



# Novi News

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Thursday, August 9, 2001

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50¢

Volume 48 Number 33

Novi, Michigan

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Look inside for your  
**GREEN SHEET**  
Classifieds

**INSIDE**

**At last**

The road bond has finally come into fruition as three major projects tear up Novi roads — Page 5A

**Here come the reptiles**

Dan "the Creature Man" visited Novi Library recently to expose area kids to different reptiles — Page 14A



**GREEN SHEET**



**Wired**

South Lyon Electronics serves area customers and area police officers by offering state of the art equipment — Page 1D

**LIVING**



**Revisiting biking fun**

Recollections of a time when bicycles were your car and your ticket to travel — Page 6B

**SPORTS**

**Beating the heat**

After the tragic death of a Minnesota Vikings player due to heat stroke, high school coaches double their efforts to make sure players stay safe in the heat — Page 1B

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## After-school program in danger

BY STEPHANIE FORDYCE  
Staff Writer

Novi's After-School Program could be in jeopardy if funds to meet the program's requirements aren't met.

The program, sponsored by the Novi Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department and the Novi Community that Cares Coalition, has offered local children in Novi a

safe place to hang out and have fun after school for the past three years.

Now the program's offerings may be considerably cut, due to lack of funds.

"We are now entering the fourth and final year of our grant funding and there is only so much left," said program director Sue Muthusamy.

In 1998, the program was made

possible through the Juvenile Justice System Title V Grant and according to Muthusamy, only 25 percent of that grant money is left.

"In order to provide the program in its entirety, we're going to have to charge an annual membership fee," she said.

The cost this year is \$140, which averages about \$12 monthly. This is the first year the program has had to charge participants and

assistance with these efforts will become even more crucial in the fifth year when no money is received from the grant, Muthusamy said.

Since it began, the Novi After-School Program has been providing youth between the ages of 10 and 14 a place to go after school.

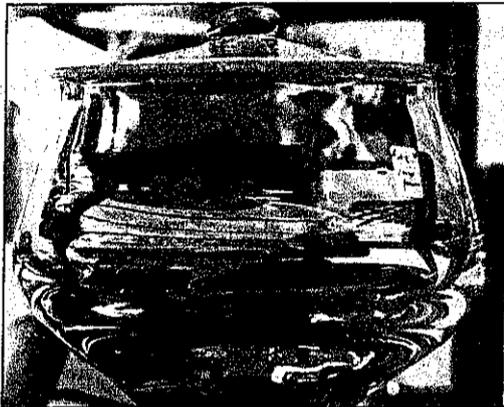
Students can engage in a number of activities such as arts and crafts, games, ice skating, basket-

ball, and other athletics, as well as receive assistance with homework.

The After-School Program is held at three sites: the Novi Ice Arena, Soccer Zone and Novi Middle School.

They are open all five days at the Novi Ice Arena and two days each at the middle school and Soccer Zone.

Continued on 4



Ardele Wolfson of Walled Lake looks over Chip Jones artwork. Wolfson would eventually special order a platter to be made.

## Annual art fair a hit in Novi

BY STEPHANIE FORDYCE  
Staff Writer

"Beautiful art, soothing music and great food make for a perfect summer afternoon, as the 7th Annual Novi Art Festival painted the city last weekend."

On August 3 and 4, the soiree, sponsored by Howard Alan Events, returned to the Novi Town Center and attracted art lovers from all over Michigan.

"I come every year," said Arlene Kirsch of Livonia. "There is so many great pieces to see and enjoy."

Over 150 talented and award-winning artists participated in this year's event, including Novi's own Nina Cambron.

The only Novi-based artist at

this year's festival, Cambron was making quite an impression with buyers.

"Sales are doing pretty good," she said as she rung up the register. "It's hot but people have still come out."

Cambron, who is known for her whimsical tiles, made a big splash this year as she introduced some of her fused glass pieces.

While Cambron only had to travel as far as her backyard, some artists came from as far away as Florida, New York, California and Canada.

"That's one of the reasons I enjoy Novi's art fest," Kirsch said, who bought some earrings on

Continued on 4

## Heating up Main Street Heat successful in first classic car show

BY STEPHANIE FORDYCE  
Staff Writer

The city's first Main Street Heat classic car show proved to be a huge success last week, as over a hundred car lovers packed into downtown Main Street on August 1.

With the street closed off, the event attracted quite a crowd as a variety of antique and customized automobiles were displayed throughout the night.

The new weekly event, which now kicks off each and every Wednesday in August at 4 p.m.,

welcomed approximately 95 classic cars to the show.

According to organizers, the turnout was quite successful for having been the first time an event of this kind had been held on the site.

"We were really excited about the huge response we received on just our first night," said Ed Kriewall, board member of the car show. "We had a lot of spectators and a lot of great cars. It was an exceptional evening."

Novi community relations direc-

Continued on 4

## Rich in tradition



Nabil, left, and Rana Matar will welcome diners to their Novi restaurant Fatoosh which is now open on the second level of Vic's Market.

## Dreams come true with Fatoosh

BY STEPHANIE FORDYCE  
Staff Writer

Nabil and Rana Matar came to Novi with one dream: to offer a truly authentic Middle Eastern dining experience where the food, the atmosphere, and the entertainment, were truly Middle Eastern.

With the opening of Main Street's newest addition, Fatoosh, their dream has finally come true.

Located atop Vic's Market on Main Street and Grand River, Fatoosh is sure to create some excitement as the married couple uses their Lebanese culture to create a Mediterranean restaurant that is undoubtedly authentic.

"It's not just food; it's a cultural experience," Rana said, who moved to the United States 15 years ago.

Rana, who has helped plan many of the dishes herself, said

customers will surely find a meal that is fresh and tasty, and most importantly - traditional.

"I want people to come and experience dining the way I did as a child," she said. "All the way from what it is prepared (with) to how it is prepared."

Rana notes that she and her husband have great pride in serving only the freshest, purest ingredients.

Continued on 4

## Teen collects handsome prize for fish carving

BY STEPHANIE FORDYCE  
Staff Writer

One Novi teen is carving quite a niche for himself these days.

Kyle Walicki, a young and upcoming fish carver, raised \$1,500 last weekend for his amazing work of "trout."

It happened during the Trout Burn Bar-B-Q's spirited auction in Grayling where hundreds of fish carvers entered their carved creations to benefit Michigan stream conservation efforts and youth fishing projects.

Being Walicki's first time entering the auction, as well as his first time carving a fish, the 13-year-old was astounded.

"I'm really proud of the success and the tremendous rate he's learning at."

Ed Walicki  
Kyle Walicki's father

"I was pretty surprised," he said. "I never thought it would go that high."

Not only did Walicki's Brown Bass achieve supreme financial status, it received a prestigious second place in the World Champion Fish Carvers

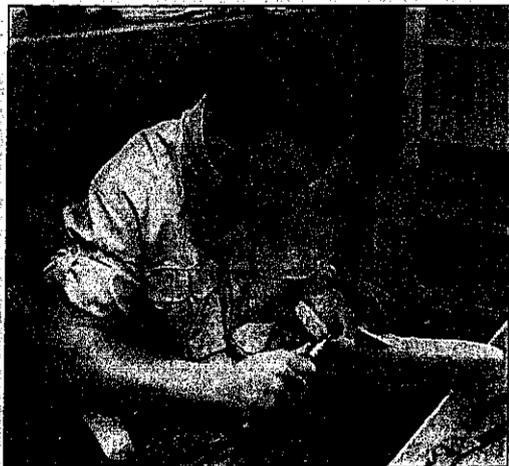
Competition that weekend as well. "I'm really proud of the success and the tremendous rate he's learning at," Walicki's father, Ed, said. "It's fantastic."

It's safe to say that dad, a world-renowned professional fish carver himself, has had quite an impact on his son's talent.

Walicki said he first began fishing with his dad at the age of six and at age 10 dabbled a bit with the carving aspect by creating a pine derby car in the shape of trout.

This was the first time since that derby car that Walicki took to the

Continued on 4



Award-winning fish carver Kyle Walicki goes to work on a piece of basswood in his Novi garage.

Photo by JOHN HEIDER

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# Man spits on police and refuses arrest

## WALLED LAKE

A 31-year-old man was out of control when he resisted arrest and continually spit on officers August 4.

The man was wanted in Milford for malicious destruction of property. He had broken the windows of several homes in Wolverine Lake and Milford.

The officers went to the Beat House after they were tipped by someone in Wolverine Lake that the man would be there.

When Walled Lake and Wolverine Lake police arrived, the man began using profanity and kept spitting.

The officers had to put a mask on the man to keep his bodily fluids to himself. However, as soon as the mask was taken off at the station, he spit again.

He was issued a violation for resisting and obstructing officers and he was lodged until he could be picked up by Milford Police.

## BOOZE AND DRUGS ON KIDS AT LABOOM

Four Ann Arbor youths and one Ypsilanti youth were taken into custody and released into their

## Police News

parents care after LaBoon personnel informed officers that one of the kids appeared intoxicated.

The teenager was taken into the back of the police car and soon three females came out to find their friend. One of the females said that he was their brother.

Another teenage boy came out to find out where all of his friends were. His blood alcohol count was .17.

They were given respective citations and released to their parents.

## LOFT HIDEOUT

Two police officers were dispatched to the 400 block of E. Walled Lake Drive when the owner of the home reported that they had found a black brief case and a BB gun in the loft of their garage.

The items had been reported as stolen. Therefore, someone had been using their loft as a hideout for the stolen goods.

The case is still under investigation.

The father said nothing was missing. The officer noticed many items that could have been easily removed such as a gameboy, jewelry, radio, etc.

Officer explained to the Wixom resident that it was odd that someone would enter the home, open drawers, and leave contents undisturbed. He also acknowledged that it was strange that they would go in every room but the daughter's.

Officer suggested that it was a possibility the daughter had made up the story.

The girl denies making the story up.

STEREO STOLEN  
A Kenwood am/fm CD stereo was stolen from a vehicle parked in the Village Apartment complex on July 31.

Some time during the night, the 32-year-old victim's car, an '89 Ford Mustang, was broken into. Damage occurred to the passenger side's window which was broken out as well as damage to dashboard.

No fingerprints or evidence was observed.

Monday, July 30  
Fire alarm, 49000 Eleven Mile Road, 6:17 a.m., Engines 4, 1.

Medical, 44501 Louvert Court, 8:30 a.m., Squad 3.

Medical, 27734 Novi Road, 9:50 a.m., Squad 1.

Medical, 22245 Haggerty, 10:01 a.m., Squad 3.

Medical, 41268 Llewellyn, 11:12 a.m., Squad 3.

Medical, 40000 High Pointe, 11:13 a.m., Squad 2.

Medical, 30670 Beck Road, 11:35 a.m., Squad 2.

Medical, 25706 Glamorgan, 1:11 p.m., Squad 4.

Medical, Twelve Mile/Beck Road, 6:24 a.m., Squad 2.

Medical, 26401 Novi Road, 7:18 p.m., Squad 1.

Medical, 41313 McMahon, 11:38 p.m., Squad 3.

Medical, 45182 W. Park, 6:45 a.m., Squad 4.

Medical, 22527 Havergate, 8:43 a.m., Squad 4.

Medical, 48150 Grand River, 10:20 a.m., Squad 1.

Medical, 41935 Twelve Mile Road, 10:22 a.m., Squad 1.

Medical, 39588 Ronayton, 10:35 a.m., Squad 1.

Medical, 42500 Arena, 11:04 a.m., Squad 3.

Medical, 40325 Washington, 3:27 p.m., Squad 1.

Medical, 31168 Shorecrest, 1:18 p.m., Squad 2.

Medical, Thirteen Mile/Novi Road, 1:49 p.m., Squad 2.

Medical, Personal injury accident, Eight Mile/Beck Road, 3:49 p.m., Squad 4.

Medical, Personal injury accident, 1:56/Novi Road, 4:05 p.m., Squad 1.

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## Artists came from all over the U.S.

**Continued from 1**

"Sunday, 'You're able to see a lot of out-of-state artists and find things you might not otherwise find locally.'"

"The two-day outside fair displayed a variety of art including oil and watercolor paintings, blown glass, fine ceramics and pottery, metal and wood sculptures - both small and life-sized, photography, furniture, stained glass and jewelry."

"Artwork ranged anywhere from \$20 to \$20,000."

Jeanne Pitsarel of Beverly Hills said while she only came with the intention to look, she ended up purchasing a \$75 steel-crafted lawn ornament for her front yard.

"I fell in love with it the minute I saw it, but my husband warned me not to buy anything so I left it alone. But then I passed by it again and I loved it even more than the first time," she laughed.

"Hopefully my husband will like it as much as I do."

In addition to the wide assortment of art exhibited, the festival also featured musical entertainment including sitarist Stephen Walker and Novi pianist Jeffrey Michaels.

"I'm having a great time," he said. "The people have been very receptive and it's great to be performing back in my hometown."

Michaels, who has recorded over four albums, has been touring with Howard Alan Events since June.

Along with the music, was a number of food pavilions serving up treats like Italian sausage and fresh lemonade.

Whether participants were there to browse or buy, it was an occasion appreciated by all.

"This is better than the Ann Arbor art fair," Kirsch said. "You don't have to fight the crowds and



Photo by TODD VAN SICKLE  
**Bonnie Mikes plays her pan pipes during the Novi Art Fair. This is the second year Mikes and her husband Stephen, who plays the sitar, have attended the art fair. The couple are from Miami, Florida.**

the art here is much more interesting."

Kirsch's sister, Sandy Welsh of Farmington Hills agreed.

"Novi puts on a really good art exhibit," she said. "There's a lot of pretty things here and it's a good size, not too large."

Stephanie Fordyce is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 108 or sfordyce@ht.homecomm.net.



Photo by TODD VAN SICKLE  
**Nina Cambron of Northville looks on as art fair goes, Laverne Stantangelo and Helene Simpson of Detroit browse.**

## Fatoosh serves up Middle East cuisine in style

**Continued from 1**

"Everything is cooked from scratch," she said. "Nothing we serve is taken out of a freezer."

From the Tabbouleh right down to the pizza bread, which is baked daily in a copper oven.

Live demonstrations of flat bread being made will soon be added to the restaurant for customers passing by.

Other dishes at Fatoosh include fresh artichoke bottoms stuffed with ground lamb, charbroiled ground beef mixed with parsley and spices, shrimp, chicken and lamb kebabs, fried kibbeh with sautéed onions and pine nuts, and a vibrant vegetable salad called Fatoosh.

Named after the restaurant, the salad is a mix of lettuce, tomatoes, onion, cilantro, cucumber, parsley, radishes, lemon and olive oil.

"It's a very good recipe," Nabli said. "It is made with practically every type of vegetable and lettuce."

Diners at Fatoosh in Novi will also find a number of traditional menu items such as hummus, baba ghanouj and spinach pie. Along with a number of soups, sandwiches, and fruit smoothies, it is the restaurant's second location.

However, Nabli said, the first Fatoosh - located in Rochester - is much more toed down.

"We have really dedicated this site to making it look and feel like that of the Middle East," he said.

Nabli, who moved to the U.S. from Lebanon 23 years ago, has been making it in the restaurant industry for quite some time.

Learning how to cook and run a restaurant from his father, the U of M graduate also owns Big Boy as



well as Texas Smoke BBQ in Rochester.

Nabli and Rana said this is the first time they've been able to create a restaurant that genuinely reflects the traditions of the Middle East.

