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Novi News

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Thursday, August 16, 2001

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Volume 48 Number 34

Novi, Michigan

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INSIDE



One, two, three, four

The Novi High School Marching Band gears up to beat the heat and coming fall weather for this marching season.

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Venture Outdoors in Walled Lake offers extensive sporting gear and equipment including kayaks and lessons.

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SPORTS

Ellis ready to roll

New Novi athletic director is ready to start a new school year and fall athletic season.

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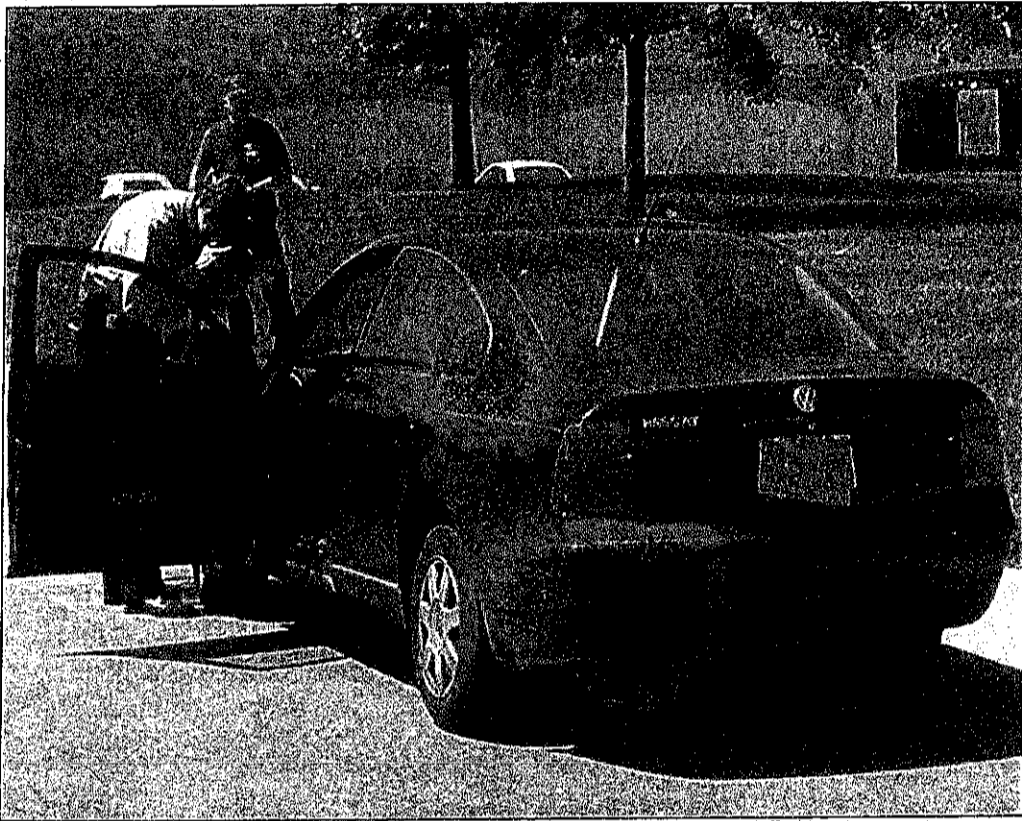
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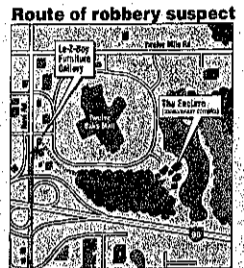
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Rob and Run
Police search for resident near mall



Novi Police Detective Todd Anger photographs the Northville Standard Federal armed robbery suspect's car Monday afternoon in the parking lot of Twelve Oaks Mall.



By STEPHANIE FORDYCE and LON HUHMANN Staff Writer

Despite the involvement of a multitude of police officers from local, state and federal jurisdictions, a man who robbed a downtown Northville bank and fled to the Twelve Oaks Mall area remained at large Wednesday morning.

But while the suspect was still on the loose, police officials insisted they had a good idea as to the identity of the assailant.

According to Northville City Police Chief James Petres, a black male entered Standard Federal Bank on Hutton Street around 9:25 a.m. wearing a black hooded sweatshirt, gloves and a scarf which partially covered his face.

Apparently a witness had seen the suspect get into his car near

Continued on 4

Planning sends Expo proposal back

By STEPHANIE FORDYCE Staff Writer

They say third time's a charm, and those looking to get the Expo Overlay District out of the water are hoping the phrase will ring true with the Novi Planning Commission.

At the Aug. 1 meeting, Novi Expo Center president Blair Bowman was sent back to the drawing board after the commission turned down the zoning ordinance for a second time.

The next scheduled meeting for the proposed overlay will be held Aug. 29 at 6:30 p.m.

While Bowman said he isn't frustrated with the commission's decision, he is extremely eager to get

the ordinance approved. "We're very confident that we'll be able to work this out so that we can get started with this project," he said, Monday.

In order to move forward, Bowman and the Expo Center first need a positive recommendation from the planning commission, followed by approval from city council. Bowman said the next step would be to start developing the formal plans for the new development.

However, before any formal plans can be made, the area in which to build the new Expo Center on has

"We're confident that we'll be able to work this out so that we can get started with this project."

Blair Bowman president, Novi Expo Center

to be approved.

Bowman is looking for permission from the city, which would allow for an "Expo Overlay" zoning district, which would overlap the OST (Office Service Technology) district in that area.

That area is located on the north side of Grand River between Taft

and Beck Roads.

"This is an overlay district, which means the underlying OST would remain intact and then the provisions of this ordinance are placed on top," explained Director of Planning and Development David Evancoe.

Due to continued concerns with the ordinance's verbiage and issues including parking and building design, the commission requested additional information be submitted and voted to send back the project.

"I think we're close, but I think council deserves all our knowledge and concerns to be addressed by the ordinance," commissioner Lynn Kocan said. "I think we need one more pass at this."

However, the decision did not come unanimously.

"This board amazes me," commissioner Robert Churella said. "We sit here and tweak this thing and tweak this thing and we're tweaking it to death. I think we should vote on this and quit tying the guy up, otherwise we're going to tweak the Expo Center right out of Novi. And if that's what we want to do, then let's turn it down again."

Other commission members did not agree.

"I don't want an ordinance on the books that just benefits the Expo Center, it has to benefit the residents and this community first."

Continued on 4

Police chaplains reduce stress for victims, police

By DIANE DEMPSEY DEEL Staff Writer

When tragedy strikes, Novi and Walled Lake police count on local ministers participating in the police chaplains program, to comfort and console those in need.

Douglas Shaeffer, Novi Police chief, said local pastors from area churches who are involved in the program greatly benefit the police department.

"It provides needed and meaningful service to the citizens of Novi and others who have times of hardship," Shaeffer said. "Novi is a very clean and healthy community, but we have instances that are very tragic in people's lives."

Jerry Walker, Walled Lake Police chief, said the police chaplains benefit the community by providing help to victims of crimes.

"It's two fold from the community stand point," Walker said. "It's another way for us to reach out and show compassion. When people are victims of crime, it's not a good time in their life."

It also gives the police department to show compassion for victims by providing them with a chaplain to talk to.

"It gives the chaplains an opportunity to reach out but not from a religious perspective but as representatives from the department to say we know you are a victim of crime and is there anyway we can help besides the crime investigation," Walker said.

Rev. Gary Elfner, pastor of First Baptist Church of Novi who heads up the program in Novi and Walled Lake, said it's a program that other pastors should take part in.

"I just feel that Christ came here to minister to those in need and we're to follow his example," Elfner said.

Police officers are often called to the most difficult situations and many times, the people involved in the incident need someone to listen to, he said. That's when the chaplains step in to lend a helping

Continued on 4



Novi and Walled Lake Police Chaplain Gary Elfner visits with Novi Police Chief Doug Shaeffer on a recent Thursday afternoon.

Rezoning for Twelve Mile Road dumped

By STEPHANIE FORDYCE Staff Writer

The proposed rezoning of Twelve Mile and Meadowbrook Road was turned down by the Novi Planning Commission earlier this month.

Applicants on August 1 were looking to change the 45 acres located south of Twelve Mile Road and west of Meadowbrook Road from Office Service Technology (OST) to High Density Multiple Family Residential (RM-2).

In a 7-1 vote, commissioners elected to send a negative recommendation to city council, who will have the final say on the matter.

The majority of reasons in not backing the proposal was due to the fact that the rezoning would conflict with the master plan.

"This zoning is inconsistent with the master plan and I'm satisfied that the current OST site is compatible with the adjacent uses," said

Continued on 4

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Man tips off police by bragging about break-ins

A man was arrested for allegedly attempting to break into the Castle Wine Shoppe Aug. 13 in Novi when police stalked out the store.

Police News

Businesses in the area have had an increase of breaking and entering or attempted breaking and entering.

The officer was tipped off that the next store to be broken into was the Castle Wine Shoppe in the K&S Plaza. Apparently, a man was telling certain people that he had been breaking into stores in the area.

He was arrested and taken to the station.

During the day, the man was spotted asking people for money and alcohol. Later that night, officers observed the man trying the door handle at the store. He then looked through the windows and pried up an industrial size trash can and started to throw it when a homeless man approached the man.

The police officers stopped the man as he was about to walk across the street toward The Village Apartments in Wixom. He said he was going to break into the store for alcohol because they wouldn't let him buy it there anymore.

She was told to contact her financial institutions to close all accounts.

There are no suspects.

PURSE STOLEN

A worker at Kruger's in Novi told police Aug. 13 that her purse was stolen from the store.

She said she put it in her locker at 10:30 a.m. and when she went back to get it at 2:30 p.m., her purse was gone.

The purse was locked in a cage

type locker, which is accessible to workers and customers.

It's believed that the locker may not have locked. Police checked the store thoroughly but her purse was never found.

The former employee said he wanted the report to go to the Liquor Control Commission. The officer told him that it would.

WALLED LAKE BAD CHECKS

Walled Lake Police went to a store, Penny Lake, on South

Commerce Road Aug. 7 where a woman passed a bad check the day before and tried to pass another one the next day.

The check had bounced the day before and officials at her bank told the store official that the account was closed.

The 36-year-old Walled Lake woman said she thought that the check was "okay."

She had outstanding warrants for her arrest. She was brought to the station, arrested and processed. She was issued a ticket for insufficient funds.

SCHOOL DAMAGE

Police were dispatched to Guest Elementary School Aug. 8 when a custodian reported that there were two broken windows at the Media Center.

The custodian said the windows had been shot out with a BB gun. He had no idea who could have done it.

The case is still under investigation.

He is survived by his wife, Colleen (Tierney) daughters, Beverly (Donald) Tierney of Wisconsin, Maggie (Jeff) Murphy of Detroit, Amy (Brian) Vieaux of Novi, Maureen Karr of Seattle, Wash., and Emily Karr of Northville; son, Rusty (Nick) of Novi; parents, Bernard and Geraldine Karpis of Arizona; three brothers, Thomas Karpis of Florida, Ken Karpis of Novi, and John Karpis of Union Lake; two sisters, Mary Beth Pulte of Royal Oak and Kathy LaFerre of California; and six grandchildren, Cameron, Meghan, Ethan, Devon, Bailey, and Danielle.

DON McDONALD

Don McDonald, 71, of Higgins Lake, Mich., died Aug. 6 at his residence. He was born Nov. 24, 1929, in Detroit to John Hugh and June Marie (Purdon) McDonald.

Mr. McDonald lived in Northville until his move to Roscommon,

Mich., in 1991; since 1935, he summered at Higgins Lake.

While living in Northville, Mr. McDonald was chief probation officer for the 35th District Court. His career background included employment at Reynolds Metals in Detroit and Kentucky; at Kelsey-Hayes Co. in Romulus, where he served as college recruiter; and 10 years at Eastwood Community Clinics in Detroit, where he was medically retired in 1989. Mr. McDonald was a board member of the National Council on Alcoholism and a member of Alcoholics Anonymous for many years. He also did volunteer work at Grayling Mercy Hospital. Mr. McDonald served as a lieutenant junior grade officer in the U.S. Navy during the Korean Conflict.

Memorials to St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, 13542 Mercedes, Redford, MI 48239 would be appreciated.

