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Volume 48 Number 22

Novi, Michigan

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Look inside for your
GREEN SHEET
Classifieds

INSIDE

Novi School Bond

With the Novi Community School Bond coming up for a vote on June 11, the *Novi News* takes a look at several different features included in the current proposal — Page 6A.

Commission woes

Planning Commission chair Karen Piccinni lays it on the line for Novi city attorney Jerry Fisher during a recent city council meeting — Page 2A.

GREENSHEET

Fan-thai-stic
New Bangkok Cuisine in Northville is sure to serve up all your Thai food needs — Page 1D

LIVING



Summer = lawnmowers

Along with summer comes warmer weather, some rain and a fast growing lawn. A Northville lawn company started with 2 employees and has grown to 16 — Page 6B

SPORTS

Regionals

Several Wildcats shined at the KVC regional track event — Page 1B

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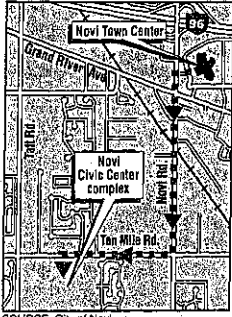
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Memorial parade scheduled for Monday

Memorial Day parade route



SOURCE: City of Novi

By STEPHANIE FORDYCE
Staff Writer

On May 28, Novi and other communities around the nation will commemorate the veteran men and women who have served our country.

Continuing in its remembrance tradition will be the city's annual Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony. The event will begin at 9 a.m. with a Veterans Memorial Service led by Rev. Leslie Harding at Oakland Hills on Twelve Mile Road.

The community will then show its decoration day colors in a 1.8 mile parade along Novi Road and Ten Mile beginning at 10 a.m.

"It's going to be a great event, there's been lots of preparation and I think it's something the community will thoroughly enjoy," said Novi

Community Relations Director Maureen Malone.

Sue Moranti of city hall said many clubs and organizations will be a part of the festivities, including the Novi High School and Middle School marching bands as well as the Novi Jaycees, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, the Lady Bugs Baton Team, and Community EMS.

Members from other groups like the Novi Dare Program and Novi Theatres will also be present.

Representing the day in true honor however, will be veteran groups such as the VFW 1519.

Local officials who are set to be present include Rep. Nancy Cassis (R-Novi); Novi City Council members Lou Coardas, Craig DeRoche, Victor Cassis, and Ed Kramer; and Oakland



will head south on Novi Road and file into the historic Novi Cemetery, where a wreath will be placed at the flag pole.

The route will continue down Novi Road to Ten Mile Road, heading west towards the civic center where the parade will conclude. There, a memorial service will take place followed by a gun salute.

The parade will take place rain or shine, unless conditions are unsafe for parade participation. Call the hotline at (248) 347-0473 between 7-8:30 a.m. the day of the parade, if in doubt.

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

Citizens leery of group home

By RANDAL YAKY
Staff Writer

A house in a shady courtyard has a group of neighbors up in arms about a potential group home on Jason Court.

Neighbors in the area have asked to city to look into the viability of a group home being set up in their neighborhood near Ten Mile and Haggerty Road. But the owner of the home insists that it will be a quiet, peaceful place where people in need will be cared for.

"We would hope the neighbors would understand what we are doing," homeowner Frank Vitale said. "There will be seniors here. It'll be a place where people can come visit their mother or father. We don't make any noise and we have been fixing up the place."

Vitale said the neighbors are just not "informed" on what he is trying to do.

According to the Michigan Bureau of Regulatory Services, there are ten group homes currently within the city of Novi that have adults with disabilities living there. In all the times the homes have been in existence in Novi, there never have been any major problems with the residents.

"The Michigan legislature, in its wisdom, has determined its best to have (the) handicapped in a facility designed to care for six or less people, which would be considered a single family residence," Novi city attorney Gerald Fisher said. "It's permissible without council approval."

When an application for a group home is made to the state, the state then provides notice to the local communities and all residents within 1,500 feet.

"There is one (group home) at the end of Burton Street, two-tenths of a mile away," Jason Court resident Barbara Thomas said. "It is licensed for six people

Science power



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

With the help of Novi Middle School science teacher Maggie Sheeran, student Georgla Katopodis recently won a number of science fair contests and Katopodis took Sheran to a Detroit Water Board contest that she entered.

Metro Detroit honors five local kids

By STEPHANIE FORDYCE
Staff Writer

Five science savvy middle school students took top honors recently at the 44th Annual Science & Engineering Fair of Metro Detroit.

Competing among more than 1,000 students from over 27 tri-

county area middle schools, Georgia Katopodis, Michelle Buelow, Bhavana Shrivakumar, Wendy Ying, and Lauren Marchioni placed across the board in the junior division at the competition held at Cobo Hall.

"We are just thrilled," said Novi Middle School science teacher

Maggie Sheeran. "To have five students bring home awards is phenomenal."

With projects like "Why do apples turn brown?" and "Well water, tap water or absorbure: we put them to the test," the school walked away with one first place award, two second place awards

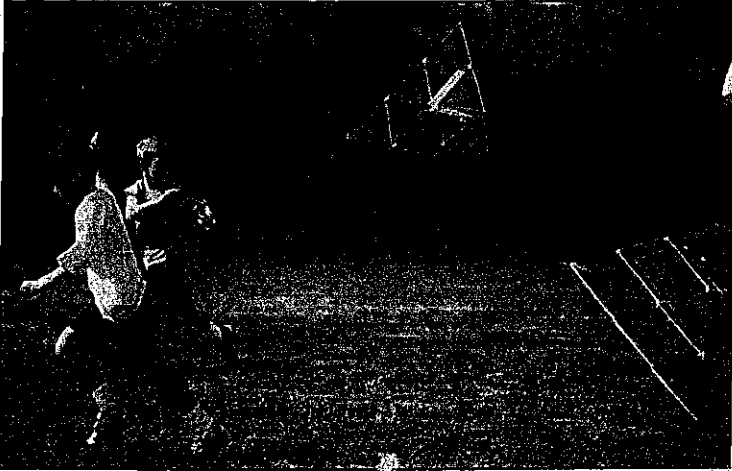
and two third place awards.

As a first place winner, seventh grader Bhavana Shrivakumar dazzled judges with her project that tested heat retention.

Using four different cups: Styrofoam, hard plastic, paper,

Continued on 4

Kite flyin' fun



Orchard Hills Elementary School student Lance Engels, far left, tries to get his kite up during last Thursday's annual Kite Night. Low surface winds made for some difficulty in getting the crafts airborne.

Council approves fund that could be illegal

By RANDAL YAKY
Staff Writer

Novi City Council voted to approve a fund which would allow corporate donations or infrastructure funding and tax abatements that could cause a rift between the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) and the city.

According to Novi City Council member Craig DeRoche, the fund will allow companies who are good citizens to donate money to the city. The city could then use the funds to alleviate the burden brought on by the need for tax abatements or infrastructure funding.

"What the state is doing is taking away the city's ability to negotiate its own tax abatements on its own terms," DeRoche said. "Our rights are being preempted by the state. All we are doing is opening the door for (business) channeling the process."

According to DeRoche, the city has had to make sacrifices in the last process and that "sacrifices"

"What the state is doing is taking away the city's ability to negotiate its own tax abatements on its own terms."

Craig DeRoche
Novi City Council member

had to be made.

"The fund exists for our corporate citizens who want to come into this town, realizing the constraints we have with our tax base," DeRoche said. "We are a donor city to a donor county and the state of Michigan turns around and tells us what to do with our own corporate citizens and our own tax base and its unnecessary for them to force this on us."

DeRoche also said with the potential for a \$64 million lawsuit looming this

Continued on 4

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Planning chair criticizes Novi city attorney

By RANDAL YKEY
Staff Writer

Novi Planning Commission Chair Karen Piccinni made her opinion concerning Novi city attorney Jerry Fisher's work clear at the May 21 city council meeting after Piccinni declared Fisher should be replaced.

Piccinni said the long time Oakland County attorney was "unprofessional and is not deserving of the efforts of the planning commission."

"If he doesn't get his (act) together, I think he should be replaced," Piccinni said.

Piccinni said she had attempted to contact Fisher about the Erickson Retirement Village site, located on north Thirteen Mile on the west side of M-5 (Haggerty Connector). She said Fisher refused to respond to her calls concerning the issue. Piccinni said it was essential that Fisher review all the recommendations brought to the commission so they can be acted on promptly.

"When I said to Mr. Fisher, 'you need to have all your data just like the consultants,' he told me that was my opinion. I am the chairperson of the commission. That isn't my opinion, that is the process," Piccinni said. "You have a lot of new people and David Evancove is good, but if it weren't for Rod, (Arroyo) where would we have been. In another lawsuit?"

According to Piccinni, if there is significant amount of delay in getting a project started, the city could become liable — as they were in the Sandstone Vistas case where a developer charged that the city delay had cost them millions of dollars. The Sandstone Vistas case is currently awaiting a hearing in United State Appeals Court.

