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# NOVI NEWS

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Volume 48 Number 12

Novi, Michigan

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Look inside for your  
**GREEN SHEET**  
Classifieds

**INSIDE**



**Learning the skills**

Job Shadow Day gave Novi High School students on-the-job training and a chance to explore different careers — Page 3A

**GREEN SHEET**



**Let Shelly Shop**

Shelly Walldorff of Northville wants to shop for you. Walldorff has created Let Shelly Shop to save area residents time while she does all the gift shopping for you — Page 1D

**LIVING**



**Zany Zambonis**

Zamboni drivers at the Novi Ice Arena not only have the coolest job of driving the big machines but the heavy responsibility of making sure the ice is smooth every time — Page 5B

**SPORTS**

**KVC champs**

After beating Howell 4-3 last last week, the Wildcats took hold of the KVC championship and capped off a 20-win season. — Page 1B



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The man with the cap above is identified by police as a possible suspect for the robbery of a Comerica Bank last week.

## Robbery suspect caught on tape

By RANDAL YAKEY  
Staff Writer

A crowded bank during the afternoon may not seem like a target for a robbery.

But, according to Novi police, the robber who hit the Comerica Bank on Novi Road last week did just that with a score of witnesses on hand.

There were at least ten witnesses present when a man wearing a Home Depot hat and carrying a McDonald's lunch bag stood in line for nearly half an hour at the Comerica Bank in front of Twelve

Oaks before slipping a hold-up note to a bank teller.

Last week, the Novi News first reported the bank on Novi Road was robbed on Feb. 20, and now police are releasing more material on the incident.

According to police reports, the note the suspect slipped to the teller read: "I have a .357 Cal (caliber) pistol in my jacket. I want the money in large bills first. No die packs, tracers. No alarms or you die today. Hurry up. I am psychologically disturbed. I am watching your every move."

Police say the man entered the bank at approximately 3 p.m. and waited in line for over 20 minutes and possibly as long as a half hour.

The white male suspect was described in his mid to late 20s, standing about 5'-10" and weighing 160 lbs. He was wearing a dark-colored coat and light-colored denim pants. According to police, there was no weapon visible to bank employees.

Police were on the scene minutes after the call came in and the Novi K-9 Unit searched the parking lot

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## Water rates to go up

By RANDAL YAKEY  
Staff Writer

Novi residents will get a boost in their water rates after Detroit City Council, who controls rate increases, voted to up the ante for Novi by an estimated 13.7 percent.

The cost for the average Novi home owner will be approximately a \$17 increase to the average water in Novi. The increases will take effect July 1, according to Novi water officials.

"We haven't set or established the rate but the increase on the wholesale was just under 14 percent," Novi Superintendent of Sewer and Water Department Bruce Jerome said.

Rate increases are out of the hands of Oakland County residents because the Detroit City Council is solely in charge of rate increases for water to Novi. Detroit City Council, which voted 6-3 to increase the rates, has stated that the increases are necessary to update infrastructure of the water system.

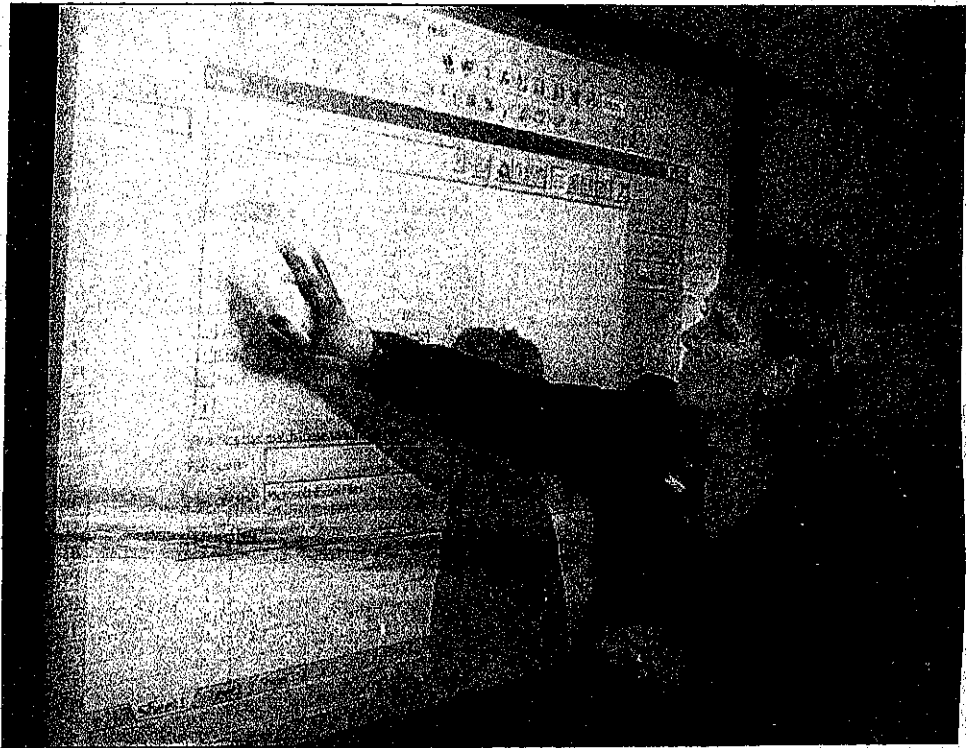
Jerome said he cannot say if there will be an increase passed along to the consumer but said that "most likely" it will show up on water bills this summer.

"It will be part of the budget submission," Jerome said. "What we look at is our financial situation and based on that, whether or not we can absorb any of the cost. If not, we'll have to pass it on to our customers."

The rate increases were needed because the city of Detroit faces mandate from both the federal and state Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for improvements to the water system.

The rates are expected to go into effect on July 1. The Detroit water system provides water to over 4 million residents across the metro Detroit area.

## Helping residents to succeed



Holly Diamond, Public Relations Director of Walsh College's Novi campus, demonstrates the SMART board technology that is available in all their classrooms. Instead of a mouse, students and teachers can touch the board to give it various commands.

## Novi's own business college

By STEPHANIE FORDYCE  
Staff Writer

Walsh College has been teaching business since 1922 and now has more than 12,000 graduates going on to work in Michigan and throughout the world.

While Novi may be renowned

for its K-12 education, Walsh also serves to educate the community on a college level in the areas of finance, accounting, tax marketing, information technology and business administration.

The Walsh College Novi Campus opened in 1993 and in the fall of 1998, the school

moved its Novi Campus into a new 35,000 sq. foot, technology enriched facility.

"We found that we had a lot of students in the western Oakland and Wayne counties, so opening a campus here was important to us," said Walsh College's Novi Public Relations Director Holly Diamond.

Currently, the campus has 14 classrooms, admissions and registration office, a library, computer lab, conference center, and bookstore, with complete Internet connectivity and the latest in educational technology resources.

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## Music Man will delight guests

By STEPHANIE FORDYCE  
Staff Writer

Be sure to get your ticket and climb aboard with Novi Theatres for the roottin'-tootin' revival of Meredith Wilson's *The Music Man* - which opens this Friday.

Come see as the Novi Civic Center stage is transformed into the little town of River City, Iowa with all the sights and sounds of the early 1900s.

Directed by Linda Wickert, *The Music Man* stars newcomer Frank Rosamond, Sr. as the irresistible con man Harold Hill, and Julie Landry as librarian Marian Paroo, who captures his heart.

"The show is going to be awesome," Wickert exclaimed. "This is one of the best casts I've worked with. Everyone of all ages is sure to enjoy it."

The plot revolves around a con-

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A handicapped parking permit lies on the dashboard of a car.

## Permits abound for disabled?

■ PVA director says people are abusing parking permits

By RANDAL YAKEY  
Staff Writer

They are outlined in blue with a wheelchair for an insignia, and reserve parking for those with physical handicaps.

But according to the Novi-based Paralyzed Veterans of America's (PVA) Government Relations Director Mike Harris, reports of people who would have not qualified for handicapped parking tags are getting them at an alarming rate.

"My disappointment occurred when handicap parking applications were submitted to the Secretary of State's office and given to people who didn't qualify for the permit," Harris said. "The law was meant for people with a mobility impairment."

Harris said he has been receiving complaints from Secretary of State

office workers, who wish to remain anonymous because of fears of repercussions, who have seen applications of relatives of doctors who have been getting handicapped parking stickers.

According to Secretary of State officials, there are more than 550,000 valid handicapped parking passes in the state. In a letter obtained by the Novi News, the Secretary of State officials note that implementations of the new requirements have been taking place for the past couple of years. The Secretary of State office said some individuals are still holding permits issued three years ago. Those permits are still in effect and are not subject to review until they expire.

"We are just getting caught up on (four year) permits and making changes in re-issuing those permits," Secretary of State Spokesperson Elizabeth Boyd said.

According to Boyd, the parking permits issued four years ago are coming under more scrutiny.

"Physicians need to sign the applications," Boyd said. "We're try-

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# Phone scam foiled by bank clerk

A 73-year-old Novi woman was the target of a phone scam. She was saved, however, when an alert bank clerk tipped the woman off to the potential fraud.

## Police News

On Feb. 23, the woman began receiving calls from a male suspect who told her that she had won \$3 million and all she had to do to collect the money was send him \$500 as a "release" on the cash. The woman told the solicitor that she did not have the \$500 and the conversation ended. The man called back again, this time saying all he needed was \$100 to release the million dollar prize. When the woman said she didn't have the \$100 - the price dropped to \$300. Finally, the man said he would settle for \$200.

When the woman talked to her bank about withdrawing the \$200, the bank clerk apparently tipped the woman off about the possible scam.

The woman told the woman to call them if any such scam was tried on her again.

**ASSAULT AT BOWLING ALLEY**  
A 17-year-old Novi teen was struck over the head with a chair at the Novi Bowl on Feb. 24 at about 11 p.m.

bleeding from the head at the time police arrived at the bowling alley. The suspect was described as a 6 foot tall male and weighing in at about 155 lbs. The suspect was wearing dark blue clothing and left the scene in a Ford Explorer.

According to the report, the owner of the bowling alley had asked a group of men to leave the premises just before police arrived on the scene.

The victim was transported to a hospital by friends for treatment. The case is open pending investigation.

**CAR THIEVES BUSTED**  
Southgate police arrested two male suspects after they apparently stole a vehicle in Novi and drove to the downriver community where they were found by police on Feb. 25.

two suspects "covered in a black leather coat." The men were asked where they got the vehicle by which they responded: "Took it about two hours ago from Novi. In front of a business. The keys were in the center console."

Both men, ages 30 and 28 years, were taken into custody by Southgate police.

**HAIR BONDS**  
A rift between the owners of two beauty salons caused one owner to take property out of a Novi salon on Feb. 22.

## Novi Briefs

Police continue to investigate the incident.

**HOME BURGLARIZED**  
A door left unlocked may have led to the theft of personal items from a home in the 1400 block of Narbor on Feb. 22.

Police say that during the overnight hours of Feb. 22, a suspect entered the premises and removed computer equipment from the home.

The owner discovered the items missing the next morning. Police collected evidence from the scene and continue to investigate the incident.

## Focus on Family Workshop

On March 17, the annual Focus on Family Workshop will take place at Novi Community School District's Instructional Technology Center.

The keynote speaker, Theodore R. Brundie, will present "Power, Conflict & Love: An Essential Guide to Family Matters."

Many resources on a variety of subjects will be provided for parents. Other topics which will be offered as breakout sessions are: "Becoming a Love & Logic Parent," "Taking the Hassle Out of Homework," "Stop the World, I Want to Get Off," "How to Keep Being a Parent When Your Child Stops Being a Child," "Rave Drugs in 2001," "Finding a Happy Balance," and "Community Norms."

Pre-registering costs \$3, and \$5 for walk-ins. The workshop is offered to community members by Novi Community Education in partnership with Target Stores.

## Novi Theatres' Children's Annex presents Raggedy Ann and Andy

Raggedy Ann & Andy Auditions for the Novi Theatres' Children's Annex production of Raggedy Ann & Andy will take place March 13 and 15 at 4 p.m.

The Children's Annex is for children ages 10-14. All actors must pay a participation fee of \$125 once cast.

Performance will take place May 18, 19, and 20. Auditions will be held at the Novi Civic Center on Ten Mile Road.

For more information please call the Novi Parks & Recreation Department at (248) 347-0400.

## Library Lines

### LIBRARY HOURS

The Novi Public Library is open Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday, 1-5 p.m. Location is 45245 W. Ten Mile Road, just east of Taft. For more information, call 349-0720.

### STORYTIME NOTES

Spring Storytimes begin March 12. Please call the library during the week of March 5 for information on the day and time of your child's session.

### ADULT BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Our March selection is "Princess: A True Story of Life Behind the Veil in Saudi Arabia" by Jean Sasson. The group meets Monday, March 5 at 7 p.m. in the library meeting room. Drop-ins are welcome.

### SENIOR BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Senior book lovers are reading non-fiction books about Switzerland this month. The senior group meets in the library meeting room on Thursday, March 8 at noon.

### LIBRARY BOARD MEETING

The Novi Library Board of Directors meets Monday, March 12 at 7 p.m. in the library meeting room. Community members are welcome to attend.

### LIVING WITH WILDLIFE IN SUBURBIA

Wildlife Biologist Tim Payne, a 28-year veteran of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, discusses the pleasures and challenges of sharing your backyard with geese, deer, and other wild animals; a ques-

### ANCESTORS ONLINE: GENEALOGY RESEARCH ON THE NET

Design for those who want to begin searching the Internet for information on their ancestors, the program will explore key genealogy Websites and effective search techniques for locating genealogy information. The program will be held Thursday, March 15, from 7-8:30 p.m.

### WARD TAX WORKSHOP

An AARP Tax Workshop will be held at the library on Thursday, March 29, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Please register in advance in person or by calling the library. (Note: You cannot prepare small business or rental property taxes at this workshop.)

### INTERNET INTRODUCTION FOR SENIORS

Novi residents 60 and older are invited to discover how the Internet works, practice using the Netscape Navigator browser, and learn about search engines on Wednesday, March 7, or Wednesday, March 14. Each class meets from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and includes interactive discussion and hands-on practice. Please register in advance for all Internet classes by calling the library.

### INTRODUCTION TO THE INTERNET FOR ALL AGES

Get acquainted with Internet history, terminology, and searching techniques on Wednesday, March 7, from 7-8:30 p.m. The class includes a question and answer period and hands-on practice.

