshooter Badge with Rifle Bar and the Honorable Service Lapel Button for WWII.

Brennan was a U.S. Navy seaman from August 1944 to August 1946 and was a member of the captain's crew on the Aircraft Carrier Shamrock Bay.

"He was a mini flat-top in the Asian theater," Clark said. "Mr. Brennan was involved in the Magic Carpet operation near the end of WWII. In this operation, troops were brought back from Guam and Okinawa."

Brennan was given the Navy Occupation Service Medal with Asia Clasp for thirty consecutive days in occupied territories of former enemies, the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, the WWII Victory Medal, the American Campaign Medal and the Honorable Service Lapel Button.

Hoffman said the reason he never received the rest of his medals is because the records store house in St. Louis had burnt down, "plus it just never came up after the war."

Hoffman said as veterans are starting to die the United States has gotten more sensitive.

"There's been a great effort put out by this country," he said.

"I think Tom Brokaw's book helped a lot and the fact they are dying at an alarming rate. I'm one of the youngest - and I'm 75."

Hoffman was modest when finding out he was finally getting his medals.

"Don't ever use the word here when you're talking about me," Hoffman said. "All I did was survive."

Hoffman saw much WWII combat

Continued from 12

pared to the bloody battlegrounds of the war.

"We had German P.O.W.s serving us coffee and donuts," he said.

Hoffman was the first of three men in his family who came home from the war. His father who was a colonel fought at Okinawa and his brother, who served in the Navy in Ft. Lauderdale, soon followed. All three arrived home in one piece.

During his tenure in the service, the P-5 Combat Battalion engineer, earned a Bronze Star Medal, Good Conduct Medal, American Campaign Medal, European/African/Middle Eastern (EAME) Medal w/4 Bronze Stars, WWII Victory Medal, Army of Occupation Medal w/German clasp, Combat Infantry Badge, Honorable Service Lapel Button, and Sharpshooter Badge.

After landing in the states, it took six days for Hoffman to be processed out.

He hopped a train from New Jersey to Indiana, where he soon made his way to Detroit where his mother and sister were visiting relatives.

"I'll never forget when I was in that train station in Indianapolis and this little old lady came up and asked if I was just coming home," said Hoffman. "I told her I was and she turned to me and said 'bless you boys.' I was really touched by

Clark Street won't be extended for sub

Folks along Clark Street are breathing a sigh of relief this week after the Novi City Council okayed a preliminary plat approval for the new Churchill Crossing subdivision on August 14 that would not

include extending their street.

The council unanimously approved using a boulevard to Ten Mile Road as the only entrance to the new Churchill Crossing subdivision.

According to City Attorney Dennis Watson, with a boulevard entrance to the subdivision, there will be no need to provide a secondary entrance to the subdivision for emergency vehicles.

Residents along Clark Street were concerned that increased traffic through the area would have been a danger to children.

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Counties, state to help solve drainage issue

Continued from 1
 \$6,000 price tag of a grant application and preliminary engineering plan to fix the problem. The Clean Michigan Initiative Grant could pay for about 75 percent of the drain fix, which is estimated to cost up to \$418,000.

Officials also agreed if the grant is secured, Novi would pay for 59.5 percent of the estimated 25 percent of the matching funds needed at the local level. Northville would pay the rest.
 Funding for the project is uncertain if the grant is not secured. As a result, a Chapter 21 Committee

can solve the problem. A Chapter 21 Committee, consisting of representatives from Oakland County, Wayne County and the Michigan Department of Agriculture, solves the problem for the two communities and sends each a bill for doing so.
 "We can control our own destiny or we can pay the bill," Novi Mayor Richard Clark said to the Novi News after that meeting. "I always felt you can get more accomplished working together than being at loggerheads."
 Weaver said the township requested any Chapter 21 involvement be delayed until the design and engineering and grant status had been determined. However, the augmented board decided to continue with its involvement after several residents affected by the drain asked the board to stay involved.
 Weaver said the design and engineering now being conducted can be used by the Chapter 21 Committee, along with the grant that the city of Novi and Northville Township will apply for by the end of the month.

Andrew Dielderich is a staff writer. He may be reached at (248) 349-1700 extension 109.

Novi seniors rehearsed all summer for September theatrical production

It's almost show time, as the Novi Theatre Senior Variety Series gets ready for their upcoming production "Showstoppers."
 The seniors have been preparing all summer long to dazzle audiences with a multitude of singing, dancing, and comedy.

The entertainment extravaganza will be held September 13-17 at the Novi Civic Center Stage.
 Shows on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday begin at noon and Sunday's performance begins at 2 p.m. Tickets are on sale now at the Novi Parks and Recreation Department located inside the Novi Civic Center on 10 Mile Road.
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Offender says he is not a threat to neighborhood

Continued from 1
 information about convicted sex criminals.
 Megan's law also requires anyone convicted of a CSC charge to register with the state every three months. Also under Michigan law, anyone who was imprisoned or convicted in another state of CSC must register with the Public Sex Offender Registry. Any individual who fails to do so will face up to four years in prison or a \$2,000 fine.
 The local offender and his family told the Novi News that he poses no threat to the community and that the grassroots information campaign is not needed.
 "There is nothing good that can come of this," the mother of the offender said Monday.
 "My son has paid for what he did. This will do no good at all."
 According to Novi Police Lieutenant David Butler, the offender was 15 years old when he was convicted of sexually assaulting a male minor. Butler said that under state law, juvenile sex offenders are added to the list when they turn 18. This offender was convicted of first degree Criminal Sexual Conduct (CSC), which is a felony.
 Under Michigan law, CSC in the first degree includes instances when the guilty party engages in sexual practice with a person who is under the age of 13; the person is between 13 and 16 and several criteria are met; coercion or threat of violence may be involved to force penetration.
 "We are concerned for the children who live here, the children who play at the city park and the children who will soon be returning to Orchard Hills Elementary School," Trump wrote in a letter to the Novi News.
 "The presence of a convicted sexual predator in our midst and the close proximity of his residence to the city park and the elementary school should certainly be a concern to all residents of Novi."

According to Novi Police Sergeant Herb Harbin, whether the poster describing the offender is put up isn't a matter for the police department. Harbin said that there is no law that forbids the posting of such material.
 "It doesn't preclude him (Trump) from putting it up," Harbin said. "But he (the offender) has a right to live without being harassed."
 Harbin also said that whoever is responsible for putting up such flyers could be held responsible if any harm came to the offender because of the information campaign. The state police website notes that anyone who uses information in the Public Sex Offender Registry to harm a person on the list is subject to criminal prosecution.
 Monday, the local offender told the Novi News that he paid his debt to society and just wants to be left alone.

"I don't want to attract any attention to myself. I am trying to get my life together," he said.
 The offender also said that he just wants to live an anonymous life. He's trying to be a good citizen, he said, and feels that the attention will only bring more pain to his family.
 "My life's ruined before and you have no idea what this will do to me," he said.
 "I've required to report in and I haven't missed a time."
 The offender said that his neighbors have nothing to worry about due to his residency in the apartment complex.
 "I've done my therapy," the offender said. "I understand how they can feel, but I've been to therapy. I've paid my debt."
 Trump said he had no opinion on the subject's efforts to move on with his life and that his concern is the safety of the children.
 He has written the flyers and faxed a copy to the Novi News, but has yet to start putting them up on the walls of the apartment complex. He said he has worked to get the word out to Novi Ridge residents. However, Trump said he is talking to an attorney about the prospect of posting the information.
 "We are still trying to ascertain the potential for a lawsuit," Trump said. "We're trying to clarify that now."
 Several residents were afraid to give their full names for publication because of their fears of possible retribution by the offender.
 "I have children in this complex," said one man. "I have to go to work and this person is here. My children play over there. They have to pass by his house on the way to school everyday."
 Jackie Pace, manager of the Novi Ridge Apartment complex, said the complex management had no knowledge of the man's past before they allowed him to move in. When asked if there were complaints about the man's location, Pace declined to respond.
 "We have no comment," she said. The offender's mother was adamant that the residents of Novi Ridge have nothing to fear from her son living there.
 "They are perfectly safe," the mother said. "I understand, believe me. Nothing has happened. Everything has been done and more. He's been to therapy. I know my son is not an angel, but he's not a danger either."