"He refers to the ordinances and he doesn't even know them," Piccinni said. "That was the how issue behind the (Sandstone) lawsuit was — delay. I talked to Clay (Pearson), I talked to Rick (Helwig) they said if it didn't get better, he'd (Fisher) would be gone."

Novi city manager Richard Helwig said he is "very pleased" with Jerry Fisher's performance. Helwig also said Fisher is being "spread thin" but there are a number of issues Fisher is working on for the benefit of the city.

"He's working on everything from Sandstone on down," Helwig said, who did not wish to speak on the issue of dismissing Fisher.

Fisher said the issues between Piccinni and himself are one of miscommunication and that he expects that his office and the planning commission will be able to better work together in the future.

"I have to work harder to help Ms. Piccinni to understand that all the actions I am taking are in the interest of the city," Fisher said.

Randal Ykey is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext 105 or at ryakey@nl.hometown.com.

"If he doesn't get his (act) together, I think he should be replaced."

Karen Piccinni
Novi Planning Commission chair
on city attorney Jerry Fisher

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Numerous burglars strike Novi

Police News

BURGLAR FLIGHT
In what police admit was a scary situation for a local woman, ended in an arrest of one teen and a search for another on May 21 around 9:30 a.m.

According to the initial police response, two white males, reported to be in their teens, entered a home on Cadaverie in the Echo Valley subdivision west of Beck Road and south of Ten Mile.

The intruders entered the home while a female resident was still inside. The homeowner was able to phone police. Police apparently arrived at the scene while the suspect were attempting to flee out a second floor window. One suspect was arrested at the scene and another was tracked by the Novi police. Police believe the intruder gained access through an enclosed patio area and into the main house through the screened window.

According to the report, there was approximately \$10,000 in jewelry that was taken as well as a number of CDs and a laptop computer.

Neighbors on both sides of the burglarized home were notified. At the time of the burglary, the family dog was chained up in the yard.

RIDE TO SCHOOL COSTS
A South Lake Drive resident went to drop their child off at school and returned to find their home burglarized and over \$10,000 worth of items taken from the home on May 19.

The resident left the home at just before 9 a.m. and returned around 11:30 a.m. to find the kitchen window screen removed. Police reports indicate that the intruder gained access through an enclosed patio area and into the main house through the screened window.

According to the report, there was approximately \$10,000 in jewelry that was taken as well as a number of CDs and a laptop computer.

Neighbors on both sides of the burglarized home were notified. At the time of the burglary, the family dog was chained up in the yard.

MINORS BUSTED
Police responded to a loud party May 14 at 12:30 a.m. in the 1100 block of Villa Court in Walled Lake. Police have been to the residence on other occasions for the same complaint.

A 27-year-old two 19-year-olds, a 16-year-old and a 15-year-old were arrested for consuming alcohol under the age of 21. A 21-year-old man was arrested for contributing to the delinquency of minors. The 20-year-old had a Blood Alcohol Count (BAC) of .07, the 15-year-old's was .04, and one of the 19-year-olds BAC was .285.

Parents of the minors were contacted and they were jailed in the city lock up.

DRIVING DRUNK
A 27-year-old man was arrested at Pontiac Trail and Ladd Road on May 12 by Walled Lake police for operating his 1999 green Ford Ranger under the influence of alcohol at 12:20 p.m.

Police noticed that his eyes were blood shot and watery and his speech was slurred.

He failed tests that were administered to him. His breathalyzer test was 108 and his blood alcohol count was .12.

He had a prior operating under the influence of alcohol in 1997.

WIXOM HUNGRY FOR ARBY'S
On Sunday, May 20 around 8:45 p.m., two armed men robbed the Arby's restaurant on Grand River and Wixom Roads.

Two black males entered the restaurant through the rear door, as an employee took out the trash. One man reportedly had a handgun and the other a baseball bat.

The suspects left with an unknown amount of money.

Witnesses reported that the men left the restaurant on foot and then got into a purple Saturn driven by a black female, which was waiting for them at the Shell Gas Station.

Suspects were last seen eastbound on I-96 from S. Wixom Road.

Wixom officers, with the help of Novi's K-9 unit, tracked the grounds and found a black handgun and two baseball caps behind the restaurant, to the east side of the pond. Items were collected as evidence.

Interviews with gas station employees revealed that the suspect vehicle may have been recorded by Shell's Video Security System.

ANOTHER TAKER FOR FREEBIES
On the evening of Saturday, May 19, the New Directions business on Downing Street was burglarized.

Two Nobilis computers with monitors and keyboards were stolen. There were no signs of forced entry. Several other valuable items in the business were not taken. The computers valued at approximately \$4,500.

VEHICLE THEFT
On the evening of Friday, May 18 a vehicle on Heddigham Street was broken into.

Stolen was a Dell Laptop computer, camera, electronic personal organizer, garage door opener, and sunglasses.

It appeared that the thief used the garage opener to raise the garage door but it did not appear that entry was made into the house.

VEHICLE STOLEN
On Friday, May 18 a vehicle was stolen from the driveway of a Forest Bay Court resident.

The vehicle, a '94 white GMC Jimmy was locked and last seen at 11:30 p.m.

Numerous items including a laptop computer, Sony portable CD player and a child car seat were inside.

Police are investigating.

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Cassis named business advocate of the year

By RANDAL YAKAY
Staff Writer

Rep. Nancy Cassis, who has been at the forefront of promoting business in Michigan, was named 2001 Business Advocate of the Year by the Michigan Manufacturers Association.

The awards is given to the legislator that show "exemplary leadership" in dealing with business issues during the past two months. Cassis, who is chair of the House Tax Policy Committee the last two legislative sessions, has led the committee in the many tax cuts including phasing out the Single Business Tax (SBT).

"It is truly an honor to be recognized for helping improve the economic climate for Michigan families and businesses," Cassis has been a supporter

of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) which last week announced more than \$1.2 million in job training grants for more than 15 companies in Michigan.

Cassis was chosen by the MMA's Government Affairs Advisory Committee. The MMA represents 4,000 businesses throughout the state, which collectively employ 90-percent of Michigan's industrial work force.

Randal Yakay is a staff writer for the *Novi News*. His e-mail address is ryakay@hometown.com. He can be reached by phone at 1-(248)-349-1700 ext. 105.

Monday, May 14
Medical, 24156 Westmont, 11:47 a.m., Squad 4.
Medical, 24500 Meadowbrook, 12:45 p.m., Squad 1.
Medical, 41268 Llewellyn Court, 1:57 p.m., Squad 3.
Trailer fire, 29725 Sheri, 10:48 p.m., Engine 2.
Tuesday, May 15
Medical, 24500 Meadowbrook, 7:58 a.m., Squad 1.
Medical, 22515 Heslip, 8:35 p.m., Squad 3.
Fire alarm, 24250 Hemstead, 11:34 p.m., Engines 4, 1.
Wednesday, May 16
Service, 42171 Roscommon, 8:28 a.m., Squad 3.
Medical, 45182 W. Park, 9:18 a.m., Squad 1.
Medical, 1127 South Lake, 10:26 a.m., Squad 2.
Service, 45182 W. Park, 1:24 p.m., Squad 2.
Medical, 27475 Huron Circle, 1:48 p.m., Squad 1.
Medical, 41853 Lamler, 1:43 a.m., Squad 2.
Medical, 1127 South Lake, 5:10 p.m., Squad 2.

Fire Log

Monday, May 14
Medical, 24156 Westmont, 11:47 a.m., Squad 4.
Medical, 24500 Meadowbrook, 12:45 p.m., Squad 1.
Medical, 41268 Llewellyn Court, 1:57 p.m., Squad 3.
Trailer fire, 29725 Sheri, 10:48 p.m., Engine 2.
Tuesday, May 15
Medical, 24500 Meadowbrook, 7:58 a.m., Squad 1.
Medical, 22515 Heslip, 8:35 p.m., Squad 3.
Fire alarm, 24250 Hemstead, 11:34 p.m., Engines 4, 1.
Wednesday, May 16
Service, 42171 Roscommon, 8:28 a.m., Squad 3.
Medical, 45182 W. Park, 9:18 a.m., Squad 1.
Medical, 1127 South Lake, 10:26 a.m., Squad 2.
Service, 45182 W. Park, 1:24 p.m., Squad 2.
Medical, 27475 Huron Circle, 1:48 p.m., Squad 1.
Medical, 41853 Lamler, 1:43 a.m., Squad 2.
Medical, 1127 South Lake, 5:10 p.m., Squad 2.

