

INSIDE

An award for Andrew

Novi Planning Commissioner Andrew Mutch takes home a state award for his work to aid libraries with computer information. The story's on — Page 3A



LIVING

Ready for the Big Chill



Summer gardening was great, but now what do you do to get those flower beds in order for the coming freeze? And what about planning ahead for next spring? Get some advice from the experts on — Page 1AA

COMMUNITY FOCUS

Who needs a Tin Man?



Village Oaks students celebrated the season with a Scarecrow Parade. See the latest fashion statements from the cornfield on — Page 5AA

SPORTS

Netters take charge

The Novi tennis team beat Pinckney 6-2 Monday, guaranteeing them the regular-season title with a perfect 6-0 record. The conference tournament starts this weekend, at Novi High School — Page 1B

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Scam artists target Novi

■ Saying he was from Edison, the man demanded \$200 or the resident's electricity would be cut off.

By RANDAL YAKYE
Staff Writer

The Novi Police Department wants to get this word out, especially to seniors. That is: Beware of utility workers asking for their cash upfront.

Police are asking residents to be cautious with individuals claiming to be utility workers, including Detroit Edison and Ameritech workers, but who are really scam artists apparently targeting Novi residents.

"We've only had a couple of reported incidents, but my guess is that a lot of times people are embarrassed that this has happened to them," Novi Police Detective Tom Lindberg said. "It's hard to tell how much of this is going on."

In one incident on September 20, a black

male subject operating in the vicinity of Blair Street in the Garden Green subdivision demanded money or threatened to turn off a elderly resident's electricity if an immediate payment wasn't made.

The man was last seen on Blair Street that day around 4:30 p.m. getting into a red Dodge or Chrysler LeBaron driven by a black female.

"It is much more dangerous when it is face-to-face," Lindberg said. "And not only can you lose your monetary funds, there is a

physical threat there."

In the Blair Street incident, a check was written to the bogus utility worker by an individual who feared to have their electricity shut off.

"A person posed as an Edison worker and told the (victim) 'You're \$200 behind in your bill and I'm the collector for Edison. You need to make the check out to me and what I do at the end of the day is put it into my

Continued on 13

Drive to pass road bond is at full speed

■ If voters okay this, mayor, city manager say no more road bonds for five years.

By Stephanie Fordyce
Staff Writer

The city of Novi will have missed the boat on a golden opportunity if the proposed \$18.4 million road bond issue does not pass in November, according to Mayor Richard Clark and City Manager Richard Helwig.

On September 27, both city leaders pitched the issue to a room full of Lions Club members at Kim's Gardens.

In 1999, Novi voters said no to a road bond package.

Lions Club member Ned Stirton said he felt there was a certain "climate" last year in which the road bond was defeated.

"The city had experienced an enormous judgment against it, millions of dollars from the Sandstone developers, and the city's first year of

operation of the hockey facility had proven to be an economical disaster," he said. "And I think those two had an enormous role in the defeat of the earlier bond issue."

Now, city officials are soliciting help from local clubs and residents to get this bond issue passed.

"What I am encouraging our organizations and our community to do is to get up and make the most of the opportunities that are in front of us," said Helwig.

The \$18.4 million bond proposal set for the November ballot would cost a taxpayer with a \$200,000 home \$53 a year for 17 years.

If passed, the bond proposal would allow the city to leverage approximately \$44.615 million in state and federal funds for major road improvements including the Beck Road interchange, to Novi Road and Grand River Avenue.

Without support from Novi

Continued on 17

Novi News wins 10 state awards

■ State press honor includes first place for excellence.

The Novi News has won 10 awards in the Michigan Press Association's 2000 Newspaper of the Year Awards.

The Novi News won first place in general excellence for a Michigan weekly in its category. Judges noted that: "Of given guidelines, this paper was best overall in layout, design, pictures, ads, etc. An excellent paper."

The Novi News won second place in the Lifestyle Section category.

Another second place came for a special section produced for the Michigan 50s Festival in 1999. Judges' comments were: "Great cover photo and design: it takes me right in.

Ads are exceptional and the writing is also cleverly done — good, good headlines."

A first place came for a feature photo of Buddy Guy performing at the International Blues Festival, taken by Hal Gould. The judge noted: "Great feature photographer has captured the moment."

The Novi News also took a third place in this category for a picture of a drooling dog taken at the Novi Expo Center dog show by photographer Louis Poulos.

Former staff writer Jeremy McBain won third place for a Human Interest Feature called "Early Start." Judges said: "Original subject. Good feeling cover through." This article was about then-Novi High School senior Craig Kort-

Continued on 13

The best of both worlds

Visiting a foreign country for a vacation can be intimidating enough, but at least you know you can go home soon. For a child, to a new land for a few years is a different story. You've got to learn the language. The schoolwork is different. Your friends are far away. The Novi News took a look at how a growing number of Japanese workers and their families living in Novi make their way through a new country, community and culture before returning home. This is the second in a series of three articles.



Novi High student Kumiko Ishiara, right, aids Yukari Ito, left, with studies as Kaori Skamoto watches.

Students get by with help from their friends

Novi Community Schools faces a challenge every day in finding the best way to educate the growing number of Japanese students joining its classes annually.

While the numbers of Japanese students increase, there is no set policy in how to accommodate the students, according to Rita Traynor, director of instruction at Novi Schools.

"We try to work with the needs of each individual child," she explained.

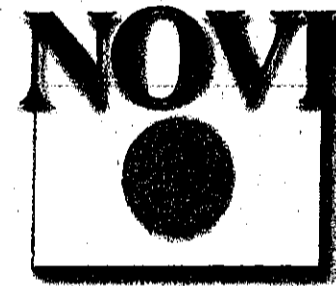
Each school has developed various ways to help these new students acclimate themselves into the classroom, including using art and language together at Novi Woods Elementary and sending teachers on educational trips to Japan with the

help of the Novi Rotary Club.

"We've worked a long time with the Japanese community and parents getting them to volunteer and be involved," Traynor said.

While there are no concrete figures as to the number of Japanese students temporarily in Novi Schools, the Detroit Japanese School, Ringo Kai, shows 167 kids from Novi area schools attending its Saturday classes.

The typical stay in Novi lasts two to four years, although some students remain longer. Many of the students' fathers work for Panasonic or subsidiary companies of Toyota. Often, they speak little or no English and come here in the middle of their school year, making the transition



even more difficult.

"It's difficult for the kids to get adjusted," said Nadine Hall, the Novi Meadows foreign language teacher who meets with 15 Japanese students each day to help them with their English and their homework.

"The biggest problem I see is most of their friends, and this can be good or bad, are Japanese. They want to be with someone who they are comfortable with and the Japanese kids stick to their own little niche. They're so young, I feel for them."

Continued on 2

Story by Wendy Pierman Mitzel
Photos by John Heider

Voices raised in song: NHS students ready for concert

■ Fall performance will be a first here for new music director.

By Stephanie Fordyce
Staff Writer

Watch out, better yet listen, as the Novi High School Choral Department gets ready for their upcoming fall concert performance on October 10.

With the school's five choir classes — the Novi Chorale, Wildcat Chorus, Concert Choir, Novi Singers and Varsity Choir belting out tunes — the show will give its audience the opportunity to hear a wide range of different musical levels.

The students will also be dressed to kill, as they step out on the stage

in glamorous gowns and tuxedos.

The show will feature selections ranging from pop to jazz, which Assistant Choir Director Stacey Becker describes as a potpourri of song selections.

The Boys Choir will be singing songs such as "Bring Him Home" from Les Miserables and "One Fine Day" while the some of Girls' Choir will be singing songs like "You Don't Own Me" and "Red Red Rose."

"People can look forward to a really nice showcasing of songs," said Varsity Choir student Becca Grech. "There's really a nice mix."

As the high school's new choral director, Don Daniels said he hopes audiences will welcome his style.

"I'm really excited for the com-

munity to see this new collaboration between Stacey and me," he said.

"There has been a long standing tradition of excellence with Paula (Joyner Climard) and those are some tough shoes to fill, but hopefully people will be able to see and appreciate the energy Stacey and I create."

Grech, a junior, and fellow Varsity Choir classmate Lisa Ornekian said each choir class is doing different songs. Their favorite song for their class would have to be "Freddie My Love" from Grease.

"It's really the only upbeat song we get to do and it's cool because each section gets to sing their own

Continued on 18

The best of both worlds



While Takashi Yuyama, left, tackles his homework, Akira Shirogami is deeply absorbed in a Japanese comic book during an open session at the English As A Second Language class taught by Nadine Hall daily to 15 students at Novi Meadows school.

Along with the 3 Rs, Japanese students must master English

Continued from 1

Starting over in a foreign school can be intimidating.

"I felt so lonely because I didn't know anyone," said one of the students, Eri Kato. "I felt like now."

She lived in America when she was younger but "forgot every single thing of English" when she moved back.

"She and her family have found plenty to do around town now to keep them busy. And now that she knows some English, it's kind of fun to know more than her mom," she said.

"It's obvious the language barrier is the biggest problem for the new students here.

In other districts where Japanese students are fewer in numbers, students are more or less forced to pick up English fast. They have no one to turn to in class for help.

But in Novi, some kids can rely on their Japanese for much of the day, leaning on their Japanese friends for support.

"You do get kids that know they are going back, so they say 'Why should I bother learning English?'" explained Hall.

Contrary to popular belief, America is not Disneyland for these kids. Hall says when she asks how many of the students want to return to Japan, most raise their hands in readiness.

But for now, they are here and battling the problems that come from a language barrier that is a cultural one.

Paperwork is a challenge, from



show up that the energy level in the class goes up. The students chatter back and forth in Japanese and the tutors get the kids directed toward schoolwork.

"I got very big help from the ESL program," explained tutor Kumiko Ishihara. "I know how it feels, I was very scared of people speaking English and I didn't understand."

Ishihara graduated from Novi High School this spring and is headed back to Japan for university studies. She has been in the United States for eight years.

Haruka Miki is another tutor who graduated this year. She came to Novi, where she, entered the eighth grade.

"I had a very hard time," she explained. "I didn't have any idea what people were saying, I know how (the younger students) feel so it's easier for them to have a high schooler with experience help teach."

Still, the resilience of the students to make it through each day shows.

Akira Shinomiya moved here a year ago. While he was at first afraid of everyone who spoke English, he now likes it here "because the houses are big."

He said there is also less academic pressure here because he didn't have to take a test to get into middle school, as he would have back home.

Terry Inoue, Education director at Ringo Kai Japanese school

acquire English language well enough to carry conversation. Regardless of age, newcomers struggle to learn English and to make new friends at American schools.

These children can hardly wait to attend Japanese School on Saturdays. Besides fulfilling the purpose of learning and maintaining Japanese language and culture, it offers children a familiar atmosphere where they feel at home once a week. Their smiles tell us that they are excited to see Japanese friends and teachers.

Furthermore, it is a place where they can express themselves freely in their mother tongue and in a culturally familiar way of manner without hesitation. They share with each other their experiences living in the new country and enjoy exchanging information about things happening back home.

The Parents Association of Japanese School offers various kinds of lectures and workshops for Japanese parents to learn the new culture and how to deal with differences in everyday life. In the past, they invited school counselors and English as a Second Language coordinator and teachers from American schools to talk to Japanese parents about how they can help children at schools and what parents can do at home.

There is also the Center for Educational Guidance in Japanese School where two Japanese consultants are ready to provide help to Japanese children and their families as well as teachers of American schools. The center not only offers educational consultation to Japanese people, but also supports American schools by providing information and assistance to classroom teachers and related professionals who work with Japanese-speaking students and families.

Thus, the Japanese School of Detroit helps newcomers to America both indirectly by offering them culturally comfortable setting and directly by providing children and their families consultation and opportunity to learn about their new environment."

Novi High School student Haruka Miki, right, is a tutor for younger Japanese students.



Novi Meadows English As A Second Language teacher Nadine Hall chats with student Wonyong Shin during an afternoon study hall. Hall and other students are available for homework help.

Students keep in touch with own culture at Saturday school

Saturday is a school day for many Japanese kids in Novi, but that's okay with them.

The six hours they spend at the Japanese School of Detroit, or Ringo Kai, is only one day of the week where they may feel completely at home.

Japanese parents annually pay \$1,296 for each K-8 student enrolled and \$1,648 for high school students to have their kids keep up with their Japanese studies and culture. Students meet at Birmingham Seaholm High School from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturdays and are given homework they must complete in addition to their American assignments.

But according to Terry Inoue, in charge of education at Ringo Kai, children look forward to their Saturday schedule.

Here's what he had to say about Ringo Kai's role in their lives:

"Students and their families who are new to this country often have a difficult time adjusting themselves to a new environment. Language, food, schooling, lifestyle...almost everything is new to them. Little things, like waiting for a school bus at the bus stop, buying unfamiliar lunches at school with American money, the right timing to go to the bathroom or sharpen pencils during class and many other things baffle them everyday.

