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Novi, Michigan

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Novi students Mark Levin, left, and Jonathan Weirmeir have won awards for their creativity in the radio booth.

WOVI wins national award

By STEPHANIE FORDYCE
Staff Writer

The awards adorning the walls at Novi High School's WOVI radio station will have to be rearranged for another.

The student-operated radio station, 89.5 FM, was chosen as Michigan's High School Station of the Year for 2001. The award came from the Michigan Association of Educational Broadcasters (MAEB) last month, at their annual awards ceremony in Warren.

"We all work very hard here," said junior Mark Levin, who runs Monday Madness, an alternative rock show. "We have an extremely dedicated staff and a great instructor."

In announcing the Station of the Year Award, judges cited WOVI's involvement with community organizations, taking special notice of the three-month-long campaign the station ran for the American Cancer Society's "Relay for Life."

The campaign included a remote broadcast from the Novi Civic Center, two sets of Public Service Announcements that aired over several weeks and an 18-hour radio marathon in June.

WOVI also broadcasted another marathon for the U.S. Marine Corps "Toys for Tots" Campaign

City's goal: lean budget

By RANDAL YAKLEY
Staff Writer

Gearing up for a decision on the Sandstone Vistas lawsuit and providing adequate emergency medical services is top on the list for the 2001 Novi city budget.

No longer a rural outpost of Oakland County, city manager Richard Helwig said the future is now for Novi, which is facing the modern realities of being a city.

Helwig said it was time to acknowledge the facts and that with the city heading to 50,000 in population, there is no turning back when it comes to providing infrastructure and comparable city services.

"Going through the EMS task force, it was obvious to some of us but (a few) were saying, 'well, we're still rural or maybe we're semi-rural.' And I said 'wait, time out, anybody who analyzes us, from the Census Bureau to Southeastern Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG), know that we are a city.'"

A lot of what this the budget process was about was catching up on city services, Helwig said. The new "lean" budget will concentrate on a few core essentials: preparing for a decision on the Sandstone Vistas lawsuits, Emergency Medical Services (EMS), increasing the general balance fund and improving city services.

Helwig acknowledged that Sandstone Vistas litigation suit, a potential payment by the city of up to \$62 million, was a major concern.

"We don't know what the outcome is going to be and in the current year's budget we setup a judgment trust fund which is a good practice. Cities have judgment trust funds to try to deal with the settlement and not go to the voters," he said.

In the 2001-02 budget, the city plans to set aside \$475,000, within the overall \$21 million budget proposal for next year.

"We put \$325,000 into that fund last year," Helwig said. "If you put in \$325,000 a year for seventeen years you could support debt services of \$2 million in judgment bonds. It's a start."

EMS a top priority for 2001 budget

By RANDAL YAKLEY
Staff Writer

A top priority.

The Novi City Council approved \$650,000 for Emergency Medical Services (EMS) upgrades for the 2001-2002 city budget to begin July 1.

"People count on us to be there during emergency situations," Novi city manager Richard Helwig said. "And our emergency staffing is low."

"We gave the \$650,000 to support what our priorities should be," Helwig said. "They (council) approved about \$600,000. So we still have about \$40,000 in reserve."

Helwig said the EMS allocations were "significant" and a major commitment was made to EMS upgrades.

"We are going to be a combination department for many years come," Helwig said. "We'll have paid-on-call (POC) and full time personnel. We're going to be dependent on everyone to make this work."

As part of the Emergency Medical Task Force recommendations, there will be an addition of two new full-time fire fighters, Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) will be put into each police car and two for the police building, AEDs are used to revive heart attack victims. The biggest expense will come with a private ambulance car dedicated to only the city of Novi. An estimated \$220,000 was budgeted for such a service.

"Our current (ambulance) provider quoted us with \$220,000 and another quoted us less," Helwig said. "This will lower our response time. They are not meeting the guidelines now of 90 percent of the calls within ten minutes. We want to lower that, if we can."

Helwig said there may be money for the defibrillators but those items were added to the budget because they save lives.

The council also approved POC hourly rate increases, setting aside \$100,000 for pay benefits.

Largest group of valedictorians in history

By STEPHANIE FORDYCE
Staff Writer

This year Novi High School will need a bigger podium when it comes to honoring its brightest students on graduation day.

With 26 valedictorians and 12 salutatorians for the Class of 2001, the group has become the largest in NHS' 33 year history.

"This is the biggest group of students for valedictorians and salutatorians we've ever had," said Novi High School principal Dr. Jennifer Cheal.

"I am so proud. It not only says a lot about our school, but our entire K-12 district," she said.

On April 26 the students, along with Cheal and their high school counselors, met to share in the celebration and to discuss commencement details.

"It is a pleasure to have all of you here and I want to congratulate each and every one of you on your exemplary academic achievement," Cheal said, Thursday.

Cheal said she was extremely proud of their accomplishment and their commitment to educational excellence.

"I know you have all worked very hard throughout the years. You have brought pride to yourself, your families, your teachers and your entire community," she said.



Novi High School's 2001 Valedictorians and Salutatorians.

Teacher, students win award for WWII veteran Web site

By STEPHANIE FORDYCE
Staff Writer

Through the efforts of one Novi High School teacher and several students, the voices of WWII veterans are being forever preserved.

It began with Tom Brokaw's book, "The Greatest Generation."

Not only did it inspire our mayor to create a recognition day, but it also inspired Gary Kelly, who in turn inspired a group of local students to come face-to-face with history.

Through the use of the Internet, Kelly and his students developed "So Proudly We Hail," a Web site documenting the real-life accounts of WWII veterans in the community.

The site invites visitors to "step into the past," as veterans share the challenges, heartaches and sometimes joys that was WWII.

On April 27, Kelly and the students were honored at the National Association of School Boards ITTE Technology Leadership Conference at Oakland Schools in Pontiac.

The conference showcases those schools who have developed innovative technological programming for their students and staff.

Surrounded by board members and administrators from all over the United States, the NHS students provided a live demonstration of their website and shared their own accounts of the courageous men and women they had met.

"You don't often hear about females in the war, so it was really inspiring to meet a woman who had so much courage at the tender age of 18," said student Beth Bovair, who interviewed veteran Isabel Collins, a lieutenant in the Army Nurse Corps from 1941 to 1946.

"With the Internet, these people will still live on and their experiences will be saved," Bovair said.

Dying at an alarming rate of 30,000 veterans a month, the Web site hopes to ensure that future generations will know their stories.



At Oakland Schools after receiving their award are Gary Kelly, Michael Wang, Karen Andrews, Steven Savickas, Sarah Holt, Vidya Mahadevan and Beth Bovair.

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Men assault resident of apartment with baseball bat

Four men broke into a Spring Lake Apartment residence and assaulted at least one man who was taken to the hospital for treatment on April 26.

Police News

According to police reports, the incident occurred at around 11 p.m. when a group of men carrying baseball bats broke into the apartment demanding to talk to one of the men inside the residence.

FILFERING PLEASURE TRIP
The Michigan State Police followed a Macomb County couple across Novt. After the couple stole some items from a construction site at the new Sutton Park subdivision off of Beck Road, the police arrested them.

WIXOM PARANOIA OR CONSPIRACY?
A Village Apartment resident claims that over the last four years people have been entering her home and doing strange things.

WARRANT FOUND
A Novi woman was arrested in Wixom on April 23 after she was pulled over for a traffic violation.

VAN STOLEN
A 1992 gray Chevy Astro was stolen from a business on 47300 W. Pontiac Trail on April 19.

DRINKING AND THROWING CHAIRS
A 40-year-old Walled Lake man living in the 1700 block of E. West Maple called 911 last week when his 31-year-old live-in girlfriend threw a chair and hit him in the head.

THIEF STEALS 14-YEAR-OLD ECONOMY CAR
A Redford man, 48, on his way to turn himself in at Frank Greenan Detention Facility in Auburn Hills, left his car with a man who was supposed to leave the car at a Novi residence. He never did.

NO FREE MEAL FOR YOU
A Redford man, 45, was arrested after he made a scene in the Big Boy's restaurant on April 26 around dinner time.

WALLED LAKE ANYONE HERE A BAPTIST?
A 22-year-old Novi man driving a '95 Ford Thunderbird was pulled over at Pontiac Trail and Chestnut Ridge in Walled Lake on April 25 at 11:25 p.m. after going through a stop sign, a red light and swerving.

BAD CHECKS SPELL BAD NEWS
Walled Lake Police were sent to 1075 E. West Maple Road, The Liquor Station, where the owner said a check was returned on April 5 from Old Kent Bank. Check officials told the owner that the check had been written from a company check book that doesn't exist.

LET'S TALK
WITH GARY S. WEINSTEIN GEMOLOGIST
GETTING TO THE BOTTOM
The bottommost point on a cut diamond is the culet, which is actually a face on tiny, flat polished surface.

Legislators want investigation into Michigan gas price fixing

By RANDAL YAKEL Staff Writer

If it seems gas prices are much higher in Oakland County than in other areas of the state, that assumption could be correct.

Cassidy said prices do vary in the area around Metro Detroit but the highest prices are most likely to be in Oakland County.

According to the United States Department of Energy, gas prices usually tend to rise just before the summer months at a rate of approximately 6 percent.

ongoing investigation, he would not comment on if the investigation was only on gasoline distribution in Oakland County or on which, or how many, distributors were part of the investigation.