Randal Yakey is a reporter for the Novi News.
 He may be reached at (248) 349-1700 or ryakey@nl.homecomm.net

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Northville schools add new teachers to class roster

BY MELANIE PLENDIA
Staff Writer

There are 33 anxious people looking forward to their freshly painted walls, new chalk in the holders of their classrooms and Northville Public Schools as they address on the letterhead which gives them their new job assignments.

The Northville school board approved 33 new teacher hires at their regular board meeting Aug. 8.

Whatever the reason they were chosen, each of the new teachers talked to the school board of their excitement and gratitude for their new jobs in the district.

"I'm very excited to be a part of such a tremendous music program," said new vocal music teacher Paula Jovner Thurner, who recently returned from Novi schools.

Director of Personnel Roy Danley said with this batch of teachers comes 23 bachelor degrees, 10 masters, one MBA and 73 and a half years of experience.

The hiring process lasted 23 days throughout the end of April and finished in July. Danley passed the teachers and administrators who gave so freely of their vacation time, to come in and sit on the hiring panels for the candidates.

But Danley said it was his role in the hiring process which gave him the most fulfillment.

"Sometimes I think I have the

best job in the district," he said. "This (hiring new teachers) is what makes the job so enjoyable and so rewarding."

The board approved the teachers under a one-year probationary contract with salaries ranging from \$16,000 to \$37,000 depending on experience, education and position in the district. Out of the hundreds and hundreds that applied, only 33 were chosen with three positions left to be filled.

One position was filled after and will be approved at the next board meeting in November 2000.

Danley said the district is still looking for a high school counselor, a media specialist at Silver Springs Elementary and a curriculum facilitator for Assistant Superintendent Linda Plutcher. The facilitator position was left vacant when Ann Cook decided to go back to the classroom. Danley said.

Cook is now teaching physical education at the new high school. Danley told the board the list of the positions should be filled before the start of school August 28.

When choosing a new teacher, Danley said he and the selection committees look for certification in the areas to which they are being hired. Further, he said they look for teachers with prior experience, demonstrating success in student teaching with strong recommendations from their supervising teachers, and superior academic record

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Sailor who served in Pacific wins his medals

But it took 50 years to get them

By Randal Yakey
STAFF WRITER

At the Great Lakes Naval Training Center in Illinois, Mike Brennan got his first taste of Navy life. It was already August of 1944 when Brennan enlisted into the Navy, but he still wanted to do his part.

"The German thing was over," Brennan said.

And now it's August 2000 and he's finally received the medals he earned in the service on Monday, courtesy of the efforts of Novi officials and Congressman Joe Knollenberg, R-Bloomfield.

Brennan said he didn't think too much about the medals during the years after the war and doesn't know why they were never sent to him over 50 years ago.

"Sharpshooter, Asiatic Campaign, American Campaign Medal, Good Conduct," Brennan rattled their names off.

"I don't know why I didn't get them. And after awhile, I didn't think too much about them."

Back in 1944, Brennan, now 73, was on the Air-Craft Carrier Shampack Bay taking troops from the Pacific Theater.

"We were in the Magic Carpet Operation bringing troops back from Okinawa, Japan," Brennan

said, surrounded by memorabilia and photos of the Shampack Bay he took during the war.

"We weren't supposed to have a camera, but I had one. I took a few shots," he said, a wide smile upon his face. Inside his photo book is a picture of Ruth, and she is not his wife.

"Some damn I knew," Brennan said, with another wide smile.

Brennan spent most of his time in the service handling information that was being sent to the ship from Naval command back in the states.

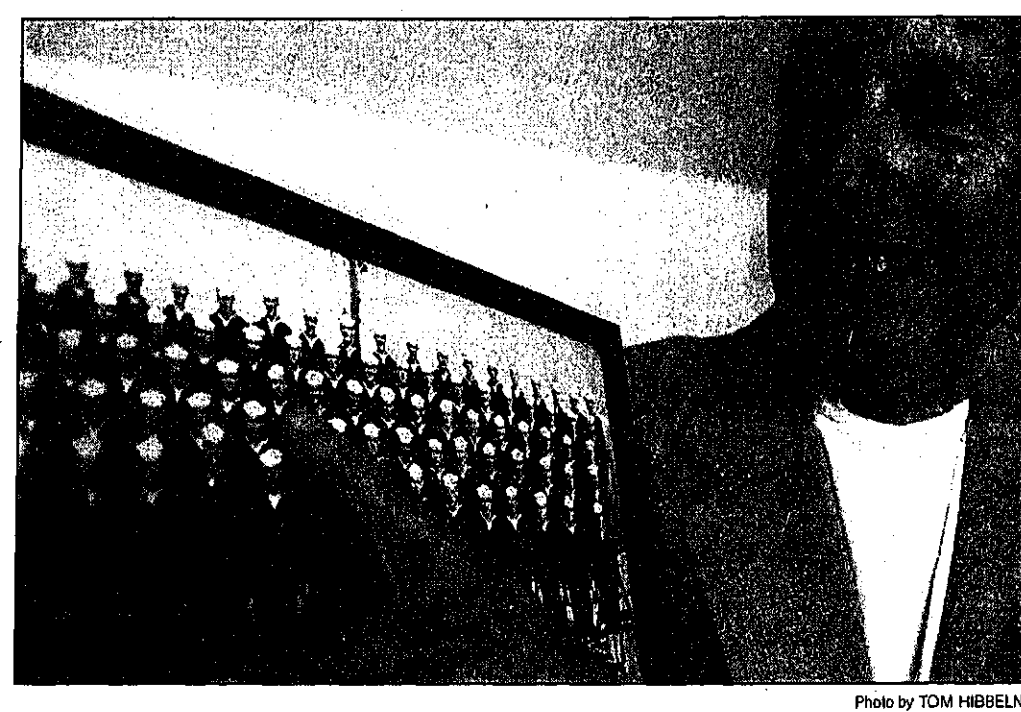
"I was in the captain's office. You know, yeoman's work," he said. "We did some target practice. Shooting at drones. One time we shot the gun and the back end of the ship would rise up. And we were carrying around the ammunition. You could almost drop it. And they were heavy."

Brennan said that traveling was one of the good things about being in the Navy.

"I was in Frisco for V-J day. They were going wild there," Brennan said.

During his time in the service Brennan went from New York down the East Coast and eventually ended up doing training missions in the Pacific.

"They shipped me from New York



Novi resident Mike Brennan points to his picture as a former sailor, in a Navy WWII photo.

They were the Hellcats or something."

"We kept some of them on the hanger deck below the flight deck," Brennan said. "We had the Marine and Army personnel and we brought them back to the state. I think we only gave them one meal a day. But there were quite a few of them."

Brennan said there wasn't much interaction between the personnel they were transporting and the ship's crew.

"They were not supposed to interfere with the ship's company," Brennan said. "They were all over the flight deck and the hanger deck. I didn't talk to them. I was busy in the captain's office writing

Continued on 18

Former sailor gets his medals at Monday's city council meeting

Continued from 19

"The water was coming up to the flight deck. It was way up top so you can imagine how high the water was."

"I think we encountered a 'Jap ship once,'" Brennan said. "But they knew the war was over and they didn't do anything."

Brennan said he spent some time in Maui, Hawaii. And things have all changed.

"I went off the ship at Maui," Brennan said. "There was a lot of pineapple and sugar cane. I don't think there were any hotels at that time. There wasn't much there."

Out on the medals, Brennan said that he kept to himself, but there was competition between the branches of the service.

"The Army and the Navy, they were the 'buddy-buddy,'" Brennan said. "We called the Marines

"Ji-reens" and they called us 'Swab-bies.'"