Children often feel nervous and worried about little things at school and sometimes feel totally lost. They are afraid to make mistakes and be laughed at. It is said it takes one to three years for them to

Stories by Wendy Pierman Mitzel
Photos by John Heider

Mutch to receive prestigious Kaiser award

BY STEPHANIE FORDYCE
Staff Writer

Due to his dedication and commitment to providing the best possible library services throughout Michigan, Novi resident Andrew Mutch has been named this year's recipient of the Walter H. Kaiser Award from the Michigan Library Association.

On September 25, Mutch was honored during a reception at the Novi Civic Center's atrium, followed by a proclamation presented by Mayor Richard Clark at the City Council meeting.

"It's a nice recognition from my peers and the library community for the work I have done with technology and trying to educate librarians and library staff about how we can use technology for the betterment of our community and really make it accessible to the public and use it in ways to really promote library service," said Mutch, a Novi planning commissioner. "So it's great to be recognized locally."

Among many contributions, the award celebrates Mutch's broad knowledge of computer applications in libraries, his passion for fair access to digital data, and his creation of innovative web sites designed to inform and educate librarians around the country about effective uses of technology.

"It's really nice that the library profession recognizes that sharing of information really educates people along the way and makes a difference in bringing technology into our libraries," he said.

Mutch, 28, will officially receive his award on October 4, at the Michigan Library Association's annual conference in Detroit at CoBo Hall.

"Throughout all of my conversations with Andrew, I remain most amazed by his willingness to share," said Director of the Novi Public Library, Brenda Evans. "His creation of Web sites to help librarians understand technology in general and the Internet in particular, are demonstrations of his commitment to collaboration. He enriches his colleagues generously, and I hope that the Kaiser award provides an opportunity for us to say 'thank you.'"

A lifelong Novi resident, Mutch is a former employee of the Novi Public Library as well as a former member of the Novi Library's Board of Trustees. Currently, he supports computer technology applications at the Waterford Township Public Library and the Waterford School District.

"Andrew is a wonderful library ambassador for all libraries."

Nancy Smith, Waterford Township library director

Director of Waterford Township's Public Library Nancy Smith said in her experience, Mutch's expertise with using technology to enhance library services is "unmatched."

"Andrew is a wonderful library ambassador for all libraries. His efforts are truly community-wide," she said.

Smith said that since Mutch has been with the Waterford Public Library, he has done much to improve community access to library services.

"He has improved our Website, established remote access to Access Michigan databases, and managed and expanded our library local area network," she said.

His greatest contributions, Smith said, have included working with the Waterford School District and the local cable provider on the institutional network that will eventually tie all the community's services together. Smith said he has also provided the school district's Website with access to the public library's online catalog and has helped the schools solve their own computer problems in their school libraries.

Andrew has proven to be an indispensable member of not only the Waterford Township Public Library, but also of the Information Systems department," said Waterford Information Systems Director Denise Dodd. "Many technology issues transcend departmental boundaries and Andrew has excelled in aggressively researching problems and proposing innovative solutions."

For example, Dodd explained, computer viruses are an on-going issue for libraries, resulting in damage and loss of service.

"Andrew is typically the first to inform the rest of the Information Systems staff of any new viruses and would have already researched the corrective action," she said. "In turn he helps all the departments."

Mutch said he just wanted to get librarians to use technology and see the benefits of having access to data online by presenting it in a non-threatening way.

Adult Services Librarian for the Livonia Civic Center Library and former Novi Library Board Member Donna Winter said Mutch has been an impeccable asset to the library community both locally and nationally.

"As an individual, Andrew's work has been a tremendous help to librarians in and out of the state of Michigan," she said.

"He maintains a Web site with a library in New York called Reading Starts that provides book reviews for teens, which was recently linked on the Librarians Index to the Internet— a database of useful web sites through the Berkeley (California) Digital Library project."

Winter added that Mutch is always willing to help anyone with questions regarding a wide range of topics from web page design, computer hardware, or technology in general.

Robert Zeigler, of the Howell Carnegie District Library said she admires Mutch's strong attitude in his First Amendment library issues.

"Andrew has helped us at the library and others in the Michigan library community keep up to date with issues relating to intellectual freedom, libraries and the Internet, by regularly citing articles and information about intellectual freedom and Internet filters (online)," she said. "He also includes commentary which challenges us to consider how important general protection of intellectual freedom rights is to overall library service."

Mutch said he has always been a firm believer in libraries and their importance to the community.

"Being involved in the library profession, you see the challenges libraries are facing, such as challenges on Internet usage," he said, "and when you believe in libraries, you want to get out and fight for them and make a difference."

At the recognition, Mutch thanked his parents, Kathy and Charlie Mutch, and members of the Novi Public Library.

"I started at Novi Public Library six or seven years ago, long before I was involved with technology the way I am today," he said. "It was people like Brenda Evans and the rest of the Novi staff who have really gotten me to the point I am now. Thank you."

Mutch is a frequent presenter for the Michigan Library Association on a wide range of technology issues. He has served as Chair of The Library Network's Technology Committee. In addition, Mutch has played a key role on the TLN (Library cooperative) Technology Committee's training programs for library staff.

The Walter H. Kaiser Memorial Award honors Walter Kaiser, who served as director of the Wayne County Federated Library System for 26 years and was a nationally known library consultant, authority in local government, and innovator in technical services. He was known as a director who went out of his way to provide growth opportunities and recognition for his staff.

In memory of Mr. Kaiser, this award is given to a librarian, trustee, or person associated with libraries and with the broad educational goals of librarianship, who contributes an idea, procedure, concept or adaptation which results in the improvement of a library or libraries.

"Just like Walter Kaiser, Andrew Mutch is a leader of change and innovation in our field," said Library Director of Escanaba Public Library Mary Cary. "He understands First Amendment issues, is articulate in explaining and defending the library position, and is diligent in urging his colleagues to take action."



Andrew Mutch of Novi will receive the Walter H. Kaiser Award from the Michigan Library Association.

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Proposal 2 raises debate over home rule issue

BY MIKE MALLOT
Hometown News Service
mmlott@nownews.com

A string of decisions by state lawmakers to override decisions made at the local level is what led to the petition drive to place the proposed "Let Local Votes Count" constitutional amendment on the ballot, according to Scott Schragger of the Michigan Municipal League.

"It came about because a group of our members believed that the years 1999 and 1998, the last legislative session, had reached really a culmination of the history of too much interference in the prerogatives of local decision-making," he explained. "In the aftermath of what I call the legislative triple-header - the preemption of local construction codes, the preemption of local residency requirements, and the preemption of local zoning as it regarded large manufacturing operations - these mayors concluded it was necessary to proceed with an initiative to make a change."

But the amendment, now known as Proposal 2 on the Nov. 7 ballot, is like "killing a fly with a shotgun," countered Rich Studley of the Michigan Chamber of Commerce.

"The primary impact of this proposal on local government is to lock in place, to freeze in place today, virtually all of the current laws regarding local government. That will benefit some cities at the expense of others. It will benefit cities at the expense of townships and cities at the expense of counties," Studley concluded.

Schragger and Studley met with reporters and editors of the Hometown Communications Network recently to talk about the pros and cons of the amendment. They were joined by several local officials who offered their own views on the issue, including Livonia Mayor Jack Kirksey and Farmington Hills City Council Member Vicki Barnett, who are proponents of the proposal, and Maxine McClelland, Supervisor of Big Rapids Township in Ingham County. On the board of the Michigan Townships Association, McClelland is opposed to the amendment.

This past spring, shortly after the Legislature voted to end residency requirements for city employees across the state, municipal officials working with the Municipal League launched the petition drive. The amendment placed on the ballot would require a two-thirds vote of the state House of Representatives and Senate whenever they attempt to pass a bill that "intervenes, or increases the scope of the Legislature's intervention, in the municipal concerns, property or government of a city, village, county, township or

municipal authority." The effective date of the amendment is retroactive to March 1, 2000.

While the Municipal League formed a ballot campaign committee known as "Let Local Votes Count" to push for passage, the Michigan Chamber of Commerce put together a coalition of organizations to oppose it known as Citizens for Common Sense Government.

"What will happen, if this ballot proposal is approved, is that anytime the legislature approves a bill that someone doesn't like, one of the 30,000 attorneys in this state will pull Black's Law Dictionary or Webster's Dictionary off the shelf and look up the definition of 'interference,'" Studley predicted.

"If this fails, I would think you would have a green light in Lansing with the Legislature saying that the population doesn't see anything inherently sacred about local control," he predicted.

"And they are going to have a field day," Michigan has a long and strong tradition of local control. Home rule is supported in the state Constitution. But local control has been a frequent issue in the legislature over the past two years. The battle over residency requirements was only the latest. After numerous attempts by lawmakers over the past 30 years to outlaw rules in some communities that municipal employees must live inside the city limits, the Republican majority was successful in passing the bill this spring. Among the most vocal opponents was Detroit Mayor Dennis Archer, who said he feared the end of that requirement could lead to an exodus from the city by Detroit employees.

Also this spring, local officials faced off with legislators over House Bill 4777, a proposal by Rep. Robert Gosselin, R-Troy, which would preempt local ordinances in 14 areas of law. The most controversial of those were preemptions of local minimum wage laws and smoking bans in restaurants. The Michigan Chamber of Commerce supported 4777, on the grounds that businesses shouldn't have to worry about the rules changing in each community because they see us as in the grocery store. They see us at high

school events. They see us in the community. And they know when they come to us, we intervene and we get the job done."

Studley argues that the state is supposed to serve a check on the powers of local government.

"This is excellent legislation for the city of Detroit," she said. "If I were Dennis Archer, mayor of the City of Detroit, I would want to look in the status quo."

Revenue sharing and road funding wouldn't be affected, Schragger argued. The wording of the amendment would require the two-thirds majority only when the Legislature is preempting local provisions in areas of law where the municipality could act "by charter provisions, ordinances, resolutions or contracts." Local governments cannot act to change revenue sharing or road funding. So when addressing those issues, lawmakers would need only a simple majority, 51 percent, to approve bills, Schragger explained.

Studley contended the effective date of the bill, retroactive back to March 1, is intended to allow municipalities to challenge both the residency bill and the Right to Farm Act. He noted that the March 1 date is nine days before the effective date of both those bills.

Schragger contended those two bills would not be affected because they were "enacted" earlier. The March 1 date was not an attempt to overturn residency, he said.

"We picked March 1, frankly, because those who proposed the amendment were fearful that the Legislature, once the petition drive was announced and was out there, would retaliate, either retaliate or would attempt to pass laws that affected local government before the constitutional amendment was adopted," Schragger said.

Studley said that is because the amendment is "vague and broadly worded."

Schragger countered that in fact the amendment is quite well "focused." He said terms like "intervene" and "municipal concerns" are well defined elsewhere in law and in the constitution and would limit the affect of the amendment.

But the two disagree on how many laws, passed by the Legislature this year and enacted after March 1, would be affected by the amendment. Schragger said only one bill would be impacted. Studley calculated more than 200 would be called into question and perhaps overturned.

Asked about specific bills, and whether the amendment would require a two-thirds vote by lawmakers "bills such as electric deregulation and the rewrite of Michigan's telecommunications law," Schragger and Studley disagreed on whether the amendment would even apply.

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Revenue sharing and road funding wouldn't be affected, Schragger argued. The wording of the amendment would require the two-thirds majority only when the Legislature is preempting local provisions in areas of law where the municipality could act "by charter provisions, ordinances, resolutions or contracts." Local governments cannot act to change revenue sharing or road funding. So when addressing those issues, lawmakers would need only a simple majority, 51 percent, to approve bills, Schragger explained.

Studley contended the effective date of the bill, retroactive back to March 1, is intended to allow municipalities to challenge both the residency bill and the Right to Farm Act. He noted that the March 1 date is nine days before the effective date of both those bills.

Schragger contended those two bills would not be affected because they were "enacted" earlier. The March 1 date was not an attempt to overturn residency, he said.

"We picked March 1, frankly, because those who proposed the

Free movies for youngsters and families at Novi Town Center

This fall children and parents can enjoy the ancient search for gold, help Elmo find his way home, learn about life as a mouse, have a Snow Day, or help the chickens fight for their freedom.

All of this is possible as the Novi Town Center 8 Theater presents its current free fall matinee series.

Children and their families can enjoy movies free of charge every Saturday and Sunday at 11 a.m. for the next eight weeks through Nov. 19 at the Novi Town Center 8 Theater.

"The movies in this series are: "Elmo in Grouch Land," Oct. 7 and 8; "My Dog Skip," Oct. 14 and 15; "Thomas and the Magic Railroad," Oct. 21 and 22; "Stuart Little," Oct. 28 and 29; "Pokemon 2000," Nov. 4 and 5; "Snow Day," Nov. 11 and 12; and "Chicken Run," Nov. 18 and 19.

The series is designed to allow everyone the opportunity to enjoy quality family-oriented films. "We know that basic monthly expenses can add up and make the decision of where to have a good time a question of economics," says Matthew Johnson, marketing manager for Goodrich Quality Theaters Inc.

"This series is designed to provide the quality family entertainment of going to the movies at our facilities absolutely free. It's our way of saying "thanks" to the local communities for their support every year," Johnson added.