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Footnotes
Dr. Michael P. Burk

DIABETIC NEUROPATHY
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Two companies try to stay afloat

By RANDAL YAKY Staff Writer

Even with its seemingly prospering economy, businesses based in the city of Novi have admitted to some economic difficulty.

Amid reports that Fife Electric has closed its doors, the president of the company Doug Venable said the company is still open.

Venable would not confirm if the company is 88 million in debt or if the company is behind on its rent.

"We are looking for a strategic fit for the situation that we are in," Venable said. "We have a lot of inventory and we are still taking order for that inventory."

Venable did confirm that the company filed an "assignment for the benefit of creditors" as a means to pay off creditors through a third party.

Fife, which makes electrical products for MGM Grand Detroit and Greektown Casino, had recently been involved with the midfield Terminal project at the Metro

Detroit Airport in Romulus. Fife, located at 42860 Nine Mile Road, also supplies electrical products to industrial contractors.

Over on High Point Boulevard in Novi, Hoskins Manufacturing Inc. announced they have closed their Charlevoix plant.

According to Hoskins president Jim Musser, the company closed the plant in order to consolidate its work force.

"It's just a consolidation to improve the company," Musser said. "I was up here to make the announcement."

Hoskins, which produces spark plug electrical components, also has plants in Hamburg Township, Mio and Lewiston. Musser said some of the workers in Charlevoix will be offered positions at other company facilities.

Randal Yaky is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached by e-mailing ryaky@nl.hometown.com or by calling (248) 349-1700, ext. 105.

Sports Club of Novi will expand

By STEPHANIE FORDYCE Staff Writer

Beginning the first of August, The Sports Club of Novi will begin construction on its \$400,000 expansion project.

Plans call for a new 5,000 sq. foot addition to include larger space for classes and equipment. The project also calls for a 30 percent increase in the outdoor patio area.

"Our members have been shocked to hear that we're already at capacity," said Mark Pinchoff, the club's general manager. "We've only been here two and half years, so the response has just been tremendous. We continue to add new members every month."

Currently the club serves over 3,500 families.

Pinchoff explained that part of the project will include a 3,600 sq. foot cardiovascular center with additional treadmills and cross-trainers.

"During our heaviest hours, which are usually after work and on Saturday afternoons, we want to ensure that there is enough equipment for our members to complete their workout with no delays," Pinchoff said. "That way they can come in, take a shower, and be out of here by 7 p.m."

Due to an increase in class sizes, Pinchoff said the club will add a new 650 sq. foot stretching area and a new 750 sq. foot group exercise/personal training studio.

"With a new studio, we'll be able to provide more space for our martial arts and dance programs, as well as increase our gymnastics area," Pinchoff said.

Additional changes in some existing areas of the building will also

take place, making room for a new family restroom and an expansion of the club's current weight training room by 1,250 sq. feet.

The idea for a "family restroom" came from the club's suggestion box, as did the idea for a larger patio.

"Based on customer response, members wanted to see a larger snack bar area, so we'll be increasing the patio for our summer swim club," Pinchoff said.

Pinchoff added that while a few parking spaces will be eliminated by the expansion, the club will still have plenty of ample parking to accommodate club members.

J.J. Hopper Construction, the same company that built the club, will do the work which will take about 12 weeks to complete.

While part of the construction for the addition will take place in front of the club, Pinchoff said members will have no difficulty entering the building. He also noted that classes and gym services will continue as normal throughout the duration of the construction.

Looks as if even more construction is on the horizon for the club.

In April, the planning commission gave nod to a 3,700 sq. foot expansion for a new outdoor pool and water slide.

Pinchoff said that project would not begin until the summer of 2002.

The Sports Club of Novi, located on Novi Road, offers memberships in fitness, tennis and summer swim club as well as a number of sports and fitness classes to both members and non-members. For more information call the club at (248) 735-8850.

Community Education Briefs

Here's the upcoming available classes Community Education has to offer you and your family this spring:

For you:

ABC's of Investing
For novices and intermediate investors. Review different types of investments: stocks, bonds, mutual funds, and annuities. Students will also learn how to use diversification and asset allocation techniques to reduce volatility and risk. The instructor for this course, Anthony Mona, is a financial advisor with Morgan, Stanley & Dean Witter.

Class will be held at Novi High School in Room 129 from 7-9 p.m., May 21. Cost is \$17 and \$15 for seniors.

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Class will be held at Novi Middle School Media Room from 7-9 p.m. on Monday May 15. Fee is \$23.

Faux Finishing
Come out for a night of fun learning all about the art of

covering all personal water vehicles. Upon successful completion, participants will receive a boating certificate. Note: Each participant will need their social security number for the first class. Bring a lead pencil with an eraser. Students must be age 12 at the time of class.

Class will be held at Novi Middle School Cafeteria from 6-9 p.m. Fee is \$5.

Baby-sitting Clinic (Grades 5-8)
Receive instruction in basic baby-sitting skills, including safety, first aid, infant and child care and more. All students will take a written test and receive a certificate after successful completion of course requirements. The course fee also includes printed baby-sitting materials.

The instructor is a nurse at Providence Hospital. Officers from the Novi police and fire departments will give students additional helpful pointers.

Bring a snack.

Class will be held at Novi Middle School Teacher Lounge from 4-7 p.m. on Wednesday, May 16. Cost is \$18.

For more information on these classes or to register, call Novi Community Education at (248) 449-1206.

All three bands win at state festival

On Friday, April 27 and Saturday, April 28, the Novi High School Band Boosters hosted 29 of the finest bands and orchestras at the 2001 Michigan State Band & Orchestra Association's (MSBOA) State Festival, with all three NHS bands putting on an award-winning performance.

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The NHS Concert Band, under the direction of JoAnna Haselhuber, received a Division II rating in Class D. This young ensemble played a difficult program. Haselhuber was extremely proud of her students, as this was the first time this group has earned an invitation to perform at the State level.

The NHS Symphony Band, under Matt Owbly's direction, received a Division II rating in Class B. This group worked very hard in preparation for this event, and they gave an excellent performance which ended with a standing ovation from the audience. Owbly was very pleased with their performance.

The NHS Wind Ensemble, under the direction of James Sheckler, received straight ones in both performance and sight reading, receiving a final Division I rating in Class AA. This ensemble (which is made up of primarily juniors and seniors) moved up to Class AA from Class A last year. Sheckler was also extremely proud of their performance, especially since these students played between 9:30-10:30 p.m. at night.

All groups were adjudicated by four judges on their performance of three prepared pieces of music and two pieces of sight reading music. The musical demands at this State Festival were challenging and stringent, and all bands gave strong performances.

The Instrumental Music Department and our Band Booster organization would like to send a special thanks to the NHS Administration for their support of this prestigious event, to the custodians for all of their assistance, to our Vocal Music and Theatre teachers for all their help; and to the teachers whose rooms we used for honor rooms. They would also like to send out a special thanks to Norm Norgren and his auditorium staff for all of their preplanning, set-up and tear down.

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Bicycle rodeo will allow kids to learn bike safety

By DIANE DEMPSEY DEEL
Staff Writer

Get ready to saddle up your young'ns because the rodeo is coming to town. But bring the kids' bikes instead of their horse because this rodeo is all about bicycle safety. The annual Bicycle Rodeo will be held May 19 at 9 a.m. until noon behind the Walled Lake Police Department. Nelson Reis, a bicycle "Trials U.S. and Brazilian National" champion, will give a special demonstration of a fairly new sport that involves performing stunts and navigating around challenging obstacles. Larry Brandon, State Farm agent in Walled Lake and one of the sponsors for the event, said the bicycle rodeo is fun but it's also an important occasion. "There will be stations set up

where trained people check bicycles for mechanical problems. Kids will be able to show off their bicycle moves on an obstacle course, designed to show how well they can handle their bikes. In all, there are eight stations for kids to check in for bicycle safety. Kids will have a chance to win great prizes every 15 minutes (too, he said). One bike will be given away as a grand prize. "We'll talk about bicycle safety and try to have a little bit of fun with it too," Brandon said. "Every Bicycle Rodeo course will test kids breaking and steering." Parents will also be able to get their children's fingerprinted for emergency purposes and they can leave with a bicycle license, he said. "The ID program is really important," Brandon said. "A child disap-

pears every 40 seconds in this country and having this type of identification updated and available really can aid the search effort." Children will be taught what they should do if they are ever faced with an emergency. "We will also have 911 simulator buttons," he said and explained that they will be able to learn how to dial 911 and they'll learn the importance of only using it in an emergency. Captain John Wojchowski of the Walled Lake Police, said "Kids can get hands on to operate it so they won't be scared and it won't be a strange thing to do."

In past years, 250 children attended the rodeo, he said. Last year, there was only about 30 kids because it wasn't advertised soon enough, Brandon's hoping to get as many children to attend as possible. "We've had a lot of fun with this event the last few years and we hope it continues to grow," Brandon said. "Local businesses, such as Bike Town and McDonalds have contributed prizes and refreshments. Service groups including the Lions and the American Legion have helped us make this event possible." "There are a lot of generous people in the community that give a lot," Brandon said. "We try to get as many people out there as possible."



