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Novi, Michigan

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 Classifieds  
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**Then there were nine**

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**A dash of everything**

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**New talent**



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Novi High graduate Dana Gannon stands by her gypsum sculpture entitled "Seeds". Gannon, a New Jersey resident, will be exhibiting some of her work in Bay City this month.

## Novi graduate makes debut in Bay City

By Victoria Sadlocha  
 STAFF WRITER

After many years of hard work, Novi High School graduate Dana Gannon will share her naturalism philosophy for the first time during her Bay City art gallery premier.

About 25 of Gannon's figurative sculptures will be displayed as part of "Origins Exposed," a two person exhibit held at Studio 23/The Arts Center located at 901 N. Water Street.

The 29-year-old's interest in creating figurative works stemmed from her upbringing. Gannon said she remembers

being out in nature, playing in the fields and has always had an appreciation and respect for the environment.

"It is about how we are still dependent on nature," Gannon said about her collection. "It is about us as an animal species."

Most of Gannon's works, which will be on display Jan. 5 through Feb. 3, were created after her 1999 completion of the New York Academy of Art's graduate program.

The Jersey City, New Jersey resident said she worked very hard in her Queens, New York studio preparing for the exhibit.

"The deadline was good for

me," Gannon said. She created four new sculptures after finding out about the Bay City exhibit six months ago.

Gannon's average completion time for a sculpture had been about one to one-and-one-half years, depending on the size and how many sculptures she was working on at the time.

One of her sculptures, which is from her days as a student which will be displayed, is an oversized portrait of a woman pulling a roof out of the ground which served as Gannon's thesis project.

The sculpture, made of gypsum, will be displayed in Bay City.

Please see SCULPTOR, 4A

## Fire station could be stalled

By Victoria Sadlocha  
 STAFF WRITER

City officials will be meeting in the next couple of weeks to make sure the new Novi fire station and training center currently in construction does not go up in smoke.

"The project is not on target as far as the May 1 completion date," said Richard Helwig, Novi city manager. "The project is about one-third complete and we will know more in a couple of weeks."

Anthony Nowicki, Novi director of public services, said all parties will be sitting down shortly to discuss what exactly is going on at the 10 Mile and Wixom Roads construction site.

"Of course we're not satisfied with the progress," Nowicki said. "We want to determine why there is a delay."

In order to determine what the delay is, city officials will be sitting down with Novi developer James Chen for answers.

Last year, Greystone Construction, which Chen is behind, was awarded the contract to construct Novi's new fire station.

In December, Frank Ray of the architect, engineering and planning firm Nordstrom Samson Associates reviewed the status of the project per the city's request.

Ray advised the city that a payment request was unable to be processed by the firm because of insufficient documentation submitted by Greystone Construction.

The contractor had notified the city that future payments will be handled directly by a bonding company.

Helwig said officials were exploring options with the bonding company and Chen to handle the situation and said he should have specific answers addressing the entire situation by Jan. 31.

As of the end of the year, Ray was still waiting for a revised construction schedule and a complete breakdown of subcontractors from Chen after repeated requests.

According to a written recommendation issued by Ray, it was suggested to Nowicki that the city obtain documentation that Greystone Construction can fulfill its contract and complete the project.

The attention to the stalled activity came at the same time Chen appeared in court for the Main Street tenants versus Evergreen III lawsuit.

At the end of last year, Chen also dealt with Detroit Edison, who issued a disconnect order on the Main Street development.

A nondisclosed agreement was reached to keep the power on despite Chen's more than \$200,000 outstanding balance.

John Pitrone, a representative from the Hayman Company which manages the downtown development, said Chen was behind on his electric bill because of the funds Main Street tenants had withheld. Chen was unavailable for comment.

## Council tables Gateway again

### Mayor wants vote at next meeting

By Victoria Sadlocha  
 STAFF WRITER

Novi residents are still left without a better idea of what the thoroughfare to their downtown will look like after members of the city council failed to adopt the Downtown Gateway Ordinance after its second reading.

At the conclusion of the Jan. 3 Novi city Council special meeting dedicated entirely to the ordinance, council members were still not in agreement as to the particulars of the new ordinance which will apply to the area extending from Meadowbrook to Novi's downtown and up to Eleven Mile Road.

At the belly of the uncertainty was building setback requirements, where parking will be allowed, and what uses will be allowed in the corridor.

Area developers appeared before the council arguing in the most part for the release of ordinance wording which prohibits a liquor store, drug store, jewelry store or copy center in the corridor.

It was argued that since residential housing is the key to the mixed-use ordinance, services that residents need should be allowed for convenience so residents would have the opportunity

to walk or ride their bikes to local establishments.

"I look forward to seeing this ordinance become a reality," said Novi developer and businessman Jonathan Brateman.

Brateman said he does not like the specificity of the types of businesses which are not allowed because it will prevent specialty stores from coming to the area.

Council member Lou Csordas said he thought some of the retail uses which were stripped from the ordinance could be useful.

"I can't see the damage with having a drugstore on a corner," Csordas said.

The council member thought it may create more of a neighborhood atmosphere.

"No overall comprehensive planning," said Michelle Bononi, Novi Mayor Pro-Tem. "That is what I feel is missing."

Bononi feels it would be a fatal flaw to include uses that would not be needed by residents in the development.

"I'm not convinced we won't end up with several strip malls."

**City Council**

Please see GATEWAY, 4A

## Assistants learn what it takes to be a Novi teacher

By Angelo Parlove  
 STAFF WRITER

Eleven Michigan State University graduates are getting first-hand insights into Novi's most progressive school, paving the way to their own classroom next school year.

The Spartan alumni are working as fifth-year teaching assistants under Novi school teachers at Deerfield Elementary, sharpening the skills needed for success in front of the blackboard.

"We are expected to do everything the teachers do," said Sarah Carley, a Deerfield

Elementary teaching assistant from Brighton.

Meaning, they instruct students, lead discussion groups, attend parent-teacher conferences, and participate in seminars. They get to see the "buzz words" associated with a non-traditional school like Deerfield in action, such as multi-age classes, differentiated instruction and choice theory.

"We are becoming well-rounded because there is exposure to everything," Carley said. "It helps

you to define your teaching style."

Moreover, they get to be teachers, impacting the lives of the kids they come across.

"It's so rewarding to be in this environment," Carley said.

The teaching assistants diligently acquire this hands-on experience from each morning bell to the close of the school day - five times a week. Veteran and savvy educators from the Novi Community School District are valuable mentors to these fresh minds.

**Schools**

Please see TEACHING, 4A



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Deerfield Elementary School teacher-intern Tricia Styles helps third-grader Ben Dale with a mathematics problem during a class last Friday afternoon.

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# Man leaves scene after crashing into GMC Jimmy in driveway

**NOVI**  
On Dec. 28 at 2 a.m., Novi police officers were dispatched to the 41000 block of Casswell to investigate a non traffic hit-and-run. Upon arrival, neighbors told police they heard a crash and saw a dark colored GMC Jimmy back up and then after hitting a parked vehicle. A Novi officer went and talked to the registered owner of the vehicle which was struck, but the owner saw nothing. After talking to the driver park, the officer saw the described vehicle parked in a driveway. It was noted on the police report the vehicle had fresh damage to the front passenger side and was marked with paint consistent to the struck vehicle. Police went to the door and knocked before a man answered the door as loudly intoxicated answered. The officer noticed several 40 ounce containers of beer in the room. The Novi resident said the vehicle was his, but he had parked it in the driveway when asked if he had been in an accident. The officer then asked him how old he was, and the man said he was 21 and born in 1983. After explaining the seriousness of the offense, the driver finally told the officer, "all right, I did it, I hit the van, didn't you ever do anything wrong?" He told police he had started drinking after the accident. The officer told the man he was under arrest for leaving the scene of a property accident and for being in possession of alcohol by consumption. The Novi man was taken to the station where he blew a .20 on his preliminary breath test.