Each theater is encouraged to promote a festive atmosphere by providing such activities as face-painting, magicians, clowns, finger-painting services and the like.



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Camper, RV show now hitched in Expo Center

The Michigan Association of Recreation Vehicles and Campgrounds (MARVAC) is sponsoring the 11th annual Fall Detroit Camper and RV Show in Novi Oct. 4-8 at the Novi Expo Center. The

event will feature all types and sizes of year 2000 and 2001 recreation vehicles, including folding campers, motor homes, travel trailers, truck campers, park models and fifth wheels. Models on display

will range in price from \$3,000 to over \$200,000.

Entertainment will also be provided: Psychic readers, magicians, a street organ player, clowns, jugg-

ling, and more. The show will be open weekdays, 2-9 p.m.; Saturday, noon-9 p.m.; and Sunday, noon-6 p.m. Admission for adults (age 13 and up), \$7;

children 12 and under, free. Seniors, \$4.50 on Wednesday and Thursday, Oct. 4-5 (no coupon necessary). Discount coupons are available at National City Bank

branches. Detroit area Amoco and BP gas stations or online at www.marvac.org. Two-for-one admission coupons are available at participating RV dealers.

Siemens relocates to Novi

Siemens-Cerberus Division of Siemens Building Technologies has relocated its Detroit area branch office from Farmington Hills to Novi.

Siemens-Cerberus Division is the industry leader for manufacturing, design and installation of fire and security systems in the country and the state of Michigan. The branch office will relocate to 28350 Cabot Drive, Novi.

Siemens-Cerberus is the first tenant in the Haggerty Corridor Corporate Park at the intersection of Twelve Mile and Haggerty roads. Northern Equities Group is the developer of this 350-acre business development.

The Novi office will be staffed by more than 60 professionals, including engineers and technicians, direct sales and customer service personnel.

The official ribbon cutting ceremony was, Sept. 27, in attendance were Ronald Matson, CEO and Daniel Collin, senior vice president of Siemens-Cerberus, Florham Park, N.J.; and Neil J. Sosin, president of Northern Equities Group, employees and business clients.

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Obituaries

DOROTHY JONES
Dorothy Jones, 80, died Sept. 22 in Fairfield Glade, Tenn. She is survived by her husband, Ned; daughters, Jennifer Flanigan of Jackson, Tenn., Margo Sampson of Syracuse, N.Y., Betty Zent of Novi, and Donna Jones of Palm City, Fla.; and seven grandchildren. Services were held on Wednesday, Sept. 27 at O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, with the Rev. Richard Henderson of Faith Community Presbyterian Church in Novi officiating. Interment was in Christian Memorial in Rochester Hills.

EDWARD E. MEYER
Edward Elmer Meyer, 68, died Sept. 27 at Savannah Lakes Village. He was born Aug. 26, 1932, in Wadsworth, Ohio, to Elmer and Mabel (Olehoef) Meyer. Mr. Meyer served with the United States Marines during the Korean Conflict. He retired as safety engineer with Ford Motor Co. in January 1994, after 39 years of service. Mr. Meyer was an emeritus member of the American Society of Safety Engineers and a former Novi resident. A member of McCormick United Methodist Church, he was also a member of the Board of Trustees, the Men's Club, chairman of the Endowment Committee, chairman of the Administrative Board, and a member of the Pastor's Parish Relations Committee of the church. His memberships also included the Lion's Club of McCormick, the Mine Masonic Lodge, and Men's Golf Association at Savannah Lakes Village. Mr. Meyer was a "First Responder" with Sandy Branch First Responders and was on the board for the Habitat for Humanity of Abbeville and McCormick counties. He volunteered at John de la Howe School and was past president of the Savannah Lakes Village Property Owners Association. He is survived by his wife, Marilyn (Malchow); one son, Richard and a grandson, Jake, both of Rochester, N.Y. A memorial service was conducted on Monday, Oct. 2 at McCormick United Methodist Church, with the Rev. Don Clendaniel officiating. An honorary escort was provided by the Men's Club of McCormick United Methodist Church. The family received friends following the service at the Savannah Lakes Activities Center. Memorials to the following would be appreciated: McCormick United Methodist Church Endowment Fund, P.O. Box 267, McCormick, SC 29385; Abbeville and McCormick Counties Habitat for Humanity Inc., P.O. Box 238, McCormick, SC 29385; or to Sandy Branch "First Responders," Route 3, Box 200-A, McCormick, SC 29385.

GEORGIA M. SHOEMAKER
Georgia M. Shoemaker, 80, of Novi, formerly of Corbin, Tenn., died Oct. 1 at the University of Michigan Hospital in Ann Arbor. She was born in 1919. Mrs. Shoemaker is survived by her husband, Paul; daughter, Sherry Edwards; two sisters, Lucile Pride and Beulah Flynn; one brother, Edward Lively; and granddaughter, Kristyn Brower. Services will be held in Corbin, Tenn. Interment will follow in Resthaven Cemetery, Corbin. Arrangements were made by O'Brien Chapel/Sullivan Funeral Home of Novi.

Northville High prepares for choir concert this month

There are several upcoming choir events scheduled for Northville High School. It is also the first year with Paula Joyner Chmard, who is retired from Novi High School, in the department. Chmard comes to Northville with 27 years of experience as a choral director. Her choirs have received the highest scores at district and state choir festivals. Each year, she has sent over 70 students to district solo and ensemble festivals for the past 10 years. She and the other choir instructors will accompany students to the following events: Oct. 7 - honors choir auditions, 10-12 at Lincoln High School in Ypsilanti; Oct. 13 - Music Booster Tailgate party prior to football game, Oct. 14 - Ninth grade honors choir auditions at Grosse Pointe North High School, Oct. 16 - Refersal fall concert, Oct. 17 - Gala opening showcase concert 7 PM at Northville High School, and Oct. 18 - Fall choir concert 7:00 p.m. "Life, Love and Celebration" also at Northville.

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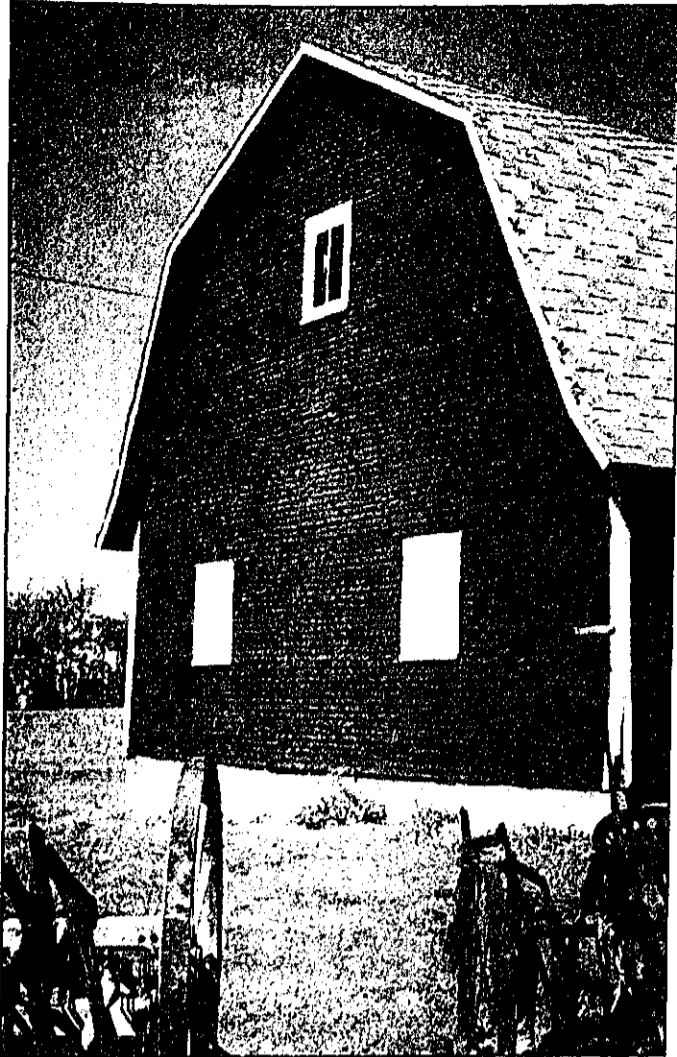
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Fuerst facelift

Volunteers return to farm to paint the barn

By **STEPHANIE FORDYCE**
Staff Writer

The effort continued September 30, as the community banded together once again in the restoration of Fuerst Farm.

Roughly 30 volunteers made up of residents, students, and city employees turned out for a second clean-up, this time concentrating on the north barn.

“It was truly amazing to see all these people, old and new, come out and show their support, especially since it wasn't highly publicized,” work coordinator Ruth Ann Jiraszek said.

This clean-up entailed two paint jobs, window pane trimming, and additional labor surrounding the barn.

Jiraszek said she couldn't get over how quickly the work was completed.

“We had the entire barn painted by noon and the second coat done by 1:30 p.m. Everyone worked so diligently that there was nothing really left to do. I had them weeding,” she laughed.

Parks & Recreation Department Director and Fuerst Farm Project Co-Administrator Dan Davis said he was really impressed with the work Jiraszek and the rest of the volunteers accomplished.

“What a big difference,” he said.

PHOTO BY STEPHANIE FORDYCE

Forget peeling paint, this Fuerst barn now has a new red coat.

“Ruth Ann took the lead and the volunteers really went to town on the Fuerst barn. They did a fantastic job.”

Team leader and Historical Commissioner Ruth Mutch said it was really the quality of the effort by the group of volunteers that made the day a success.

“Everyone really pitched in,” she said. “It was great weather and a great turnout. If the barn looks

good.”

Davis said this is a continual process and that they will persist the work on the estate.

“Right now, we're just going to focus on what needs to be done to put the property to bed for the winter,” he said.

Jiraszek said she was extremely pleased with the efforts put forth by the community and was really glad to see people care about the farm.

“Once again the residents pulled through and really jumped in there,” she said. “People really took this seriously and it was just incredible to see people so enthusiastic about this project.”

Stephanie Fordyce is a staff writer for Novi News and Northville Record. Her e-mail address is sfordyce@nl.home.com.net.

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Parks & Rec. Center 925 W. Grand River (West of Michigan Ave.)	Novi Community Center 45175 W. 10 Mile Rd. (West of Novi Road)	Brighton Senior Center 555 Brighton Street (Between 12 & 13 Mile Rd.)	Hartland Library 3688 N. Hartland Rd. (N. of I-96, East of O.M.U.S. 23)	Milford Senior Center 1050 Atlantic (By post office & library)

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- What's In Your Mind** Michael Palmer 11-1 pm Saturday
- A Prairie Home Companion** 6-8 pm Sat • 1-3 pm Sun
- The American** 12-1 pm Sunday

New president will seek new site for Novi motor museum

By **Stephanie Fordyce**
Staff Writer

Three choices remain as the Blue Ribbon Task Force narrowed down its options for the future direction of Novi High School.

With the high school looking to exceed its enrollment capacity by the 2003/2004 school year, the task force is working towards a solution to accommodate its future population increase.

In its fourth meeting, the committee decided that building a new high school classroom wing for 600 students, building a new career/magnet school for 600 students, or building a second high school for 1,200 students were the best alternatives.

The second high school could be for either grades 9-12 or solely for grades eleven and twelve.

These three solutions were chosen from a previous list of nine options that included:
• year-round schooling;
• building a new ninth grade facility;
• constructing an entirely new high school for 2,400-2,800 students;
• building a ninth grade addition to the existing high school;
• adding 24 portable classrooms;
• or reconfiguring grades throughout the district, whereby eighth and ninth grade would be

The Motorsports Museum and Hall of Fame announced that Larry Jansen has been elected chairman of the board of directors. Jansen has been on the board at Motorsports Hall of Fame since fall of 1996.

Jansen's responsibilities include supporting the president in representing the Hall of Fame to the public and helping the board plan its future and insure its long term viability. One of Jansen's first projects is to find a new home for the Museum and Hall of Fame to accommodate its expanding collection and growing number of honorees.

Jansen is the account manager of Automotive Engineering at Goodyear Tire & Rubber in Southfield. He has been with the company for 31 years.

He currently resides in Novi with his wife, Laura. They have two daughters, Kim, 27 and Kati, 21.

“Larry brings focus and determination to the board,” said Ron Waldson, president of the Motorsports Museum and Hall of Fame. “We are very excited about what Larry and Goodyear Tire & Rubber will bring to the future of the Motorsports Museum and Hall of Fame.”

The Motorsports Museum and Hall of Fame is located inside the Novi Expo Center. The museum is open Thursday-Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information, call 1-888-250-RACE.

The choice, a bigger NHS or new school

By **Stephanie Fordyce**
Staff Writer

The remaining three options will be thoroughly evaluated and again be narrowed down sometime throughout the task force's duration.

It is projected that in the next five years, the student population at the high school will rise from its current enrollment of 1,680 to 2,000.

The high school is set to reach its full capacity of 1,800 by next year.

The task force has until December 1, 2000 to decide the fate of Novi High School, as well as explore technology upgrades, swimming facilities, the high school cafeteria, and other district departments like Community Education, Alternative Education, and Special Education.