### KIDTALK ONLINE

Learn how to set up your own e-mail account and where you can chat safely with other friends your age on the Internet. The class, designed for kids 8-12, meets Saturday, March 10, from

### THE NOVI NEWS

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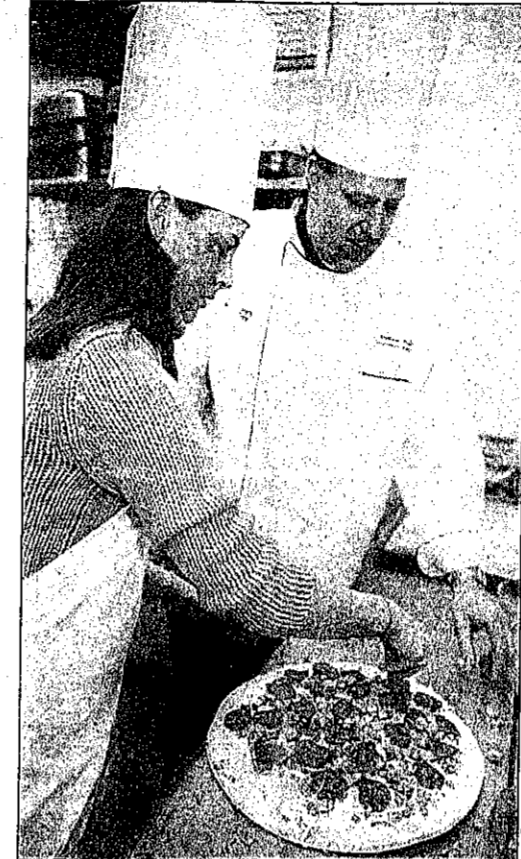
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## LOOKING FOR A USED CAR OR TRUCK? CHECK OUT THE CLASSIFIEDS



Novi High School junior Lindsey Beach gets some instruction on pizza-making by DoubleTree chef Michael Keys during last Thursday's Junior-Achievement job-shadowing day at the Novi Hotel.

## Students gain insight on real life jobs

By STEPHANIE FORDYCE  
Staff Writer

A group of local high school students now know what it takes to run a hotel, thanks to Junior Achievement of Southeastern Michigan and Novi's DoubleTree Hotel. They participated in Groundhog Job Shadow Day on Feb. 15.

The program enables teens interested in the hospitality industry to accompany workplace mentors through a day on the job. The goal is for mentors to demonstrate to students what their job is like and how the skills learned in school can be put into action.

"It's cool because it provides a more realistic look at what goes on in the business world and how a hotel really operates," said high school senior Matt Hoag.

Junior Achievement Education Manager Annette Hohl said the program inspires young people to follow in the footsteps of esteemed building professionals and show students the vast career opportunities that exist in the hospitality industry.

"Job Shadow Day is a wonderful program because it allows students to experience a normal day on the job and get an up-close look at the community at work," she said. "They also have the opportunity to get real-life experiences from people who have achieved something in their life."



DoubleTree Front Office Manager Jamie Grebeck demonstrates check-in procedures to job-shadowers Kerry Morrison and Cae Otting.

"This is the second year DoubleTree Hotel has partnered with Junior Achievement and it's great to be able to bring this incredible opportunity to Novi High School students."

The junior said while he is leaning towards a career in the hotel industry, he is keeping his option open.

how the hotel business is run. Otting said, "You really have to be multi-tasked."

Morrison said she participated in shadow day because it will help her make a decision on what career path she'll choose.

"It was good for me because I'm really undecided on what I want to go into," she said. "This way I have the chance to look at a bunch of different careers and see what goes on before I make a decision. It's a good learning experience."

Grebeck said Job Shadow Day is a wonderful opportunity because it is the perfect vehicle to reach students and talk to them about careers in the business industry.

"It's beneficial because it gets them out to see the workforce and gives them a more realistic look at what's out there," he said. "This way they get to see the whole picture."

The student began the day with a small orientation, before pairing up with one of twelve hotel employees.

"It's beneficial because it gets them out to see the workforce and gives them a more realistic look at what's out there," he said. "This way they get to see the whole picture."

Jamie Grebeck  
Novi DoubleTree Hotel  
Front Office Manager

million elementary, middle, and high school students across the U.S. participate in Junior Achievement programs. An additional one million young people in 105 countries also take part on an annual basis.

According to Hohl, Junior Achievement of Southeastern Michigan has grown by nearly 80,000 students since its inception in 1995.

Job Shadow Day began in 1994, headed by Gen. Colin Powell. The shadow program begins on Groundhog Day and continues for six weeks.

Sponsored by America's Promise, Alliance for Youth, the School-to-Work Opportunities Office, Junior Achievement and the American Society of Executives, Groundhog Job Shadow Day is an important way in which businesses and nonprofit organizations can make valuable contributions to the education of our youth.

For more information about Job Shadow Day or other Junior Achievement programs, contact the Southeastern Michigan office at (313)964-3000.

Stephanie Fordyce is a staff writer for the Novi News. She may be reached at sfordyce@ht.romecomm.net

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### Footnotes

Dr. Michael R. Burk

"FUNGUS NAILS" or ONYCHOMYCOSIS

Onychomycosis is a fungal infection of the nails that is difficult to cure. It is commonly acquired as part of an athlete's foot infection. Trauma to the nail may predispose a person to developing onychomycosis. Mold infections cause little or no symptoms. Our older citizens with diabetes and circulatory disease are particularly at risk for development of ulcers and bacterial infections beneath the nails. In serious cases, the nail becomes discolored, thickened, and detaches from the nail bed, and debris usually collects under the nail. Treatment depends on the severity of symptoms. Simply removing the nail does not cure onychomycosis. Proper treatment of the nails that is difficult to cure. It is commonly acquired as part of an athlete's foot infection. Trauma to the nail may predispose a person to developing onychomycosis. Mold infections cause little or no symptoms. 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# SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT

PAGE 4A

Thursday, March 1, 2001

## Orchard Hills Elementary

### First 100 days celebrated in countless ways

This week, the Novi News is kicking off its first school feature page highlighting photos, poems, art work, experiments, short stories, and other items the Novi School District is covering. This feature is to run once or twice a month, giving each school an opportunity to showcase student work or their latest events.

Orchard Hills Elementary, located on Quince Road in Novi, is our first school in the spotlight. Serving students in kindergarten through fourth grades, Orchard Hills currently has an enrollment of 524 students.

Their staff, headed by principal Paul LePlae, includes 30 certified and North Central approved reg-

ular classroom, special needs and teachers of the arts. Support for teachers, is provided by six and one half-time para-professionals, parent volunteers, a social worker, school psychologist, teacher consultant and a speech/language specialist.

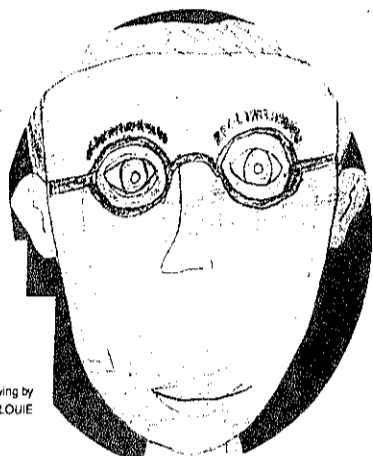
Students receive the Novi basic curriculum daily with a class of Art, General Music, Physical Education, Media and Spanish weekly.

Orchard Hills, which has been in existence since 1958, has a very supportive PTO which sponsors educational assemblies and provides constant support to help insure success.



Students at Orchard Hills celebrate 100th day of school on Feb. 1 by participating in various activities involving 100. SUBMITTED PHOTO

### All the president's men



**Harry S. Truman**  
By Michelle Louie

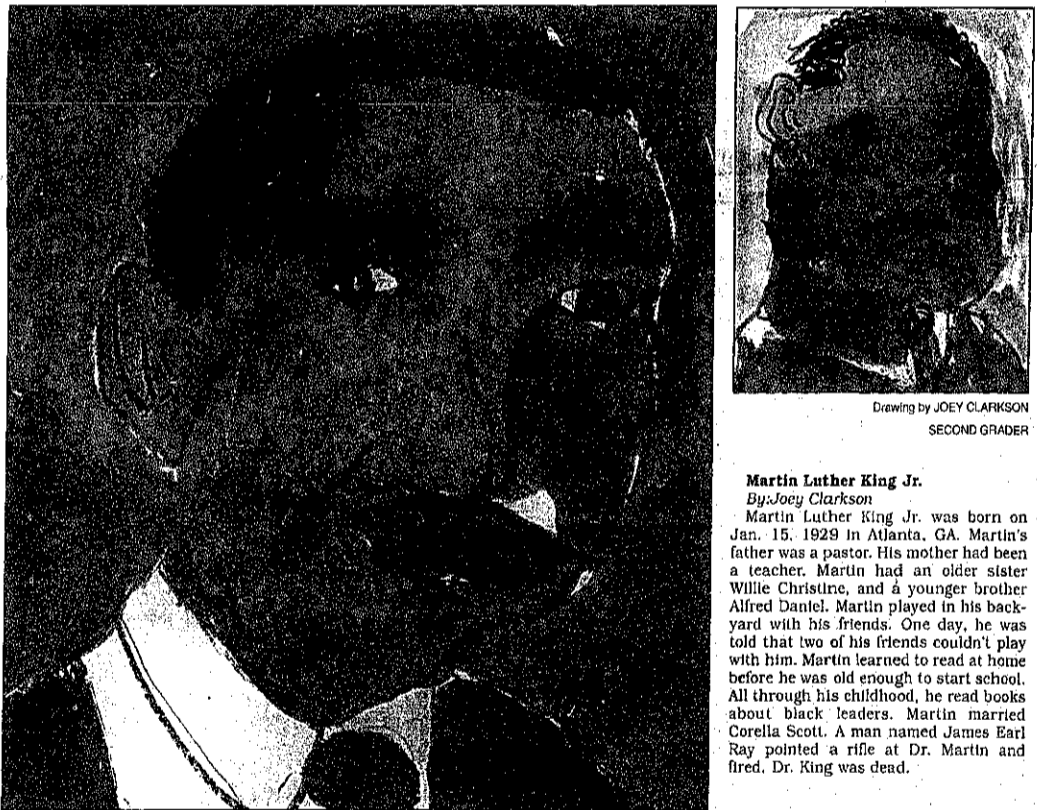
Harry S. Truman was born in Lamar, Missouri on May 8, 1884. His parents named him Harry in honor of his uncle. He began to wear glasses at the age of eight. When he was about 13 or 14-years-old he had read all the books in the Independence Public Library. Harry and his brother and sister visit their grandparents from near Grandview.

Harry attended high school in Independence near Kansas City. He worked as a timekeeper for a construction crew of the Santa Fe Railroad. Then he worked in the mailing room of the Kansas City Star. His next job was to work as a clerk and later as a bookkeeper.

In 1906, he moved to Grandview after his grandfather's death. When Harvey was president he used the atomic bomb to bring the war with Japan to a close. He formed the National Security Council and Central Intelligence Agency. He drafted the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Harvey unified the armed forces under his administration. He formed the Marshall Plan giving grants to aid war injured nation in Europe.

After being president he returned to his home in Independence. Then he published two volumes of his memoirs, Year of Decisions and Years of Trial and Hope.

### Dreams come alive with Dr. Martin Luther King



Drawing by JOEY CLARISON SECOND GRADER

**Martin Luther King Jr.**  
By Joey Clarkson

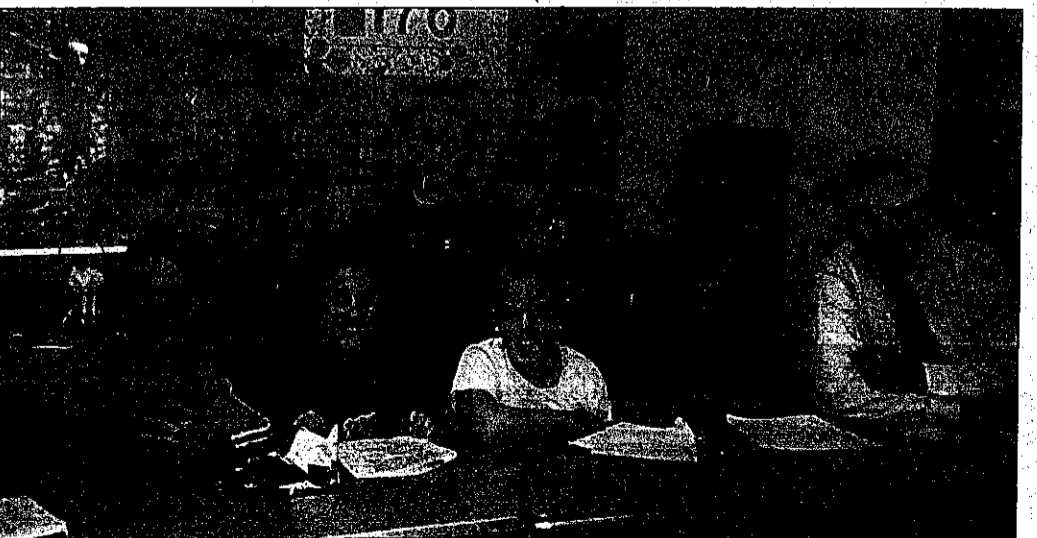
Martin Luther King Jr. was born on Jan. 15, 1929 in Atlanta, GA. Martin's father was a pastor. His mother had been a teacher. Martin had an older sister Willie Christine, and a younger brother Alfred Daniel. Martin played in his backyard with his friends. One day, he was told that two of his friends couldn't play with him. Martin learned to read at home before he was old enough to start school. All through his childhood, he read books about black leaders. Martin married Coretta Scott. A man named James Earl Ray pointed a rifle at Dr. Martin and fired. Dr. King was dead.

**Snow storm**  
A snow storm is whirling.  
The snowflakes are twirling.  
Wow! What a sight.  
I hope it will stay today.  
Maybe it will stay 'till May!  
Oh no! It's bright, it won't stay tonight.  
-Katie Smak  
Second Grader

**Hockey**  
I like Hockey.  
With some luck,  
I could take my stick and score the puck.  
My friend plays hockey.  
His name is Nick.  
He usually celebrates, when he gets a hat trick.  
-John Dwyer

**Football**  
There's a new sport in this town.  
It's called football where you play with something brown!  
When you say hike, everyone goes out, and when you lose the whole team pouts.  
Football is a lot of fun, and my friend throws the ball like a gun!  
The ball is brown with white lace and boy does that running back run at a fast pace!  
-Tom Wright

### Taking a break...



Reporters for the WOH news team take time out from their scheduling to meet their principal, Mr. Paul LePlae. Students are involved in the newscasts every Friday. There are different reporters each month. SUBMITTED PHOTO

## Obituaries

### JUSTIN ANDRES

Justin Andres, 22, of Novi died Feb. 17 in Traverse City, Mich. He was born in 1979.