GREGORY R. KARR

Gregory R. Karr, 57, of Northville died Aug. 9 at Boisford Hospital in Farmington Hills. He was born Feb. 29, 1944, in Detroit to Bernard and Geraldine (Rourke) Karpis.

Mr. Karr was an independent auto dealer and a member of Our Lady of Victory Church, Northville.

Services were held on Sunday, Aug. 5 at Thayer-Rock Funeral

Obituaries

VIRGINIA A. ESPER

Virginia Anne Esper, 75, died Aug. 8 in Highland Home Care (Plymouth) Court in Plymouth. She was born in 1926.

Mrs. Esper is survived by her husband, Jerome; sons, Mark (Christine), Timothy (Jacqueline), Rev. John, and Thomas (Kathleen); two daughters, Mary and Jane (Mark) Vogel; one sister, Sr. Eleanor Patricia, O.P.; three brothers, William Hughes, Donald Hughes, and Casper "Bud" Hughes; and 11 grandchildren, Sarah, Joseph, Patrick, Elisa, Caroline, Gregory, Matthew, Meghan, Kathryn, Claire, and Anna.

Services were conducted on Saturday, Aug. 11 at Our Lady of Victory Church in Northville.

Interment was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Southfield.

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

Memorial contributions to Adrian Dominican Sisters, 1257 Siena Heights Drive, Adrian, MI 48221 would be appreciated by the family.

Ellen E. Holso, 71, of Novi died Aug. 3 at Chertowise in Novi. She was born June 18, 1930 in Hancock, Mich.

Mrs. Holso was a 1947 graduate of Commerce High School in Detroit. She was employed as a cook for the Oak Park schools before retiring in 1991. She was a member of St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church of Redford and the Finnish Center.

Mrs. Holso is survived by a sister, Ruth (Paul) Peterson of Chassell, Mich.; niece, Laura Peterson; nephews, Philip Peterson, Gordon and Michael Bergstrom; and sister-in-law, Aurelia Bergstrom of Novi.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Stanley in 1988; they were married in May 1953.

Services were held on Sunday, Aug. 5 at Thayer-Rock Funeral

Home of Farmington, with the Rev. Janet Mervin of St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church officiating.

Interment was in Auro Cemetery in the Upper Peninsula.

Memorials to St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, 13542 Mercedes, Redford, MI 48239 would be appreciated.

ELLEN E. HOLSO

Services were held on Sunday, Aug. 5 at Thayer-Rock Funeral

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

Memorial contributions to Adrian Dominican Sisters, 1257 Siena Heights Drive, Adrian, MI 48221 would be appreciated by the family.

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Surf and Sport shop caters to young at heart

BY STEPHANIE FORDYCE Staff Writer

Novi may not have the best surf in Michigan, but nevertheless TWC: Surf & Sport says it's the perfect spot for the company's second shop.

TWC was one of Michigan's first surf shops when it opened in Keego Harbor 12 years ago. Since then, "the business has grown rapidly, now offering snowboard and skate-board equipment, wakeboarding and wind surfing, online shopping and a full array of gear and apparel for men and women."

TWC manager Greg Fugate says while the Novi location primarily caters to skateboarding and snowboarding, the company had wanted to expand for several years. The market in Novi was saturated with sports shops, but nothing that truly dedicated itself in serving skate-boarders and snowboarders.

"We felt that with the new Vans skatepark opening up (in the new Fountain Walk project), Novi was the ideal location," he said.

An extensive selection of skate-board paraphernalia, the shop houses dozens of decks from skate companies like Enjol, Muska, and Allen Workshop as well as wheels, bearings and shoes - including brands like Etnies and DC.

Snowboarders will also find their gear with over ten different brand brands to choose from such as Burton, Rosenthal, and Capita. TWC also offers snowskates as well.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

TWC Surf and Sport in the Novi Town Center will offer boards for the sports aficionado: Skating, as held by manager Greg Fugate, and Wake- for water sports.

Fugate said the store has already received a positive response from locals, including several who knew the shop in Keego Harbor.

TWC is located between TJ Maxx and Computare in the Novi Town Center. It is open Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. - 8 p.m., and Sunday 12 p.m. - 5 p.m. For more information please call the shop at (248) 735-1100.

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

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Library Lines

LIBRARY HOURS

The Novi Public Library, 45245 W. Ten Mile Road, 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.

STORYTIME NOTES

The 2001/2002 Preschool Storytime brochures are now available in the library. Registration for Fall 1 Storytimes begins Aug. 20. The program starts Sept. 24.

Obituaries, Con't

Continued from 2

several nieces and nephews.

Mr. McDonald was preceded in death by his parents; sister, Rosemary Masko; and two grandchildren, David Lee and Christina. Services were held on Saturday, Aug. 11 at St. Michael Catholic Church in Roscommon, with the Rev. Anthony Curo officiating.

Interment was in Gerrish Township Cemetery. Arrangements were made by Walsh Funeral Home of Roscommon.

Memorial contributions to Hospice of Michigan, P.O. Box 532, Roscommon, MI 48653 would be appreciated by the family.

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Footnotes Dr. Michael P. Burk

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When your feet cause you pain, there are many steps you can take to get relief. The first, and probably most important, is a visit to your podiatrist. When corns and calluses and other foot problems have got you down, let us do what we do best - diagnose and treat the problem so you're back on your feet quickly and painlessly. **NOVI FOOT CARE ASSOCIATES** is currently accepting new patients for complete podiatric care. If you have questions about today's corns, or any questions about footcare, your own or a loved one's, please call us at 248-476-1500. Our office is located at 39555 West Ten Mile Road, Suite 307.

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BE A HEAD START VOLUNTEER N-HUB: THE CULTURE

Wixom library hosts series on personal enlightenment

By DIANE DEMPSEY DEEL
Staff Writer

The Wixom Public Library is hosting a series of programs so that people can get to know the person that they spend the most time with - themselves.

A series of three lecture topics are scheduled in September, October and November. People can learn about aromatherapy on Sept. 20, relationship astrology on Oct. 9 and graphology on Nov. 13. All of the lectures are from 7-8 p.m.

Sheila Hooker, reference librarian and coordinator for the series titled "Explore your inner Self" said people will enjoy the lectures.

Karen Stokes, an aromatherapist from Rochester, will enlighten people about how aromas influence them.

Aromatherapy is used in alternative medicine and it can enhance people's feelings of well-being, she

said. Stokes will inform the audience how scents affect them.

"It's becoming very popular in the last 10 years," Hooker said.

Nancy Bauman, an astrologer from Royal Oak, will be on hand to help people choose the proper love connection.

People will learn which astrology signs are compatible with their astrology sign and which signs they should stay clear of.

"She wanted to do a program that was more specific than general astrology," Hooker said.

It's a program that is sure to captivate the audience.

"Everyone wants to find the one person who is the center of their life," Hooker said. "So it's natural that they want to meet someone that they are compatible with. It's always by chance. This way, they have a little more information to work with."

People may find the lecture to be worthwhile especially with the high divorce rate, she said. People often want to take advantage of every tool they can to find the perfect partner.

After people have learned about how aromas affect them and how they can find a perfect love match, they can learn about handwriting analysis.

Ruth Holmes, a professional handwriting and document examiner, will discuss how graphology is used. She will give a limited analysis of writing samples from the audience.

Holmes, the past president of the Great Lakes Association of Handwriting Examiners, is well known in her field.

"She has been used as a consultant for juries and trials," Hooker said. "She is a forgery expert and works with police."

Holmes also served as a trial consultant for Dr. Jack Havorjian's defense team. She appeared on a BBC documentary in Canada about the trials that she worked on as a graphology expert.

The series of informative and entertaining topics is designed to bring people into the library so they can discover what it has to offer.

"We want to encourage people to come to the library and be comfortable here," Hooker said. "This is the one place where you can get totally free service with a smile. We are happy to help."

People don't utilize the programs that are offered at the library, she said. The programs are meant to be entertaining as well as educational.

"There is so much competition," Hooker said. "Television is our biggest competitor. These programs help foster a sense of community and that's very important to us."

Please call (248) 624-2512 to register for the free lectures or your choice.

but within seconds, his heart stopped beating altogether.

While LaPage assisted the man's ventilation, another security officer, Chris Foreman, started CPR. Rainsberger switched on a portable heart defibrillator and delivered life-saving electrical shocks to jump-start the man's heart. Moments later, an emergency medical services team arrived on site and the man, James Provensale, was rushed to Henry Ford Hospital.

"I call them my 'three wise men,'" Provensale said. "Without them, I wouldn't be here."

LaPage said these types of incidents are always stressful.

Even though he has been involved in life-saving efforts for 20 years, they have never become routine, he said. "This situation represented a particular challenge because the casino was crowded and the incident occurred in the middle of the floor."

Provensale, who was on an afternoon visit from Fremont, Ohio, said he first began feeling a little light headed at around 3:15 p.m. that day.

"I was playing dollar slots and I was on a roll," he said. "Then all of the sudden I got light headed and

Novi security guard saves life of patron at MGM Casino

BY STEPHANIE FORDYCE
Staff Writer

A recent Friday afternoon at the casino ended in a dramatic life-saving rescue by one Novi resident and a team of MGM Grand Detroit security officers.

Jeff Rainsberger became a local hero after a casino guest, a 55-year-old man from Ohio, suddenly collapsed near a slot machine.

"Everything happened in less than a minute," Rainsberger, Novi resident and MGM's Security Manager said. "Even though this is the fifth time I've helped save someone's life, this was a very intense situation."

With the help of MGM Security Officer and EMT specialist Gary LaPage and other security officers, Rainsberger was able to revive the man.

"We never know what to expect when we receive a radio call stating that someone needs medical attention," he said. "It can range from someone feeling just a little faint, all the way across the board to someone whose heart has just stopped. It's always exciting and it feels really good to be able to help someone."

Rainsberger initially registered a pulse from the unconscious man,

next thing I know I'm on the floor."

Provensale said when he woke up there were three guys around him trying to revitalize him.

"I just thank god the casino had the defibrillator and that they have men who know how to use them," he said. "If I would've had to wait for an ambulance to arrive, including the time it would have taken to get me to the hospital, I would've been dead."

According to Rainsberger, all MGM Security officers are trained to administer medical attention, and 1-3 officers on each shift, are certified as emergency medical technicians.

"We are very lucky in that we have some really top notch security officers," Rainsberger said, who also worked as a security manager in Las Vegas for five years before coming to Michigan. "Everyone on our staff knows how to do CPR and how to use the defibrillators."

Portable defibrillators are high-tech devices that can deliver up to 360 volts of electricity to restart the human heart.

"They're worth their weight in gold," Rainsberger said, who spent 13 years as a police officer. "They're full proof. I can't tell you how many lives they've saved."

Photo by TOM HIBBELN



Jeff Rainsberger of Novi saved a man's life by using a portable defibrillator.

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Festival Admission is Free
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Dance Phase students run through their award-winning Mary Poppins-inspired dance routine last Friday afternoon in their Wixom dance studio.

Dancephase wins national awards

BY STEPHANIE FORDYCE Staff Writer
Local dancers from Gayle's Dancephase captured national awards at the Kids Artistic Revue National Dance Competition held in Biloxi, Miss.
Students from Novi, Northville, Wixom, Walled Lake and other surrounding communities returned home earlier this month with the "Top National Production" award for their dance to a medley of songs from "Mary Poppins." The dancers won an \$800 cash prize and a 6 ft. tall trophy.

Dance students capture hearts

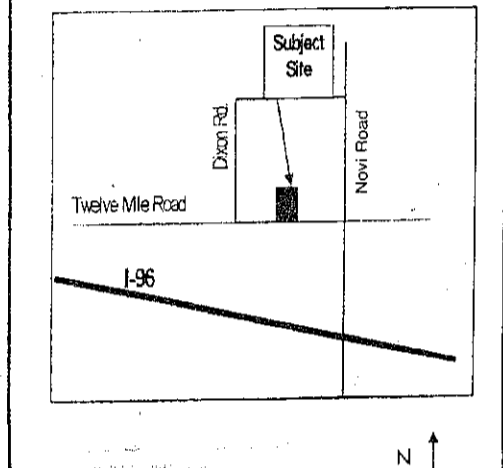
Novi, Joan Barry of Northville and Stephanie Horvat of South Lyon said the competition was challenging but extremely rewarding.
"Dancing is great because it teaches kids discipline and keeps them busy and active," Winnie said.
"Plus, it's fun!"
During the competition, Gayle's Dancephase also won the "Studio Spirit" award for good sportsmanlike conduct and Winnie and Bishop took home the Choreographer's Cup for best choreography.