Randal Yakey is a reporter for the Novi News. He may be reached at (248) 343-1700 or ryakey@nl.homecom.net

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Please take notice that per Section 380.1272 of the School Code, as amended in December 1993, Novi Community School District will conduct a public hearing to seek input on the feasibility and need of implementing a breakfast program. This public hearing will be held on August 24, 2000 at 7:30 p.m. at the Educational Services Building, 25345 Tall Road, Novi, Michigan 48374-2423. (8-17-00 NV 992776)

CITY OF NOVI

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Woodlands Review Board, of the City of Novi, Michigan, will hold a public hearing on Thursday, August 24, 2000 at 4:00 p.m. at the City of Novi, Mayor's Conference Room, Novi, Michigan to review the Woodlands Review Board's Final Application for David Ingmire (Case 00-19).

ALL INTERESTED PERSONS are invited to attend. Any written comments may be sent to the Department of Public Services, Karen Amosch, 45175 West Ten Mile Road, Novi, Michigan 48375, until 3:00 p.m., Thursday, August 24, 2000.

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REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY USE PERMIT

TUP 00-037

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT Haggapan World of Rugs is requesting a Temporary Use Permit to allow the placement of a temporary tent at 43223 Twelve Mile Road in the parking lot from August 31, 2000 to September 5, 2000. The tent will be located south of Twelve Mile Road and east of Novi Road.

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 August 23, 2000, at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road. All written comments should be directed to the City of Novi Building Official and must be received prior to August 23, 2000.

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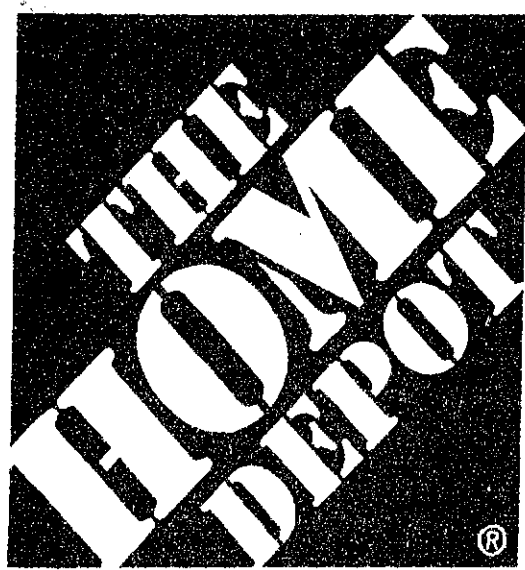
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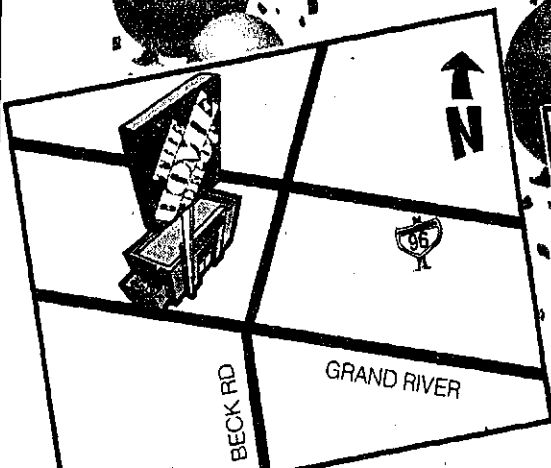
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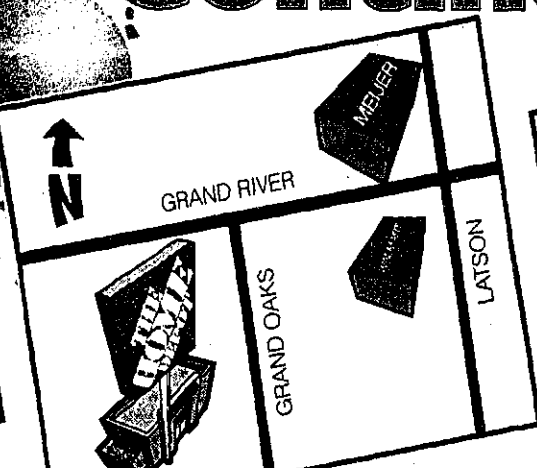


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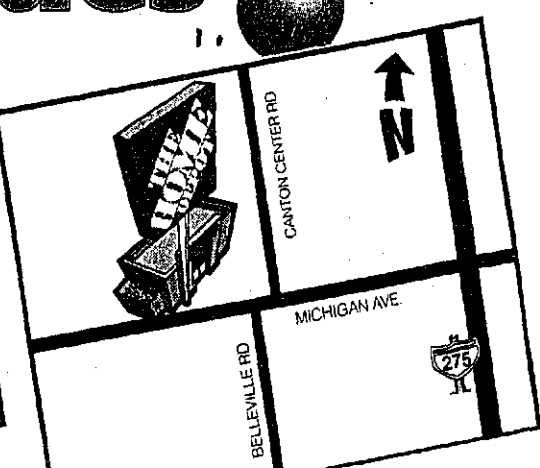
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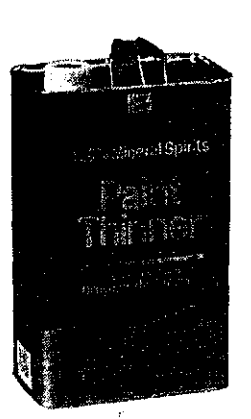
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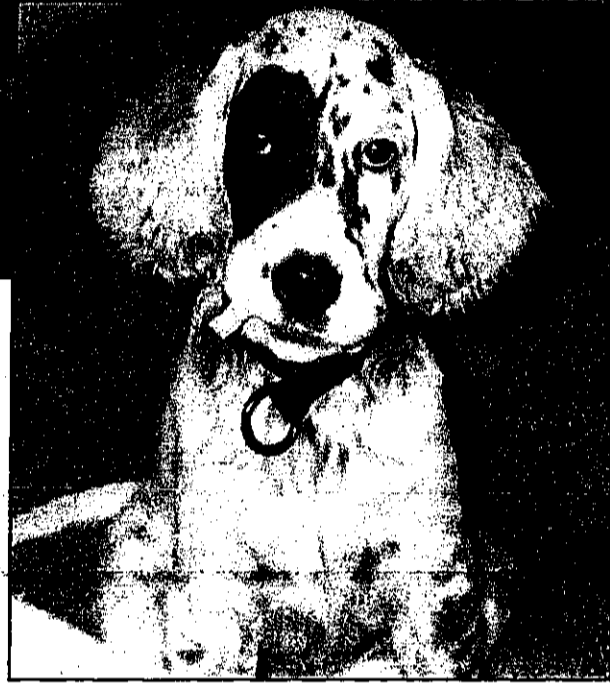
2ND PLACE: (tie) ABOVE

This is 1-year-old Lacy- a Jack Russell Terrier, pictured here with her friend Julie- a 9-week-old kitten of mixed breed. Lacy is a member of the Goodman family in Novi. Megan Goodman says Lacy is the best pet "because she's such a sweetheart, loves to cuddle, and has the most beautiful face." The Goodmans say they are also proud to be the foster family of kitten Julie "because she's so curious, full of personality, and absolutely in love with people."



1ST PLACE: TOP

This is five month old Griffin- a Golden Retriever. He is a part of the Leary family, which includes members Mike, Kim, Emily, Ellen, Megan, Kelly and Sharon. His family says Griffin is the best pet "because he loves his family and we love him! He's the best dog ever!"



2ND PLACE: (tie) ABOVE

This is 5 month old Gibson- a Tri-color English Setter, who was named after former Detroit Tiger Kirk Gibson. Gibson is a member of the Blackman family in Novi. His owners say Gibson is the best pet "because not only was he was potty trained in three days, but he has a wonderful personality and loves all the kids in the neighborhood."

Honorable mentions



3RD PLACE: ABOVE

"And the Lion shall lie down next to the Lamb." The Lion is Jake- a Golden Retriever, and the Lamb is Langston- a Dachshund. Both are members of the Perry family in Novi.