The task force will then present a report to Superintendent Dr. Emmet Lippe and the Board of Education. Once the report is submitted, the board will consider their proposals in the spring of 2001 and possibly hold bond votes.

The Blue Ribbon Task Force, facilitated by Assistant Superintendent of Business and Finance Jim Koster, former Superintendent of Green Bay Schools Dr. Timothy Quinn and General Manager of WNIC and Novi resident Steve Schram, is the last of a series of task forces put together by the dis-

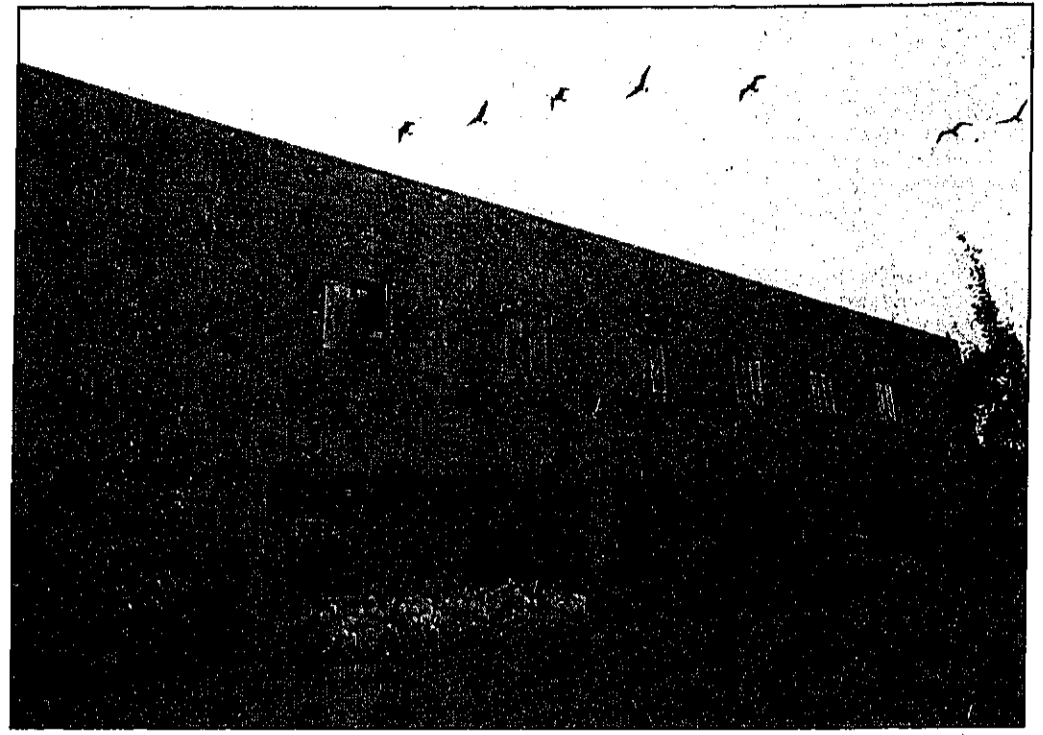


Photo by JOHN HEIDER

If Novi High School were to be expanded outward to accommodate over 600 more students, it would be here at the westward-facing science wing. Or a new high school might be built.

trict to determine what the Novi Community School District will look like in 5-10 years. The task force, made up of parents, teachers, school administrators and students, was created in August.

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164 tuneful teens sing in free concert

Continued from 1
 part," Ornekian said. "I think every girl has seen 'Grease' so it's just something fun for us," added Grech.
 Daniels said when choosing the songs for the concert, the decision sometimes becomes quite difficult. "It just is really about learning to find a balance, so that there is music that the students enjoy performing but also songs that have some depth to it," he said.
 The song all 164 choir members will sing is "Bridge Over Troubled Waters."
 "I chose this selection because this is kind of a bridge into a different era of excellence," Daniels said.
 Daniels said he has not only been overwhelmed by the support of the administration and the parents, but also with the students' passion to learn new things and their determination to challenge themselves.
 "The students here can really sing, they have wonderful proficiency," he said. "It's great to be able to work with kids who have such beautiful voices and want to learn about music."
 For Grech and Ornekian, the feeling was mutual.
 "Mr. Daniels is a lot of fun," Ornekian said. "He's a great guy and he's really working well with us."
 Daniels said he just wants to provide an environment where the

50 years late, WWII vets get medals

By Randall Vakey
 Staff Writer
 With the first steps now being taken to construct a World War II Memorial in Washington D.C., two Novi residents are getting their due after fifty years of quietly waiting to get their medals of valor for their part in fighting Nazism in Europe and Africa.
 Anthony Haewski and Leo Harrawood stood before their community on Sept. 25 and received a standing ovation from the crowd gathered in the Novi Civic Center auditorium.
 "It's a long time coming," Harrawood told the crowd after receiving his medals. "I guess (Bill) Clinton needed the money so bad he couldn't send them to me. I waited over 50 years and wrote five letters and never heard a thing."
 Ever since Mayor Richard Clark needed the money so bad he couldn't send them to me, I waited over 50 years and wrote five letters and never heard a thing."
 Elizabeth Ann said she and her husband also wanted to thank an answer, Elizabeth Ann Haewski said. "I think a lot of people don't even think about writing in to get them."
 Haewski said that he likes to stay active and continues to hold

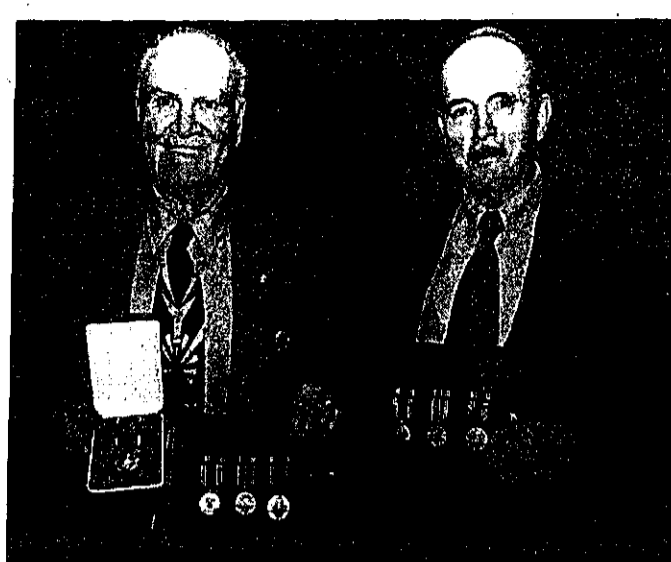


Photo by LOUIS POULOS
WWII veterans Leo Harrawood, left, and Anthony Haewski display medals they waited half a century to finally receive.

can military personnel who are killed or wounded in armed conflict. This represents a second Purple Heart earned. He also received the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with one Bronze Star and one Arrowhead given for thirty days service in a combat. Harrawood also received the World War II Victory Medal (for armed service in the U.S. military), the Marksman Badge with Rifle Bar, the Good Conduct Medal and Honorable Service Lapel Button for service in World War II.
 Haewski's service began in 1943 and ended with the opening of a new hospital in Nancy, France. Haewski served with the 19th General Hospital in many capacities, including with the military police assigned to making sure German prisoners were working around the hospital.
 Haewski followed soldiers onto Utah Beach in Normandy on August 16, 1944.
 "The 19th Hospital was one of the first hospitals to be sent to war-torn France," Clark told the crowd. "The hospital was set up at LeMans, France, at the headquarters of General George S. Patton. This hospital was so close to the battle lines that they received some of the first wounded."
 Haewski received the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign with two Bronze Stars for 30 days in these areas of warfare; the World War II Victory Medal for service between 1941-46; the Good Conduct Medal and the Honorable Service Lapel Button for World War II.
 Randall Vakey is a staff writer for *The Novi News*. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700.

An \$18.4 million road rally

City officials seek support for traffic improvement package

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 • Beck Road/8 Mile — \$85,000
 • Welch Road/14 Mile — \$100,000
• Indicates that these improvement amounts are smaller due to dollars being leveraged by the Novi Road major street upgrades listed below.
Leveraged dollars for major street improvements
 • Beck Road Interchange (Leverage: \$24,000,000; State funds) — \$6,000,000
 • Novi Road: 10 Mile to Grand River (Leverage: \$9,490,000; State funds and \$1,185,000 County funds) — \$1,115,000
 • Grand River: Beck Road to Bridge over CSX (Leverage: \$5,000,000; State funds) — \$4,250,000
 • Grand River: City limits east to Beck Road (Leverage: \$4,400,000; State funds and \$550,000 County funds) — \$550,000
 • Totals (Leveraged by Dollars): \$4,815,000

The Most Dangerous Intersections in Novi in 1999
 Novi Rd./10 Mile = 115 accidents
 Novi Rd./9 Mile = 111 accidents
 Novi Rd./Grand River = 110 accidents
 Novi Rd./Tweleve Mile = 89 accidents
 Meadowbrook/10 Mile = 64 accidents
 Source: Novi Police Department



Photo by JOHN HEIDER
Novi Lion Dick Faulkner, a road bond supporter, tries to exit onto a very busy Fourteen Mile Road. The bond package would add lanes to this stretch of road.

Clark said if Novi does not jump on this one, it will be a long time before the city will see this level of funding again.
 "If we let our \$84 million in state and federal funds slip by, we in essence drop to the bottom of the list before we will be considered again," he said. "That's why this is so critical and so crucial to our community. It impacts all of our lives and the lives of our community."
 Clark and Helwig told their listeners that if this proposal is passed, it is guaranteed that the city would not see any additional road bond funding for at least another five years.
 "We have heard that loud and clear, that the city does not want to see us come back again next year, even if this proposal passes," Helwig said. "So the city council has adopted a policy document that says upon passage this fall, there will be a minimum of five years that will go by where there will be no new road proposals for the city."
 Helwig added that at the end of this five year period, the city will be given a "report card" and be graded on how well they have completed the work within the budget.
 "A very important element is that we be held accountable for the promises we make," he said.
 While residents may be more concerned with the dollars coming out of their pockets, Clark said he is more concerned with the health and safety of the community.
 "This is not a quote city administration issue," he said. "This is a people issue. This directly impacts each and every one of us, our families, our loved ones, who use those roads every day," Clark said.
 "This bond proposal, if approved by the voters, would deal with the safety and capacity of the intersections in question to move traffic safely and expeditiously. All of these intersections need to be improved as a matter of public safety."
 When putting this road bond proposal together, the city asked the Novi Police Department to provide them with information in terms of the highest accident locations in the city, said Clark.

not the tax payers," the city manager said.
 Helwig added that the size of last year's road bond proposal of \$28.5 million was too high, so the road bond has been lowered this year to what some believe to be the "bare bones" of what the Novi community needs.
 In Sturton's case, Helwig and Clark were preaching to the converted. He said he'll vote for the road bond. But he also said he feels the city needs to provide residents with an update on those two issues.
 "It's just going to be more expensive if you put it off. It's needed, but I think to make this go, you need to consider giving us some current update of these other two events that I think negatively affected the last vote," he said.
 Mayor Clark agreed.
 "Our analysis is 100 percent correct. There was a lot of disenchantment during the last election because of the judgment

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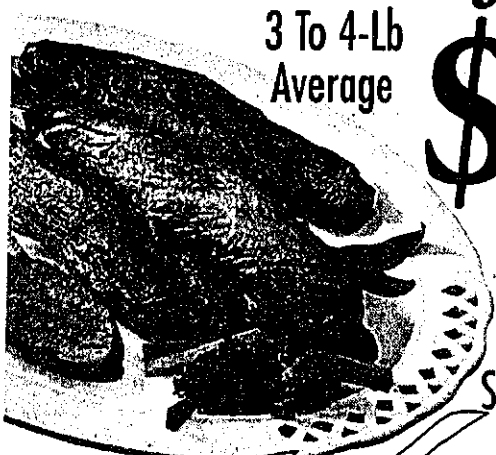
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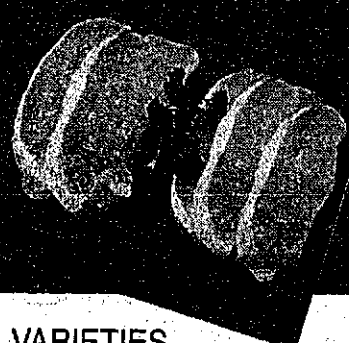
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Novi topples Pinckney 6-2

By JASON SCHMITT
Sports Editor

Novi relied on its ol' faithful to knock off the Pinckney tennis team 6-2 Monday afternoon at Novi High School.

The Wildcats swept the doubles competition and collected two singles victories to defeat the Pirates in a battle of the league's last two unbeaten teams.

"Pinckney's got some good singles players. You can tell the strength of their team is at the top," Novi coach Jim Hanson said. "But this league is pretty balanced and you have to score at every flight to win it."

Hanson said he had confidence in his doubles teams, but the key to the win came at second and third singles. Novi's Melissa Roemer defeated Pinckney's Nikki Getsofan 6-2, 6-3 at two and Carolyn Vermeulen topped Jessie Lamb 6-0, 6-2 at three singles.

