

Look inside for your
GREEN SHEET
 Classifieds

WALLED LAKE

Six alarm fire

Six different fire departments responded to a major blaze at General R.V. Center in Wixom. The fire burned for almost three hours—Page 7A

GREENSHEET

Those are some Fine Threads

Fine Threads is a new Men's clothing store in Northville. There hasn't been a men's clothing store in the downtown in several years — Page 1D



LIVING



Fools for a day

The Novi Noise takes a fictitious look at the local news for our annual April Fool's Day edition — Page 6B

SPORTS



The best of the best

This week we highlight the best area wrestlers from the KVC and WLAA. Needless to say, Novi racks up quite a few honors — Page 1B

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Town hall meeting turns to CCW debate

By RANDAL YAKEY
 Staff Writer

Rep. Nancy Cassis (R-Novi) called her visit to Novi "democracy at work."

Cassis and Sen. Bill Bullard (R-Highland) fielded questions about dove hunting, roads and a vocal discussion about the concealed weapons law that will go into effect later this year at a local town hall meeting last week.

Cassis told the residents in attendance she felt if Birmingham resident Dr. Debra Iverson had had a weapon, she may not have been brutally killed murdered and her body was

dumped near Stoney Creek Metropark over three years ago.

"She (Iverson) was abducted and brutally killed," Cassis said. "What if she had had a weapon? Would she have been brutally killed?"

The new law, passed last year, would allow the issuance of permits to carry concealed weapons. Some, including Cassis and Bullard, feel the law would keep better track of those carrying guns while opponents think the new law would make guns more accessible to children.

Cassis said people are concerned about defending them-

"My wife and I are educators and I was very disappointed that you (Cassis) supported the concealed weapons bill."

John Burkhardt
 Uof M. staff member

But Novi resident and University of Michigan staff member John Burkhardt told Cassis

that he was "disappointed" that she supported the bill that revamped the concealed weapons law in Michigan.

"My wife and I are educators and I was very disappointed that you supported the concealed weapons bill," Burkhardt said. "A lot of people went out and started collecting signatures to get this on the ballot and I think that it is the way they wanted to state their point of view. Many of us want to have our say."

Burkhardt said that he thought the issue should have been put for a vote and Sen. Bullard noted that there might be enough sig-

natures to get the law on the 2002 ballot.

"I was concerned about placing school issues inside this bill," Burkhardt said.

Bullard said the new CCW law would make "gun free" zones such as schools and churches so owners would not bring their guns into the "gun free" areas. The old law did not include those areas.

"Under the (old) law an 18 or 19-year-old can get a CCW permit, walk right in here; walk into a school," Bullard said. "There

Continued on 9

Show me your fangs

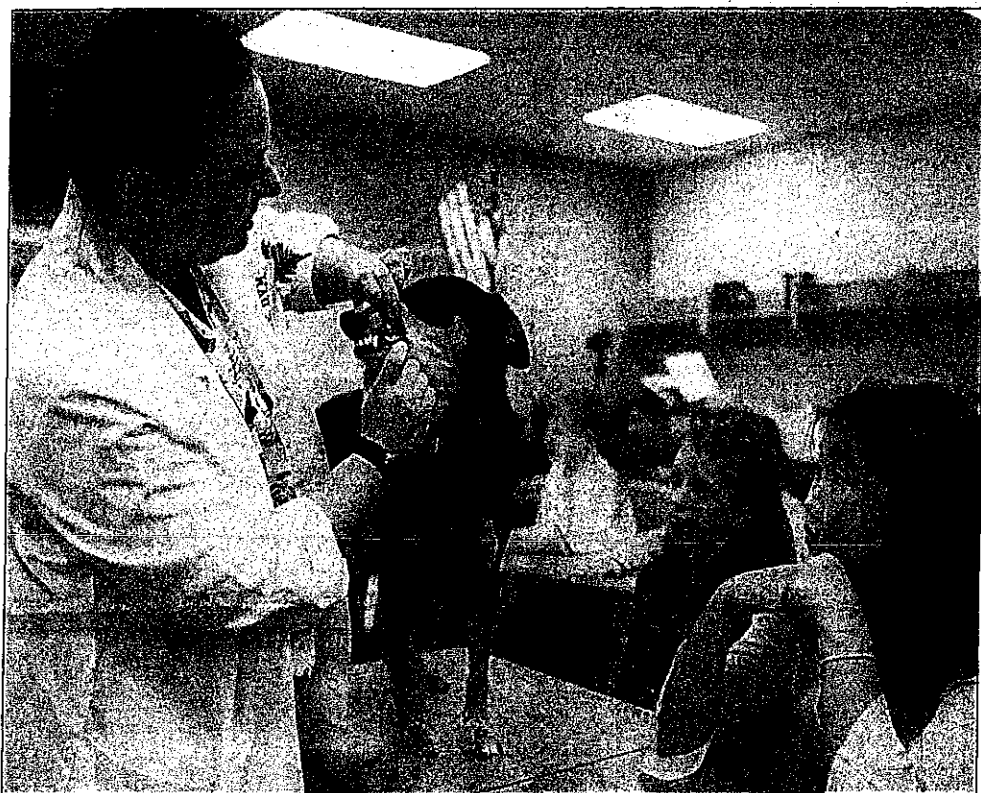


Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Veterinarian Kim Berrie shows a Novi Middle School classroom how to examine a dog's teeth and gums during Friday's career day. Assisting her is "Whitney," a mixed-breed dog.

Students learn about endless possibilities

By STEPHANIE FORDYCE
 Staff Writer

Fighting in the blazes of a fire, being a radio shock-jock, playing jazz in a night club, teaching a child to read or fighting bad guys with a badge are just some of the things people make careers out of.

Last Friday, Novi Middle

School with the help of over 36 community volunteers celebrated its 11th Annual Career Day and exposed students to the wide world of job opportunities.

"The purpose of Career Day is to subject students to as many careers as possible and help them discover what they

are interested in," said career day volunteer Laurie Fannon.

Divided into such areas as technology, arts, business, public service/education, and medical, speakers included a chemist, FBI agent, funeral director, attorney, veterinarian, and a news anchorman.

"This is a great opportunity

for us to see what's out there and get an idea of what we want to do with our lives," said 14-year-old Jeremy Brodsky.

Students rotated from one speaker to the next, learning about a number of different

Continued on 6

Stranger suggests sex to local kids

By RANDAL YAKEY
 Staff Writer

Novi police are looking for a white male suspect that was sexually suggestive to two girls last week.

According to Novi police, an individual who reportedly grabbed one of the girls exposed himself and began masturbating in front of them near the intersection of Montmorency and Charlemagne on March 22.

At 6:09 p.m. an older black or blue truck with rust holes on the side pulled up to two girls walking in the Chateau Estates trailer park. The man then reached out of the truck and grabbed one of the little girls, exposed himself to her and asked her if she "had ever seen a penis before?" According to police, the man masturbated in front of the little girl.

"We've increased patrols in the area," Novi detective Kevin Hebert said. "We put out a BOL (Be On the Lookout) and contacted other departments for similar incidents."

According to the police report, the man exited the park at a high rate of speed. The suspect is described as a white male subject between 30 and 40 years of age with short cut hair and a dark birthmark on his scalp. Police noted that there was little description to go on.

"He did have a high squeaky voice," Hebert said. "He told the girls he was looking for a house for sale."

Police did search the area in question but came up with no suspects. Anyone with information on this individual is asked to call the Novi police at 348-1700.

Saving lives one pint at a time

By STEPHANIE FORDYCE
 Staff Writer

Local residents gave the gift of life last Thursday, by donating blood to benefit the American Red Cross of Southeastern Michigan.

The second annual blood drive held at Novi Woods Elementary on March 23, collected 39 pints of blood, exceeding their goal of 30.