Last month we asked residents to grab their cameras and enter the first ever *Novi News/Northville Record* Pet Photo Contest. We received lots of entries and the competition was immense. After a lengthy vote, we finally chose the winners. We had pictures of cats, dogs and even ferrets. And not only did we receive incredible photos, but heart touching stories about the lives of these adorable animals. Two in particular, were Beijing Fatt (pictured with Robin Hood costume) an 11-year-old pug and Mikie Prevost (pictured with Harley Davidson hat) a 15-year-old mixed breed dog, both from Novi. Fatt was born with shallow knee sockets and kept falling over when he'd bend over to eat his food. He was also born with hip dysplasia, a disorder where the hip sockets are very shallow. When he was three years old, he was running up the stairway to meet his mom coming in the door. He lost his footing and bashed his eye into the edge of the stairway. He lost most of his sight. Prevost has also been through a lot. In his 15 years, he has had three cancer scares. He was severely abused as a pup by his previous owners, but has lived in a loving home ever since with Ellen and Eric, who picked him up at the humane society. He is an only "child," so he's spoiled crazy. While Mikie is spunky for his age, he still has health issues. He has his own surgeon, optometrist, oncologist, and dietitian, but he still gets a long just fine because he's showered with love.

Thanks again to everyone that entered.

Honorable mentions



MOVIES

Karl Kling, Editor 248-685-1507

Thursday, August 17, 2000

Gibson holds the fort in *The Patriot*

The Patriot
MPAA Rating: R
Now Playing
Must See

By Jennifer Norris
Staff Writer

Mel Gibson has done it again. Don't miss this summer's heart wrenching and poignant recreation of the American Revolution War.

The Patriot offers viewers an intense experience as Mel Gibson, Heath Ledger, Joely Richardson, Jason Isaacs, Rene Auberjonois and Lisa Brenner depict tales of human courage, sacrifice, honor and America's quest for freedom.

Gibson gives an award worthy performance as a single father of seven in South Carolina who is initially very much against the idea of fighting more battles and participating in a cause. Gibson's feelings of anti-war likely stem from his previous bouts in battles and tales of his past war engagements leave the townspeople mesmerized and his children anxious to know more about their own father's past.

Heath Ledger (*Ten Things I Hate About You*), who plays the role of one of Gibson's sons, defies his father by choosing to follow his own personal convictions of fighting for freedom and enlists to serve.

Ledger goes off to war, leaving his father frantic and his siblings teary-eyed. Even though one son has left home to fight, the family can still see soldiers fighting and bombs exploding as they look out the window of their South Carolina home.

Realistic shots of the enemies

gunfire pull viewers into the storyline and emotional tugs are included in several portions of the film to add further drama and viewer appeal.

One of the most riveting scenes in the film involves Gibson and his two youngest sons as they scramble to save Ledger from being hung. Quickly grabbing muskets, pistols and a tomahawk from his home that the British have just torched, the three race into the woods, hide behind trees and wait for the opportunity to ambush the British troops.

With amazing shooting accuracy for elementary age children, the two young boys assist their father in killing the British soldiers, and narrowly escape their own death as the enemy sends bullets whizzing past their heads. Gibson also has perfect aim and wipes out the rest of the soldiers. After Gibson rescues his son from the last British "redcoat" he takes his tomahawk out and thoroughly mutilates the soldier long after he is dead. Because Gibson fought so hard and was victorious in killing a large number of British soldiers, he earns the nickname of "the ghost."

The two youngest sons excellently portray frightened youths as they quickly but somewhat clumsily load their weapons.

Gibson also does a commendable job of portraying the loss he feels at his death of his son. At one point Gibson begins sobbing and shaking uncontrollably leaving viewers spellbound and sympathetic. Gibson's acting also makes an emotional appeal on



In the emotionally-charged Columbia Pictures adventure *The Patriot*, Academy Award® winner Mel Gibson (center) stars as Benjamin Martin, a reluctant hero who must draw on his courage and patriotic fervor when he is swept into the American Revolution.

the audiences as he looks up with his face was literally covered with the blood after killing one British soldier.

Other interesting scenes include Ledger and Gibson dueling British soldiers in battle, complete with cannonball explosions and realistic-looking gunshot wounds on the soldiers.

Battlefield scenes, though they are bloody and graphic, are well filmed and reveal the hand-to-

hand combat of the British troops under Gen. Charles Cornwallis and the American armies fighting alongside Gibson's militia team.

Also appearing in *The Patriot* are Joely Richardson (*Event Horizon*), who plays Gibson's widowed but well-to-do sister-in-law, who helps the family after their home is burned down. Rene Auberjonois (*Inspector Gadget*, *Batman Forever*) also has a significant role as the Rev. Oliver,

who joins Gibson's militia team. Also, Lisa Brenner makes her film debut as Anne Howard, a courageous young woman who encourages men to enlist to fight for freedom and has a special connection to Gibson's family.

The Patriot was directed by Roland Emmerich and was produced by Dean Devlin. This is not the first time that these two men have worked together to create popular films. Devlin produced

and co-wrote with Emmerich the Tri-Star release "Godzilla." In addition, Emmerich directed the movie hit "Independence Day," which he also executive produced and co-wrote with Devlin.

This intense movie will leave audiences on the edge of their seats as superior acting leaves viewers with a touching outlook on the strife and passion that former patriots had in ensuring their cause would not die.

Little could save misguided *Saving Grace*

Saving Grace
MPAA Rating: R
Now Playing
Not Recommended

By Ken Marten
Staff Writer

The latest British comedy to make it's way across the Atlantic, *Saving Grace* is the wicked hybrid of a film, a patchwork monster of inspirations and ideas spliced from the genes of Cheech and Chong, Benny Hill, and Quentin Tarantino.

The mad scientist in this case is director Nigel Cole, who has experience directing music videos, wildlife documentaries and plays, but none in directing feature films, or turning down nightmarish scripts. The film's Igor is Craig Ferguson (*The Big Tease*), who co-stars as Matthew the gardener, and is credited as co-writer of the screenplay.

In the midst of the mish-mash plot are a host of fine British actors whose talents are wasted, with the Academy Award winning Brenda Blethyn (*Secrets and Lies*, *A River Runs Through It*) on top of the bill.

Grace leads a pleasing life of tea parties, roast beef on Sunday, and

A CLOSER LOOK AT ...

Tchecky Karyo

One of France's foremost international stars, Tchecky Karyo has a supporting role in *Saving Grace* as Jacques, a drug smuggling gangster. Karyo's commanding screen presence has allowed him to star in French, British, Brazilian, and American films. He can also be seen on the silver screen with Mel Gibson in *The Patriot*. Karyo's French film credits include *Full Moon Exposure*, *La Femme Nikita*, *The Bear and Nostradamus*. He has also starred in several other American films, including *Wing Commander*, *The Messenger: The Story of Joan of Arc*, *1492*, and *Goldeneye*.

all things pleasantly English. When her philanthropic husband dies leaving Grace with a mounting debt, Matthew the gardener convinces her to toss out the orchids and turn the green house into a marijuana farm. Since Grace herself is a master gardener, they manage to harvest lots and lots of pot. With the idea of making one big score to get her out of debt, Grace travels to London in search of a drug buyer, and recruits her late husband's lover to help. And in case the audience isn't laughing, Grace encounters some dangerous gangsters for film suspense, and starts a romance for film passion.

The additional elements don't help the plot any, and thanks to the supporting actors, they don't hurt it, either. Nothing can kill the monster, after all.

Too many films often try to be too many genres of film. Comedies necessarily don't need action or suspense or romance, but they do need comedy. In absence of laughs, writers and directors try to include plot surprises instead of going back to the drawing board to create more comedic situations. The result of so much filler is often a lukewarm film.

Saving Grace does cause sparse spurts of laughter, again often from

its supporting actors. Martin Clunes (the BBC's *Men Behaving Badly*, *Shakespeare in Love*), with his rubber face and Orson Wellesian voice, plays pot smoking Dr. Bamford with comic panache. Veteran actor Leslie Phillips (*Out of Africa*, *Empire of the Sun*), who has appeared in over 100 feature films, is funny as the sympathetic village vicar. And while not exactly comedic, Tchecky Karyo (*The Patriot*, *Goldeneye*) makes the most out of Jacques, the French drug smuggling gangster.

The old crack that Americans don't "get" British comedy may be true in the case of *Saving Grace*, but then again, there isn't much comedy to get. Lock this monster in the castle, fill the moat with petrol, and set the whole thing on fire. Lock up the mad scientist and Igor as well, until they promise not to make another snoozer like this one.