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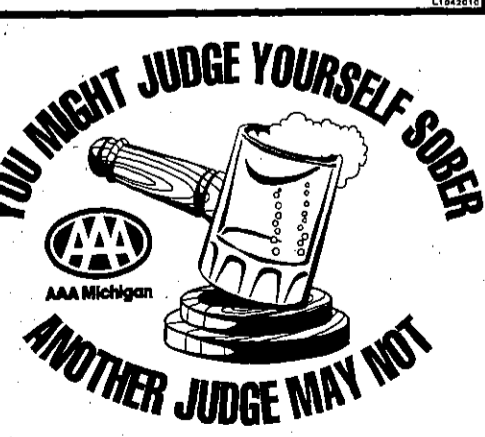
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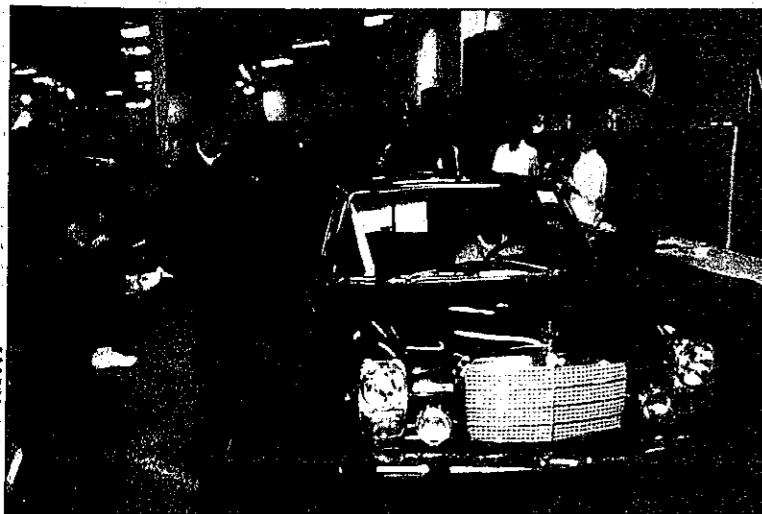


Photo by RANDAL YAKET
The Classic Car Auction at the Novi Expo Center drew a large crowd to come and look at the automobiles. Many visitors also drove home with new 'old' cars.

Classic cars roll onto auction block

By RANDAL YAKET
Staff Writer

Sure, you can go to an estate sale auction, antique auction and even horse auction to look for bargains - but for some, there is only one kind of auction.

One with horse power and not horse hoofs - the Michigan Classic Car Auction.

Last weekend, the Michigan RM Classic Car Auction was held at the Novi Expo Center where some buyers had the chance to pick up a good deal on a classic car.

Dylan Brooks' dad, Rick, brought him down to the auction from Ypsilanti to see all the classic cars.

"It's a good deal," Schroka said. "Definitely some good deals at the show. We just happen to be in town today and I bought a car. And I may buy another one."

It's a screaming good deal," he said.

Continued on 13

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CITY OF NOVI APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE TO SERVE ON CITY BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Novi City Council will be interviewing applicants for appointment to the Beautification Commission, Parks & Recreation Commission, and Planning Commission on Monday, June 11, 2001 beginning at 7:30 p.m.

If you are a qualified voter in the City of Novi and interested in volunteering to serve on a City board or commission, applications are available in the office of the City Clerk, 45175 West Ten Mile, or by calling (248) 347-0456 to receive an application by mail or fax, or log onto the City Web Site at www.novimichigan.com to print out an application. Please submit your application by Tuesday, May 8, 2001 to allow time for scheduling appointments. Interviews are 15 minutes each; all City Council meetings are televised.

(5-3/101/172431 & 6-7-01 NRNN 1043945)

REQUEST FOR BIDS CITY OF NOVI VEHICLE WASH CONTRACT

The City of Novi will accept sealed bids for a Vehicle Wash Contract according to the specifications of the City of Novi. Bids will be accepted until 3:00 PM, prevailing eastern time, Tuesday, May 21, 2001 at the City of Novi Administrative Offices. All envelopes must be clearly marked VEHICLE WASH CONTRACT, and must bear the name of the bidder. All bids must be signed by a legally authorized agent of the bidding firm. Address all bids to:

City of Novi
Carol J. Kalnovik, Purchasing Director
45175 West Ten Mile Road
Novi, Michigan 48375

The City reserves the right to accept any or all alternative proposals and award the contract to other than the lowest bidder, to waive any irregularities or informatics or both; to reject any or all proposals; and in general to make the award of the contract in any manner deemed by the City of Novi, in its sole discretion, to be in the best interest of the City of Novi.

(5-3-01 NRNN 1044179)

LAST DAY OF REGISTRATION SCHOOL ELECTION

NOTICE OF LAST DAY OF REGISTRATION OF THE ELECTORS OF NOVI COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT:
Please Take Notice that the regular school election of the school district will be held on Monday, June 11, 2001.

THE LAST DAY ON WHICH PERSONS MAY REGISTER IN ORDER TO BE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE AT THE REGULAR SCHOOL ELECTION CALLED TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, JUNE 11, 2001, IS MONDAY, MAY 14, 2001. PERSONS REGISTERING AFTER 5 O'CLOCK IN THE EVENING ON MONDAY, MAY 14, 2001, ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO VOTE AT THE REGULAR SCHOOL ELECTION.

To register, visit any Secretary of State branch office or your county, city or township clerk's office. Persons planning to register with the respective county, city or township clerk must ascertain the days and hours on which the clerk's offices are open for registration.

This Notice is given by order of the board of education.

ANN NEWTON,
SECRETARY, BOARD OF EDUCATION

ADDENDUM
OAKLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE
STATE OF MICHIGAN

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Board of Trustees of Oakland Community College, Michigan, has called a special election to be held in the community college district on the same day as the regular school election.

The following proposition will be submitted to the vote of the electors at the election:

This proposal will allow Oakland Community College to continue to impose a levy of up to \$10 mills that was previously approved by electors in 1985 for operating purposes.

OAKLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE
MILLAGE PROPOSAL

Shall Oakland Community College be authorized to levy taxes in an amount not to exceed Eighty Cents (8/100) per thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) of the taxable value of all taxable property in the College District for a period of ten (10) years, 2002 through 2011, inclusive, as a renewal of that portion of the 0.8 mill authorization previously authorized by the electors not reduced by operation of the Headlee Amendment (which is estimated to be 7800 in 2001) plus new additional millage in the amount equal to the amount reduced by operation of the Headlee Amendment (which is estimated to be 2020 mills), to provide funds for all Community College purposes authorized by law? It is estimated that the 0.8 mills would raise approximately \$34 million when last levied in 2002.

Electors residing within the community college district must be registered with the appropriate township or city clerk by 5 o'clock, p.m., on Monday, May 14, 2001, in order to vote on the above proposition.

ONLY REGISTERED SCHOOL ELECTORS RESIDING IN THE OAKLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE AREA OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE AT THE SPECIAL ELECTION OF THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE.

ADDENDUM

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Regular Biennial Election of Schoolcraft Community College, Michigan, will be held in conjunction with the Regular School Election.

ONLY REGISTERED SCHOOL ELECTORS RESIDING IN THE SCHOOLCRAFT COMMUNITY COLLEGE AREA OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE AT THE REGULAR BIENNIAL ELECTION OF THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE.

(5-3-01-01 NR 104377)

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED 2001-2002 BUDGET

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Novi City Council will hold a PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED 2001-2002 BUDGET at the Regular Meeting of Council to be held on Monday, May 7, 2001, at 7:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the same may be reached, at the Novi Civic Center Council Chamber, 45175 West Ten Mile Road, Novi, Michigan.

Interested citizens may appear and present written and/or verbal comments on the proposed budget.

A copy of the proposed 2001-2002 budget is currently available at the Novi Civic Center, Office of the City Clerk, for public inspection, 45175 West Ten Mile Road, Novi, Michigan.

This notice is published by:

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(5-3-01 NRNN 1043912)

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Auto auction draws large crowd to purchase classic cars

Continued from 12

Everything imaginable was there from a 1904 Ford Roadster to a 1956 Chevrolet Bel Air Convertible. All on the block and ready to move.

One buyer picked up a 1991 Cadillac limousine for under \$4,000. "It's not a car," the auctioneer called out. "It's a business."

Some in attendance on Friday were picking up information before coming back on Saturday to make their bids.

Aaron Selig, who works as a mason in Macomb Township, said he wanted to make sure he got the right car at the right price.

Selig was looking at a few cars. The 1970 Cutlass 442 Convertible and the 1966 Ford Mustang were at the top of his list.

"You want a nice car but there are a few things you need to look at," Selig said. "First, price. You've got to get the best price you can. Then there is the availability of parts. If the car breaks down, you have to be able to get parts. And where you go to get the parts is important also. I mean, if you have to have them shipped in from L.A., it may really become a problem."

The auction began at just after 5 p.m. on Friday and ran through Sunday. But if you missed the auction, don't worry. Another car auction is scheduled for later this summer, August 10, 11, and 12.

For more information on specific time and place, call RM Classic Car Productions at (734) 547-2400.

Randal Yaketa is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached by e-mailing ryaketa@novihome.com or by calling (248) 349-1700, ext. 105.

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Urology
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Vascular Surgery
Daniel Reddy, M.D.
Alexander Shepard, M.D.

Justices 'did the right thing' in CCW ruling

By MIKE MALOTT
Hometown News Service
mmalott@hometown.com

Supreme Court Justices 'did the right thing' Monday, April 30, when they remained to the Court of Appeals a lawsuit over the petition drive seeking a referendum on Michigan's pending new law regarding concealed weapons permits, according to Wayne County Prosecutor Mike Duggan.