## Police News

**WALLED LAKE**  
**Needing the nicotine**  
A Farmer Jack's grocery store employee in Walled Lake chased a 42-year-old Northville man Jan. 3 after he stole a carton of cigarettes plus three other packs of Newport cigarettes.  
The woman told police she saw the man put the cigarettes in his coat. When she tried to stop him, he walked out of the store.  
The woman took down the man's license plate number and gave it to police. A police officer later noticed the man's car pull out of the Cigo gas station about a block away from Farmer Jack's.  
The officer stopped the man and then noticed the carton and the other cigarettes in the passenger seat. The man admitted taking the cigarettes and was arrested and taken to the station.  
A warrant is pending.

**Lawn run**  
A resident in the 22000 block of Chase between Eight and Nine Mile Roads called the Novi Police Department to report that an unknown vehicle drove onto his lawn. The Novi officer said at about 1:45 a.m. on Jan. 1, a vehicle lost control and drove onto his property. According to the police report, the suspect knocked down two trees and damaged the grass. Damage was estimated at \$1,000. A neighbor told the damaged lawn resident that he heard the crash, but didn't see anything. Police said there was no debris from the vehicle left at the scene, but they were able to determine the vehicle hit the tree while skidding sideways so it should have damage on the side. Police also believe the vehicle left the yard with ease therefore it is most likely a sport utility vehicle. No accidents were reported to the Novi police that night.

**Windows scratched**  
A Walled Lake police officer was dispatched to Mary Helen Guest Elementary Jan. 2 after an unknown motorist drove through the garage, and therefore has access to her home, the woman said.  
Wixom police contacted the woman who had cleaned the garage. She said she knew nothing about the scratches and would cooperate with the police as much as she could.  
There are no suspects at this time.

**Computer missing**  
A Dell laptop computer with accessories was reported stolen from 28010 Oakland Oaks Court in Wixom on Jan. 3.  
The complainant said that both cleaning and production workers were in the building at the time the computer came up missing.  
There are no suspects at this time.

**Son breaks window**  
A mother reported that her son ran across from home on Jan. 1 and the next day she reported again to police that her rear window had been broken.  
She said she believes her son was responsible for the breaking window. He does not have a key to the house and it appears he went to his bedroom to unlock

**Needed the bubbly**  
An unknown man celebrated New Year's Eve for free after stealing Champagne from a Novi party.

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# No trival matter: Quiz Bowl team enjoys learning

**By Angelo Parlove**  
**STAFF WRITER**  
So far in the young season, the club is off to a good start, with both the varsity and junior varsity teams showing a winning record of 3-1.  
"It's an awesome start. Some people come here and know an amazing amount of trivia and others come here to learn," said Novi High School senior and Quiz Bowl club member Ellen Lawrence. "I like this because it's low-impact competition. There is no threat of injury except for the occasional paper cut."  
Despite this desire to clash intellects and boost their trivia skills, the Novi High School students are keeping this club easy-going and relaxed.  
"They want to have a good time, but they also keep it laid back," Brenner said.  
The door to the Quiz Bowl practices is always open to new students, as well as those wandering the hallways after school and interested in what's going on in room 126 from 2-3:30 p.m. on Mondays.  
"There are no restrictions to who plays. We want people who can come and want to play," Hanton said. "You just have to want to learn."  
Angelo Parlove is a staff writer for the Now News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 108 or aparlove@ht.homecomm.net.

**WIXOM**  
**Heirloom missing**  
A family heirloom came up missing last Friday in Wixom.  
A woman, residing at 4059 Castlewood, told police that an eight-inch solid gold bracelet - a family keepsake made from a necklace given to her by her grandfather - was stolen from her bedroom on Jan. 4.  
She stated that the bracelet was in place on Jan. 3, the day before a cleaning company had serviced her home. The cleaning crew has the route for entry through the garage, and therefore has access to her home, the woman said.  
Wixom police contacted the woman who had cleaned the garage. She said she knew nothing about the bracelet and would cooperate with the police as much as she could.  
There are no suspects at this time.

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A Dell laptop computer with accessories was reported stolen from 28010 Oakland Oaks Court in Wixom on Jan. 3.  
The complainant said that both cleaning and production workers were in the building at the time the computer came up missing.  
There are no suspects at this time.

**Needed the bubbly**  
An unknown man celebrated New Year's Eve for free after stealing Champagne from a Novi party.

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# Real Estate One Inc. and Evergreen III suit dismissed

**By Victoria Sadlocha**  
**STAFF WRITER**  
The number of Main Street lessees at odds with their landlord was reduced by one after a dismissal in 52-1 District Court.  
The dismissal of the case between Evergreen III, Inc. and Real Estate One, Inc. dropped the number of downtown tenants to nine in the battle started by part-owner and managing partner of Evergreen III - James Chen.  
A rental unit eviction summons was served to Real Estate One last year based on Evergreen III's non-payment of rent complaint.  
According to court documents, Real Estate One owed Evergreen III \$15,211.63 for heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) gas and electric, after hours HVAC and electric late fee monthly charges.  
Although representatives from Real Estate One, Inc. at both the Main Street and corporate office were unavailable for comment, other tenants in the downtown development had alleged in the past that they should not have been charged HVAC charges as stated in their leases.  
As a result of the dismissal, Real Estate One was not one of the businesses listed in the gag order recently issued by District Court Judge Brian W. MacKenzie in an effort to prevent the existing nine parties involved in the Main Street lawsuit to comment on the case.  
Eric S. Berkley, attorney representing Evergreen III in the Main Street lawsuit, refused to comment on behalf of his client regarding reasons why the Real Estate One case was dismissed.  
Berkley said although technically Real Estate One was not listed in the court ordered "restraining

order," he felt he had an obligation not to discuss any of the cases involved.  
Court documents showed lessees representing Real Estate One received a lease agreement from Evergreen III on Feb. 9, 2000 showing the suite they occupied was 9,968 rentable square feet resulting in the first year of rent due of \$214,312 or \$21.50 per rentable square foot. The rent was scheduled to increase 25 cents per square foot each year for 10 years.  
The remaining nine Main Street businesses involved in the case are Quizzo's Subs, Lazy Lizard Cantina, Bluegreen Vacations, Designer's Choice, Larson Jewelry Design and Manufacturing, Novi Jewelers, Coffee Trader, Kitchens By Design and Salone Agape.  
Victoria Sadlocha is a staff writer for the Now News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105 or vsadlocha@ht.homecomm.net.

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Carl Rickel sleds down the hill at North Lakeshore Park last week with daughter Monique, 6.  
Photo by JOHN HEIDER

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# Sculptor to have first show at Bay City gallery

Continued from 1

...and took Gannon about a year to complete, working 15-hour days. Another one of Gannon's sculptures, which will be displayed, is a 7-year-old male crawling down to the ground planting a seed. Gannon said her favorite sculpture is her latest project and said she has become very attached to her projects throughout her 10-year sculpting career. The artist's relationship with each of the works begins when she thinks of the initial idea. After that, she begins the entire process by constructing small versions of what she envisioned, working the concept out compositionally with each prototype incorporating a small change. "I try to think of a million different ways to look at the project," Gannon said. Once satisfied with the concept, she builds the inner structure, using metal armature, blocking it out with clay. "Technically speaking, it is difficult because the clay is very heavy," Gannon said. She will then bring in models during the final process to make

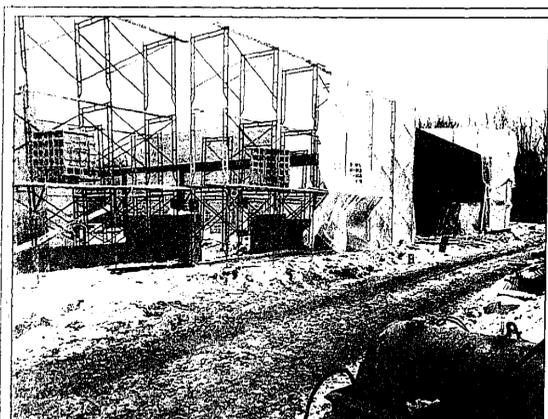
sure the sculpture is a realistic depiction. "When you really get something to work, you have items that are very precious," Gannon said. When viewing Gannon's collection, two characteristics are noticed in all of the pieces. The first being none of her humans have facial expressions and the second is all are either very thin or have shapely figures. "I try to use more interesting body types," Gannon said. She said her subjects are expressionless because they represent humans who are calm and contemplative.