Viewers in search of recent British Isles film should skip this one and see the animated

Chicken Run. Or, head for the video store. Recommendations? *I Went Down*, *The General*, *Breaking the Waves*, or *Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels*.

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Pinckney makes KVC even tougher

HomeTown ranks top 20 football players

Football is the ultimate team sport. Working outside the unit will only get one so far - just ask Barry Sanders. Nevertheless, within that team structure the individual can still shine, excelling in whatever role has been established by the coach.

The KVC has never lacked talented players. College football rosters house scores of the league's alumni, from the MIAA to the upper echelons of the game. At the University of Michigan, for instance, there are more former KVC players - four - than there are from either the Detroit Public School League or Catholic League. With that pedigree behind them, and those expectations in front of them, here are some KVC players who will excel in the coming season.

1. Cullen Finnerty
Brighton Sr. QB

As always the talent of the Kensington Valley Conference is among the best in the state. This holds true with our number one-ranked player, Cullen Finnerty, who is not only the top player in the league, but also could very well be the top quarterback in the state this year (see accompanying state rankings). Last year as a junior he tore up the league with a great arm and an even better pair of feet.

With the Bulldogs running mostly a four wide receiver set the offense is tailored for a quarterback to put up big numbers. Finnerty put up BIG numbers as a junior. He finished the season with 2,312 yards passing and threw for 21 touchdowns. Included in that was a 459-yard passing performance in a playoff game last year. The effort was only 2-yards shy of breaking a state record. He also threw for five touchdowns in the game, only two shy of the state record.

2. Pat Doyle
Pinckney Jr. QB

Not very often does a league have the chances to witness two of the best arms in the state, but with the addition of Pinckney to the KVC this year the Pirates will give the fans just that. Junior quarterback Pat Doyle had a huge season last year as only a sophomore. This year promises to also be a big one for the junior.

Last season he threw for 1,777 yards and 13 touchdowns. The junior certainly has a great arm and he only became better as the season wore on and Doyle gained the experience. This year Doyle once again has the potential to be a top player, but the only big question mark is how the offensive line will do. With the entire line being new,

Doyle will need the protection to be successful. With some talented receivers and runningbacks, all the parts are there for another big season.

3. Jim Reese
Brighton Sr. RB

Not very often does a running back possess both size and speed. But with Brighton senior Jim Reese, both attributes are perfect description of what he brings to the Bulldogs lineup each game.

Last season he racked up 1,177 total yards and scored 15 touchdowns. On the ground he ran for 808 yards rushing and cored 12 touchdowns. He also caught three more touchdowns and racked up 369 yards receiving. He still did this despite playing with an injury for the last few games of the season.

When in the backfield Reese is a true force to be reckoned with. He can either lower his head and run through you, or make a move to the outside and break open a big run. Reese also has some great hands, giving his quarterback yet another option to throw to. If he can stay healthy, Reese will again be a top back in the league.

4. Jordan Robertson
South Lyon Jr. RB

There were a number of talented sophomore running backs in Michigan last season. Probably only three - Ann Arbor Huron's Jeff Jenkins, West Ottawa's Ameer Ismail and Bishop Gallagher's Darnell Hood - had better seasons than South Lyon's Jordan Robertson, one which saw him rush for 730 yards and six touchdowns. The difference was those three were their team's featured backs, whereas Jordan was one of the Lions' three principal runners along with seniors Jim Mize and Marcus Schulmeister. So there will be some adjustment as Robertson becomes the number one option in the wing-T. But he certainly has the ability to handle that responsibility, especially with some veterans returning up front. He's a speed back - no one in the KVC turns the corner quite as swiftly.

5. Ben Tecmire
Howell Jr. LB

Last year the Howell was a very young team on the defensive side of the ball. With

a host of sophomores on the team it was expected the defense would struggle. But a group of those 10th-graders stepped up and became a force in the KVC. One of those was linebacker Ben Tecmire.

Tecmire looks primed for an ever bigger season. He has bulked up to 210 pounds and has very good speed - the best 40 time on the team. He also knows how to read a play and is very capable of finishing off a tackle in style.

6. Josh Lashbrook
Hartland Sr. DL

One thing the Eagles have had over the years is a good defense. Last year that defense was anchored by a junior who could bring it with the best of them. Now a senior, Josh Lashbrook is looking for another big season. Last year he keyed in as a linebacker, but will play up front in 2000. He has good size and speed, but really knows how to read a play. After a tough off-season workout program, Lashbrook comes in even bigger and quicker. This year he will anchor the defensive line, giving the opponent something to worry about right out the box.

7. Mike Barnhard
South Lyon Sr. OL/DL

He can go both ways for the Lions. As a junior Barnhard - an All-KVC selection - started at both defensive tackle and offensive guard. Barnhard's improvement on the offensive line was a crucial part of South Lyon's success last season, affording three running backs the chance to shine out of the wing-T.

8. Matt Gorman
Novi Jr. QB/DB

His accolades as a sophomore (lettering in football, basketball and baseball) speak for themselves. This season he'll have big shoes to fill as departed senior Mitch Maier's replacement behind center. Gorman is similar to Maier in that he's extremely athletic and versatile along with possessing tremendous speed and quickness. His size (5-11, 175) lacks that of Maier's, but his heart is as big as they come.

"He's a competitor," Kellepourey said. "When the game's on the line, he's the guy that wants the ball in his hands. Yeah, everyone wants the ball in their hands, but

he has the ability to do something with it."

Gorman will start in the secondary, but will have to battle it out with junior Drew Doll for the starting quarterback position.

9. Brett Schurig
Brighton Sr. WR

Continued on 3



File Photo by ALAN WARD
Brighton's Cullen Finnerty (above) leads a strong corps of KVC players in 2000.