Mariga, 8:57 a.m., Squad 4.
Medical, 24973 Meadowbrook, 9:02 a.m., Squad 1.
Personal injury accident, Ten Mile and Novi, 1 p.m., Squad 1.
Personal injury accident, Eight Mile and Beck, 3:23 p.m., Squad 4.
Medical, 39705 Village Wood, 3:48 p.m., Squad 3.
Medical, 45125 Ten Mile Road, 6:02 p.m., Squad 3.
Medical, 22512 Sheridan, 10:42 p.m., Squad 3.
Sunday, May 20
Medical, 22734 Woolsey, 1:30 a.m., Squad 5.
Medical, 40300 Grand River, 4:06 a.m., Squad 1.
Medical, 41268 Llewellyn Court, 8:28 a.m., Squad 3.
Medical, Eleven Mile and Wilcox, 10:12 a.m., Squad 4.
Fire alarm, 40800 Thirteen Mile Road, 11:34 a.m., Engine 2.
Medical, 40921 Hollydale, 6:27 p.m., Squad 3.
Medical, 42102 Fountain Park, 10:06 p.m., Squad 1.
Investigation, 20910 E. Glen Haven, 10:25 p.m., Squad 3.

Library Lines

LIBRARY HOURS
The Novi Public Library is open Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Friday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Beginning May 27, the library will be closed on Sundays during the summer. The library is located at 45245 W. Ten Mile Road, just east of Taft. For more information, call 349-0720.

MEMORIAL DAY CLOSING
The library will be closed Monday, May 28 for Memorial Day.

TEEN VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY
The library's youth services department is looking for teen volunteers to help with our Summer Reading Program. Volunteers should be in the sixth grade or above and be able to work two hours a week, from June 25 to Aug. 3. Applications are available in the library and must be returned by Friday, June 1. For more information, please contact one of our youth services librarians.

ADULT BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP
The selection for June is "Katerskill Falls" by Allegra Goodman. The group meets Monday, June 4 at 7 p.m. in the library meeting room.

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THE MIMIC RETURNS (PG-13)
1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30
MIMIC (PG-13)
BRISQ: JAMES' DIARY (R)
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Novi 43025 12 Mile Rd. 248-305-6600
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St. Clair Shores 26401 Harper Ave. 810-777-4010
Sterling Heights 45111 Park Ave. 810-997-6500
Taylor 23495 Eureka Rd. 734-287-1770
Troy 1913 E. Big Beaver Rd. 248-526-0040
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Fairlane Mall 313-441-0168
Lakeside Mall 810-247-7286
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WAL-MART LOCATIONS
Commerce 3301 Pontiac Trail 248-669-9860
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Port Huron 4475 24th Ave. 810-385-1231
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Public Access

Monday, May 21
 10:00 a.m. — Petpourri
 10:30 a.m. — The Cutting Room
 11:00 a.m. — Harvest Ministries
 11:30 a.m. — Cosby and Company
 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 Hooley Corner
 2:00 p.m. — In The Green
 2:30 p.m. — (con't)
 3:00 p.m. — Novi Street beat
 3:30 p.m. — In the Studio with Dry
 4:00 p.m. — We're Making Tomorrow
 4:30 p.m. — Aviation Journal
 5:00 p.m. — New Millennium
 5:30 p.m. — Capitol Report
 6:00 p.m. — Christian Singles
 Today
 6:30 p.m. — Bagels and Talk with Tracy
 7:00 p.m. — Lansing Connection
 7:30 p.m. — Backstage with the Farmington Players
 8:00 p.m. — Krysta's Motortown Cafe
 8:30 p.m. — Good News for Healthy Living
 9:00 p.m. — Life Talk Video
 9:30 p.m. — (con't)
Tuesday, May 22
 10:00 a.m. — Berean Baptist Church
 10:30 a.m. — (con't)
 11:00 a.m. — The Jesus Center

11:30 a.m. — Financial Strategies
 12:30 p.m. — Angels
 1:00 p.m. — Chamber Spotlight
 1:30 p.m. — Historic Farmington
 2:00 p.m. — Lansing Connection
 2:30 p.m. — Adventures with Pirate Pete
 3:00 p.m. — Let's Talk with Ben Marks
 3:30 p.m. — (con't)
 4:00 p.m. — Cosby and Company
 4:30 p.m. — Pet Talk
 5:00 p.m. — The Way, The Truth, The Life
 5:30 p.m. — People Who Make Things Happen
 6:30 p.m. — Harvest Ministries
 7:00 p.m. — Aviation Journal
 7:30 p.m. — Poppourri
 8:00 p.m. — The Hooley Corner
 8:30 p.m. — The Cutting Room
Wednesday, May 23
 10:00 a.m. — Harvest Ministries
 10:30 a.m. — The Elegant Life
 11:00 a.m. — In The Green
 11:30 a.m. — (con't)
 12:00 p.m. — People Who Make Things Happen
 12:30 p.m. — HDOT Today
 1:00 p.m. — Study In Scripture
 1:30 p.m. — (con't)
 2:00 p.m. — Restoration Now
 2:30 p.m. — Aviation Journal
 3:00 p.m. — The Hooley Corner
 3:30 p.m. — Petpourri
 4:00 p.m. — Critter Connection

Commerce honors outstanding citizens

By ERIN JOHNSON Staff Writer
 Commerce Township citizens and officials gathered Tuesday morning to honor some of their own at the 18th Annual Commerce Township Community Breakfast.
 Awards were given to several community members who have given their time and effort in a variety of areas throughout Commerce Township.
 The first award recipient was Connie Holmes who was named Outstanding Citizen for 2001. Holmes is currently chairperson of the planning commission and has lived in Commerce Township for 40 years.
 "I had you asked me 40 years ago if I'd still be here, I probably would have said no," she said.
 Holmes was a teacher at Commerce Elementary for 34 years before serving on numerous boards and committees. She has also participated in various fundraisers and has served as election inspector since 1985.
 "She's been a really busy person," said Tom Zoner, township supervisor who presented the award.
 Tim Lynch, Sr. was named Outstanding Contributor for 2001. Lynch operates the Lynch Funeral Home and has lived in Commerce Township for 27 years. Presenter Jane Edson said there are many things Lynch does for the community including helping families pay for food and clothing, helping students pay for senior pictures and dressing as Santa every year.
 "I'm like Santa, does this just because," Edson said.
 Lynch thanked everyone for honoring him with the award.
 "I'm a very lucky person," he said. "Thank you for this kind award."
 Denny Dehen of Bogie Lake Gold Club was named Business Person of the Year. Dehen has managed the club since 1976 and has provided a place to play golf for many charitable organizations as well as everyday customers.
 The Parks and Recreation Outstanding Service Award went to Rodney "Tee" Lesner. Lesner has been a Commerce Township resident since 1991 and gives his time to youth through coaching football and wrestling. He is also working to build a non-profit stadium.
 Lesner said he was honored to be included with this year's award winners.
 "It's certainly a very humble experience," Lesner said.
 The Historic Preservation Award went to the Barritt-Weborg house located on Fortiac Trail near Welch Road. The award was presented to the current owner who has lived in the house since 1946. May Weborg and her daughter, Anna Friser.

Any threats must be reported

By RANDAL YAKAY Staff Writer
 Michigan school personnel must notify school administrators if they become aware of any threat of violence under new preventative measures introduced on May 21 by Rep. Nancy Cassis (R-Nowi).
 Under the new legislation, teachers, bus drivers or any school employee who learns about any threats of harm directed at any student, former student, teacher or any school employee are required to notify a principal or administrator under the bill.
 Principals and/or administrators must then notify the potential victim or their parent or guardian as well as the appropriate law enforcement official upon learning of the threat.
 "Incidents of school violence such as the Columbine tragedy would have been prevented if the threats of violence were channeled to the right people," Cassis, a former school psychologist, said. "Common sense preventative measures must be taken to ensure the safety of our children."
 The Cassis bill is similar to a current law requiring school personnel to report any suspected cases of child abuse or neglect involving students.
 "The education of our children must be our highest priority," Cassis said. "We must do all in our power to continue raising the bar in education. Michigan has long been a leader in education reform, and we intend to remain at the head of the class."
 Randal Yakay is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105 or by e-mailing ryakay@ht.hometown.net.

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It's the empathy that comes with caring for only cancer patients and their families, and understanding their physical and emotional needs.