"I want the figures to seem introspective," Gannon said. "And also so viewers will be introspective or think about how the sculpture relates to them. I've never liked sculptures that are melodramatic or cutesy-like kids smiling." When creating her projects, Gannon makes rubber molds for each sculpture so she can make limited edition replicas in which she will keep one of each of her designs. "I can't really part with them," she said. Gannon began taking sculpture classes while attending University of Michigan and

After attending the opening reception of her Bay City exhibit, Gannon will return to New York and work on being represented by a gallery in the city. Gannon's sculptures, along with paintings by Chris LaPorte, may be viewed 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays and noon to 4 p.m. Sundays. For more information about the exhibit, call (989) 894-2323.

Victoria Sadlocha is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105 or at vsadlocha@hometown.com.net.

University of Michigan and thought it was fun. She enjoyed the creativity involved and the freedom so she decided on sculpture as her major, graduating in 1996. "I really enjoy making things and enjoy realistic work," Gannon said. She looks forward to the exhibit and said Studio 23 is a great place for her first professional sculpture show because it is very large and spacious, enabling it to hold the larger pieces. In addition to her oversize sculpture, Gannon has three life-size works in the show.



Under construction?

The Novi Fire Department's new station house and training center is under construction at the corner of Ten Mile and Wixom Roads. For more on the development of the station, please see related story on 1A.

# Teaching assistants learn first-hand skills in classroom

Continued from 1

"Watching how teachers plan things out is an incredible process," said Deerfield Elementary teaching assistant Linda Fike, who is from Dexter. "Then you get to bring it back to your class."

After receiving a four-year undergraduate degree, Michigan State requires a mandatory fifth year of practical teaching experience - along with 12 credits of master's classes in curriculum studies - before their students are awarded their teaching certificates.

"Over an entire year, you really see the kids grow," said Joyce Sandie, a Deerfield Elementary

teaching assistant from Northville. "You get to know the kids and teach to them. It allows us to be strong and confident teachers in every way."

Thus, this extra school year of hands-on experience - opposed to 10 weeks for most universities - has made the Michigan State University elementary education program the top in the nation. For the sixth straight year, the U.S. News and World Report rated the school's elementary and secondary education programs as the best in the United States.

"The fifth year has made the program," said Deerfield Elementary principal Richard Njus. "It is like they gain a full

year of teaching experience. At the end of the year, they are ready to assume the responsibility of a classroom."

Deerfield Elementary and Michigan State University has found a working partnership in cultivating and shaping the teachers of tomorrow. "It is a great program," Njus said. "There is very good, positive communication. [MSU] tends to be very responsive to us in the field."

Angelo Parlove is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 108 or at aparlove@hometown.com.net.

# Gateway: ordinance tabled

Continued from 1

Bozoni said. Craig DeRoche, Novi City council member, said he was concerned the ordinance was mirrored protectionism by telling business owners what type of business they may or may not operate. "I do not feel comfortable creating an ordinance telling people what type of business they can open," DeRoche said. Before warning all members they need to come back to the next meeting ready to vote, Novi Mayor Richard J. Clark said he

did not feel the ordinance promoted protectionism, Clark stated there are many business developments, including Main Street, which provide open space for businesses to operate.

"We are never going to satisfy every business and every member of the council," Clark said. "You can not please everyone all of the time."

Clark said everyone needs to behave in the spirit of cooperation and vote up or down at the next meeting.

The city of Novi Planning Commission made its positive recommendation of the ordinance in September of 1999. Since that time, different city committees and city council have been working on revising the Downtown Gateway Ordinance.

The purpose of the atmosphere is to create a hometown atmosphere while traveling to the city's downtown. Roadways leading into downtown Plymouth, and Northville were, silent, visual examples.

Victoria Sadlocha is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105 or at vsadlocha@hometown.com.net.

## Business Briefs

Entrepreneur Nicholas S. Bonaldi of Novi recently created a center for office procedures and patient education. The meetings were attended by doctors from the Midwest and the topics included anatomy and physiology, vertical subluxation research, spinal detour

adjustment and correction procedures. Dr. Bonaldi's office is located at 24037 Meadowbrook Road next to the 7-11 convenience store. He has practiced in Novi since 1979.

Nordstrom Samson Associates of Novi is pleased to

announce that James Hutchens P.E. has joined their firm as the new vice president of engineering services. Hutchens joins the firm with over 27 years of mechanical engineering experience and will work to strengthen and expand the in-house engineering services at NSA.

## Engagements

Tiffany DeBoson announces the engagement of Heather Klier to Jonathan Mastny.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Larry and Cathy Klier of St. Joseph. She is a 1996 graduate of St. Joseph High School and a 2000 graduate of Michigan State University with a degree in packaging engineering. Heather is currently employed in packaging design at Bath & Body Works in Columbus, Ohio.

The groom-elect is the son of Ann and John Prince of Gannon and Dave and Lorna Mastny of Oxford. He is a 1995 graduate of Novi High School. Jonathan received a packaging engineering degree from Michigan State University in 1999 and is now employed as a packaging design at Nestle Corp.

The couple plan a July 13 wedding, which will be held in St. Joseph.



Klier - Mastny

Ken Vogt of Northville announces the engagement of his daughter, Karen Kathleen, to Ethan Edwin Robison, the son of Norm and Mary Robison of DeWitt.

The bride-elect is a 1991 graduate of Northville High School. She received her degree in 1995 from Michigan State University and is currently employed at Janssen Pharmaceutical.

The groom-elect is a 1990 graduate of DeWitt High School and a 1995 graduate of Michigan State University. He is now employed at Aerotek Automotive. They are planning a July 13 wedding.



Vogt - Robison

## Wedding

Greg and Nancy Richardson of Novi announce the wedding of their daughter, Amy, to Scott Dziuzynski, son of Edward and Patricia Dziuzynski of Walled Lake.

The couple were married on Nov. 26 by Magistrate Judith Holz in Novi. The bride wore an off-white suit and carried white roses. She is a 2000 graduate of Novi High School and is currently employed at Artisan Jewelers.

The groom is a 1995 graduate of Walled Lake Western and is currently employed at Prime Time Electric.



Mr. and Mrs. Dziuzynski

## Engagements

Dr. and Mrs. Kirk N. Patee of South Lyon and Mr. and Mrs. Thomas P. Robb of Novi are pleased to announce the engagement to their children, Kristen Patee, to Tim Robb.

The bride-elect is a 1983 graduate of Novi High School and a 1987 graduate of Michigan State University with a bachelors degree in musical education. She is currently employed at Novi Meadows as a vocal music teacher and is in the process of completing her masters in music education from Michigan State University.

The groom-elect is a 1991 graduate of Novi High School and a 1990 graduate of Walsh College with a bachelors degree in business administration degree in marketing. He is currently employed at Boehringer Ingelheim, a pharmaceutical company, as a senior care specialist. A July wedding is planned.



Patee - Robb

Patricia Stuber of Manchester and Arthur Belloli of Novi announce the engagement of their daughter, Erin Elizabeth Belloli, to Paul Bryan Henige, son of Victoria and Robert Henige of Charleston, S.C.

The bride-elect is a 1992 graduate of Northville High School and a 1996 graduate of Western Michigan University. She currently works for Merck and Co., Inc. and lives in Birmingham.