A graduate of Novi High School, Mr. Andres was employed as a mechanic at Nations Rental. He loved hunting and fishing and was a pro sports fan.

He is survived by his parents, Philip and Donna Andres; brothers, Nathan, Ryan, and Bethany; and grandmothers, Edna Heinkle and Monica Andres.

Services were held on Wednesday, Feb. 21 at Holy Family Church in Novi.

Interment was at St. Cecilia Cemetery in Clare, Mich.

Arrangements were made by O'Brien Chapel/Sullivan Funeral Home of Novi.

Memorials to Holy Family Church, Mott Children Hospital, or Quality Deer Management Association would be appreciated by the family.

### LUCILLE BOYLE

Lucille Boyle, 82, died Feb. 19 in Boisford Hospital, Farmington Hills. She was born in 1919.

Ms. Boyle is survived by nieces, Sue (William) Gunn and Kathy (Paul) Zimmerman; nephews, David (Carol) Kupfer, John (Claudia) Kupfer, and Mike (Jennifer) Kupfer; and many great nieces and nephews.

Services will be held on Thursday, March 1 at 10 a.m. in St. Gerard Church of Farmington. Interment is in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

Arrangements were made by O'Brien Chapel/Sullivan Funeral Home of Novi.

Memorial contributions to the Karmans Cancer Institute would be appreciated by the family.

### SANDRA K. BROWN

Sandra Kay (Eddy) Brown, 45, of Northville died Feb. 24 in Ann Arbor. She was born in Detroit March 27, 1955.

For the past five years, Mrs. Brown was a member of the community. Her previous residence included Novi, Redford/Detroit.

and two years in Alabama. She was a 1973 graduate of Redford High School and received her bachelor's degree in computer science from Wayne State University. Mrs. Brown was awarded a masters degree from the University of Michigan in June 2000.

For the past seven years, she was employed as senior manager of the financial department at Chrysler Corp. in Southfield. Prior to her current position, she was employed at Federal Mogul for 11 years. She enjoyed her family and traveling.

Mrs. Brown is survived by her husband of 13 years, Gary N.; sons, David Holt-Brown and Michael Brown, both of Northville; daughter, Jennifer Renee Brown of Commerce Township; parents, Walter Eddy of Novi and the late Rachelle Eddy; sisters, Linda Wilhelm of Novi and Kim Hill; parents-in-law, Jean and Robert Brown; many nieces and nephews; and grandson, Matthew.

Services were held on Tuesday, Feb. 27 at Thayer-Rock Funeral Home in Farmington, with the Rev. John F. Quigley of Ward Presbyterian Church of Northville officiating.

Interment was at Oakland Hills Memorial Gardens in Novi.

Memorials to the American Red Cross, P.O. Box 33351, Detroit, MI 48232-9703 or International Myeloma Foundation, 12650 Riverside Drive, Suite 206, N. Hollywood, CA 91607 would be appreciated.

Arrangements were made by O'Brien Chapel/Sullivan Funeral Home of Novi.

**GABRIEL H. SMITH**  
Gabriel Hampton Smith, 86, died Feb. 26 at his residence in West Bloomfield. He was born May 23, 1914.

He is survived by Edith; sons, Leonard E. (Shirley) and John H. (Mary Alice); daughter, Alice M. (Mario) Di Carlo; ten grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

Services will be held at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 1 at St. William Church in Walled Lake; funeral liturgy at 10 a.m.

Interment will be in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Southfield. Arrangements were made by O'Brien Chapel/Sullivan Funeral Home of Novi.

### MARILYN L. MCKENZIE

Marilyn L. McKenzie, 54, died Feb. 20 at IHS of Michigan nursing home in Howell. She was born in 1946.

Ms. McKenzie is survived by her dear friend, Donald Warncke of Novi; Donald R. (Renee) Warncke of Farmington Hills, Wendy (Patrick) Sims of Farmington Hills, David (Leona) Warncke of Florida, Elmer and Henrietta Jones of Novi, Elizabeth (Ronald) Hill of Commerce Township, and Ken Jones of Texas.

A graveside service will be held on Saturday, March 3 at 12:45 p.m. in Mount Hope Cemetery, Livonia.

Arrangements were made by O'Brien Chapel/Sullivan Funeral Home of Novi.

Memorials to Angela Hospice, 14100 Newburg Road, Livonia, MI 48154-5010 would be appreciated by the family.

**HEDWIG F. STAAB**  
Hedwig F. (Ortwel) Staab, 89, died Feb. 22 at Providence Medical Center-Providence Park in Novi. She was born Oct. 17, 1911, in Peacock, Mich.

Mrs. Staab was a homemaker and resided at the Applegate Condos in Novi for the past 27 years. She was interested in bowling and was a great cook, seamstress, baseball fan, and a hard worker.

Continued on 10

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03000 MILES TO GRACELAND (PG) 12:05, 4:40, 7:15, 9:50  
COURAGEOUS TIGER, LITTLE DRAGON (PG-13) 12:05, 2:35, 5:00, 7:25, 9:55  
PROOFERS, WHEELS ARE HOT (PG-13) 12:05, 2:35, 5:00, 7:25, 9:55  
MAMMAL (PG) 1:35, 4:10, 6:45, 9:20  
0 NEEDS: SCORON'S OUT (G) 12:05, 2:35, 5:00, 7:25, 9:55  
SHAVING SUPERMAN (PG-13) 9:40  
WEDDING PLANNER (PG-13) 11:35, 1:55, 4:15, 6:35, 9:25  
ASSASSIN (PG-13) 1:35, 4:10, 6:45, 9:20

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**PARISIAN**





## Threads of Power turns sequel into great success

By STEPHANIE FORDYCE  
Staff Writer

When the Novi Chamber of Commerce asked local residents and businesses to donate a suit for their annual Threads of Power breakfast, they received much more than they had anticipated. Not only did participants bring in more than one suit, but shoes, scarves, jewelry and other dress-accessories at the event held on Feb. 13 at the Doubletree Hotel.

"It's amazing to see the amount of donations we received this year," said chamber director Stacy DeRoche. "The community's generosity is truly inspiring and we could not have been this successful without them."

Threads of Power is a relatively new program, coordinated by the chamber and local business women in 2000, that provides women with low-income, donated business clothes for jobs and interviews.

DeRoche explained that the event benefits those women who are re-entering the work force due to the financial freedom of purchasing the proper business attire.

"It's really about helping women move from homelessness, welfare and

poverty into a productive life," she said.

Aside from the public's generosity, DeRoche said it was the hard work of many individuals who helped make the event possible. Business persons like Susan Cusick from Novi Credit Union, Anne Kohls, from Mound Business and Kohls Associates, Holly Diamond from Walsh College, Peggy Hayes from Twelve Oaks, Shannon Hampton from Dorchester and Tammy Birch from Virtual Concepts joined forces with the chamber to assist the efforts of striving women.

"They have had a lot of experience and a lot of resources to pull this thing together and make it as successful as it is," DeRoche said. "I really appreciate all the time and energy they put into this."

The clothing donated at this year's event went to three local organizations: The Women's Resource Center of Schoolcraft College, Lighthouse Pontiac Area Transitional Housing, and The Southfield Career Center.

"These donations of clothing are so important for the single women we have at PATH," said PATH employee Shawn Boeneman.

"To see the change in their self-esteem when they see themselves in a suit for the first time is amazing. Their level of confidence just sky-rockets."

Nancy Swanborg from The Women's Resource Center at Schoolcraft said she was overwhelmed by the number of contributions brought in.

"The value these women place on these donations are monumental," she said.

Program coordinator Mildred Pivoz from the Southfield Career Center's Work First Program agreed.

"Michigan has the most single women households in the United States, so we are so grateful for the enormous flood of donations from the Novi Chamber," she said.

Interested in donating to Threads of Power or taking advantage of the group's services? Call (248) 355-5400 for PATH, (734) 662-4443 for the Schoolcraft's Women's Resource Center, or the Southfield Career Center at (248) 945-5100.

Novi High School Rotary Interact member Alton Lee, Novi Chamber of Commerce President Stacy DeRoche, and Walsh College's Holly Diamond carry donated clothes out of the Double Tree Hotel after a breakfast gathering of Threads of Power. Women donated their gently-used clothing to be distributed to others re-entering the workforce.

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## Council requests time limit on participation

By RANDAL YAKY  
Staff Writer

Novi City Council meetings are notorious for lasting well into the early morning hours.

Mayor Pro-Tem Laura Lorenzo said she would like to cut down the time council members spend in chambers.

Lorenzo said she would like to see a time limit on the audience participation. Lorenzo, who has noted that she would like to see a time limit on speakers in front of council as well, has asked that the issue be brought up for a review by council.

"It is my observation that since we eliminated any time limit for audience participation, I think it's just human nature that will out-perimeter that we all lose track of time," Lorenzo said. "I think it's important that we achieve a balance between public participation, which we do want to encourage, but we also have an obligation to get through a certain amount of business at a reasonable hour."

The mayor would have the option of granting speakers extra time to drive home a point. Lorenzo and council member Ed Kramer both have noted the longer hours in council chambers affect decision making and effectiveness, especially if a serious issue is forced on council after midnight.

Both Kramer and Lorenzo feel the time is right to review audience participation time limits.

"I think the matter deserves some discussion," Kramer said. "I think it was our intent to have the mayor exercise some control over audience participation."

Kramer said some resident problems could be directed into other areas and they would not need to come before council.

"If any resident has a problem, they should have the ability to work it out with the city administration," Kramer said. "But we could see a way we could fine tune our procedure."

Mayor Richard Clark, who has made objections in the past for limiting audience participation, said he was not in support of any restrictions.

"The people elected us and not the other way around," Clark said. "Some citizens have taken longer than others to express their viewpoints."

The city council is expected to review the audience participation issue as an agenda item at a later date.

## Community comes together for India earthquake relief

By STEPHANIE FORDYCE  
Staff Writer

In response to the recent earthquake in India, Deerfield Elementary students put together their every dollar, dime, nickel and penny to help the Novi Rotary Club in their efforts to bring the country much-needed assistance.

"With the school bringing their 'Kids That Care' motto to life, the students presented \$900 to Novi Rotary Club members on Feb. 16 in hopes to aid victims in the devastating natural disaster that hit the country in January.

"It brings a tear to my eyes to see the children of Novi helping people on the other side of globe, people they don't even know," said Novi Rotary Club president Anthony Musu. "They should be very proud of themselves, they've done a fantastic job."

Because the earthquake in India destroyed all but a few buildings in the area, Musu said the money raised by the children will be put towards constructing a housing structure.

Musu explained the building will be a 10-unit facility, equipped with restroom facilities, providing people in India a place to stay and sleep.

"Once it is completed I will go back to Deerfield and show them exactly what their hard-earned dollars helped pay for," he said.

As part of the assembly, the students engaged in a cultural experience as they watched a few of their own peers of India decent, share a bit of their heritage.

Some of the male students joined on stage to sing India's national anthem, while Pallavi Vadapalli performed a traditional Indian dance.

Student Goutham Kondapi explained that India's national anthem, "Vana Gana Mana," illustrates a patriot's feelings about freedom from colonial rule.

Deerfield principal Richard Nuss said he was extremely proud of his students and their generous efforts.

"This has just been a super experience for the kids," he said. "It's wonderful what our kids are doing."

Reaching 6.9 on the Richter scale, the India earthquake is listed as one of the worst earthquakes to have occurred in the country during the last 180 years.

The quake has claimed at least 30,000 lives, has left nearly 170,000 injured and a million or more have been rendered homeless.

Damages have been estimated to the extent of \$ 5.5 billion.

Currently, the Novi Rotary Club is collecting money at Expo Center events and Musu said Rotary members are hoping to begin a city-wide campaign on local street corners.

As of now, the goal for the Rotary's relief fund is open. In 1999, the Rotary helped collect more than \$3,000 for refugees in Kosovo.

"The Novi students helped us collect money when we held our Kosovo fund and now they're here again helping," Musu said. "We couldn't be more proud."

For those interested in making donations to India's earthquake relief effort, donors are asked to write checks — made out to the Novi Rotary Foundation — and mail to the India Earthquake Relief Fund, care of the Novi News, 104 W. Main Street, Northville, Mich. 48167.

Contributions are tax-deductible and those who donate \$100 or more will be listed in the Novi News.

Musu said that Rotary International has also committed itself to match the funds from this relief effort.

Stephanie Fordyce is a staff writer for the Novi News. She may be reached at [sfordyce@ht.homecom.net](mailto:sfordyce@ht.homecom.net)



Pallavi Vadapalli performs a traditional Indian dance during an earthquake relief fund assembly at Novi's Deerfield Elementary School sponsored by the Novi Rotary.

## Police still looking for Novi bank robber

Continued from 1

and adjoining areas for evidence.

According to a police report, the dog lost the scent at the perimeter of the bank parking lot.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) was on the scene about thirty minutes after the robbery, according to Novi police. It is common practice for the FBI to help on bank robbery cases considering they are federal offenses.

Police suspect that the robber may have picked that particular bank because of the number of people and access to Novi Road and the freeway.

Police interviewed employees of the Red Lobster and Home Depot stores in Novi for clues to the crime. According to a statement given to police by a Home Depot manager, according to Novi police, the suspect was wearing a white t-shirt and blue jeans and was seen by customers of the store when it opened last year.

Police said the bank robbed has been a target at least twice in the past five years.

Police are asking for anyone who may have seen a person fitting the description of the suspect leaving the bank to call the Novi police at (248) 348-7100.

Randal Yakey is a staff writer for the Novi News. His e-mail address is [ryakey@ht.homecom.net](mailto:ryakey@ht.homecom.net)

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### CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF BOARD OF MEETING OF BOARD OF REVIEW

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Review shall convene in its first session at 9:00 a.m. EST, Tuesday, March 6th, 2001 in the Novi Assessing Department at 45175 W. Ten Mile Road for the purpose of reviewing and correcting the assessment roll.