"Each and every year day, over 700 pints of blood are needed for hospitals in Southeastern Michigan," said Marie Mangus, manager of communications for the American Red Cross Southeastern Michigan Chapter. "There is a tremendous need for blood in this area because of our five major leading hospitals—so people from all over the country come here for treatment."

Mangus said with Uof M Hospital, Beaumont, St. Johns, Detroit Medical Center,

and Henry Ford Hospital leading the nation in care, the hospitals must each import over 6,500 units of blood a year.

"We cannot collect enough," she said. "The need is very great to meet the needs of our patients."

Mangus said she encourages everyone who is eligible to donate to do so at any of several locations in the area.

To fit the criteria, Mangus said donors must be at least 17 years of age, weigh a minimum 110 lbs. and be in general good health.

"We appreciate our current donors as well—they are very special to us and we encourage them to donate one more time during the year," she said.

To assure the safety of the blood supply, the American Red Cross conducts a rigorous



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Susan Thomas donates a pint of blood Thursday afternoon at Novi Woods Elementary School. Assisting her is Red Cross R.N. Mary Ann Stahl, center. Also giving is Gail Steff, right, the school's Community Service Chair. The Red Cross expected about 32 donors that day.

Continued on 17

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Sugarloaf Art Fair

April 20, 21, 22, 2001
 Novi Expo Ctr. • 10:00 - 6:00

Glee Clubs will sing to benefit education

By STEPHANIE FORDYCE Staff Writer

On Friday, March 30, the Men's Glee Clubs of the University of Michigan and Michigan State University will join together in a festive evening of song to benefit the Novi Educational Foundation.

Real Estate One, Merrill Lynch and Twelve Oaks Mall are sponsoring the event which will take place in the Novi High School Forest Auditorium at 8 p.m.

"This promises to be an excellent, fun-filled program," said Chairman of the Novi Educational Foundation Michael Pesendorfer. "We are pleased to bring these two talented groups to Novi."

In its first-ever benefit concert, the two colleges will provide over two hours of musical entertainment - free of cost.

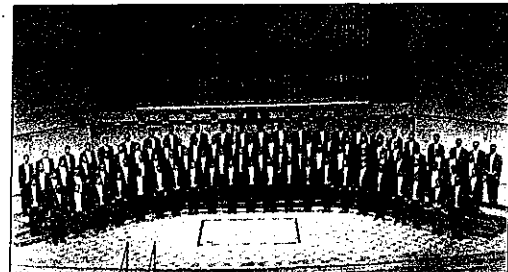
"Both choirs are really excited about the event, especially since they have never performed in this type of format before," said Executive Director for Personnel Bob Schram from the Novi Community School District. "It's going to be a great evening."

The glee clubs, featuring over 100 members a piece, will each perform their own 45 minute program and will then combine for a 30 minute performance.

"The foundation has always been interested in the fine arts and this is a great way for two to come together," Schram said.

While the evening is free, donations, which go to support grants for the foundation, are welcome.

The event will be hosted by Joanne Puritan from Channel 7 and will include a pre-concert party at the high school which will kick off



The University of Michigan Glee Club

the event at 7 p.m.

"We want the people to come visit with their neighbors and enjoy a Friday evening together," Pesendorfer said. "Everyone can come for food and conversation, then relax and be entertained by the U-M and MSU Men's Glee Clubs."

The Novi Educational Foundation is a non-profit organization established in 1986. Its mission is to provide expanded educational opportunities for citizens in the Novi Community School District. This is accomplished by providing grants for special programs and by administering several scholarships.

For more information on the foundation, call Novi Community Schools at (248) 449-1200. For more information on the concert, contact Novi Community Education at (248) 449-1206.



Michigan State University Glee Club

At 8:00 p.m. - People Who Make Things Happen

8:30 p.m. - Pet Talk

Friday, April 6

10:00 a.m. - Lumen Christi

10:30 a.m. - The Jesus Center

11:00 a.m. - Consumer Corner

11:30 a.m. - To Be Announced

12:00 p.m. - May the Road Rise to Meet You: The Irish Journey to Detroit

12:30 p.m. - (con't)

1:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m. - To Be Announced

5:00 p.m. - Todd L. Levitt Show

5:30 p.m. - (con't)

6:00 p.m. - To Be Announced

6:30 p.m. - The Hobby Corner

7:00 p.m. - Financial Strategies: Jaffrey Hakala, CPA

7:30 p.m. - People Who Make Things Happen

8:00 p.m. - Chamber Spotlight

8:30 p.m. - Pet Talk

9:00 p.m. - To Be Announced

9:30 p.m. - Polpourri: Nikki Pearce

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Public Access

Monday, April 2

10:00 a.m. - Polpourri: Nikki Pearce

10:30 a.m. - The Cutting Room

Floor

11:00 a.m. - Harvest Ministries

11:30 a.m. - Cosby and Company: Chiropractor

12:00 p.m. - Intercessions Word Ministry

12:30 p.m. - (con't)

1:00 p.m. - Adventures with Pirate Pete

1:30 p.m. - The Hobby Corner

2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. - Democratic House Task Force: Nursing Home Care

4:30 p.m. - Aviation Journal

5:00 p.m. - New Millennium Medicine

5:30 p.m. - Capitol Report

6:00 p.m. - Hippy Hoppy, Easter on Its Way

6:30 p.m. - Bagels and Talk with Tracy

7:00 p.m. - Lansing Connection

7:30 p.m. - Krystals Music Cafe No. 11

8:00 p.m. - Let's Talk with Ben Marks: ACLU

8:30 p.m. - (con't)

Tuesday, April 3

10:00 a.m. - Life Talk: March 2001

10:30 a.m. - (con't)

11:00 a.m. - Gifts of the Spirit: Diane Lockett

11:30 a.m. - Financial Strategies: Jaffrey Hakala, CPA

12:00 p.m. - Summit University

12:30 p.m. - (con't)

1:00 p.m. - Chamber Spotlight

1:30 p.m. - Home For Life: Drop Down Tables and Epoxy Floor Finish

2:00 p.m. - Lansing Connection

2:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m. - Family Solidarity: Chuck Moorman

3:00 p.m. - Cosby and Company: Chiropractor

4:30 p.m. - Pet Talk

5:00 p.m. - The Way, The Truth, and The Life

5:30 p.m. - People Who Make Things Happen

6:00 p.m. - The Jesus Center

6:30 p.m. - New Millennium Medicine

7:00 p.m. - Adventures with Pirate Pete

7:30 p.m. - Financial Strategies: Jaffrey Hakala, CPA

8:00 p.m. - Chamber Spotlight

8:30 p.m. - Step 'n Move to the Grove

Wednesday, April 4

10:00 a.m. - Up Close Today

10:30 a.m. - Dance with Virginia

11:00 a.m. - Sahaja Sthiti Yoga

11:30 a.m. - (con't)

12:00 p.m. - People Who Make Things Happen

12:30 p.m. - MDOT Today

1:00 p.m. - Study in Scripture

1:30 p.m. - AMVETS

2:00 p.m. - Restoration Now

2:30 p.m. - Reading with Tatiana

3:00 p.m. - The Hobby Corner

3:30 p.m. - Polpourri: Nikki Pearce

4:00 p.m. - Critter Connection

4:30 p.m. - Mountain Ski

5:00 p.m. - Berean Baptist Church

5:30 p.m. - (con't)

6:00 p.m. - The Jesus Center

6:30 p.m. - New Millennium Medicine

7:00 p.m. - Adventures with Pirate Pete

7:30 p.m. - Financial Strategies: Jaffrey Hakala, CPA

8:00 p.m. - Chamber Spotlight

8:30 p.m. - Step 'n Move to the Grove

Thursday, April 5

10:00 a.m. - Step 'n Move to the Grove

10:30 a.m. - The Great Escape: Sailing

11:00 a.m. - (con't)

1:30 a.m. - New Millennium Medicine

12:00 p.m. - Bagels and Talk with Tracy

12:30 p.m. - That's Italian

1:00 p.m. - Aviation Journal

1:30 p.m. - Abundant Life Arabic Ministries

2:00 p.m. - Michael Joseph Show: GAP Band

2:30 p.m. - (con't)

Robotics team tempts FATE; receives rookie award

By STEPHANIE FORDYCE Staff Writer

Novi High School's Robotics team was buzzing with excitement Monday night as they were still trying to come down from landing one of the highest honors at a Regional competition last weekend.