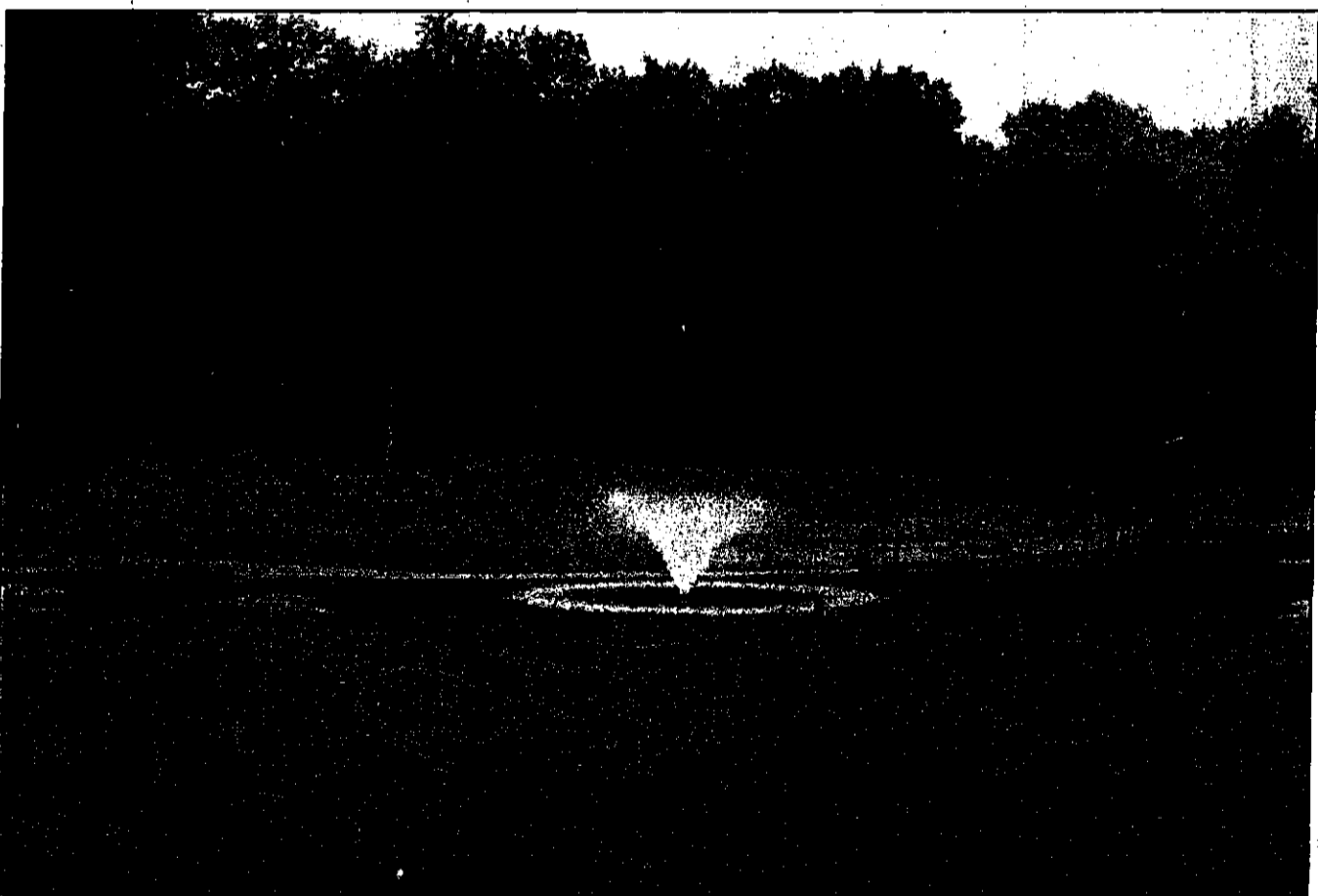


Photo by JASON SCHMITT

Quite tight...

Although the front nine holes at Salem Hills is wide open and custom made for the big hitters, the back nine is a bit tighter. The par-four 13th hole (shown above) proves that by offering an array of challenges for golfers. The green is surrounded

by woods to the left, sand to the right and water that wraps around the hole from the front to the right side. Two fountains add beauty to a hole that resembles those of Northern Michigan.

Salem Hills, a driver's course

To say Salem Hills golf course is wide open would be a stretch. But not by much. The long course located at the corner of Six Mile and Currie roads lures golfers into invincibility, safe to hit the ball wherever they choose. But just as you make the turn after the first nine holes, the course opens up its jaws and takes a giant bite out of the scorecard.

Well at least it doesn't hurt. Salem Hills' front nine holes are as wide open as golf courses come, offering wide fairways and very little water. It's a nine where big hitters can come out and play. It's safe to say you can take your driv-

er out of the bag on each of the par fours and fives on the front. But despite the fact that you can play out your Tiger Woods' fantasies on the front nine, the course does have a way of making a golfer humble. Both of

the par-three holes measure in excess of 200 yards. The number three hole, which reads a hefty 232 from the tips, isn't the most scenic par-three hole you'll come across. But it may just be one of the funnest. Even the middle and front tees, which are 202 and 172 respectively, force the use of a fairway

JASON'S SEARCH FOR "THE PERFECT HOLE"

Continued on 2

DeNeen leads Novi's charge

Young lacrosser's future looks bright

In the world of sports, there is little that is more exciting for a team's loyal fans than the anticipation of a bright future. Anytime a group of youngsters exudes a promise of great things to come, it can easily put everyone associated with the program in a whirlwind of giddiness and excitement.

Such is the case for the Novi lacrosse team. With a core of about 12 outstanding youngsters on their way up, it's no wonder this team is already being predicted as one of the state's top teams for the next two seasons.

A big part of this anticipation is goalie Kelly DeNeen, the winner of this year's Don Sill award for the lacrosse team's Most Valuable Player. As a sophomore, DeNeen was the first underclassmen in the history of Novi lacrosse to take home the prestigious award.

Named for the founder of the Novi lacrosse program, the award was created to "embody teamwork, effort, leadership, and hard work, as well as being a dominant player."

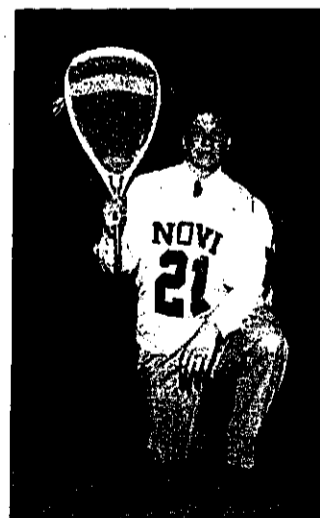
According to assistant coach Dave Wilson, "We try to make it the best person and player. Kelly's teammates definitely thought that, and the coaching staff thought so too."

DeNeen won this year's award without much of a fight from any teammate. "It was a runaway vote," said Wilson. "He won it hands down."

"He kept us in a lot of games. We had a lot of games where we could have given up a lot of goals. He gave us a chance to hang around."

Wilson said that when DeNeen won the award, the youngster seemed very surprised. "He was shocked," he said. "I think a lot of people there were too. He didn't know what to do when they called his name."

"He has a pretty quiet



Kelly DeNeen

demeanor. He's very coachable; he's willing to do the extra things to be a better player. He would get to practice early, stay a little late. These are little things, but those are the things that create success."

"It was the best thing that happened this season because of all [Sill] did for Novi lacrosse," said DeNeen.

As an All-State selection this season, DeNeen joins sophomore Aaron Marlon and junior captain Courtney Byron as returning All-Staters to next year's squad.

In addition to that trio, there is a great group of underclassmen coming up that should stir up a lot of excitement for the next two seasons. Kirk Safford, Mike Vehlewald, Drew Doll, Dave Cian, and Jamie Dalton all return to varsity this season with two more years in the program, while Drew Hunt and Shawn Dicken have three years remaining. Matt Ludwig, Justin

Continued on 3

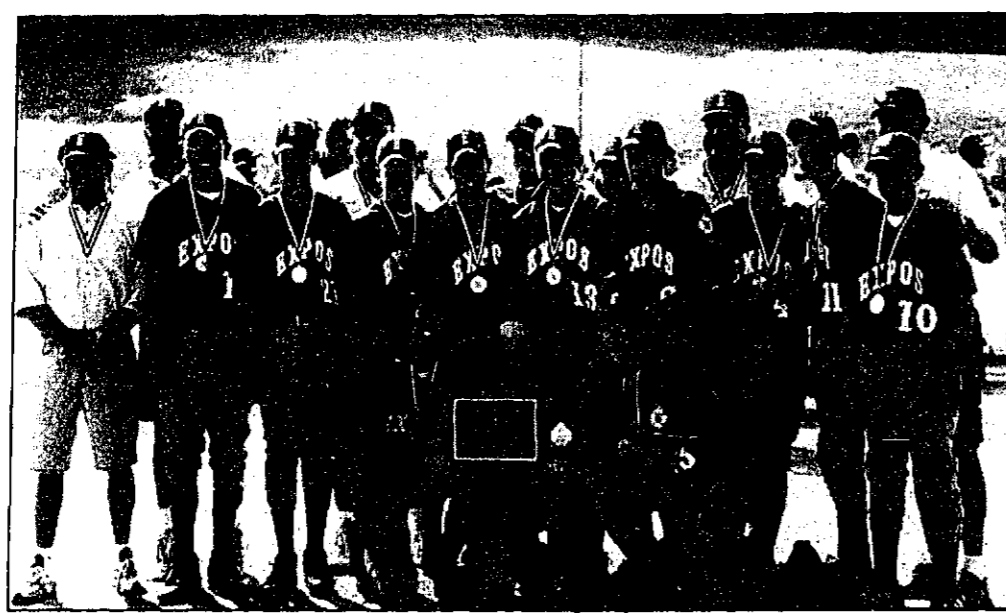
Golfing Salem Hills, bring your driver

Continued from 1

wood or long iron. There's a small creek about 20 yards in front of the green and a mini sand trap on the left side of the green. Neither should come into play, but considering the length of the hole, they very well could. The green has plenty of landing room, but not much give if you miss on any side. If you miss right, it's a tough downhill chip onto the green. Miss in back and you're visiting someone's backyard. Miss left and you're in a trap and any drive short of the green gives you an uphill chip onto the green. From the tee, golfers are challenged by the hole itself. "Go for it, I dare you."

Salem Hills' signature hole is the par-four 13th. This beauty brings all elements of the game into play. It's the shortest of four consecutive par fours to open the back nine, though it still measures 392 yards from the middle tees. Golfers must avoid water on the left side of the fairway, which may come into play with a good drive.