In essence, the justices told the Court of Appeals to go ahead and rule on the case, and to do it by June 1 so that the Supreme Court will have time to hear an appeal before the July effective date of the CCW law, Duggan explained.

Appellate judges earlier tossed out the case saying the Michigan United Conservation Clubs and the Michigan Coalition of Responsible Gun Owners had filed suit over the referendum petition drive too soon. They should have waited until after the Secretary of State was done verifying the 260,000 signatures collected and turned in by the People Who Care About Kids Committee. The judges of the Court of Appeals concluded, "Historically, that is the way it has been done," Duggan explained. "But the Supreme Court told the Court of Appeals to go ahead with a ruling because they are going to see the case anyway in June. This way, they'll have time to review it. Otherwise, they would have virtually no time to look at this whole mess."

In the same ruling Monday, justices denied a request by the MUCC and MCRGO to block verification of the petitions by the state. Duggan said he expects petition verification will be complete next week.

The case will eventually decide whether Michigan voters get to say at the ballot box on whether

the state's new CCW law stays or goes.

State lawmakers passed the CCW law revision last December, requiring county gun boards to issue permits to carry concealed weapons to applicants if they meet all the criteria. On the final day of debate, the law was amended to include a \$1 million dollar appropriation for trigger locks and firearms education. The state Constitution says that bills which appropriate money are not subject to referendum.

Contending that allocation was just a ploy to try to keep the question from going to a vote, Duggan and his committee gathered signatures statewide. Just over 150,000 were needed; the committee gathered 260,000 in the 90-day period.

If the courts allow the question on the ballot, it would appear in an election in 2002. If placed on the ballot as a referendum, the effective date of the CCW law would be suspended until a vote is taken.

"The Supreme Court was telling the Court of Appeals to rule so that it has time to review the case when it gets dumped in there, which it is going to one way or another," State Sen. Bill Bullard, R-Highland, a proponent of the CCW bill, said.

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(20 words or less) & a \$12 fee to:
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This tribute will run in The Livingston County Daily Press & Argus on Monday, May 28th, and in the South Lyon Herald, Northville Record, Novi News, Milford Times, and The Times on Thursday, May 24th. We must receive your entries by Wednesday, May 16th.

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Make Dad feel extra special this year by giving him a special tribute.

This special tribute to your Father will run in The Livingston County Press & Argus on Sunday, June 17th and the South Lyon Herald, Northville Record, Novi News, Milford Times, The Times, on Thursday, June 14th.

Deadline for your tribute is Wednesday, June 6th.

If you would like your Father featured in this special, send a brief message (20 words or less) & a \$10 fee to:
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St. Matthews opens doors to kids

By DIANE DEMPSEY DEEL
Staff Writer

St. Matthews Lutheran Church in Wixom isn't quite ready for church services yet, but the Christian daycare and preschool that can help build children spiritually.

Wendy Niska, director of child development, said the reason for the success of Hearts & Hands Christian Child Development Center in St. Matthews Lutheran Church is its distinction from other daycare and preschool programs.

"I think the big difference is that we look at this like a ministry to children and their families," Niska said. "We are able to tell parents and children about Jesus and spread the good news."

The childcare center began with 27 children, she said. The number of children has grown rapidly to 106 students. Teachers provide care to children six weeks old until they are five years old. They can still be cared for until they are eight years old in the latch key program.

"It takes 18 staff members between teachers and caregivers to provide care for the growing number of kids who attend."

"God has blessed us and has been with us every step of the way," Niska said.

The teachers are another reason for the school's success, she said. "The teachers are Christian people that are here because they love children," Niska said. "We have a Christ-centered program that can help build children spiritually."

Instructors at the school teach children math, science, and help build their social skills, she said. They also learn Christian teachings.

Niska said she has noticed positive changes in children. When children have problems or hurdles to overcome, teachers are able to help them with those.

Children at the daycare and preschool learn to respect other children and their teachers.

They start to learn preschool activities early at the school.

"It's not just a daycare," Niska said. "It's a Christian preschool program beginning at 15 months."

Anyone in daycare automatically goes to preschool. It's amazing how much they learn."

Niska had high praise for the school's instructors.

"These are awesome teachers here," Niska said. "We couldn't ask for better teachers."

Niska is happy that the daycare and preschool programs have taken off. However, she said she was looking forward to the facility becoming

more than a school. She said she will be happy when it becomes a church.

"We have so many families that are just waiting for it to happen," Niska said.

Many of the parents of the children are excited to start attending church services at the church, she said.

"We've had about 15 to 20 families inquire about it," Niska said. "They're comfortable here."

Rev. Paul Moldenhauer, senior pastor at the church's campus in Walled Lake, said he is excited for Wixom church services to begin in the fall. The church is so successful in Walled Lake that its members decided to expand the ministry to a second campus.

The Wixom campus currently offers Aerobics classes, Alcoholics Anonymous meetings, and an introduction to Christianity classes, he said.

Church leaders wanted to minister to many of the people in the Wixom area who are 24 to 35 years old.

"The whole idea of the ministry will reach out to that age bracket in a contemporary approach," Moldenhauer said.

The current Walled Lake location offers traditional and contemporary worship, he said.

The new campus will be designed to minister to young people and their families.

The building was completed in August. However, its members have not been able to have church services yet because they have not been able to find a pastor for the new church.

"We've tried to hire several pastors on three different occasions and they turned down the position," Moldenhauer said. "So we have to start the process over again."

Many other churches in the area have been experiencing the same problem. It has been a problem in recent years that there is a shortage of ministers, he said.

"We are just waiting for the pieces to fall into place to start worshipping there," Moldenhauer said.

Diane Dempsey Deel is a staff writer for the Lake Area Times. She can be reached at (248) 549-1700 ext. 110 or ddeel@hometown.com.

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SmartZones could be crucial

On first glance, it looked a lot like pork. A state body (in this case, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation) announces 11 "SmartZones," carefully scattered around the state. The press release detailing locations of the various SmartZones quotes an aspirant for higher office (in this case, Lt. Gov. Dick Posthumus)...

Other sites are located in Grand Rapids (Grand Valley State University and the Van Andel Institute for studying life sciences), Kalamazoo (Western Michigan University), even Houghton in the Upper Peninsula (Michigan Technological University)...

SmartZones will be allowed to capture the growth in property and school taxes as the business climate improves, much like the tax increment financing system used to fund downtown development areas. SmartZones will be allowed to capture the growth in property and school taxes as the business climate improves...

The smell of gambling victory

As we drove through a Louisville neighborhood, windows rolled down, and the smell of Apple blossoms filling the inside of the 1981 Cadillac DeVille, as we headed (two days early) to the Kentucky Derby. An orange/red sky was the backdrop for the white spirals of Churchill Downs, home of the Derby.

It was my first "real" trip to the Kentucky Derby. I had gone previously but sat in the infield and did not wager much at all. But this time, it was serious business. We had done our homework. Robby had a few years experience "handicapping" the ponies. He'd been to Belmont in New York and he kept saying things like "Just watch what I do" or "I'll show you what to do."

I walked back to the seat. I didn't say a word. I was afraid to. What kind of an idiot puts all his money on a 17-1 shot in the Kentucky Derby, I could already hear them. What in God's name are you doing? You'd better stop with the whiskey! But I hadn't had a drink all day. And just before the Derby race went off, I bought a large cool glass of bourbon...

LETTERS

Maybe some of these council members are indifferent and dispassionate because of their lack of commitment to our City. I think it is time for these individuals to step down or face the possibility of being replaced at the next election with people who have the "fire-in-the-belly" for the job. Joseph G. Toth Novi

CITY CUISA 248-624-9126 Penni, Jan, Hollie, Amy, Dawn & Denise

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NOVI NEWS

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NOVI NEWS

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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.

Let's not turn our state into the 'Wild Mid-West'

Gun-rights advocates have certainly made some fair points about the current state of law regarding permits to carry concealed weapons. Drafted back in the 1920s, Michigan's present CCW law has resulted in a system which allows county gun boards to decide on permit applications in an arbitrary fashion.

There can be little doubt it will result in a large increase in the number of people legally carrying concealed "heat" in Michigan, by some estimates up to a ten-fold increase. We've no desire to see Michigan turned into "The Wild Mid-West."

Given a chance to vote on this law in a referendum, Michigan voters should toss it out and send state lawmakers back to the drawing board for some serious re-writing. Improvements needed to the law include: Tougher restrictions, if lawmakers want to retain "shall issue" wording — verbiage that eliminates the discretion of local gun boards and requires them to give out permits as long as applicants meet all the criteria — additional restrictions are in order. Applicants should be required to "show a need."

Under the current "may issue" rules, gun boards often do require a showing of need, but what they'll accept as a need is frequently disputed. Lawmakers ought to require that showing then provide a list of what needs are considered acceptable for issuing a CCW permit. If the applicant can show that need, shall issue wording begins to make more sense.

o Revise in the new CCW law the so-called "village idiot clause." State lawmakers included the clause to allow gun boards to weed out applicants who might not have a criminal record or might not have been committed to a mental institution, yet would present a danger to themselves or others if allowed to walk around with guns. Nice idea, but to invoke that clause, gun boards would have to produce "clear and convincing evidence" that the applicant presents a danger. That standard of evidence is too high. The wording needs to be changed around to provide a presumption in favor of the board when it exercises its discretion. Applicants could still appeal to the courts if rejected on that basis, but the burden of evidence would shift.

o The time period given to gun boards to conduct background checks on applicants is seriously too short. Set in the new law at 30 days, it is half to one third the time given gun boards in other states to review the back-

CCW discussion was fair

On March 29, the Novi News provided coverage of a community town meeting at which the topic of concealed weapons was discussed. There was disagreement about the issue at the meeting. It is one about which citizens have strong and differing opinions. I oppose the recent legislation that will increase the number of concealed weapons permits in Michigan, and I said so at the meeting. Some residents of the area disagreed with me and they voiced their opinions too. The discussion was spirited and respectful.