Tomato plant reaches six feet tall

BY JENNIFER NORRIS Staff Writer
The Stewart family won't face any shortage of salad toppings anytime soon.
Novi residents, Emily and Sharon Stewart, are the proud owners of a tomato plant that has grown beyond their wildest expectations.
According to Emily, some of the tomato plants measure higher than six feet tall.
I don't really think I have a green thumb, but something sure shot this up," she said. "We both like to have tomatoes."

CITY OF NOVI PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission for the City of Novi will hold a public hearing on Wednesday September 5, 2001 at 7:30 PM, in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI to consider ZONING MAP AMENDMENT 18-611 FOR POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATION TO CITY COUNCIL FOR REZONING ON PROPERTY LOCATED ALONG THE NORTH SIDE OF TWELVE MILE ROAD AND WEST OF NOVI ROAD FROM RESIDENTIAL ACREAGE (RA) TO OFFICE SERVICE DISTRICT (OS-1) OR ANY OTHER APPROPRIATE ZONING DISTRICT.



All interested persons are invited to attend. Verbal comments may be heard at the hearing and any written comments must be received by the Planning & Community Development Department, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375 until 5:00 PM, Wednesday, September 5, 2001.
Published: August 16, 2001
NOVI PLANNING COMMISSION
ROBERT CHURIELLA, SECRETARY

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MOVIE GUIDE
AMERICAN PIE 2 (R) 12:20, 2:40, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30
RUSH HOUR 2 (PG-13) 11:10, 1:30, 3:50, 6:20, 8:35, 9:45
ORIGINAL SIN (R) 11:05, 1:30, 4:15, 6:40, 9:10
PRINCESS DIARIES (G) 11:20, 1:50, 4:20, 6:50, 9:25
PLANET OF THE APES (PG-13) 12:15, 2:30, 4:55, 7:10, 9:20
JURASSIC PARK III (PG-13) 12:30, 2:45, 4:55, 6:50, 9:00

NOTICE CITY OF NOVI REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY USE PERMIT TUP 01-032
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT Multi Building Company is requesting a Temporary Use Permit to allow a temporary sales trailer at the Church Crossing Subdivision which is located on the north side of Ten Mile Road between Novi Road and Ten Mile Road from August 23, 2001 through August 22, 2002.

In celebration of the lower tax brackets/refund checks, Green Sheet Classifieds will lower the cost of your ad.
Call for Details
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NOTICE CITY OF NOVI REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY USE PERMIT TUP 01-033

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT Triangle Electric Company is requesting a Temporary Use Permit to allow a temporary construction trailer at the Eberspacher North American project which is located at 29101 Haggerty Road which is between Twelve and Thirteen Mile Roads on the west side from August 23, 2001 through February 28, 2002.

LAST DAY OF REGISTRATION SCHOOL ELECTION

NOTICE OF LAST DAY OF REGISTRATION OF THE ELECTORS OF
Aurora School District, Oakland County, Michigan
Berkley School District, Oakland County, Michigan
The School District of the City of Birmingham, Oakland County, Michigan
Bloomfield Hills School District, Oakland County, Michigan
Brandon School District in the Counties of Oakland and Lapeer, Michigan
Clarensville School District, Oakland and Wayne Counties, Michigan
Clarens Community Schools, Oakland County, Michigan
The School District of the City of Clawson, Oakland County, Michigan
Farmington Public Schools, Oakland County, Michigan
Royal Oak Public Schools, Oakland County, Michigan
Holly Area School District, Oakland County, Michigan
Huron Valley School District, Oakland and Livingston Counties, Michigan
Lake Orion Community School District, Oakland County, Michigan
The Lamphere Schools, Madison Heights, Oakland County, Michigan
Madison District Public Schools, Oakland County, Michigan
Novi Community School District, Oakland County, Michigan
Oak Park School District, Oakland County, Michigan
Oakton Area Community Schools, Oakland and Lapeer Counties, Michigan
School District of the City of Farmington Hills, Oakland County, Michigan
Rochester Community School District, Oakland and Macomb Counties, Michigan
Royal Oak Public Schools, Oakland County, Michigan
South Lyon Community Schools, Oakland, Washtenaw and Livingston Counties, Michigan
Southfield Public Schools, Oakland County, Michigan
The School District of the City of Farmington Hills, Oakland County, Michigan
Walled Lake Consolidated School District, Oakland County, Michigan
Waterford School District, Oakland County, Michigan
West Bloomfield School District, Oakland County, Michigan

TO THE ELECTORS OF EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT:
Please Take Notice that the Board of Education of the above named school districts, pursuant to a directive from the Intermediate School Board of Oakland Schools Intermediate School District, Michigan, have called special elections to be held in each of the districts on Tuesday, September 25, 2001.

THE LAST DAY ON WHICH PERSONS MAY REGISTER IN ORDER TO BE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE AT THE SPECIAL INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT ELECTION CALLED TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2001, IS MONDAY, AUGUST 27, 2001. PERSONS REGISTERING AFTER 5:00 O'CLOCK, P.M. ON MONDAY, AUGUST 27, 2001, ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO VOTE AT THE SPECIAL INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT ELECTION.
To register, visit any Secretary of State branch office or your county, city or township clerk's office. Persons planning to register with the respective county, city or township clerk must ascertain the days and hours on which the clerk's office are open for registration.

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Riley Park will now become site of Blues, if only for a night

By DIANE DEMPSEY DEEL
Staff Writer

Walled Lake residents used to hear the crack of the baseball hitting the bat in Riley Field, but next week officials will be kicking off the newly renovated park with the sounds of the blues.

The park, located at Common Street just west of Fontaine Trail and north of West Walled Lake Drive, will have a short dedication ceremony Aug. 22 at 6:30 p.m. Then the park will be filled with soulful sounds when the Blues Bedouin Band starts playing. The event will wrap up at 9 p.m.

The Blues Bedouin Band was voted the best rhythm and blues band at the 2000 Detroit Music Awards and the Metro Times and the Motor City Music Awards program have also nominated them for other awards.

Phillip Vawter, Walled Lake city manager, said he chose the band because blues music is his favorite to listen to and he knows other people enjoy listening to it as well.

"It's a different concert than what we've sponsored in the past," Vawter said.

Everyone will have an evening of fun as officials formally dedicate and kick-off the park that's close to the lake front, he said.

"It's going to serve a lot of different needs," Vawter said. "There's a play area for kids and their parents can sit and read a book on a bench or in the shade."

The park was used as a ball field in the 1950s and 1960s. In 1971, the Walled Lake Optimists Club donated Riley Field to the city. They wanted the land to continue to be used as a baseball field or as a playground.

However, ball players began playing at other fields since the land was considered too small for regulation baseball and softball. Still, city officials wanted to preserve the Optimists Club's theme for land.

"It wasn't meeting the modern needs for a ball field," Vawter said, and added that not only is the space too small for regulation baseball, there are wetlands next to the playing field.

City leaders and civic groups joined together to redevelop the land into a park that can be enjoyed by all.

The Walled Lake Downtown Development Authority constructed a parking lot next to the park, which also is utilized by people visiting the downtown area.

The historic Foster Farmhouse, which was once used as an underground railroad for people escaping slavery, was moved to the park in 1997 with the help of city leaders and The Friends of the Foster Farmhouse. The home was originally located on Pontiac Trail just north of Maple Road.

Riley Park was the logical choice to move the house to.

"It was the only park that it would make sense to move it to," Vawter said.

"All of the other parks had play equipment and it didn't fit."

Community members helped get the park off the ground. Walled Lake Consolidated School students worked with members of Parks and Recreation Commission and city council members to design a master plan for the park.

The dedication is to celebrate \$150,000 worth of improvements that have been made to the park. Kids enjoy the playground equipment while their parents enjoy the gazebo, benches and picnic tables.

"We think it's a place where people will have wedding receptions and marriage ceremonies," Vawter said.

Vawter hopes the first day of school won't get in the way of people coming out to celebrate and listen to good tunes. They can also eat ice cream bars, popcorn, pop and bottled water - all for 25 cents each.

It's the right time to have a dedication ceremony since the grass has finally grown at the park. Picnic tables and benches have also been recent additions.

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2001

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Youth Assistance contest winners speak of drinking dangers

In the spring, Next Youth Assistance sponsored a poster and essay contest for students of Next School District to describe the dangers of drinking and driving. Here are the three winners and their essays:

By Julie Kuhn
"Do you think drinking is fun? Think about how fun jail will be!"

That is what I would ask an adult. I would also ask them, "What do you think about drinking and driving?"

Since I have experienced alcoholism with people I know, I have noticed irrational behaviors, constant drinking, denial of the bad habit, losing what is important to them and for drinking, this person has many consequences to face each day.

I would ask an adult, "Do you know what drinking can do?" I would also answer the question by saying, "Too much drinking can turn deadly. You can get drunk and get caught, if you do and your alcohol level is .07 to .10, you can be fined zero up to \$5,000, you can be

sentenced to jail up to five years and/or the drinking habit could turn into a felony.

Another thing I would say would be "Think about your family, your future, your friends. Do you want to spend time in the pen?"

Also, I would ask, "What about the money that you spent on being fined, that money could be used for clothes, gifts, car payments, education, anything else other than jail."

By Todd Jaener
Hey you! Yeah, you! Don't even think about picking up that beer! I hope you've already thought about how that beer can affect you and everyone else around you. Well, obviously not because that's your third one tonight! I mean come on, doesn't anyone these days have any common sense about alcohol and how it can affect you?

If you end up in the driver's seat of a car you are putting your life and everyone else's life around you in danger. I mean, come on, think how is getting drunk going to help you or

anyone else in this world. It has a better chance of making things worse than it does to make them better, because once you get impaired .07 on the breathalyzer, or even drunk (1.0 state law) who knows what kinds of stupid things you could do.

Most of the things that you do when you're drunk, you wouldn't even think of doing when you're not drunk. I'm sure you know what I mean by stupid, because you see the stupid things people do when they're drunk on the news all the time. So hopefully, next time you'll think twice about getting drunk and becoming one of those crazy, uncontrolled people on the news.

By Kristin Thomas
Just imagine this: you are in a car going 60 down a dirt road. In the passenger seat is your date. In the back seat, your best friend. You're on the way home from a party, and

you've drunk - a lot. You think you're invincible. Nothing can stop you. So you go faster and faster, ignoring the pleas from your friends to slow down. Nothing will get in your way, not a tree, a house, or even that oncoming semi. So you thought. The worst thing is, as much as this seems unlikely, thousands of people die in drunk driving accidents every year.

When people get behind the wheel drunk, they cannot judge distances or their ability to drive. Their reflexes are impaired. Thus many accidents occur, and there are many penalties for causing them. With a blood alcohol level of .07, an individual can be fined up to \$500 and serve ninety days in jail. On the second offense, up to \$1,000 can be fined and a year could be spent in jail. If that weren't enough, with a blood alcohol level of .10, the penalties are the same for the first two offenses are the same as .07. The third offense can include paying \$5,000 or 5 years in jail and

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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.

Citizen's police academy useful

People love to read police detective novels and watch police television shows and movies.

Why else would there be shows about police and detectives since the beginning of television? There were even crime solving shows on the radio, before people were able to see the action unfold on the screen.

However, people have always seemed to have a natural fear of police officers as well as being infatuated with them. It seems that whenever drivers spot a police patrol car, they automatically start feeling guilty. They might not be speeding or doing anything else illegal, however, they get scared and put their foot on the brake. We've all seen drivers do it. Many of us have had that same knee jerk reaction. The truth is that many of us just don't have a full understanding of police operations no matter how many times we've seen NYPD Blue, Hill Street Blues and other police shows over the years. And of course, that's T.V., it's not always real life.

Yet the mystery of police work lives on. We commend Novi, Walled Lake, Wixom, Wolverine Lake and South Lyon Police Departments for taking the mystery out of police work. Instead, they are creating a relationship between police and residents by offering the Lakes Area Citizens Police Academy.