For the new restaurant that doesn't mean the cuisine, it means the look, the feel, and the customs.

Diners will be able to take advantage of many unique opportunities not found in everyday Mediterranean restaurants including belly dancing, fortune telling, and enjoying a smoke from the argeez.

"Hookahs, or argeezs, are elaborate water pipes that are a Middle Eastern tradition when gathering socially," Rana said. "We don't encourage smoking, but if diners wish to, we recommend they use the water pipe instead."

Rana explained that the water pipe is somewhat better than smoking tobacco from a cigarette or hand pipe because the tobacco gets filtered into the water before it is inhaled.

Fatoosh offers a variety of imported tobaccos to choose from including apple, capucino and mint. You must be 18 or older to use the pipes.

Hand in hand with the hooka pipes is the Turkish coffee, which is freshly brewed and served in a beautiful gold and gem encrusted pot that is sure to spark conversation.

While sipping from tiny cups, diners can also play a number of Middle Eastern board games including dominos and checkers.

Using your leftover coffee grounds, a fortune teller will soon be available to give diners insight

## Friday college football may be seen in the future

**By JOHN HEIDER**  
Staff Photographer

Is nothing sacred?

Apparently the NCAA doesn't think so.

For decades the unofficial holy trinity of football lovers goes like this: Friday nights for the high school gridiron action, Saturday afternoon is for college, and Sundays reserved for the professionals.

It's been that way since pigskins were first made oblong and tossed and carried across the fields of America.

But now the National Collegiate Athletic Association wants to allow more of its Division I-A football teams to play many of its games on Tuesday and more importantly, Friday nights.

If this happens the sanctity of high school athletics, not just varsity football, will be compromised by fans' and media divided attention, at least according to football purists, including many area high school coaches.

It's inevitable, opponents say, that instead of going to see their Mustangs, Wildcats or Warriors, local fans will be drawn to prime time televised college titles of teams they normally follow on Saturday afternoons. The only question is how many fans will be torn away from their high school fields in Novi, Northville, and Walled Lake.

John Roberts, executive director of Michigan High School Athletic Association, said the MHSAA has

began a campaign to "Save Our Friday Nights" to emphasize the role that Friday night fall football games have in the community and rally fans and public support of keeping those nights primarily for as high school student athletes' showcase.

"These events are important to communities. They are not just sporting events, they're social events where neighbors meet, relationships are fostered and where schools communicate about many of their other activities," said Roberts. "College football games on Friday nights threaten this local tradition, not to mention the financial well being of the school athletic budgets."

While many of the Division I football teams slated to tackle Friday night action are not on the "A" list right now (like Mid-American Conference teams Eastern Michigan University and Toledo), Roberts speculated that it wouldn't be long before "everyone will be jumping into the state of Michigan's high school varsity football season this fall. Big Ten team Minnesota will play at Toledo on Friday, Aug. 31 at 5:30 p.m. The game will be televised by ESPN2."

Roberts believes if Big Ten rivals Michigan and MSU squared off on a Friday evening, it wouldn't matter if the game were played in East Lansing or Ann Arbor.

"The game would fracture the high school spectator base across most of Michigan," he said.

John Osborne, former Novi head coach and current assistant coach of the Wildcats, thinks if the MAC

teams take on Friday nights it won't affect high school attendance.

"The game they're talking about televising - Minnesota and Toledo - I don't think that kind of game will be a problem," said Osborne. "Our fans are interested in Novi High. We're their first pick and I don't see them as fans of college games."

However, trouble could loom for high school programs if they go up against the Spartans or Wolverines, noted Osborne, and not just with fan attendance numbers.

"We've had problems when we've played our homecoming games on Saturday," he said. "We've had parents of players who've come to our games, then gone to MSU or U-M and if their kids get hurt, then we've had problems contacting them."

Osborne said if high schools are going up in direct competition against the collegiate gridiron action, then there would be a problem.

"If MSU or U-M were to play on a Friday night, that's different. They're going to affect schools in their area," he said.

Northville High's varsity football head coach Darrel Schumacher said television's impact in football popularity set the tone for all discussion associated with the sport.

"Every thing's being dictated by TV," Schumacher said. "Money talks in that game. It's in the headlines."

For more information on the Michigan High School Athletic Association's "Save Our Friday Nights" campaign visit their website at www.mhsaa.org.

## Road Bond projects become reality as work continues

**BY STEPHANIE FORDYCE**  
Staff Writer

Widening roads and patching potholes has been a summer-long project for the city of Novi.

Citizens are advised to use alternate routes as a number of city road projects continue throughout the community.

Drivers can expect delays with the widening of 12 Mile Road between Novi Road and Dixon. The construction, which began near the end of last month, will stretch the road to four lanes.

Grand River Avenue between Beck and Wixom Road is also currently under construction, as workers widen the area to five lanes.

Traffic will be brought down to

one lane in each direction at the Grand River/Wixom Road intersection.

According to road officials, projected completion for both the 12 Mile Road and Grand River projects, is early December.

Another project for the city, which is scheduled to be completed by the end of the month, is Beck Road between 9 and 10 Mile as it currently undergoes spot repairs.

The \$200,000 project is paid for as a part of the city's Major Streets Funding through Act 51.

According to Tony Nowicki, director of the Department of Public Services, all roads will be kept open during construction.

We are, however, encouraging

residents to use alternate routes," he said.

The 12 Mile Road expansion, Nowicki explained, is a special assessment project paid for by benefiting property owners.

Cost for the project is \$18.45 million dollars.

The Grand River project is the result of Novi's \$18.4 million road bond proposal, which voters approved last November.

Due to the passage, the proposal has allowed the city to leverage approximately \$44.615 million in state and federal funds for major road improvements including Grand River, the Beck Road interchange and Novi Road.

Total cost for the Grand River project is approximately \$5.9 million, with \$4.4 leveraged from the state and \$550,000 leveraged from the ROCOC. The remaining \$590,000 is paid for by the bond.

It seems as if the construction will be never ending this summer, as two more projects from the ROCOC rear their heads this week.

This includes the widening of 12 Mile Road between Taft and Novi Road, and bridge repairs on Haggerty Road, between Hills Tech St. and Grand River Ave.

According to the ROCOC, Haggerty will be closed until Aug. 25 as MDOT repairs four of the road's bridges over the freeways.

In conjunction with the construction of the Fountain Walk shopping center, 12 Mile Road will be widened from two lanes to a four lane boulevard. According to the ROCOC, the work is being paid for by the developer and at no cost to ROCOC or motorists.

The road will be open to traffic, but again, drivers can expect delays.

Completion date for this project is sometime in November.

Other current road projects in the community that are nearing completion include the intersection of Ten Mile and Crapbrook Drive and the repavement of the Village Oaks subdivision which will be done around Labor Day.

Both projects are being funded through the bond.

City Manager Richard Helwig said while the construction may be aggravating to drivers, the

benefits, once complete, will outweigh any current inconveniences.

"Anything we can get done now is only going to help us in the future," he said.

"I'd like to thank the community for their understanding and I appreciate their patience while the work is being completed."

Helwig added that in light of the demolition to the CSX bridge in January, it is best to get any road construction work done now.

Stephanie Fordyce is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 108 or sfordyce@ht.homecomm.net.

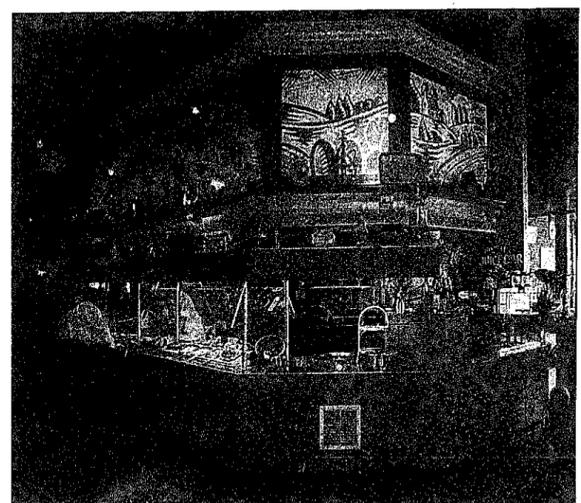


Photo by JOHN HEIDER  
**The buffet and kitchen area of Novi's Fatoosh restaurant.**

## Classic Car show heats up Novi's own Main Street

**Continued from 1**

Maureen Malone said she, too, was amazed by the turnout.

"It was fantastic," she said. "With all the positive feedback we received, we deemed this event a success. We're really pleased."

Car lovers last Wednesday not only had the chance to view some hot wheels but also enjoy the sounds of the band "Spittin' Boogie."

"There was a lot of great entertainment and the weather remained good throughout the entire night," Kriewall said.

With the vast majority of restaurants in the area, show-goers also took advantage of the good food.

Kriewall said, "The restaurants were absolutely packed," he said.

## NMS student wins prize in fish carving competition

**Continued from 1**

work bench.

So how does a log become a beautiful work of art?

Walicki explained that he first starts out with a piece of bass-wood, roughly carving out the shape of the fish.

The next step is using knives and chisels to gently carve out the fins and eyes.

"Once we sand the wood down, we put a coat of primer and let it sit," he said.

According to Walicki, the carving is the easy part however the hard part is the painting.

"Accuracy and patience come

## Novi's after-school program in danger of being axed

**Continued from 1**

The After-School Program is a wonderful community organization because it offers kids safe, rewarding and supervised fun."

Muthusamy adds that it helps keep kids from getting bored and most importantly, staying out of trouble.

"Providing kids a safe place to go especially when studies have shown that children in the 10-14

age group are more prone to engage in troublesome activities, like drugs," she said. "Study after study has shown that the most susceptible time for these kinds of dangerous activities is between 3-6 p.m."

Currently, the program needs payment for at least 500 members to operate, and so far only the program only has 19.

"We have 1,100 members total signed up, including those from last year, but so far only 19 new members have paid," Muthusamy

## Novi Briefs

### CHINESE GROUP RECEIVES VISAS

The Chinese delegation to explore the Novi education system is arriving on Aug. 15.

The group was initially to arrive on July 29, but were held up awaiting approval of their visas.

The Chinese officials from Tianjin, which is the second largest city out of Beijing, will stay in Novi for 3 days.

The delegation includes the mayor, vice mayor and educational officials from Chinese universities.

The trip is a vision of William Mei of China whose son attended the Novi school system. The Novi resident spoke so highly of Novi schools to his friends back home that they became interested.

Events planned for the delegation will include a visit with Novi city officials, meetings with Novi Schools Superintendent Dr. Emmitt Lippe and Board of Education members, and tours of city hall, fire department, library, police department and various school buildings.

Scheduled meetings with Walsh College and Husky have been arranged as well.

Tours of various facilities and factories in the city are also on the agenda.

### NEF GOLF OUTING NEXT WEEK

The 8th Annual Novi Educational Foundation's golf outing will be held Tuesday, August 14, at the Links of Novi Golf Course.

Last year, the golf outing raised \$5,000 for the foundation.

Novi Educational Foundation provides student scholarships and teacher grants that provide extra learning opportunities for students in the district.

The Novi Educational Foundation is a non-profit organization established in 1986. The foundation's objective is to provide expanded educational opportunities for citizens of the Novi School District, primarily accomplished with grants and scholarships.

Sign in for the outing begins at 10:30 a.m. with tee time starting at 10:30 a.m.

Lunch is served on the course, with dinner and awards following the game. Cost for golf and meals is \$100 per person.

The Links of Novi is located on 10 Mile, one half mile west of Wixom Road.

To register for the golf outing or to get more information on the foundation, please call (248) 449-1200 or visit the Novi Community School District office at 25345 Taft Road in Novi.

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# Motorcyclists say they have the votes

BY MIKE MALOTT  
Hometown News Service  
mmalott@hometown.com

Motorcycle helmets can create some safety problems of their own. They can reduce visibility, or reduce a rider's hearing. They can contribute to overheating and fatigue for the driver.

Most importantly, according to State Rep. Gene DeRossett, R-Manchester, they can "create a false sense of security."

"The mandatory helmet law tells riders that if you put your helmet on you're safe, and that's just irresponsible," he said.

Much more important to the safety of a rider is experience, education and "knowing what your bike will do and what it won't do."

DeRossett is the sponsor of legislation pending in Lansing that would ease requirements for motorcycle riders to wear helmets. House Bill 4923 would allow riders — who are 21 years of age and have two years of experience on a motorcycle or have completed a state-sanctioned safety course — to ride without helmets.

The Michigan State Police oppose the change. First Lt. Eric Johnson says the issue is a "no-brainer." "Nobody ever said that putting on a helmet is the only thing you need to do to be safe on a motorcycle," he said. "Definitely, education and experience are important, but you can't control what other drivers do either... The head is the most vulnerable part of the body and you need to protect it... If you lose control of your motorcycle at 62 miles per hour, you need to give yourself every advantage if you want to survive it."

The debate over Michigan's mandatory motorcycle helmet law has a long and rich history. First enacted in 1967, the helmet law was initially declared unconstitutional. It was reenacted in 1969, then repealed and adopted again in 1970. Since then, there have been 18 attempts to repeal or revise the helmet requirement, all unsuccessful.

But DeRossett's bill supposedly has the best chance of passage in years, according to Vince Consiglio, president of ASATF of Michigan, a statewide rider advocacy organization. Consiglio said his group has conducted vote counts among lawmakers and the bill, which was approved by the House Transportation Committee this spring, has the necessary votes to win approval this fall.

DeRossett argues that 70-85 percent of fatalities among bike riders occur in accidents involving new riders, those with less than a year of experience. That's why his bill would continue to require helmet use for inexperienced or untrained riders. There was a corresponding increase among drivers of compact cars and light trucks during that time. The reason, he believes, was an increase in the use of economical transportation due to the energy crisis.

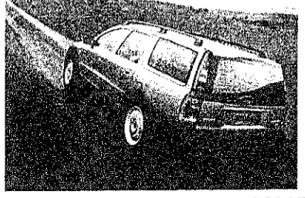
Advocates of helmet use sometimes point to a rise in fatality rates in Louisiana, after repeal of that state's helmet law as evidence of the need for helmet use. The rate fell again when it was reenacted. But DeRossett argues that is a misrepresentation of the facts. The time period for the repeal was 1976-81, when fatalities for all cyclists nationwide increased.

Johnson points to statistics offered by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration that show helmets are the best protection for riders. He said more than 40 studies have shown riders who wear helmets are safer.

According to the NHTSA, cyclists are 16 times more likely, per mile traveled, to die in an accident as is the occupant of an automobile.

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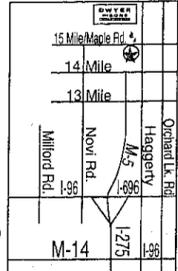
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# Fairy tales with a twist will tickle the funny bone



Members of the "Princesses Fairy Tales" performed last weekend.

BY STEPHANE FORDYCE  
Staff Writer

Two charming stories of some very wacky princesses were played out on the stage last weekend as The Novi Theatres presented their summer production of "The Princess Tales."

"I really enjoyed it," said audience member Leslie Sullivan, who came to see her granddaughter. "The plays were very cute and very well acted out."

White Sullivan, an Allen Park resident, said this was her first time attending a Novi production, she said she looks forward to attending more.

Directed by Carrie Wickert, "The Princess Tales" featured nearly 40 young actors from around the community. The play was written by Colleen Neuman.