"I really felt those two spots were the key to the match," he said. "Both matches were closer than

the score indicated and they were big for us."

Pinckney, known for its talent in singles, salvaged wins at number one and four singles. Sophomore Ashley Ruff continued her run over Kensington Valley Conference foes with a 6-2, 6-1 win over Ashley Glover. Ruff has not lost a set this season and will be the No. 1 seed heading into Saturday's conference tournament being held at Novi.

"I lost to them in a scrimmage last year, so I know I was nervous coming in here," Ruff said after the match. "I knew as a team we needed to stick together if we wanted to win."

With just South Lyon remaining on its schedule before the tournament, Ruff said her team will have to bounce back if it wants a shot at the league title.

"We just need to have more mental toughness (against Novi)," she said.

The match of the day was won

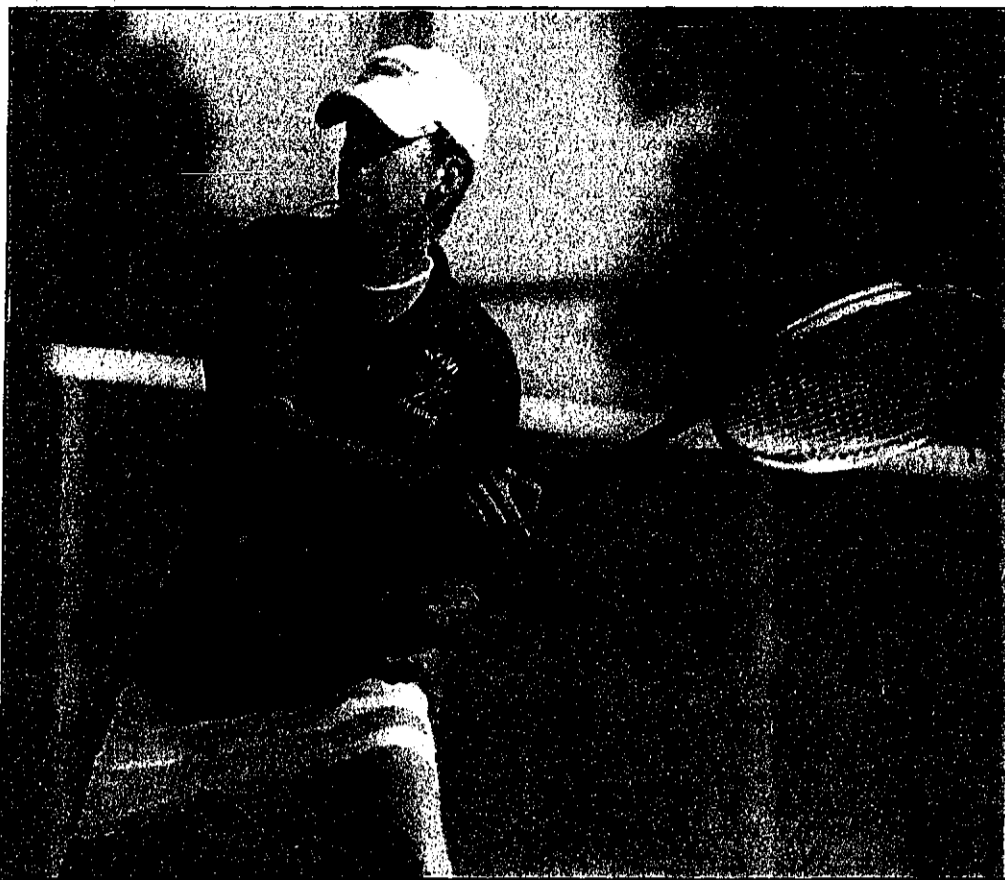


Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Continued on 4 Novi junior Carolyn Vermeulen (above) defeated Jessie Lamb of Pinckney 6-0, 6-2 Monday.

Swim team keeps winning

Swimming

The Novi swim team cruised to a 115-71 win over South Lyon last week, winning each of the first 10 events of the meet.

The 200 medley relay team of Lindsey Vermillion, Blair Tyler, Amanda Smith and Katie Hamblin won their event in 2:03.61. Novi's other two relay teams finished third and fourth.

Andrea Yocum came right back to win the 200 freestyle (2:05.55) and Vermillion followed that up with a win in the 200 individual medley (2:21.16).

Tyler won the next event, the 50 free, in a time of 26.46 seconds. Hamblin was third in the event. In the diving competition, Christine Thompson came away with the win, scoring 152.25 points.

Smith and Brittany Brodfuehrer were 1-2 in the 100 butterfly and Vermillion and Hamblin were 1-2 in the 100 free to give Novi a commanding 72-38 lead after seven events.

The 500 freestyle race was won by Yocum and the 200 free relay team of Tyler, Vermillion, Yocum and Smith came right back to take first in a time of 1:44.63.

Krysta Lynch was a winner in the 100 backstroke, finishing in a time of 1:09.52. Tricia Hurches was second.

Alex Oliveira was runnerup in the 100 breast as was the 400 free relay team of Kristine Elrod, Lindsay Ochab, Amanda Gee and Brodfuehrer. That quartet finished in a time of 4:15.43. Alex Carlin, Colleen O'Neill, Kyle Clark and Melissa Schneider were third in the race.

Continued on 4

Gridders pull off another road win, 34-20

By KARL KLING
Milford Times Editor

Halftime of the Novi-Milford football game Friday night had the Redskin contingency in a tizzy. Their gridiron heroes were tied with the heavily-favored Wildcats, 13-13. The homecoming king and queen were announced. The culmination of Spirit Week had arrived. Unfortunately for Milford, so did the second half.

Novi junior quarterback Matt Gorman rambled 64 yards on the first play from scrimmage to open the half, giving the Wildcats a 20-13 lead, one that they would not relinquish en route to a 34-20 win on the road. Gorman finished with 215 yards on 16 carries, spear heading his team's 373 yards on the ground.

"We regrouped at halftime," Novi coach

NOVI 34 MILFORD 20

Tab Kellepourey said. "I was impressed with our offensive line. They made great adjustments at the half, blocked very well and were able to break open some big holes."

While the Redskins held their own in the first half of the game, it seemed the greatest obstacle Novi faced was themselves. The Wildcats were flagged 15 times for a total of 112 yards.

"That's preparation," Kellepourey said. "And some of calls were because of the heat of the battle."

Following up on the one-play drive to

open the third quarter, Novi added a second such drive to close the quarter. Sitting just outside Milford territory at the 48-yard line, senior tailback Blake Myers ran untouched through the line en route to a 53-yard touchdown. Junior kicker Brandon Davis, who was 4-for-5 on PATs, added the extra point to give Novi a 27-13 lead.

While Novi dominated the third quarter, the Redskins played even up against the Wildcats the rest of the game. Trailing by seven after a first quarter, 46-yard touchdown run by Gorman, the Redskins put together a 10-play drive to even the score.

The drive was ignited by a diving catch at midfield by junior wideout Matt Marinucci. Sophomore quarterback Jeff LaClair, making his second start, was given great protection as he set up in the pocket. LaClair's

pass was under-thrown, but Marinucci made up for it by stretching out to harness the pass, putting the Redskins inside Novi territory.

The drive ended after LaClair made good on a keeper on fourth-and-goal, tying the score at 7-7. The initial PAT failed, but a roughing-the-kicker penalty was called, giving sophomore kicker Joe Whipple another chance, which he converted.

The Redskins took the lead in the game when LaClair blocked a punt on Novi's next possession. The ball rolled out of bounds at the Wildcat 6-yard line. After dropping senior running back Brian Matthews for a nine-yard loss on a bad pitch, the Wildcats shot themselves in the foot once again,

Continued on 4

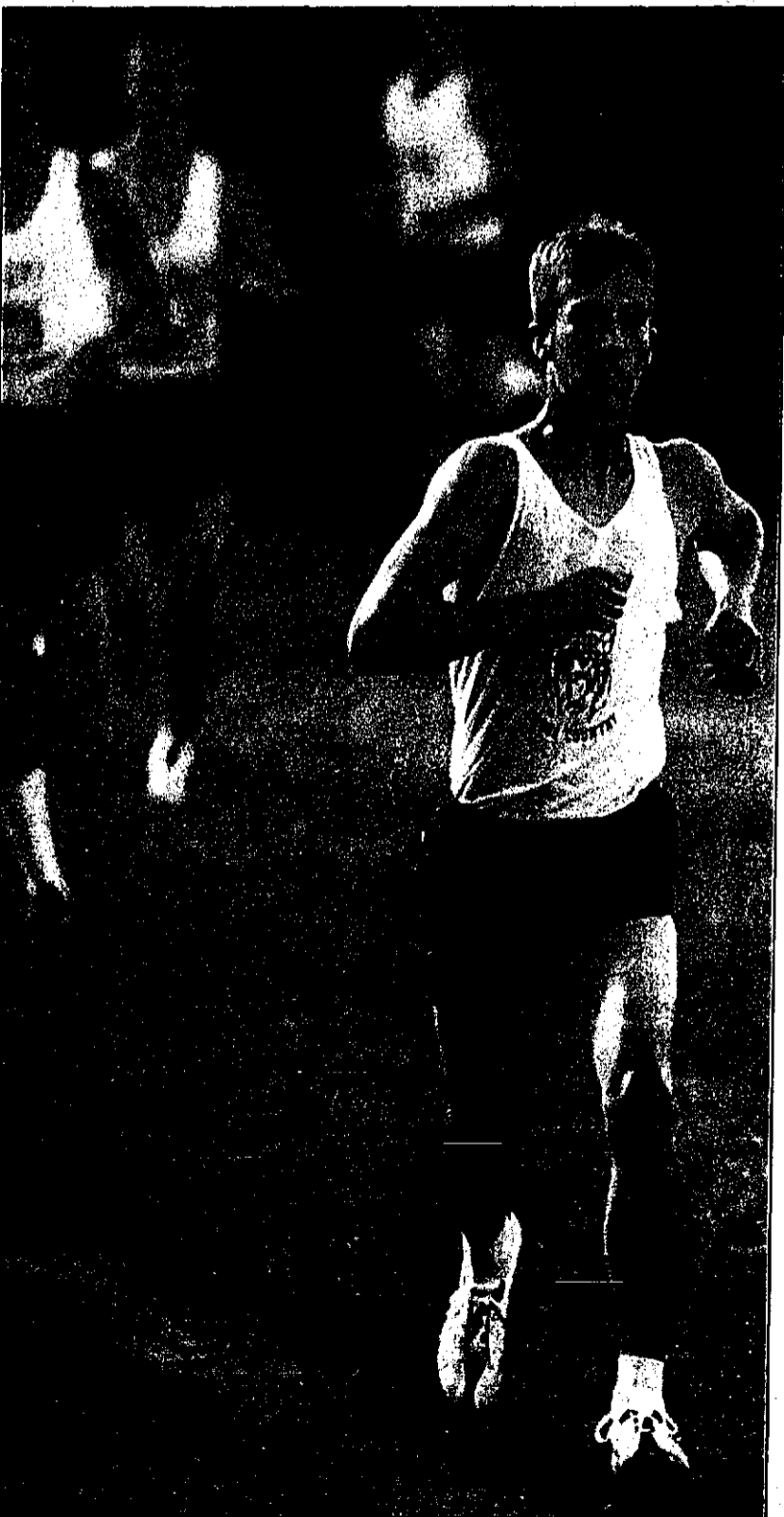


Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Matt Harsha-Strong has been one of several 'Cats vying for a top-7 position this year.

Wildcats knock off 2nd-place Milford 23-33

By JASON SCHMITT
Sports Editor

Novi continued its dominance in the Kensington Valley Conference, knocking off previously unbeaten Milford 23-33 Tuesday in what was a battle for the regular-season league title.

Tim Moore (1st), Mark Aventus (2nd) and Chris Toloff (3rd) all crossed the finish line simultaneously, guaranteeing their team of the win over Milford. They packed in to finish in 17:05 at Possum Hollow at Kensington Metropark. Their nearest competitor, Nick Kopczyk, finished fourth overall in 17:15.

Milford's pack of four runners made the meet interesting throughout, as behind Kopczyk were the other three. Dan DeRusha was fifth (17:18), Pat Miller was sixth (17:23) and Casey Barnes was seventh (17:26).

But Novi came back with Todd Foren, Mitch Erickson and Tim Kava finishing 8-10 to seal the deal for their team.

"They have a great pack," Novi coach Bob Smith said of the Redskins. "But our guys wanted to break that up and they did."

"This win was very, very satisfying. We needed this."

Novi is now 5-0 in the league while Milford dropped to 4-1.

NOVI 19, HARTLAND 44

Prior to Tuesday's meeting with Milford, Novi had had a chance to showcase its talent lately.

The team's last three meets have had three different winners without the last name of Toloff or Moore. Against Hartland on Sept. 28, Mark Aventus stepped up for the win. His team did too, picking up a 19-44 victory over the Eagles.

Aventus won the race, which took place at Cass Benton, knocking off Hartland's No. 1 man Scott Assenmacher by 18 seconds. His time of 16:50 wasn't his season best on his home course, but it didn't have to be. Assenmacher replaced Aventus on the state's top-25 list, a rankings list on the Michigan High School Track website. Assenmacher is currently ranked 24th, or the exact spot Aventus was ranked a week earlier.