The academy was established in 1994 to give people a genuine understanding of the inner workings of the police department. Residents are able to get to know officers they see out on the street and officers get the chance to get to know the citizens that they serve.

This forms a relationship between the two groups. People learn why and how police react to certain situations and police get a better understanding of how residents feel about them.

However, it's not all about bonding. Residents really get to learn about criminal justice and have a good time doing it.

Let's face it. It's not everyday that we get the opportunity to take a field trip to the medical examiners office or visit the crime lab to learn how DNA and other evidence are preserved.

It's more interesting to actually get a valid glimpse into police work than it is to sit in front of the television and view half-truths via Hollywood studios. We congratulate the program for its success over the years. We also applaud the officers for having the foresight in the program.

1990s to start the program. The academy was the first of its kind in Michigan.

We also recognize the officers who are taking time out of their own personal lives to put the program together and teach the classes each week. The officers, like other workers, put in full days on their jobs and look forward to spending the rest of the day with their families. However, they see the importance of sharing their knowledge with the community.

We encourage people to take advantage of the worthwhile program that begins Sept. 1. Become more educated and well rounded with the free course.

Later, if they're not speeding and see an officer on patrol, maybe they won't be so quick to slam on the brake.



As a playful water fight breaks out around her, Camp Lakeshore counselor Allana Bridson dashes to safety with a camper at Walled Lake last Thursday afternoon. The day-camp runs until August 17.

Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Last play days

LETTERS

City council right in planning decision

In a recent letter to your newspaper once again Mr. Joe Toth placed his views on local Novi political arena. Allow me to add my two cents. Congratulations to council members Cassis, Coardas, DeRoche and Kramer. They did not slap the face of the Novi citizens (resident volunteers) that have given their time to serve on the Novi Planning Commission. The Mayor and council members Lorenze and Bonpoint wanted to reward the members of the current Planning Commission by firing them for no (stated) reason. Cassis, Coardas, DeRoche and Kramer did the right thing by voting to let them continue their fine work.

With election season approaching, I am sure that Mr. Toth will be doing what he seems to enjoy.

He speaks of a stretch coming from city hall. It seems that the stretch we all smelt comes from Mr. Toth's foul and devious pen.

Bill Chace Novi

Breastfeeding legal in public areas

I couldn't help but notice the wonderful full page article in Sunday's paper (Plymouth Observer: Health and Fitness section on Sunday, August 5) about breastfeeding. A great article like that made me think that breastfeeding had finally been accepted by society. I am a mother and am currently nursing my fourth child. Something very disturbing happened to me yesterday while at the swimming pool at our health club, Lifetime Fitness in Novi. I was there with my three youngest children when my 11 month old needed to nurse. Since I was wearing a nursing swimsuit I started to nurse without a blanket. A few minutes later a lifeguard tapped me on the shoulder and told me I had to take my baby and nurse in the bathroom stall.

She claimed that it was club policy. I refused to move. I knew that it was a Michigan state law that I can nurse when and where I need to. I asked her if I could bottle feed her and she said yes. She said that my nursing made people uncomfortable and that I had to leave. Again I

refused and she brought out another lifeguard who said that I had to nurse elsewhere next time. I was furious by this point and went out to call my husband and mother. A few minutes later one of the managers at the club approached me and said that the lifeguards were mistaken and she was sorry. Since I had been harassed and publicly humiliated I thought that I deserved more of an explanation and wanted to know if it was club policy. She danced around that issue and offered me a free t-shirt. Then she offered me two free passes which I took but still wanted more of an explanation. I went home and called the corporate headquarters of the company and they never returned my call. When I went to the club this morning I took a copy of the Michigan state law with me and talked with the lifeguard. She still didn't seem to understand that I could nurse freely wherever and whenever I want. The club refuses to feel that others should know that it is their right to breastfeed everywhere and that no one has the right to make people feel the way I was made to feel.

Amy Ekblad Plymouth

Mother's love goes beyond thoughtlessness of others

This letter is to the person who purchased beer for my son and his friends. I don't know who you are, but you do. You don't have any idea of the consequences of your actions, but I do. You purchased alcohol for my 17 year-old son and three of his friends. Maybe you thought you were being nice. Maybe you thought they were cute and you were being fun. Just for a moment I would like you to put yourself in my shoes. I have high hopes and dreams for my son, as do the mothers of the other three boys. We are looking forward to a senior year in high school filled with homecoming, sports, prom and most of all, graduation. We are filling out college applications and keeping our fingers crossed that our sons will get accepted into a good school. We've been diligently saving our money for years for their college educations. We will be so excited (and sad) to watch our sons walk across the stage and accept their diplomas. As we watch them grow into manhood, we are proud, but scared.

Yes, scared. Every time my son leaves to go out I say these words to him. Be care-

ful and be smart. I have a reasonable curfew (11 pm) and hope that by doing so, he won't be out late enough to get into trouble. He is a great kid, gets good grades, plays sports and goes to church on a regular basis. I really couldn't ask for a better son. I've talked to him about alcohol so many times that I couldn't possibly count them. But, sometimes kids do dumb things. Even though they know they shouldn't. That's why we, as adults, need to hold the line. A couple of mistakes were made that night. One, I gave my permission for my son to sleep over at another boys house. This meant that I no longer controlled his curfew. The other mistake was made when you were asked to buy beer for them and you complied. A 24-pack of beer for 4 boys and they had no place to go to drink it but their car. Just imagine how four moms would have felt if we had gotten a call from the police saying they had our sons in custody. That meant arrest, bail, court, a lawyer, a record and possible ramifications for their entire future. Or, the unthinkable, a police officer knocking on our doors to tell us that something horrible had happened to our sons. Imagine all of the dreams lost forever. All because you.

Continued on 15

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: kcooley@ht.homecomm.net Fax: (248) 349-9832



Mixed grades show up on report card

Our state government does a pretty good job of getting information out to citizens about actions it intends to take, according to the League of Women Voters of Michigan.

Where it falls down is in the area of letting citizens participate in the process. The League gave state government "thumbs down" for failing to act at a pace and in a deliberative manner that provides every-day citizens as much opportunity to influence government proposals as registered lobbyists.

Thought October 31, 2000, 323 bills had been signed into law in the 1999-2000 session, the report stated. "During the post-election session, 155 bills were enrolled for presentation in Michigan Manual on the web, and another thumb up for the state's e-Michigan office, Engler's effort to coordinate state web services.

Where the League had criticisms was in the area of allowing citizens to influence proposals. For instance, there was that lame duck session last year. "Thought October 31, 2000, 323 bills had been signed into law in the 1999-2000 session, the report stated. "During the post-election session, 155 bills were enrolled for presentation in Michigan Manual on the web, and another thumb up for the state's e-Michigan office, Engler's effort to coordinate state web services.

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The league gives two thumbs up for the state's program putting legislative records on the Internet, one thumb up for putting the Michigan Manual on the web and another thumb for the state's e-Michigan office.

Donath said that within her group there has been talk of attempting to revise those rules, but she's unsure they'll take up such an extensive task. For my part, I think lawmakers would do well to simply follow the ones they've got. Lawmakers routinely ignore the existing rules because they are seen as an arcane set of parliamentary procedures that no one, certain not the public, cares about.

This is exactly the issue legislative rules are intended to address. The League promises to continue to watchdogging state government. For its next report card, it is taking input from the public. Anyone who wishes to point out an incident for League review can contact the group by phone at (517) 484-5383 or on the web at lwvmt@voynet.net.

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Working relations with city amicable

Through the course of my ten years as a resident of Novi, I have had the opportunity to read many letters to the editor published in the Novi News. A great number provided insight into local issues

of which I had cursory knowledge. Others seemed to highlight long-standing personal conflicts. Several proved to be sources of amusement. Almost every week, one would see many remarks directed at the city of Novi.

Until recently, I was one of a perceived majority who had formed an opinion of the city management and local Government based largely upon Novi News articles, letters to the editor and word of mouth opinions. It was with some trepidation that I entered into the process of seeking approval of a Meadowbrook Community Group to make the Novi Public Library's 2001 Summer Reading Program a huge success.

The youth of the Novi area did a fantastic job this summer. Over 1,250 youngsters registered for our six-week program and logged in over 8,000 hours of reading. Our team of 110 teen volunteers helped young readers sign up for programs and track their reading hours; the teens also assisted with craft days and shelved thousands of children's books. Thanks also to the moms, dads, grandparents and caregivers who brought children to the Novi Public Library and encouraged their reading. It was quite an experience, and we are grateful to everyone who worked together to make our reading road travel such a wonderful success.

We also one a large thank you to the many organizations that supported and encouraged our efforts. They are: Friends of the Novi Library, AAA Michigan, Boards of Recreation & Music, city of Novi's DPW, Detroit Shock, Novi Bowl & Books, One World Market, REI Recreational Equipment Inc., Road Commission for Oakland County, 7-Eleven, Skatki Station II, Twist & Shake, and WRDQ-TV.

Also, a special thanks to the staff of the Novi, Northville and Walled Lake school districts who so kindly distributed our program brochures in their schools.

Finally, we would like to express appreciation to the Novi News' ongoing coverage of our summer reading programs. It was particularly helpful to have the week's events published in the Library Lines column.

There were a number of items we needed to add to our plan in order to be approved, in other cases we found our staff to be very helpful. I thought the city consultants based upon unique attributes to our parcel. The city manager's office was invaluable in the effort to getting our project back on track.

Through it all we were treated in a manner that let us know we were important to the city of Novi. I was regularly surprised by follow-up calls from city employees either letting me know we completed a milestone, or that additional information was required. I was treated as a customer.

I think that Richard Helwig, Clay Pearson and Beth Brock could be among the first to admit that the city of Novi has plenty of room for improvement in the services it provides residents, businesses, churches and other important entities. Positive change can only begin when capable people are in positions of responsibility. Based upon my experience with the city of Novi, I believe a better Novi is in our future.

Margi Karp-Opperer Cathy Jurich Mary Storch Tiffany Liguori Novi Public Library Youth Department

Michigan's voting registration Shirley Wicker Co-President Million Mom March Novi Chapter

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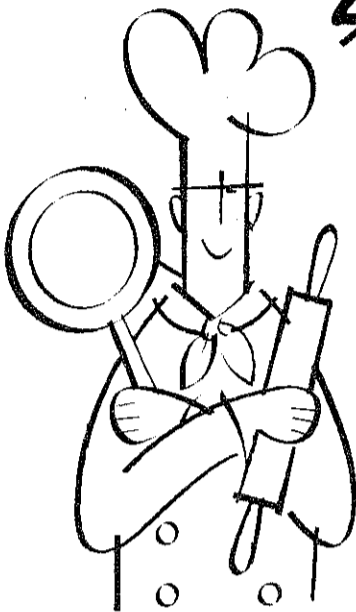
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Math = exciting for Novi teen

BY STEPHANIE FORDYCE Staff Writer

Love for math + unique program from U of M = exciting learning opportunity for a local student.

Alex Kazanis, a junior at Novi High School, recently attended the University of Michigan's Michigan Math & Science Scholars (MMSS) program.

"It was a great learning experience," he said. "It was an opportunity to see what college courses are like and what college professors expect."

One of the most popular and well-established education camps offered by the university, the program this year attracted over 100 high school students from Michigan and 11 other states from Texas to Connecticut.

Students who came to the camp for its one-week sessions were able to choose classes that covered topics from microbiology and geology to physics, astronomy, and statistics. In the process, they learned a lot about working with others, about progress and upcoming programs, and began to see what could await them in the world of the future.

"When you're still in high school, it can be hard to visualize what scientists and professors really do," said program coordinator Annie Marciak Dowling. "MMSS gives kids the chance to work with university professors and kids from all over the country, to learn about the fields they are interested in - and have a lot of fun."

While at the camp, Kazanis' focus was statistics. The 16-year-old said it was something he chose because he has always been interested in engineering as well as music.

"I think it's going to be really useful for the future," he said. "It was fun for me because I was learning stuff that I can actually use. It will definitely help with some of my upcoming AP classes."

For one week, Kazanis and other students meet from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the university. Experiencing a quick bit with college life, Kazanis went to class, took exams and visited the campus.

Kazanis said the most rewarding experience was meeting his statistics professor Dr. Martina Alga.