The competition at Eastern Michigan University's Convocation Center proved victorious for NHS team FATE (Finding Achievement Through Education), as they brought home the Rookie All-Star Award.

"What an amazing accomplishment," said robotics volunteer and organizer Jennifer Harvey. "This is the biggest club in Novi and it won its first time out. We are so excited."

The FIRST Robotics Competition is a national engineering contest designed to create interest in science and mathematics among high school students.

Students who participate in

FIRST team up with local teachers, engineers, and other professionals from corporations and universities to design and build a robot. The corporations also provide mentoring, as well as financial support, for the teams.

The major sponsors for the Novi team, which consists of over 40 individuals, are Magna Seating Systems and Magna Automotive Testing.

Novi was one of 64 other high schools teams from Ohio, Pennsylvania, Michigan and Canada who competed in the regional competition and will now head on to face 500 teams at the FIRST National Competition held at Epcot at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida, April 5-7.

"I am so proud of these kids," said NHS robotics coach Duke Kelly. "I knew they had it in them."

Junior Stephen O'Keefe, the team's student president, said winning the award was a major accomplishment for the team.

"We figured we're only rookies once, so this was something that we really wanted," he said.

NHS was one of twelve new teams competing at regionals for the title of Rookie All-Star. In a short six-week period, the teams design and manufacture a fully functional, radio controlled robot, using an identical collection of provided parts.

During the competitions, each team is scored on how well the robot performs by putting their robots through a series of test drills.

Senior Vidya Mahadevan and sophomore Asha Radhahoman explained that each team competes in a two minute round, with four teams working together to get points, with each robot performing a different function. The tasks include filling a tall cylinder with

bouncing balls. Meanwhile, other robots are putting larger balls on top of another cylinder. The two cylinders must then be balanced on a seesaw-like bridge in the middle of the playing field, which is where most of the points are scored.

"So there is a lot of communication going on in the field," Mahadevan said.

Aside from the actual robot and its performance, the teams are also judged on their marketing strategies and team spirit.

Student Joe Belter said the competition made the typical football game or concert look almost tame.

"There's tons of music blasting, cheering crowds, pep bands and all kinds of crazy costumes," said the freshman.

Team FATE scored big this year with their robot, "Wedge," which

acts as a ramp to allow other robots to move over it. The ramp can be clamped on to the bridge so other robots can push the cylinders onto it.

"The whole philosophy behind the robotics competition is cooperation," said senior Julie Oberts. "Everyone wants see each other succeed."

Through robotics, the students said they not only learn about teamwork, but also about careers in industry and technology.

"This is the only program I know of where we get to work with the pros - we're working with actual engineers from an actual company," Oberts said.

Since January, the students have been meeting at Magna on

Haggerty and Eight Mile, six days a week to create their robot.

"The hard work of our volunteers, the tremendous support from Magna and our other sponsors can not be measured," Harvey said. "This is something that will effect these kids lives forever. It really shows that creativity, science and math can co-exist."

Other sponsors include Husky, Novi Expo Center, Novi Chamber of Commerce, JCK & Associates, LCC Federal Credit Union, RHM Fluid Power, Fortune Tool & Machine, PMC Machinery, Steelcrete, Taylor Turning, Kim's Gardens, and Miller Fluid Power.

For more information on team FATE, visit them at their website at: www.magnanovi.com.

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NOVI NEWS

Part of HomeTown Communications Network™

- Kelli Cooley EDITOR, Robert Jackson MANGING EDITOR, Grace Perry PUBLISHER, Banks Dillman VP/COO

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.

Flexible rules for seniors is needed

A rule is a rule. But sometimes rules are made to be broken. Last week, we ran a story concerning council's issues of Meadowbrook Commons, a new senior retirement home in Novi.

Then retirement age hits. Some people are spring chickens and very active, others have a more difficult time due to physical limitations. Either way, their lives have not changed. They are still the same person they were not even ten years ago.

When they decide or a family member decides a retirement community is a better place to live, most of us believe or want to believe they are just moving

LETTERS

Bowl-A-Thon highly attended

Thank you to the Novi community and all those that supported our 19th annual Bowl-A-Thon. Thanks to the following that donated prizes to our cause: Absolute Tan, Gina Agosta Hair Salon, Drs. Andrew Elfring Jr. and Novak, Bank One, Billy's On The River, Bob Evans Restaurant, Border Cantina, Boston Market, Brass Craft, M.G., City of Novi, Clayton Group, services, Coffee Trader, Cookers Restaurant, Costco Wholesale, Country Epicure, Crain Chiropractic Clinic, Diamond Castle, Damman Hardware, Darts Auto Repair, Denny's Restaurant, Domino's Pizza, Family Christian Store, Marty Feldman Chevrolet, First Federal of Michigan, Grady's American Grill, Honey Tree Restaurant, JCK & Associates, K-mart, Korb's Koney Island, Koster, Library Sports Grill and Pub, Local Color Brewing Co., Mai-Kat Cleaners, Maisano's Italian Restaurant, Metjer, state Rep. Nancy Cassis, Novi Community Schools, Novi Education Association, Novi Expo Center, Novi Footwear Associates, Novi Jewelers, Novi Parks and Recreation Department, Novi Police Department, Novi Post Office, O'Brien Family, O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, Providence Hospital and Medical Center, Quino's Subs, Red Hot and Blue, Red Robin, Red Lobster, Rent-A-Flick, Salon Agape, Santino's Place, Seiber, Keast & Associates, 7-11 Food Stores, Dr. Lawrence Spillane DDS, Subway Sandwiches/Oaks Plaza, T.G.I. Friday's, Tubby's Grilled Submarines, The Hotel Baronette, Value City Furniture, Varsity Lincoln-Mercury Inc., Circuit City, Caribou Coffee Co., Mongolian Barbecue, Novi Pizza Hut, Home Depot, Great Party, and, Roberto Brannan.

Family fun night fantastic

Last Friday night, the teachers of Orchard Hills Elementary sponsored and held a fantastic program called, "Fun Family Fitness Night." The program was a wonderful gym teacher, Peggy Wickman who coordinated the event, putting in many hours getting the whole thing to come together. There were over 25 "stations" with either health-related information, available or actual exercise-related activities. Everywhere you walked in the school there were families trying different types of exercises together. Some examples of these fun, exercise stations were: the Box and the dancing, Tai Chi step aerobics, taking a family walk around the neighboring subdivision, a bowling station, hula hoops, the long jump, Scottish dancing, a basketball shoot out, and many, many more. The whole event was very informative, fun, and enjoyable.

Opinion pages use selectivity

New most of us have no problem with K. Cooley's explanation of this newspaper's policy with regards to publishing letters to the editor. Yet this article simply opened Pandora's box. Is this newspaper practicing a clever form of selective editing and censorship? Let's look at some of the facts as they relate to the two pages entitled opinion and other opinions.

Dedicated service recognized

He sat, in his familiar shy manner, in the last row of the council chambers. It was as if he was waiting for an interview—reflective, well mannered, and unpretentious. Yet James Harrington III was there to be honored for his years of rich service to the city of Novi on the Zoning Board of Appeals. He took precious time from his busy practice to be of service to his community. In all the time he served on that body, he displayed his accomplished skills as a fair, understanding, impartial but firm arbiter of the many appeals that came before that body. His knowledge of the law, being an attorney, was of great help to his colleagues on the board.