Sticking off each night was the one-act play entitled, "The Princess and the Princess" depicting an interesting encounter between two ladies of royalty.

One princess, Poppiepa, played by Alison Davies, is a poor, yet rather polite princess and the other is a rich, rude princess named Twinkleberry, played by Emily Healy.

"The play is about two princesses who bump into each other on a narrow mountain path and each of them refuses to move to let the other pass," explained actor Caitlin McCormick.

As the two come to a stand-still, arguing over who is actually the true princess; guards, soldiers, the Queen and her ladies-in-waiting all try to help sort out the mess. But of course, nothing is ever that easy and those who try and assist only get stuck on the mountain with them.

It takes a riddle to prove that both princesses are "real," and it is the poor princess who graciously steps aside.

The second play, entitled "Twice Upon A Time" is a hilarious story involving some very famous fairy-tale princesses.

As the spells of three whimsical witches go awry, Snow White, Sleeping Beauty, Cinderella, the Princess from Princess and the Pea, and Beauty and the Beast, all appear out of nowhere, much to the witches' aggravation.

"Girl, you are in the wrong cave" are just a few sidesplitting lines heard in this zany tale.

Dwarfs, soldiers and a frog materialize when even more spells get confused. The frog is turned into a prince and the princesses are turning into frogs when the witches try to send them all back.

But before that happens, cat fights arise between the dainty dolls as they argue over who will get the prince first.

Actress Carla Wetter, who plays Snow White, said the production was really exciting to be a part of and she looks forward to continuing her era with the theater group.

"I really enjoy acting," said the soon-to-be fifth grader, who has now acted in seven Novi Theatre productions. "It's very exciting and fun to be somebody else."

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# Senators still up in the air about authority for Detroit Metro

BY MIKE MALOTT  
HomeTown News Service  
mmalott@hometown.com

When a state senate committee reports its findings in a review of Detroit Metropolitan Airport next month, many believe it will end with a proposal that the operation of the facility be turned over to a new regional authority.

But two key members of the committee — Sen. Glenn Stell, R-Grand Rapids, and Loren Bennett, R-Canton — say they have not made up their minds whether they would vote to remove the airport from the control of Wayne County Executive Ed McNamara and put it in the hands of an appointed panel.

It was Stell who set off speculation about an authority, mentioning in several committee hearings that he believed the airport should be in the hands of a multi-jurisdictional authority. As a result, Democratic members of the committee are convinced that will be their ultimate recommendation, and they point to Tampa International Airport as one

Stell particularly likes.

"Whenever you see a list of well-run airports, Tampa is always on the list," Stell said in an interview Tuesday, August 7. "But you have to keep in mind it does not have as many people going through it. It is about half the size of Detroit Metro. Tampa has about 16 million passengers per year. Detroit has 32 million. But I like their use of satellite terminals. They have a port authority and it operates the airport very efficiently. They have an ethics manual that is huge. And the people of Hillsborough County seem very happy with it. But it is just a good example of how an authority works."

Stell said he is very impressed with the airport maintenance department. Bennett too is concerned about that. Although the review discovered supplies were unaccounted for, the airport had not kept an inventory. Bennett told committee members he did not believe that indicated there was theft problem.

"If you don't have an inventory process, I don't know how you can even tell whether or not you're really

got a problem," Bennett said. But that may not be enough to call for the creation of an authority, he said. "We might just pass a law that says an airport of such-and-such a size has to have inventories of its supplies and maintenance and leave it at that."

Detroit Metro falls within Bennett's senate district, and he said he's not convinced the average resident of the area cares whether the airport is run by the county or an authority.

"They just want the services to be well run," he said.

Critics have argued that residents of the communities surrounding the airport would get better responsiveness from county officials than they would from an authority if its members were appointed.

"We've seen how well that works," Stell commented. An audit by the federal government recently rapped the airport for mishandling noise abatement funds. According to that report, \$54 million spent for sound proofing of surrounding homes managed to finish only 20 percent.

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## Northville Library Lines

**LIBRARY HOURS**  
The Northville District Library, 212 W. Cady St. near city hall, is open Monday-Thursday, from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and closed Sundays during the summer. Parking is available off Cady Street. For detailed information about programs or services, or to request or renew library materials, call (248) 349-3020.

**MONTHLY EVENING BOOK DISCUSSION**

"Galileo's Daughter" by Dava Sobel will be the topic at the next Book Discussion group on Aug. 13 at 7 p.m. This award winning work of non-fiction brings to life Galileo and his daughter and the earth-centered world in which they lived. All are welcome to join us for a lively discussion.

**JUNIOR AND TEEN BOOKS, CHAT AND CHOW**  
Kids in fourth grade and up, come join us for a great book discussion group on Aug. 28 at 4:15 p.m. We will be talking

about the novel "When Zachary Beaver Came to Town," by Kimberly Holt. Sign-up and copies of the book will be available starting Aug. 1.

**PUBLIC HEARING ON LIBRARY BUDGET**  
The annual public hearing on the library budget for the fiscal year starting December 2001 will be held on Aug. 23 at 7 p.m. in the Carlo meeting room on the library's main level. Any interested residents are welcome to attend and address any questions to the

board of trustees.

**LIBRARY BOARD MEETING**  
The next meeting of the Northville District Library Board of Trustees will be Aug. 23 at 7:30 p.m. The public is welcome to attend these monthly meetings which are held on the fourth Thursday of the month.

**LIBRARY HOURS**  
The Novi Public Library, 45246 W. Ten Mile Road, just east of Taft, is open Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; and Friday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The library is closed Sunday during the summer. For more information, call

349-0720.

**LIBRARY BOARD MEETING**  
The Novi Library Board of Directors meets Monday, Aug. 13 at 7 p.m. in the library meeting room. Community members are welcome to attend.

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# Thorton Creek takes stock of damages

BY JENNIFER NORRIS  
Staff Writer

Northville school officials have set the wheels in motion to correct the damage done at Thorton Creek Elementary school as a result of a late July vandalism episode.

According to David Boltho, assistant superintendent for Northville schools, the vandals broke a window in the portable classroom and said that the letters that spell out the school name were removed from the signage wall located near Nine Mile Road. In addition, the school marquee was knocked

off of the wall and the front light that illuminates the sign was smashed. The lens, bulb and reflector were broken.

Boltho also said that a window located within a door was broken out and the exterior of the side of the portable classroom all was damaged. Damage was also done to the overhang on the building itself.

Currently the sign and the light have not yet been repaired and window is scheduled to be repaired shortly, Boltho said.

However, he said the damage will not have an effect on the launch of the new school year. "We will have everything

repaired and ready to go for the opening of school," said Boltho.

The one portable classroom at Thorton Creek will be used for the early childhood program. "We will be ready to go," he said.

Chris Gearn, administrative assistant for operations for Northville Public Schools, said this is a busy time of year for contractors and said the repair work will not interfere with the first day of school.

"We're still waiting on those repairs, but they will be done before school starts," he said. "There are not going to be any safety hazards."

Gearn said the only project that may not be completed is replacing the letters that spell out the school's name. "We don't know yet [if they will have all those letters in stock]," he said. "If they have to specially order, it will take a little more time. All the other repair projects are expected to be completed by the beginning of school."

Boltho also said that the district has not officially heard if the four teenagers involved with the vandalism at Thorton Creek are Northville students. If the teenagers are students within the Northville school district, they will face disciplinary action ranging from suspension up to expulsion.

Boltho gave an informal estimate that it will cost the district approximately \$4,000 to repair and replace the damaged property and that figure does not reflect the cost for paying overtime to district employees.

The district faced two incidents of vandalism at two separate elementary schools in the month of July.

On July 14, a more costly incident of vandalism occurred at Silver Springs Elementary school which resulted in several broken computers; paint was poured on school computers, telephones and carpeting; glue was poured on floor and telephones and the contents of fire extinguishers were released throughout the building. Damage estimates in that matter hovered at around \$60,000.

One school official said this summer has been one of the worst in cases of vandalism. "I've been here three and a half years and it's never been this bad in the time I've been here," said Gearn.

Jennifer Norris is a staff writer for the Northville Record. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700 ext. 107 or by e-mail at jnorris@ht.homecomm.net.

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### CITY OF NOVI NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, August 15, 2001 at 7:30 PM, in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider, **VISION SPA SALON SP 01-22A**, located on the east side of Beck Road, south of Grand River Avenue, to consider **PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN APPROVAL, WOODLAND PERMIT APPROVAL AND SECTION NINE FACADE WAIVER**. The applicant is proposing a one-story spa and salon building.

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments will be heard at the hearing and any written comments may be sent to the Planning & Community Development Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 until 5:00 PM, Wednesday, August 15, 2001.

NOVI PLANNING COMMISSION  
ROBERT CHURELLA, SECRETARY

(8-9-01 NR/NN 1062453)

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Please take notice that per Section 380.1272 of the School Code, as amended in December 1993, Novi Community School District will conduct a public hearing to seek input on the feasibility and need of implementing a breakfast program. This public hearing will be held on August 16, 2001 at 7:30 AM at the Educational Services Building, 25345 Ten Mile Road, Novi, Michigan 48374-2423.

(8-9-01 NR/NN 1062818)

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, August 15, 2001 at 7:30 PM, in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider, **SCHULIST LAKE SHORES SUBDIVISION** (lots 15-17 and 22-24), to consider a **WETLAND PERMIT**. The applicant is proposing a single family home on six platted lots.

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments will be heard at the hearing and any written comments may be sent to the Planning & Community Development Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 until 5:00 PM, Wednesday, August 15, 2001.

NOVI PLANNING COMMISSION  
ROBERT CHURELLA, SECRETARY

(8-9-01 NR/NN 1062451)

### LAST DAY OF REGISTRATION SCHOOL ELECTION

NOTICE OF LAST DAY OF REGISTRATION OF THE ELECTORS OF NORTHVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS WAYNE, OAKLAND AND WASHTENAW COUNTIES, MICHIGAN TO THE ELECTORS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT:

Please Take Notice that the Board of Education of Northville Public Schools, Wayne, Oakland and Washtenaw Counties, Michigan, has called a special election to be held in the school district on Tuesday, September 25, 2001.

**TAKE NOTICE** that the following proposition will be submitted at the special bond election:

**BONDING PROPOSAL**  
Shall Northville Public Schools, Wayne, Oakland and Washtenaw Counties, Michigan, borrow the sum of not to exceed Twenty-Eight Million Three Hundred Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$28,330,000) and issue its general obligation unlimited tax bonds therefor, for the purpose of:

erecting, furnishing and equipping additions to school buildings and a new elementary school; partially remodeling, refurbishing and re-equipping school buildings, including installation of educational technology improvements; developing and improving playgrounds, playfields, athletic facilities and sites?

The following is for informational purposes only:  
It is expected that the bonds will be outstanding for a period of not more than 20 years, exclusive of refunding. The estimated millage that will be levied for the proposed bonds in the year 2001 is .55 mill (\$0.55 per \$1,000 of taxable valuation). The estimated simple average annual millage anticipated to be required to retire this bond debt is .59 mill (\$0.59 per \$1,000 of taxable valuation).

(Pursuant to State law, expenditure of bond proceeds must be audited, and the proceeds cannot be used for repair or maintenance costs, teacher, administrator or employee salaries, or other operating expenses.)

**THE LAST DAY ON WHICH PERSONS MAY REGISTER IN ORDER TO BE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE AT THE SPECIAL ELECTION CALLED TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2001, IS MONDAY, AUGUST 27, 2001. PERSONS REGISTERING AFTER 5 O'CLOCK IN THE EVENING ON MONDAY, AUGUST 27, 2001, ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO VOTE AT THE SPECIAL BOND 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's office 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 of Northville Public Schools, Wayne, Oakland and Washtenaw Counties, Michigan.

JUDITH WOLLACK  
SECRETARY, BOARD OF EDUCATION

(8-9-01 NR/NN 1062442)

### CITY OF NOVI NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, August 15, 2001 at 7:30 PM, in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider, **PROPOSED GAS STATION SP-0052**, located on south side of Grand River Avenue, west of Flint Road, to consider a **PRELIMINARY SITE PLAN APPROVAL, WOODLAND PERMIT APPROVAL AND SECTION NINE FACADE WAIVER**. The applicant is proposing an expansion and re-estimation of a former gas station.

All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments will be heard at the hearing and any written comments may be sent to the Planning & Community Development Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 until 5:00 PM, Wednesday, August 15, 2001.

NOVI PLANNING COMMISSION  
ROBERT CHURELLA, SECRETARY

(8-9-01 NR/NN 1062452)

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# High spending school districts seek relief from Prop. A

BY MIKE MALOTT  
Hometown News Service  
mmalott@hometown.com

There is no doubt that Proposal A — the 1994 ballot question approved by Michigan voters to shift funding of school districts from property taxes to the sales tax — has done well by most students in this state.

At the time, about 150 school districts in Michigan were spending less than \$4,200 per year to educate each child. A few spent amounts closer to \$2,000 per student per year. Today, no district gets less than \$6,300 per student, and the figure is scheduled to rise to \$6,500 next year.

But high spending school districts "are getting pinched," according to State Rep. Patricia Godchaux, R-Birmingham. Costs continue to climb for these districts while Proposal A limits their ability to bring in new revenue.

"It now takes us five years to generate the revenue adjustment that we used to get in a single year," said Gary Doyle, Superintendent of Bloomfield Hills schools. "We average 1.6 percent per year... Let me tell you, our expenses are going up a lot faster than 1.6 percent."

"We told communities if you don't like it... sorry you can't have (better)." Patricia Godchaux (R-Birmingham)

Godchaux has introduced legislation, House Bill 4917, that would allow these school districts to seek more money from taxpayers by going to the local ballot box. The proposal would allow districts to ask voters for increases in local property tax millage rates to produce per pupil spending up to the amount spent by the highest level district. While the minimum per pupil spending statewide is now set at \$6,300 per year, Bloomfield Hills is the top spending school district, allocating more than \$11,400 for each student annually.

"We told communities (through Proposal A) that if you don't like the standard that the state of Michigan puts out there and your community wants something higher or than that standard, sorry, you can't have it," Godchaux said. "This is an enhancement. If they can't convince the community to pass that millage, then it is no skin off anyone's back."

Districts would be allowed to ask for millage hikes just once a year, during regularly scheduled school elections, she explained. Not everyone thinks it is a good idea. Gov. John Engler, a key advocate of Proposal A back in 1994, opposes such a change.

Proposal A is accomplishing its goals, according to Engler spokesperson Susan Shafer. It provided property tax relief, increased funding for schools at the bottom of the spending spectrum, increasing minimum per pupil funding by more than \$3,000 per student, and helped reduce the gap between the highest spending school districts and the lowest.

At the time of the passage of

with requests for voter approval of millage increases was also part of the intent.

Former state representative Barbara Dobb, now a CPA in Commerce Township, agrees that limiting the growth of the top spending school districts to low spending districts catch up was indeed part of the plan. Dobb helped write the wording of the Proposal A constitutional amendment during her time in the state House of Representatives.

"This was not an unintentional consequence," she said. "It was the intention of the members of the committee — not my intention but theirs — that the school districts at the top of the funding would not grow until the schools at the bottom caught up... The animosity toward these schools with so much money to spend on their kids was so prevalent in the legislature... It is very hard to argue the case for schools that are spending in excess of \$10,000 per pupil."