The groom-elect is a 1987 high school graduate and a 1992 graduate from Michigan State University. He currently works for Superior Industries and lives in Royal Oak. A Jan. 12 wedding is planned.



Belloli - Henige

Al and Cheryl Hanson of Northville announce the engagement of their daughter, Alicia Lynn, to David Edward Harwell, son of Pamela Harwell of Colorado Springs, Colo. and Benjamin Harwell of Charleston, S.C.

The bride-elect is a 1990 graduate of Northville High School. She received her bachelors of business administration from Western Michigan University in 1994 and is currently employed as a channel account manager with Check Point Software Technologies in Atlanta.

The groom-elect is a graduate of Bishop England High School in Charleston, S.C. He received his bachelors of science in business at the University of South Carolina in 1995 and is currently employed at First Union National Bank as a financial specialist in Atlanta. A June 15 wedding is planned to be held in Charleston, S.C. The couple will celebrate their honeymoon traveling in Italy.



Hanson - Harwell

## Area Briefs

### State of the City Address

Novi residents are cordially invited to join Novi Mayor Richard J. Clark and members of the Novi City Council for the 2002 State of the City Address. The event will occur 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 14 in the Novi Civic Center. A reception will follow and there is no admittance fee. For more information, call Craig Klier at (248) 347-0445.

### Chilly Willy Winter Festival

Come and celebrate winter in the Novi Civic Center for the city's annual Chilly Willy Winter Festival. The event will take place 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 19. The Winter fun will include the annual snow sculpting contest, chili cook-off, bridge tournament, Euchre tournament and the "Kid's Movie House."

### Winter Property Tax Bills and Dog Licenses

The Novi City Treasury Department reminds all residents Winter 2001 property tax bills are due on or before February 14, 2001 in order to avoid late payment penalties. Also, Oakland County dog licenses are available at the department located in the Novi Civic Center through May 31 without penalty. For more information on both, call the treasurer's department at (248) 347-0440.

### Daddy-Daughter Dance

The city of Novi Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department presents a Valentine's

### Wixom Parks and Rec needs residents' input

Every five years the city of Wixom Community Services Department asks for assistance in planning priority needs. You are invited to attend one of two public participation meetings to develop goals and recommendations for city facilities. We need your input to ensure we meet the needs of the Wixom residents. The results will be incorporated into the City of Wixom Parks and Recreation 5-year Master Plan, which is a tool we utilize for applying for state and federal grants on recreational projects. Any questions please contact Community Services at 248-624-2850. Please mark the following dates on your calendar: Jan. 14 from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. Jan. 21 from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. The public meetings will be held at the Wixom Community Center, 49015 Pontiac Trail, Wixom, MI.

### City Council Appointments

Members of the Novi City Council voted during their Jan. 7 meeting to unanimously appoint the following individuals to openings on city boards and commissions. Kim Taylor-Papp will serve on the Library Board, Sue Flanagan will serve on the Beautification Commission, Pamela Superfisky will serve again on the Election Commission, Sarah Gray will serve again on the Housing & Community Development Commission, David Paul will serve on the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Commission and LaVerne Reinke and May Sanghi will both serve again on the Zoning Board of Appeals.

### SWOCC

The Southwestern Oakland Cable Commission will meeting 7 p.m. Feb. 6 in the council chambers of the Novi City Hall. City Hall is located at 45175 W. Ten Mile Road in Novi.

**NOTICE**  
Pursuant to state law, a sale will be held at American Self Storage, 24985 Haggerty Road, Novi, MI, on 1/24/02 at 2:30 PM. The following goods will be sold:  
(Space No. H-516) Gary Majchal 1 Misc. boxes/bags, 25 other misc. items, 1 computer w/monitor.  
(Space No. N-1104) Judith M. Pickup 7 household furnishings, 6 misc. household goods, 4 misc. boxes/bags.

REMEMBER: ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT FOREST FIRES. A Public Service of the Michigan Dept. of Natural Resources.

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# Novi Police begin January moped safety campaign

By Victoria Sadlocha  
STAFF WRITER

Members of the Novi Police Department began a safety campaign this month to remind all parents and minors the importance of moped safety. Novi Police Lt. David Butler said although many residents are not riding right now, mopeds are popular Christmas time presents. This means a refresher course of motor-able rules is important this time of year.

Mopeds, Go-peds and all models of electric scooters are regulated under state law and local ordinance.

## ACT test scheduled for February 9

The start of a new year is quickly approaching and that means one thing: it's financial aid time again. Experts at ACT offer the following information to help families find the resources they need to complete their financial aid paperwork.

The most important form is the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Beginning Jan. 1, students will be able to submit the form that determines eligibility for student financial aid from federal programs. Students will need family income statements from their 2001 earnings to complete the form. Colleges and universities also use the FAFSA, but may also require

Ownership also includes cooperation with the minimum equipment requirements including seats, horns, headlamps and brake lights. If the vehicle does not have the minimum equipment, it may only be operated on private property.

Other requirements include all operators must have a valid Michigan drivers license or special moped license if the driver is 15 years old and riders younger than 19 are required to wear a helmet. Also, moped operation is prohibited on sidewalks.

Butler said the campaign is an important effort to prevent injury

and promote motorized vehicle safety.

According to documents issued by the department, mopeds are defined as self-propelled vehicles with engines less than 50 cc that are capable of a top speed less than 30 mph on flat ground.

Go-peds or electric scooters fall under the definition of a moped in the Michigan Vehicle Code and must be registered with the Secretary of State.

For further information on moped regulations, call officer Tim Harper at (248) 348-7100.

Students to fill out additional forms. The FAFSA is available from high school counselors or at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

Financial aid tips from ACT:  
• Apply early for admission and financial aid.  
• Check with your college to determine if other financial aid forms are required.  
• Apply for scholarships and grants.  
• Look into work study programs.  
• Surf the Web for financial aid information.  
For more financial aid specifics, visit with your counselor or visit www.act.org.

College-bound high school students can take the ACT Assessment on Feb. 9, 2002, the next nationwide test date. The registration postmark deadline is Jan. 18 (an additional fee is required for late registration).

ACT scores are accepted by virtually all colleges and universities in the nation, including all Ivy League schools. The test fee is \$24 (\$27 in Florida). Colleges use ACT scores, along with a student's high school GPA and other information to help determine admissions and the appropriate course placement for new students.

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## SETTING THE WHEELS IN MOTION: NOVI OLYMPIC TORCH RUNNERS

### Breen awarded with torch

By Angelo Parlove  
STAFF WRITER

Novi High School graduate and Farmington resident Lori Breen fought through personal adversities to taste a bit of an Olympic dream.

In January of 2000, Breen suffered an embolus stroke due to complications from the birth of her second child, paralyzing her right arm, foot and ankle, partially paralyzing her right thigh and taking her speech.

She spent nine weeks in the hospital in rehabilitation, where she began learning to walk and talk all over again, as well as becoming left-handed.

"It was hard being away from my kids that long," said Breen, the mother of two children, Geveeve, 3, and Kenny, 1 - who is healthy and happy after the complicated birth.

"I had to get my stamina back," she said. "I went home from the hospital in a wheelchair, and now I can walk with a cane pretty good."

On Jan. 6, Breen was one of more than 11,000 Americans that helped carry the Olympic flame across the country to its destination at the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City, Utah.

She hoisted the Olympic torch for nearly a quarter-mile along Rochester Road in Royal Oak with the help of a modified motor scooter.

Her husband, Ken Breen, built a stand on the scooter to hold the torch in place, while Breen drove it with her left hand from the Red Run Golf Club entrance to Parkdale Avenue.

"I'm proud to carry the torch," Breen said. "It is a once in a lifetime opportunity."

However, Breen is putting her Olympic participation in sound perspective.

"After the stroke and I almost died, you realize the only thing that matters is the people around you," she said. "I don't get too excited about ceremonial things."