"She was really cool. She introduced a totally new way of teaching statistics," he said. Throughout the course, Kazanis learned about qualitative and quantitative graphing, worked in a lab using a computer statistical program called SPSS and worked with information data sets.

Kazanis, who plays the symbols in the high school marching band and enjoys playing bass guitar in his spare time, said he didn't even mind taking exams. He even got the highest scores in the class, receiving



Novi High School student Alexander Kazanis came back from a Michigan Math and Science Scholars program at the University of Michigan with a new appreciation for math and a lot of notes.

a 90 percent on his first test and a 92 on the second.

To qualify for the camp, Kazanis applied for a scholarship in April which paid for seventy percent of the program. He also had to submit an essay, along with a letter of recommendation from one of his teachers.

"It isn't for someone who doesn't like math, but for me, it was really fun. I met lots of kids, got a few phone numbers... It was interesting to see what college is like," he said.

Stephanie Fordyce is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 109.

Haggerty Road now open

MDOT has announced that crews have opened Haggerty Road over M-5, I-96, I-696, and the I-275 interchange ahead of schedule.

The bridges were closed in early April to perform necessary structural repairs, and replace the decks. The opening was expected in late August.

"We had the bridge deck portion on an accelerated schedule," said Mike Eustice, manager of MDOT's Transportation Service Center in Oakland County.

"We need to complete some substructure work, but the bridges are open and that's welcome news

for commuters and business owners."

The substructure work will not affect Haggerty Road. At times, motorists will encounter some lane closures below the bridges on the freeways, but those will be performed during non-peak hours.

The substructure work is expected to be completed in mid-September.

The \$2.5 million project was funded through Gov. John Engler's Build Michigan II plan and TEA-21. The new decks are providing a 15-20 year fix on Haggerty Road over the freeways.

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Photo by TODD VAN SICKLE

Lee Bonner walks around the marching band and critiques students with their posture.



Photo by TODD VAN SICKLE

Lauren Thomas practices marching with her Mellophone.

Marching Band gears up for this year's challenges

BY STEPHANIE FORDYCE
Staff Writer

Beautiful music and gracefully synchronized moves will be the finished product for the Novi High School marching band this season.

But without the hard work, dedication and preparation of the students, instructors and parents, none of it would be possible.

Led by band director James Sheckler, the band is in the middle of a grueling six-day camp, where over 190 students are tuning their sounds, learning the basic marching drills, and memorizing their music and routines for the upcoming games, competitions and performances for the year.

Sheckler said the main purpose of the camp is to put the music to marching.

"Right now, they're basically learning how to put one foot in front of the other and play," he said. "They've been rehearsing the music all summer long and now its their turn to learn their drills and brush up on their marching skills."

From incoming freshman to seniors, the band practices from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Aug. 13-Aug. 18, with a stadium show for parents and the community on Saturday night.

"We have a lot of freshman this year, so this is an excellent opportunity to introduce them to the marching techniques as well as help them make new friends," Sheckler said.

With a total of 57 new freshman to

the band this year, the students have a lot of hard work ahead of them.

"There's a lot of pressure and they expect a lot from us, but everyone has been really encouraging," said freshman Kathieen Garback, who plays the baritone.

Fellow ninth graders and clarinet players Kait Rich and Meera Argnal agreed.

"It's a lot of work, definitely a lot more difficult than middle school band, but the instructors and upper classmen have been really helpful," Argnal said.

Sheckler admits the camp is challenging both mentally and physically, but that when the students see the finished product, it's a real reward.

"For incoming freshman, it's quite a shock. But when they see the tapes throughout the year, they are just amazed at what they've accomplished," he said.

Sheckler added that the camp also helps the students learn responsibility and commitment.

"If a student misses a practice or rehearsal, it affects the rest of group," he said.

This year's program is especially challenging, Sheckler said, because he is introducing music quite different from what the returning members are used to.

"The music itself is a bit difficult in that its classical rather than rock in past years and there are different complexities to memorize," he said.



Photo by TODD VAN SICKLE

The Novi High School Marching Band practices on a warm, August afternoon.

"But while the style of music is different, the marching band show will be every bit as exciting."

After a number of first place finishes last year, Sheckler said the group will continue its strive for excellence.

"We lost a lot of graduating seniors

this year and with it a lot of strong leaders, but I'm confident we'll do the best we can," he said.

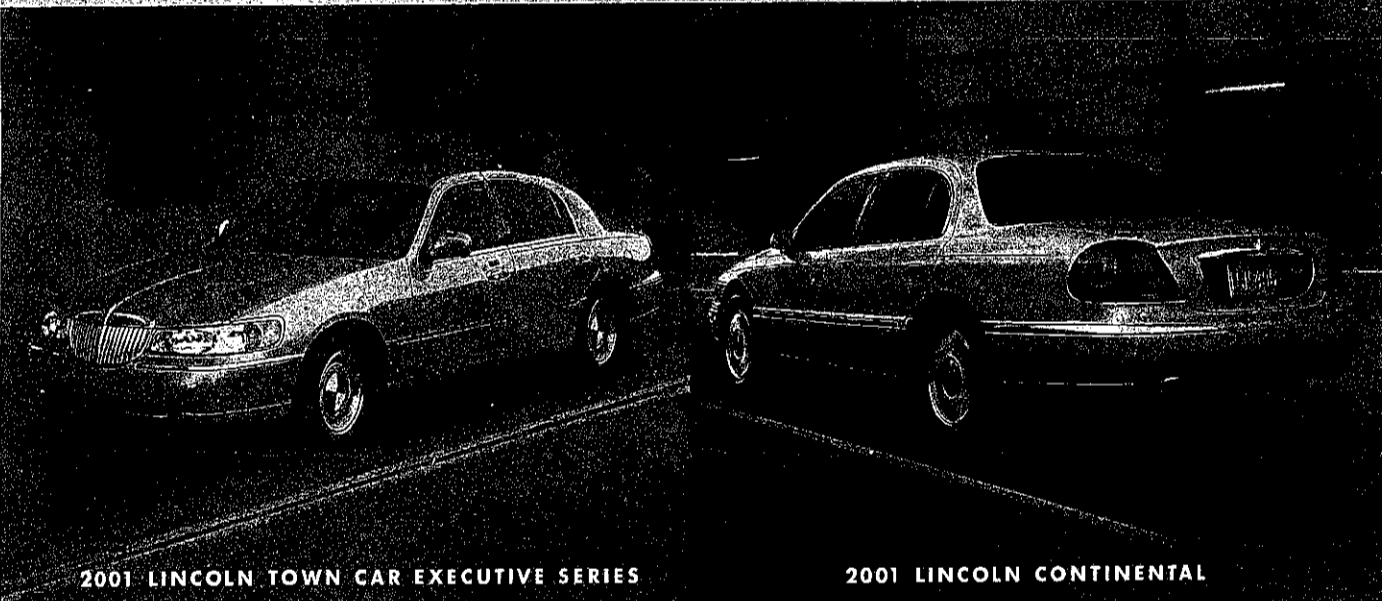
If you would like to attend Saturday's performance, the free concert will take place at the NHS stadium at 7:30 p.m.

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New Novi athletic director Ellis eager

Wildcats have always looked like strong, traditional athletes to former South Lyon director

By SAM EGGLESTON
Sports Reporter

It isn't everyday that an athletic director gets the chance to take the reins of a school like Novi.

When the opportunity does roll around, most ADs would probably jump on it — new Novi Athletic Director Curt Ellis did.

"I had the opportunity of seeing Novi's athletic program from the other side of the fence," Ellis said. "This is a great school with some great athletic teams and I am looking forward to dealing with the coaches, players and fans here at Novi."

Ellis, who was formally the Athletic Director at South Lyon High School, said that one of the positive aspects of Novi is the participation numbers.

"There are high participation numbers across the board," Ellis said. "Typically a school will have one, two or maybe three sports that get good participation but all of the sports here have very high numbers of kids coming out for them."

To Ellis, athletics are not just something that improve the student athletes who participate in them, but they assist in keeping the community together as well.

"I think that athletes do the com-

munity good," he said. "High schools like Novi still serve as a community gathering place. I think that a high school plays a real vital role in a community."

Ellis noted that one of the things that makes the job of being Novi's athletic director an enjoyable one is the student athletes who proudly wear the white and green of the Wildcats.

"The kids here are great," he said. "The athletes who play sports here at Novi are some of the best athletes in this area and they show their abilities each time they play."

Ellis admits that he still has a lot of learning about Novi to do, but he had a good view from South Lyon.

"The coaches here are wonderful," he said. "I truly believe that the coaches here at Novi are true professionals that care about the athletes they teach."

With good athletes, competitive teams and knowledgeable coaches, is there anything else the new athletic director could ask for? A state championship perhaps?

"I wouldn't mind it," Ellis said with a laugh.

"It would be nice if it happens and I don't have any doubts that we have the athletes capable of doing it."

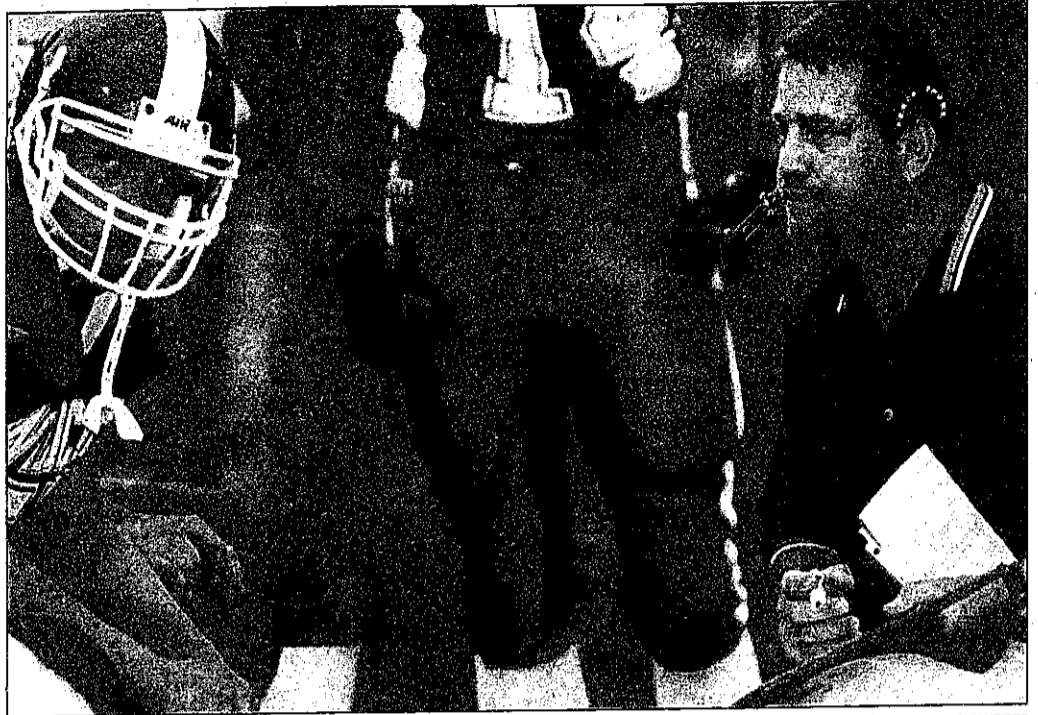


Photo by JOHN HEIDER

According to new Novi athletic director Curt Ellis, formally of South Lyon, one of the positive things about Wildcat athletics that drew him to Novi is the professionalism of the coaches and the ability of the athletes.



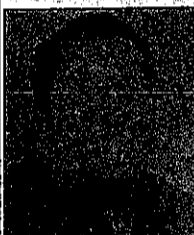
Submitted photos

Walled Lake Western Pom Pon is on fire

The Walled Lake Western Varsity and Junior Varsity squads recently took first with their home routines at the Oakland University UDA Pom Camp. The Varsity (above) include: (left to right) first row — Jackie Nedroscik, Alle Rublin, Amanda Ayers. Second: Trystyn Seaman, Amanda McInnes, Danielle Lybik, Jacqueline McKirdy. Third: Rachel Vanover, Dayna Batterman, Kim Kuler. Fourth: Amy Wright, Jessica Shook, Brittany Cyr, Samantha Mitchell, Dayna Busbee, Ashley McInnes and Jennie Macaluso. The Junior Varsity includes: first row: Candice Ivey (Instructor), Chelsea Duprey, Amanda Belanger, Karina Steadman, Julie Feinberg. Second: Heather Sorenson, Megan Jones, Lindsay Zietlin, Brittany Bernhardt and Jill Manzogol.