Notice is further given that the second session of the Board of Review will meet for the purpose of hearing and considering assessment protests in the Novi City Council Chambers at 45175 W. Ten Mile Road on March 12, 13 & 14, 2001. All appearances before the Board will be by appointment only. You or your representative want to appear in person, the appointment must be made on or before 5:00 p.m. EST, Friday, March 9, 2001. Appearances before the Board of Review are limited to five (5) minutes or less. Petitions are available at the Assessor's Office at [www.ci.novi.mi.us](http://www.ci.novi.mi.us) NO APPOINTMENTS WILL BE GIVEN UNTIL A PETITION IS RECEIVED BY THE ASSESSING DEPARTMENT.

Letters of protest will be accepted on or before 5:00 p.m. EST, Wednesday, March 14, 2001. Protests will not be considered. When submitting a letter of protest for the Board of Review consideration, you must attach a completed petition (available at the Assessing Department), along with any supporting information.

All agencies protesting valuations on property other than their own, MUST HAVE written authorization from each property owner they are representing.

Persons on fixed or limited income may be eligible for a reduction in property taxes due to poverty. Applications are available at the Assessing Department, or at [www.ci.novi.mi.us](http://www.ci.novi.mi.us)

**BOARD OF REVIEW SCHEDULE**  
Monday, March 12, 2001 — 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Tuesday, March 13, 2001 — 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Wednesday, March 14, 2001 — 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

All questions should be directed to the Assessing Department at (248) 947-0485.

MARYANNE COENELIUS, CITY CLERK  
(222 & 3-1/2 MI NFRN 1029525)

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## Obituaries Con't

Continued from 1

working farm girl when living in the apple orchard county.

She is survived by sons, William (Marion) of Crosse Ile and Lawrence (Stephanie) of Grand Haven; daughters, Jeanette (Ronald) Gerard of Okechobee, Fla., and Hildegarde Snah of Novi; sisters, Emma Schell of Muskegon, Ill., Florence Moser of Lansing, Mich., and Gertrude Hunter of Southfield; five grandchildren, Bret Schneider, Bradley and Mark Gerardi, and Billy and Pamela Staab; and one great-grandson, Andrew Chase Schneider.

Mrs. Snah was preceded in death by her husband of 47-plus years, Gebhard in March 1986.

Visitation will be from 2 to 9 p.m. Thursday, March 1 at Turner-Robert Funeral Home in Farmington.

Services will be held at 1 p.m. Friday, March 2 at the funeral home. Pastor Matthew McMahon of Spirit of Christ Lutheran Church, Novi will officiate.

Memorials to the Salvation Army, 16130 Northland Drive, Southfield, MI 48075 or the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, 21311 Chive Center Drive, Southfield, MI 48076-3011 would be appreciated.

Interment will be at Glen Eden Memorial Park in Livonia.

### DOROTHY L. THOMAS

Dorothy L. Thomas, 84, died Feb. 26 at her home in Northville. She was born Feb. 4, 1917 in Montreal to Fred M. and Daisy (Moreno) Asch.

Mrs. Thomas was a registered nurse and homemaker. She received her education at Montreal

General Hospital School of Nursing. Her memberships included Highland Lakes Women's Club and Ward Presbyterian Church, Northville.

She is survived by her husband, Sydney R., whom she married in July 1943; son, Clark (Debbie) of Minnesota; daughters, Susan Valente of White Lake and Joan (Jack) Hanley of Novi; one grandson, David Hanley; sister-in-law, Mildred Asch of Monticello, and brother-in-law, Jack (Margaret) Thomas of Harrow, Canada.

Mrs. Thomas was preceded in death by two brothers, Gerald and Fred Asch; and sister-in-law, Jeanne Asch.

An 11 a.m. service will be held on Thursday, March 1 at Ward Presbyterian Church in Northville, with Pastor Brian Tweedle officiating.

Interment was in United Memorial Gardens.

Arrangements were made by Catherine Funeral Home Inc. of Northville.

The family would appreciate memorial contributions to a charity of your choice.

### ALICE L. VALENTE

Alice L. Valente, 90, of Novi died Feb. 29 in Boisford General Hospital of Farmington Hills. She was born Feb. 27, 1910 in Battle Creek to Philip and Anna (Rutledge) Halm.

Mrs. Valente was a self-employed beautician and a member of Holy Family Catholic Church in Novi.

She is survived by her husband, Arthur; daughters, Anne (Thomas) Mark of Flushing and Hyllis Glomski of Paw Paw, Mich.; and son, Richard (Diane) of

Brighton; 14 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren.

Services were held on Friday, Feb. 23 at Holy Family Catholic Church, with the Rev. Andrew Czarnecki officiating.

Interment was at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Southfield.

Arrangements were made by Catherine Funeral Home Inc. of Northville.

Memorial contributions to the Alzheimer's Association, 17220 W. Twelve Mile Road, Suite 100, Southfield, MI 48076 would be appreciated by the family.

### ROMEO VALENTI

Romeo Valenti, 88, died Feb. 16 in Beaumont Hospital. He was born April 20, 1911, in Sault Ste. Marie, Canada.

He is survived by his wife of 70 years, Betty; sons, Richard (Mary) and George; daughters, Joyce Carcone and Janet Certo; one brother, Art (Virginia); sister, Jean Odegaard; and 11 grandchildren, Rick, John, Karen, Jerry, Lisa, Jamie, Russell, Anthony, Tina, Amber, Scott, and Sander.

Services were conducted on Tuesday, Feb. 20 at Holy Family Catholic Church in Novi.

Interment was in Oakland Hills Cemetery.

Arrangements were made by O'Brien Chapel/Sullivan Funeral Home Inc.

Memorials to the American Heart Association would be appreciated.

### WILLIAM C. VANDER LOOP

William C. Vander Loop, 63, died Feb. 14 at University Hospital in Ann Arbor. He was born in 1931.

Mr. Vander Loop was employed at Hydromatic Inc. for 33 years. He

had a passion for drawing and woodworking. According to the family, Mr. Vander Loop was very proud to have raised ten great children.

He is survived by his wife, Jackie; daughters, Joan, Susan, Melanie, and Bonnie; sons, Michael, Bill, and Jonathan; brothers, Lewis, Jim, and Bob; sisters, DeDe, Rita, Joyce, and Donna; and 22 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Mr. Vander Loop was preceded in death by three of his children, Robert, Scott, and Casey.

Services were held on Saturday, Feb. 17 at O'Brien Chapel/Sullivan

Funeral Home in Novi. Interment will be in Wisconsin at a later date.

Memorial contributions to the Washtenaw County Senior Nutrition Program would be appreciated by the family.

### CAROL J. ZURKAN

Carol J. Zurkan, 63, died Feb. 19 in St. Joseph Hospital, Ann Arbor. She was born in 1937.

Mrs. Zurkan is survived by daughter, Joan; son, Jeff (Linda); sisters, Donna Gullerie and Judy Haught; brother, Lorenzo Robinson; sister-in-law, Ruth Zurkan; brother-in-law, David

Zurkan; grandchildren, Craig, Alexandra, Madison, and Chloe; and Ellen Khrenovskiy.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Theodore J. Services were held on Thursday, Feb. 22 at Newburgh United Methodist Church in Livonia.

Interment was in Parkview Cemetery, Livonia.

Arrangements were made by O'Brien Chapel/Sullivan Funeral Home of Novi.

Memorial contributions to the Newburgh United Methodist Choir Fund would be appreciated by the family.

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## Permits are plentiful in state

Continued from 1

ing to administer the new rules for applicants and it will take them."

Under the previous statute, the Secretary of State office distributed the passes based on an individual's appearance. The current statute says the application must be verified by a licensed physician. The law requiring physician signatures came into effect in 1994. In meetings with the PVA in 1997 and 1998, the state agreed to press for more stringent rules regarding the

Secretary of State office continues the implementation process considering some permits

are issued over a four year span.

With the implementation of physician-signed applications for permits, the Secretary of State office had distanced itself from the problem of the increasing number of permits granted in the state.

Harris said "making physicians accountable for who gets parking permits does not address the issue of the ever-increasing number of temporary or long-term permits in circulation."

According to the PVA, the number of parking permits jumped by nearly 75,000 between 1996 and 1999. In 1996, there were 124,975 four year permits issued. That

number jumped to 138,042 in 1997 and 143,190 in 1998.

Harris said the doctors, in order to keep patients, are not willing to say 'no' to applications for parking permits.

"What we're saying is the new rules have worked down the line," Harris said. "There should not be this many permits being issued."

Boyd said any other reforms on the parking permit issue would have to come through a legislative body. The Secretary of State noted that they only issue the permits and are not required to investigate why the number of permit applica-

tions continue to rise.

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## Novi Theatre will perform Music Man

Continued from 1

man who, in order to sell band instruments, convinces the innocent citizens of sleepy River City, Iowa that he can teach their children to play in a magnificent marching band. He tries to make a score by creating a need for band instruments and uniforms. In addition to the instruments and uniforms, he sells music lessons in advance, concealing the fact that he cannot read or play a note of music. In the process, he galvanizes the town out of its torpor and falls in love with the local librarian/music teacher.

The score features such familiar songs as "Seventy-six Trombones," and "Till There Was You," and spirited musical choreography by Carrie Wickert.

With outstanding set design and beautiful costumes, the cast of 76 includes actors ranging in age from 7 to 85.

"It's really a family show with all sorts of people from the community—your family, your friends, and your neighbors," Landry said, who co-stars with her entire family of five. "The play has really come together extremely well and everyone is sure to love it. We're really excited."

Rosmond, who is starring in his first Novi Theatre production, said he has been pleasantly surprised by the warmth and dedication of the entire cast and crew.

"This is a real tight group, and I think that it will shine through during the performances," Rosmond said.

The Music Man begins Friday, March 2 at 7:30 p.m. at the Novi Civic Center with shows continuing March 3 at 7:30 p.m., March 4 at 3 p.m., March 9 and 10 at 7:30 p.m., and with its last performance on March 11 at 3 p.m.

Tickets are now on sale and cost



Photo by STEPHANIE FORDYCE

Cast members run through a dress rehearsal last week.

\$15. All seats reserved. "We've put a lot of time and energy into this and the show is going to be fantastic," Wickert said. "It's really professional theater in your own backyard."

Wicket and the Friends of the Novi Theatres would like to thank JCK & Associates, Inc. and Jack Demmer Ford for their generous donations of \$5,000 to help the

atre purchase miles and pay bills. For more information on The Music Man, call the Novi Parks & Recreation Department at (248) 347-0400.

Stephanie Fordyce is a staff writer for the Novi News. She may be reached at sfordyce@ht.homecomm.net.

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Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the home towns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.

Give audiences time to speak

It is a well known fact that the Novi City Council meetings run extremely late into the evening. We also agree that perimeters for audience participating could help the extensive council agenda to move along quicker.

What needs to be stressed is the type of language used in the council meetings. Vulgarities do not need to be tolerated. I am reminded of a saying that hangs in a local courtroom, 'the mayor said, "Judge me not by the manner of my speech but by the justice of my cause."

Perhaps the council could limit the number of times a particular resident can come up to speak. If your point hasn't been made on the second stint at the podium, it gives the impression of a debate.

Even the most humble among us are able to discern between vulgarities and wise discourse. Common sense should prevail in the council meetings.

As a newspaper, the Novi News believes whole-heartedly in the freedom of speech. And maybe all is needed is a few editorials like this one to let everyone know needs to be the voice of reason in the council chambers.

Perhaps the council could limit the number of times a particular resident can come up to speak. If your point hasn't been made on the second try, it gives the impression of a debate.

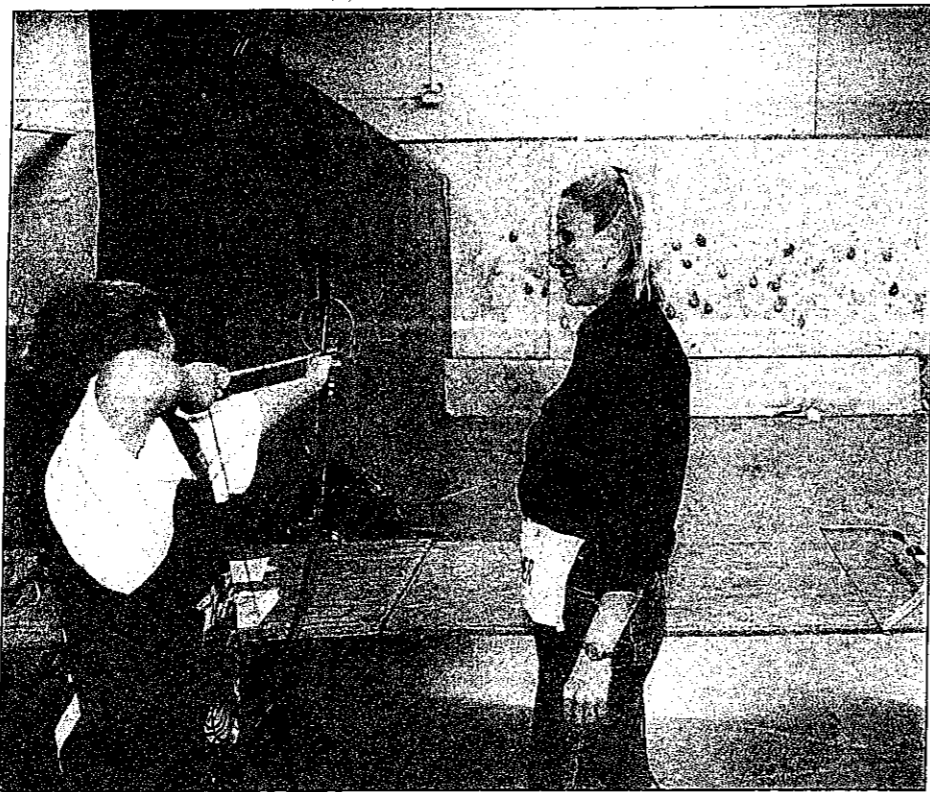
As a newspaper, the Novi News believes whole-heartedly in the freedom of speech. And maybe all is needed is a few editorials like this one to let everyone know needs to be the voice of reason in the council chambers.

Clark quoted the late President Harry Truman who said, "If I can't stand the heat, you don't belong in the kitchen."

GOVERNMENT

Per reader request, we have compiled a list so you can get in touch with your local and regional senators and representatives. Their accessibility allows you as readers to voice your concerns directly and allows them to better represent their districts. If you feel you have missed anyone, contact us at (248) 349-1700, ext. 113.