Pre-eclampsia is caused by hypertension during childbirth and can sometimes turn to eclampsia, causing seizures and strokes in women. About 5 percent of pregnant women experience pre-eclampsia.

Torchbearers for the 2002 Winter Olympics were selected for



Novi High School graduate and Olympic Torch runner Lori Breen grasps the torch along with her husband Ken and son Kenny. Breen carried the torch Sunday afternoon in Royal Oak.

Photo by JOHN HEIDER

### Torch carrier Novi grad

By Angelo Parlove  
STAFF WRITER

A once in a lifetime opportunity arrived for a former Novi graduate this past weekend, giving her a taste of her Olympic dreams.

On Jan. 6, Amy Hartland, a 2000 Novi High School graduate, raised the Olympic flame above her head carrying it for nearly a quarter-mile jog along Ryan Road - between Dolores and Morrissey Roads - in Warren.

Hartland was one of more than 110 Michigan torchbearers that carried the cherished world symbol across the Great Lakes state on its way to the final destination, the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City, Utah.

"It's been my dream to go to the Olympics since I saw the 1992 games," Hartland said.

Currently, the Novi native attends the University of South Carolina in Columbia where she competes at the national level as a member of her school's women's swim team.

"When I get old, I hope I get to repeat this story 5 million times," she said.

Hartland was selected as a torchbearer not only for her academic and athletic achievements, but for her involvement in the Novi community, as well.

For the past two summers, she has worked as a supervisor at the Novi Teen Center, planning events and directing kids towards good choices in life.

"We focus on underage drinking and dieting disorders. We help gear them and prepare them for the life ahead," Hartland said.

Furthermore, Hartland spoke with students at Novi Meadows and Orchard Hills Elementary in Novi about her Olympic participation and following your dreams on Jan. 7.

"These kids are impressive, and I want to share it with people," Hartland said. "You do hard work then something kicks you in the back and you get rewarded."

### Local torch bearer runs for mom

By Victoria Sadlocha  
STAFF WRITER

Novi resident Janis Priebe was thinking of her mother as she ran her leg of the Salt Lake 2002 Olympic Torch Relay through Westland on Jan. 7.

Months after finding out she would be one of the runners, she learned her mother was dying of cancer.

"I'm hoping to get it on tape," Priebe said, before running the relay.

Priebe planned on video taping her portion of the less-than-one-quarter-mile leg and mailing it to her family for her to watch.

She said her mother had been sick since July, but just found out it was untreatable cancer shortly before Christmas. Priebe immediately flew to Florida to spend what she said will most likely be the last holiday with her mother.

The 50-year-old resident ran her part of the mother-dedicated carry at 7:28 a.m. on Meridian Road between Ann Arbor Trail and Joy Road.

Priebe first became involved with the Torch Drive after putting her name in a hat at work.

Detroit Renaissance Center General Motors Corp. employees were encouraged to enter a drawing to be chosen to serve on Chevrolet's Olympic Steering Committee.

"I never get chosen for anything," Priebe said. "My name was the first one chosen."

As part of her committee responsibilities, she read letters nominating other employees for the Olympic Torch run.

"I had tears in my eyes," Priebe said about some of the nominations.

As part of the metropolitan Detroit portion of the relay, Chevrolet provided interactive trailers and display areas for guests and family members to enjoy entertainment and play Olympic-themed virtual reality games.

A pep rally was held in the automaker's Detroit Winter Garden before the flame left Michigan.

Victoria Sadlocha is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105 or at vsadlocha@tlh.homecom.net.

The McKinney Act federally mandates districts to accept homeless students into school without proof of residency, immunization records or other documentation. The liaison facilitates this enrollment and works to assure that the required records for each student's enrollment are received within 30 days, in keeping with federal law. Additionally, the liaison has the resources to provide the students with books, supplies and other necessities to maximize the student's chances of success.

Oakland County's homeless students come from all 28 school districts in Oakland County and they are equally diverse in ethnicity and educational skill levels. The McKinney Grant will allow Oakland Schools to help these students receive uninterrupted quality educational services through academic advocacy and enrollment assistance.

The new Oakland Schools Wraparound Homeless Student Liaison will work in partnership with Oakland County's homeless shelters and programs. A hotline for schools, agencies and parents is being created to identify and assist homeless students.

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### Resident nominated by family

By Victoria Sadlocha  
STAFF WRITER

A Novi marathon runner proves adversity may be overcome after running in the Jan. 6, Ferradale leg, of Salt Lake 2002 Olympic Torch Relay.

Resident Lisa Simms was nominated for the torch-bearing honor by her mother and sister.

Simms did not see a copy of the nominating letter, but thought she might know what they wrote.

"I have a feeling they mentioned some serious medical problems I had about 10 years ago," Simms said.

The Novi mother almost lost her life as a result of three medical events occurring in one year from a bungled gallbladder surgery.

Since that time, Simms has run the Boston and Chicago marathons, started a women's philanthropic education organization, became very active in her church and has been a caring mother.

The somewhat secretive philanthropic organization is something Simms is very proud of.

After learning about the group as a child, she started the first Novi chapter of the organization which raises money to educate women.

Simms has also chaired a homeless shelter program and served as a Girl Scout troop leader.

A media representative from Chevrolet said Simms was chosen for her "commitment to personal and community growth."

"I'm getting very excited," Simms said before the relay.

The 37-year-old torch bearer ran at 6:15 p.m. on Woodward Avenue between Eight and Nine Mile Roads.

Most of Simms' family traveled from the west side of the state to attend the celebrated run and cheer her on.

### Co-worker nominated Langenhorst to carry Olympic Torch

By Victoria Sadlocha  
STAFF WRITER

It may just have been Novi resident Pete Langenhorst's great sense of funnily that landed him a spot in the metropolitan Detroit leg of the Salt Lake 2002 Olympic Torch Relay.

"I really don't know why someone would think I'm inspirational," Langenhorst said.

Langenhorst said an anonymous Chevrolet coworker wrote an essay about why he was an inspiration, but he really did not know who or why.

"The inspirational men and women selected through the Chevrolet program have made a difference by inspiring others, serving their community in an exemplary manner, embodying the Olympic Spirit and overcoming adversity," said a media representative from Chevrolet Motor Division.

The theme for the Winter Olympic torch drive is inspiration and all torchbearers have conducted an inspirational act.

"It's absolutely terrific," Langenhorst said. He was very excited to be chosen.

Although each leg of the relay is short, the 43-year-old resident had been working out everyday to keep in shape.

Langenhorst ran his part of the relay 6:20 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 6, on Woodward Avenue between Eight and Nine Mile Roads in Ferndale.

Each runner ran about two

their community involvement or the ability to overcome personal tragedies. More than 50,000 people across the U.S. were nominated for the honor.

Langenhorst was running his leg in honor of his daughter Julie's 14th birthday and said the rest of his family would be there to cheer him on.

The down-river native, is a self-proclaimed "sports fanatic" and was once part of Detroit Tiger Baseball's farm team.

Langenhorst also served on Chevrolet's Olympic Steering Committee and had been working on the event for about 18 months coordinating many automaker-sponsored events.

The Chevrolet Venture brand manager has worked for General Motors Corp. for 20 years and currently works in Detroit's Renaissance Center.

Chevrolet and its network of dealers helped select about 3,505 torchbearers - out of 11,500 - to carry the Olympic flame.

The Salt Lake 2002 Olympic Torch Relay began its 65-day journey in Atlanta on Dec. 4 and will travel more than 13,500 miles, passing through 46 U.S. states before reaching the Olympic Stadium in Salt Lake City on Feb. 8.

Victoria Sadlocha is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105 or at vsadlocha@tlh.homecom.net.