MHSAA says no cussing! Rule changes leaves reporter scratching head



Sam Eggleston

Lucky us. The Michigan High School Athletic Association has decided that high school athletes need help with their sportsmanship so they have devised a few new rules for everyone to abide by. Before each and every contest at the prep level, officials are going to pull out a wallet-sized card from which they will read a sportsmanship statement during pre-game meetings with coaches and captains. According to a press release from the MHSAA, the card is going to read the following: "The Michigan High School

Athletic Association requires and expects officials to enforce all rules regarding unsportsmanlike conduct by coaches and student athletes. There will be no tolerance for negative statements or actions between opposing players or among team members and coaches — especially trash-talking, taunting or baiting of opponents or casual use of vulgarities. If such comments are heard, a penalty will be assessed immediately!

What a load of garbage. First of all, what team doesn't have teammates riding each other for something or another. That is how a lot of athletes motivate each other — especially in a joking manner. What player hasn't kidded a buddy about a junky tackle or an air ball? It is a given and it should be accepted because it is really meant to be good natured.

Secondly, who is going to decide what is and what is not vulgar? I can imagine a few four-letter words that will be black-listed right off the bat — but even those words will have to be considered before being ruled on. There are words I use, being

21 years of age, that my mom and my dad would have been cuffed in the head for saying and those same words are used in a more casual atmosphere now than they were when I was in sports. Not one referee ever threw a flag during a game for someone cussing in the intensity of a game — it just comes out because the words are more of adjectives than anything else in this day and age. Not that I am condoning the use of "vulgar" terms in everyday language — I am just saying it won't be long before they are printed in Webster's with a definition.

What about simpler, less vulgar words? Can a player yell "fudge" or "shoot" even though they are just substituting words that don't have as much impact for the words they really intended? Is the MHSAA going to cut out raised voices and shouted words all together?

Another thing I would like to point out about the MHSAA's new crusade to cut out unsportsmanlike actions on the fields of play is the first sentence in their new pledge. The MHSAA requires and expects all

Continued on 3

Sports Club is national champs

It takes effort, dedication and talent to win a national championship, just as the Sports Club Gymnasts of Novi and West Bloomfield.

The Sports Clubs of Novi and West Bloomfield Level 7 gymnastics teams combined forces to take on the USAIGC 2001 National Championship Title in Orlando, Florida June 18-23. The combination of the two teams



Submitted photo

The Sports Club team has a reason to smile with a national championship under their belts.

proved well-planned attack as the Sports Club gymnasts walked away with top honors among the 44 teams that qualified for the Nationals with a team score of 114.650. Five Sports

Club athletes placed in the top five for their age division including Karissa Pearce of Ann Arbor, who took the National All-Around title in the Junior

Continued on 3

Michigan Icebreakers are new wave in hockey explosion

By SAM EGGLESTON
Sports Reporter

They are not just a group of pretty faces — in fact, say that to this bunch of girls and you might end up getting checked into the boards.

The Michigan Icebreakers girls hockey teams, one a 15-year-old and under squad and the other designated for 12 and under, helps bring girls who play the sport to the

next level.

"This team helps bring the girls something that they had not previously had — teammates that love the sport the way they do without them being boys," said 39-year-old Novi resident J. D. Damrath, one of the coaches and main team supporters. "Girls hockey is just exploding and we are just trying to expand on something that these kids love to do."

The Icebreakers consist of girls from the age of 15 down to the age of 10 and these girls are out on the ice to play — and they mean business.

"Some of the boys didn't believe that my daughter Nikki was a girl when she was on their team," Icebreakers' team manager M. J. Potter said. "Some of the girls that played on the boys teams were just as good if not better than the boys they played with. This program

gives them a chance to take hockey to the next level — something they were never offered in the past."

The squad has plenty of coaches to help train them in the skills necessary to take to the ice and be a competitive team. One of the assistant coaches even has experience he gained in the Montreal Canadiens hockey program.

"When I heard about the team I came down to help," said Tom

Kolloupoulos, a former professional hockey player who had the experience of playing for the Memorial Cup. "I have never worked with a girls team before but this is a solid program and I think there is a lot of potential skating out there on the ice."

Fifteen and under head coach Joe Aiken agrees.

"Most of these girls knows what it takes to play a solid game of hock-

ey," he said. "Not only do I think that this team will meet the goals that we set for them, I think they will exceed them. Girls hockey can only grow — it has grown in leaps and bounds as it is."

With the sport of women's hockey making its way into the Winter Olympics and into the ranks of numerous Division I colleges, are the girls who play the sport ready to grow with it?

Continued on 2

Sport Shorts

Girls hockey on rise

Fall Baseball League
Total Baseball will be running the largest Fall Ball program in Michigan. Age division: 7/8, 9/10, 11/12, and 13/14. HS Saturday, HS Sunday - Wood Bat League. Twelve games per season plus playoffs for qualifying teams. No umpire cost, no fundraisers. Over 50 teams participated in 2000. Games on Saturdays and Sundays. Individuals, \$215/ \$1,399 per team. Call today to sign up for the best Fall Ball League in the Midwest, (248) 668-0165. Total Baseball, 30950 Wilson Road, Wixom.

Soccer Clinics
Total Soccer Wixom's fall session for clinics begins Sept. 10. Clinics are 45 minutes, one day a week, and are for ages 2-10. The clinic is for basic skill learning and emphasis is put on individual development. All clinics are for seven weeks for \$79, which includes T-shirt.
Call Total Soccer Wixom, (248) 668-9817 or e-mail, tswnswn@netnet.net for more information or to register. Total Soccer is located at 30950 Wilson Road, Wixom.

13&U baseball tryouts
The 13 and under Northville Broncos will be holding tryouts for their 2002 baseball team on Saturday and Sunday, August 25-26, from 2-5 p.m. each day. Players with a birth date on or after August 1, 1988 are eligible to tryout.

The tryouts will be held at Northville Community Park on Beck Road between Five and Six Mile roads.
The Broncos will play approximately 60 games during the 2002 summer season by competing in the Little Caesar's League against teams from neighboring communities, participating in 14 weekend tournaments and at least one national tournament.

If you are interested in playing for the Broncos program or have any questions, please contact Coach Bill Jenney at (248) 348-5857 or e-mail the team at abjenny@netnet.net.

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 of holes 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.

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.

Fall Ball registration

Registrations are presently being accepted for the NBSA Fall Baseball/Softball programs. Boys and girls ages 8-13 are eligible to participate. The cost of the registration is \$55 per player.
The Fall program is designed not to interfere with Fall soccer. The program consists of one practice the week of August 27, followed by six Friday games running through September and October. Games will start at 6 p.m. Registrations can be made at the Northville Parks and Recreation Department. For more information or for individuals interested in coaching, contact Mark Greenman at (248) 348-0318 or (313) 873-6200.

Continued from 1
I would like to take this sport as far as I can. 12-year-old Andrea Sokolo of Novi said, "I would like to maybe get a scholarship to a college or something. As long as it is fun I want to play."
Sokolo also noted that there is plenty of more room in the ice rink with the feedbackers if more girls are interested in taking a snapshot at the game.

"I would tell a girl who wants to play that this is a good team to be on," she said. "Out of the teams I have seen, this one is probably the best one."
Dannath said there is always room for new talent with the Michigan feedbackers.
"We still have room on the teams," he said. "Anyone who is interested in playing girls hockey should look into the feedbackers."
Distance from the Suburban Hockey Complex located at the corner of Grand River Avenue and 10-mile isn't a problem for anyone who is willing to travel. There are players from Farmington Hills, Novi, South Lyon and even as far away as Commerce Township.

"Like my dad used to say, I would be willing to drive 50 minutes if the product was worth it," Kollapopoulos said. "If a girl is willing to play this sport, there isn't any reason that she shouldn't be allowed. There are going to be a lot of open doors in the future for the kids who play this sport."
In fact, one of the 15 and under players already had a prediction: all mapped out for the future of the sport.
"WHH!!," 12-year-old Lynn Leech of South Lyon said. "There are more and more girls in hockey and more in more are going to want to play in a national league."
It is hard to pinpoint the exact future of girls hockey, but if the current trend continues Leech's prediction just might prove true.
Girls hockey has not only proven fairly popular with the birth of the



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LEAGUE STANDINGS

2001 Softball Spring/Summer Coed (as of July 29)			2001 Basketball Men's Summer Mondays (as of August 7)			2001 Beach Volleyball Monday Men's 4s (as of August 7)		
Team	Wins	Losses	Team	Wins	Losses	Team	Wins	Losses
Deadwood Bar and Grill	11	0	Puberawlers	9	2	Super Heroes	12	3
Leo's	7	3	Leo's	7	3	DF's	8	7
Manux Team	6	5	Manux Team	6	5	Splitters	7	8
Brasscraft	5	6	Brasscraft	5	6	Colorworks	5	12
Water Wheel	4	6	Water Wheel	4	6			
Mutley Crew	4	7	Mutley Crew	4	7			
Southly/WCP	4	7	Southly/WCP	4	7			
Danora's	3	5	Danora's	3	5			
Swingers	1	10	Swingers	1	10			

Men's Summer Tuesday (as of August 6)			Men's Summer Wednesday (as of August 9)		
Team	Wins	Losses	Team	Wins	Losses
Northern Comfort	5	1	Big Indians	1	5
K and H Printing	5	1	Franklin Consulting	1	5
Insane Vertical	4	2	Quick Send Boys	2	9
Novi Foundation Hustlers	4	2	Novi Foundation Hustlers	4	2
Fink, Zausmer, Kaufman	4	2			
Big Indians	4	2			
Franklin Consulting	4	2			
The Red Rave	0	6			
Women's Summer Wednesday (as of August 9)					
Team	Wins	Losses			
Jump Start	6	0			
Hoop Hold On Tight	4	1			
Hoop Chicks	3	2			
Joe's Team III	3	2			
Franklonka	2	3			
Bussen Appliances	0	5			
Rockstars	0	5			

Men's Summer Thursday (as of August 9)		
Team	Wins	Losses
Insane Vertical	5	1
Northern Comfort	5	1
Deadwood Bar and Grill	4	2

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Some rules are too hard to enforce fairly

Continued from 1

officials to enforce all rules regarding unsportsmanlike conduct by coaches and student-athletes. Now wait a minute — does that mean the officials are not enforcing all of the rules all of the time? Does a referee just pick a few rules and toss them out the window during a game? I imagine not (and I hope not), so why does each other feel the need to express the need to enforce these particular rules?

Yeah, I do agree there are some things which need to be toned down a bit (though I doubt they happen with out intent) such as a player holding the ball out as he scampers into the endzone way ahead of his opponent or a cager standing over a player they just dominated to the hoop and giving a victory yell — these can be taken out of the game as far as I am concerned because they are just byproducts passed down from the professional level sports.

What could be the purpose of the MHSAA's crusades? To stop taunting and baiting is one thing — heck, even give penalties for trash talking — but to assess a penalty for players razzing on the field? You got to be kidding me.

Maybe the rule makers are afraid of the psychological impacts a player ripping on another player can bring about or maybe they don't want some kids' feelings getting hurt. If that is the case then those particular players shouldn't be participating in sports.

A sport can do many things for an athlete. It helps with social skills, teamwork abilities, fitness training and it helps build character through training, preparation for challenges and helping overcome those challenges. The other side of the coin isn't so pretty though.

A sport also forces some players to realize the agony of defeat (sometimes over and over and all year it will really get them down). I know — I used to think that way.

My teammates razzing me and me trash talking with them is what kept us close — you can't laugh at others unless you can laugh at yourself is the therapy we used to get us through the hard times.

The MHSAA can't protect athletes from life — there are going to be people who point out the faults in other people everyday and it happens to everybody. I don't feel that penalizing players for saying and doing things to their teammates that are meant to be taken in a ha-ha-ha, funny-type of way is going to solve many problems. Yeah, there will be less trash talking and less taunting — but was there really that much to begin with? Not enough to bring new rules to address the issue I think.