The beauty of the hole can be seen from the approach shot. Water lines the front of the green and rolls into a pond with two running fountains to the right-



Members of the Novi Expos show off their National Invitational Tournament championship trophy.

Expos win national tourney

The U-13 Novi Expos baseball team traveled to Johnson City, Tenn. late last month and returned with a bit of hardware. The team defeated the Carolina Crush 8-5 in the finals of the Amateur Athletic Union National Invitational Tournament, bringing home the tournament trophy and finishing with a 32-24 season record.

The tournament consisted of 12 teams, each of whom had to be invited after qualifying out of regional play. The Expos advanced out of Ann Arbor.

Novi edged the NFWB Cobras 11-10 and the Treasure Coast Young Guns 3-2 in pool play to advance into the semifinals.

The Expos' Doug Benton was named the NIT's

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Brighton lands five in HomeTown's top 20

Continued from 1

Schurig has some great hands, good speed and knows how to run a pattern to perfection. The combination gave him 42 catches last season for 640 yards and seven touchdowns. While the Bulldogs have one of the best core of receivers in the state, still look for Schurig to be the top target for Finnelly.

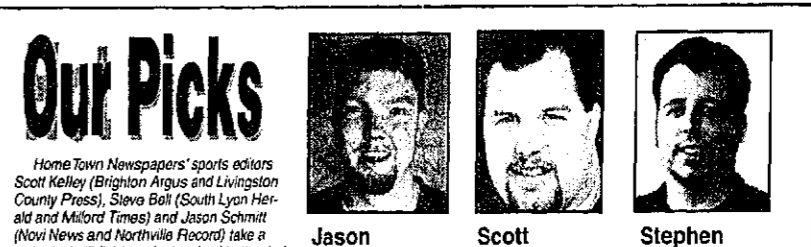
10. Mike Lawrence
Brighton Sr. DB
This year all the hype for Brighton has centered around its offense, and rightfully so. But the defense will not be to shabby either. Leading the way on the defensive line is returning starter Mike Lawrence. Lawrence is the prototypical lineman for the Bulldogs this year. Strong, fast and aggressive. Not a real big player, Lawrence is benching around 350 pounds and runs a 4.7, 40-yard dash. With the experience he gained last year and the speed and strength he has this year, Lawrence will be a force in every game he plays.

11. Tony Kern
South Lyon Sr. TE/P
With the graduation of Millford's Ben Fleming, Kern becomes the league's premier tight end. A receiver is never going to get an inordinate amount of touches in South Lyon's offense, so the key is to be there when you have to. Kern certainly was as a junior, making crucial catches in his team's two biggest games - Brighton, then Walked Lake Western in the playoffs.

Kern may also be the KVC's best punter. Last year, in the game at Hartland which clinched a share of the conference crown for the Lions, Kern's kicking kept the Eagles on the wrong end all night, and they were shut out.

12. Ryan Jones
South Lyon Sr. DB
South Lyon coach Bob Scholtes called Jones - an all-conference selection as an 11th-grader - the prototypical safety. When he's dropping back in coverage, Jones has a knack for being in the right place at the right time. And when he has to come up for run support he doesn't shy away from making the big hit.

13. Mike Jakubowski
Brighton Sr. DB
Last year the Bulldogs knew who was going



2000 Final Standings	2000 Prediction	2000 Prediction	2000 Prediction
Brighton (5-1)	Brighton	Brighton	South Lyon
South Lyon (5-1)	South Lyon	South Lyon	Brighton
Novi (4-2)	Pinckney	Novi	Novi
Howell (3-3)	Novi	Millford	Millford
Millford (2-4)	Hartland	Hartland	Pinckney
Hartland (2-4)	Millford	Millford	Hartland
Lakeland (0-6)	Howell	Howell	Howell
Pinckney (new)	Lakeland	Lakeland	Lakeland

But this year Howell is looking for Helfman to anchor the offensive line.

Helfman is a player who understands the game and uses that knowledge to his benefit. He also brings good size and speed to a somewhat inexperienced line this year.

16. Jamie Champe
South Lyon Sr. DB
He took one for the team, and then gave back. Champe began the 1999 season as South Lyon's starting quarterback, but broke his thumb. This prompted the move to cornerback. While the two positions may sound the same, the former is considerably more glamorous than the latter. Yet Champe made the most of the situation, improving as the season progressed. He ended up with two interceptions and recovered two fumbles, becoming one of the best defensive backs in the league. Champe was an All-KVC pick along with Lions' safety Ryan Jones.

19. Tony Vendittelli
Lakeland Sr. LB
Vendittelli will be a three-year starter and two-time team captain for the Eagles. He was an all-conference pick last season. Vendittelli is a gamer regardless of the situation. As a junior he made 98 tackles, the second-best single-season mark in school history. He also blocked a kick, caused two

Future looks bright in Novi

Continued from 1

Bagdady, and Ryan Van Tassel also will be juniors this season, though they are yet to experience play at the varsity level.

"We're very excited about these guys," said Wilson. "With the core of these guys, we should definitely be in the thick of things for the next two years. It's just a good group of kids."

"I think we'll have a pretty good season," said Marion. "The junior class is going to need some experience before we make a run in the playoffs."

DeNeen agrees, believing that next year will be more of an adjustment season, whereas this senior year will be the team's season to shine. "I think that probably next year will be kind of a year for us to get used to one another," said the goalie. "Senior year, we'll put it all together and make a run at the championship."

Time for a change?

Change the batteries in your smoke detector at least once a year.

Sport Shorts

JV FROSH CHEER COACHES NEEDED
The Novi Athletic Department is seeking applications for Junior Varsity and Freshmen Cheerleading Coaches for the 2000-2001 school year. Anyone interested in applying for these positions should contact Amy Denys, Novi's Varsity Coach, at 248-347-9618.

EXPOS TRYOUTS COMING UP
The 2000 AAU National Invitational Champion Novi Expos travel baseball team will be holding tryouts for the upcoming 2001 baseball season. Tryouts will be held at Novi Sports Park located at Eight Mile and Napier roads on Aug. 27 from 2-5 p.m.

This will be a 14-year old team for the 2001 season. For more information call Paul Flavin at (248) 380-5142.

BLUES TRYOUTS NEXT WEEKEND
Tryouts for the 2001 South Farmington Blues 13 & Under Federation Travel Baseball team will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 26 at Founders Park (field #3) on Eight Mile Road in Farmington. Routout date is Sunday, Aug. 27, same time, same place. For more information, please contact Jay Cummings at (248) 477-3523.

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CORRECTION
In last week's Novi News, the Novi High School football schedule showed the eighth game of the regular season will be played on October 13. The game is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, October 14. The game will be played at Home Depot Field at Ford Field in Detroit. The game will be broadcast on Channel 42.

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Health Column

You don't have to feel old

How old we are versus how old we feel and look are becoming hotter and hotter issues as the baby boomers begin to hit that mid-life crisis point. In the next 30 years, the group of people over 50 will increase by 74 percent, while the under-50 category will grow by only 1 percent. Unfortunately, the future picture in terms of health and fitness is not all that bright for this "young at heart" group and for our senior population in general.

(Breaking the 40-year age barrier myself last year, I am definitely a little more sensitive to these facts and predictions). We need to begin to take more responsibility for our own fitness. Too many of us rely on the medical industry to fix us when we have a problem versus applying a little upstream health care to assure a better quality of life. As the legendary Jack LaLane puts it, "Getting out of shape is an insidious thing. It sneaks up on you. You get a little more out of shape, you don't really notice, you adapt and live with it." We often write it off to the inevitable aging process. But as Mr. LaLane and others have proved, aging is not totally out of our control. With the latest technology, you can gather and input a series of components such as a person's body fat, heart rate, etc., and apply the technology to arrive at a fitness age to compare against one's chronological age.



Chris Klebba

You may have read that Jack LaLane tested at a level of 29 years of age in fitness terms, versus his 85 years of chronological age. Others have found their bodies are aging ten or 20 years ahead of their chronological age. In other words, a 45-year-old can have the body of a 55- or 60-year-old. This technology is another wake up call to help arm us in the battle of aging.