### Kensington Metropark

Kensington Briefs is a listing of events scheduled at Kensington Metropark, its farm center and nature center. All are free and open to the public, unless otherwise indicated, though the usual park entry fee will be charged at the gate. Registration is required for all events, unless otherwise indicated. For more information/registration, call Kensington Nature Center at (248) 685-0603 or (800) 477-3178.

Park hours are 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. For ice and snow conditions, contact the park office at 1-800-477-3178 or 248-685-1561.

The first "Appreciation Day" 2002 will be celebrated on Martin Luther King Day, Monday, Jan. 21. Admission to all 13 Huron-Clinton Metroparks will be waived.

All parks will be open, including use of all trails and patios on this day. The eight Interpretive Center buildings and two Farm Learning Centers will be open. Sledding hills and cross-country ski trails will be open if there is snow.

Watch for more "Appreciation Days" in 2002, with free use of some facilities, special programs or free entry into the Metroparks.

For more information, call the Huron-Clinton Metroparks at 1-800-477-2757.

"Winter Birding for Beginners," Saturday, Jan. 19 at 2 p.m. at the Nature Center. After a brief inside introduction to birding, you'll hike the trails to find some winter birds.

Pre-registration required. Bring binoculars if you have them. For additional information or to register, please call, 1-800-477-3178.

Ice Skating ice skating will be offered at the ice rink located on Kent Lake. Weather and ice conditions permitting, the ice rink is opened weekdays, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. On weekends, hours are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Winter sports area The hilly slopes at the winter sports area are ideal for sledding and tobogganing with two toboggan runs and separate beginning, intermediate and advanced sledding hills. A special bunny hill for young children features moguls for airborne fun. Snowboards are prohibited. Food service will be available at the winter sports area, and a nearby shelter has picnic tables and grills. Hours are 11 a.m. to dusk during the week, and 10 a.m. to dusk on the weekends. Call the park office at 1-800-477-3178 to confirm when the sledding and toboggan runs are open.

"Winter Walk," On four miles of the paved hike/bike trail from the east boat launch to Maple Beach, is cleared for walking, cycling or in-line skating throughout the winter. Helmet use is required for cyclists, in-line skater and scooter operators. The walking area is open during regular park hours.

Disc Golf A 24-hole course, located at the north end of Martindale Beach parking lot, is open daily throughout the year during park hours.

For more information or to register, contact the park office at 1-800-477-3178 or (248) 685-1561. General Information: Phone (800) 477-PARKS, or Website at http://www.metroparks.com

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### Library Lines

#### LIBRARY HOURS

The Novi Public Library is open Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Friday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday, 1-5 p.m. The library is located at 45245 W. Ten Mile Road, just east of Taft. For more information, call 349-0720.

#### LIBRARY CLOSED MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY

The library will be closed Monday, Jan. 21 for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

#### STORYTIME NOTES

Winter Storytimes begins Jan. 22. Please call the library during the week of Jan. 14 for information on the day and time of your child's session.

#### NEW DVD COLLECTION

If you received a DVD player over

the holidays, check out the library's new DVD collection. The collection includes old favorites as well as recent releases, such as "A Knight's Tale," "Vertical Limit," and "Toy Story 2."

#### USING THE LIBRARY CATALOG ON THE WEB

We'll cover author, title, subject and keyword searches on Tuesday, Jan. 15, from 7-8:30 p.m. You'll learn how to limit your search results to items in our library and/or to specific types of media, such as videos or audio books. The session will include hands-on practice. Please register in advance for all Internet classes by calling the library at 349-0720.

#### DATABASE ACCESS ONLINE

Learn how to search our online databases to find magazine, news-

paper, and journal articles on Wednesday, Jan. 16, from 7-8:00 p.m. We will look at the FirstSearch and Infotrac databases. The session will include hands-on practice.

#### INTRODUCTION TO THE INTERNET FOR ALL AGES

Join us for a basic introduction to the Internet on Tuesday, Jan. 22, from 7-8:30 p.m. The class covers a brief history of the Internet, terminology, and searching techniques. A question-and-answer period and hands-on practice are included.

#### TOT TIME

Children ages 12-24 months are invited to join us for a half-hour of stories, songs and games on Saturday, Jan. 12 at 11 a.m. Registration is not required but space is limited. Toddlers and caregivers only, please.

## Health and Fitness show packs Novi Expo Center

By Victoria Sadlocha  
STAFF WRITER

Area residents filled the Novi Expo Center last weekend for the increasingly popular Fourth Annual Health, Fitness and Lifestyle Show.

The Novi event filled the center Jan. 4-6 with carloads of attendees interested in beginning

More than 100 exhibitors, including Bally Total Fitness, Pfizer pharmaceutical company, Five Lakes Grill, the Oakland Community College Culinary Arts program, the American Diabetes Association, the

Advanced Spine and Headache Center and many fitness equipment distributors - kept interested participants busy with demonstrations and free giveaways.

High energy was brought to the center's fitness stage on Saturday, Jan. 5 when enthusiastic health guru Richard Simmons led a group workout and provided inspirational motivations for exercisers of all ages.

On Friday, Jan. 4, Detroit Lions defensive tackle, Luther Elliss, signed autographs and provided a mini football clinic. Other appearances were made by fitness trainer Peter Nielsen

and former Martial Arts and Pro Kickboxing Champion Ken Levy. Levy and other pro-trainers demonstrated the latest trends in kickboxing.

Throughout the center, additional displays of interest included seminars in relaxation and meditation, weight management, yoga and resort traveling. Booths providing food samples and interactive sports activities were also a big hit.

*Victoria Sadlocha is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105 or at vsadlocha@ht.homecomm.net.*

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# Off the Wall Coffee House discovers niche

By Diane Dempsey Deel  
STAFF WRITER

Young and polished folk musical talent radiate as they entertain a close knit audience at Off-The-Wall Acoustic Coffee House in Walled Lake.

Jim Bertin, who sets up entertainment, said the coffee house at St. William Catholic Church in Zeph Hall has been a huge success since it opened eight years ago.

The coffee house began with an open microphone format. However, Bertin was soon able to hire better known talent to entertain folk music fans.

"It's a friendly atmosphere."

Bertin said. "It's very casual." Bertin said the coffee house does not make a profit from the concert series. Instead, the money that is taken in is donated to a St. William Catholic School scholarship fund.

According to Bertin, Off-The-Wall is the fourth largest coffee house in the state.

Everyone will appreciate the stage and sound effects.

"It's well lit," Bertin said. "It's almost in your face. It's so much more meaningful in a small room. It creates an intimate relationship that only a small stage can."

Bertin enjoys setting up the acts for the concert series and maintaining the coffee house, although it's a

lot of work. However, the rewards are great when he sees how much people love it.

"It creates a community," Bertin said. "There is a spiritual element in folk music."

People put their heart and souls into their musical work, he pointed out. They are continually searching for how they feel and that fascinates people.

Last week, Patricia Pettinga of Kalamazoo stole the show with her moving music.

"She is highly creative and has the ability to reach inside and grab your heart," Bertin said.

The 2001-2002 concert series began in October. However, folk and

blues music lovers still have a chance to catch five more shows before the concert series ends for the year.

Matt Watroba, who hosts a Detroit radio folk music show, will be the next headliner Jan. 19.

"He's a very popular folk singer in his own right," Bertin said.

Even though folk music fans love listening to the headliners, they also like listening to new talent who perform on the open microphone. Some of the fresh talent are serious about their work and go on to further their folk singing career, he said.

"It's an exciting way to have a good musical experience for everyone," Bertin said.

## OFF THE WALL PERFORMERS SCHEDULED

Saturday, January 19th, 2002 at 8:00p.m. - Matt Watroba - Local Folk Music's best friend comes to play.

Saturday, February 2nd, 2002 at 8:00p.m. - David Barrett - Songwriter and Guitarist

Saturday, February 16th, 2002 at 8:00p.m. - Mustard's Retreat - Two friends come back for a show

Saturday, March 2nd, 2002 at 8:00p.m. - A Singer Songwriter Circle- A night to experience the beginnings

Saturday, March 16th, 2002 at 8:00p.m. - Harvey Reid - Multi-Talented performer to close out the season

All shows cost \$10 for adults, \$20 for a family (Limit 4) and \$5 for students. For further information call (248) 348-4661.