- UNITED STATES SENATE
MICHIGAN SENATE
Carl Levin (D-Detroit)
Bill Bullard Jr. (R-Highland)
Nancy Cassis (R-Novi)
Hugh Crawford (R-Novi)
Nancy Dingeldey (R-Wixom)
Joe Knollenberg (R-Bloomfield)



Kathleen Hartwell of the Lenawee Conservation League helps Jameson Forshoe, 10, with some archery tips at the MUCC Outdoorama at the Novi Expo Center last Friday.

LETTERS

Personal responsibility should be accepted

A letter printed last week from a Novi News reader has prompted me to write this response. The reader was criticizing the amount of time spent by police officers to write traffic citations.

Other crimes such as burglary, child molestation, and shop lifting, as mentioned by this reader, can only be reacted to after the fact.

Tim Saumiller
Novi
Why has there not yet been an election of officers on the new Planning Commission? Certainly we had to wait long enough for two new commissioners.

New officers need to be elected

Why has there not yet been an election of officers on the new Planning Commission? Certainly we had to wait long enough for two new commissioners.

Hugh Crawford (R-Novi)
Nancy Dingeldey (R-Wixom)
Joe Knollenberg (R-Bloomfield)

Research for sex ed class available

There is a controversy in Novi regarding the ninth grade sex education curriculum. There has been name-calling and finger pointing which serves no useful purpose.

Taxes are a dark burden for Novi residents

The long-term financial health of the city is awful important to everyone from a Novi homeowner to the owner of a business in Twelve Oaks Mall.

Share your opinions

There are always strange stories that appear in print or on the TV news. But did you hear the one about the \$10,000 dog?

Letters to the Editor
Keili Cooley
Novi News
104 W. Main St.
Northville, MI 48167

Phil Power

Phil Power is chairman of HomeTown Communications Network Inc., the company that owns this newspaper.

Don't change OMA; ban firings

Art Ellis, Michigan's outgoing Superintendent of Public Instruction, was awarded the 2000 National Education Leadership Award.

Media went overboard on story about lost dog; \$10,000 reward

There are always strange stories that appear in print or on the TV news. But did you hear the one about the \$10,000 dog?

Mike Malott

Mike Malott reports on the local implications of state and regional events. He can be reached by phone at (248) 634-8219 or by e-mail at mmalott@homecomm.net.

Another education reform deal

Tongues — especially Democratic ones — are wrangling about how newly-elected President George W. Bush has hit the ground running in the first few weeks in office.

Consistent with his campaign, he made education reform a big theme, delivering an extensive message to the Congress, holding bipartisan meetings with Senators and Representatives, visiting classrooms and so forth.

For what it's worth, here are a few observations from a Michigan perspective on the President's views on education.

But Bush seems to assume the only failing schools are public ones and the only vouchers to be handed out are those to get kids into private and parochial schools.

Now, advocates of private schools can point out — rightly — that the Constitution prohibits governmental interference in private schools.

As a practical matter, most public schools in Michigan are pretty good and getting better. The bad ones are mostly concentrated in inner city districts.

Phil Power is chairman of HomeTown Communications Network Inc., the company that owns this newspaper. He welcomes your comments, either by phone at (734) 953-2047, ext. 1880, or by e-mail at ppower@homecomm.net.

What concerns me about the Bush proposals on education reform is that they mask the main issue: money, taxpayer money, Private and parochial schools want it. Politicians want them to have it.

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Brighton store lets the Creative Side out

By David M. Aguilar

STAFF WRITER

Each week, HomeTown Newspapers will be delving into the pages of its own classified sections, discovering tales of promise, misfortune and opportunity.

For all the aspiring artists of the world, individuals just dying to make a splash on paper or on canvas, Brighton is the place you need to go.

The Creative Side, a Brighton-based art supply and framing store owned by Donna and Carl Engstrom, hold a variety of day and night art classes in their store five days per week.

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fun of it," he said. "For some people, this is the only chance they get to paint because they are so busy during the week. They will come here and be around people they've gotten to know and just have a good time. It is therapeutic for a lot of people, even therapists."

Engstrom said the most popular classes are oil, acrylic and water color painting, classes through he said none of the class curricula has yet rubbed off on him.

"Donna is the artist," he said of his wife who currently has 20 paintings hanging in the Howell Chamber of Commerce. "I am only a helper. I do our framing. That's how I learn my keep. She teaches the classes, and people really have a good time with it."

And so why is it that none of that art intellect has been passed, even by osmosis, to him?

"Between my framing and my golf game, who has the time to walk in the front door," Carl Engstrom rhetorically asked, chuckling.

Classes range in price, Engstrom said, but registration can be completed in-person, over the phone or on the Internet. (www.thecreativeside.com). The Creative Side is located in Brighton inside Taorelli's marketplace. They can be reached at (810) 223-9244.

There is much to be found in the pages of HomeTown's Classified section — the Green Sheet. Turn to section D of this paper to find out more. To place any ad, big or small, call the Green Sheet Classified toll free at (888) 993-1288.

David M. Aguilar is a reporter for the Detroit Free Press. He can be reached at (248) 688-1507 or by e-mail at daguilar@homecomm.net.

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# Walsh offers classes for working students

Continued from 1

"One thing we're really proud of is that, as far as technology, we have a lot of things the other colleges don't," Diamond said.

These include Picture Tel which allows students and teachers from the Troy campus and the Novi campus to interact, LCD projectors, and the Smartboard which allows instructors to teach on a computer using a wide screen placed in front of the class.

"Basically, the Smartboard allows you to do anything you'd normally do with a mouse, but instead you touch the screen," Diamond explained. "Instructors like it because they can prepare a lecture beforehand using word or power point and navigate the Internet without hiding behind a computer."

With the Smartboard, the class can even write on the screen with special markers.

Aside from its classroom technologies, Walsh offers a full electronic library with over 30,000 items and 70 accessible databases.

"The college has invested a lot of money in research databases, which most of our students use," Diamond said. "We have a number of databases in which students can access full journal articles, business statistics, investment reports, portfolios, and even quarter/annual reports."

Diamond said another thing that sets Walsh apart from most other colleges is their faculty.

"Most are professionals cur-

"The college has invested a lot of money in research databases, which most of our students use. We have a number of databases in which students can access full journal articles, business statistics, etc..."

Holly Diamond  
Public Relations Director, Novi

rently working in the areas that they teach, so our staff really brings a unique insight into the classroom," she said.

Diamond explained that Walsh offers the last two years of bachelor degree studies as well as eight master's degree programs.

The Novi Campus offers the Bachelor of Accountancy, The Walsh MBA, a Master of Science in Finance, a Master of Science in Management and a Master of Science in Leadership Innovation.

In addition, many of the courses necessary to complete the Master of Science in Professional Accountancy and the core requirements for all Walsh College undergraduate

degree programs are offered. Because most of Walsh's students work full-time, classes are offered in the evenings, weekends, as well as online.

The college's main campus is located in Troy, with two University Centers at St. Clair County Community College and Macomb Community College.

Diamond explained that students can even combine two years of study at a community college with two years at Walsh and still earn a Walsh College degree.

The college offers the final two years of study toward two degrees and students who transfer to Walsh need to have a minimum of 60 semester credit hours and a maximum of 82 semester credit hours, Diamond said.

Walsh accepts applications year-round, with spring semester beginning March 30 while summer semester beginning April 30. Registration begins February 19, for the 11-week spring semester, and March 19 for its 14 week summer semester.

The Walsh College Novi Campus is located north of Eleven Mile Road, off of Meadowbrook Road on Gardenbrook.

For more information about Walsh College call 248-349-5454.

Stephanie Fordyce is a staff writer for the Novi News. She may be reached at sfordyce@ht.homecomm.net.



Walsh College administrative support staff member Beth Gierada demonstrates how Walsh students can hook up their laptops in the school's hallways. Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Novi is filled with people and places that stand out from the crowd. We want to know what readers think is head-and-shoulders above the rest. Take a few moments to make your nominations for the Best Of 2001.



Please check which newspaper this entry blank is coming from:

- Holly Herald
- Milford Times
- Northville Record
- Novi News
- South Lyon Herald
- Fenton Independent

- BEST FOOD TYPES**
- Appetizer \_\_\_\_\_
  - Dessert \_\_\_\_\_
  - Sandwich \_\_\_\_\_
  - Main dishes \_\_\_\_\_
  - Salad \_\_\_\_\_
  - Soup \_\_\_\_\_
  - Burger \_\_\_\_\_
  - Steak \_\_\_\_\_
  - Pizza \_\_\_\_\_
  - French fries \_\_\_\_\_
  - Ice cream \_\_\_\_\_

- BEST SERVICE PEOPLE**
- Bank teller \_\_\_\_\_
  - Teacher \_\_\_\_\_
  - Barber \_\_\_\_\_
  - Dentist \_\_\_\_\_
  - Car dealer \_\_\_\_\_
  - Doctor \_\_\_\_\_
  - Veterinarian \_\_\_\_\_
  - Hair stylist \_\_\_\_\_
  - Waiter \_\_\_\_\_
  - Waitress \_\_\_\_\_
  - Receptionist \_\_\_\_\_
  - Insurance agent \_\_\_\_\_
  - Chiropractor \_\_\_\_\_
  - Pharmacist \_\_\_\_\_
  - Florist \_\_\_\_\_
  - Police officer \_\_\_\_\_
  - Jeweler \_\_\_\_\_
  - Travel agent \_\_\_\_\_
  - Accountant \_\_\_\_\_
  - Fast food employee \_\_\_\_\_
  - Librarian \_\_\_\_\_
  - Government employee \_\_\_\_\_
  - Elected official \_\_\_\_\_
  - Firefighter \_\_\_\_\_
  - Snow removal person \_\_\_\_\_

- BEST SPECIALTY RESTAURANTS**
- Italian food \_\_\_\_\_
  - Family restaurant \_\_\_\_\_
  - Fast food chain \_\_\_\_\_
  - Quality dining \_\_\_\_\_
  - Coffee shop \_\_\_\_\_
  - Bar \_\_\_\_\_
  - Bakery \_\_\_\_\_

- BEST MEDIA OUTLETS**
- Television station \_\_\_\_\_
  - News reporter \_\_\_\_\_
  - Radio station \_\_\_\_\_
  - Radio personality \_\_\_\_\_

- BEST SHOPPING LOCATIONS**
- Appliances \_\_\_\_\_
  - Bargain \_\_\_\_\_
  - Strip mall \_\_\_\_\_
  - Video store \_\_\_\_\_
  - Hardware \_\_\_\_\_
  - Bookstore \_\_\_\_\_
  - Men's store \_\_\_\_\_
  - Women's store \_\_\_\_\_
  - Shoe store \_\_\_\_\_
  - Lawn equipment \_\_\_\_\_
  - Specialty shop or gift shop \_\_\_\_\_
  - Pharmacy \_\_\_\_\_
  - Furniture \_\_\_\_\_
  - Auto parts \_\_\_\_\_
  - Carpet \_\_\_\_\_
  - Home improvement or lumber \_\_\_\_\_
  - Grocery \_\_\_\_\_
  - Music Store \_\_\_\_\_
  - Auto dealership \_\_\_\_\_

- MISCELLANEOUS BEST-OFs**
- High school varsity sports team \_\_\_\_\_
  - Local band \_\_\_\_\_
  - Rock 'n' roll club / bar \_\_\_\_\_
  - Place to take a date \_\_\_\_\_
  - Most romantic location \_\_\_\_\_
  - Movie theater \_\_\_\_\_
  - Hotel / motel \_\_\_\_\_
  - Place to have fun \_\_\_\_\_
  - Beach \_\_\_\_\_
  - Golf course \_\_\_\_\_
  - Park \_\_\_\_\_
  - Festival \_\_\_\_\_

- BEST SERVICE OUTLETS**
- Bank \_\_\_\_\_
  - Gas station or quick mart \_\_\_\_\_
  - Hair salon \_\_\_\_\_
  - Insurance agency \_\_\_\_\_
  - Internet provider \_\_\_\_\_

**CONTEST RULES**

1. Original newspaper entry blanks must be used. Photocopies or facsimiles cannot be accepted.
2. All entries must include the entrant's name, address, daytime telephone number and signature. Incomplete entry blanks will not be counted.
3. Employees and relatives of HomeTown Newspapers are not eligible to enter.
4. All entries must be received no later than noon, March 15, 2001. Entries may also be dropped off in person at the offices of the Fenton Independent, Holly Herald, Milford Times, Northville Record, Novi News or South Lyon Herald. Results of the polling will be announced in a special HomeTown Newspapers supplement.
5. Nominees must be located within the community served by the Novi News. Each community's winners recognized separately.
6. Mailed entries should be sent to:

Novi News  
c/o Kelli Cooley, editor  
104 W. Main Street  
Northville, Mich. 48167  
(248) 349-1700



## Community Events

**JEAN BRADLEY TO SPEAK**  
Roses-West Rose Society of Novi is hosting Jean Bradley of Bay City, an American Rose Society Horticultural and Arrangements Judge, on Friday, March 2 at 7:30 p.m. at the Novi Civic Center. Her presentation will be "How to Make Arrangements with Roses." This free program will also include a social hour.

For those new to the area, the address of the Novi Civic Center is 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, (248) 347-0400.

**NOVI PRESCHOOL OPEN**

**HOUSE**  
The Novi Co-Op Preschool will be having its Open House on March 10 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. It is located at 41671 Ten Mile Road in the Novi United Methodist Church. Bring your child to explore our classroom and meet the teachers. This is also a good opportunity for you to ask questions about what a Co-op is all about.

The Open House is the first date that open enrollment begins for the school year of 2001-2002. Class sizes are limited to 15 for the threes, and 16 for the

four's. Please be aware that enrollment is filled on a first come, first serve basis. For more information, please contact Karrie Nye at 960-8988 or Tracy Nesler at 734-513-2841.

**NOVI NEWCOMERS AND NEIGHBORS GIFT AND CRAFT AUCTION**

A silent and live auction will be held by the Novi Newcomers and Neighbors on March 24 starting at 7 p.m. at Village Oaks Club House. Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres will be served. All are welcome. Reservations: 380-9244.

NUMBER SIX

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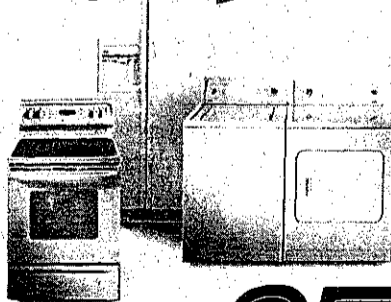
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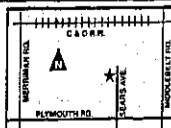
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Novi wrestler Andrew Becker (152) gets rough with an opponent in a match earlier in the year. The 'Cats beat Troy and West Bloomfield to win the regional title.