Todd Foren stepped up and took third place in the race. His time of 17:22 was not only a season-best time at Cass, but it was a career-best clocking as well.

Mitch Erickson, who won the team's last race against South Lyon, was fourth in 17:39 and Tim Kava and Steve Szawast were fifth and sixth overall. Szawast's time was a season best at the home course, as was Matt Harsha-Strong and Dan Stevens'. Those two finished seventh and eighth in the race.

Eric Saurer was ninth and Tim Moore and Chris Toloff strolled in at a comfortable 10th and 11th place in the race.

Kickers remain undefeated in KVC

By JASON SCHMITT
Sports Editor

The team experienced a bit of bumps along the way, but no team has been able to defeat the Wildcats in the 2000 Kensington Valley Conference Soccer season.

Novi completed a perfect first half of the conference season, defeating 15-11 and 19-0 in Thursday and Saturday.

We started our season with a match against the undefeated team of the conference, Novi coach Brian Moore said. We pulled off a combined victory, the entire

offense had been combined with all team play of late. His team played a strong game of the afternoon, but we needed to

win the game. We were one of the best teams in the conference, but we needed to win the game. We were one of the best teams in the conference, but we needed to win the game.

Novi's offense was very strong in the game, but we needed to win the game. We were one of the best teams in the conference, but we needed to win the game.

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Soccer

In the last 15 or 20 years, the game has changed. It's not just about scoring goals anymore, it's about playing smart, quick, and attacking. It's about being a team.

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Health Column

Meditation is living in the moment

Meditation Is Living In The Moment
The concept of meditation is learning to pay attention and live in the moment. It's taking time to smell the roses. Paying attention to the nuances and details of your life is called "meditation while living" or mindfulness.

Living in the moment, however, is easier said than done since our lives are generally consumed with so many activities that we always think ahead and live in the future. Or worse, we live in the past and think about what we should have said or done concerning a past activity we cannot change.

Mindful living means being aware of your body, feelings, thoughts and mindstates. It is also understanding that what you think influences the way you act and feel.

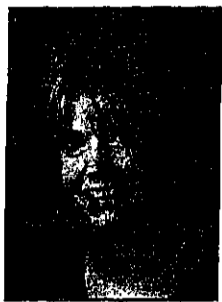
Meditation helps you slow down, focus your attention and reduce stress. This has several health benefits and helps your life become clearer, calmer and more focused. Whatever you do, meditation can help you do it better. The end result is you can live your hopes and dreams.

Several things are key to beginning a good practice of meditation.

• **Space**

Find a quiet space where you will be free from interruptions. Use a comfortable chair that supports your spine straight and allows your feet to be flat on the floor.

It may be helpful to have a table in front of you with something from nature that you connect with such as a flower, plant, rock, crystal or feather on the table. Candles or mandalas (pictures of circular, intricate



Penny Weaver

designs) work particularly well. Use the object to focus your gaze.

• **Body and Emotion Scan**

Imagine that you can scan your body. Scan from the top of your head to your feet. As you scan you are observing the condition of your body and looking for tension, stress and negativity. If you find anything negative, imagine you release it and replace it with relaxation.

Scan your emotions and notice if you have negative emotions that you are ready to release and imagine that you let them go and replace them with peace and calmness.

• **Breath**

Watch your breath come in and go out. Breathe deep through your nose taking air through your chest and into your abdomen. As you inhale, visualize taking in white healing light and exhale any tension or negative thoughts you pick up. Using your breath in meditation helps readjust your state of being to deep relaxation.

• **Thoughts**

Observe your thoughts and notice if you have any negativity. If you do, imagine that you can let these negative thoughts go and replace them with something that is more beneficial to you now.

Pay attention to any queues of bodily sensations you feel during meditation such as a feeling of heaviness, tingling or a slight pressure somewhere in your body. Recognizing these queues will help you go into and stay in the state of meditation.

Here are some keys to success with meditation. For maximum benefit:

- Meditate every day.
- Meditate at the same time every day.
- Meditate in the same space every day.
- Keep a log of your thoughts, feelings and intuitive insights gained during meditation.
- If you are ill, angry or upset, meditate only lightly or wait until you feel better. Meditation will amplify feelings.

Next month we will discuss accessing the body's energy centers during meditation.

This article was written by Penny Weaver and Peg Campbell. They are writing a book on integrity psychology. Peg is a freelance writer and Website designer. Penny is a psychologist specializing in hypnosis and integrity psychology which helps individuals discover themselves, reach their potential and be more successful in all aspects of life. She has a practice in the Main Centre in Northville. She offers classes and tapes on meditation.

For copies of past articles or for more information, call her at (248) 374-1070 or visit her Website at www.pennyweaver.com.

Ladies beat Hartland

Nina Schmitt ran a career-best time at Cass Benton to lead the Novi girls' cross country team to a 19-38 win over Hartland last Thursday.

Her time of 20:09 was as close as the sophomore has ever been to breaking 20 minutes on her home course. Teammate Bethany Kittle was second in the race in another great time of 20:46.

From there the meet was pretty close as Hartland was able to take third, sixth, eighth and ninth place. Vidya Mahadevan and Jenny Thomson also played key roles, however, taking fourth and fifth overall. Mahadevan came in at 21:06, followed closely by Thomson (21:07) with Margo Wolowicz taking seventh in 21:10.

"The race was extremely close," Novi coach

Girls' Cross Country

Norm Norgren said. "The kids were interspersed, but our girls put it away in the final mile."

Tae Kono was 10th overall in 21:45 and Laine Williams was 11th in 22:15.

Novi now heads into the Oakland County meet this Saturday at Possum Hollow at Kensington Metropark. Novi has finished either first or second in each of the last six county meets. But this year the team will have to overcome a tough field which includes Millford, Rochester Adams, Troy and Troy Athens.

"There's competition up the kazoo," Norgren said.

Pinckney down, one to go

Continued from 1

by Therese Poon at fourth singles. The senior outlasted Novi freshman Anna Switzer 6-2, 7-6 (11) to conclude the day. After dominating the first set, Poon had to fend off three set points by Switzer before closing out the match on her serve.

Novi's doubles' lineup had little trouble against their less-experienced Pirate opponents. Christina Cypher and Coleine Brockman defeated Misty Brock and Sarah Williams 6-0, 6-0 at first doubles and Karen Andrews and Emily Dinsmore posted the same scores in their win over Becky Sauve and Erin Schilling.

At third doubles, Novi's unbeaten freshmen tandem of Lauren Carosto and Laura Vaughn knocked off Alexa Turke and Melina Wood 6-0, 6-1. Gabi Frask and Meghan Vadula beat Lindsay Widmayer and Sarah Gabriel 6-2, 6-2 at fourth dubs.

"Novi is the top of the line in KVC tennis," Pinckney coach Scott Hankamp said. "I don't think we totally came out ready to play. If we did, would that have helped? I don't know. But now we know what we need to do (before Saturday)."

The win upped Novi's league mark to 6-0. Pinckney (4-1-1) suffered its first loss of the league season.

NOVI 7, MILFORD 1

First match, second match, it didn't matter to the Wildcats. Novi dispersed of Milford in the same fashion it did the first time the two teams met earlier this season.

Roemer, Vermeulen and Frask all picked up straight-set wins over their Redskin opponents. Roemer's 6-0, 7-6 (5) came over a tough opponent in AnnMarie Jasieniecki.

Novi once again dominated doubles play, winning second, third and fourth all in straight sets. Cypher and Brockman needed three sets to get a 6-2, 4-6, 6-4 win over Victoria Yankus and Lacie Rudolph.

"When they face someone of good quality, they really elevate the level of their games," Hanson said. "Cypher is really aggressive at the net and Brockman is a steady, consistent player. Together they make a great No. 1 doubles team."

Andrews and Dinsmore won 6-0, 6-1 at two dubs and Carosto and Vaughn won by the same score at three. Nicole Hapanowicz and Switzer won by the score of 6-2, 6-2.

NOVI JV RESULTS

NOVI JV BOYS SOCCER
OVERALL RECORD: 6-1-2
The Novi JV boys soccer team beat Lakeland 10-1 last Thursday to raise its overall record to 6-1-2. Nine different Wildcat players scored goals. Takahiro Asada scored two goals and added one assist. Two days earlier, Novi JV defeated Howell, 5-1. Matt Urick, Steve Dalley, Ryan Stec and Kevin Southworth (2) scored the Wildcat goals.

The Novi JV boys soccer team battled Northville to a 0-0 scoreless tie on Sept. 23. Goalie Sean McClinchey made eight saves for the shutout, his fourth of the season. Earlier that week, Novi JV beat Pinckney 5-0. Steve Dalley scored two goals, while Matt Nickels, Jeff Dodds and Matt Urick added one each. The Wildcats also defeated Millford 5-1. Adam Southworth (2), Matt Urick (2), Matt Nickels and Yuiaki Sakamoto scored the goals.

NOVI JV GIRLS TENNIS
OVERALL RECORD: 6-1-1
The Novi girls tennis team raised its record to 6-1-1 overall with two victories last week. The Wildcats opened the week by losing their first match of the year, 5-3 to Brighton. Novi then rebounded with victories over Saline (5-3) and South Lyon (3-0).

In the South Lyon match, the doubles winners were Judy Lai and Lauren Tuckey (6-0). Lisa O'Connor and Katie Fannon, (6-1, 6-0); and Angie Hayes and Samantha Kelly, (6-3, 6-3). In the Saline contest, Novi won all four singles matches and one doubles match. The singles winners were Irena Rostanets, Olga Rostanets, Justina Chiang, and Judy Lai. Megan Hsu and Angie Hayes won their doubles match. Against Brighton, Irena Rostanets, Chiang and Lai won their singles matches.

NOVI JV FOOTBALL
OVERALL RECORD: 4-2
It was a total team effort as Novi's JV football team defeated Milford 32-8 last Thursday at Novi Middle School. Adam Haberman, Doug Ray, Darren Guffey, and George Bowen scored the Wildcat touchdowns. Tanner Johns kicked two extra points. Novi's freshmen team lost to Milford, 13-0.

Colts falter

Continued from 2

And the freshman team suffers another tough loss. It looked like the Colts had an opportunity too for an upset but the Jayhawks took a 13-0 lead into the locker room at half-time. Defensively the young unit played well. The Colts defense was led by Nicholas Gatt, Jimmy Wallace, Doug Beason, and Trevor O'Connor came up with a big fumble recovery.

All three Colts teams will take on the Multi Lakes Hawks next Sunday.

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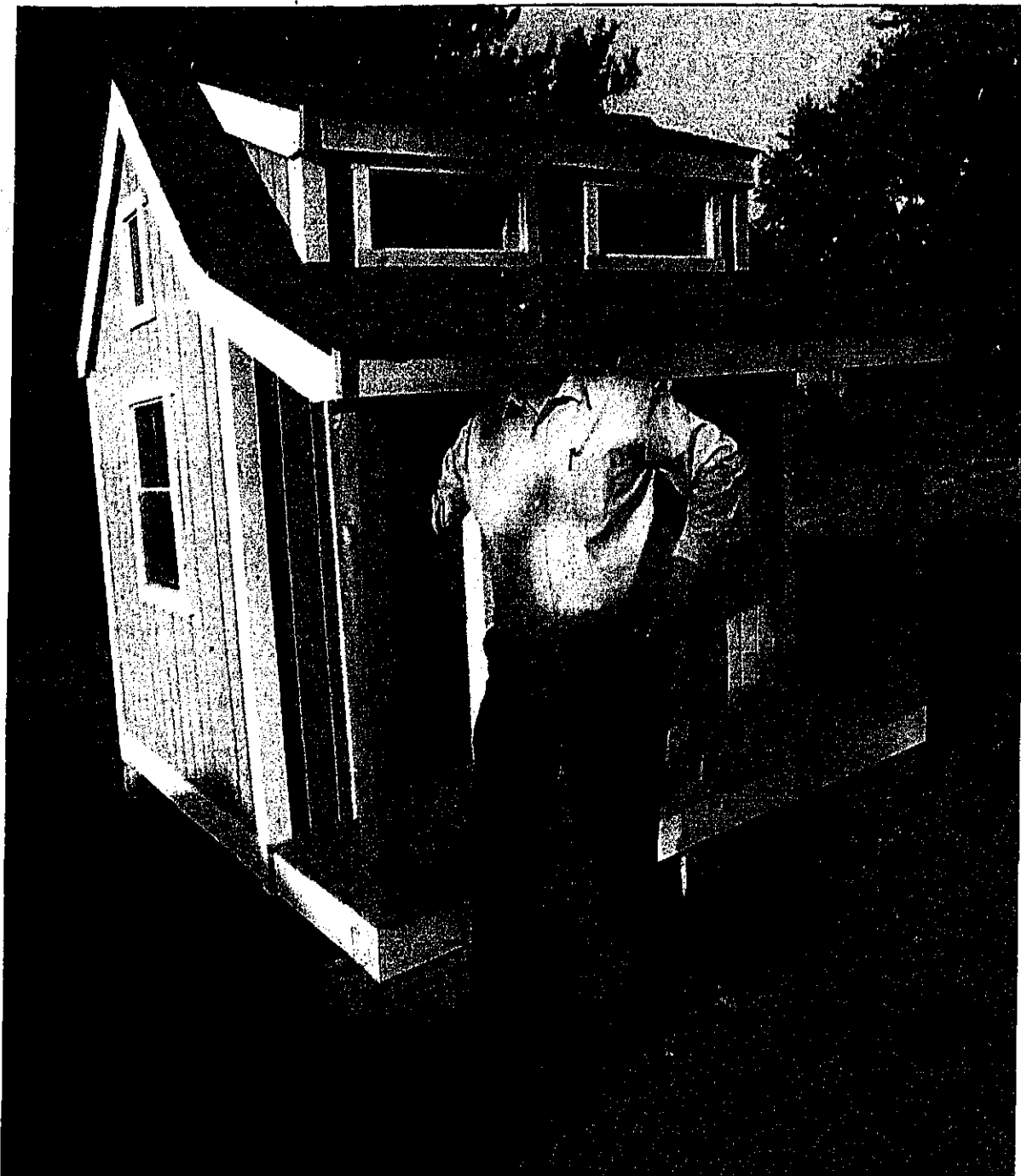
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Clifford Tyree proudly stands in front of his latest project—a child's playhouse.