More and more fitness facilities are prepared to help you win this battle. You decide what winning is, but certainly it is to enjoy the best quality of life we can and to at least keep our fitness age in line with our chronological age. More and more of our fitness industries' efforts are going into meeting the needs of today's busy baby boomers and seniors. At our recent IHRSA (International Health Racquet and Sports Club Association) conference, many clubs shared successful programs to meet this specific market need. Franco's Athletic Club in Mandeville, La., was this year's winner of an award for these type promotions. The staff and members believe in having fun, and applying and enjoying humor that's involved with growing older. I wanted to share with you, in fun, their "You might be a Geezer" list that had the crowd laughing at the conference.

- You might be a geezer if...
 - Everything hurts and what doesn't hurt, doesn't work anymore;
 - Your knees buckle but your belt doesn't;
 - You try to straighten your socks and you find you are not wearing any;
 - Your back goes out more often than you do;
 - You just can't stand people who are intolerant;
 - You sit in a rocking chair and can't get it

going:

- All the names in your little black book end with M.D.;
- You know all the answers but no one asks you the questions;
- Cardiovascular exercise is nighttime strolls to the rest room; and
- Hereafter is entering a room and wondering what you're here after.

The point of this story is aging is inevitable. How we age is up to us. Seek out a lifestyle program that is right for you that includes the following: Proper cardiovascular activity; proper resistance training; and proper nutrition.

There are mountains and mountains of scientifically proven benefits from applying these steps consistently at any age. The benefits range from fighting depression to arthritis and just about every other disease known to man.

As Jack LaLane said, "if you don't work out on a regular basis, it is like going to bed with a rattlesnake. It has to kill you eventually. I'll keep saying it: you don't get old from calendar years, you get old from inactivity." Jack goes on, "Exercise is king, nutrition is queen, and together you have a kingdom."

Create your kingdom. Enjoy every drop of life at every stage of life. You deserve it. Good luck.

Chris Klebba wrote this column. Klebba is the owner and operator of the Water Wheel Health Club and Synergy Fitness. He is also a certified personal fitness instructor.

For more information or for a free 14-day membership, call (248) 449-7634.

Health Notes

Food Allergy Counseling

Individuals with food allergies can receive counseling on food choices and substitutions from a Botsford Hospital professional. The fee is \$30. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call (248) 477-6100.

Prostate Cancer Support Group

Offering knowledgeable speakers each month, this support group provides encouragement and education about prostate cancer, its treatment and the physical and emotional issues associated with it. It meets the third Monday of every month at 7 p.m. and it's free. Sessions take place in Botsford's 2 East A Conference Room, 28050 Grand River Ave., in Farmington Hills. For more information, call (248) 477-6100.

Foot and ankle consultations

Experiencing heel pain, bunions, hammertoes, fungus nails, warts, ankle pain, ingrown nails or other foot ailments? The Foot Health Centers offer an initial consultation free of charge, excluding x-rays, lab tests or treatment. The Foot Health Centers, operated by Dr. Ken Poss and Dr. Randy Bernstein, are affiliated with Botsford, Sinai, Oakwood and Kern hospitals. They have two area locations, at 41431 W. Ten Mile Road in the Novi Plaza at Meadowbrook, and 30931 W. Seven Mile Road in Livonia. Call (248) 349-5559 or (248) 478-1166 for more information or to schedule a consultation.

Menopause Support Group

Providence Medical Center-Providence Park in Novi offers a free monthly support group for women who have concerns about menopause. The group meets the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Providence Park Conference Center, 47601 Grand River Ave., at the corner of Grand River and Beck in Novi. The purpose of the support group is to provide women with educational information on topics relating to menopause. For information, call (248) 424-3014.

Free Foot Screenings

Free foot screenings are offered every Tuesday and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Botsford General Hospital, Suite 200, South Professional Building, 28080 Grand River Ave. in Farmington Hills. For more information or to make an appointment, call (248) 473-1320, weekdays 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Intermediate Water Aerobics

This is a 50-minute water exercise class for postnatal and postphysical therapy patients. There is a \$35 fee for the six-week course and registration is required. For registration and information, call the Botsford Center at (248) 473-5600.

Child Clinic

Oakland County Health Division's Child Health Clinics provide free ongoing well care for children from birth to school entry. Families who do not have an HMO or Medicaid may be eligible. Clinics are held at 14 locations throughout Oakland County. Services include heights and weights; head to toe physical examination; immunizations; vision, hearing and lab testing; growth and developmental screening; and counseling as needed. Appointments are required. For more information, call: north Oakland, Pontiac: (248) 858-1311 or 858-4001; south Oakland, Southfield: (248) 424-7066 or 424-7067; west Oakland, Walled Lake: (248) 926-3341.

Panic attack and agoraphobia support group

They have monthly meetings starting in September at both Northville and Livonia locations. It's a comfortable group support setting for individuals experiencing panic attacks. The cost is \$5. For more information call Susan Franceschi at (734) 420-8100.

ABCs of Weight Loss

A registered dietitian will work with you individually for three months to set up a realistic weight loss plan, organize your appetite and discuss the best strategies for weight loss. A \$95 fee and appointment is required. The class is sponsored by Botsford's Health Development Network, 39750 Grand River Ave. in Novi. For more information and to register, call (248) 477-6100.

Asthma Education

Individual sessions with a registered nurse can provide the tools to better understand and manage asthma. Day and evening sessions are available. Families are welcome. There is a \$30 fee and an appointment is required. For more information and to register, call (248) 477-6100.

Breastfeeding Basics

This workshop covers the "how to's" of breastfeeding and answers questions and concerns of women who are already breastfeeding. The fee is \$20, and the classes are held at Botsford's Health Development Network in Novi. For information and registration, call (248) 477-6100.

Surgical Preparation

Through the Sally the Surgery Star program, children scheduled for surgery are taken on a tour and familiarized with the surgical experience. A variety of educational materials and supportive teaching tools are used to help children deal positively with the idea of a hospital stay. Admission to the program is by appointment only. There is no charge. Call the Providence Medical Center-Providence Park at (248) 380-4170 to register.

Child Health Clinics

Oakland County Health Division's Child Health Clinics provide free ongoing well care for children from birth to school entry. Families who do not have an HMO or Medicaid may be eligible. Clinics are held at 12 locations throughout Oakland County. Services include: Heights and weights; head-to-toe physical examination; immunizations; vision, hearing and lab testing; growth and developmental screening; and counseling with referrals to physicians and area resources as needed. Appointment is required. For more information, call: North Oakland, Pontiac: (248) 858-1311 or 858-4001; South Oakland, Southfield: (248) 424-7066 or 424-7067; West Oakland, Walled Lake: (248) 926-3300; and Holly residents: 1-888-350-0900, extension 8-1311 or 8-4001.

Healthy Solutions Seminar

Healthy Solutions are offering a seminar series over the next few weeks. All seminars are free and begin at 7:30 p.m. Please call (248) 305-5785 or stop in healthy solutions to reserve a seat (space is limited). You may show up the night of the seminar, however a seat may not be available.

Hot Flash Study

Women who suffer from multiple daily hot flashes associated with menopause are being sought to participate in a nationwide study to assess the safety and effectiveness of an investigational hormone replacement skin patch to treat hot flashes. Women may be eligible if they are between the ages of 45 and 65, have not had a menstrual period in six months, or a hysterectomy. For more information, call 493-6580.

Blood pressure checks

Providence Medical Center-Providence Park is offering free blood pressure checks Monday through Friday from 9 to 11 a.m. Area residents are invited to visit Providence Medical Center-Providence Park, 47601 Grand River Ave., to obtain the service. Screening will take place in Providence's Emergency Care Center located within the center. For more information call (248) 380-4225.

Are you at Risk for Stroke?

You May Qualify for SPARCL: A worldwide study

SPARCL will help doctors learn more about the relationship between reducing high cholesterol and the risk of stroke.

Major Qualifications:

- Stroke or TIA (transient ischemic attack) within the last 6 months
- Free of coronary heart disease

Call now to see if you can participate.

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