If you or loved one has cancer, we can help through second opinions and working with your physician, clinical research studies offering the latest treatment and, most importantly, compassionate care and hope. *Fighting cancer is all we do.*

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CITY OF NOVI RIVER DAY
 (Also known as ROUGE RESCUE)
 Join the effort to improve the environment and work with other residents at the City of Novi's annual stream cleanup extravaganza!
 When: **SATURDAY, JUNE 2, 2001**
 9:00 AM TO 12:00 NOON (8-15 Check-in)
 Where: Lakeshore Park on South Lako Drive (Meet at the Picnic Shelter)
 Join west of the intersection of Old Novi Road and 13 Mile Road
 FREE! Food and drinks all day for those who participate!
RIVER DAY LUNCHEON
 Follows directly after River Day Cleanup activities at 12 Noon at the Picnic Shelter in Lakeshore Park.
 Call the City of Novi DMS at 248-347-0480 for questions or to sign up in advance (not required).
 DONATIONS OF TIME AND EFFORT ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED! SEE YOU THERE!
 (5-2423) 01 NOVNN 1048 1002

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 W. Ten Mile, or by calling (248) 347-0480 to receive an application by mail or fax, or log onto the City Web Site at www.cityofnovi.com to print out an application. Please submit your application by Tuesday, June 5, 2001 to allow time for scheduling appointments. Interviews are 15 minutes each; all City Council meetings are televised.
 MARYANNE CORNELIUS, CITY CLERK
 (5-2423) 01 NOVNN 1043945

NOTICE — CITY OF NOVI REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY USE PERMIT TUP 01-020
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT O'Brien Waterford Construction is requesting a Temporary Use Permit to allow placement of a construction trailer at 40015 Grand River Avenue for the Bramble Medical Building from May 31, 2001 through February 1, 2002.
 A public hearing can be requested by any property owner of a structure located within 300 feet of the boundary of the property being considered for temporary use permit.
 This request will be considered at 3:00 p.m. on May 30, 2001, at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 West Ten Mile Road. All written comments should be directed to the City of Novi Building Official and must be received prior to May 30, 2001.
 C. J. KILBREW, BUILDING PERMIT COORDINATOR (248) 347-0415

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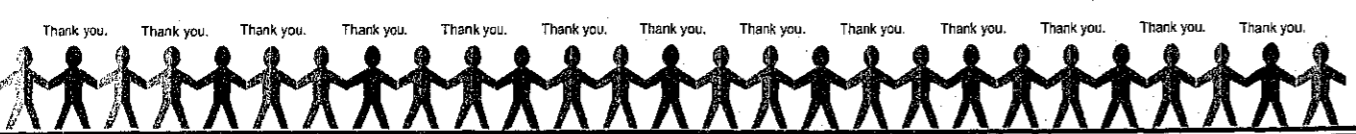
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- List of organizations recognized for Gold Award and Gold Achievement, including Accurex, Aduy Mackay Company, and National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence.



United Way It's What We Do. Together.

The organizations listed on these pages and their employees are being recognized for their outstanding achievements in the 2000 United Way Campaign.

Thanks to the generous donations of these honorees, United Way is able to fund our community's greatest needs: healthy, enriching opportunities for youth; safe places for victims of domestic violence; low-cost medicine for seniors, and training and counseling for unemployed workers.

Their investment in United Way and its 130 partner agencies brings our mission of building hope to life. That's what we do. Together.

SILVER AWARDS

- List of organizations recognized for Silver Awards, including The Accellent Family Company, ACE USA, and American National Association of Architects & Engineers.

BRONZE AWARDS

- List of organizations recognized for Bronze Awards, including AAA Life Insurance, ABB Lumber, and ABB Motors.

ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

- List of organizations recognized for Achievement Awards, including American Automobile Association, American Red Cross, and American Society for the Deaf.

UNIONS

- List of unions recognized for the award, including AFSCME Local 1645, American Federation of Teachers, and United Brotherhood of Carpenters.

Thanks for giving! Our most sincere thanks go to all of the 2000 Honor Award-winning companies and organizations whose generous contributions help United Way build hope among 1.4 million families in our community.

This ad was sponsored by the following companies, in addition to their generous United Way Campaign gifts: COMERICA BANK, DAIMLERCHRYSLER CORPORATION, FORD MOTOR COMPANY, GENERAL MOTORS CORPORATION, HUDSON'S

Community Events

The 14th annual flower sale will be held in Northville on May 26 and 27 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. More than 15 member greenhouses of the Metropolitan Detroit Flower Growers Association will be participating.

Casterline Funeral Home, Inc. Family Owned For Four Generations. Funerals, cremations, and memorial services.

New Peking Chinese Restaurant. Now Open. 10% off lunch 1-5 PM, 15% off lunch 5-8 PM. Cantonese and Sichuan cuisine.

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Call 800-44-Tony-V (8659 B). Two convenient locations in Canton and Clinton Township. Sunrooms and spa installations.

Novi Briefs

The Novi Parks, Recreation and Forestry Commission will be having a special meeting on May 31 at 7:30 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center council chambers.

A Flavor of Waltonwood! Refined Retirement Living. Waltonwood at Twelve Oaks Mall. Luxury one or two bedroom apartments.

ARCTECH Heating & Cooling, Inc. You just killed the closet monster. Professional air conditioning and heating services.

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the picnic shelter in Lakeshore Park. Call the city of Novi DPS at (248) 347-0495 for more information.

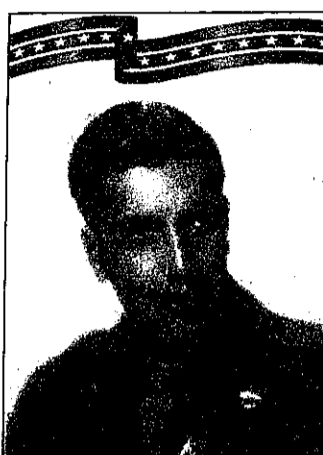
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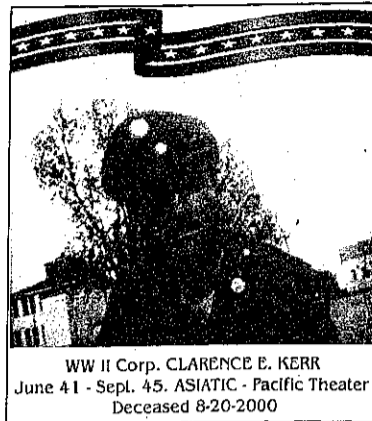
REMEMBERING THOSE WHO SERVED



Dearest BOB, Vietnam forever changed you. May the painful memories be replaced by the love we share. Your proud girls.



Former WW2 Tech Sergeant, VINCENT J. MAGNONE, served with General George S. Patton's Third Army, 94th Division from the Battle of the Bulge until the end of the war.



WW II Corp. CLARENCE E. KERR June 41 - Sept. 45. ASIATIC - Pacific Theater Deceased 8-20-2000



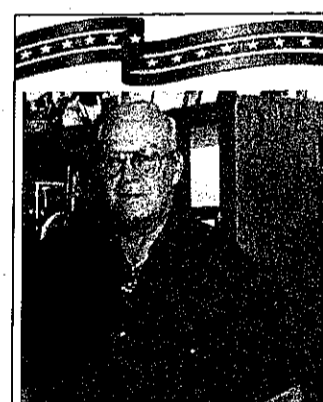
In Loving Memory - LARRY M. WATERS November 1948 - November 1999 Served in the Navy 1970 - 1974 We miss you very much. Love Nancy



CARL BOROWSKI I honor you today for your dedication to the U.S. Navy and for your patriotism to the U.S. Flag. Your Daughter Joanne



TOM HAMWAY - Staff Sergt. Army Tail Gunner. First hero home from war. Medals: Silver Star, Air, D.F.C. Died: 12-03-00. 100 Hrs. 200 Combat Hrs. Will be buried in Arlington Cemetery.



In Memory of JOHN D. GUSTAF SR. In recognition of devoted & selfless service to our country in the Arm Forces of the United States Army Air Force. Deceased 7-6-2000 His Loving Wife Della (Lived in Northville 41 years)



FRANK PICHNER - WW II - Army Corps. Served - European Theatre of Operations P-47 mechanic and Military Police duty in Germany & Austria.



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Thanks, from a grateful family. Thank You for the freedom preserved. Thank You for the losses you endured. Carano Family



SGT. JAMES L. McILVOY Died - VietNam - December 30, 1967 "Forever in our Hearts" Sadly missed - Mom: Marie McIlvoy Sister and family: Gordon & Glenda Hamilton

Walled Lake Police get new laser gun for cycles

By DIANE DEMPSEY DEEL Staff Writer

Walled Lake Police are discovering new technology by implementing a laser gun for speed detection, to use in conjunction with their motorcycle program.

The police department currently uses radar, which is highly precise at catching speeders but the laser gun was designed for one particular feature in traffic enforcement. Sergeant Douglas Santiago said the reason why the department purchased the \$4,000 speed detector was for officers on motorcycles. The laser gun, Lidar - which uses UltraLyte technology, has two signals on the front panel. The lens on top transmits infrared laser signals and the lens on the bottom receives signals back from the car or other object and then feeds signal information to the interior circuitry.

It is able to determine distance by its laser range sensor by measuring the time of flight of short pulses of infrared light. "What it does is shoot out a

laser beam," Santiago said. "It's a distance-measuring device." Santiago said the speed detection device is highly accurate and is calibrated at the beginning and at the end of each shift.

Lidar has been utilized for several years by select departments throughout the country. However, Santiago is pleased to be able to use it in combination with the motorcycles.

"Officers can be more concealed during traffic enforcement," Santiago said and added that it is also useful in congested traffic conditions. "The reason why is that it transfers a single traffic beam that the officer can target any vehicle it chooses." Jerry Walker, director of public safety, said he is pleased with the new Lidar speed tracking device.