District doesn't offer parents all the

Once again the Novi school district thumbs its nose at the law. A letter has gone home to parents of 6th graders inviting them to view the sex education materials their children will be presented. It is assumed your 6th grade child will participate unless you "opt out" your student by signing them out. This letter is supposed to, "notify the pupil's parent or legal guardian in advance of his or her rights to observe the instruction and to have the pupil excused from the instruction."

Thank you from Novi Newcomers and Neighbors

The Novi Newcomers and Neighbors Club in Novi held their 16th Annual Gift and Craft Auction in the Village Oaks Club House on March 24. Over \$6000 in items were auctioned in both a silent and live auction and raised over \$4500 for the Club. The NNW Civics Committee will donate all the proceeds back to needy families and organizations in the Novi community.

Share your opinions

We welcome your letters to the editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask that your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content.

Letters to the Editor

Kelli Cooley Novi News 104 W. Main St. Northville, MI 48167 kcooley@ht.homecomm.net

Share your opinions

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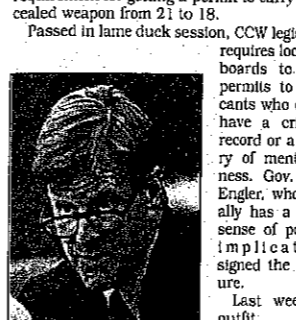
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Folly and wickedness in state

"While the people retain their virtue and vigilance, no administration, by any extreme of wickedness or folly, can very seriously injure the government in the short space of four years." — Abraham Lincoln, 1861



Joseph G. Toth Novi

Thank you from Novi Newcomers and Neighbors

The Novi Newcomers and Neighbors Club in Novi held their 16th Annual Gift and Craft Auction in the Village Oaks Club House on March 24. Over \$6000 in items were auctioned in both a silent and live auction and raised over \$4500 for the Club.

Career Choices for the brave

He's not making career choices the way I would advise my children to. Commitment is a big part of the lesson parents try to teach their kids. Once you've committed to a responsibility, you need to see it through, we tell our youngsters. If you promise you'll do one job, you ought not just turn around and grab another.

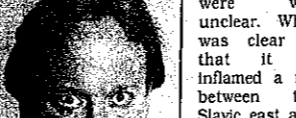


Mike Malott

The time when pros could develop their careers slowly, deliberately has long since gone. No, I'm not talking about Drew Henson. I was referring to Valde Garcia, but isn't it interesting that you could have confused the two?

U.S. backs one group, defies the other

It seems that once again the United States government has pushed its luck in dealing with disagreements in foreign lands. And I won't mince words. The peace keeping mission in Kosovo will be seen as a strategic disaster when historians review the conflict in twenty some years.



Randal Yakey

United States, as a group similar to the patriots of the American Revolution, were fully supported by President Bill Clinton.

For current folly, consider state

Rep. Robert Gosselin, R-Troy, who has introduced House Bill 4382 to amend the science standards in the state model school code to specify that evolution is "an unproven theory."

Just to state things off, I suggest the school code be amended to require Dalton's Theory of Atomic Chemistry be classified as "unproven theory." I have no evidence that the four elements of earth, air, fire and water are the basis of chemistry, but I sure know it when I see it.

And now the NSA or KLA or whatever they are calling themselves

And now the NSA or KLA or whatever they are calling themselves now are waging war in another sovereign land, Macedonia. Does the U.S. have plans to help them in this fight?

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NOVI NEWS

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Blood drive was successful

Continued from 1

behavioral and health history screening interview of all donors prior to donation and conducts up to 12 tests for infectious diseases, including AIDS, hepatitis, syphilis and leukemia. "Only about 2 percent of blood collected is discarded," Mangus said. Novi Woods blood drive coordinator Gall Steth said they were very pleased to see the community pulling together for a great cause. "The staff here and their families have been our biggest sup-

porters and we thank them very much for their blood donations," she said.

For more information or to find a donor clinic near you, please call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE or write to the American Red Cross' Southeastern Michigan Chapter P.O. Box 33351, 100 Mack Avenue Detroit, MI. 48232-5351.

Stephanie Fortjace is a reporter for the Novi News. She may be reached at sfortjace@ht.homecomm.net.

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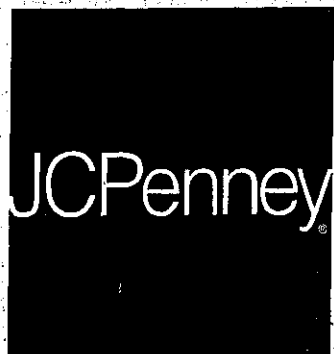
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Wildcats lead All-Area squad



Photo by HAL GOULD

Novi's J.R. Muldoon, top, attempts to gain the advantage on his opponent in the second round of the state meet at Joe Louis Arena. Muldoon is one of six Wildcats to make first team All-Area

Churella champions highlight seven Novi first teamers

All season long, the teams from Northville and Novi High School dominated the competition, so it comes as no surprise that two top notch programs in the area have a combined 10 members on the first team All-Area squad.

Novi and South Lyon squared off in the KVC more than once, but this was the year of the Wildcat, as Novi put together a 30-win season, en route to a co-KVC title, district championship, regional championship, and an appearance in the state semi-finals.

Over in the WAAA, Northville went most of the season unchallenged, as they captured their fourth straight conference title, moved on and won their district, and advanced to the regional finals where they lost a close one to Detroit Catholic Central.

HomeTown's first team All-Area squad has not only some of the finest wrestlers in the area, but in the state of Michigan as well. The team sports two state champions and nine others that placed.

Here's a look at each of the top 14 wrestlers in our area with Northville and Novi providing most of the entries.

First Team

103 - Josh Churella Novi sophomore

Josh follows in the footsteps of his senior brother Ryan with his appearance on this year's All-Area team. The younger Churella made a name for himself this season capturing his first state championship, en route to a 48-1 record. He was undefeated at his normal wrestling weight of 103, suffering his only loss when he bumped up to 112 in the state's to give his team a better opportunity. Only a sophomore, Josh should be entrenched at this position for years to come.

"Josh showed how unselfish he was when he put all individual records on the line, and bumped up to try and help his team win," said Novi head coach Brad Huss.

112 - J.R. Muldoon Novi junior

Muldoon, yet another of the

young talented wrestlers on the Novi squad, got his first taste of states this season. All he did was go out and earn the right to be recognized as the fourth best wrestler at 112 in division one in the state of Michigan. J.R. was an important part of Novi's 30-2 season. On the year, he put together a 48-6 record wrestling in one of the more competitive weight classes.

119 - Corey Nobach Novi senior

Nobach was part of a Wildcat trifecta that jumped on opponents early and set the tone for the rest of the meet. He won the KVC championship at 119 and came up huge in Novi's district and regional championships. In his senior season, Nobach put together an impressive 32-8 record, which included a win in the state team quarterfinals against Roseville.



Corey Nobach

125 - Jake Williamson South Lyon sophomore

Williamson established some tough standards for himself by making the Division 1 state finals as a sophomore. But if this season was any indication - he'll be up to the challenge. Williamson went 32-17 on the season. In addition to being a state qualifier, he was second at the Oakland County meet and third at the KVC meet.

130 - Chad Rashid Milford senior

Rashid was a key component on a Redskins team which won a district title. Rashid was a state qualifier and Oakland County runner-up. He was third at the KVC meet after having lost only one match in league dual meet competition. Rashid and fellow all-area teammate Tom Stanley

were the only Milford wrestlers to get wins against Novi. His season record was 46-10.

135 - David Edwards South Lyon junior

He had a dream season - reaching the state finals. After a fifth-place Oakland County finish, Edwards was tough the rest of the year. He lost only once in KVC dual meet competition, then won the league title at 135 after being the 2000 runner-up at 130. Edwards took first place at both the individual district and regional, knocking off number one seed Micah Wade of Romulus in the latter.