Your article fairly represents the disagreement about this issue. Unfortunately, several subsequent letters to the Novi News suggest, in substance and in tone, that the issue should not have been covered in the way that it was in your paper. I disagree. I feel that the Novi News carefully laid out the two opposing perspectives and concluded, as anyone attending the meeting would have done, that this is an issue about which there is strong public interest and differing opinion. This is precisely the kind of issue newspapers should be covering.

That is why I want to remind our public officials and your readers of my central point at the time of the town meeting. We need to hear what people think and believe on this issue. At the meeting, I was asking our representatives to respect the hundreds of thousands of Michigan citizens who have signed petitions to place this issue on the ballot for a public referendum. These signatures have been collected across our state since the controversial legislation was passed late last year. While both representatives voted in favor of the more lenient concealed weapons law, neither disagreed that the signatures put the issue to a vote sufficient in number or appropriately secured.

The sole reason that this issue might not come to public vote is because of a legislative technicality referenced in your article that was purposefully inserted in the law to block it from the public ballot. This is a cynical approach to public policy and breeds mistrust in our democratic institutions. In my opinion, my plea then, as it now is, is that we let the people of the state to vote on this issue. We have the right to bear arms. We do not have a responsibility to bear arms. Those who disagree with this point of view regarding concealed weapons may do so. We have the right to publicly discuss our right to vote on the most important issues of our day and every bit as important. These are more than our rights; they are our responsibilities as well.

John C. Burkhardt Novi

Citizen's letter was right on the mark

I would like to congratulate Joe Toth for a wonderful rebuttal in last week's paper. However, I would like to add some notes along the lines he has started. It is never easier to make comment than someone chooses to make comment about Hugh Crawford, his achievements or lack thereof, his loyal supporters feel it necessary to bring Kathy Crawford into the picture. I don't ever remember any criticism of Mrs. Crawford. We constantly hear of all the time... the dedication... this, the that... their whatever. No one is questioning the integrity of Kathy Crawford, but just to see the record straight: She is a city employee. She is paid quite nicely for the work she does. Just exactly how much of her contributions actually is included in her job description, acknowledging the extra amount of time and effort she does on a volunteer basis?

The Toth letter was a criticism of Mr. Crawford — not Mrs. Crawford. Remember: It was he who campaigned for the county post... it was he who made the campaign promises, and it was he who was elected, not "she." Coincidentally, Mr. Crawford's first visit to the Novi City Council meeting was only after the publication of Mr. Toth's letter. The letter hit the nail right on the head regarding the broken promise of constant visits to Novi. Keep us apprised of actions at the county level. It never ceases to amaze me that with all the wonderfully astute readers in this city, we are always ready to shoot the messenger. You don't have to like the style of any particular writer, you don't have to like the innuendo, or anything else. Read between the lines. Take the message at face value. And that last message was right on the money.

We are again getting into political timings and candidacy announcements for the November elections. Let me remind all of you who plan to support your specific candidate or campaign in their direction: It is the intelligence and their knowledge and their capacity to deliver Novi into the 21st century that is of the utmost importance to our future. It is not their dedication to our city; while dedicated people are always necessary to any society, the dedication here involved, or gratitude extended that makes a person acceptable for the seat to which they aspire. So many people have said... this one... that one... and so much time that they've put in and

LETTERS

they're so dedicated... and they're what we need... well. Dedication is nice, but give us intelligence and foresight to lead us in the future. Thank you, Mr. Toth, for your letters, your humor, and your insight into this city. James E. Korke Novi

Resident disputes Northville Record's claims

In Chris Davis' column dated April 26, he wrote a paragraph about "...everyone's perception of the (Northville Record) is different..." He refers to a "letter from a reader who was pleased as punch with the amount of local stories we had in the paper." And he writes, "...I took a phone call from a reader who thought we were as empty for local news as a refrigerator in a weight loss clinic."

I read a letter to the editor in the April 26 Northville Record that commended the paper on the outstanding "letters published April 19." Where is the letter to the editor he referred to in the above paragraph expressing satisfaction with the amount of local stories? If he is referring to F.A. Walling's letter to the editor on "Variety of letters welcome" with regards to one specific date, he is taking this out of context. I read a letter to the editor in the April 19, by stating, "Although the NR occasionally runs space-permitted news from the city of Novi, it is the focus of the Record to be dedicated to Northville and Northville Twp."

In that same issue, the April 19 Northville Record, there were three Novi articles: 1. Novi gets 100 percent compliance 2. Novi police hunt for male suspect in bank robbery 3. Novi prepares to vote to voters with \$75M school issue Are these slow news days for the Northville Record? Rosemarie Denton Novi

Talk on sex ed has gone too far

In response to Rosemarie Denton's letter of last week regarding the parent meeting for the Novi Meadows Human Growth and Development course, enough already. I know I speak for a lot of people when I say the day you have a child enrolled full time in the Novi district then maybe, just maybe, some of us might be more open to your views. You might also get more people on your side if you toned down the "witch hunt" behavior shown at these various meetings you have attended.

I was at that parent meeting and I believe the presenter, Mrs. Jeska, considering the trying circumstances she was under, handled herself beautifully. There was absolutely nothing objectionable to what the students would be viewing in those videos and/or transparencies. And from having talked to my child after the classes, it sounds like they were held in an appropriate and dignified matter. Please let the schools handle the program as they see fit and let those of us parents with students actually attending the classes make any objections known if we feel there is a problem with the materials presented. Jan M. Less Novi

Let others have their say

It seems to me, and I am sure to other readers too, that your "Letter Policy" is not being enforced. I, as others have said, believe in the Freedom of Speech, but there has to be a limit on content and length enforced. Therefore, I propose the paper dedicate one full page each week to the Kortes, Dentons and Toth. You could even include their pictures if they like. Whether they pay for it or not is up to you. This way, the rest of your readers could get a small letter printed. There are probably many readers who would write to the paper if they thought you had enough space for them. When we see letters of 400, 500, 600, 700 or more words each week by the same people, we tend to not write. A long time resident of Novi and reader of the Novi News. Sid Rairigh Novi

County Commissioner

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LETTERS

Continued from 17 Novi

bike paths and sidewalks where Novi does not? Mayor Clark implies that the presence of Dow Chemical is the only reason that Midland can afford bike paths. Yet, Midland's tax base isn't significantly larger than Novi's.

The difference is that Midland's budget includes a statement by the Midland City Council that they are committed to funding the construction of a priority list of sidewalks with money set aside to do exactly that.

The same is true in Portage where the city has made a proactive effort to develop a network of bike paths that allow Portage residents to walk and bike to the city's far-flung collection of parks. In Novi, where the City Council won't make a commitment to bike paths or sidewalks, most residents have to get in their car and drive if they want to visit a city park.

When all else fails, the Mayor and Council always points to "fiscal restraints" (the Vistas lawsuit) as an excuse for not funding improvements like bike paths and sidewalks.

But Novi is not unique in facing such financial challenges. Portage and Midland are both facing the prospect of losing millions of dollars from their respective city budgets due to tax appeals by their largest taxpayers. Those budget storm clouds haven't deterred either city from continuing to make investments into their cities, including sidewalks and bike paths.

Plus, Novi's financial "crisis" didn't stop the City Council from giving a subsidy of \$10,000 of your tax dollars to a private company, Tower Automotive. It also didn't stop the City Council from finding money to fund the bike path project that serves the subdivision where the Mayor lives. At least the Mayor found one bike path project he could support.

Andrew Mutch

Honor those who work for others

Let's Appreciate More. Unless guilty of crimes, the men and women who serve in our armed forces are to be praised and honored by all American citizens regardless of where their superior stations them, their job, or their rank.

Unless they are strictly in it for their own self-serving reasons, most men and women who serve as our elected or appointed public officials have a desire to improve conditions and benefit the community as a whole. For those of us who don't have the ability to serve or the desire for that level of commitment, let's appreciate the efforts of those that do. Most of our officials are much more accessible today than ever before. If you have a concern or complaint re: The actions of one of them, or you have an issue of importance to be addressed, pick up the phone, send an e-mail, or write a letter to him or her. We may not always agree with what is being done, but as a community, we need to work toward consensus, not to insist on just what we want done.

We need to move away from the "me" attitude so many of us have, and adopt more of the "us" spirit. Let's address issues, not resort to personal attacks, petty name-calling or insinuations. We all have the right to differing opinions; Disagreements can promote worthwhile discussion and brainstorming. Let's get back to the good basics of solving the problems, rather than looking for the problem in everything. Might be amazing how much more we could accomplish.

Sharon Larson
Novi

Historical Society Hoedown delights area dancers

By DIANE DEMPSEY DEEL
Staff Writer

It was a hoedown sensation Friday when people from all over the community stomped their feet to a great bluegrass beat at Walled Lake's historic Stonercrest.

The dance on April 27 was hosted by the Commerce Township Historical Society as a way to raise funds for the organization as well as introduce people to Stonercrest and the historical group. It's the first time the group has held a hoedown at the building.