The motorcycles are great public relations because they can be used in parks and parades, Walker said. But now they can be used to promote safe driving with the new laser gun.

Santiago pointed out that the new Lidar gun is not necessarily better than the radar detectors that are used on the patrol cars, however, they are just as accurate at detecting speed.

"It is certainly easy to operate," Santiago said. "It's just point and click."

Officers must be standing still when they use the device, he said. They can track a speeding car even at night, since the display is LED-illuminated. Four officers were trained in a one-day state orchestrated course to use the Lidar, he said. "I do like it," Santiago said. "I think it's a great complement to traffic enforcement but I don't think it's a replacement for traditional radar. I'm glad we have it because it goes with the bikes."

Diane Dempsey Deel is a staff writer for the Lake Area News-Times. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 110 or by e-mailing dddeel@hometown.com.net.

Community Education

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

The In and Outs of E-Mail
This course covers how to send and receive messages. Broadcast and asynchronous messaging. Delete, print, save, forward, and reply to messages. Send carbon copies and blind copies. Create attachments to messages. Use the address book. Use E-Mail features and functions. Mailing Lists, Net etiquette, Flame, Spam, Using Emoticons and Acronyms. Electronic signature and much more. Materials/Disk Fee: \$6

Class will be held at Novi Middle School in Room 102 from 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. on Thursdays, May 31 - June 7. Cost is \$49.

Prerequisite: Intro to Computer Class or equivalent experience.

Powerpoint Level 2
Enhance your presentations. Use symbols and special characters, customize charts and tables, produce organizational charts and work with templates. Create backgrounds, 3D effects and color schemes for your slides. Receive a brief summary of multimedia components that can strengthen your presentation, including use of sound and narration. Book fee: \$27 payable at first class.

Class will be held at Novi Middle School in Room 524 from 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. Class is 3 weeks and held on Thursdays May 31 - June 14. Cost is \$109

Creating Your Own Web Page
This class will be your introduction to the process of creating an HTML webpage. Using one of the many popular web editor software programs, students will create their own web page.

Class will be held at Novi Middle School in Room 524 from 7-9 p.m. Class is 2 weeks long, held on Tuesdays from May 29 - June 5. Cost is \$38 (Sr. Citizens \$35).

Create Brochures & Flyers
Make your own advertisements, coupons, and direct mailers. In class create a newsletter, a coupon, flyer, brochure, and tri-fold mailer. Work with graphics, WordArt, headlines, sections, margins, etc. Book fee: \$27 payable at first class.

Class will be held at Novi Middle School in Room 524 from 7-9 p.m. Class is 2 weeks long, held on Tuesdays from May 29 - June 5. Cost is \$38 (Sr. Citizens \$35).

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

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Attorney General finds no evidence of gas price fixing

By MIKE MALOTT
Hometown News Service
mmalott@hometown.com.net

The Michigan Attorney General, participating in an investigation with the Federal Trade Commission into the spikes in gasoline prices this year and last summer, has found no evidence of price fixing.

The FTC specifically found no direct evidence of collusion, and "insufficient evidence of illegal conduct to support an inference of collusion," Attorney General Jennifer Granholm stated in a letter addressed to Oakland County members of the state House of Representatives.

But there may be action law-

makers can take to affect those prices, she said, including requiring more storage of gas in the state to avoid "supply dislocations" and giving retailers equal access to supplies to spur further competition at the retail level.

Granholm also asked for legislative approval to investigate alleged violations of all state and federal law regarding consumer protection and anti-trust statutes. At present, she said, she only has authority to investigate unfair pricing, monopolization and restraint of trade. She does not now have authority to look into unfair competition or price discrimination, she said.

Oakland County's house delegation asked Granholm for a

"Citizens are suspicious because retail prices here have risen sharply in recent weeks at the same time that world oil prices have been steady or falling slightly."

State Representatives
in a letter to Atty. General Jennifer Granholm

review of recent gas price hikes. The letter was signed by Reps. Andrew Raczowski, R-Farmington, Nancy Casels, R-Nowi, Marc Shulman, R-West Bloomfield, Pan Godchaux, R-Birmingham, John Pappageorge, R-Troy, Mike Kowall, R-White Lake, Mike Bishop, R-Rochester, Ruth Johnson, R-Holly, and Robert Gosselin, R-Troy.

"Citizens are suspicious because retail prices here have risen sharply in recent weeks at the same time that world oil prices have been steady or falling slightly," representatives stated in their letter. "As we learned last summer when a broken pipeline and refinery problems caused a temporary price spike, there are other fac-

tors which also affect prices. Yet none of these factors seems to be present in this current price increase."

Granholm explained that last year's spike appeared, indeed, to be the result of refinery accidents and pipeline problems.

"The petroleum industry, like other industries, is adopting 'just-in-time' distribution practices. While such production delivery regimens can theoretically bring costs savings to the consumer, they also subject the distribution process to disruption," Granholm stated.

The main reason for the rise in prices in this year, according to Granholm, are bottlenecks at the refineries. The Department of Energy is reporting refineries are running at 95 to 98 percent

capacity, yet two refineries in the region have been closed in the last two years, the Alma Refinery in Alma and the Precor Blue Island refinery in Illinois.

Although five companies control 80 percent of the supply in Michigan, Marathon being the largest with 28.3 per cent of the market, Granholm said that should be sufficient to keep the marketplace competitive.

Further, the attorney general urged lawmakers to convene a bipartisan committee to address gasoline price and supply issues and practices in the state.

Oakland lawmakers have not yet indicated whether they will take up the attorney general's suggestions.