Photo by HAL GOULD

More than just kid's play

South Lyon boasts its own master carpenter

By Annette Jaworski
SPECIAL WRITER

PBS may have their Norm Abram, but South Lyon can claim its own master wood worker in Clifford Tyree. Tyree's careful attention to detail creates projects that most of us don't seem to have the time and patience for.

His most recent project is a playhouse, one that's as sturdy as a home, only on a miniature scale. It's a perfectly sized hideaway for any boy or girl, with its working doors and windows.

Tyree got his inspiration watching Norm Abram's Yankee workshop, and decided to build the home, right down to the shingles.

"I've always messed with wood, and I have a builder's license," Tyree explained. "I just enjoy building. When I saw it I said 'hey, I can do that!'"

He admits that version was fairly

expensive to build because of the materials such as cedar, and made some adaptations.

"This one I made some improvements to the original," he notes.

The front door is a little Dutch door, split in half, made out of cedar tongue and groove. Hardware latches opens and closes perfectly. One of the improvements to his version was the addition of real windows. For this he sought the help of a mobile home manufacturer to make the small sized windows to his exact specifications. The house even comes with working screens.

"It's more utilitarian for all climates," he noted.

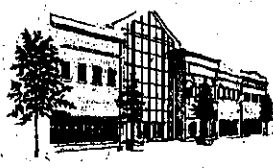
Using sturdy materials, the structure is built of 2 X 4 lumber, and the base made of wolmanized 2 x 6's.

Continued on 2

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MILFORD - Great 4 bedroom Ranch on 3.5 acre Partlike setting. 2 1/2 baths, living room with fireplace, island kitchen, walk-out lower level with fireplace, 2-story barn-great for cars, business, hobbyist & more.

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MILFORD - Beautiful home on 3 acres of rolling hills in S. Milford Area of prime properties. 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, dining room & family room with fireplace, many updates. Convenient location!

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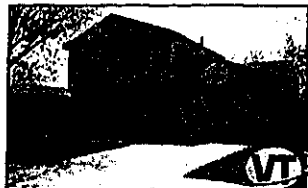
FARMINGTON HILLS - Gorgeous 4 bedroom brick colonial! 2 1/2 baths, open floor plan, neutral thruout, updates galore, living room, dining room, library, family room w/fireplace, finished basement, 2 1/2 car garage and more!

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SOUTH LYON - Updated colonial features 3 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, family room with fireplace and partially finished basement. 2 car attached garage, gorgeous landscaped lot with above ground pool and deck.

\$189,900 (20028855) (248) 437-3800



NOVI - Classic 1989, 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath colonial on gorgeous wooded lot in exclusive Timber Ridge! Updates - wallpaper, paint, gutters, roof, etc. Novi with Northville schools!

\$414,500 (10SER2) (248) 348-6430



NOVI - Spacious home with immaculate landscaping! Large open foyer, 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, delightful kitchen, den, full finished basement & a great 2-tiered cedar deck.

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LIVONIA - Super contemporary home! Quick occupancy, shows very well, area close to x-ways & shopping, 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath Colonial, lovely country kitchen.

\$247,900 (88SWA2) (248) 348-6430



WATERFORD - Spacious 1700 sq. ft. walkout, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, family room with wood stove. Hardwood floors. Patio overlooks waterfall and pond.

\$159,900 (467412) (248) 684-1065



MILFORD - Milford Village Find! Great family home. 3 bedroom, master bedroom first floor, 2 baths, family room with fireplace, newer kitchen, spa, 2 car garage, double lot.

\$274,000 (1021A2) (248) 684-1065



NORTHVILLE - Picture perfect DESIGNER SHOWCASE. 6 bedrooms, 4.5 baths, finished lower level with indoor pool, sauna and spa. Multi-level decking and waterfall to in-ground pool. Bring your checkbook!

\$799,000 (20058252) (248) 437-3800



CANTON - Remarkable '93 built, 4 bedroom, 3 1/2 bath home in prestigious Buckingham Place! Dual staircases, 3 car garage, 2,866 sq. ft., finished basement and Plymouth/Canton schools!

\$389,900 (04WAD2) (248) 348-6430



FARMINGTON - Alta Loma - 4 bedroom Colonial! Tons of updates, enjoy the park-like setting from a 4-season Florida room, C/A, etc. A short walk to down town or elementary school!

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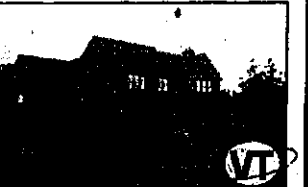
NOVI - Many updated features plus neutral decor await new owners for this 3 bedroom, 2 bath Ranch in popular Simmons Orchard sub with sidewalks! Don't miss this one!

\$194,900 (51ORC2) (248) 348-6430



WHITE LAKE - Fantastic Frontage! Grass Lake! All sports 280 sq. ft. of nice views! 1993 rebuilt home. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, garage with boat house. At end of street!

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MILFORD - Milford 5.6 acres. Backs to Kensington Park! Colonial. Finished walk-out, decking with hot tub, 4 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths. 3+ garage above ground pool.

\$299,911 (21132) (248) 684-1065



SOUTH LYON - Unique country setting, everything you ever wanted in a home. 3 bedrooms, 2 bath, hardwood floors, natural fireplace, large country kitchen with pantry, 5 car garage.

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NOVI - Royal Crown Estates! 2,983 sq. ft., 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 baths, formal dining room, living room, dual staircase, just painted plus immediate occupancy!

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FARMINGTON HILLS - Sprawling custom built Ranch, high on a hill, 1st offering original owner, 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, 2 fireplace, huge utility/hobby room, 1+ acre, convenient Farmington Hills location!

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WIXOM - Move-in by the Holidays! Freshly painted, newer flooring throughout this wonderful 3 bedroom, 2 bath home! Living room, sun room with fireplace, upgraded oak kitchen cabinets. Don't wait!

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LYON - Move-in condition. Gorgeous 3-4 bedroom home on 1/2 landscaped acre with quality and desirable decor throughout. Lower level finished and plumbed for full bath.

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WHITE LAKE - New construction! Approx. 3100 sq. ft. Gorgeous! 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths. Library, dining room, 2 story great room with fireplace. French doors. Unfinished walk-out, 3 car garage. Extraordinary master.

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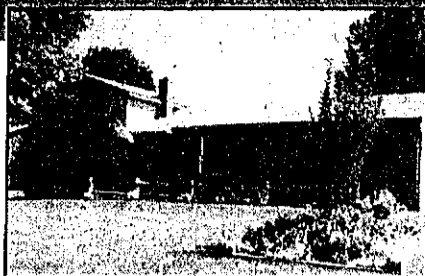
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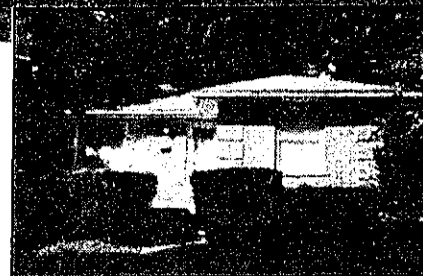
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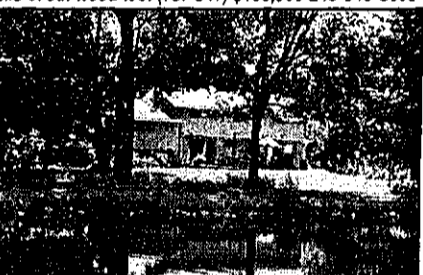
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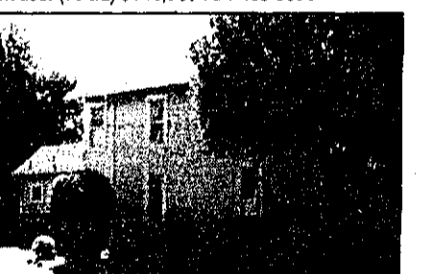
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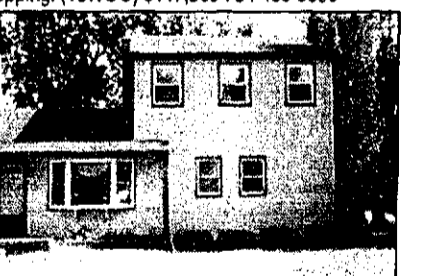
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**GARDENING
TIPS**

WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING
We did a little Internet research (or should we say, 'digging around') for fall gardening tips and came across these items from both gardening.com and the Michigan State University Extension office websites:

Besides introducing bulbs to your garden plan, consider adding trees, shrubs, and flowers too. Nurseries often offer bargains at this time, because they don't want to carry plants through the winter in high-maintenance pots. Plant them six weeks before frost to install, and they'll have plenty of time to establish their own territory in the garden.

Amid copper crabapple leaves, red maples and burning-bush, lilac-hued callicarpa berries and berries that are reddening on many species of shrubs, plant shrubs will burst into springtime bloom without missing a beat. Their roots will take hold and flourish with a little autumn care. Plant what you love to anticipate — forsythia that heralds in the spring in bright yellow garb, lilac for its distinctive smell, and rhododendron and azalea that will bring vivid color to your garden.

Many perennial seeds can be sown, for this is the time that this occurs naturally within the garden. You'll often see small plants sprout from them before winter. Don't worry — they'll survive, if they're hardy perennials. And speaking of hardy — the pansies that you see for sale in nurseries now will do just fine throughout the cold months. Roots will grow strong, and spring blooms will be astonishing.

—from gardening.com

PLANTING HELPFUL HINTS:

• **PLANTING:** Plant balled and burlapped, balled and potted, and container-grown ornamental plants.

• **TRANSPLANTING:** Dig plants that were root pruned in the spring. Deciduous plants may be moved bare root, but narrowleaf evergreens should be moved balled and burlapped or balled and potted. Plants that are to be transplanted in the spring should be root pruned now.

• **FERTILIZING:** One of the first priorities after selecting a fall planting site and before planting is to test the soil. Soils in established landscapes should be tested every three years and corrective action taken as needed.

• **WATERING:** Irrigate newly planted or established ornamentals any time there is less than 1 inch of weekly rainfall and plants are actively growing. Apply water at the rate of 1 quart per square foot of planting area on poorly drained soils. On well-drained soils, use a half-gallon of water per square foot. Be sure to maintain adequate moisture levels this month to ensure good root growth prior to winter dormancy.

• **PLANT PROTECTION:** For newly planted ornamentals, you may apply a pre emergence herbicide before spreading a 2- to 3-inch layer of mulch over the soil in the bed or around trees.

• **PEST CONTROL:** Warning! Not all formulations of all recommended pesticides are labeled for all suggested uses. Buy formulations that are labeled for the specific pest problem. Follow all pesticide label directions and precautions.

—from www.msue.msu.edu

Story by
Chris C. Davis
Photos by
John Heider



Fall foliage of a maple tree.



Debbie Schwartz, a Master Gardener at Northville's GardenViews, shows how a power drill can be used with an attachment to make planting tulip bulbs easier.

How does your garden grow?

Fall planting makes a healthy garden

Let's face it — the days are getting shorter, it's not as warm as it used to be, winter coats are on the racks at stores and everywhere you turn, there's another pumpkin craft for sale.

That means it's perfect time for autumn garden preparations, at least according to Northville Garden Club president Linda Lestock. For her, getting down and dirty with the soil in September and October is more than a hobby.

It's outright therapy. "I love gardening. There's not much else I'd rather do," she said, eyes rolling with excitement.

Lestock, also a member of the Wayne County Master Gardener Association, said the latter weeks of September through mid-October are prime time for digging, replanting or relocation of shrubs or perennial plants. For that matter, she said new perennials can be planted through Oct. 15 in Michigan.