Dobb supports Godchaux's move to allow higher spending districts to ask for more millage to stay up

with inflation. "We are responding to the desires of the community," Godchaux said. "Parents want their children to be competitive. In my district, I know that parents almost twice as much as the public schools spend to educate their children... We are talking about school districts that will die like that when parents decide that it is worth it to them to take their kids somewhere else and pay twice as much as they are already paying to take those kids educated."

Anderson disputes that. He contends that most private schools spend much less than public schools, on a per pupil basis, to educate their children. Most spend about half, at a level of about \$3,000 per year, he contended. He said he is aware of only one private school statewide that outspends public schools on a per pupil basis.

House Bill 4917 has been referred to the House Tax Policy Committee for consideration. It will try to receive a hearing, but Godchaux hopes her colleagues will take up the bill this fall.

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# Dearborn man's body found in Hines Park

BY LON HUHMAN  
Staff Writer

What began as a missing person case turned tragic last week when the body of Dearborn Heights resident David Cline was found in Northville Township's portion of Hines Park.

Cline, 33, had been reported missing by his family on July 31. According to Wayne County Sheriff's Department chief of staff Nancy Meridan, Cline was found by a search party comprised of family and friends in a dense section of woods in Hines Park. Meridan said suicide was the apparent cause of Cline's body was found hanging from a tree.

# Northville officials order house to be demolished

BY LON HUHMAN  
Staff Writer

Northville city officials ordered the demolition of a home which had slipped off its trailer on Walnut Street, after the homeowner representative did not appear for an emergency meeting with the city the day after the incident.

Not wanting to leave the house in the middle of the road any longer, cranes were called out to the accident site last Wednesday afternoon and worked into the night Thursday to complete the tearing-down process. And though the house is gone, the questions remain. The primary question is — how can problems of this kind be prevented from occurring again?

Kusky and Sons Home Moving and Raising company of Clio attempted to move Susan Petty's home from Grace Avenue to Salem Township in Washtenaw County, but the house became unhooked on Walnut Street, leaving Ed Kusky's son, 12-year-old Josh, slightly injured.

Kusky and Susan Petty, owner of the demolished home, could not be reached for comment. Northville city police chief James Petres said the accident occurred because as the movers proceeded up Walnut, they had readjusted the home's position in the street in order to evade a utility pole that was in the way at the time. The repositioning caused the moving truck cable attached to the house to slacken, which eventually led to the home becoming disconnected and moving down the street's hill before being stopped by a parked Amertech service truck.

Josh Kusky was caught under the home as it rolled and was hit in the head with a board causing superficial abrasions. He and his cousin, Greg Kusky, had been placing wooden blocks behind the tires of the platform on which the house had been placed. Greg Kusky had managed to get out of the way in time.

According to Petres, police had previously questioned the moving route because of the sharp turns it would have required. The route was planned by the homeowner and mover, Petres said. However, Petres also said he was assured by the mover that the sharp turns of the route would not present a problem.

"I had my concerns, but I was assured by Mr. Kusky that he could do this," Petres said. "It was my understanding that he is a licensed professional and that it would not be a problem. There have been homes moved in the city in the past, such as the one that went from Rogers Street to River Street, and they have gone smooth."

The planned city route, which would not be needed, he was informed that the weighmaster would be on hand from the beginning until the end of the move. Wayne County weighmaster Sandra Bose declined to comment, but Wayne County spokesperson John Roush did.

"While the house was being moved on Northville city streets, our weighmaster was on hand just as an observer," Roush said. "Once it reached county right-of-way the weighmaster would then have had jurisdiction and would have had a formal role when it would have arrived at Seven Mile Road."

Roush said the county was uncomfortable with the route because of the number of side streets it would have had to take. However, he said the most worrisome portion of the route was not in the county's jurisdiction.

Mayor Chris Johnson said the city would change its procedures and tighten down the review process. He also said a more thorough background check of a mover's references would be done

one mile away from his vehicle in an area not yet searched by police.

"It's an unfortunate incident," Petri said. "Suicide is a permanent answer to what is most likely a temporary problem. It's never a good thing."

Meridan said there was no evidence at that would lead the department to believe foul play was the cause of death. No suicide note was found at the scene, Meridan said.

Meridan said there are no apparent reasons why Cline committed suicide at this point in the case, but it was reported to her that he was dismissed

from his previous job and was expected to start a new one the week he went missing.

"We will conduct a thorough investigation and one aspect of this will be speaking with the family," Meridan said. "At this point, I don't know if his change of employment has anything to do with the apparent suicide. We will investigate each detail."

Lon Huhman is a staff writer for the Northville Record. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 109 or by e-mail at luhman@hometown.com.

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"There will be recommendations given to the city council in order to prevent something like this in the future," Petres said. "There should probably be a more formal reviewing process put in place."

City manager Gary Word said the city is assessing the damages done to the street, particularly the trees along the street. Those costs may be forwarded to Kusky or his insurance carrier. In addition, Word said the city will be reviewing its policy for how kinds of situations and changes and other improvements.

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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.

## Remember to be safe in the heat

As if we need to say this: It's hot. Not just hot in the conventional sense, but hot...with a capital 'H'. The kind of hot that's so intense that walking across the room to crank up the box fan one more notch (even though it's already maxed out) is just too exhausting. Yep. It's a scorcher. And though the health reports grace every front page and TV broadcast in the country, the extreme temperatures warrant our reminding readers of some of the Do's and Don'ts in weather like we're having.

**DO:**

- Drink water. Not carbonated water with sugar. Not water mixed with grains and hops, but water. Drink lots of it. And when you think you've had enough, drink more. The human body is more than 70 percent water, and in heat like this, dehydration is a serious, serious matter.

- Keep your shades drawn. The sunshine is nice, especially when we all think to the gloomy overcast of February and March, but keeping shades open invites sunlight, which simply heats up a home quicker. Just keeping the light out will ease the crunch on fans and air conditioners.
- Exercise in the early-early morning or late at night. Mid-day activities are extremely dangerous. If you have to exert yourself in the daytime, take frequent breaks, seek shade, and (like we said before) guzzle the water like there's no tomorrow.
- Seek out an air conditioned location or swimming pool if at all possible.
- Check on your elderly neighbors and families with small children. The very young and very old are particularly susceptible to succumbing to the heat, so keep an

eye out for folks on your street.

- Seek medical attention immediately if you feel confused, dizzy, or have clammy skin. These are signs of a potentially deadly condition.

**DON'T:**

- Take salt tablets. It's an old remedy once thought to help replace sodium in your body quicker and retain water. Don't do it. Just drink-drink-drink. (Have we mentioned the importance of drinking water?)
- Bring children or pets into cars. Save yourself the trouble and let your children and Fido stay at home where it's cooler. If you must bring them along, allow your car to cool down before you place occupants inside it, then be certain to remove everyone and everything from the car before you go about your business. Temperatures in closed cars exposed to sunlight can

rocket upwards of 150 degrees in a matter of minutes.

- Water your lawn in the middle of the day. When water is at a premium, as it is now, conserve it by watering late in the afternoon or early in the morning.
- Wear dark colors. Instead, wear loose-fitting clothing, a hat, and wear light colors whenever possible. White is best.

**Keep your shades drawn. The sunshine is nice, especially when we all think to the gloomy overcast of February and March, but keeping shades open invites sunlight, which simply heats up a home quicker.**

At times, suggestions like these can sound like a broken record, but as the saying goes, an ounce of prevention beats a pound of cure.

**FOOTNOTE:** (Before we all go insane over the heat, take heart—things are supposed to cool off for the weekend, and September is only 22 days away. By January, we'll be begging for the mercury to crest 40.)

## GOVERNMENT

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

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**Local office:**  
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Lansing, MI 48909-7536  
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COUNTY COMMISSION

**Hugh Crawford (R-Novi)**  
1200 North Telegraph  
Pontiac, MI 48341  
(248) 349-5079  
hughcrawford@msn.com

**Nancy Dingeldey (R-Wixom)**  
2220 Duna Road  
Wixom, MI 48393  
(248) 669-5921  
dingeldeyn@co.aakland.mi.us

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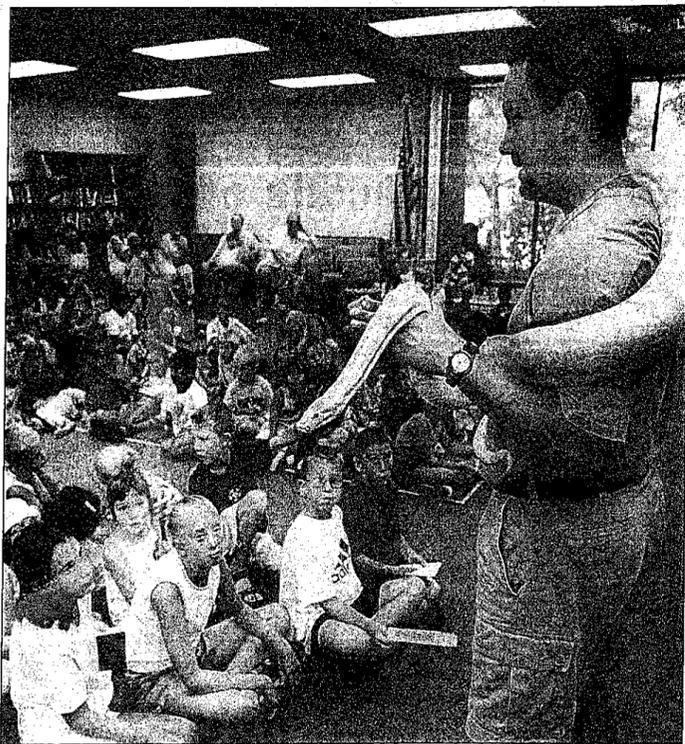
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476 Russell Senate Office  
Building, Washington D.C.  
senator@stabenow.senate.gov

**Local office:**  
280 East Saginaw  
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## Creatures in the library

Daniel "The Creature Man" Briere of The Little Creatures shows "Sunny" an albino python last Wednesday afternoon at the Novi Public Library as part of its Summer Reading program. Briere, who had many creatures that crawl and creep said that this python at 45 lbs. will eventually reach 20 feet in length.

## LETTERS

### A Cheerful thank you

I am writing on behalf of the Novi High School cheer teams in order to thank the extremely generous citizens of Novi for their great support during our recent car and bottle drive. Based on the wonderful response we received, we were able to raise over \$4,000 for camp, gymnastics and uniform expenses. Without your continued support, we would not have all of the privileges and advantages that we currently enjoy. Thanks again.

**Amy Denys**  
Novi High School  
Cheer Team Head Coach

### Where were the Northville officials?

Who issued the permit to move a house up Walnut Street? The highest hill with the steepest grade in Northville.

As they brought the house from Grace Street to Walnut, they had to start cutting trees as the house was too wide for the narrow streets. They were then going to turn south on East, turn west on Elm, turn south on High Street and go across Main past the post office to Seven Mile Road and then out to Salem, Mich. Can you imagine all the tree branches over the road that would have been destroyed throughout this route?

Who supervised the move and checked to see if they had safety wrenches, followed safety precautions for moving, removing brick facade on house, and etc. Who checked to see that the movers had competent equipment for this very difficult move up the hill that required extremely heavy equipment? What was a garage doing on a flat top? Where was police supervision, both front and back for traffic control? Who was there to keep people away from the wires in case they were downed? Was that the job of Ameritech and Detroit Edison? The answer is a big no to all of these questions. Nobody put up yellow tapes and orange cones to keep people away. The workers told me to stay away because there was so much tension pulling the house up the incline that if the cable broke, it would take down everything in its path.

I live at the top of Walnut Street and called city hall when the house was just about where it eventually landed. I told them they should have someone here from the city to supervise this move as it was turning into a dangerous situation. They were having trouble getting the house up the hill. She said they had been getting many calls about this move and would send someone out. A policeman came and talked to one of the movers for a few minutes and then left.

All the Ameritech and Detroit Edison workers with many years of experience could not believe that anyone would even try to move a house up this extremely steep hill. They felt it was a disaster waiting to happen. We were worried that someone would get hurt, mainly the children that were playing blocks behind the house.

The WeightMasters from Wayne County came by several times to check on the progress as they had jurisdiction over the move once the house came to Seven Mile. They said there were many violations.

Later, people who have ridden bicycles up the hill, joggers and etc., came by and said that this was the steepest and hardest grade to go up in Northville. If the city had checked this route for feasibility, they would have found out that it was impossible to go up pulling the house, even with the best of equipment. The movers could not get momentum as they had to stop while Ameritech and etc., had to get the wires out of the way.

Trucks with big loads are always pulling a struggle to go up this hill, changing gears and sometimes returning down below the crest of the hill to get a good running start.

Who gave the company permission for this route? Had the city officials ever walked up this hill or pulled anything up it? Where was the follow-up? Well, we all know what happened as it was shown on all the local TV channels for two days, presenting Northville in a very unprofessional light. It was a disgrace that no one was more serious, both front and back for traffic control? I am questioning the professional abilities of the city departments that allowed this to happen.

**Marjorie Caroselli**  
Northville

### Not wrong, just not prudent

I watched with horror on last night's TV news, the house that got away from the movers and caused damage and destruction.

I expect the owner of the moving company is taking a lot of flack about now for having his son and relatives help with the moving.

All I know is what I saw on TV and it is so unfortunate, but somehow I hurt for the father. First of all, that his son was injured (as I kept listening to reports heard that he would be O.K., thank God); and then of course for the damage and destruction of property; and the reputation of his company.

Was he wrong to have his son help? Is it wrong for a father to teach his son a trade, to teach him to be helpful, and learn the qualities of becoming a man? How many boys of that age are couch potatoes or roaming the malls getting into trouble?

How many of you men with boys of that age would like to see them take an interest in working with you, helping out and learning responsibilities of becoming a man?

Just thought I would share some of my thinking.

**Carolyn Wolf**  
Northville

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

**Mail:**  
Letters to the Editor  
Kelli Cooley  
Novi News  
104 W. Main St.  
Northville, MI 48167  
**E-mail:**  
keooley@ht.homecomm.net  
**Fax:**  
(248) 349-9832



# OTHER OPINIONS

## Airport review another skirmish

Think of Hamburger Hill. Little more than a bump in the landscape of Vietnam while a wider war raged around it, strategists saw it as important enough to pour men, equipment and firepower into the effort to control it. Everybody else scratched their heads over what all the fighting was about.

Now think of Detroit Metropolitan Airport. State lawmakers have reviewed and investigated and held hearings about its internal operations for better than two years now. Despite that, no smoking gun has been found that would indicate anything like corruption in the affairs of that facility.

Even that most recent revelations that a federally funded noise abatement program suffers from poor workmanship and slow implementation don't rise to that level. It looks bad — and it is bad — but what has to happen is that airport managers have to apply pressure to get contractors to finish the job. It is not an uncommon problem in the construction industry.

Keep in mind that the state government itself got cut off from federal funding for millions earlier this year because it hadn't completed work on a new computer system. Nobody proposed that state government, or even the Family Independence Agency, be turned over to an authority. The governor and lawmakers applied the pressure needed to get those doing the work to get it done.

Nonetheless, airport operations have been

the subject of numerous hearings in Lansing. Dozens of financial "reviews," not audits, have been done. And airport officials have said they'll correct any problems uncovered, those that haven't already been addressed. Sen. Glenn Steil, R-Grand Rapids, has mentioned he thinks the solution may be to take the airport from Wayne County and put it in the hands of an authority, although he also says he hasn't made up his mind whether to propose that.