Photo by JOHN HEIDER

# Wildcats set sights on states

Novi bests West Bloomfield for regional championship

By COLBY J. CAVALIERE  
Sports Editor

Great expectations are tough for any team to live up to, and often those expectations cause a team to crumble.

The Novi wrestling team has been under pressure since day one of the wrestling season and has flourished rather than crumble with the added stress.

With a KVC co-championship in their pocket and a district championship banner on the wall, the Wildcats added a regional championship when they took down West Bloomfield 49-18 on Feb. 21.

Before they faced West Bloomfield, they first had to take care of Troy in the first round. And take care of them they did. Novi opened the match with wins by Craig Hearn (103), Josh Churella

"We lost a few that we could have and should have won"

Brad Huss  
Novi wrestling coach

"We wrestled very well, but we lost a few close ones that we could have and should have won," said Novi coach Brad Huss.

After Troy, came West Bloomfield, with the right to go on to the state playoffs up for grabs. Once again, when the pressure was on and the spotlight the brightest, Novi put up a terrific performance handily winning by 30 points.

Hearn, J. Churella, R. Churella, Muldoon, Ong, and Stallard all repeated their first round victories. Corey Nobach (119), Vince Sloan (160) and Scott Kortlandt (171) joined their teammates, and made up the 10 Wildcat wins.

With the win, Novi became one of eight teams to advance to the Division 1 state playoffs in Battle

Continued on 2

# 'Cats third in region

With a third place finish in the cheer regionals on Feb. 24, the Lady Wildcat's season came to an end.

Novi started out with a twist in a great round one. The Lady Wildcats made a change to one of the required jumps in this round to try and get a jumpstart on the competition, but coach Amy Denys had her concerns.

"I was worried that someone would execute the wrong jump because we had never performed the change before. However, the girls had no problem remembering the new part and the cheer was performed without a flaw," she said.

After round one, the team was in second place behind Brighton with a score of 177.

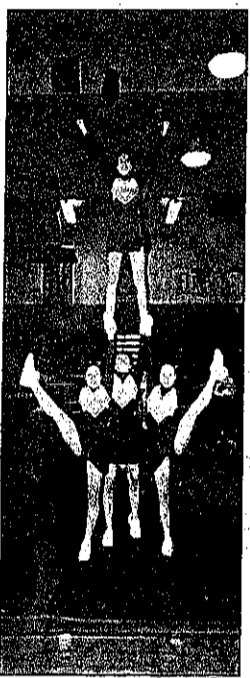
"I was so proud of the girls after this round. All of their efforts came shining through in this cheer. They really showed what a great team they have become over the past several months. Their energy and exuberance were second to none," Denys said.

As it has been for parts of the season, their second round was again the team's weak point.

"Our walkover skill really hurts us. We have been struggling all season with this portion and once again it played against us," Denys said.

Besides being Novi's most difficult round, the team suffered an injury earlier in the week that impacted the cheer. Denys was forced to replace Junior Lindsey Broadwell with Senior Eve Costlow.

"Eve had never performed a



Submitted Photo  
And the cutline goes here for the inside...

walkover in a cheer but pulled through for her team and did an outstanding job on Saturday," Denys said.

Unfortunately, the team's walkovers were not precise enough to gain them the points needed to beat Ladywood or Brighton in the round. Brighton's total had jumped to 199 points, Ladywood's 183.5 and Novi's 168.5. The subpar round by the 'Cats allowed Ladywood to leapfrog them into second place.

But Novi rebounded and had the best third round of the season. The team finished with a score of 255.5 only 10 points behind Brighton

Continued on 2

# Icers lock up KVC championship

Netminding by Goodman, late goal by Haberman give 'Cats the KVC

By COLBY J. CAVALIERE  
SPORTS EDITOR

For the most of the last two seasons, the Novi hockey team has been on the top of the KVC hill. Last year they stood atop the conference with Brighton, but this season, after thwarting the many attempts at their perch, the Wildcats stand alone.

After beating Howell 4-3 last Wednesday, Novi wrapped up the KVC championship, and capped off an amazing 20-win season.

"Everyone wants a piece of you when you are on top," said Novi coach Dan Phelps. "We had to come out and play hard every game, and being able to have the KVC to ourselves this year is a great feeling."

Facing a fast, daring team, the 'Cats needed to be on top of their mental and physical game to avoid a slip-up.

"We got hurt ourselves in the KVC by losing a close one to Milford. We knew we controlled our own destiny, so the kids came out fired up, and hungry, knowing a win would give us the title," Phelps said.

Both teams came out on top of their games, with Howell jumping out to a 1-0 lead. Justin Collins netted the answering goal, and before the first period could expire, Robbie Harrell would tap in a rebound to give the 'Cats a 2-1 lead after one.

Brian Jausst made the score 3-1 with a goal early in the second, and Novi looked to be on their way to duplicating an early season 13-2 destruction of the Highlanders, but Howell had other plans. Perhaps spurred on by the opportunity to

"Everyone wants a piece of you when you are on top."

Dan Phelps  
Novi head coach

## FINAL KVC STANDINGS

- Novi 13-1
- Brighton 12-2
- Howell 9-5
- Milford 8-6
- Lakeland 7-7
- South Lyon 3-11
- Hartland 3-11
- Pinckney 1-12

play the spoiler, Howell attacked swiftly, scoring two goals to tie the game at 3-3, out-shooting Novi 21-8 in the period.

The tense game got even more nail-biting in the third with both goalies filling the net. With minutes to go a costly penalty gave Novi a man advantage, and they made it count. Adam Haberman, on a pass from KVC scoring champion Brad Zarem, proved to be the game — and conference-winning — goal for the 'Cats.

The Wildcats finished the regular season 20-3-1, and set a school record for wins. But all that meant nothing when the Division II regional playoffs kicked off last night. After upsetting South Lyon



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Novi's Adam Haberman lines up an opposing player near the boards in an earlier season game.

in the first round, Pinckney advanced on to play Novi last night. Results of that contest were not available at press time.

Tomorrow night the regional finals will be held at Novi Ice Arena at 7:30 p.m., with the winner advancing on to Flint to partici-

pate in the Division two state tournament.

Colby Cavaliere is the sports editor of the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104.



# Big Rapids Champions

Novi's Midget House Hockey Team won the championship of the Big Rapids Area Invitational Tournament held on Feb. 9, 10, 11. Novi competed against several local teams, outscoring them 21-7. Pictured above is: Evan Bavarskas, Jonathan Beavis, Marcus Brodfuhrer, Danny Brenikowski, Matthewe Harsha-Strong, Matt Herbert, Stephen Karaisz, Ray Kennedy, Nathan Kuhn, Brandon Kummer, Valdis Lenss, Steven McCrumb, Lawrence Mills, Nick Popravsky, Michael Ward, and Matt Winkei.

# Early March brings second season for most Novi teams

By COLBY J. CAVALIERE  
SPORTS EDITOR

After a season of highs and lows the slate is wiped clean when many post-season tournaments get into full swing next week.

The Wildcat basketball team looks to stay hot, and continue their winning ways when their district tournament kicks off on March 5.

After their regional victory, the wrestling quad became one of eight teams vying for the state championship. Also going for individual titles are Josh Churella, J.R. Muldoon, and Ryan Churella.

After an up and down year the volleyball squad will look to shake things up in the district tournament on March 3rd, while the Hockey and Gymnastics teams hope to uphold high expectations after winning their league championships.

Colby Cavaliere is the Sports Editor of the Novi News. He can be reached at 349-1700, ext. 104.

## NOVI HIGH SCHOOL POST-SEASON SCHEDULE

■ District, Regional, and State playoff schedule:

Basketball: Districts, @ Northville H.S., March 5.

Wrestling: State, @ Battle Creek Team: March 2, Indiv.: March 8.

Swimming: State, @ Pioneer, H.S., Ann Arbor, March 6.

Volleyball: District, @ Novi H.S., March 3rd.

Hockey: Regional Finals @ Novi Ice Arena, March 2.

Gymnastics: Regionals, @ Plymouth-Canton, March 3.

\*pending outcome of game on 2/28.

# Grapplers try for team and individual titles

**Continued from 1**  
Creek. The Wildcats join teams from Bay City West, Grandville, Temperance, Bedford, Detroit Catholic Central, Davison, Holt and Roseville to vie for the coveted state title.

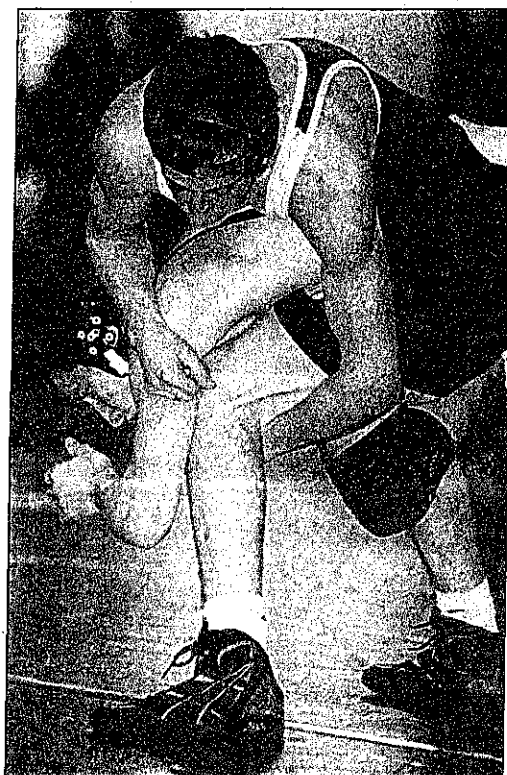
Novi will face off against 16-9-2 Roseville in the quarterfinals tomorrow at 3:15 p.m. Davison, a potential opponent down the line, is a familiar foe. Davison eliminated Novi from the state playoffs last year, and the two teams tied earlier this season. Temperance Bedford joins the ranks of teams that coach Huss leads are the favorites.

"I'd have to say we are one of the three teams to beat and I would be very disappointed if we didn't at least get to the semifinals," Huss said. "If we wrestle as good as we have been, we should do real well."

**INDIVIDUAL REGION RESULTS**  
After taking the team title and moving on to the states, three individuals became regional champions and earned themselves the right to wrestle in Battle Creek.

The first round of the Division I individual tournament is slated to start on March 8, at 3 p.m. in Battle Creek.

*Colby Cavaliere is the sports editor of the Novi News. He can be reached at 349-1700, ext. 104.*



Novi wrestler Matt Harsha-Strong on the back of his opponent in an attempt to get him to the mat.

## Junior Varsity Results

**NOVI JV BASKETBALL**  
**Overall Record: 13-5**  
**KVC Record: 8-4**  
The Novi Junior Varsity basketball team finished its home schedule early this year, and must play the remainder of its games on the road. But that didn't stop the young Wildcats from posting two more victories last week.

The team first traveled to Hartland and beat the Eagles, 58-31. The first game between the teams came down to the last minute of the game before the Wildcats won. This game was over early, as the Cats defense held the Eagles to 20 points through three quarters. All of the players saw some significant game time. Novi had 10 of their 11 players score in the game. Shaun Dicken led the Wildcats with 17 points, and Brad Simpson clipped in eight points.

The Wildcats then traveled to Milford to face an always tough and well-coached Redskin team. In the first contest of the season, Milford beat Novi, but the Wildcats have continued to improve and handed the league-leading Redskins a very sound loss on their home court this time around.

At the end of the first quarter, Novi found themselves down 11, but cut that lead to five at the half. In the second half the Cats roared out to 21-4 third quarter advantage, and the game never got any closer, as the Wildcats held at least a 10-point lead the rest of the game. It was a great team effort with a defense that shut down the offensive threats of the Redskins.

Chris Lewis led the Wildcats in the third quarter. He hit several key baskets and finished the game with 18 points. Dicken had 14, and Simpson tossed in eight.

The team now sports a 13-5 overall record, and has two games remaining in order to reach their third straight 14-win season. Coach Bill Kelp has lead his team to 14-6, and 18-2 records in the past two seasons.

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# Cheerleaders wrap up season with third place

**Continued from 1**  
and 5.5 behind Ladywood.

All in all, it was a successful afternoon for the team. With a total score of 601, the Lady Wildcats earned a third place finish, just behind second place Ladywood, who scored 620. Brighton won the region with a score of 656.

The girls were very proud of their performance. "We had said that there would be no regrets if the girls had their best performance yet. The team definitely outdid themselves which made for a great ending to a long hard season," Denys said.

At the conclusion of the year, Lindsey Cook, Eve Costlow and Jaimee Reunum will become Denys' first graduating seniors at Novi High School.

"I have been coaching for the past four years at Novi and these three girls have remained in the program the entire time. They are my first graduating seniors to have completed all four of their years under my supervision. They have set the stage for years to come and the many girls that will precede them. All three girls have been great team leaders each in their own individual way."

The Cats placed second with a total of 605 points. Although their scores were slightly higher than the previous week, Denys was hoping for more visible improvement in the numbers.

"It is frustrating for the team when they feel that they have made progress and the scores do not show this growth. For example, our round one performance (jump round) was one of the best of the season yet our scores were nearly the same as the week before (at Ladywood)."

In fact, they were one point lower. It is nearly impossible to associate improvement with scores in competitive cheer. From week to week teams perform for a different panel of judges. Opinions differ, thus, making the officiating seem inconsistent. Additionally, judges have been known to score easier at the beginning of the season and become tougher as the season progresses again making scores seem stagnant. Novi fell just short of first place, which was taken by Allen Park with a score of 607.5.

"Allen Park is a strong team and the girls felt accomplished coming within a few points of their score," Denys said.

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Wildcat senior captain Jim Cavan looks for a passing lane between the arms of a defender. Cavan and the Wildcats are heating up as the regular season winds down.



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# Wildcats continue to heat up, win two more

**BY COLBY J. CAVALIERE**  
Sports Editor

When a team doesn't have a superstar they can lean on in tight games, they depend on executing the basic fundamentals to win—including free throw shooting.

The Wildcats fit that mold perfectly in their 55-50 win over Milford on Feb. 29, scoring nearly half their total on free throws - 74% (23-32) shooting from the line.