No matter what rules we put out and no matter what referees do to stop the "unsportsmanlike acts" on our playing fields there is still going to be razzing and words exchanged — I can guarantee it. Players know how to handle themselves on the field, they know what is right and what is wrong.



Simply Madness

The Novi Motor City Madness 16 and under girls fastpitch softball team just completed a successful season with a second place finish in the Huron, Ohio Dawg Days of Summer Tournament August 3-5. The Madness include Erica and Monica Booth (Novi), Nicole Lewis (Novi), Rachel Good (Novi), Lauren Lewis (Walled Lake West), Sarah Storti (Gabriel Richard), Meaghan Fairbanks (Gabriel Richard), Alyssa Ampezan (Gabriel Richard), Nichole McNeely (Taylor) and Jonelle Brown (Canton). Not pictured: Rachel Bielski (Novi). The Madness is coached by Kevin Lewis (Novi) and assistant Jim Logsdon (Canton).

Bivens busy winning

Martial Art may bring her more than just any gold — Olympic gold

Ask Northville sophomore Erica Bivens what she will be doing in November and she might casually respond that she will be competing in the National Team Tae Kwon Do tryouts for a chance to be selected for the USA Olympic team.

Bivens recently brought home a set of four gold medals as well as two bronze medals and two first-place trophies after competing in the Amateur Athletic Union's Junior Olympic Games in Hampton Roads, Virginia.

Bivens competed in the Games from August 1-4 and won golds in both Olympic sparring (full contact) and point sparring competitions. She earned her bronze with a third-place finish in forms.

Bivens trained with South Lyon's Steven Wagener in the B-14 lightweight black belt division prior to competing in the Games. Bivens also competed at the USTL 2001 Nationals at the Cook Convention Center in Memphis, Tennessee June 19-20.

Competing in the 13-14 lightweight black belt division, Bivens earned herself a first-place trophy in forms as well as point sparring.

Another accomplishment for the black belt happened July 4-7 when she won the AAU Youth National Championship in Detroit.

Bivens competed in the 13-14 year-old black belt division and won two golds in both point sparring and Olympic sparring. Bivens also notched herself a bronze medal with a third-place finish in forms in the black belt division.

Gymnasts are tops

Continued from 1
Division with a 38.15 overall score. Lindsay Chirio of West Bloomfield placed second All-Around in the Child Division with 38.425 while teammate Lauren Tucker of West Bloomfield was third with 38.325.

Nicole Roach of Canton placed fourth with 37.975 All-Around and was fourth on bars (9.575), fourth on beam (9.45) and fifth on floor (9.45). Ashley Hagaman of West Bloomfield placed fifth in the Senior Division with 37.45. Turning strong performances in the Nationals were Emma Platt of Novi, Marissa Karz of Farmington Hills and Lauren LeBar, Veronika Perez, Shayna Danto and Michele Heller of West Bloomfield. In the Senior Division, Jessica Oddi of Farmington Hills took second in the nation on bars (9.65) and beam (9.375) and finished ninth All-Around. Courtney Shanour of Crosse placed fifth on the floor (9.35) and eighth overall. April Meyers of West Bloomfield took fourth on the bars (9.45). The sole Level 8 gymnast, Amy Latimer of West Bloomfield, placed fifth All-Around.

The Sports Club of Novi coaches are Jennifer Quinlan, Brian Lewis and Jill Hardway. West Bloomfield coaches are Dean Smerjeske and Jeanne Norwood.



Something to cheer about

The Novi Wildcat Junior Varsity Cheerleading Squad recently attended the Champion Cheer Camp held at Alma College. The cheerful bunch includes: Courtney Bernier, Chelsea Hall, Jessica Harbin, Ashley Hartshorne, Whitney Haynes, Lisa Howell, Melissa Laird, Ashley Lazarus, Molly Ruhl, Erin Rouhan, Katie Pyett, Courtney Pistoiesi, Amanda Orlando, Emily Michel, Katie McDowell. Not pictured: Sarah Traub, Molly Ruhl and Sarah Sprague. The squad is coached by Erica Slayton.

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 or call 1-800-4-REVVIN

Contest Rules...

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

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Religion On Campus

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 \$30 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) 354-5920.

Elizabeth Wilson of Northville is a degree candidate for graduation in August from Bowling Green State University. Wilson anticipates a master's degree in accountancy.

Local area students at the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor received awards and recognition at the university's annual honors convocation.

University Honors
Students with a 3.5 grade point average for two terms (one term for new students) during 2000.

Northville
Nicole Ann Allen, Meghan Elizabeth Gian, Kara Lang Gunninski, Lisa Renee Haller, Beth Anne Hambley, Megan L. Hrenstka, Jennifer L. Kazanovich, Genevieve Ethel Kolasa, Matthew Michael Kovalski, Andrea Elaine Morrow, Jonathan Kwan Rhee, and Sheryl Kathleen Wroblecki.

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 Concern**. 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.

Northville
Nicolas John Angelocci, Barbara Arora, Jessica Leah Casti, Megan Elizabeth Lehman, Adam J. Mellem, Janette Marie Nunn, Lauren Anne Parkins, Stephanie Elaine Perry, and Ryan James Rettmann.

James B. Angell Scholars
Students maintaining an all-A record for two or more consecutive terms as undergraduates.

Northville
Maureen E. Carolin, Gavin John Fleming, Alfi Siddiqi, Douglas M. Thompson, Sarah Lynn Townsend, and Luke Wells Wilcox.

Holy Ascension Eastern Catholic Church will be celebrating an open-air liturgy and parish picnic on Aug. 19 beginning at 1 p.m. on the property where the new church will be built—the west side of Napier, just south of M-14. For more information, call (313) 582-1424.

Novi
Nicholas John Angelocci, Barbara Arora, Jessica Leah Casti, Megan Elizabeth Lehman, Adam J. Mellem, Janette Marie Nunn, Lauren Anne Parkins, Stephanie Elaine Perry, and Ryan James Rettmann.

James B. Angell Scholars
Students maintaining an all-A record for two or more consecutive terms as undergraduates.

Northville
Maureen E. Carolin, Gavin John Fleming, Alfi Siddiqi, Douglas M. Thompson, Sarah Lynn Townsend, and Luke Wells Wilcox.

Novi United Methodist Church is looking for a set of drums to add to the church's musical instrument collection. For more information, call (248) 348-8865.

Mark Shen.
William J. Branstrom Prize
Freshmen who rank in the top 5 percent of their class received a book of their choice.

Northville
Meredith Marie Hass, Michael James Mattis, and Stephen Thomas Runecor.

Novi
Janice Clara Liao, Yusuf Ganuzzaman, and Lina Diana Sirgedas.

Matthew K. Christopherson, bachelor's, telecommunication; Jeffrey Christopher Dehn, bachelor's degree, telecommunication; Gregory Michael Hein, bachelor's, telecommunication; Katherine Anne Jarvela, bachelor's, advertising; Carey Andrew Northrop, bachelor's, psychology; and Erin Renee Vandeweer, with high honors, bachelor's degree in music therapy.

Walled Lake
Sandra Lee Brough-Gresh, master's degree in physical science-interdept.; Katie Olivia Moore, bachelor's degree, communication; and Melissa Anne Nuffer, bachelor's degree in communication.

The University of Michigan-Ann Arbor selected the following high school seniors to receive scholarship awards when entering the university this fall:
Harold William Bulger of Northville received the Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship, a \$2,000. Selection was based on grades, class ranking and test scores, and an essay describing the philosophy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The following recipients of the Regents Merit Scholarship award were selected based on grades, class ranking and test scores. Each student will receive a non-renewable \$1,500 scholarship.

Novi
Andrea Bauer Alspaugh, master's degree, curriculum and teaching; Craig Lynn Drexler, bachelor's degree, kinesiology; Jamella Rose Hussin, bachelor's, child development; and Annemarie Strom, bachelor's degree, child development.

Novi
Nicole Ellen Walters has been named to the Dean's List for spring semester at Washington University, St. Louis, Mo.

The following is a list of local area degree candidates for summer semester at Michigan State University:
Northville
Michael David Bergstrom, bachelor's degree in general management; Jason Bradley Crowe, bachelor's degree, food industry management; Kathryn A. Mellor, bachelor's, communication; and Michelle Lynn Menghini, bachelor's degree in psychology.

Novi
Lindsay Emily Anan, Karen A. Andrews, Elizabeth Ann Bovair, Valerie Marie Caroselli, Lindsay Ann Dehne, Jeffrey Travis Odowski, Melissa Ann Harbison, Arin M. Kugel, Lauren Lyn Karol, Tristan William Lachance, Srividya Mahadevan, Ralph Thomas Petty III, Bidish Jyoti Sarma, Prachi Deepak Shah, Stephen Joseph Sawa, Allison Christine Tingwall, Kamala Vallabhaneni, and Sheena Marie Thomas.

Participation is limited to high school students going into their junior or senior year this fall, have at least a 3.0 cumulative grade point average, and are active in student leadership and extracurricular activities.

Various speakers presented new perspectives on how to maintain and protect the freedoms, obligation and responsibilities inherent to a free and democratic society.

Stallard is the son of Sanford and Drew Stallard of Novi.

Community Events

The **Northville Newcomers** will hold their annual kickoff Aug. 23 at 7 p.m. at First United Methodist Church. The organization is open to all residents, new and established, and offers opportunities for residents to network with persons of similar interests. The \$20 annual membership fee for the Newcomers' more is paid at the meeting. For more information, call (248) 735-0192.

Novi Cooperative Preschool has a limited number of enrollment slots available for the autumn months. For more information on the school, call (248) 960-8958.

Alterra Wynwood is seeking participants for the 2001 **Memory Walk** in support of 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) 420-0104.

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) 380-7330.

The **Northville Township Police Officers & Command Officers Association** will be holding a **four-person golf scramble** to benefit the associations' beneficiary 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 Newcomers** will hold their annual kickoff meeting at First United Methodist Church on Aug. 23 at 7 p.m. Dues of \$20 per household can be paid that evening, at which time family members can sign up for a variety of interest groups, including bridge, euchre, bowling, wine tasting, book discussion and Moms & Tois. 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.

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 sidekick, Max the Moose. Following Thomas' performance, the Just For Kicks Line Dancers will perform their music. For more information, call (248) 349-0203.

The **New Hope Center for Grief Support** will host the second annual **Good Grief Golf Outing** on Sept. 8 beginning at 10 a.m. The \$100 per-person fee includes 18 holes of golf, cart, lunch, dinner and prizes. Dinner-and-attention tickets are \$50. Proceeds from the outing will benefit the Northville-based bereavement counseling center. For more information, call (248) 348-0115.

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 and are expected to share in daily household responsibilities. For more information, call (872) 495-8868.

In Service

Navy Chief Petty Officer **Michael G. Van Haren** recently visited Debel Ali, United Arab Emirates during a six month deployment to the Mediterranean Sea and Persian Gulf.

Van Haren was assigned to the USS Mitscher, one of the most powerful warships ever put to sea. The computer-based AEGIS weapons system is the heart of the ship's war-fighting capability.

Van Haren is the son of Carol L. and Glen J. Van Haren of Northville. The 1988 graduate of Southfield-Lathrup High School joined the Navy in November 1989.

Engaged

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph A. White of White Lake announce the engagement of their daughter, Tracy Lynn, to Brendan Matthew Conlon, son of June Conlon of South Bend, Ind., and Kevin Conlon of High Point, N.C.

The bride-elect holds a bachelor of arts degree and a master's degree in business administration from the University of Detroit. She is the Main Street manager for the Walled Lake Downtown Development Authority.

The groom-elect earned a master's degree in engineering from Purdue University. He is currently employed at General Motors as a staff project engineer.

A December wedding is planned at First United Methodist Church in Birmingham.

Blackard-York

Mary M. Blackard of Bloomfield Hills announces the engagement of her daughter, Melissa M., to Jeremy A. York, the son of Rhonda York of Novi and Jack and Chris York of Lansing.

The bride-elect is a 1995 graduate of Lahser High School. She is currently attending Lawrence Tech University.


The groom-elect is a 1992 graduate of Novi High School. He also attends Lawrence Tech University and is employed as an installer at Sound Engineering in Livonia.