140 - Tom Stanley Milford senior

When you're all-state, there's a pretty good chance you'll be all-area. Stanley was just that, thanks to his seventh-place finish at the Division 1 state finals. He ended the season with a 40-7 record. Stanley ran roughshod over KVC competition, going undefeated in dual meets and winning his flight at the league tournament.

145 - Ryan Churella Novi senior

The older Churella has made a home on the all-area first team since his sophomore year. The senior capped off his final season at Novi High School with an unbeaten 54-0 record, and the team's second state champion. Churella beat Brighton's Leif Olson for the fourth time to win the state title. Because of his wrestling position, it was Ryan who kept the team going or set the tone when the team struggled and his senior



Ryan Churella

Continued on 2



Submitted Photo

'Mitey' underdogs defy great odds to capture championship

By COLBY J. CAVALIERE
Sports Editor

It's a good thing for Novi Mite Hockey coach Mike Pesendorfer that the weather is getting warmer, because after his team defied the odds and won their tournament championship on March 18, he is going to be without hair for a while.

Holding true to his word that he would "shave his head if we win" promise, the coach and his 8th seeded Bengals came from the bottom of the pack to win the championship in dramatic fashion.

"It was a long and difficult season, but the focus was to learn and have some fun," Pesendorfer said. "We improved, as the season ended, so I think the team had some confidence. I told them it was a new season, that all the teams were 0-0 again, and to go out, play your best, and you might surprise some people."

The surprise wasn't an easy task to accomplish. Seeded eighth out of nine teams in the double elimination tournament, the Bengals were forced to play much higher seeds, with games starting on March 12. The team proceeded to go undefeated during the week, coming back to win three of those games when they were losing in the third period. They suffered their first setback on Friday night and 8th seeded Bengals came from the bottom of the pack to win the championship in dramatic fashion.

There they faced the Panthers, a team that had beaten them in all four of the season's previous meetings and had yet to suffer a loss in the tournament. The Bengals, underdogs for every game they played, shocked their undefeated foes 3-2, to force a final, winner take all game later that day.

Beating a team that had your number once is tough enough, but having to beat them again the same day is almost impossible. But this Bengal team that had come from the bottom and had nearly reached the pinnacle of the mountain had a few surprises left.

Down 2-0 with only eight minutes left to play, the Bengals seemed to be finished. But apparently this Cinderella team of 7 and 8-year-olds had yet to learn the meaning of the word "quit", because they netted the game tying goal with less than three minutes to play to force overtime.

After the six minute OT period, both teams were still deadlocked at 2-2. A shoot-out would now determine the winner, and near the end of the first round of skaters, the Bengals were once again faced with a desperate situation. Losing 2-1, the team's

Continued on 2

'Oklahoma' at home in water for Novi Sports Club

BY COLBY J. CAVALIERE
Sports Editor

Northville High School sophomore Shannon "Oklahoma" Hogan competed in the Michigan 2001 State Swimming Championship held at Eastern Michigan University on March 16-18.

Hogan, who moved to Northville this past fall from Oklahoma, took first in the 100-yard backstroke with a time of 58.62. She followed that up with another first place finish in the 200-backstroke with a time of 2:09.11. Hogan narrowly missed a third win when she tapped in second in the 50 freestyle with a time of

23.74. Her final two individual swims were a fourth in the 200 freestyle, and a sixth in the 100 freestyle.

Hogan added to her individual wins, by setting state records in the 400 medley relay, and 800 freestyle relay.

Shannon swims for the Novi Sports Club and is a member of the Northville High School girls' swim team as well. This spring, she will compete on the track team.

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



Shannon Hogan

WILDCATS SPRING SPORTS SCHEDULE MARCH 29-APRIL 4

Thursday 3/29		
Varsity Tennis	@ W.L. Central	4 p.m.
Varsity Lacrosse	@ Brother Rice	5 p.m.
Friday 3/30		
Varsity Softball	@ Lakeland	4 p.m.
Varsity Baseball	@ Lakeland	4 p.m.
Varsity Tennis	vs W.L. Western	4 p.m.
Monday 4/2		
Varsity Tennis	vs. Milford	4 p.m.
Girls' Varsity Soccer	@ W.L. Western	7 p.m.
Varsity Softball	vs. W.L. Western	4 p.m.
Tuesday 4/3		
Girls' Varsity Golf	vs. W.L. Western	3 p.m.
Wednesday 4/4		
Varsity Baseball	@ Brighton	4 p.m.
Girls' Varsity Soccer	@ Canton	6:30 p.m.
Girls' Varsity Golf	@ Liv. Churchill	3 p.m.

Be sure to check out next week's issue of the Novi News to see previews on all the spring sports Novi High School has to offer.

Wildcats prevalent on All-Area wrestling team

Continued from 1 leadership, work ethic, and attitude embodied what this year's squad was all about.

152 - Chad Neumann Northville senior
Neumann closed out his season by becoming the wrestler with the most wins in school history. He put together a 50-3 season and placed fourth in the state at a very competitive weight class, while competing with a severe wrist injury. Neumann helped the team to its fourth straight conference championship this past season, becoming a three-time champ himself in the process. For the year, Neumann brought in conference, district and regional championships.
"Chad is one of the finest wrestlers I've coached and one of the best to come through Northville High School," said coach Bob Townsend.

160 - Anton Palushaj Northville junior
After finishing third in the WIAA meet and fourth in the districts, Anton wrestled well enough to earn himself his first bid to the states. There, he faced a tough first round opponent and lost a close match. But he rebounded to win his first state level match and finish 35-13 on the season. So while he didn't place in states, he did get a taste of state level competition and that should benefit the junior well next season.

171 - Scott Kortlandt Novi junior
When the clips were down, Kortlandt was there for the Wildcats. The junior had some of his best performances in the state season KVC meets against

tricts and the regionals, but he was nipped when the Cats lost to Davison in the state semi-finals. The senior's career at Novi may have ended on a bitter note, but for the year he reaped up a 35-4 record and earned a spot on the All-Area squad.
189 - Joe Rumbley Northville senior
Rumbley was part of the core group of senior wrestlers that led Northville to its abundant success this past year. The rough multi-sport athlete could be counted on when his team needed him the most. He won conference and district titles and was one of four Northville regional champions. If it weren't for a controversial loss in the first round of the state tournament, Rumbley could have finished higher than fourth place. But his determination to come back from that loss and place so high is a testament to his abilities and attitude.

215 - Nick Slovan Novi senior
Slovan's dramatic win against Jim Dunn of Hartland at the final dual of the season gave Novi a share of the KVC title and went down as one of the best matches in conference history. A week later the two met again, but Slovan would see his wonderful season come to an end when he suffered a severe shoulder injury. His team survived without him in the dis-

tricts and the regionals, but he was nipped when the Cats lost to Davison in the state semi-finals. The senior's career at Novi may have ended on a bitter note, but for the year he reaped up a 35-4 record and earned a spot on the All-Area squad.

275 - Tim Stefanow No senior
Whether wrestling at 215 or 275, the pressure was always on Stefanow. The senior pitted up a 33-10 record during the season, placing second in the KVC and fourth in districts. He was important down the stretch of the season after Nick Slovan was injured and was vital to the team's advancement through districts and regionals and onto the state matchups.



Tim Stefanow

All-Area Second Team

- 103 - Ravi Saran, Northville
- 112 - Tim Bragg, Lakeland
- 119 - Josh D'Anna, Northville
- 125 - Brian Ong, Novi
- 130 - Luc Pokorny, Northville
- 135 - Brian Ashley, Northville
- 140 - Chris Stallard, Novi
- 152 - Steve Lewis, South Lyon
- 160 - Vince Slovan, Novi
- 171 - Josh Pettijohn, Northville
- 189 - Matt Williams, South Lyon
- 215 - Pat Quinley, Milford
- 275 - Ryan Morris, Milford



Nick Slovan



Submitted Photo

Novi well represented

The Novi Freshman cheerleading squad put together quite an impressive season. Here the team is seen at the Novi Competitive Cheer Invitational that was held on January 20, 2001. The girls came in first place in the competition. Pictured above: Allison Barsamian, Leslie Bateman, Lindsay Blank, Chelsie Hall, Whitney Hayes, Cindy Herman, Lisa Howell, Melissa Laird, Katie McDowell, Amanda Olando, Courtney Pistolesi, Katie Pyett, Erin Rouhan, Molly Ruhl, Sarah Sprague, Ashley Valentine, and coach Beth Schlenke.