Down 23-20 at the half, Novi scratched their way back, outscoring the Redskins by 12 in the third quarter to take a nine-point lead. In the fourth quarter Milford tried desperately to fight its way back, sending the Wildcats to the line time and time again hoping Novi's hot shooting would turn cold.

But they should have known better. As they have most of the year, the Wildcats held off any and all Redskin rallies by performing free-throw after free-throw in the fourth. In fact, the Cats only

scored one hoop in the final quarter, scoring the rest from the line. A few desperation shots by Milford in the final seconds got them close, but in the end they fell short, 55-50.

"In the second half we really pounded the ball inside and got some of their guys in foul trouble," said Novi coach Pat Schlueter. "In the fourth quarter, they kept sending us to the line, but we did a good job of converting our shots from there."

Senior center Eric Messink was the newest player to lead the team in scoring with 18 points. Fellow senior Jim Cavan had 11, with underclassmen Matt Emmenecker and Jamie Schram combining for 15.

The win was the third in a row for the Wildcats, all of them coming on the road. Their record now stands at 11-7 for the season, with Tuesday night's game - after the throw after free-throw - against KVC leader Pinckney yet to be factored

in. The team will wrap up its regular season on the road March 2 in Howell at 7 p.m.

"The team is getting confident, and if we can get healthy and keep our momentum going, I think we can have ourselves a good postseason," Schlueter said.

**DISTRICTS**  
District play will kick off on Tuesday, March 5, with all games being held at Northville High School. The draw was held on Tuesday evening, but the results were not available at press time. The following teams make up District 25, Class A:

Canion-Plymouth Salem  
Detroit-Henry Ford  
Livonia-Churchill  
Northville  
Novi  
Plymouth Canton

*Colby Cavaliere is the sports editor of the Novi News. He can be reached at 349-1700, ext. 104.*

# Local youth gets chance to skate with Scott Hamilton

**BY COLBY J. CAVALIERE**  
Sports Editor

On Feb. 10, 12-year-old Greg Zuerlein was chosen to represent the Detroit Skating Club in a Stars on Ice performance at the Palace of Auburn Hills.

The Stars on Ice tour has bounced around, performing in venues all over the country, and its former Olympian Scott Hamilton's farewell tour, as well. In each city a young male skater is selected from a local club to play the role of a young Hamilton in a specially-choreographed skit. Zuerlein, a Northville resident, was hand-picked to play Hamilton, and got a chance to skate alongside some of the biggest names in professional figure skating, including Tara Lipinski, Kirk Browning, Kristi Yamaguchi and Steve Cousins.

Zuerlein, a junior-nationals

"...But then I relaxed and became excited because I knew I could do it..."

Greg Zuerlein  
12-year old junior national skater

competitor, and member of the United States Figure Skating member participated with Hamilton in a 45 second piece in front of a capacity crowd of 20,000.

"When I was first chosen to skate with Scott I was really nervous."

"But then I relaxed and became excited, because I knew I could do it, and I am used to skating in front of crowds that big," said the young skater.

Zuerlein, who practices many hours a week, first began skating

when he was four years old at the Plymouth Cultural Center, and is currently coached by Allen Schram of the Detroit Skating Club. Through the years Zuerlein has competed in several junior national competitions, with the most recent taking place in Colorado in December.

Besides skating, Zuerlein also enjoys baseball and is a member of the Northville Thunder youth soccer team.

But his love remains figure skating, and he hopes the long hours of competitions and practice gain him a spot on the Olympic pedestal in the future.

"My goal is to skate in the Olympics one day," said Zuerlein.

*Colby Cavaliere is the sports editor of the Northville Record. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104.*

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<input type="checkbox"/> Chocolat	<input type="checkbox"/> Javier Bardem Before Night Falls	<input type="checkbox"/> Judi Dench Chocolat	<input type="checkbox"/> Jeff Bridges The Contender	<input type="checkbox"/> Amores Perros
<input type="checkbox"/> Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon	<input type="checkbox"/> Russell Crowe Gladiator	<input type="checkbox"/> Meeta Gray Shadow of the Panther	<input type="checkbox"/> William Dafoe Shadow of the Panther	<input type="checkbox"/> Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon
<input type="checkbox"/> Erin Brockovich	<input type="checkbox"/> Tom Hanks Cast Away	<input type="checkbox"/> Benicio Del Toro Traffic	<input type="checkbox"/> Albert Finney Eye for an Eye	<input type="checkbox"/> Divided We Fall
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Official Rules: No purchase necessary to play. Additional entry blanks are available at the Novi Town Center 8 Theater, 26045 Town Center Dr., Novi. Only one entry per person please. All entries must be received by Friday, March 2, 2001 by 5:00 p.m. In the event of a tie, a random drawing of correct entries will establish winners. Winners will be notified by phone. Employees of Hometown Newspapers and Novi Town Center 8 and their families are not eligible to win.

# HEALTH

B-4

Colby Cavallere Editor 248-349-1700

Thursday, March 1, 2001

## Eating disorders strike teens

EATING DISORDERS: MOST DEADLY MENTAL ILLNESS FOR TEENS

Teri Outlette just wanted to lose a little weight. So the high school student started to exercise a little more. She joined the track team — just for fun and after the first season she just kept running throughout the year.

"I started out as me just wanting to get better for the next track season," Outlette said. "And then I wanted to lose weight, and lose more weight. I'd ignore my body when I'd say it was hungry."

When she finally went to the doctor, she was 98 pounds. And her mom, Robin said Teri was confused, indecisive and would "cry at the drop of a hat."

Teri Outlette is one of an estimated 5 million American men and women who may suffer from the psychiatric illnesses anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa and binge-eating disorders, according to the American Anorexia Bulimia Association.

During National Eating Disorders Awareness Week, Feb. 25 through March 4, physicians and researchers at the University of Michigan Health System are encouraging everyone to learn and recognize the signs of eating disorders and make sure loved ones find the help that they need to get better, including a new counseling program at the U-M.

"Eating disorders kill people," said Dr. David Rosen, director of the Teenage and Young Adult Health program and clinical associate professor of pediatrics and communicable diseases at the U-M Health System. "I think that in the public's view of mental health conditions, many people think depression kills more people because they commit suicide, or that schizophrenia kills people because people who are psychotic sometimes do very dangerous things. The reality is that eating disorders kill more people than all of the other mental health conditions combined."

Contrary to what some may think, Rosen said eating disorders are much more common now than they have been in the past.

"We're not sure exactly why that is, whether or not we're just finding them better or whether they actually are increasing in frequency over

what they have been in the past," he said.

The two most common eating disorders are anorexia nervosa and bulimia nervosa. Anorexia nervosa is marked by the desire for thinness — sufferers tend to believe they are overweight even though they may be very thin. Anorexia nervosa tends to afflict younger women. The books say 14 years old, but we're seeing them at ages 10, 11, 12, 13, and then we see anorexia again start showing up at around age 18," Rosen said.

Bulimia nervosa, sometimes called the binge/purge syndrome, is a disorder in which a person eats compulsively and then eliminates the food through vomiting, laxatives, fasting or excessive exercise. Bulimia nervosa tends to afflict older teenagers around the ages of 17 and 18, Rosen said.

New research is showing that eating disorders may arise, at least in part, due to a person's genes. "Some people are actually predisposed to the development of eating disorders," Rosen said. "The pathway by which any one person develops an eating disorder is going to be unique. It's going to be based on genetic factors, family factors, personality factors. And then, of course, I don't want to exclude the role that culture, culture and the media play in purporting a thin ideal that is unachievable, but that young women aspire towards."

Early signs and symptoms that someone has an eating disorder may include starting to count calories and fat grams or eliminating certain classes of food altogether such as fast or carbohydrates. Later signs may include obvious weight loss, the need to go to the bathroom after every meal, a dramatic and obvious changes in eating habits, and choosing not to eat around others anymore.

"By the time patients are having symptoms, by the time they're complaining of dizziness, of hair

loss, of dry skin or constipation, by the time somebody's menstrual periods are gone, that's already too late," Rosen said. "That's somebody whose body has already started to show the signs of severe malnutrition and who we wish we could have gotten to sooner."

If you're concerned you or someone you know may have an eating disorder, find professional help to sort things out, said Rosen. If you know for sure that someone has an eating disorder, seek out assistance because it is likely to progress. The longer the eating disorder is present, the harder it is to provide effective treatment, he added.

Currently underway at the U-M Women's Identity Intervention Program is a research project designed to test a new type of counseling to decrease symptoms of

anorexia nervosa or bulimia nervosa and to improve health and well-being in women with these disorders. For more information about the study, call (800) 742-2300, ext. 2200.

"Many of the folks who go on to develop eating disorders start out in pursuit of some health goal, whether it's weight reduction or a healthier diet," Rosen said. "What suggests an eating disorder is when those efforts start to be maladaptive, when those efforts start to make you feel worse instead of better, when those efforts get out of control, or when you feel like you've lost control over what's happening to you."

Teri Outlette knows those feelings. She would do exercises every night before bed, "and I felt like I have to do it, and if I didn't, I'd feel really bad about myself. I was really stressed out all the time. I started not wanting to hang out with my friends. I felt really tired and I was really sore from running so much. I felt really weak and my head felt cloudy all the time."

She knew she had a problem when everyone else around her was eating and drinking and, for some reason, her body kept telling her she couldn't have it. "I started thinking it was unfair, and I want-

ed it, so that's kind of what made me think I had a problem."

Outlette finally went to Rosen who assured her that she did have an eating disorder. Help from Rosen as well as a therapist has given Outlette her life back.

"I feel great now," she said. "I will eat anything. If my friends want to go out for pizza, I'll go out. I have 5 or 6 more friends now. I don't feel as withdrawn and I actually, I can pay attention to things now."

Rosen hopes that National Eating Disorders Awareness Week makes people realize that eating disorders are a real problem, that the problem often goes unrecognized, and that it doesn't get a lot of attention because people are ashamed of it.

"We really count on parents, on brothers and sisters, on friends, on boyfriends and girlfriends," Rosen said. "To help identify those who may be at risk and work towards, in a very loving way, getting them the help that they need to get better."

For more information, call Telecare at (800) 742-2300, category 1010. This information will be available Feb. 26 through March 4.

**Facts About Eating Disorders**

- Experts say that the key issue in anorexia nervosa is not food, but is more directly related to the person's desire for attention or approval. People who develop the binge/purge pattern of bulimia tend to be perfectionists who strive to please others.
- Eating disorders go beyond the extremes of anorexia, bulimia and binge eating disorder. Dangerous fat diets are also widespread in this country, according to the American Anorexia Bulimia Association.
- Treatments for eating disorders may include medication, psychotherapy, nutritional counseling, group therapy or family therapy. In some cases, hospitalization may be recommended.

**University of Michigan Health System. For more information, call Telecare at 1-800-742-2300, category 1010. This information will be available Feb. 26 through March 4.**

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## More and more turn to contacts

Despite increased competition from laser eye surgeries, soft contact lens use grew 8 percent in the year 2000, according to research reported in Contact Lens Spectrum. The Contact Lens Council reports that there are now more than 34 million contact lens wearers in the U.S. alone, with more than 80 million worldwide.

Ed Seftling, executive director of the CLC is not surprised. The heavy advertising and marketing efforts of laser eye surgery practices have increased interest in alternatives to glasses," he said.

"We're hearing from everyone: manufacturers; eye care professionals; and consumers who call our information line or visit our

Website; people looking for alternatives are increasingly turning to contacts as the vision correction option of choice."

Eyecare professionals report that advertising may in fact be driving more patients into the exam room asking about laser eye surgery. However, they also suggest that many of their patients are opting for contacts instead, after learning about the risks, limitations, and costs associated with laser eye surgery. In August 2000, the Federal Trade Commission warned consumers about the increasing number of complaints about complications from laser eye surgery, and the failure of some ads to disclose

risks. Risks alone are not the only reason patients are switching to contacts. Bigger-age candidates, particularly those with early presbyopia (also known as "aging eyes"), are surprised to learn that even after laser eye surgery, they will likely continue to need glasses for reading or to compensate for the vision changes which occur around the age of 40.

According to Barry Weiner, an optometrist and advisor to the CLC, these patients are opting to forego expensive surgical procedures in favor of contact lenses. "With the newest contact lenses offering greater comfort, ease of use, and the ability to correct for

presbyopia and astigmatism, my patients are asking themselves whether the risks and cost of surgery are worth it. Increasingly, the answer is 'no,'" Weiner said.

Weiner also sees a growing interest in contact lens use among patients who have already had laser eye surgery. "When surgery doesn't achieve perfect vision for them, my patients are asking for contacts to compensate for over- or under-correction, rather than undergoing additional operations," Weiner said. "And because they like the way they look without glasses, they'll also choose contacts for presbyopia when their vision changes," he adds.

Not only is it easy and inexpensive to test for alkaline phosphatase, but the routine nature of the testing may allow for earlier detection of increased bone activity.

"It's important for women to know early that they could be facing the risk of bone loss, simply because there are behaviors that they can do to preserve bone," Lukacs said. "Certainly one would want to exercise, and eat a very balanced nutritious diet that incorporates calcium and vitamin D in the diet. But even though you've incorporated lifestyle changes, it's not going to prevent bone loss. But perhaps it will slow the rate."

Menopause is the time in a woman's life when the ovaries stop producing estrogen and she ceases menstruating. This generally occurs around the age of 50. The loss of estrogen is associated with an increased rate of bone turnover and loss of calcium from the bone, which means that postmenopausal women are at an increased risk for bone loss.

Those who are at higher risk for developing osteoporosis include women who have reached menopause, women who have had

ovaries removed, people who have family history of the disease, those with a slender body frame, and those who smoke, drink alcohol or eat few calcium-rich dairy products. Men also can be prone to osteoporosis. Lukacs recommended that women who are experiencing signs of menopause such as night sweats, hot flashes or irregular cycles should discuss bone loss and osteoporosis with their physicians. If a routine blood test is a part of that visit, women may want to go a step further.

"It might be interesting to ask the physician, 'How was my serum alkaline phosphatase?'" Lukacs said. "If there is blood work done, more than likely this test is incorporated in it."

If the serum alkaline levels indicate increased bone activity, the physician and patient may decide to perform a more definitive test to determine osteoporosis risk, such as the bone mineral density test.

"The benefit to knowing that you've got increased bone activity is that it probably going to stimulate you to do something or consider alternatives that you may not otherwise have reached menopause," she said. "And of course, one of those decisions will be whether you want any type of pharmacological intervention, whether it's hormone replacement or treatment with another drug that may prevent bone loss."