In fact, about the only kind of prep work that shouldn't be done this time of year is fertilizing, she said.

"If you fertilize, you should do it for root growth, but I wouldn't ever recommend that," she said. "Nature is starting to shut down for the winter by that time and it's not going to do much good for the plant if it's not absorbing nutrients."

And while fertilizing isn't a swift move, watering most definitely is, she said.

"People should be keeping their plants moist, especially when they're transplanting items," she said. "A lot of people forget that plants and shrubs still need water this time of year. They may forget because it's not as hot as it was

during the summer months."

Water is also a good idea for younger trees, she said. Lestock suggested running a drip hose near trees to allow for percolation into the ground.

"If we have a real hard winter, those plants will dry out, so getting them water now will help them last through the colder months," she said.

But what about for those instances when late-season football barbecues are bringing guests over and some color is needed to spruce up a backyard? Lestock said mums are a great choice. The blooms are strong and colorful and in some instances, able to live through an entire winter season.

"Mums work exceptionally well in cold weather," she said. "Mums are grown now mostly for color and for size."

One of the other gardening projects often overlooked but still necessary is weeding. Lestock said keeping gardens free of weeds will make the springtime cleanup much easier. A good strategy for weed prevention is the laying-down of a layer of mulched leaves or wood chips she said.

"Weeds can grow at just about any time of year," she said. "If there's a day or two where we thaw out in February, you'll see the weeds popping up out of the ground."

Lestock said she prefers hand-weeding, but chemical weed killers like Round-Up are also acceptable for gardens.

And what about roses? Lestock recommended not covering roses, nor trimming them back in the fall.

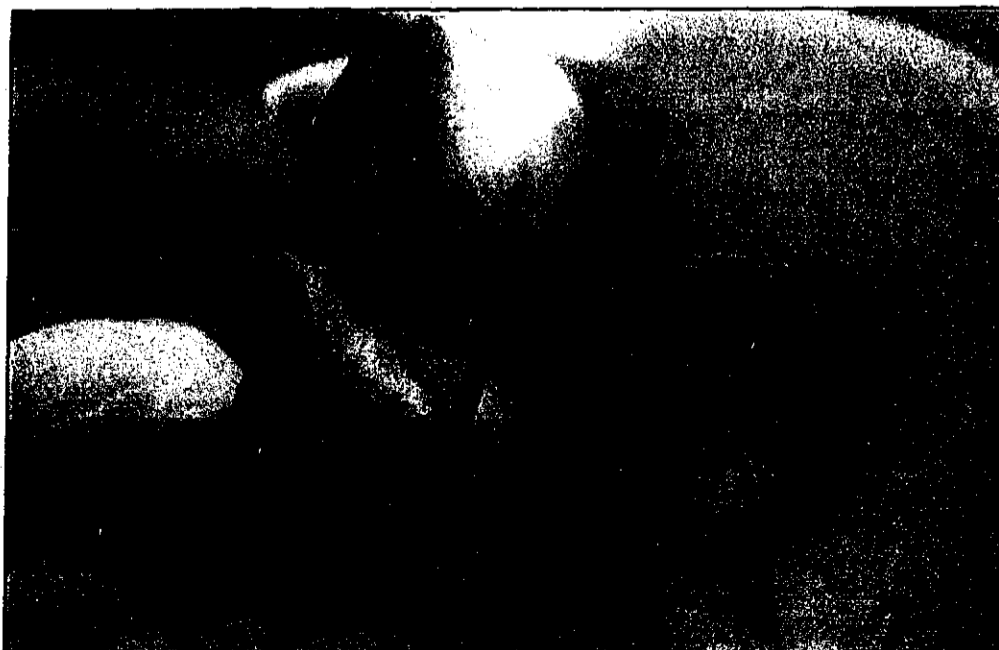
"You'd be surprised how much warmth gets built up inside those cones if you cover roses," Lestock said. "The trimming on roses should be held off until the springtime, too."

For more information on the Northville Garden Club, the Northville Beautification Commission or the Wayne County Master Gardener Association, call Lestock at (248) 344-1733.

Chris C. Davis is the editor of the Northville Record. He can be reached at cdavits@ht.homecomm.net



(Above) In preparation for fall and winter, Master Gardener Schwartz recommends trimming decorative, deciduous bushes (like this burning bush) at the angle you want them to grow in the spring. (Below) If planting bulbs, like these tulip bulbs, in the fall, Schwartz recommends planting them with their tips facing up.



STAFF REVIEWS

Serial killer flick has you on edge

The Watcher
Now Playing
MPAA Rating: R
Recommended

By Jennifer Norris
STAFF WRITER

If you're looking for suspenseful police thriller that will leave you practically on the edge of your seat, *The Watcher* may be just the movie for you.

The Watcher starring Keanu Reeves and James Spader is a high-action, gripping movie with a police-chasing-a-serial-killer plot.

The movie, which was produced by Universal Pictures in association with Interlight Pictures, also features Robert Cicchini, Chris Ellis, Marisa Tomei, Scott A. Martin, Joe Monaco and Jenny McShane. The *Watcher* was written by Joe Charbanic and produced by Christopher Eberts, Elliot Lewitt and Jeff Rice.

Reeves portrays a serial killer roaming loose on the city's streets and becomes involved in a cat-and-mouse game with police detectives. The main investigator, Spader, begins researching the case and interestingly has a past connection in dealing with Reeves' character.

Reeves begins phoning Spader and sending him photos of his next murder victim with the stipulation that the detective and his police team have until 9 p.m. to identify the victim and rescue her before it's too late.

Several fascinating scenes involve the police department frantically making phone calls, examining the enlarged photographs, distributing fliers, questioning people on the street for information and racing the clock to save the victims' life.

Other interesting parts of the film that leave audiences wondering what will happen next include several high-speed police chases, multiple special effects and incredible stunts. As the frustrated detectives chase the serial killer around the city, the Reeve's clever antics in fleeing the police and the detective's foiled plans for capturing the attacker create a strong state of suspense.

Some comical scenes involve the detective's boss talking (rather calmly) to Spader on a cellular phone while simultaneously being involved in a both a high-speed car chase and then a combative struggle with the suspect.

While *The Watcher* has fantastic special effects and an interesting story line, the plot could have been expanded upon and more details could have been given about Reeves' and Spader's past history. The film which lasted for approximately 100 minutes didn't seem to be enough time to fully develop the character's and their individual roles.

Aside from wanting to know more about the characters, *The Watcher* gives high suspense entertainment with quite a few laughs combined with great stunts and visual effects.

Gettin' Nasty

Sly Stallone seeks revenge this Fall as Carter

Jack Carter (Sylvester Stallone) has spent his life collecting for other people - debts, agendas, retribution. He stands alone and always stands apart. But when his brother is killed in an accident, it takes Carter home ... to the family he abandoned, to the debts that were never paid, and a mystery that will take him to the center of his own soul.

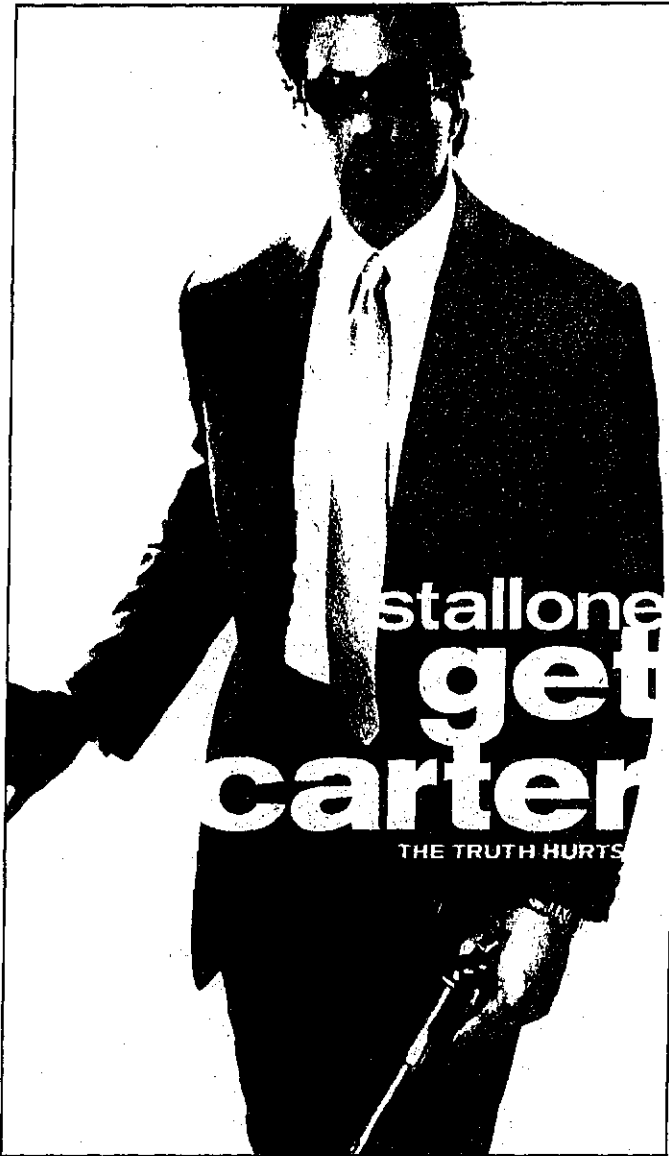
For Jack, the trip home to Seattle is a second chance to make amends for past mistakes. He re-connects with his brother's wife, Gloria (Miranda Richardson), and her teenage daughter, Doreen (Rachael Leigh Cook), who are both suspicious of his sudden interest. But when he discovers that his brother's death has murder written all over it, his purpose quickly changes from redemption to revenge.

Jack forms an uneasy truce with Doreen, and soon she is helping him navigate the seamy underbelly of the city, through a deceptive world where nothing is what it seems. Carter is inclined to mete out his own brand of justice to the guilty; but the closer he gets to the truth, the more he questions his own motives, and instead of vengeance, he finds forgiveness and, ultimately, redemption.

Producer Mark Canton sees *Get Carter* as a film that features kinetic action sequences, but at its core is a drama about family, morality and second chances. "Our Jack Carter is not the same Jack Carter as you saw in the 1971 film," says Canton.

The original versions of the film starred Michael Caine, who now plays Cliff Brumby, the owner of the club managed by Carter's dead brother, in the remake.

Stallone describes Jack Carter



about, and messing with people's lives," says Richardson. "Gloria sees him, especially the way he looks with his expensive silver raw silk Vegas suit, like some kind of misplaced knight, almost literally in shining armor, who thinks he's going to come in and set everything right. Actually, it doesn't seem to have much connection to reality, so she has a little bit of a problem with that."

Carter must navigate not only his family, but the tangled chain of individuals that he hopes will lead him to the identity of his brother's killer.

As Carter continues to delve deeper into the facts behind his brother's death, he finds that more than one individual may be involved. One by one, he challenges Brumby (Caine), Cyrus (played by Mickey Rourke) and Kinnear (played by Alan Cumming) - using verbal persuasion instead of his customary violent tactics - to learn the truth. "The most interesting hero to me is the one who does not set out to do heroic deeds," says Stallone. "The most noble form of heroism is to lay your life on the line, not for yourself but for a higher ideal. Carter is doing this for his brother, his niece, and for the memory of what he has left behind."

When Carter uncovers the evil deeds behind his brother's murder, facing those responsible becomes a moment of truth for him. "He has every right to bring about violent justice to the people who have performed this horrible deed against his family," says Stallone. "It is a crucial moment in his life when he can either make himself an outcast on the run forever or integrate himself back into society. He knows he can't change the past but he is in a position to give someone else what he himself has never received - a second chance."

Get Carter is directed by Stephen Kay from a screenplay by David McKenna. The film is based upon the novel *Jack's Return Home* by Ted Lewis.

The film is produced by Mark Canton, Elie Samaha and Neil Canton.

A Morgan Creek and Franchise Pictures presentation of a Franchise Pictures and Canton Company production, *Get Carter* is distributed by Warner Bros. Pictures.

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Sylvester Stallone stars as Jack Carter in the Franchise Pictures film, "Get Carter."

as "the type of very solitary figure that I think is becoming almost extinct. He is his own man, who has a value system with no gray areas. He is a loan shark collector who considers himself a financial adjuster of sorts. He has lived by a certain code, which has allowed him to survive, but he is now starting to realize that that code has necessitated a very solitary and lonely life. He has made a decent living in the service of others but has nothing to show for it. He has no roots and no personal life whatsoever."

Stallone sees Carter's background and, specifically, his relationship with his brother as a prelude to what he has become. "There was a sibling rivalry, particularly when they became

involved with the same woman," says Stallone. "His brother was very gifted but not as outgoing as Carter and never wanted to expand his world like Carter did. Eventually, Carter realized he didn't fit in anymore and left home, adopting a whole new lifestyle and cutting off that part of his life."

Miranda Richardson, who has garnered acclaim for her diverse performances in numerous films and television projects, including *The Crying Game* and *Sleepy Hollow*, portrays Gloria, Carter's widowed sister-in-law. "Gloria and her daughter haven't seen Jack for years and suddenly he's at the funeral, coming into a community he doesn't know anything

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