8th-seeded Bengals roar from behind to become the champs

Continued from 1

final skater held the game's fate in his hands. As calm as an 8-year-old can be, he skated in with the puck and smacked it by the goalie to tie the shoot-out at 2-2 and send the two teams into a sudden death shoot-out. After the first rotation of 10 skaters, the game had yet to be decided. At the start of the second round, the Panthers failed to score a goal, and the Bengals finally had a chance to put their feet away.

After seven games of facing higher seeds, two hours of intense hockey in the championship contest, the Bengals capped off a dramatic tournament when their sudden death shot found the back of the net. "We may not have been as talented, but their hearts were bigger than anyone else's. These kids just refused to give up," the proud coach said. Pictured in the photo is the 13 members of the championship team.

Joey Close, Chris Flynn, Lucas Garcia, Jonathan Hart, Jack Hicks, Brandon Judoikis, Alan Mencer, Cooper Nye, Michael Pensendorfer, R.J. Reichenbach, Stephen Smith, Chris Sullivan

Colby Cavalliere is the sports editor of the Novi News and Northville Record. He can be reached at 349-1700, ext. 104.

Novi Wildcats Bantam Hockey team show off their new hardware

The 2000/01 Novi Wildcats Bantam Hockey team capped off the season by winning their last game for the NVHA Bantam Division Championship. The game ended with the Wildcats winning 4-2 over a tough Cougars team.

The Wildcats only loss in Novi Arena this season was against the Cougars, who beat them 2-0. Defenseman Steve Snopkowski (Wixom) scored the game winner on a vicious slap shot from the blue line. Scooter Curtis (South Lyon), Joe Williams (Northville) and Justin Misars (South Lyon) scored the other goals. Keven Gee (Novi) and Scooter Curtis had two assists each in the game. Steve Snopkowski, Steve Ross (Livonia) and Sean Hogan (Novi) also had assists. Alex Berry (South Lyon) was stellar in net finishing the season with a 1.8 goals against average, 10 shutouts (12 including exhibition games) and was 3 and 0 in shoot outs.

The Wildcats had just returned Sunday night (3/18) from the Sports Extravaganza Tier 1 B Bantam Tournament in Chicago. They missed capturing the tournament championship, losing to their neighboring rival the Plymouth Tiger Sharks 2-1 with only 49 seconds left in overtime. The Wildcats made it to the finals

by winning games over St. Peters Spirit Select (MO) 4-1, Sylvania All-Stars Select (OH) 7-0 and Ozaukee (WI) 6-0. Earlier in the season, the Wildcats captured the Little Caesars Amateur Hockey League Thanksgiving Tournament Championship and were runners up in the Traverse City Invitational Pre-Christmas Tournament.

The Wildcats had a great season finishing with an overall record of 34-11-2 (41-13-4 including exhibition games). In Little Caesars Amateur Hockey League play, they captured 1st place in Bantam Division 5 with a 15-3-1 record. The Wildcats leading scorer was Center Scooter Curtis with a team leading 49 goals and 41 assists. Keven Gee was runner up in both categories with 28 goals and 28 assists. Wingers Joe Williams (Northville) and Jeff Berry (South Lyon) had 38 and 30 total points respectively. The Wildcats stingy defense gave up less than 2 goals per game and was led by goalie Alex Berry. Defenseman included Steve Snopkowski, Bill Heebsh (Chelsea), Hogan, Jesse Luchman (Novi) and Bobby Watson (South Lyon). Remaining forwards included Anthony Darker (South Lyon), Matt Jensen (Northville), Justin Misars, Geoff Perrin



Submitted Photo

(Northville), and Steve Ross. The Head Coach was Craig Berry (South Lyon) who was assisted behind the bench by Defenseman Coach Willie Curtis (South Lyon) and Forwards Coach Doug Gee (Novi).

The Wildcats coaches and players would like to thank their families and the following sponsors for support of the team: McNish Sport & Trophy, William R. Curtis Inc., Novi Family Barbers, Metro Transport, Fisher Fuel, Bob Sellers Pontiac and another sponsor who wishes to remain anonymous. They would also like to thank the NVHA, Novi Ice Arena and the Little Caesars Amateur Hockey League for helping this become a season of many realized dreams.

ALL AREA WRESTLING

First Team			
Name	School	Grade	Weight
Josh Churella	Novi	Sophomore	103
J.R. Muldoon	Novi	Junior	112
Cory Nobach	Novi	Senior	119
Jake Williamson	South Lyon	Sophomore	125
Chad Rashid	Milford	Senior	130
David Edwards	South Lyon	Junior	135
Tom Stanley	Milford	Senior	140
Ryan Churella	Novi	Senior	145
Chad Neumann	Northville	Senior	152
Anton Palushaj	Northville	Junior	160
Scott Kortlandt	Novi	Junior	171
Joe Rumbley	Northville	Senior	189
Nick Slovan	Novi	Senior	215
Tim Stefanow	Novi	Senior	HWT

Second Team			
Name	School	Grade	Weight
Ravi Saran	Northville	Junior	103
Tim Bragg	Milford	Senior	112
Josh D'Anna	Northville	Junior	119
Brian Ong	Novi	Junior	125
Luc Pokorny	Northville	Junior	130
Brian Ashley	Northville	Junior	135
Chris Stallard	Novi	Junior	140
Steve Lewis	South Lyon	Senior	152
Vince Slovan	Novi	Junior	160
Josh Pettijohn	Northville	Senior	171
Matt Williams	South Lyon	Senior	189
Pat Quinley	Milford	Senior	215
Ryan Morris	Milford	Senior	HWT

Honorable mention

Northville - Jason D'Anna, Matt Doyle
Novi - Andrew Becker, Dan Cash

Travel basketball team closes tourney season with 34 wins

The Northville/Novi boys U12 travel basketball team recently completed a very successful 2000-01 season. The Attack finished with an overall record of 34-12, which consisted of competition in six tournaments and regular season play in the highly competitive city of Pontiac league.

The team finished the season in March with a little madness of their own. To start the month, the Attack won the prestigious Lady of the Lakes double-elimination tournament in Waterford, which consisted of 25 area teams. In the final game, the Attack beat Warren St. Clement, which had been 31-0 going into the competition. The following week, the team participated in the Great Lakes Invitational in Allen Park. The Attack advanced to the final four where they beat a state powerhouse team from Lansing in the semi-finals, but lost to the state ranked Tri-County Cobras in the

finals. Last week, the Attack followed up its first place regular season finish in the Pontiac League by downing teams from Lake Orion and Clarkston in the post-season tournament to take home the title.

This past weekend, the Attack concluded their season in the Pinkney March Madness tournament by advancing to the finals of the sixth grade division, where they fell to Grand Rapids Hoop City. The team is made up of players from both Novi and Northville. Chase Dehn, Tom Spisch, and Wiley Moss led the offense and guards Brandon Carnegie and Adam Chandler paced the defensive effort. Jeff Goreski, Bret Spencer and Josh Hembrough cleaned up the glass, while Hunter Robinson, Dan Kaminski, and Nick Zoroya excelled at ball theft.



Submitted Photo

Sports Briefs

Northville Youth Baseball and Softball Registration is being accepted at the Northville Parks and Recreation office for boys and girls ages 4-17. Leagues include CO-ED Football, Girls Fast-Pitch Softball, and Boys Baseball. Registration will continue until the leagues are full.