In future studies, Lukacs hopes to confirm the clinical significance of this finding by including bone density measurements.

# HOMETOWN LIFE

Thursday, March 1, 2001

## The Coolest Job

From behind the wheel of an ice resurfacing machine, the drivers give a glimpse of life on a Zamboni



Jason Kocembo pilots a Zamboni machine around the "red" rink at the Novi Ice Arena prior to a high school hockey practice. Kocembo has been driving the machine for about five years.



The tires of the Zamboni machine are studded with metal to provide better traction on the ice.

**By LON HUHMANN**  
Staff Writer

The clock in the Novi Ice Arena ticked down 5 p.m. 4:45...4.

"The blades of the hockey players' skates sprayed shreds of ice as they came to a quick stop in a battle for the puck. One new streak cut into the ice over a previous one as a player moved the puck toward the goal. The practice ended as the clock buzzer sounded with the players skating off leaving a well marked ice rink.

An empty ice rink meant only one thing — time for the renewal of the ice. The gates opened for the illustrious Zamboni to make its entrance. All eyes became fixated on the machine as it moved around the outer edge of the rink beginning to play its restoration symphony.

"We take pride in our ice," Glenn Lada, a Zamboni driver at the Novi Ice Arena, said. "The challenge for a Zamboni driver is to be able to have quality ice each time. It's our job to sell good ice."

The job of a Zamboni driver is to make the marked-up and used ice appear as if it is brand new by leaving stripes of clean, glossy surface behind it as the machine turns its way around the rink.

To make the glossy surface possible the Zamboni shaves the ice, removes the shavings and applies warm water — because it freezes quicker, to complete the resurfacing process. The resurfacing process takes only ten minutes to complete at the Novi arena, but this is because the drivers understand their job so well.

"Consistency is what we shoot for here," Zamboni driver Justin Shaw said. "Muscle and memory are the two things that allow for a good consistent resurfacing."

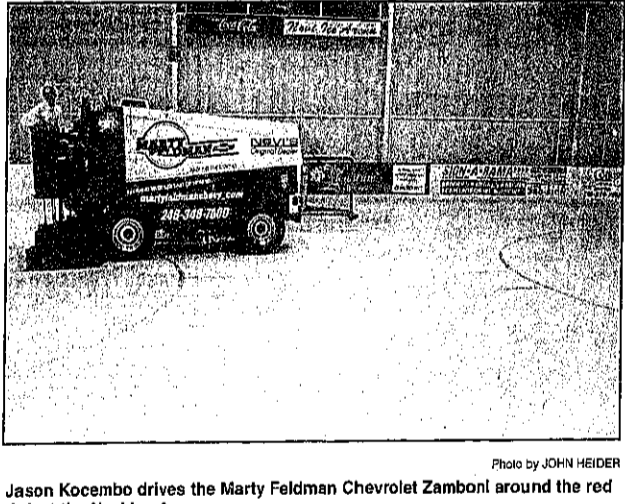
Lada said a driver must be able to read the ice to be able to do a good resurfacing. There are a variety of factors to properly read the ice.

Usage ranks at the top.

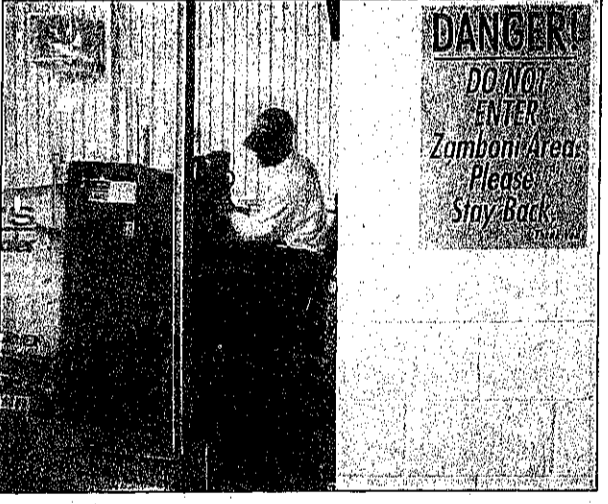
"Throughout the day there will be figure skaters, high school hockey practices as well as ice youth practices," Lada said. "The bigger guys will work over the ice much more than the smaller players, so the type of usage is a big factor in how we will approach the resurfacing job."

A cover was later added at the front over the conveyor chain to keep snow from falling onto the fresh ice surface. This introductory machine also had an intake snow-melting system along with a washing system. The Model A introduced the wash water system, which was a black tank over the galvanized water tank that helped recirculate water used to wash the ice before applying the final coat of water.

In 1956, Zamboni introduced the updated Model F version. This model



Jason Kocembo drives the Marty Feldman Chevrolet Zamboni around the red rink at the Novi Ice Arena.



Jason Kocembo heads out onto the the ice past a "Danger!" sign near the arena's Zamboni entrance.

increased both the water and snow-carrying capabilities. Another improvement came in 1964 with the HD series. The HD series was revolutionary because it had a completely new auger system to convey the snow as well as a quick-dumping snow tank. The HD series was an industry standard for nearly 30 years.

The 500 series used by the Novi arena drivers was introduced in 1978 and was different in that it had a liquid-cooled engine rather than the air-cooled systems of earlier versions. The 552 series offers yet another new step in Zamboni technology by being a fully electric machine using battery power.

The 500 models at the Novi skating rink have a four cylinder engine and uses natural gas to operate. According to Lada, it takes 2,600 pounds of natural gas to fill the tank, which will last a full work day. Each resurfacing requires 277 gallons of water, 195 gallons of warm water and 82 gallons of cold water.

The inevitable questions many spectators have when watching a Zamboni in action is it difficult to drive, and how does it ride so well on the ice?

"I caught onto it fast," Lada said. "It probably took me a day to catch on to the basics and two months to get really good at it."

Lada compares driving a Zamboni to operating a commercial or large lawn mowing machine. According to Shaw, the driver must be aware of what's going on with the machine and on the lookout for the differences on the ice. Lada said the driver should have his head almost on a swivel to ensure everything will go well and safely.

Shaw said experience and judging of the speed enables a driver to know how fast to go and when to slow up, and added that as the resurfacing takes place, the snow build-up in the dumping part of the Zamboni will also determine the speed the machine will go. The tires of the machine are studded to prevent any slippage.

The job of a Zamboni driver is beneficial in many ways. The glistering of a new resurfacing, the starting faces of children in awe as the driver wheels around the rink and the pleasure of providing ice skaters with a smooth skating surface.

"I love this job," Lada said. "It makes me feel good to see the kids enjoying seeing me do my job. It also helps that the manager here, specifically general manager Sid Fox, are very understanding and knowledgeable of the job of a Zamboni driver."

The great lyrics of the songwriter Martin Zellar song "Zamboni" summed up the appeal of the Zamboni the best with this excerpt, "Well ever since I was young it's been my dream that I might drive a Zamboni machine. I'd get that ice just as slick as could be and all the kids would look up to me...cause I wanna drive the Zamboni, 'cause I wanna drive the Zamboni. Yes I do."

Lon Huhsman is a staff writer at the Northville Record. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 109.

**ZAMBOOZLED**

Let's face it — "Zamboni" isn't a common word, outside of the world of skating rinks. So we troled the dictionary to find other terms with the prefix "Zam-." (There aren't many.)

Here's what we found:

**ZAMA:** An ancient town of north Africa, southwest of Carthage in present-day northern Tunisia.

**ZAMBEZI:** A river of central and south Africa and flowing 1,700 miles to the Mozambique Channel.

**ZAMIA:** Any of various chiefly tropical American cycads of the genus *Zamia*; having a thick trunk, palmlike terminal leaves and seeds borne in woody cones.

**ZAMINDAR:** An official in precolonial India assigned to collect the land taxes of his district.

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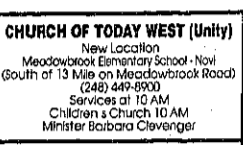
Jay Densmore Furniture

thought it might be nice to suggest a few helpful hints on how to look at furniture before you buy. Once you've decided on what you want and where you're going to buy it, listen to what is being sold to you...

Engagements

The engagement of Jessica Anne Slating and Kevin Thomas Meak is announced by their parents, Richard and Kathleen Slating of Brighton...

Meak-Slating



Religion

St. Mathew's Lutheran Church is offering aerobic classes for women. Classes are held at the church's Whom location at 7 p.m. and Walled Lake at 8:30 a.m.

Single Point Adult Ministries of Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church will be hosting several events for studies in the month of March...

Anniversary

Raymond and Margaret Halbert of Northville celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Sunday, Jan. 26 by having a party in their honor at King's Mill Clubhouse...



Halbert 50th

Table with church listings including Praise Chapel Church of God, Church of Today West, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, First Presbyterian Church of Northville, etc.

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# MOVIES

8-B

Thursday, March 1, 2001

## Workaholic learns to live life to its fullest in this drama

Advertising executive Nelson Moss is a self-absorbed and emotionally isolated man focused on his future, running from his past and oblivious to the present.

"He grew up poor and an only child whose parents are dead," said Keanu Reeves. "My take on him is that his father sold door-to-door and wasn't very good at it. Subconsciously, Nelson is trying to become the successful version of his father. But in manifesting that, he has shut off the part of himself that allows him to feel."

Until the day he meets Sara, a charming, fearless woman whose lust for life disrupts Nelson's safe, single-minded drive.

"She is in touch and in tune with what's going on around her," said Charlize Theron who garnered critical praise for her role in the Academy Award-nominated drama "The Cider House Rules." "Sara really knows what she wants out of life and how to live it to the fullest, and she has made it a priority to share that knowledge with other people. She's not scared to get close and intimate with strangers."

Director Pat O'Connor, internationally-acclaimed for such films as "Circle of Friends" and "Inventing the Abbotts," explains, "We all go around with our little games and our camouflage, but Sara is smart and sees through the walls people build around themselves. And she has a hunch about Nelson."

Sara senses the vulnerable and wounded aspects of Nelson's character.

"There's still a part of Nelson that is alive and Sara recognizes that," said Reeves. "She tells him that he's miserable. And Nelson says, 'No, I'm not miserable. I'm successful.' But once he slows down, he realizes that he is miserable."

"The fact that Sara sees something in Nelson is what makes her such a fabulous character," remarked producer Erwin Stoff. "She has an irresistible heart, and she knows that anyone as driven and motivated as Nelson isn't simply running toward something; he's also running from something."

Challenged by Nelson's outward impenetrability and broken inner spirit, Sara leads him on a journey of self-discovery during the month of November, after which they plan to go their separate ways.

"Part of her process is that she doesn't spell everything out for Nelson," said Theron. "She wants to open the door and eventually let him continue the journey himself."

Sara gradually peels away the layers that Nelson uses to guard himself against intimacy.

"She takes Nelson's clothes and his watch and cell phone and says 'Slow down and just be present and look around, look at life,'" Reeves said. "Being nurtured by her spirit wakes him up to what is important."

Nelson is also affected by an important force in Sara's life, her upstairs neighbor and trusted confidant Chaz, played by Jason Isaacs, who starred as the villain opposite Mel Gibson in the epic Revolutionary War drama "The Patriot."

"Chaz and Nelson work in the same business, but the big difference between them is that for Chaz, business is just what he does for a living," Isaacs said. "Like Sara, he



Sara played by Charlize Theron teaches Keanu Reeves' Nelson how to relax and enjoy life in "Sweet November."

knows how to live life, and he knows how to laugh."

At first, Nelson feels threatened by Chaz and his close relationship with Sara.

"Nelson's fears are slightly allayed when they meet for the first time at Sara's apartment," Isaacs explained. "Ultimately, Chaz and Nelson develop a bond. They both love Sara, and they both have her best interests at heart."

As their relationship progresses, Sara gives Nelson a gift he never expected.

"She gives him insight and the ability to use that insight to see the world as it really is, rather than being driven on a very narrow path toward a kind of an ill-defined future based on material gain," O'Connor said. "She teaches him to communicate with other people. And he ends up learning about himself, and therefore, seeing life in a broader way."

But not everyone in Nelson's life is pleased with the impact Sara is having on Nelson, especially his parasitical colleague Vince, played by Greg Germann, who stars on TV's "Ally McBeal" as Ally's eccentric boss Richard Fish.

"Vince is the quintessential bottom feeder, the kind of guy who rides someone else's coattails to whatever success he can find," said Germann. "Once Nelson decides to detach himself from Vince and from his previous style of business conduct, Vince realizes he'll have every little chance to rise to the top without him. Vince sees his future written on the wall and it says 'Bus Boy.'"

As driven as Nelson is by his demons, Sara is motivated by another set of very personal circumstances.

"She has reasons for why she lives such an unconventional life," Theron revealed. "She's built this little world for herself with her own rules and she doesn't share them with anyone. Everyone who comes into her world just has to make

peace with that and live by those rules."

Although it is not part of her agenda, Sara finds herself falling for Nelson.

"He is part of a plan she has in order to live her life the way she wants," said O'Connor. "But Nelson

becomes involved with Sara in a true way, and she involves herself with him in a way she wants."

Nelson is equally caught off guard by his feelings for Sara.

"The love that grows between them opens up a whole new world for him," Reeves said. "He can smell

the flowers. With love and appreciation of this other person, he becomes more human."

And in turn, Nelson changes Sara.

"Sara realizes that everything she teaches him is not necessarily what she's done with her own life," said

Theron.

Producer Deborah Aal noted that Nelson comes away from the experience with a more fulfilled life than he would have had without knowing Sara.

"One of the best pieces of advice I was ever given is to make the most of all that comes and the least of all that goes," said Aal. "At the end of the film, I think everyone will leave with what Sara has given Nelson. I hope that people will see the world through Sara's eyes as Nelson does."

Producer Steve Reuther concurs. "I am attracted to the moments in this story in which the characters are forced to find their better selves," Reuther said. "Love stories demand that kind of insight and courage. This is one of those movies."

When the story begins, Nelson is a greater fixer," observed Isaacs. "He throws money at a problem or hires someone to fix it. But by the end of the film, he realizes there are some things in life you can't throw money at, and you simply have to accept and make the best of your circumstances. That's what the film is about: seizing the moment and making the absolute most of every minute you're alive on this planet."

After seeing the film, "I hope the audience is overwhelmed by the beauty of life and its possibilities and its hardships," said Reeves. "Through our understanding of life's hardships, we're better to ourselves and better to those around us."

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