Still, like Ken Starr's investigation of Bill Clinton, this airport review seems to go on and on without producing results.

So when Democratic staffers start describing the airport review as just another skirmish line in their political wars with Republicans, it may offer a good explanation of what is going on.

Steil and Sen. Loren Bennett, R-Canton, deny it of course, and they certainly seem sincere. But they also are not the ones who initiated the review, they're the latest to draw the assignment.

There can be no doubt that Republicans are master strategists. The only evidence you need is to compare last year's vote for Democrats at the top of the ticket with the GOP's control of almost everything at the state level — House, Senate, governor's office, supreme court. And next year, the state congressional delegation is expected to fall to the Republican sleig.

Ken Brock, Special Assistant to Sen. Burton Leland, D-Detroit, contends Republicans have run a long series of initiatives intended to dismantle the traditional Democratic party base in this state. From new campaign finance rules curtailing reporting of contributions from the first dollar, cracking down on fundraising bingos, to "right to work" rules that allow employees to opt out of unions, Brock contends there have been a series of politically motivated initiatives designed to hurt Democrats.

### Still, like Ken Starr's investigation of Bill Clinton, this airport review seems to go on without producing results. So when Democratic staffers start describing it as just another skirmish line in their political wars with Republicans, it may offer a good explanation of what is going on.

What's the significance of the airport to the contest for political control? Metro is a huge operation, employing 15,000 employees, and when you add in the workers of vendors and contractors, the total number comes closer to 60,000 to 70,000. By comparison, Michigan's four largest auto plants employ only about 13,000 to 14,000 workers.

That generates a tremendous amount of campaign funding and support for Democrats. Take the airport out of the control of Wayne County Executive Ed McNamara and hand it to an authority, perhaps with members appointed by the governor, and it could well change that flow of campaign cash.

For those of us who are not signed up as troopers in the party warfare, those of us who count ourselves as independent voters, it still matters. After all, our government is supposed to be a two-party system. It doesn't work well when one side wins all the time.

Mike Malott reports on the local implications of state and regional events. He can be reached by phone at (810) 227-0171 or by e-mail at mmalott@homecomm.net.

## Think of others with tax check

Pretty soon most tax-paying households will receive a check as part of President George W. Bush and the United States Congress' "Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001."

They'll begin to arrive in increasing numbers in the Northville, Novi and Walked Lake areas in the next week and by September, a lot of Americans will be looking at money from the Department of Treasury in amounts ranging from \$300 to \$600 — depending on filing status, previous losses owed and other outstanding federal debts.

A recent article by David Milstien of the Rocky Mountain News brought to light the heretofore little-known or talked about fact that this money is an advance on what the IRS expects you to receive as your refund after filing your 2001 1040 form.

That's right — it ain't just a no-strings attached present from Uncle Sammy as some would have believed. In order to get the money, you must make a contribution to the Protestant Church in a somewhat formal baptizing, the idea or concept of titling comes to mind.

That's right, kiddos, 10 percent of what you got, you give to others.

In the case of the checks soon coming from Uncle Sam, one could donate a good ten percent of your windfall to your local church, synagogue, temple or mosque.

Except that some are already helping their churches organizing these checks don't come from Uncle Sam, one could donate a good ten percent of your windfall to your local church, synagogue, temple or mosque.

Imagine what we could do if even a fraction of those receiving these checks donate a fraction of it to the Red Cross, Detroit's Capuchin Soup Kitchen, Habitat for Humanity, Focus

masses — the fact is the money will soon be showing up in our mailboxes.

It's up to us what to do with it.

Rarely have I seen such mouth-agape, drool-worthy stargazing speculation of just what will Americans do with this financial gift? by those of us in the media.

Not since the first guy won \$1 million on "Who Wants to be a Millionaire" have we so tripped over ourselves to suggest where a lot of dough should go.

The newspaper, on-line, radio and TV pundits tend to think Americans will rush out and spend their small fortunes on DVD players, washing machines, Chanel couture, weekend trips to Vegas, and getting their cats fixed.

Given these opportunities, are you as torn as I am for what to do with this financial windfall?

I'm not very religious (though my parents will occasionally remind me that my heart was dunked in some water at an early age in the Protestant Church in a somewhat formal baptizing), the idea or concept of titling comes to mind.

That's right, kiddos, 10 percent of what you got, you give to others.

Except that some are already helping their churches organizing these checks don't come from Uncle Sam, one could donate a good ten percent of your windfall to your local church, synagogue, temple or mosque.

Imagine what we could do if even a fraction of those receiving these checks donate a fraction of it to the Red Cross, Detroit's Capuchin Soup Kitchen, Habitat for Humanity, Focus

## Challenging yourself is rewarding

Even though it's the month of August, I've decided to make a "New Year" resolution — it doesn't matter that today is August 9. The date is unimportant, what matters is the amount of determination and resolve that I'm setting up to make it until I reach my established goal.

Every year, one wouldn't be hard pressed to find a handful of folks on the hill when they fulfill their wish for the year, or their resolution. Quite typically, those goals range from quitting smoking, losing weight, finding a job, moving, etc.

My belated resolution is a bit different though. While cutting back on chocolate sweets and candies for some, my resolution of sorts is to stop shopping for clothes and shoes for at least two months.

Stop laughing. This recent decision of mine may seem to be petty or arbitrary to some, but it's ironic how people simplify certain actions when they are not in that position. For example, as a non-smoker, it would be easy to think that quitting smoking would be as easy as

not purchasing that next pack of cigarettes. But I've known enough smokers (who say they are trying to quit) to realize that the process of giving up really isn't that simple. I'm sure the same applies for those individuals trying to lose weight. It's always tempting to say, "Oh, that's no big deal." That is, until you're faced with the obstacle yourself.

I made a pact with my family not to purchase any new clothing or shoes for a two month period. That means that until October 6, I'm banning myself from visiting the mall or any shop for that matter. Of course, grocery shopping is still allowed.

Some shopping just can't be avoided. I almost feel like a marathon runner beginning the race and seeing the long road stretching out ahead. At the beginning, runners are full of energy and motivation but they must remember to keep up a steady, persistent pace. The same applies to me. At this point, only a few more days into my 60-day, no-shopping plan I feel like maybe extending the time period to 90 days. But then I remind myself I may feel differently during the last leg of the resolution, particularly when stores are dragging out the latest colors and items for fall.

Sigh. While I'm not in debt and pay off all the bills completely each month, I'm forcing myself to save money for a couple of reasons. The first is likely my need to save more money for more fun, important purchases and secondly, I think I'm the kind of person that enjoys a challenge. And just like the smoker craving a cigarette, I'm sure I'll be craving for a trip to my favorite stores in the mall. But perhaps the most important reason, my family reminds me, is my closet is currently overflowing with apparel. "Where are you going to put it all," they ask me.

I usually shrug and start folding clothes and placing them neatly in stacks on a closet shelf or put them in drawers to create a little more space. But I'll freely admit, I have more clothes than I need and feel I'm blessed to have such an abundance compared to others struggling in poor nations.

The clock is ticking and although I've just initiated my resolution, I'm fairly confident I'll make it throughout the entire two-month time frame.

Maybe when it's over, I'll have enough money saved up to buy an armoire to house my winter clothes I'll be hauling out soon.

**I almost feel like a marathon runner beginning the race and seeing the long road stretching out ahead. The same applies to me. At this point, only a few more days into my 60-day no shopping plan, I feel like extending the time period.**

Jennifer Norris is a staff writer for the Northville Record and Lake Area Times. She may be reached at (248) 349-1700 ext. 107 or by e-mail at jnnorris@ht.homecomm.net.

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**Grace Perry**  
PUBLISHER  
(248) 349-1700, ext. 120  
gperry@ht.homecomm.net

**Lisa Dranginis**  
ADVERTISING MANAGER  
(248) 349-1700, ext. 116  
ltdranginis@ht.homecomm.net

**Ronnie Sexton**  
CIRCULATION MANAGER  
(248) 349-1700, ext. 119  
vsexton@ht.homecomm.net

**Jan Haskell**  
CLASSIFIEDS MANAGER  
(800) 599-1288, ext. 275  
jhaskell@ht.homecomm.net

**Bob Jackson**  
MANAGING EDITOR  
(248) 349-1700, ext. 117  
bjackson@ht.homecomm.net

**Kelli Cooley**  
EDITOR  
(248) 349-1700, ext. 115  
kcooley@ht.homecomm.net

**Mike Malott**  
HOMETOWN NEWS SERVICE  
LANSING BUREAU  
mmalott@ht.homecomm.net

**Stephanie Fordyce**  
STAFF WRITER  
(248) 349-1700, ext. 108  
sfordyce@ht.homecomm.net

**Sam Englestein**  
SPORTS WRITER  
(248) 349-1700, ext. 104  
senglestein@ht.homecomm.net

**Diane Dempsey Deel**  
STAFF WRITER  
(248) 349-1700, ext. 103  
ddeel@ht.homecomm.net

**John Heider**  
PHOTOGRAPHER  
(248) 349-1700, ext. 106  
jheider@ht.homecomm.net

**Denise Artinian**  
ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE  
(248) 349-1700, ext. 122  
vartinian@ht.homecomm.net

**Jan McMann**  
ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE  
(248) 349-1700, ext. 102  
jcmcmann@ht.homecomm.net

**Susan Boulton**  
ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE  
(248) 349-1700, ext. 111  
sboulton@ht.homecomm.net

**Billy Fraser**  
AD DESIGNER  
(248) 349-1700, ext. 103  
bfraser@ht.homecomm.net

**Marcia Cromas**  
RECEPTIONIST  
(248) 349-1700

**Karen Whitehart**  
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(248) 349-1700

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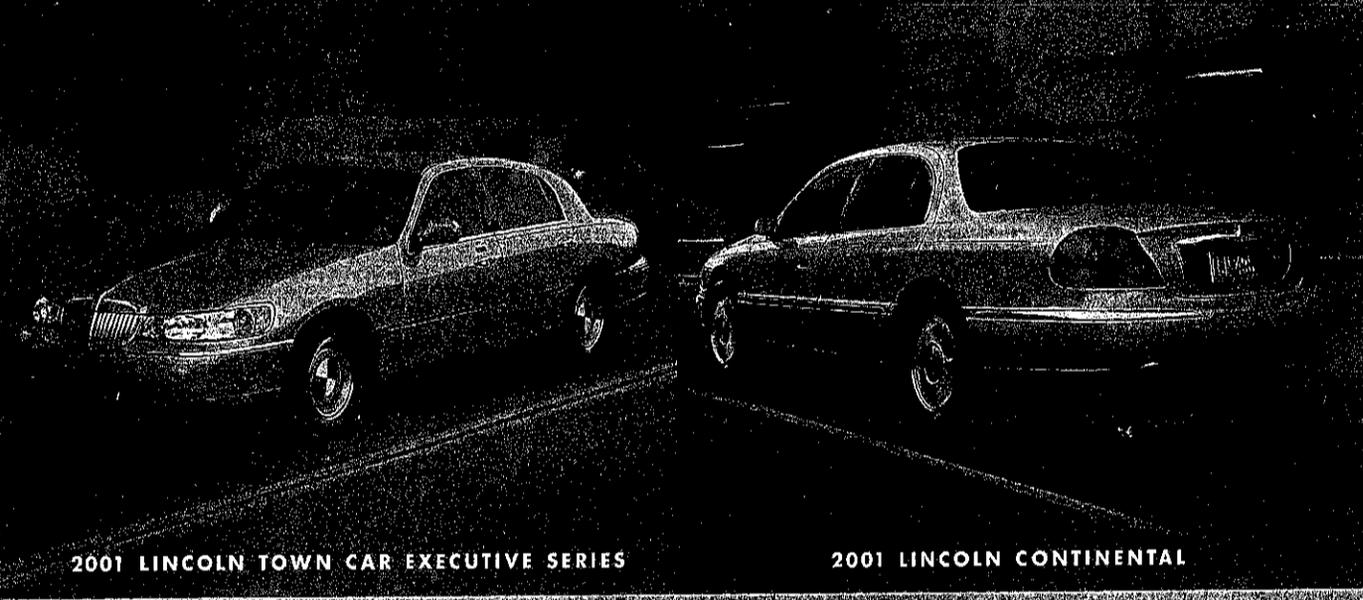
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# High heat index means hot practices

Coaches, trainers working together to keep gridders cool during conditioning

By SAM EGGLESTON  
Sports Reporter

Football season is on us and everything is heating up — including the temperatures.

The untimely death of Minnesota Vikings lineman Cory Stillman from heat exhaustion so near to the start of the grueling days of high school football conditioning raises the question of how are athletes going to keep their cool?

According to Novi head coach Tab Kellepourey, it is a question that coaches address all of the time and a topic they make sure to discuss with the athletes before the start of the season.

"Athletes getting too hot is a big concern of all coaches that work with kids," Kellepourey said. "We start by really informing our kids and teaching them that they should always be in communication with us. If an athlete isn't feeling well they should verbally communicate that so we can respond to the situation."

According to Kellepourey, one of the first things an athlete should do to prepare for the tough hours of conditioning is to keep well hydrated.

"We tell the kids that we want them to drink plenty of fluids throughout the month of July to prepare for practice in August," Kellepourey said. "During practice we make sure to have the athletes take frequent water breaks and heavily encourage the use of fluids."

With there only being a limited number of coaches on the field to watch an entire team, there may be times when one athlete escapes the watchful eye of their coach — that is where the athletic trainer comes

in. "Most football teams have a trainer on sight," Kellepourey said. "The trainer is a specialist on the health related aspects of sports. They make sure water breaks are built into cold water and that the athletes get really cold water to keep their body temperatures down."

Kellepourey said that as the heat rises the practices will be adjusted for the benefit of the players.

"As the temperatures rise we will adjust practices as well," Kellepourey said. "We always ice down the water to make it really cold but if the heat starts to rise we add more water breaks for the athletes."

Making sure that an athlete is prepared for the hot days of practice starts at home too.

"I would suggest to parents to make sure their athletes are hydrated through the evening," Kellepourey said. "Parents need to make sure their sons get their fluids replenished at home after practice and that they are eating properly."

Even with all of the precautions taken by a coach and the rest of the football staff, Kellepourey said that he understands that some parents are concerned when it comes to sending their children out onto the field of play.

"All parents are concerned for their kids well-being and they should be," Kellepourey said. "Coaches need to know that parents are concerned for their sons. Parents need to know that coaches are sophisticated professionals. We really keep an eye on the athletes and if we see an athlete struggling we respond by asking questions and assisting the situation."