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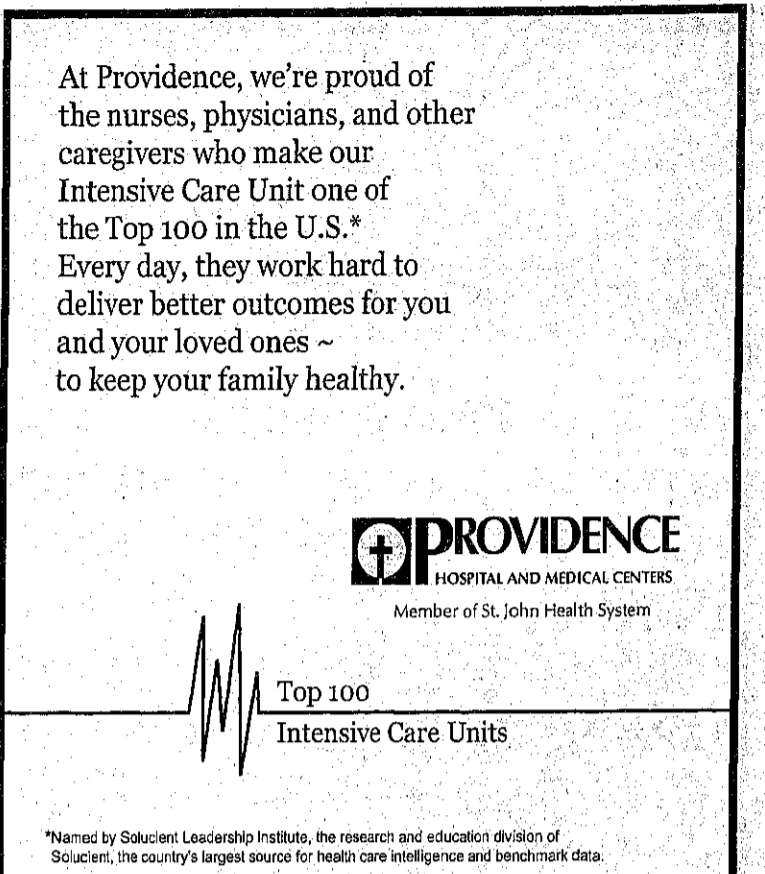
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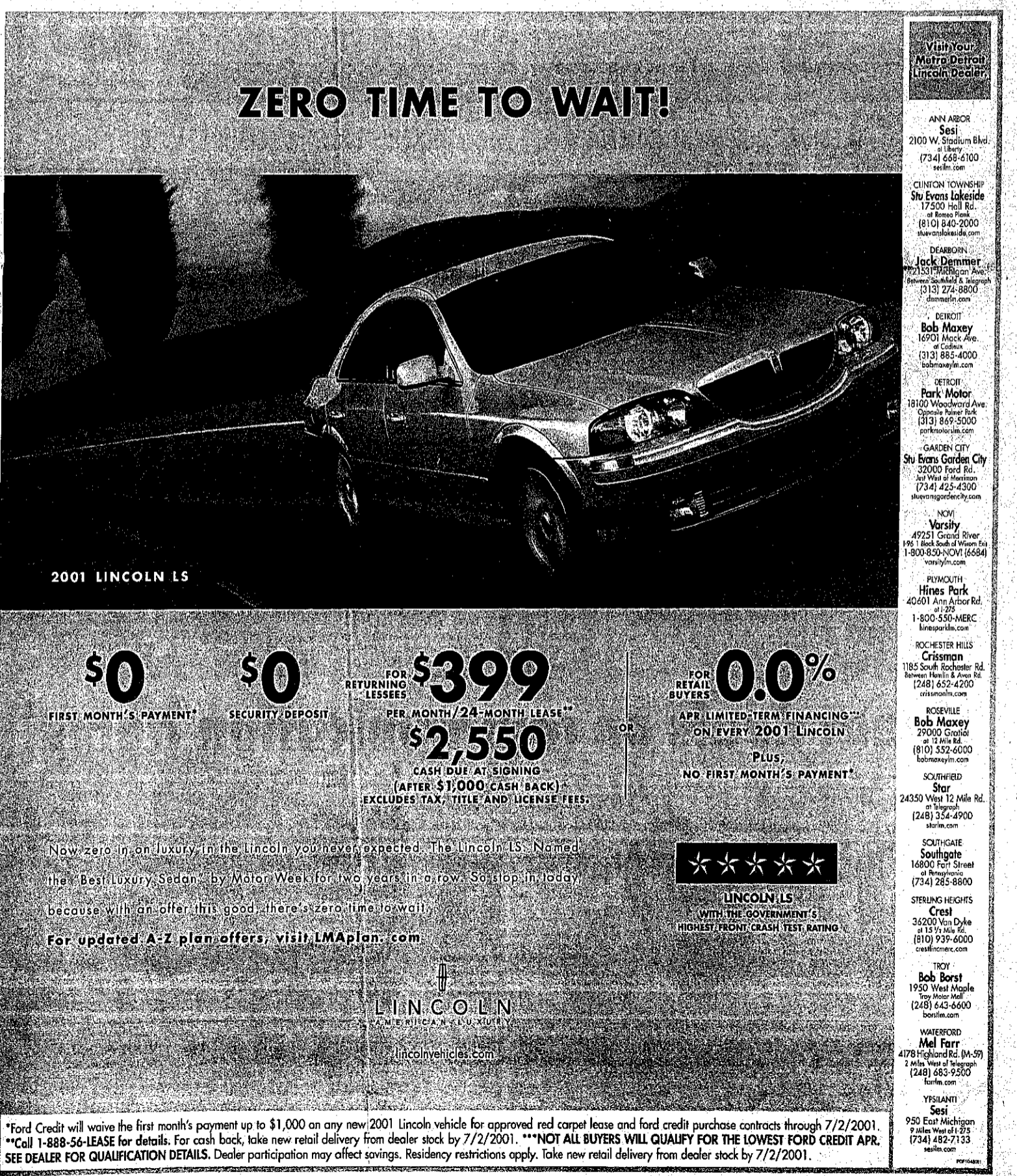
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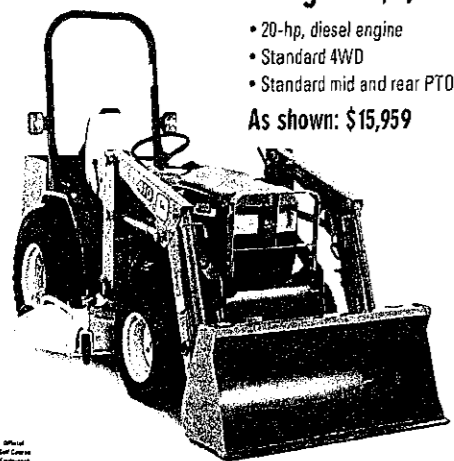
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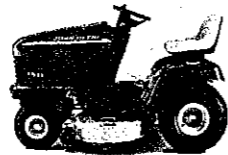
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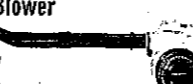
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LETTERS

Continued from 16

displayed in special section

I am livid! I see a picture in your Home and Garden section of the May 17 issue of the *Root News*. On page 18 of this section is a photo of a man on a riding mower/tractor with a baby in some sort of a holder on the man's back. This is the most ignorant display of an unsafe practice that I have seen in a long time. Anyone with an ounce of brains would never have a child of any age on or near a mower of any kind. Please place a warning on the front page of your next issue of your HomeTown papers to never ride or mow with a child attached or near a mower.

Your article "Spring Things" warns the public, "do not tickle the trunks of trees and shrubs with the string of a trimmer, because this is the way many trees are killed." Yet, you show the public that it is proper to have a baby on riding mower/tractor!

Dolores Vedro
Novi

Editor's Note: The Home and Garden issue addressed in the above letter was a special section insert in all HomeTown Newspapers for May 17. The articles and pictures were used with permission from Copley News Service, a national news wire service.

"Yes" for the Novi school bond

While there is understanding and support for the upcoming bond proposal that will provide much needed space and technology upgrades for the district, the half mill increase for "Dedicated Use" and the Headlee Override are less understood.

The Dedicated Use proposal allows the district to only use the money generated from the half mill for contracted work for the upkeep and repair of facilities. Currently, money is used from the operating account for such needs, leaving less money for programs. The half mill equates to an increase of \$50 a year on a \$200,000 property.

The Headlee-Override affects the commercial and business owners' millage rate, not home-owners. In 1994, voters approved a change allowing school districts to assess 18 mills against business and commercial property owners. The money the 18 mills generates is added to money from the state to reach the pre-determined amount of state aid set for each district. When Headlee goes into effect and anything less than 18 mills is collected, the state does not make up the difference.

In 2000-01 only 17.6 mills were collected. A loss of .4 mills was not seen like a lot, but when multiplied by the 5,700 students in the district, the lost money starts to affect kids and programs. By restoring the 18 mills, we will again receive full funding from the state of Michigan, as was intended by our earlier 1994 vote. Voting yes on the Headlee Override does not affect home-owners taxes at all.

I encourage voters to look at each proposal separately, but to understand each is an important part to the bigger plan. Voting YES on all three proposals gives us an opportunity to keep excellence in education for years to come.

Janet Cross
Co-Chair for Citizens for Excellence in Education

Obituaries

MARTHA M. HOLTZMAN
Martha Marie Holtzman, 79, died May 19 in St. Mary's Hospital, Livonia. She was born in 1922. Mrs. Holtzman is survived by a son, Raymond R. (Judy); daughters, Sue Scott, Kathy (Eddie) Rhea, and Linda L. Kalsen; one sister, Alice MacCallivary; and nine grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, May 17 at O'Brien Chapel/Sullivan Funeral Home, 41555 Grand River, Novi. Interment will follow at Cadillac Memorial Gardens East in Mount Clemens, Mich.

HINES PARK **1-96 at Milford Rd. Lyon Twp. 248-437-6700**

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Current lessees can Re-lease a 2001 Ranger SC XLT

\$172

With \$2,348 customer cash due at signing.

Includes security deposit; excludes tax, title and license fee. Customer cash due at signing is net of all rebates. Payment includes \$500 renewal cash, plus \$1500 RCL cash.

2001 Ranger SC 4x2

Current lessees can Re-lease a 2001 Taurus SE

\$245

With \$2,550 customer cash due at signing.

Includes security deposit; excludes tax, title and license fee. Customer cash due at signing is net of all rebates. Payment includes \$500 renewal cash, plus \$1500 RCL cash.

2001 Taurus SE

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Current lessees can Re-lease a 2001 Windstar SE

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With \$3,593 customer cash due at signing.

Includes security deposit; excludes tax, title and license fee. Customer cash due at signing is net of all rebates. Payment includes \$500 renewal cash, plus \$2000 RCL cash.

2001 Windstar SE

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SUBURBAN Ford DEALERS

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---	---	---

(*) Some payments higher, some lower. Not all Lessees will qualify for lowest payment. For special lease terms and RCL Cash, \$1500 RCL cash on 2001 Ranger, \$1500 RCL cash on 2001 Taurus, \$2000 RCL cash on 2001 Windstar, take new retail delivery from dealer stock by 7/20/01. RCL Cash may be taken in cash, but is used towards down payment in examples shown. Lease renewal cash of \$500 on Ranger, \$500 on Taurus, \$500 on Windstar, only available to customers terminating their Ford Division Red Carpet Lease and re-lease for 24 months by 7/20/01. Lessee terminated early qualify if terminated within program dates. Supplies are limited, not all dealers will have all featured models. Lessee's restrictions apply. See dealer for complete details. *Driver and passenger front crash test. Government data only useful in comparing vehicles within 300 pounds. **MSRP only.

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Main Street between Center & Hutton
Memorial Day Weekend

Perennials, Annuals, Shrubs, Trees, Hanging Baskets, Ornamental Accents, Herbs and More!!

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9 to 5 both days!!