Tryout for the Northville U10 Boys Baseball Tournament Team

Try outs for the Northville baseball U10 boys tournament team will be held at Henningson Field South from 9 a.m. to 12 noon on April 7, and from 10 a.m. to 12 noon on April 14. To be eligible, prospective players must be registered in H league and have their 10th birthday fall between August 1, 1990, and July 31, 1991. The U10 tournament team will be play

approximately four or five weekend tournaments. Players who make the team will be required to pay an additional \$90 registration fee through the Parks and Recreation department in addition to other tournament related expenses. If you have any comments or questions please contact Mark Greenman at 348-0018 or Mike Putnam at 347-0118.

27 Quick & Easy Fix Ups to Sell Your Home Fast and for Top Dollar

LIVINGSTON CO.—Because your home may well be your largest asset, selling it is probably one of the most important decisions you will make in your life. And once you have made that decision, you'll want to sell your home for the highest price in the shortest time possible without compromising your sanity. Before you place your home on the market, here's a way to help you to be as prepared as possible. To assist homeowners, a new industry report has just been released called "27 Valuable Tips That You Should Know to Get Your Home Sold Fast and for Top Dollar." It tackles the important issues you need to know make to your home competitive in today's tough, aggressive marketplace. Through these 27 tips, you will discover how to protect and capitalize on your most important investment, reduce stress, be in control of your situation, and make the most profit possible. In this report you'll discover how to avoid financial disappointment or worse, a financial disaster when selling your home. Using a common sense approach, you get the straight facts about what can make or break the sale of your home. You owe it to yourself to learn how these important tips will give you the competitive edge to get your home sold fast and for the most amount of money. Order your free report today. To hear a brief recorded message about how to order your FREE copy of this report, call 1-888-469-9174 and enter ID#1023. Call anytime, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

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- U12 COED League - Monday Nights - OH
- PLAYOFF for ALL teams
- All Teams qualify for NSA State
- U10 COED League - Friday Nights - Single Games

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COED League - Sunday (OH) • Monday (OH) • Friday (Single)
Women's League - Thursday (OH)

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"News"

It's a Homer Run

He's an icon of America, and soon he'll be the city of Novi's new mascot. Say hello to Homer Simpson — he'll be making his debut soon enough.



Drivel

Cost of newsprint soars

With newsprint costs skyrocketing, it's important that we make the most of every square inch of space we have. Dah dooh de dal

Opinion

MSU over Maryland

Take our word for it — those sinkin' Terrapins don't have a prayer against the mighty Spartans. Take the Green and White by 10 in this one.

Health

Nutrition, eh?

It's been Canada's favorite...er, second favorite drink for a long time. Now, that tasty combination of clam juice and tomato juice is coming to a store near you. Mmm mmm!



Sports

The XFL cometh!

With interest in the XFL soaring every day, city officials thought it would be great to bring a franchise to Novi. Say hello to the Mall Raiders!



Stuff

- Not Your Business . . . 1D
- Unclassified 4D
- Pontifications 18A
- Lies 1AA
- Fabrications 19A
- Library Shines 8A
- Mill Racing 7A
- Cheap Flicks 8B
- Fun N' Games 7A
- Police Oddities 2A
- Clown College 1B

Mudhens set sights on Novi

By RAY-RAY MCGILLIS
Staff Writer

TOLEDO — The owners of the Toledo Mud Hens have announced that they will build a new sports stadium in Novi after city council agreed to a \$150 million tax abatement, club officials announced today.

"We are pleased that the city council felt it clear to see their way to give us this abatement," Team owner Roger Thankya announced on Friday. "We think that the entire community will benefit."

The Mud Hens - now the Mud Cats, will play in the Midwest Baseball Association and have been looking for a new home after revenue was evaporating in the mid-1990s from Toledo.

Novi Expo Center President Blair Bowman said the ballpark would be a benefit to his new exposition center and to keep Novi on the upswing during the recent economic downturn.

"This is exactly what the city needs," Bowman said. "More importantly, it's what I need. With more people in the new Expo center, I'll be rich."

Novi Mayor Richard Clark said that though he was excited about a new stadium coming to the city, he had hoped the revenue would have been more beneficial to the city.

"\$150 million is a little much for an abatement," Clark said. "Well, I guess we will be an exclusive community now."

Clark said he may start renting rooms to former residents now liv-

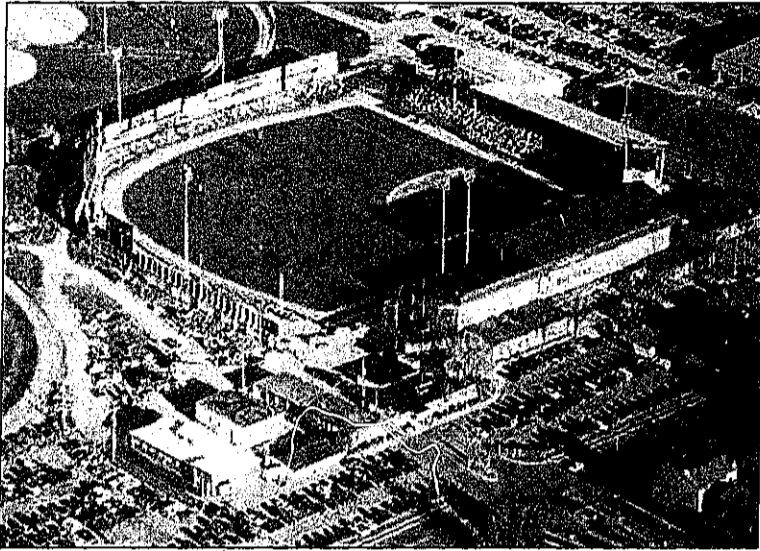


Photo by SOME DUDE IN A PLANE

It's coming — the new Novi Mudhens Stadium, thanks in part to a \$150 million tax abatement given to the minor league ball club by Novi city officials.

ing in the Novi Community Shelter set up in a wooded lot behind the Novi police station.

Reports of a mass exodus of middle income people were seen last weekend heading north along Haggerty Road.

"We want to be like Grosse Pointe," said a woman hiking along Nine

Mile and Beck Road. "I'll be moving into the Island Lakes sub, soon."

Resident Against Taxes were out in front of Novi city manager Richard Helwig's home protesting the abatement.

"No new taxes," they shouted from megaphones.

"I don't know what they want

from me," Helwig said, sitting on his back deck having breakfast. "I gave them each five bucks and told them to go away."

Ray-Ray McGillis writes for the Novi Noise once a year. If he feels like it, he can be reached at noway@home.net.

The King to play at Music Festival

By KELLY GREEN
Staff Writer

The annual festival of music and good times, currently known as the Music and Motorfest in Novi, will be given an enormous boost this year when Elvis comes to perform.

"That's right folks, this is not just a Las Vegas show act or some cheap imitator who can only say

"Thank

y o u

thank you

very

much."

No, Elvis

A r o n

Presley

will per-

form on

the

makeshit

stage at the Novi Expo

Center lot on July 25.

Confusion has run rampant in

the last few days as many fans and

music greats have been trying to

figure out where the Rock N'Roll

King has been for so long.

"The Novi Noise was able to get a

special interview, thanks to Music

and Motorfest staff.

NP: Mr. Presley, it's an extreme

honor to be sitting and talking with

you today. How do you feel?

EP: Well, a little worse for wear

but I'm still able to gyrate my hips

with the best of them.

NP: All of your fans and col-

leagues have thought you were

dead all these years, where have

you been?

EP: I've been hitchhiking across

America for part of it. Then I found

myself on a sheep ranch in

Montana. I decided to take a stab

at it, took out my flock and fell

asleep for at least 10 years. Now I've

decided to come back and rejuvenate

my career as a performer.