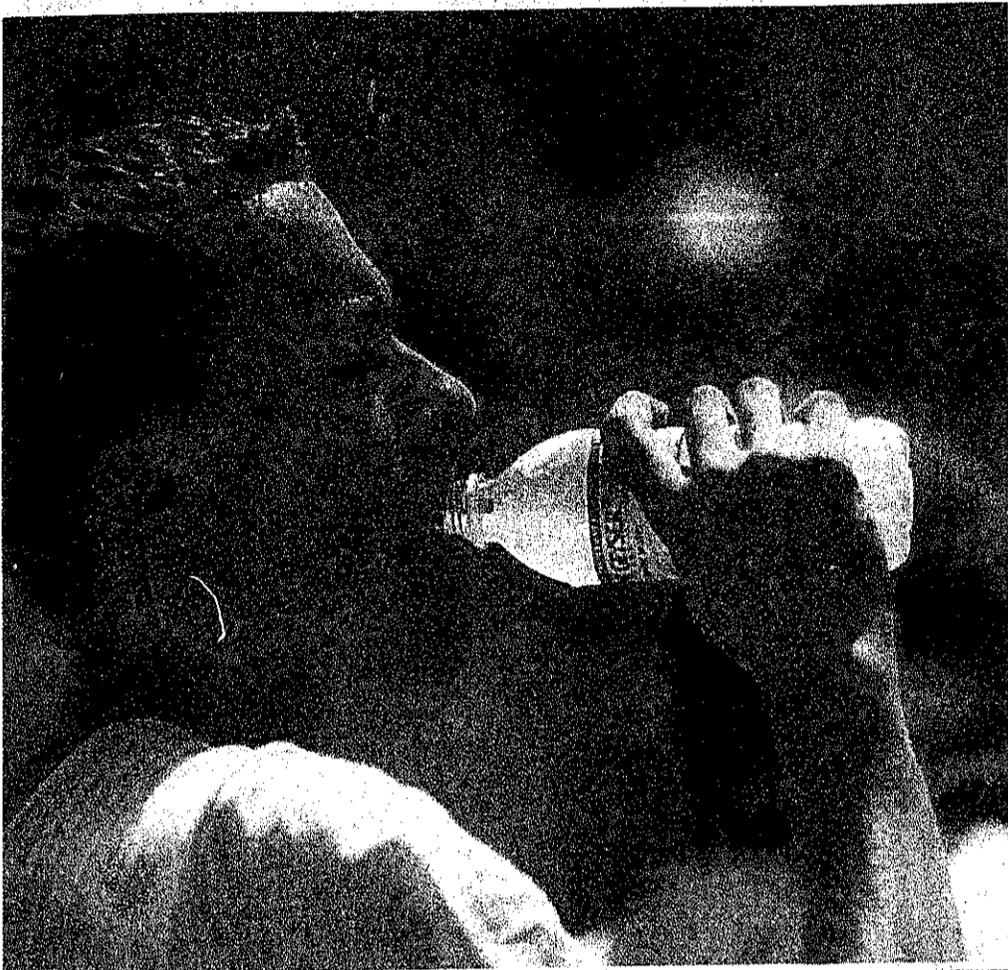


Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Hot practices and determined players. Athletes know what it takes to keep cool during the steaming days of football conditioning. This Wildcat griddier takes a slug of refreshing water to stay hydrated Monday, the state's opening day for football practice.



Submitted photo

Kelley DeNeen watches the action from between the posts while Brad Zarem and Cortney Byron take on an opponent during a game from the 2001 season while Novi defender Mike Vehlewald looks on. Novi lacrosse has proven their ability in the past and the quality of their players in the present. What lies in the future for a team as young as the Wildcats?

## Wildcat lacrosse has good past, great future

By SAM EGGLESTON  
Sports Reporter

If someone were to ask what sport has sent more Novi athletes to college on a scholarship, what would your answer be?

Football? Basketball? Track? Nope, the answer is lacrosse.

"Novi's lacrosse team has sent more athletes to college on scholarship than any other sport at the high school," said Scott Hunt, a parent representative for the squad. "That is quite a statement for a very young program and for a lacrosse school here in Michigan."

Although the Michigan High School Athletic Association has not sanctioned lacrosse as an MHSAA sport, the Wildcat lacrosse team has managed to get plenty of attention by competing in Michigan Scholastic Lacrosse Association.

"The sport commenced in Novi at the middle school level in the early 1990's," Graham Ward

said. "It started at the varsity level in 1992 and the kids won a state championship three years into the program when they were juniors."

According to Ward and Hunt, the players recruited out of Novi to take the collegiate field in lacrosse play at the highest level in the sport.

Josh Tankersley, who was Novi's first All-American, played at Townsend State in Baltimore, Maryland and has had the distinct experience of playing the NCAA Final Four where his squad lost to eventual national champion Princeton by one goal. Tankersley notched a goal and an assist in the losing effort and was voted first team All-Conference.

Former Wildcat Pat Muston now takes the field as a Retriever for the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMBC). According to Ward, Muston gathered plenty of playing time as a freshman with the nationally ranked squad and

gathered a goal and an assist. Other Novi players who have switched to the black and gold of UMBC are Michael Hicks and Chris Johnson.

Muston's older brother Brad recently graduated from the Virginia Military Institute where he was a captain of the school's lacrosse team. Two other former Wildcats have graced the lacrosse field at VMI. Nate Plecka, who was a star wrestler and lacrosse player for Novi, has also taken to the field of play for VMI as a defender and the institute's starting goalie is former Wildcat lacrosse standout Brian Ward.

Other Novi lacrosse stars that have moved on the collegiate level since 1996 include Mike Sills, a four-time All-State selection who played at North Carolina, and Kyle Harbin, who plays at Scranton.

"That is a lot of kids (who received scholarships) in a rela-

Continued on 5

## Parents shouldn't worry



Sam Eggleston

The very first thing I want to say in this column is this: Parents, don't worry about your children when it comes to playing sports.

I know, I know. Me asking you to not worry about your kids each and every time you drop them off at practice or sit in the stands while they participate in a game is like asking the Detroit Tigers to win the World Series this year — it's not going to happen.

You sit there and you wonder if your child is going to be the recipient of a broken bone or a dislocated

digit and sometimes you worry yourself sick about it. Take that and add on the fact that a professional football player recently died after practice in 105-degree weather and now you have to worry about your children possibly dying during practice? No, you don't.

First of all I want to note that at the professional level there are a lot of extra substances players take to enhance their ability to form muscle mass, to help keep their energy levels peaked and to help burn fat and carbohydrates. Mix all of these together and you may end up with a combination not meant to be used in an area with high temperatures.

Not that I am saying all athletes take these extra substances or that these substances are dangerous. I am not saying that Cory Stillman even took them for that matter. All I am saying is that there are possible complications that the general public has not been made aware of yet and only time will tell.

Another reason I don't feel that athletes are in danger when they

take to the field or court is because I played four years of varsity football, two of track and field, a season of varsity basketball, two seasons of college rugby and a short stint on a semi-professional football team and I gathered no more injuries than a slight concussion, banged up hands, a scratched eye and a slew of aches and pains accompanied by bruises. That is what sports do to people, they make you realize the sheer potential your body has by challenging you on different levels.

Coaches and trainers will be keeping an eye on each and every athlete that participates in practice and you, as a parent or an athlete, can help too.

First, athletes should make sure that they start drinking plenty of fluids now in anticipation of the long, hard hours of the first weeks of practice.

Second, athletes who take the dog days of summer to train for the fall sports will find that they are probably less likely to receive minor

Continued on 3



Submitted photo

### Rah, rah, rah! Goooooo Wildcats!

The 2001-2002 Junior Varsity Pom Pon Squad recently competed at the Mid American Pom Pon Camp at Central Michigan University. The squad includes Carrie Capanyola, Brittany Cirka, Niki Giannoulakis, Cindy Herman, Gretchen Kroll, Deanna Albanelli, Keli Black, Kelly Breedlove, Sarah Celeski, Chelsea Cracraft, Brittany Davis, Laura Hirschfield, Ashley King, Jessica Kim, Marybeth Miles, Audrey Oh, Jessica Pierce, Ashley Powell, Emily Reid and Carlee Rodriguez. The coach is Maria Hernandez.

# Hot Ticket makes Port Huron to Mac look easy

## J-120 remains best in its class with second win in yacht race

By SAM EGGLESTON  
Sports Reporter

It all started about 20 years ago when a man who had always wanted to be a sailor, bought a sailboat.

Now that man has turned from a sailor to the captain of the fastest J-120 that entered the 2000 and 2001 Mackinac Races — the Hot Ticket.



Submitted Photo

The Hot Ticket prepared to set sail and defend its J-120 champion title in the Port Huron to Mackinac yacht race held in July. The Hot Ticket not only completed the famous course, but took first for the second straight year.

"The Hot Ticket is a very competitive boat," said Bob Kirkman, the owner and captain of the Hot Ticket.

"We've been doing very well with this boat and this crew. In the past five years we have raced the Mackinac for three second-place finishes and two firsts."

The Hot Ticket might be the one that will get a sailor from Port Huron to Mackinac, but Kirkman says that he races for the fun of racing and for his family.

"Racing helps keep our family together," the Northville resident said. "Lots of people can't spend as much time with their family as I do. We like to race because it is fun and as long as it is fun we will probably continue to race."

Kirkman not only gets to take to the winds and the water with the Hot Ticket, but also his two sons.

"I race with my two sons, Michael and Robert, and my daughter-in-law Trish," Kirkman said.

"Everyone calls my wife (Patience) the admiral. She and my daughter, Melanie Newblatt, keep it all together and are actively involved in everything."

Kirkman jokes that winning the Mackinac has some small advantages.

"It means we get to brag for the next year," he said.

"It also means that the crew will be back because everyone likes to be on the winning boat."

The Hot Ticket's 2001 Mackinac winning 12-person crew consisted of Bob (captain/helmsman), Michael (foredeck/navigation), Trish (spinnaker) and Robert (job trimmer) Kirkman, Northville resident Rob Baldus (helmsman), Jason Breckenridge (foredeck), Carl Bihlmeyer (main sheet trimmer), Josh Bennett (job trimmer), Russ Miller (bow man), Rick Rothenbuehler (tactician), Greg Meehan (bow man) and Tome Schulte (hot box).

As with every racing vessel the Hot Ticket has become known not only for its speed and crew, but for the symbol it show-cases on its spinnaker as well



Submitted photo

The Hot Ticket and its crew held onto first-place status after winning the J-120 class in the Port Huron to Mackinac yacht race held in July. The crew includes: Bob (captain/helmsman), Michael (foredeck/navigation), Trish (spinnaker) and Robert (job trimmer) Kirkman, Northville resident Rob Baldus (helmsman), Jason Breckenridge (foredeck), Carl Bihlmeyer (main sheet trimmer), Josh Bennett (job trimmer), Russ Miller (bow man), Rick Rothenbuehler (tactician), Greg Meehan (bow man) and Tome Schulte (hot box).

— a red dot.

Kirkman says that one of the factors that makes the Hot Ticket so effective is the experience of its 12-person seasoned crew.

"I would say that each person on the crew has raced 10 or 12 Mackinac races," he said. "I've raced about 19, I think."

Even with 19 Port Huron to Mackinac races under his belt, Kirkman says he plans on racing until he is at least an Old Goat.

"You have to race 25 Mackinacs before you get to be an Old Goat," the 55-year-old business owner said. "I actually started late in life compared to some of the sailors out East. Some of them are Old Goats in their early forties because they started racing around 15 or so."

The Hot Ticket has brought Kirkman and his crew wins in both the Port Huron to Mackinac test and a win in the Mackinac to Chicago run.

"In 2000 the Hot Ticket not only placed first in it's J-120 class, but took third out of all of the boats in the race."

"This year we were actually 14th (overall)," Kirkman said.

"We ran into a lot of fog and a lot of light air."

According to Kirkman, one of the advantages the J-120 has over other classes in the race is how well the boat handles in a reach, or a wind that blows from the side.

"This class of boat goes very well in a reach," Kirkman said.

"The J-120 works with a reach very well compared to other boats."

Kirkman noted that the biggest difference between the Hot Ticket and other boats is the Ticket's racing intensity through the night.

"Our crew is always rested and the intensity level is high all through the night. Other crews seem to relax at night and we don't. That is why we are successful."

Being the class champions for the past two years has probably made the Hot Ticket the boat to beat in the J-120 class and Kirkman has a suggestion for any crew looking to challenge the Hot Ticket's racing ability.

"Follow the red dot," Kirkman said with a smile.

"That is what we tell everybody."

# Wildcat lacrosse has had plenty of next-level players

Continued from 1

lively short period of time to get such an opportunity," Hunt said. "The boys just love the sport. The ones that play really love the game and come back year after year."

According to Hunt, many of the high school lacrosse teams are considered a club sport and are excluded from the honor of receiving a varsity letter after a hard fought season — not in Novi.

"One of the good things that principal Dr. Jennifer Cheal has allowed the lacrosse athletes to be able to letter," Hunt said. "That is a nice compliment and a

great statement."

The prestige of sending athletes to the college level might not be finished for the Novi Lacrosse team.

Two of 2001's Wildcat squad were voted as second team All-State selections by the lacrosse coaches around Michigan this season, last year sophomore Drew Hunt



Drew Hunt

and junior Drew Doll.

"In the past what we have seen is the first and second team All-State is around 75-percent are from the top two or three teams in the state," Ward said. "Even the honorable mention selections are from the best teams in the state."

According to Ward and Hunt, lacrosse at Novi as athletes, parents and fans know it is because of one man — Don Silis.

"The reason we want to mention what this man did is because he has passed away," Hunt said. "There is a memorial out at the lacrosse field in honor of him. He was the one who got the program started, the one that lobbied the

board. Basically no one had heard of or seen lacrosse around here and he thought it was a good sport to bring to the area."

According to coach Stan Zajdel, if a good athlete is looking for a good way to help themselves through college — lacrosse is a good start.

"It is a great way to go," Zajdel said. "I don't know too many kids out of Novi that go to Duke or to Maryland or that go to Princeton. You're talking about the top colleges in the country."

"If you want to send a kid to an Ivy League school, they're not going to get in with a 4.0 (GPA) and they play band. If you're a

good lacrosse player and have a 3.5 GPA, you probably are going to get in. There is a niche there if the kids want to get into it."

With the past having been so good to the Wildcat lacrosse team, Zajdel said that there is nothing about the team that he would want to bring off major changes to for the future of the program.

"I personally like the way it is right now," he said. "We have a well-run program and a lot of good athletes. As long as we have a competitive program I would like to see us going to the final four."

According to Zajdel, the Novi program not only has been doing this right — it is headed in the direction that it should be as well.

"I think we are going in the right direction with it," he said. "We have new kids coming in and have plenty going to college which is really positive. As long as it stays like this there is nothing to change."



Drew Doll



Submitted photo

## World Series runner-ups

The 14 and Under Novi Expos won the runner-up award in the Continental Amateur Baseball Association (CABA) Quality World Series in Euclid, Ohio July 20-27. After playing teams from Willoughby Hills (Ohio), Oklahoma, Cuyahoga Valley (Ohio), and Mentor (Ohio) they proceeded into the championship bracket. The squad won some tight games and eventually waited into the championship title game where they fell to the Champion team from Miami, Florida, which was undefeated in the entirety of the team's season.

The Expos are (from left to right): Front: Kevin Cielo, Tyler Laing, Matt Williams, Eric Simcox, Charlie Thomas, Tim Mitchell, Kyle Margrave. Second: Coach Tony Sabo, Anthony Sabo, Chris Rasmussen, Steve Modic, Scooter Curtis, Zach Flavin, Coach Mike Kaczmarek. Third: Matt Rodeghier and Coach Paul Flavin.

## Athletes know limits

Continued from 1

injuries than those who don't train whatsoever.

Those responsible for the food that ends up on the dinner table can make sure that there are plenty of nutritional foods served to athletes before and after practice.

Athletes should also note that coaches are more than happy to allow one of their players to take a drink break if the athlete feels they need to do so. Don't be shy in asking.