Over 500 Varieties Of The Original \$1.00 Perennials

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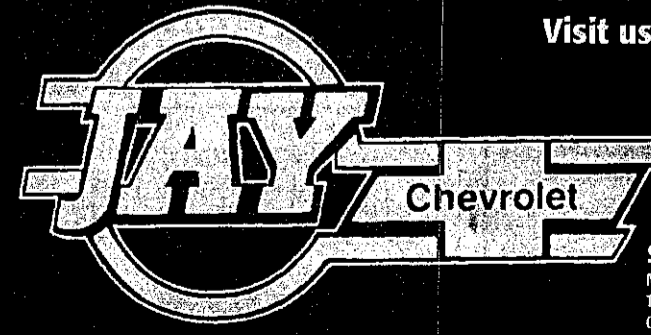
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- '98 GMC CONVERSION VAN, Loaded..... \$14,990
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- '98 CHEVY BLAZER 4 DR. 4X4..... \$15,990
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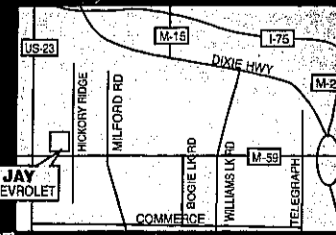


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Stars shine at Milford Regionals

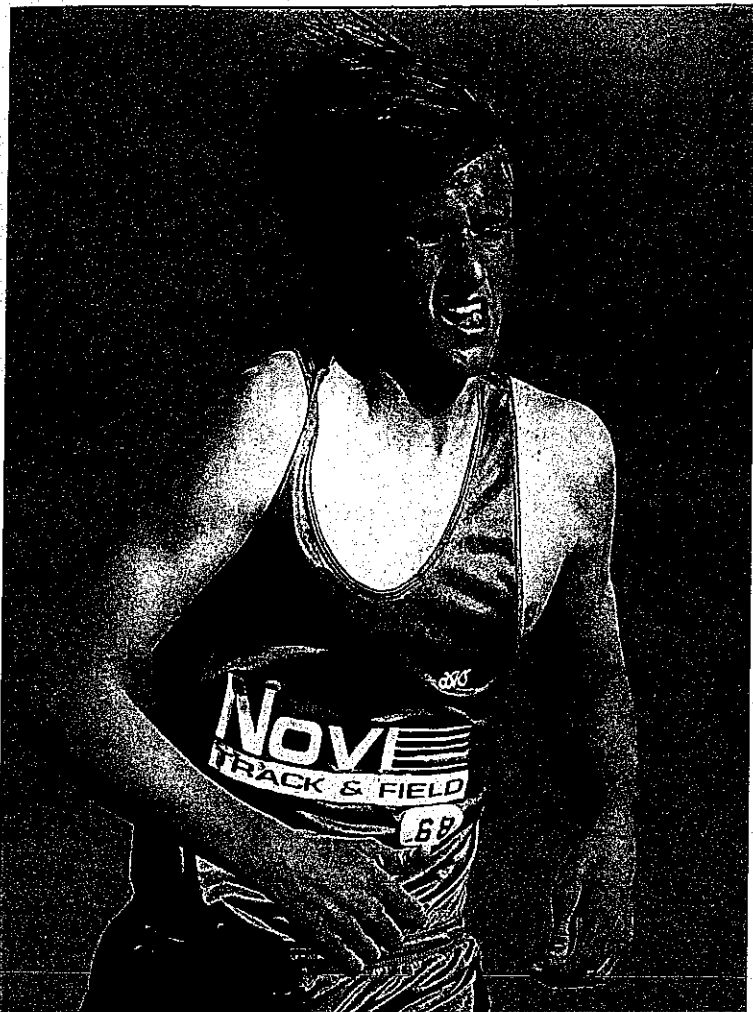


Photo by HAL GOULD

It was just another day on the track for Novi's Tim Moore. Moore won handily in the 1600m run, 3200m run, and was part of the winning 3200m relay team.

Moore and Rzepka spur Novi, while Western's Gordon and Central girls vaulters make some noise

By COLBY J. CAVALIERE
SPORTS WRITER

It started in the early afternoon and nearly ended the next day, but finally all the events were completed.

At a little after 1 p.m. on a muggy Friday afternoon at Milford High School, male and female athletes from 15 different schools converged for the Division 1, Region 8 track and field competition. Some of the finest athletes in the area got a chance to showcase their skills, with a select few earning the right to compete in the state finals in Rockford on June 2.

BOYS

All season Pinckney, Milford and Novi battled for supremacy in the KVC, and the regional competition was no different, as the three schools finished 1-2-3, with the Pirates winning it all with a score of 84. Novi was third with 60 points, and Western Lakes teams, Walled Lake Central (39), Walled Lake Western (38) and Northville (24) finished sixth, seventh and tenth respectively.

"We had the potential to win the whole thing, but everything needed to be perfect. Despite how things finally turned out, I was very pleased with our overall performance," said Novi coach Bob Smith.

Like rain in the spring, the Wildcats were forecasted to dominate in the distance events, and the Cats made right on those predictions with several victories. Junior Tim Moore headlined the day, with wins in the 1600m run (4:16.50), and 3200m run (9:13.60). Nearly forgotten was senior Chris Toloff. Having not competed in several weeks because of a leg injury, Toloff returned in glorious fashion as he won the 800m with a time of 1:56.

"Earlier in the week Chris came to me and told me he was done for the year," said Smith. "But he worked hard to rehab his injury, and showed what kind of competi-

"We had the potential to win the whole thing, but we needed to be perfect."

Bob Smith
Novi Boys' Track Coach



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Novi's Bethany Kittle runs in an early season meet. Kittle finished fourth in the 800m at the Regionals.

points for his team as Douglas Ducat took second.

and in the discus with a throw of 141'-6", and Chris Haney took third in the vault with a height of 13'-2". The Vikings also got solid performances from their 800m relay team (third place) and 400m relay team (fourth place). Also scoring for Central was Ryan Drolweski who placed fifth in the 300m hurdles.

In total, Central will be represented by four athletes at the state competition; Ducat in the discus, Haney and Aaron Lacro in the pole vault, and Kittle in the 110m hurdles.

Despite having an abundance of Kittle wasn't the only one scoring

Continued on 3



Photo by TOM HIBBELN

Walled Lake Western's Kyle Gordon was a one-man army, as he scored in three different events for the Warriors.

GIRLS TRACK AND FIELD STATE QUALIFIERS ROCKFORD H.S., JUNE 2

Walled Lake Central
Sarah Chirzanowski
Jaclyn Finn
Whitney Simbeck
Jacqueline Becker
Lauren Foukes
800m and 1600m Relay Teams

Event
Pole Vault
Pole Vault
Shot Put
Long Jump

Novi
Mickie Rzepka

Event
Pole Vault

Northville
Maggie Ossola
Nicole Cauzillo
Devon Ripley
Shannon Hogan
Heather Moehle

Event
Long Jump
1600m Run
400m Dash
400m Dash
3200m Run

Walled Lake Western
Melissa Loomans

Event
300m Hurdles

BOYS TRACK AND FIELD STATE QUALIFIERS ROCKFORD H.S., JUNE 2

Walled Lake Central
Douglas Ducat
Chris Haney
Aaron Lucero
Jason Kittle

Event
Discus
Pole Vault
Pole Vault
110m Hurdles

Novi

Tim Moore
Eric Walle
Chris Toloff
1600m & 3200m Relay Teams

Event
1600m Run & 3200m Run
1600m Run
800m Run

Northville

Brandon Langston

Event
100m Dash & 400m Dash

Walled Lake Western

Kyle Gordon

Neal Naughton

Event
Long Jump, 100m Dash & 200m Dash
1600m Run & 3200m Run



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Novi's Pete Kobylarek tags out a Milford baserunner who was forced out with two outs during an attempted hit and run.

As end nears, still no clear-cut KVC leader

By COLBY J. CAVALIERE
SPORTS WRITER

All these double-header splits aren't helping to clear anything up at the top of the Kensington Valley Conference.

Against Milford on May 18, the Wildcats had a chance to take over the top spot in the KVC, but more importantly win the season series with the Redskins.

Unfortunately for the 'Cats neither happened.

The first game belonged to Brandon Davis and the Wildcats, as Novi cruised to a 7-0 win. The junior has quickly developed into the team's number one hurler and he showed why in his game one gem. He went the distance and used a Novi attack that got him seven runs in the first three innings. The big hit of that barrage came on Trey Simpson's 3-

run blast, his fifth of the season. Adam Haberman and Eric Zorza also had themselves a fine day at the plate, as each had two hits in the 7-0 win.

"Brandon had great control of his curveball and good velocity with his fastball," said Novi coach Rick Green. "He has really come into his own on the mound and has developed as our clear number one starter."

With the win, the 'Cats took sole position of first in the KVC, but it didn't last very long, as they dropped game two 4-2. Dan Treharne had a shaky start on the mound for the 'Cats, as he surrendered three first inning runs. Milford sophomore Ryan O'Neil was able to handcuff all the Novi hitters with the excep-

THREE HORSE RACE

Going into the last week of the KVC season it seems to be a race for first between the Redskins, Wildcats, and Eagles. Lakeland and Milford play a double-header tomorrow, that could very well decide the league champ.