Larry Halstead, a member of the bluegrass band The Delivery Boys, said this is the kind of place the band likes to play at. "People come here to listen to the music and have a good time," Halstead said. "It's kind of part of the flavor because we play a lot of the old time music."

Historical Society President Janice Leonhardt said The Delivery Boys played at their January meeting and everyone loved listening to them.

"Someone suggested getting a caller and having a dance," Leonhardt said.

Walled Lake residents Jeanne and Mike Kovatch made their way to Stonercrest after reading about it in the newspaper and they knew it was for them.

"We used to go square dancing in Indiana and Texas," Jeanne Kovatch said. "We said 'this sounds like fun.' When we would go square dancing we'd meet the nicest people. So we thought we would come out and meet the community."

Mike Kovatch added that they thought it was the perfect opportunity to do it since they have only been in the area for three years.

"We're still learning who's who," Mike Kovatch said. West Bloomfield resident Todd Coe and wife Ronda also tapped their heels to the country tunes. Coe said his family was native to Walled Lake and he wanted to check out Stonercrest, which was built as a school in 1850.

"I like history and old things," Coe said. "I've never been here in my entire life."

Historical Society member Ruth Tuttle said she thought the hoedown was wonderful.

"Everybody seems to be having a good time," Tuttle said. "It's something different."

Davisburg resident Charlie Ritse said he and his fiancée Rita Tomkins are looking forward to getting married at Stonercrest in July. Tomkins son was married years ago in the old school building and the couple also thought it

"It's something I recommend to anyone who has a chance. I thought it was great. It's a good way to meet new faces."

Dan Newell
Commerce Township resident

would be a perfect place to tie the knot.

"So we came here to listen to bluegrass music and check it out," Rhine said. "We love bluegrass music. It's my favorite."

Commerce Township resident Dan Newell said he had never been to a hoe down before but he was having the time of his life.

"It's something I recommend to anyone who has a chance," Newell said. "I thought it was great. It's a good way to get into contact with the community and good way to meet new faces."

Commerce Township resident Linda Onderko, president of Friends of the Foster Farm House, agreed that the hoe down is excellent for uniting people.

"I think activities like this are great for bringing the community together," Onderko said. "I've had a real good time and I'm glad to see a large turnout."

"I think it's the things in the community that make each community unique," Onderko said.

"With the rapid development, communities start to become clones of one another. The things that are special need to be preserved."

Leonhardt agreed. The historical society needs support from the community, she said. The funds from the dance will be put to good use.

"We're working in the restoration of Stonercrest," Leopold said. "We're working toward getting added historical sites marked in Commerce Township and Walled Lake."

Historical Society member Charlene Long, one of the planners for the event, said she was thrilled with the sold-out hoedown.

"It turned out really well," Long said. "This is what we wanted to bring a lot of people to Stonercrest so they will know it's here and to encourage people to become involved in the historical society."

Diane Dempsey Deel is a staff writer for the Lake Area Times. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700 ext. 110 or ddeed@ht.homecomm.net.

Thursday, May 3, 2001 — HOMETOWN NEWSPAPERS (NL) — 16A

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City will honor Korean War veterans this summer

By STEPHANIE FORDYCE

Staff Writer
 In a continuing effort to recognize veterans of war, Mayor Richard Clark and the city of Novi have dedicated July 1 as Korean War Veterans Recognition Day.
 This year the city will identify, thank and honor those men and women who fought from 1950-1953, for the sacrifices they made to ensure a free and democratic South Korea.
 "With the overwhelming success of last year's WWII Veteran Recognition Day, Clark is hoping to once again bring acknowledgment to veterans and their families.
 "The Korean War came just five years after the end of WWII and we lost almost as many American members of the armed forces in Korea as we did in Vietnam," Clark said.
 Clark said because Korea is commonly referred to as the "forgotten war," he hopes to provide the community with a clearer understanding and appreciation of the lessons, history, and legacy of the Korean War.
 "Korea has always been described as the 'Forgotten War' and it was," he said. "Men and women went over there, they did their duty, but people were still getting over WWII and they just wanted to forget about it. In large measure, these veterans were sandwiched into WWII and

Vietnam and they are kind of the forgotten soldiers, sailors, airmen... and they just made some tremendous sacrifices."
 Clark said because there was a unified effort between the U.S. and the Republic of Korea to stop Communist aggression on the Korean Peninsula, the recognition ceremony is welcoming not only those who served in the American Armed Forces but veterans of the Korean Army as well.
 "This was a different war in the sense that it was in a very confined area, so we were fighting alongside Republic of Korea troops who were fighting to preserve their liberty in their own country," he said.
 "There are a number of Korean-American citizens in the area now and if we can find some of the veterans who served in the Korean Army along with the American Armed Forces, we want to honor them as well."
 The Korean War Veterans Recognition Day will take place this summer at the Novi Civic Center with recognition certificates from Mayor Clark as well as musical entertainment from the Novi Concert Band. War memorabilia tables will be set up as well, similar to those at last year's WWII ceremony.
 Maureen Malone, community relations manager for the city of Novi, said they are still looking for veterans to honor in addition

to the 25 already registered to be present.
 Malone said Korean translators are helping out for the ceremony, for those who may have any language barriers.
 Clark said that if elected again next year, the push for recognizing war veterans will continue with a Vietnam recognition ceremony slated for the summer of 2002.
 "WWII was considered the 'good war,' the Korean War was considered the 'forgotten war,' and Vietnam was really the war of the forgotten soldiers," Clark said. "By and large when the men and women of Vietnam came back, it was the first time in our history where they were reviled. Some were split, screamed at as they got off the plane - they never got their gesture for recognition."
 If you are interested in participating in this year's Korean War Veteran Recognition Day, please pick up a registration at the Novi Parks & Recreation Department office located in the civic center or call Maureen Malone at (248) 347-0445.
 The city is eager to point out that Korean War veterans from all over the Detroit area are welcome.
 Stephanie Fordyce is a staff writer for the Novi News. She may be reached at sfordyce@nl.homecomm.net

KOREAN WAR VETERANS RECOGNITION REGISTRATION

Novi's Korean War Recognition Day will be held at the Novi Civic Center on Sunday, July 1 at 1 p.m.

FULL NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER () _____

BRANCH OF SERVICE _____

DATE OF SERVICE _____

SERVICE NUMBER _____

WILL YOU BE ABLE TO ATTEND? YES _____ NO _____

WILL YOU BRING MEMORABILIA FOR DISPLAY? YES _____ NO _____

ARE YOU WILLING TO BE INTERVIEWED? YES _____ NO _____

I WAS AWARDED THE FOLLOWING MEDALS/CITATIONS/RIBBONS _____

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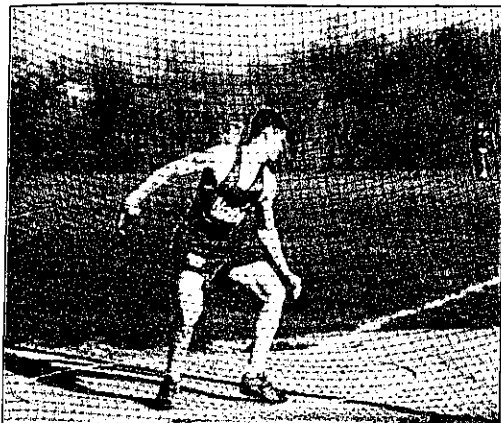


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Submitted Photo

Wildcat Dan St.Clair broke the school record in the discus with this throw against South Lyon last Thursday.

Another win, another record

St.Clair sets school discus record as Wildcats win again to move to 4-0

By COLBY J. CAVALIERE
Sports Writer

They keep coming up with new ways to impress.

Not only has the Novi boys track team not missed a beat after going to the state playoffs last year, but last Thursday in a 78-59 win against South Lyon, Dan St.Clair broke the school discus record with his first place throw of 149'5".

Just a few weeks ago before the season started there was some concern about the field events. It was a given that the Wildcats would dominate in the distance races, and be solid in the relays

and the sprints, but a majority of the athletes in the field events were less experienced, and therefore there was a concern that the field events might cost the 'Cats in certain meets. Based upon their showing against South Lyon, and in previous weeks, most of those concerns are falling by the wayside like each of the teams opponents.

Besides for St.Clair's record setting performance, Novi also got a win from Mike Hendricks in the shot put (41'7"), and Matt Emmenecker in the high jump (5'8"). A pair of second place finishes by St.Clair in the long

jump, and Adam Noble in the high jump, allowed the 'Cats to have more than enough points in the field events.

Other winners on the day were Tim Moore in the 1600m (4:23.8) and 3200m (10:10.10), Arne Meyer in the 400 dash (53.1), Eric Walle in the 800m run (2:01.8), the 4x800m relay team of Moore, Mitch Erikson, Tim Kava, and Steven Duda, the 4x100m relay team of Eric Schleuder, Scott Kortlandt, Carl Yiu, and Blake Myers, and the 4x400m relay team of Meyer, Derek BuWalda, Andrew Cossman, and Alan MacDonald.

Earning important second place finishes were Walle in the 1600m run, Schleuder in the 100m dash, Scott LaChance in the high hurdles, Mark Aventus in the 3200m run, and BuWalda in the 300 hurdle.

The 4-0 (3-0 in the KVC) 'Cats will look to keep their record unblemished when they travel to Milford this afternoon at 4 p.m..