In fact, coaches that deal with student athletes usually schedule drinks into their practices — on really hot days the drinks might come after every drill to make sure the athlete stays hydrated.

Now, don't get me wrong. There are going to be injuries in the world of sports — that is a given.

Some sports will provide braces, sprained joints, twisted ankles, bone bruises and more on a regular basis — that is the nature of the physical sports like football, soccer, rugby and lacrosse.

Just remember that no matter how dangerous high school sports may be (even in the minds of over-protective parents — you know who

you are), they are not as dangerous, nor will sports ever be, as dangerous as crossing the street or driving a car.

Though I do think that every parent should worry about the well-being of their children, I also believe that there is a line that needs to be drawn.

Kids are flexible, you can just pick them up and dust them off most of the time.

The athletes that participate at the high school level also know what their limitations are and probably won't cross the line they have set for themselves — have faith in them. I do.

If parents, athletes, coaches and trainers all work together there will be a remarkably less chance of something happening to one of our local players and that is what we all want.

Always remember, sports should be enjoyed equally by the fans, the parents, the coaches and the athletes who participate in them.

Sam Eggleston is the sports reporter for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or at seggleston@homecomm.net.

## PAR FOR THE COURSE

### Hole In One

Jeanette Samson added her second hole-in-one to her golf achievements after sending a slizzer ball straight to the cup on the 15th hole at the St. Ives Golf Club July 25. Samson was using her eight iron from the gold tee and a distance of 90 yards.

## Sport Shorts

### Tom Izzo Spartan Golf Classic

Go Green takes on a whole new meaning at the 2001 Tom Izzo Spartan Golf Classic — the green and white faithful will try to hit the green while raising some green for several MSU academic scholarship funds.

The annual event, sponsored by the Detroit Area Development Council of Michigan State University, will be held Monday, August 27, at Edgewood Country Club, located at 8399 Commerce Road, west of Union Lake Road in Commerce Township.

Last year's event, which sold out weeks in advance, raised more than \$35,000 and over \$100,000 has been raised in the past three years.

The Classic will get underway at noon with a shotgun start and concludes at 5 p.m. with a dinner reception that includes a live auction and raffle. The \$350 registration fee includes 18 holes of golf with cart, box lunch, open bar/beverage cart, dinner reception and auction program, gifts and entry into the Putt for Dough contest. Dinner-only (non-golf) tickets are also available as well as corporate sponsorships, tables and beverage carts. For more information, call Amber Arthur at (800) 232-4678.

### Rattler tryouts

Fall tryouts are being scheduled for the Michigan rattlers 13-year-old travel baseball team for the 2002 season. The season consists of league, tournament and national play (approximately 65 games).

Interested players and parents should call Jim Martin at (248) 477-9830.

### Novi H.S. tennis tryouts

Tennis tryouts will start Monday, August 13 at the Novi H.S. tennis courts from 8-11 a.m. All 9th-12th grade girls interested in playing tennis should report on this date. A physical exam and emergency card information is needed to participate.

### Michigan Indian tryouts

The Michigan Indians will hold tryouts for its 13 and under travel baseball team at 4 p.m. August 26 at Massey Field in Plymouth. There are 50-plus games with out of town travel and winter conditioning with professional instruction.

For more information, contact Mark Glover at (248) 349-3392.

### Tennis tournament

Northville Parks and Recreation will hold their annual USA-sanctioned Youth Tennis Tournament August 17-19 at Northville High School located on Six Mile road between Beck and Sheldon. The tournament is open to boys and girls ages 10-16.

The entry fees are: \$38 (resident), \$41 (school district) and \$45 (non-resident) and includes a tournament t-shirt. Entries may be picked up at Northville Parks and Recreation at 300 West main Street, Northville. The deadline for entry is 4:30 p.m. August 13. The event is co-sponsored by HEAD/PENN and Orin Jewelers of Northville.

For more information, call (248) 349-0203.

# Smith new Northville girls harrier coach

By SAM EGGLESTON  
Sports Reporter

There is a new face on this year's Northville Mustangs' cross country team — the head coach's.

Nancy Smith will be taking over the squad's helm in place of Robert Watson, the high school's new assistant principal. Smith, who was the girls and boys cross country coach as well as the girls track coach at Bedford Union, says she is looking forward to coaching at Northville.

"I am looking forward to the challenge and competition," Smith said. "I am really looking forward to the competition of the team and the league."

According to Smith, the biggest challenge she is going to face in the first weeks of practice is assisting

all of the faces on the team with names.

"The biggest challenge is probably going to be getting to know all of the girls," she said. "I am going from a team of nine runners to a team of possibly 30."

Smith's outlook on this season's schedule is a bright one.

"I think we are going to be very successful," she said. "Our biggest competition will probably be at the Churchill meet. I think we are going to be at the top of the league. That is my prediction as of now."

Though she is expecting a well-run season, Smith said she couldn't be sure of what the team had to offer until she has a chance to feel them out.

"I will get a much better idea of what we have to offer when I meet the entire team on the 13th (of August)," Smith said.

Smith's first impression of the members of the team that she has already met is positive.

"My first impression is that they are very eager yet very disciplined," she said. "They seem to be very hard working girls that I am eagerly looking forward to working with. I have only heard very good things about the Northville program and the girls on the team."

According to Smith, the girls that were coached under Watson shouldn't feel too much of a change.

"I have met with Coach Watson and it seems that we have a very similar coaching ideas," Smith said. "I will basically be running the program the same as he did."

Smith, who is Northville's new Integrated Technology Curriculum Facilitator, said she applied for the cross country coaching position after she had accepted a position with the school district.

"I think it is a great benefit to work and coach in the same school district," Smith said. "When I accepted the new job I found out Northville had a coaching vacancy so I applied for that."

Even before the season begins Smith says she doesn't feel there will be any problems with her adjusting to a new team and vice versa.

"I think the rapport so far with the girls I met is really good," Smith said. "I don't think we will have any real problems. I think this season is going to be real interesting."

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Stop by **McDonald Ford of Northville** at 7 Mile and Northville Road. Guess how many times you see **ALICE** in the 1956 T-Bird to qualify to win.

106 qualifiers will then compete in the Dramatic Reading Challenge on Wednesday, August 15, 2001 during the Davis and Darla Morning show on **Alice 106.7 FM** from 5 a.m. - 9 a.m. at McDonald Ford of Northville.

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## Engagements

Dawn Reid and Steve DuBuc, both of Berkley, announce their engagement.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Ms. Constance Reid of Dearborn Heights and Mr. Donald Reid of Livonia. Dawn is a 1998 graduate from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, earning a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering. She will begin the master of business administration program at the University of Michigan in September 2001.

The future groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert DuBuc of Walked Lake. Steve graduated from the University of Michigan in 1992 with a BA in economics and graduated in 1997 with a MBA.

Dawn and Steve are currently employed with Ford Motor Company in Dearborn.



Reid-DuBuc

Rick and Nancy Pantaleo of Novi announce the engagement of their daughter, Michelle, to Andrew Axe, the son of Jackie Axe of Kalamazoo and Fred Axe of San Mateo, Calif.

The bride-elect is a 1996 graduate of Novi High School. She received her bachelor's degree in 2000 from Western Michigan University and her master's degree this year from the University of Michigan. She is currently employed as a school social worker. The groom-elect graduated from Paw Paw High School in 1997. He is a current graduate of Western Michigan University and is now employed at Tektronix inc. in Portland, Ore.

A September wedding is planned.



Pantaleo-Axe

## Religion

**Single Place.** An extension of First Presbyterian Church of Northville will be hosting a divorce recovery workshop from Aug. 16 through Sept. 27. Various speakers will be present at the workshops, held from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. A \$50 fee will cover the cost of materials. For more information, call (248) 349-0911.

Also at Single Place — a grandparent / grandchild vacation in Cedar Lake, Ind. will be held Aug. 16-19 at Cedar Lake Bible Camp. For more information, call (248) 374-5920.

**First Presbyterian Church of Northville** will be hosting a special miniature golf outing at various locations in downtown Northville. No golf experience is necessary. Tickets to the event are \$10 plus a non-perishable donation to Northville Civic Center. The outing is slated from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Aug. 26. Child care is available for a fee, the proceeds from which will benefit the church's senior high work trip. For more information, call (248) 349-0911.

Local children will have the opportunity to become safer bicyclists through a bicycle safety rodeo. The rodeo will take place Aug. 11 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at First United Methodist Church of Northville. Participants should bring a bicycle (without training wheels) and a bike helmet, if one is available. Participants will learn basic bike safety techniques. Prize drawings will be held every 15 minutes, the grand prize being a 20-inch bicycle. For more information, call (248) 349-1144.

## On Campus

Peter Beyersdorf recently received his Ph.D. in physics from Stanford University. He is currently pursuing a post doctorate degree at the University of Tokyo.

Beyersdorf is the son of Thomas and Judy Beyersdorf of Northville and a 1991 graduate of Northville High School.

Meghan Cuzzillo of Northville graduated in May from Cornell University, with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering.

Northwood University recently held commencement ceremonies. Joshua M. Christenson of Northville was awarded an associate's degree. The following received bachelor degrees in business administration:

South Lyon  
Michael E. Copp and Corey L. Melick, magna cum laude.  
Walker Lake  
Kristina G. Hatfield.  
Wixom  
Peter M. LaFontaine and Scott G. Pelletier.

Crystal Schultze, Melissa Winn, Gretchen Ward, and Marie Zenk, current graduates of Northville High School, each received \$1,000 Schoolcraft College Trustee Scholarships for 2001-2002.

The awards are for full-time attendance for the fall and winter semesters at Schoolcraft and may be renewed if the students meet continued eligibility requirements.

Sarah Jane Wisniewski of Northville received honors by being named on the Dean's List for winter semester at Eastern Michigan University. She was recognized for her scholastic achievement.

Recent graduates of Grand Valley State University:

Northville  
Katherine B. Collins, bachelor of degree in business administration.  
Novi  
Christopher J. Berry, bachelor's degree, business administration.  
South Lyon  
Jennifer S. Harrison, bachelor of science degree; Michael R. Mattila, bachelor of arts degree; and Brent J. Wachsz, bachelor's degree in science.

Dennise Cruteau-Behnke of Walked Lake and Nicole Dequin of Wixom were named on the Dean's List at Oakland University.

Cruteau-Behnke is an elementary education major and Dequin is majoring in two modern languages.

Also included on the university's Dean's List were Northville resident Amy Petricek, elementary education major; and Novi students Jamie Asaro, elementary education; Kelly Carlin, undecided; Ryan Hubel, pre-nursing; Kimberly Lewis, psychology; and Bryan Rzepke, pre-business administration.

Ann-Marie C. Byrne recently

graduated from Calvin College with a degree in social work.

Byrne is the daughter of Tom and Elizabeth Byrne of Northville and a graduate of Southfield Christian High School.

Local area students who were named on the Dean's List for maintaining a 3.5 or better grade point average for winter semester at Grand Valley State University:

Northville  
Heather L. Krueger and Lynn M. Seynal.  
Novi  
Douglas J. Carlin, Amanda B. Curly, Nicole L. Lindholm, Christina M. Parrish, Crystal A. Rudolph, Angela V. Shea, Heather L. Weiss, and Katrina E. Zaczanski.  
Walked Lake  
Angela M. Garcia and Kelli J. Kaska.  
Wixom  
Katherine M. Robinson.

Nicole DeFrance of Wixom recently graduated summa cum laude from Alma College, with a bachelor's degree in psychology.

DeFrance is a graduate of Walked Lake Western High School.

Both students participated in the

Creative Writing: Making Your Poetry Public Intensive. They wrote, read and performed their own creative works as well as poetry from other students.

Keys is the daughter of Jane and James Keys of Northville and Walsh is the daughter of Loraine and James Walsh of Novi. Both students are seniors at Northville High School.

The following students at Indiana University-Bloomington received honors in recognition of their 3.5 or better grade point average for spring semester:

Northville  
Kara Kristine Anderson, Ryan Joseph Eller, Kristin Michelle Gately, Elizabeth Ann Gillis, Sarah Elizabeth Johnson, Carrie Ann Kluska, Jennifer Lynn Kluska, and Gregory Lee Rankin.  
Novi  
Julia Travers Dolken, Sarah Elizabeth Kenny, and Angela Christine Vetter.

The Albion College Choir, of which Andrea M. Burger is a member, recently performed in New York's Carnegie Hall. The choir, accompanied by the New York Chamber Orchestra, was invited to participate in the "Carnegie Hall Masterwork Series." The choir's membership includes fellow students, professors and alumni.

Burger graduated from Albion in May with a degree in music. She is the daughter of Kenneth and

Margaret Burger of Novi and a graduate of Novi High School.

Local area high school graduates who will enter Albion College this fall have been recognized for their high school academic achievements and are recipients of Albion scholarships.

Briton Recognition Scholarship - High school grade point average above 3.2; an ACT score above 22; or an SAT score above 1020.

Receiving Briton scholarships are Novi residents Lauren M. Chimenti and Karen E. Cowley. Chimenti plans to major in speech communication and theater and education and is a graduate of Novi High School.

Karen E. Cowley plans to major in education. She is a graduate of Merry High School.

Trustee Recognition Scholarship - High school grade point average above 3.8; ACT score above 28; or an SAT score above 1300.

Recipient Angela D. Doolin of Novi received the Trustee Recognition Scholarship. She plans to major in English and psychology, and is a graduate of Novi High School.

Webster Recognition Scholarship - High school graduate with a grade point average above 3.7; an ACT score above 27; or an SAT score above 1140.

Recipient Bryan E. Kontry of Northville will major in liberal arts law and political science. He is a graduate of Catholic Central High

School.

Matthew J. Ochab of Novi also received the Webster Scholarship. He is a first-year student at Albion and a graduate of Novi High School.

All three scholarships will pay part of the expense of college tuition.

Amanda Nelson of Northville recently graduated cum laude from Hope College. She received honors for achieving a minimum 3.3 grade point average on a 4.0 scale.

The following local area students graduated from Western Michigan University in April:

Northville  
Timothy Patrick Burke, bachelor's degree in applied liberal studies; Shannon L. Colligan, master's degree, speech pathology and audiology; Shawn N. Hopper, summa cum laude, bachelor's, finance; David McGuire, bachelor's degree, finance; Erin Elizabeth Moore, bachelor's, interpersonal communication; Kristen M. Nelson, bachelor's, elementary group minors; Sarah Sant, bachelor's in nursing; Ryan E. Terwilliger, bachelor's, integrated supply management; and Eric Yuhasz, bachelor's degree, management.

Novi  
Michelle S. Longo, bachelor's degree, sales and business marketing; and Jason E. Stevens, bachelor's degree, marketing.

## Community Events

The Novi Cooperative Preschool has a limited number of enrollment slots available for the autumn months. For more information on the school, call (248) 960-8588.

Altera Wynwood is seeking participants for the 2001 Memory Walk, a benefit for the Alzheimer's Association. The event, slated for Aug. 25 at the Detroit Zoo, begins at 7:30 a.m. Walkers raise money through pledges, and also through a \$12 registration fee at the event itself. For more information, call (734) 420-6104.

Northville-based New Hope Center for Grief Support will be offering free support for widows and widowers with children on the second and fourth Tuesday night of each month at St. Kenneth's Parish in Plymouth from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. New Hope for KIDZ meets at the same time, and is designed to assist children ages four to 11. For more information, call (248) 348-0115.