*Milford 10-5
*Novi 10-6
*Lakeland 9-5

* as of 5/22

Continued on 2

COMING UP NEXT WEEK.....

■ A recap of the boys' tennis regionals

■ A look at how the Novi and Walled Lake girls' golf teams fared at their Regional competitions

■ As the districts loom ahead next week for the baseball, softball, and soccer teams, we will take a in-depth look at the potential matchups, and try to figure out what team has the best chance to advance to the regionals

■ The track and field Regionals may be in the history books, but league meets were held this past Tuesday afternoon. How successful were the Novi and Walled Lake Schools?

Weddings

Christopher Kenneth and Jami Kane Heckaman were married Nov. 18, 2000 at St. Kenneth Catholic Church in Plymouth...



Barbara Heckaman

The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Barbara of Northville. A 1993 graduate of Catholic Central High School...

Hannah Williamson and Joseph Coon were married May 2 at the 'Clock' on Main Street in Northville...



Coon-Williamson

The bride is the daughter of Barbara Williamson of Northville and the late Daniel Williamson...

Jennifer Lynn Doyle and Brandon Michael Dalziel were married Nov. 18, 2000, at Shrine of the Little Flower Catholic Church...



Dalziel-Doyle

The bride is the daughter of Susan and Lawrence Doyle of Royal Oak. She is a kindergarten teacher at Pierce Elementary School...

On Campus

Dana Weston of Novi, a senior at Alma College, has been selected for membership in Phi Beta Kappa...

Jeffrey D. Anderson graduated May 13 from Hampden-Sydney College in Virginia...

Megan Blake Hill, an art major from Northville has been named to the Dean's List at St. Edward's University...

Tracey E. Ford, a 1993 Novi high school graduate, has been selected to participate in the Austrian American Mozart Academy...

David M. Anderson, a College of Literature, Science and the Arts senior at the University of Michigan...

Novi resident, Marianne M. Simanec, a graduate student at Madonna University...

2001 GOLF CARD advertisement with details on membership, pricing, and contact information for various offices.

Advertisement for various golf courses including Hawk Meadows, Glenore Golf Club, Huron Meadows, Lakeland Hills, Hudson Mills, and Oak Lane Golf Course.

Advertisement for Whispering Pines Golf Course and Sears Outlet Store, including contact information and promotional offers.

CHURCH DIRECTORY listing various churches in the area with their addresses, services, and contact numbers.

Large advertisement for Sears Outlet Store featuring a 15-50% off promotion on home appliances.



Judged one of the best 10 lifestyle sections in Michigan

Thursday, May 24, 2001



The wisdom of jocks

Ahh, sports stars. No one's ever going to accuse them of being the brightest crayons in the box, but every once in a while, they say something that really strikes a chord. (NOTE: It's a rare find.) Just the same, read up on the ramblings from those who make a living through their sweat glands.

"I'm the most loyal player money can buy."

— Don Sutton

"Once you put it down, you can't pick it up."

— Pat Williams, NBA executive, on Charles Barkley's autobiography

"At first, I said, 'Let's play for taxes.'"

— Michael Jordan, on playing golf with former president Bill Clinton

"It's been a very good year. Excuse me — it's been a very fine year."

— Indy car driver Scott Pruett, who was sponsored by Firestone

"It was a cross between a screwball and a changeup: a screwup."

— Chicago Cubs relief pitcher Bob Patterson, on a home run ball he gave up

"I knew it was going to be a long season when, on opening day during the national anthem, one of my players turns to me and says, 'Every time I hear that song, I have a bad game.'"

— baseball manager Jim Leyland



Winner of the "Most Yogi Berra-Esque Comment" Award

"Those calls could have gone either way, but they didn't."

— Syracuse basketball forward John Wallace, after a disappointing loss in the NCAA championship



Photo by JULIE HINES

Ben Hayden and Dan Podczervinski roll out on their small fleet of lawnmowers.

When the grass gets long and the sun gets hot Northville and Novi residents turn to people like the Haydens to give their yards the weekly

lawn job

By LON HUHMANN
Staff Writer

A soft breeze blows over the freshly cut grass while the Northwest lawn crew jumps into their work truck on to the next lawn.

The homeowner walks out to inspect the newly cut lawn only to look down to see the brick path, which was another job well done by Northwest Lawn and Landscaping Service of Northville Township.

"I love the outdoors," Northwest co-owner Ben Hayden said of his reason for leaving the hotel management business for outdoor landscaping and lawn maintenance work back in 1987. Hayden and his wife Sharon established the company in 1985 to see if it had potential and in 1987, they officially started the company. Now 16 years later, the company is busy as ever running around the Northville, Livonia, Farmington Hills, Plymouth/Canton and Bloomfield Hills communities mowing lawns and doing landscaping work. Ben oversees the landscaping part of the company while Sharon is in charge of the lawn service. The Haydens picked the name Northwest as a tribute to their original home states.

"I'm from Washington and Sharon is originally from Oregon," Ben said. "So by naming our company Northwest, we are paying homage to our original home area of the country."

Ben said the services offered by Northwest include tree removal, brick paving, seeding, sodding and in his own words, "just about anything that can be done to a yard." He said the lawn service operates just like a barber.

"We arrive at an account and cut, trim and blow," Ben said. "Trimming is essential because if it's not done or done correctly, a lawn will not look good."

Northwest operates year around. In the fall, they do clean-ups and in the winter months, they get the snowplows and shovels out.

For the Haydens, the outdoor service began as a weekend job to earn extra money.

According to Ben, the Northwest lawn crew consisted of just himself, a lawn tractor and walk-behind mower. Despite just being an outlet for the out-

side, there were other benefits as well. So the Haydens increased their service load and capabilities.

"Our crew level is at four or five people now, but we had up to 12 people in the past," Ben said. "It was hard to manage that many people, so we reduced to a level we can manage and prosper with."

At most, the lawn crew consists of three people mowing with Dixie Choppers. According to Ben, the Dixie Choppers were the first of the zero turn lawn mowing machines.

The Dixie mowers first came out on a wide basis in 1980 and were revolutionary because they allowed commercial lawn care operators to move quicker and cut just as efficient. Zero turn means the mower can spin in a circle within its own dimension.

"We use two Dixie Choppers and a couple of walk-behinds," Ben said. "The Choppers are great because they allow us to cut a lawn very quickly, but at the same time because of how efficient it



Photo by JULIE HINES

Sharon Hayden, Ben Hayden, Bryan Ondercin, Dan Podczervinski, Marie Hayden and Genette Hayden take a breather to enjoy the spring sunshine before attending to their lawn maintenance duties.

cuts, our rate of speed is not much of a concern. The walk-behinds are used for areas the riders can't reach, such as gated-in areas."

There is one unique aspect to Northwest and that is it's a family business. Both Ben and Sharon work on each crew, but their daughters Susan, Genette and Marie have worked in the summer cutting lawns as well.

"They've grown up around the business, so it's kind of natural for them," Sharon said. "Our youngest is still in training. I work on the lawn crew because, like my husband, I enjoy the outside and it's also a good way to get exercise."

For the Northwest crews, the day begins at 8 a.m. For Ben, however, his day begins at 6:30 a.m. and ends around 7 p.m. According to Ben, working outside is definitely a sun up to sun down job. One daily thing the Haydens have to keep an eye on is the weather.

"Our television is usually turned to the Weather Channel the night before or in the morning, so we can know if we are going to work or not," Sharon said.

Ben and Sharon said Northwest averages about 40 lawns a day, but it can be lower on a day when they have to do their larger accounts such as the commons area at Brookstone subdivision. Sharon said the lawn crew probably cuts slightly over 100 lawns each week.

There are several places that can take up to two hours to complete and there are residential yards that take only fifteen minutes," Ben said. "We have one customer who has a par three fairway in his backyard and we cut the fairway for him. That's a fun job to do."

Some people may overlook the hard work lawn and landscaping crews put into their job, but a lot goes into simply mowing a lawn.

"It's hard work and besides that, it is an expensive venture to



Photo by JULIE HINES

Marie Hayden makes quick work of dandelions in a Northville-area yard.

undertake," Ben said. "We arrive at a home with at least \$50,000 in equipment and this includes the truck, mowers, trimmers and other materials. A new Dixie Chopper runs around \$10,000, so this business is not cheap."

According to Ben's estimates, Northwest uses 15,000 to 18,000 gallons of fuel a year. He said the recent increase in gas prices makes the job of managing time and expenses that more important. However, quality and efficiency is still the main priority.

"We're dependable and we have a good rapport with our customers," Ben said. "We get no complaints because we do our work the way we would want it done for ourselves."

Lon Huhmann is a staff writer for the Northville Record. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 109 or by e-mail at lhuhmann@ht.homecomm.net.



Photo by JULIE HINES

Dan Podczervinski shovels dirt along a decorative retaining wall in a Northville-area yard.