# Two lakes area church members will travel to Russia to train citizens

By Diane Dempsey Deel  
STAFF WRITER

Two lake area men will be heading to Russia and the Ukraine where they will spend about two weeks preparing other men for the ministry.

The Rev. Don Magee, pastor of Lakes Baptist Church, and Phil Wilson, song leader at the church, will leave Walled Lake on Jan. 10 and arrive in Moscow the next day.

However, there won't be much time for relaxing. Instead, they will have a few hours to catch up on their rest and see the sights before they take an 11-hour train ride to Kirovo-Chepetsk. The city is about

500 miles south of the Arctic Circle.

There, they will teach about 24 men who are preparing for the ministry. The men are part of a nine month Bible institute sponsored by six Detroit area churches, including Lakes Baptist and First Baptist Church of Wixom.

After their instruction is completed for the Bible Institute, they will travel to Ternopol, Ukraine for a few days to visit two pastors who are being sponsored by Lakes Baptist. They will also participate in a regional pastoral meeting in the Ukraine before heading home Jan. 28.

Magee said the classes they will

**"They will learn who wrote the books, why it was written and what the books have to say for Christians."**

Rev. Don Magee  
Lakes Baptist Church pastor

be teaching are similar to classes that are offered in a seminary.

"They will learn who wrote the books, why it was written and what the books have to say for Christians," Magee said.

He pointed out that there will be some barriers as they teach the men seeking the ministry.

"It will be difficult teaching them through a translator," Magee said.

They will also have to adjust to the frigid temperatures since they will be so close to the Arctic Circle. It will probably be 20 to 40 degrees below zero Fahrenheit while they are there.

Wilson said he has learned Russian do's and don'ts from a fellow co-worker, who is originally from the former Soviet Union.

It's offensive to Russian men and women to set a Bible on the floor or to show the bottom of their shoes, he said. He was also glad to be prepared for one more Russian custom.

"In Russia, Christian men will kiss other men on the lips," Wilson said. "A lot of things would catch me off guard if I didn't already know it."

However, they will be greeted with Russian hospitality while they are visiting. They will have translators to help them communicate and they will have a chef to prepare their meals.

"The fact that I'm going to be teaching men about the gospel and how to share it will potentially affect thousands of people," Wilson

said. "It's a very humbling thought and it's a very exciting thought as well."

The Rev. Gene Krachenfels, pastor of First Baptist Church of Wixom, went to Russia in November as part of the Bible Institute. He said it was a tremendous trip and great experience.

"We're excited to be a part of it," Krachenfels said. "I have to admit, I would like to go back."

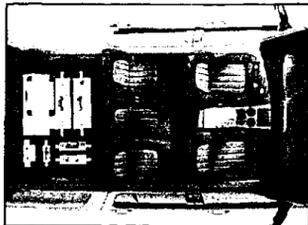
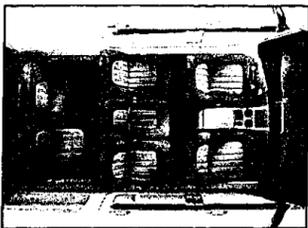
Diane Dempsey Deel is a staff writer for the Lake Area Times. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700 ext. 110 or ddeed@lu.homecom.net.



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## Cagers notch three straight victories

'Wildcats top Vikings, Lions, Eagles to start new year right

By Sam Eggleston  
SPORTS WRITER

The Novi Wildcats cagers definitely know how to get the New Year headed in the right direction.

The Novi Wildcats basketball team is feeling the glow of three straight wins after the squad pounded Walled Lake Central 70-36 in a non-conference match up Jan. 2 before standing fast against the South Lyon Lions in a 67-59 win Jan. 8 in a Kensington Valley Conference contest.

The 'Cats topped the streak off with a game against KVC opponent Hartland Eagles — one that could be described as a scorefest that resulted in a 68-63 Novi victory.

"We had some big performances in the Hartland game," Novi coach Pat Schluter said. "Offensively we were very, very good. Defensively, I wasn't happy with that game. Our goal is to hold teams under 45 points and at home we gave up 63."

But Schluter couldn't complain about the win.

"The important thing is we outscored them," he said.

The Wildcats turned to the scoring power of senior center Jamie Schram, who poured in 28 points and hauled down 10 rebounds in the winning effort. Senior guard Brandon Davis showed why it is important to be a true athlete, adding 18 points and four assists in a break-out game, while junior Matt Emmenecker added 10 points, nine assists and seven rebounds in the win.

Even with all of the offensive game play, Schluter said he would like to see an improvement on his defense.

"We let them start off good and get going," he said. "From there, they gathered confidence. We were not as intense as we were against South Lyon. We knew this wasn't going to be a cakewalk."

But there were definitely the positives.

**"Brandon Davis had a big game for us. He really stepped up and hit some very big shots for us."**

Pat Schluter  
Novi basketball coach

"We hit some big shots down the stretch," Schluter said. "Brandon Davis had a big game for us. He really stepped up and hit some very big shots for us."

The Wildcats will have returned to action when they visited the Northville Mustangs Tuesday (after the Novi News went to print) before hosting Milford tomorrow at 7 p.m. in a KVC contest.

### Novi 67, South Lyon 59

The Novi Wildcats defense came into their game against KVC rival South Lyon looking to shut down their potent offense and to keep control of the game, which they accomplished with ease.

The Wildcats followed the lead of Emmenecker, who had 22 points on the night, while Schram collected 12 points and 10 rebounds against the Lions and senior forward Brian Swift added 10 points for his season high.

"Brian is usually the guy who does the little things," Schluter said.

"He sets good screens, boxes out and plays to the best of his abilities."

"He doesn't score much, but against South Lyon he really stepped up and made some big baskets. He did a great job."

The Wildcats used their stifling defense to shut down some of the more prominent Lion threats, but it didn't stop the veteran South Lyon cagers from getting their points one way or

another. "They had nine three-pointers," Schluter said.

"They have a lot of fire power on that team and we had to play good defense to keep it in check."

"South Lyon did a very nice job against Schram and he got into some foul trouble. We ended up shooting pretty well and had Emmenecker hitting some big shots for us."

Schluter noted that his squad put together all of the goals he had set for them earlier this season when they played the Lions.

"We emphasize defense, rebounding and free throws for every game," he said. "We hit 20-of-30 from the line and met our goals for the game."

### Novi 70, WL Central 36

The Wildcats were more than ready to go when they came off their holiday break and took on the Vikings of Walled Lake Central.

In a game that found the Novi cagers leading by 38 points at the end of the third period, the chance for some of the players who do not see very much court time came.

"Everyone got to play," Schluter said.