Arbor Hospice is seeking the help of a high-school-age volunteer to mow the Northville facility's lawn and do some light trimming on the property on a weekly basis. The work will count towards National Honor Society volunteer hours. For more information, call (248) 348-4980.

A host family is being sought for a Swiss exchange student who will be arriving in America at the end of August. The boy, 16, has his own spending money, is fully insured, and is traveling under the auspices of EF Foundation, and will also be expected to assist with regular family responsibilities. The host family is responsible for providing a room,

meals and a stable environment. For more information, call (248) 380-7390.

The Northville Township Police Officers & Command Officers Association will be holding a four-person golf scramble to benefit the associations' benevolent charities. The outing, scheduled for Aug. 22, will begin at 11 a.m. at Northville Hills Golf Club.

Tickets are \$150 and includes golf, cart, dinner, three hours of open bar and a trophy and prize presentation for top finishers. For more information, call (248) 348-5838.

The Northville Hockey / Golf Boosters will be holding a benefit golf outing / auction on Aug. 13 at the Links of Novi. The scramble begins with an 11 a.m. shotgun start. Tickets are \$120 per person.

which includes golf, cart, dinner and a snack at the turn. A \$2,500 golf trip to Myrtle Beach will be available for the auction and the event will also feature a hole-in-one contest.

Proceeds will benefit the Northville Golf and hockey teams. For more information, call (248) 349-3522.

The Northville Newcomers will hold their annual kickoff meeting at First United Methodist Church on Aug. 29 at 7 p.m. Dues of \$20 evening, at which time family members can sign up for a variety of interest groups, including bridge,

church, bowling, wine tasting, book discussion and Moms & Tots. The club is open to any resident of the Novi-Northville area, and newness to the community isn't necessary. For more information, call (248) 347-3537.

The Northville Victorian Festival organizers are seeking businesses, civic organizations, and school/church/community groups who are interested in participating in the festival's parade on Sept. 14 at 6:30 p.m. Equestrian groups, owners of vintage automobiles and bicycle owners are also invited to participate. Registration is required to participate. For more information, call (248) 348-3767.

Northville VFW Post No. 4012 will be sponsoring a steak cookout on Aug. 10 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the VFW hall. Dinner includes a steak, baked potato, salad, bread, cake and coffee or tea.

Tickets are \$8 each, but larger-size steaks may be purchased for an additional fee. For more information, call (248) 348-1490.

The Educational Merit Foundation is looking for volunteer families to host high school-age students from Europe, Japan and Korea this year. Students will arrive in August to attend local public schools and are looking to experience life in America. Students speak English, have their own spending money and are expected to share in daily household responsibilities. For more information, call (972) 495-8368.

Family Fun Night will return to the Northville Bandshell on Aug. 17 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. This year's entertainment will include Marc Thomas and his sidkick, Max the Moose. Following Thomas' performance, the Just For Kicks Line Dancers will perform their music. For more information, call (248) 349-0203.

## HomeTown Shutterbugs



Breaking the ground for Community Federal Credit Union's new Novi branch are (from left) Novi branch manager David Bilznek, Novi mayor pro-tem Laura Lorenzo, Community Federal senior vice-president Meg Pankow and Community Federal board director Dan Herriman.



Boy Scout Troop 1111 takes a breather at the National Boy Scout jamboree in Washington, D.C. The photo was taken by Northville scout Elliot Njus, who was working at the jamboree as a newspaper correspondent.

## In Service

Navy Seaman Apprentice Erin E. Selinsky recently graduated from Basic Cryptologic Technician Repair School.

Selinsky received her training as a manual Morse intercept/electronic warfare operator and instruction on communication procedures and systems.

Selinsky is the daughter of Kathleen A. and William J. Selinsky of Northville and a 1997 graduate of Northville High School. She joined the Navy in March 2000.

Navy Chief Petty Officer Michael G. Van Haren recently

returned from a six-month deployment to the Mediterranean Sea and Arabian Gulf while assigned to the guided missile destroyer USS Mitscher, one of the most powerful warships ever put to sea.

During the deployment, Van Haren's ship participated in an anti-submarine warfare exercise with a U.S. submarine and an Algerian Navy frigate and submarine.

Van Haren, a graduate of Southfield-Lathrup High School, is the son of Carol L. and Glen J. Van Haren of Northville. He joined the Navy in November 1989.

At right, Rebecca Loaisello (left) and Rachael Word, both of Northville, pause after being sworn in to the U.S. Navy entrance processing station in Troy.



# Kids with Blue Coloring Contest

Winners will have their picture taken with Blue!

"Kids Revvin' with Ford" is a family-friendly experience that combines safety with children's entertainment.

"Kids Revvin' with Ford" shifts into high gear Saturday, August 18, from 8 a.m. to noon in Downtown Birmingham.

This inaugural showcase will feature special guests, including Blue from "Blues Clues," dancers, clowns, jugglers, magicians and face painters. Local celebrities will also be flipping pancakes at a morning breakfast, with all proceeds benefiting the Children's Charities Coalition.

Plus, the morning's focus on safety will include expert demonstrations and interactive displays from Ford's "Boost America!" educating parents on the proper use of booster seats for children ages 4-8. "Kids Care" fingerprinting stations will also be on-site as back-to-school time reminds us of the importance of child identification.

For more information, log onto [www.revvinwithford.com](http://www.revvinwithford.com) or call 1-800-4-REVVIN

Contest Rules...

1. Contest is open to all children of any age
2. There will be 70 winners selected
3. Winners will be contacted on Tuesday, August 14, 2001
4. Winners must be at the event in Shain Park and in line for photo with Blue at 9:45 a.m. August 18
5. The winner will be photographed with BLUE
6. Return this advertisement as your entry

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: **Observer & Eccentric**  
NEWSPAPERS  
Part of HomeTown Communications Network™  
**Coloring Contest**  
36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150

Kids with Headache

MHNI is conducting a research study evaluating an investigational treatment for migraine prevention. Participants must be 6-11 years old and experience 3-8 headaches per month.

Participants receive study-related medical care at no cost and will be compensated for time and travel.

Please call our Research staff for more information.

Michigan Head-Pain & Neurological Institute  
3120 Professional Drive  
Ann Arbor, MI  
(734) 677-6000  
[www.MHNI.com](http://www.MHNI.com)

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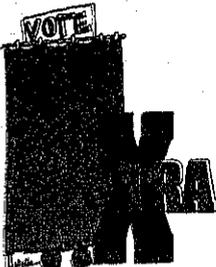
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Awarded one of the Best Editorial Sections in Michigan

# HOMETOWN LIFE

Thursday, August 9, 2001



## More on politicians

Thank you, Gary Condit, for renewing our faith (or lack thereof) in the IQs of those we vote into office. Check out these zingers the XTRA's government correspondents overheard while performing their sworn duties... whatever they were.

**"I'm not indecisive. Am I indecisive?"**

— Jim Shelbel  
MAYOR OF ST. PAUL, MINN.

**"If BS were a dollar a pound, we could have paid off the federal deficit at noon."**

— Rep. Jim Ross  
Lightfoot  
IOWA

**"I think that's self-evident, but not true."**

— Bill Clinton

**"I'm a politician, and as a politician, I have the prerogative to lie whenever I want."**

— Charles Peacock  
EX-DIRECTOR  
MADISON GUARANTY S&L

**"The Senator has got to understand — he can't have it both ways. He can't take the high horse and then claim the low road."**

— George W. Bush  
REFERRING TO  
SEN. JOHN MCCAIN, R-ARIZ.

**"Congressmen are so damn dumb they could throw themselves on the ground and miss."**

— Rep. James Traficant, Jr.  
D-OHIO

### An invention perfect for congress

An inventor has come up with a new piece of furniture called the Besk, which is a combination bed and office desk made out of aluminum and plywood. It can support two adults.

### Thank god someone is keeping these pesky animals under control.

• A law in Fairbanks, Alaska, does not allow moose to have sex on city streets.

• In California, it is a misdemeanor to shoot any kind of game from a moving vehicle, unless the target is a whale.

• Monkeys are forbidden to smoke cigarettes in South Bend, Ind.

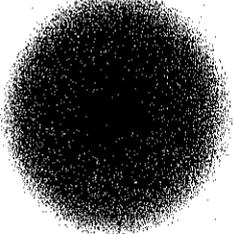


Photo by JOHN HEIDER  
The bikes illustrated on Town and Country Cyclery's storefront sign aren't indicative of the high-tech two-wheelers inside the store.

## scenes from the bike shop

My very first bicycle was a red job with solid rubber tires. Miraculously, it appeared under the Christmas tree when I was about age 6. Obviously, Santa had gotten my message. Now came the agonizing wait until March or April when I could finally use the thing. Okay. That was bike No. 1. The second bike I had was a Huffy, model FS-100. I lived on a street that was essentially a loop about one-third of a mile around. My friends and I would have races around the street in almost any weather, and I don't mind saying that I took some pretty nasty falls on that thing.



Chris C. Davis

Enter Town & Country. When stupid yours truly decided it would be great fun to attempt to jump across a culvert (10 feet across, six feet deep, and me — 80 pounds and not wearing a helmet), I learned very, very quickly that world-class wipe-outs the likes of which I sustained warranted the assistance of bike repair folks who knew what the heck they were doing.

Several times along the way, the techs at Town & Country replaced bent rims, installed new tires and tubes, put on new handgrips and got my lone mode of transport road-worthy once again. Inevitably, I'd come up with some lame excuse as to how it would happen that my front wheel ended up looking like a taco shell, but that's another story altogether.

Fast-forward to age 12. I'm now delivering papers. My first job. I'd graduated from the ranks of the junior-size dirt bike to a ten-speed. Yessir — great bike to have in the spring summer and early fall.

But folks, listen to me carefully here: tires that are an inch wide don't do much for you in the middle of January. Of course, it took me two winters of missing spokes and smashups to learn this valuable lesson, so consider this a bit of free advice. In any event, I once again got on Town & Country's frequent flyer club.

A few years after that, and it's time for me to be heading to campus.

With graduation money in hand, I buy myself a slick mountain bike from Town & Country — perfect for traversing those smooth concrete pathways that connect Lecture Hall A to Lecture Hall B. I'm smart enough this time around not to take my green and black two-wheeler out in the middle of some snow squall, but I'm apparently not as smart as the clown who decided to steal my bike in early spring of my sophomore year.

Once again — I return to Town & Country, after the insurance company cuts me a check for the value of my recently-departed mount. The replacement is an orange and black Trek, which survives 400-level classes, rainy spring mornings, a post-graduation move to Sault Ste. Marie and a second job in Gaylord.

Short on cash and even shorter on time, however, that ride heads to the Great Bike Rack in the Sky, and for the first time in my life, I find myself... bikeless.

As I stepped back into Town & Country this week, I found myself remembering the freedom I felt when the wind whipped in my hair and the ground whizzed past me in a blur. There's a real rush in biking, and when the time comes when I'm ready to return the realm of the bike-owning Town & Country will be my first stop.

Chris C. Davis is the editor of the Northville Record. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 114, or at [cdavis@ht.homecomm.net](mailto:cdavis@ht.homecomm.net).

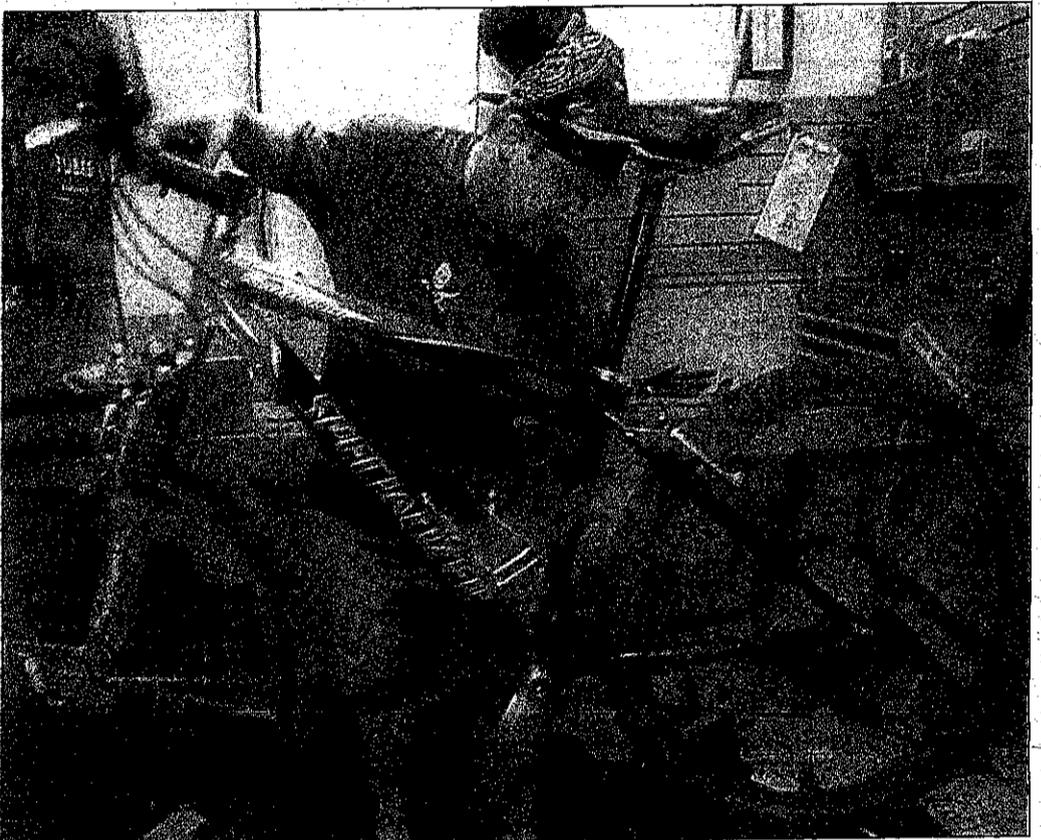


Photo by JOHN HEIDER  
Eight-year veteran Town and Country bicycle repair technician Brian Johns works on adjusting the brakes of a Manitou Rockhopper that's in the shop for a tune-up.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

With bicycle rims hanging from the ceiling, a Town and Country employee gets busy fixing a bike.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Cindy Mancina takes a GT bike for a spin in the parking lot behind Town and Country Cyclery.

### SPEAKING MOUNTAIN BIKE-ESE

Like any other activity, mountain biking has a lingo all its own. If you want to speak the language, it helps to know the jargon. Here's a quick primer on some terms you may overhear in Town & Country or other bike shops:

**auger (v.)** — to involuntarily take samples of the local geology, usually with one's face, during a crash.

**bonk (v.)** — to run out of energy or grow exhausted on a ride. "I bonked so early it was embarrassing."

**bring home a Christmas tree (v.)** — to ride (or crash) through dense bushes, so leaves and branches are hanging from your bike and helmet.

**cleanie (n.)** — one who desires to remain clean; a wimp who will not have fun, stays on the clean trails.

**face plant (n.)** — hitting the ground face first. "Joe hit a tree root and did a spectacular face plant."

**IMBA (n.)** — International Mountain Biking Association. An organization for trail advocacy.

**rag dolly (v.)** — to wreck in such a way that one's person is tossed like a flimsy scrap of cloth. "Did you see me rag dolly back there? I think I pierced my ear on a tree branch."

**superman (n.)** — a rider who flies over the handlebars and doesn't hit the ground for a long time. This may result in injury, but when it doesn't, it's really funny for everyone else.