Colby Cavaliere is the Sports Editor of the Novi News. He can be reached at 349-1700, ext. 104, or at ccavaliere@ht.homecomm.net.

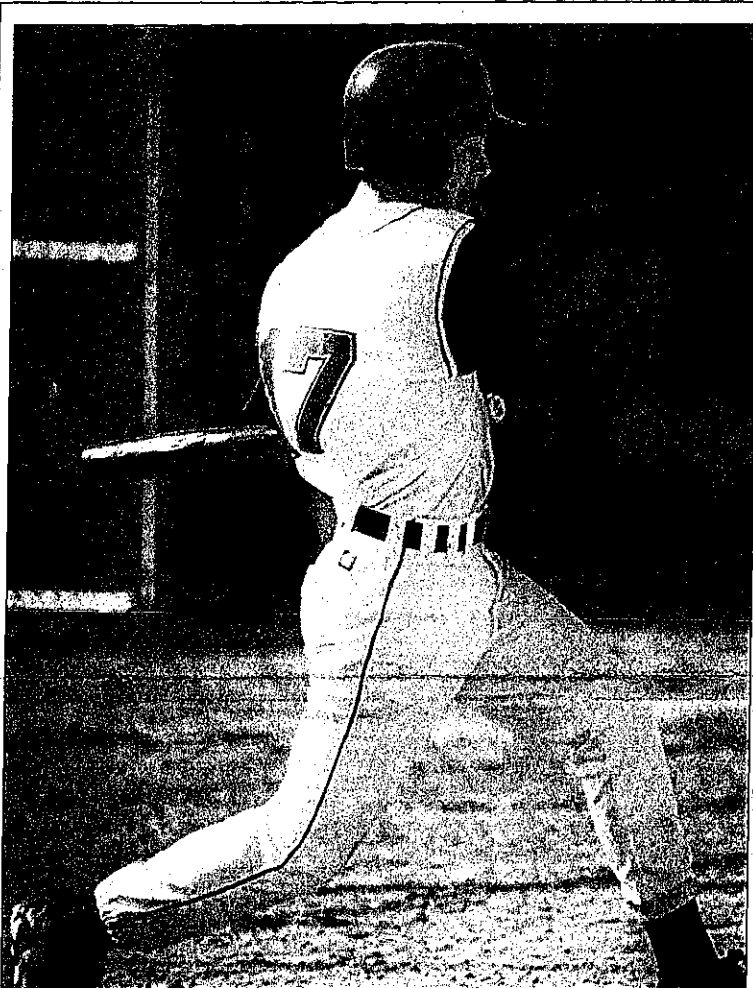


Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Novi's Mike Crawford takes a swing during a home game earlier in the year. Crawford has been stellar in the field and at the plate for the surging Wildcats



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Wildcat Dan Treharne throws some heat in an early April home game

Action heats up as tennis team plays four

Wildcats win, lose, tie, and finish fourth in the Saline Invitational Tournament



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Novi's Joe Lynch serves one up against W.L.W.

In three sets was the first doubles team of Mike McKenna and Ryan Slater. Slater and McKenna beat their Hartland opponents 4-6, 7-6, 6-3 to get Novi's second win.

"We had several very close matches with them, so I do feel they can be beaten the next time we play them," Hanson said.

NOVI 4 SALINE 4

They didn't come out with a win, but Novi's 4-4 tie against Saline on April 26 was the best they have played all season.

"Saline has a quality tennis program. We came out and surprised them with our best match of the year," Hanson said.

Josh Christopherson prevented a singles sweep when he won a three-set at fourth singles over Trevor Ferguson. Seniors Mike McKenna and Ryan Slater got a win at first doubles, as did Andrew Laskowski and AJ Sansom at second doubles. Getting Novi's fourth win of the afternoon was the team of Jon Bateman and Asim Kagzi, 6-4, 2-6, 6-2.

NOVI 8 LAKELAND 0

In their first official KVC match of the season, the Wildcats cruised past Lakeland 8-0 on April 27.

Winners were Matt Peurach (6-2, 6-3) at first singles, Joe Lynch (6-4, 6-2) at second singles, Suraj Ramachandran (6-0, 6-2) at third singles and Josh Christopherson (6-0, 6-1) at fourth singles.

McKenna and Slater (6-2, 6-2) won at first doubles, followed by Laskowski and Sansom (6-0, 6-2) at second doubles. Arora and Eric Liao won the closest match of the afternoon by a 6-4, 7-6 score. Bateman and Kagzi made up win number eight with a 6-1, 6-3 victory at fourth doubles.

The Mustangs sit at 2-3-1 on the season and will travel to Hartland tomorrow at 4 p.m. in hope of another important KVC victory.

Colby Cavaliere is a sports writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at 349-1700, ext. 104, or at ccavaliere@ht.homecomm.net.

Resurgent Wildcats

Baseball team loses to Milford, bounces back to down S.Lyon and Pinckney

By COLBY J. CAVALIERE
Sports Writer

The five games in four days stretch last week gave the Wildcats baseball team the chance they needed to get back into the thick of things. With KVC wins against Pinckney and South Lyon, combined with non-conference victories against Fraser and Walled Lake Central, Novi took the opportunity and ran with it, improving their overall record to 6-4 and climbing back to within reach of the top of the competitive KVC.

They hadn't played in 12 days, but their first action since April 11 against Hartland had the Wildcats easily defeating Macomb Area Conference opponent Fraser, 8-4.

Junior Brandon Davis had a game-breaking three-run triple and pitched two innings in relief to earn the win. Fellow infielder Adam Haberman was 2-3 with two RBIs and two runs scored.

The win evened Novi's season record at 3-3.

MILFORD 13 NOVI 9
Comebacks, big innings, great defense - the game had it all.

Novi showed the heart of a champion as they rallied from

an early 7-0 deficit only to fall short, 13-9 against the Redskins on April 25.

An inconsistent strike-zone certainly didn't help Novi starter Dan Treharne find much of a rhythm early on, as he walked three and threw a wild pitch. Milford took a 2-0 first inning lead. It got worse for Treharne in the second, as he hit the first two batters, committed a walk, and gave up back to back run scoring singles before being pulled without recording an out. After all was said and done, Milford had built what seemed to be an insurmountable 7-0 lead after only two innings.

"We were down by seven against a real good pitcher, so it obviously wasn't looking very good," said Novi

coach Rick Green.

There was still plenty of baseball left to play and in the top of the third, Novi showed they weren't going to go quietly. Center fielder Matt Gorman led off with a perfect bunt single. Gorman moved to second after Brian Swift earned a walk. With men on first and second, shortstop Brandon Davis stroked a triple into the huge expanse of center field. Adam Haberman plated Davis with an RBI ground-out to bring the 'Cats within 4, 7-3.

Pete Kobylarek, who came into the game in relief of Treharne, sat the 'Skins down 1-2-3 in the bottom of the third and allowed his team-

Continued on 2



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Central's #2 ranked Adam Brown returns with his forehand.

5-1-2 Vikings tennis team gears up for second half push toward playoffs

By COLBY J. CAVALIERE
SPORTS WRITER

If it weren't for a herd of Mustangs, the Central tennis team would be sitting with an undefeated record.

But after losing to Northville on April 25, the Vikings have rebounded and look well prepared for the second half of the year.

"We are building real well, and we have gotten some great momentum going for the final two weeks of the season," said head coach Clay Tinham.

After the Northville match, Central easily disposed of John Glenn 8-0 on April 27. Last Saturday the Vikings took part in the Dakota Invitational, and finished in second, a mere two points away from first place Utica Eisenhower who scored 21.

Adam Brown at third singles, Pat Henzie and Eric Conforti at second doubles, and Matt and Chris King at third doubles all earned medals at the invite.

In their most recent action, the Vikings finished in a 4-4 tie with

Farmington on Monday afternoon. Brown was the only singles winner, while the doubles teams of Dave Riley and Dave Brown, Henzie and Conforti, and the two Kings provided the other Central wins.

At press time the Vikings record sits at a solid 5-1-2 on the year. Tinham is pleased with how things have developed so far this year, especially with the work ethic his team has shown. Several players spend the weekends practicing on their own at the Farmington Tennis

Club.

"We have been working hard and practicing well. I've got a group of guys willing to make the sacrifices, and that gives me plenty of confidence," said Tinham.

A road match with Western looms tomorrow afternoon at 4 p.m.

Colby Cavaliere is the Sports Writer of the Lake Area Times. He can be reached at 349-1700, ext. 104, or at ccavaliere@ht.homecomm.net.



Judged one of the best lifestyle sections in Michigan



What Recession ????????

The economic brainiacs of the world are waxing philosophic as to whether or not this national financial slow-down we're experiencing is an actual recession. (Yeah, right — just like we didn't have "hostages" in China...we had "detainees.") In any event, call it what you will, but here are the...

Xtra's signs that we are in a recession

- The president submits the national budget — but only in paperback edition.
- The unemployment office clerk you were working with on Monday is standing in line in front of you on Wednesday.
- The "consumer confidence" index is expressed in a negative integer.
- You decide that rusted-out 1974 Plymouth Duster you were planning on having hauled away can be salvaged with just a couple weeks of hard work.
- Milk costs \$15.79 a gallon.
- Those Internet gambling sites suddenly look pretty attractive.
- The summary of your 401(k) has two words — "You're screwed."
- The Empire State Building has installed safety nets around the observation deck.
- The Nethead who started a "can't-miss" website last year is now holding a sign that reads "Will Work For Food.com."
- You're starting to dig into your 12K rations.
- Teenagers who leave a light on in an unoccupied room for a minute or more are sent to the stockades.
- Bill Gates is spotted buying three-for-a-dollar software at Gibraltar Trade Center.
- The dish at the cash register of your gas station now says, "Have a penny? Keep it, stupid!"
- Hospitals change their policy to "BYOA" (Bring Your Own Anesthesia).
- ABC launches a new television show — "Who Wants The Car Wash Coupon in Regis Philbin's Wallet?"