Their wedding will be held in June 2002 at the Birmingham First United Methodist Church.

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Dearborn 24417 Ford Rd. (Off I-76) 313-278-4491	Highland Park 14126 Woodward (Model 1 Plaza) 313-869-7392	Rochester Hills 3035 S. Rochester Rd. (W. Adams Rd.) 248-853-0550	Troy 1913 E. Big Beaver Rd. (Ray Scott Center) 248-526-0040	Fairlane Mall (Off Road next to Sears) 313-441-0168	White Lake 9190 Highland Rd. 248-698-0043
Detroit 100 Ren. Can. Ste. 144 (Next to Coffee Roastery) 313-568-8900	Lake Orion 2531 S. Lapeer Rd. (Opposite intersection of I-76) 248-393-6800	Southfield 26935 Northwestern Hwy. 248-915-3316	Westland 35105 Warren Rd. (I-76 & Wayne Rd.) 734-722-7330	Lakeside Mall 810-247-7286	Ypsilanti 2515 Ellsworth Rd. 734-526-3137
	Novi 43025 12 Mile Rd. (Across from Sears, Wayne Oaks Mall) 248-305-6600	St. Clair Shores 26401 Harper Ave. (M-10 1/2 mile) 810-777-4010		Twelve Oaks Mall 248-735-3973	Authorized Retailer Phone availability and price may vary by Authorized Retailer location.

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Class Reunions

SCHOOL/CLASS	CITY	DATE	FACILITY	HOST CITY
Adams 1991	Rochester	Aug. 25	RiverCrest	Rochester
Belleville 1981	Belleville	Sept. 29	Holiday Inn West	Livonia
Churhill 1991	Livonia	Sept. 15	Burton Manor	Plymouth
Cody 1996	Detroit	Aug. 31	St. John Conference Center	Detroit
Cooley 1991	Detroit	Sept. 8	Holiday Inn	Canlon Township
Couino 1991	Warren	Sept. 22	Zuccaro's	St. Clair Shores
East Detroit 1991	Eastpointe	Sept. 22	Barrieter Gardens	Lansing
East Lansing 1981	East Lansing	Sept. 22	Lansing Country Club	Bloomfield Hills
Ferdale High School	Ferdale	Sept. 29	Fox & Hounds	Warren
Fitzgerald 1991	Warren	Sept. 28	Van Dyke Park Hotel	Dearborn
Fordson 1946	Dearborn	Sept. 22	Dearborn Country Club	Grosse Pointe
Grosse Pointe 1951	Grosse Pointe	Sept. 1	Grosse Pointe Yacht Club	Grosse Pointe
Livonia Bentley 1976	Livonia	Sept. 1	Doubletree Guest Suites	Novi
MacKenzie 1991	Detroit	Aug. 24	Karas House	Rochester
Martin L. King 1971	Detroit	Sept. 8	DoubleTree-Southfield	Southfield
North Farmington 1990	Farmington	Sept. 29	Northville Manor	Northville
Pontiac Central 1965	Pontiac	Sept. 29	Lafayette Grande	Pontiac
Pontiac Northern 1990	Pontiac	Sept. 8	Dear Lake Banquet Center	Clarkston
Pontiac Northern 1991	Pontiac	Sept. 8	Dear Lake Banquet Center	Clarkston
Rochester Adams 1981	Rochester	Aug. 25	Northfield Hilton	Troy
Romeo 1991	Romeo	Oct. 20	Somerset Inn	Rochester
St. Anthony 1956	Detroit	Sept. 29	RiverCrest	Rosville
W. Lake Western 1991	Walled Lake	Sept. 29	White Lake Oaks Country Club	White Lake
Wayne Memorial 1981	Wayne-Westland	Oct. 6	Holiday Inn	Livonia

Unless otherwise noted, call (800) 548-6666 for additional information.

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Judged one of the best lifestyle sections in Michigan

Thursday, August 16, 2001



Go! Go! Go! ...Slugs??

Now that football season is just around the corner, it's time to dust off that ol' varsity sweater from the closet and cheer on your alma mater. That assumes, of course, that you didn't graduate from one of these schools, whose mascots are well...a wee bit different. (We swear we're not making any of these up. If we are, we'll give you 14 points and the ball.) Ready...set...hike!

Delaware
**Fightin'
Blue Hens**

Furman
Paladins

James Madison
Dukes

Middle Tennessee State
Blue Raiders

North Texas
**Mean Green
Eagles**

Richmond
Spiders

Southern Illinois
Salukis

Tennessee-Chattanooga
Mocs

Texas Christian
Horned Frogs

Western Carolina
Catamounts

...and the winner of the all-time screwiest mascot goes to:

University of California Santa Cruz
Banana Slugs

More useless trivia from the U of X (University of Xtra)

• Jimi Hendrix made 26 jumps with the 101st Airborne Division in 1961.

• Michael J. Fox's middle name is Andrew.

• Thomas Edison wasn't blind, but he preferred reading in Braille.

• President John Adams was so fat that his nickname was "Your Rotundity."

• One of the reasons NASA sends small animals into space is to see if they throw up.

From the Never mind the radiation Think about NASCAR

"Nuclear war would certainly set back cable."
— Ted Turner

row, row row your boat

Visitors step into adventure at Venture Outdoors in Walled Lake.

The outdoor store, located at 239 E. Walled Lake Drive, offers everything from camping equipment to snowboarding. However, they teach people how to make kayaking their sport by giving demonstrations on Walled Lake on Saturdays or by appointment.

Dan Argonis, president of the outdoor store, said kayaking is big business.

"It's so popular now," Argonis said. "It's caught the industry by surprise. The paddle industry has grown every year for the last three years. Everyone can do the sport."

One of the reasons for its attractiveness is that the boat is much easier to row than a canoe because the oars are connected and they're lightweight. Women love the sport because of the boat's ease.

"We've sold the boats to 8-year-old kids and to 78-year-old grandmas," Argonis said. "If you get down to it, all you need are arms. Even handicapped people can use kayaks. Legs are used very little in the recreational sport."

The sport is also popular with people who like to fish.

Peter LaPorte, manager of the Walled Lake store, said he just started kayaking a couple of months ago when he started with the company and he discovered the benefits of kayaking.

"I like it because I can sneak right up on fish," LaPorte said.

Kayaks are made of plastic or fiberglass and range in weight from 35 pounds to 78 pounds. There are kayaks designed for recreational sport, for the sea and for white water escapades. The average price range for a kayak is from \$349 to \$2,800.

"We sell all of them except white water kayaks," Argonis said. "There isn't white water in Michigan."

He suggests that enthusiasts try the boat out before they actually purchase a kayak and they should make sure they fit into the kayak comfortably. Customers should always tell salespeople whether they want the kayak for camping trips or for just working out after a long day. In addition, it's important to not scrimp when buying a paddle and they should tryout at least two paddles before they make a decision.

"A little more money for a paddle goes a long way," Argonis said.

Store staff will help people pick out what's best for them.

"We do appointments for demonstrations during the week," Argonis said. "Just tell us what you want to try and when you want to go. If you don't know what you want - come by and we'll work with you. We'll get you what you need."

He opened Venture Outdoors in Plymouth eight years ago and because the store was such a suc-

cess, he opened the Walled Lake store two years ago.

Argonis worked at an outdoor store while studying marketing at Western Michigan University. He later became a corporate marketing executive for American West Airlines but he decided to open his own store since the industry was still in his blood and he maintained a passion for open-air activities.

"I have a love for exciting outdoor sports," Argonis said. "I've mountain-skied all over the world from Austria, Tahoe to Salt Lake City. You name it; I've been there."

There are other things that he likes about his job in the outdoor retail industry.

"My favorite part is teaching people a new sport and getting their feedback on the fun that they're having," Argonis said.

He's proud that his Walled Lake store is the only store that sells kayaks on the lake in southeastern Michigan.

"We have people come all the way from Cincinnati and Traverse City that have bought boats from us," Argonis said. "It's because we are a one-stop shop. We can fit the boat out in the store and walk across the street and they can try it out before they buy it."

In the spring, manufacturers come to Walled Lake and the store

has a two-day beach party celebration.

"It's when you can try out the kayaks and talk to manufacturing reps," Argonis said. "It's called the Walled Lake Paddle Party. We have contestants see how far they can throw a paddle and there is kayak racing."

There's safety demonstrations and of course kayak demonstrations, he said.

The store offers classes for a fee for people who want to get even more out of their kayaks. If water lovers only want to test out a kayak for a couple of hours, the store will rent them out.

LaPorte thinks everyone will enjoy kayaking as much as he does.

"It's a good way to spend time on the water," LaPorte said. "And it's inexpensive. I have so much fun doing it that I assume others will too."

People can check out the kayaks Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., Friday's from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays from noon to 5 p.m.

Diane Dempsey Deel is a staff writer for the Lake Area Times. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700 ext. 110 or ddee1@ht.homecomm.net.

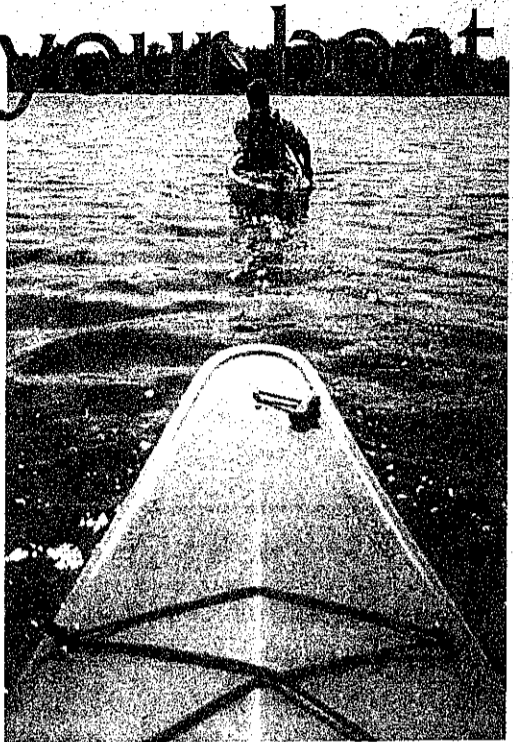


Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Dan Argonis paddles westward on Walled Lake.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Dan Argonis, owner of Venture Outdoors, paddles a Necky Looksha Sport on Walled Lake last Friday afternoon. Venture Outdoors conducts weekly kayak lessons on the lake for those beginning the sport.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Venture Outdoors' Walled Lake store manager Peter LaPorte, left, and Dan Argonis portage a kayak to Walled Lake last Friday afternoon. The model they're carrying weighs about 60 pounds.

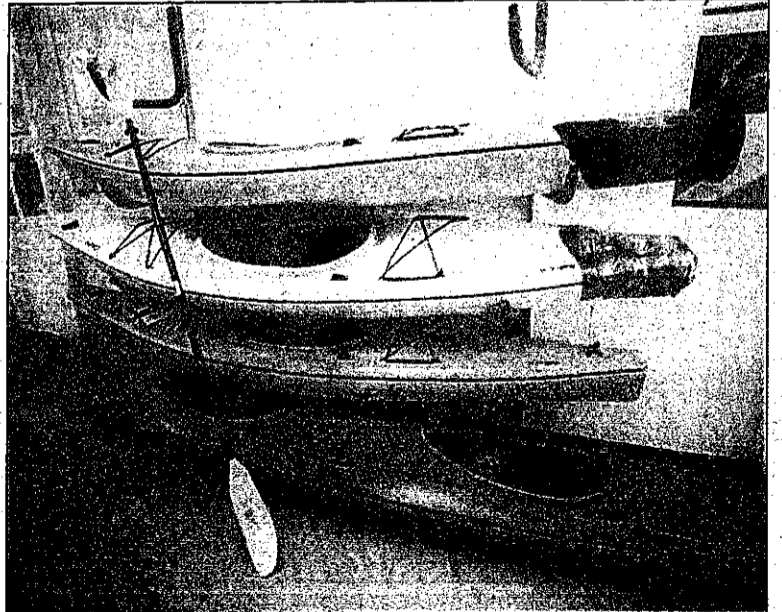


Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Venture Outdoors has different colors and styles of kayaks to offer customers, including recreational types and those for more "open" water, big lakes, like the kayak at the bottom.

story by diane deel