NP: Why have you chose to come

to Novi this year?

EP: Novi is a happenin' town. All

the acts that want to reinvent their

careers come here; Davy Jones,

America, and I hear the Bee Gees

may be playing in Novi as well.

After all has-beens right now but

after this gig, I'm thinking about

going out on a come back tour

called: ELVIS LIVES. What do you

think?

NP: Well, the title is certainly

catchy. But what do you say to all

the fans who show up at Graceland

each year to put up memorials to

you?

EP: Hey, come to my show. Give

me the flowers now. Free girls are

great. I feel bad about the whole

dead and buried business but I just

needed some time to myself. Gain

my bearings, become one with

nature. Plus doing all those drugs

didn't help my mental state either.

NP: We look forward to your con-

cert in Novi. Anything else you

would like to add?

EP: Yeah, ELVIS LIVES T-shirts

and special edition National

Enquirers will be on sale so pick

one up before you attend the con-

cert.

The Music and Motorfest will

have a slew of acts including Elvis.

To gain more information see their

Web site at www.mnrmusic.com.

Kelly Green is a staff writer for the

Novi Noise who always feels a little

under the weather. E-mail her at

ksgreen@novinoise.com.



The King

Quail Ridge becomes rafting livery

By I.M. KIDDING
Staff Nintcompoo

Tired of waiting for Northville Township and Novi city officials to solve their problem, residents of Quail Ridge decided to make lemons out of lemonade.

Homeowners living in the sub that flanks Eight Mile Road have long complained about flooding issues brought on by awkward drainage in the area, which has caused massive erosion problems.

What was once a hindrance is now a gold mine, as residents have opened a whitewater rafting livery at the entrance to the sub.

The new company, dubbed Landslide Outfitters, has reported a huge turnout early in the business' short life. What's more, spring rains — which once ate backyards, decks and swimming pools — are now being greeted as pennies from heaven.

"We gave up waiting the waiting game for this thing to get fixed, so we just decided to get things done ourselves," said Quail Ridge association president Melvin Platypus.

"If you can't beat 'em, you join 'em...or something like that."

To date, Landslide has done nearly half a million dollars in

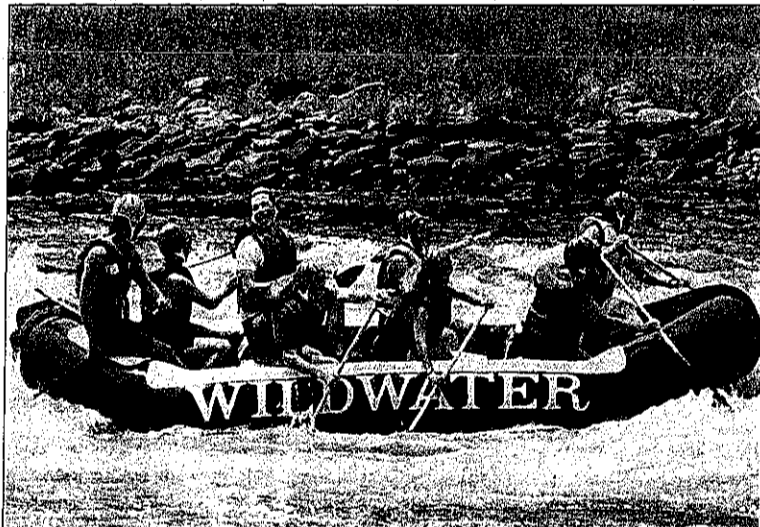


Photo by SOME GUY WHO GOT VERY, VERY WET

Quail Ridge homeowners decided to end their fight with the city of Novi and have opened up a whitewater rafting outfitting group in the Northville Township subdivision.

"People are comparing us to the New River in West Virginia and the Colorado River through Arizona."

Melvin Platypus
Quail Ridge homeowners' association

business, which could easily cover the cost of fixing the waterway's woes. At this stage of the game, though, residents aren't quite as eager to fix the problem as they once were.

"Sure, my minivan may have been swallowed up by the current, and yeah, my kids need a life ring to play in the backyard, but with my cut of the profits Landslide is pulling in, it's worth

it," Platypus said.

Problems with the Quail Ridge drain were brought to the attention of Northville Township authorities back in 1998, when residents on the south side of Eight Mile Road said the speed at which the current from the drain cut through their properties was making life very difficult, if not hazardous.

Unable to come to a settlement

with Novi — the community from where the water originates — township and city authorities agreed to hand the decision-making over to a state-county arbitration body. The matter was hung up in intergovernmental red tape until Landslide opened itself for business.

"People are comparing us with the New River in West Virginia and the Colorado River through Arizona," Platypus said. "We guarantee a wild ride for anyone who wants to experience life on the whitewater."

River excursion packages were priced to start at around \$50 for a one-hour ride, all the way up to week-long expeditions for \$1,200, Platypus said.

No more fun of any kind at Novi senior living center

By JOHN-JOHN NAUGAHYDER
Staff Wannabee Writer

Newly-opened Meadow Brook Commons Correctional Facility is trying to learn to be a little more lenient with its prisoners, er, residents.

The City of Novi facility for senior citizens, which opened in early 2001, is known for its stringent rules and regulations concerning residents and their guests.

Readers first learned of the Commons' no-fun attitude at a Novi City Council meeting in March. Councilperson Lorenzo, (D, Novi)(token), was visibly moved in reading to the assembled the residency's rules of conduct and lifestyle.

Those rules included the following prohibitions: No hanging pictures (frames only placed on bookshelves), pets (not even cute, furry allergen-producing kitties or ferrets), Christmas trees, menorah or sacrificial cloven-hooved animals, laminated furniture, air fresheners, carpeting

with more than 60 percent synthetic fibers, outdoor grilling (although indoor hibachis will be permitted but only with mesquite chips harvested in west Texas), and there will be no cardio-kickboxing or jazzercise in the residents' cells, er, homes.

(The council's recording secretary noted that longtime Novi City Council nemesis James Pinty objected to the reading of the correctional facility regulations as a suitable translation had not yet been found in laplander or swahili.)

The MBCCF adopted the draconian regs. in response to the perception that today's seniors were a different lot.

"On a tour of a senior housing facility in Farmington I saw residences that looked like they were straight out of 'Animal House,'" said Novi Planning Commission member Guy Wire.

"These apartments and condos were totally trashed with a couple of nail holes in the walls, dust on the wainscoting, and some of the

kidchens smelled like someone had left a banana out on a counter a few hours after it was purchased. It was a terrifyingly numbing experience," added Wire.

In a conciliatory gesture the Commons voted down a proposal in January to put metal detectors at all entrances.

"I was at first in favor of this measure as I once had an irate senior pull a pen on me and wave it in my face in an aggressive manner," noted Planning Commissioners Sarah Bellum.

"Then I realized what's the worse this guy could do to me, maybe leave a few ink stains on my blouse?"

Commons' resident Mildred Hopinstance appreciated the facilities' vote to allow her grandson to stay another 48 hours past his agreed-upon slot of 36 hours.

"My grandson's flight back to New York was canceled and he couldn't get another flight for a few days and he had nowhere else to go. He had

no money, too, that he could spend on a hotel for a couple of nights," said Hopinstance.

"The Commons was very lenient in allowing the extra two day stay. They only asked that during that time my grandson work with its maintenance personnel in digging new drainage trenches and some minor roofing work. They're so sweet."

At a recent meeting, the Commons' Board of Inquiry, Rules, Regulations and Procedure lay down one more law for its new residents that may perplex talented, lonely seniors: There is to be absolutely no humming or singing in the facility. "You never know when you'll overhear a senior that can't keep a tune or they're a little flat," said PC's Sarah Bellum.

By Staph Righter-wannabe John-John Naugahyder. John may be reached by e-mail at graystudies@myplaceatnight.why.net

HAPPY
APRIL
FOOLS!

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GOES HERE!!!