Tossing the bouquet . . . and a killer undercut

Kathryn Marie Patrick of Stuart, Fla. was released on \$5,000 bond after her wedding on St. Patrick's Day. The new bride pelted her husband with wedding cake, punched him in the face and kicked him after an argument over wedding gifts.

Official police reports said the groom was covered with both bruises and icing.

— from The Edge / AM News Abuse

Crunch time

What's involved when a car gets smashed? Northville Collision knows

Broken glass.

Busted headlamps.
Dents.
Dings.
Scratches.

If it's something that's smashed up a set of wheels, Bob Ahern has seen it happen. There isn't much that the owner of Northville Collision hasn't seen, much less can't handle. And even if the damage to a car isn't in the rear (typically the easiest location on a car to be repaired), Ahern said he welcomes the opportunity to fix what ails a car.

THE FIX

When a car gets hit, it forces the car's frame and panels to contort into shapes and positions it shouldn't be in. Getting things back in line is the first step in correcting a smash-up, Ahern said.

That involves hooking a car up to anchors in the bump shop's floor. Using a manufacturer's design handbook as a guide, the car is gradually pulled back into shape — much like stretching out a flexible drinking straw.

"We can get the accuracy down to two millimeters," Ahern said, standing over a diagram of the underbody of a Chrysler. "With experience, you can do this pretty effectively. It's a lot easier to make a series of pulls to stretch things out than it is to over-pull and have to make an adjustment that way."

The importance of re-stretching the frame of the car can't be overstated. Ahern said a bad stretch job has the potential to ruin a repair when body panels are put back into place.

"It's like they say in carpentry: measure twice and cut once," Ahern said. "If you don't do the pulls right and take accurate measurements along the way, things won't fit when you put them back in place."

After pulling the car back to its original shape, it's time for welding. Hiding behind a welder's mask and a pair of heavy gloves, one of Northville Collision's welders begins the task of piecing the car back together through a series of well-placed connections, all in the hopes of restoring the strength to the car.

Brazing — a method of car repair revered 20 years ago — has gone the way of the dodo, Ahern said.

"You can't do that these days. With unibody construction, it weakens the steel," he said.

From there, it's time for application of filler material and sanding. Much like painting a living room, surface preparation will make the difference between a high-quality finish and a bad one. Masking tape and paper cover the portions of the vehicle that need to be protected from the paint that's waiting in the room next door.

[By the way — fiberglass is pretty much extinct. Ahern said the new product that looks like fiberglass and feels like fiberglass isn't fiberglass. Instead, it's a plastic-like material called sheet mold compound.]

"It'll break like fiberglass will, but you can't fix it the way you would with fiberglass," Ahern said. "It simply won't work."

Through what looks much like an oversized set of closet doors, the car is driven into the paint bay — one of the last steps in the resurrection of a damaged vehicle.

In order to keep the airborne paint to a minimum, some 1.5 million BTUs are used in a giant heat exchanger, which helps draw fresh air to the inside of the bay and sucks out loose spray. Surprisingly, there is almost no loose paint on the walls,



A damaged car's front end awaits repair at Northville Collision.

floor or ceiling of the bay.

"We still have to wear masks in there, but it's actually very clean," Ahern said.

The paint is applied using HVLP spray guns, which stands for "high volume / low pressure. Roughly 70 percent of the paint ejected from the spray gun makes contact with a car's surface. Not too long ago, it was only 30 percent.

"Technology has made things so much better," Ahern said. "It'll take a lot less paint these days to paint a car."

Once the paint is applied and the painters exit the bay, heating lamps turn on to bake the paint in place. After that, it's just the finishing touches, and the car is done.

Of course, there's always another car rolling in just as soon as one rolls out.

"It's busiest in the winter months, but we get business in here all year long," he said.

NIGHTMARE SCENARIO

There's not a lot that can make Ahern cringe anymore. He's dealt with smash-ups of all shapes and sizes.

Once in a great while, though, a car comes along with a story that's just a bit harder to deal with.

In this case, it was a 1969 Chevelle SS. According to Ahern, a man had bought the vehicle for a steal at \$10,000. The car needed to be appraised before an insurer would underwrite a policy for the car.

Murphy's Law: on the way to the appraiser, the car was hit, causing some \$6,000 in damage.

"He was a little upset," Ahern said. Ahern said he's seen all kinds of cars pulled into the repair bay at Northville Collision through the years. Not much surprises him anymore.

"We've worked on everything from Rolls Royces to Pintos," Ahern said. "Almost every kind of car you can imagine has come in here."

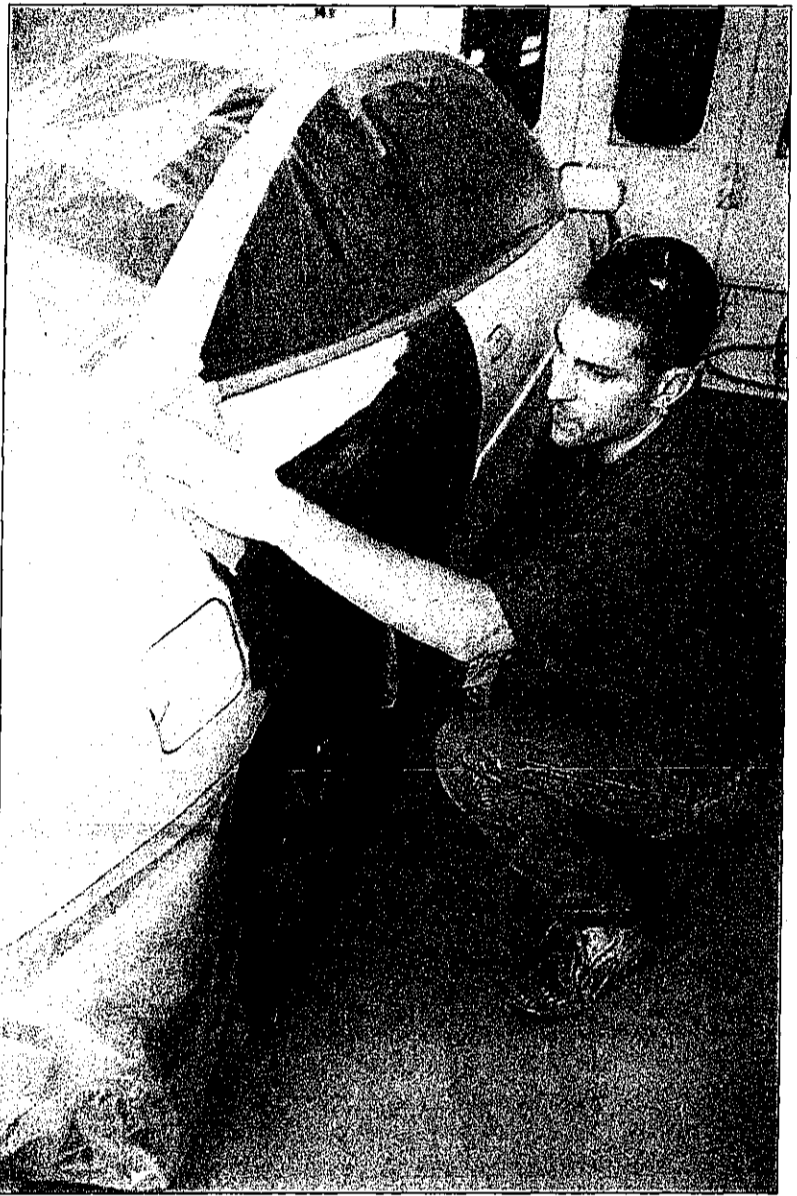
Ahern said newer cars are slightly easier to repair than older ones, due mostly to the unibody construction of the vehicles.

Regardless, though, of the age or the make of a car, Ahern said he enjoys his work.

"Every car is unique in its own way," he said. "I think we all get a lot out of seeing the finished product."

Northville Collision is located at 700 Doherty in Northville and can be reached at (248) 349-1090.

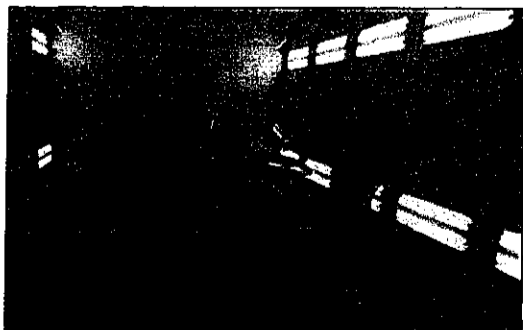
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Northville Collision's Aaron Mlynarek works on priming a Cavalier's quarterpanel, waiting to be recoated in the shop's paint booth.



Rod Rivard re-welds a 1995 Cavalier's rear bumper on after it sustained some damage in a collision.



Derrick Osborne works in Northville Collision's 90-degree paint booth and applies a coating to a damaged car's hood.

Photos by John Heider
Story by Chris C. Davis