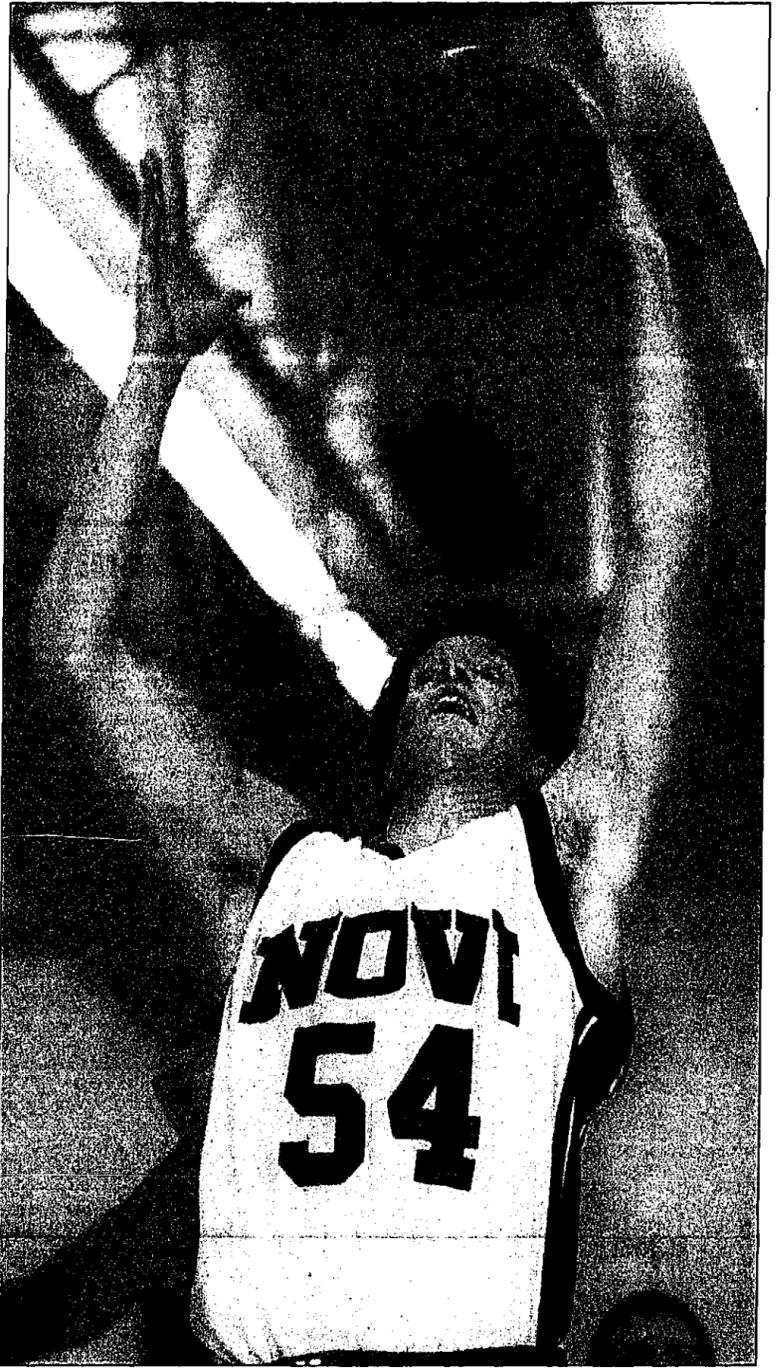
"I thought we had a strong performance from everyone on the team."

Including top notch performances from Evan Rodriguez, who scored three points off the bench for the Novi victory, as well as Trey Simpson, who added four points in the win, and Adam Noble, who added four in the winning effort.

Leading the way for the Wildcats was Emmenecker, who had 18 points against the struggling Vikings, while Shaun Dicken collected 15 and Schram added 14 points.

Sam Eggleston is the sports writer for the Novi News and the Lake Area Times.

He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or at seggleston@ht.homecomm.net.



Center James Schram goes in for a layup. Schram scored 28 points against Hartland.

Photo by JOHN HEIDER



Novi alumnus Anthony Nguyen, right, and another Wildcat try to tie each other up during the first Annual Novi Wildcat Green and White Game. White won, 13-11.

## Alumni hockey game looked to be success

By Sam Eggleston  
SPORTS WRITER

Though the final score reads more like a football final than a hockey game, the First Green and White game — featuring Alumni Novi Hockey players — was a success with the players, their families, friends and fans as well as the coaches.

The contest, which found the White team notching the victory 13-11 over their Green rivals,

was held Dec. 28 and featured the Novi Wildcats who helped build, mold and support the tradition of Novi Wildcat hockey.

"They still show me respect," Novi head hockey coach Dan Phelps said. "They still call me coach and they are still gentlemen. It is always nice when you can give a team or a young man something they can take with them when they leave. You see

Continued on 2

## Tankers win West Bloomfield Invite

By Sam Eggleston  
SPORTS WRITER

The Novi Wildcats boys swim team took to the West Bloomfield Invitational Jan. 12 with the weight of being the event's defending champions on their shoulders — it didn't seem to bother the Wildcats much.

The Novi squad hit the pool with enthusiasm and energy and captured the first-place spot of the Invitational for the second year in a row, gathering 212 points with North Farmington taking second with 174 points.

"We were hoping we could do it," Novi coach Larry Teahan said. "The kids really came through for us and had a good meet."

The Wildcats took first-place finishes with the 200 Medley relay, which had three first-place finishes with the fastest time coming in at

one minute, 47.19 seconds with the team of Jordan Moblo, Juhwan Yoo, Jack Tyler and Tehwan Yoo while the team of Dan Thelan, Edward Santos, Chris Piepcaz and Matt Swift took first as did the team of Brian Harnacek, Solomon Zheng, John Wang and Brandon Gariepy.

"We are really short on depth this season," Teahan said. "Going into a meet like this and winning it sort of tells us the other teams we were competing against were short with depth as well."

The divers on the team captured two firsts and a second-place finish with Dan Bassett collecting 348.20 points for a first, Scott Rettmann had 320.25 for a first and Matt VanNatwick had 148.00 for a second-place finish in his division.

"I was very pleased with the divers and the diving they did," Teahan said. "Matt was really close to winning and had some pretty

nice dives. "He wasn't lining up his finishes as well as he would have liked, if he would have lined them up better, he would have probably won his flight."

The Wildcats also collected four first-place finishes from swimmers in the 500 freestyle event. Harnacek finished first in his division with a time of 5:52.49 while Stuart Smith collected a first in 5:50.57. Matt Shafer notched a first-place finish in the 500 free with a time of 5:35.09 while Jack Tyler took first with a time of 5:07.64.

"The kids really responded well to this meet," Teahan said. "We didn't know what we were going to see as far as results until each kid was finished with their events. We were happy with the final results."

The 400 free relay team of Tyler,

Tehwan Yoo, Moblo and Ian Robertson took a first-place finish as well with a time of 3:29.19.

Individuals collecting first place finishes were Ed Anglin (200 free, 2:09), Tyler (200 free, 1:53.04), Moblo (200 IM, 2:09.43; 100 backstroke, 57.16) and Zheng (100 backstroke, 1:17.83).

The Wildcats will have returned to action when they hosted Northville Tuesday (after the Novi News went to print) before hosting the Vikings of Walled Lake Central in a non-conference match up today at 7 p.m. before hosting Brighton Jan. 24 at 7 p.m. in a Kensington Valley Conference contest.

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

## Cheerleaders show more improvements

By Sam Eggleston  
SPORTS WRITER

The Novi Wildcats cheerleaders — from the Freshmen team to the Varsity — took a trip to Howell to compete in the First Competitive Cheer Invitational and were very satisfied with their results.

The Varsity team had a strong day, finishing third behind Hartland and Ladywood, while the JV and Freshmen teams took first in their divisions.

"Needless to say, I was pleasantly surprised at our finishing place," Novi Varsity coach Amy Denys said. "The girls were thrilled because they scored higher than Brighton, who

ended with a fourth place finish. It is very rare that we receive a score above Brighton, making this an even greater accomplishment."

The Wildcats received scores in the Jump and Skills rounds that, according to Denys, were higher than the scores they received in December.

"Most obvious to me was a nine (out of 10) for our touch jump in Round 1, which is a great accomplishment this early in the season," Denys said. "Additionally, I felt the girls exhibited more energy and enthusiasm in their Skill Round. We had lacked floor

Continued on 2

### SPORTS SCHEDULE

#### Novi High School Sports Schedule

Date	Event	Location	Time
19	Northwood Invite (V)	Away	TBA
21	South Lyon High school	Home	6
18	Milford High School	Home	7
25	Pinckney High School	Away	7:30
19	Novi Invite (9, JV, V)	Home	9 a.m.
23	South Lyon High School	Away	6
25	Northville high School	Away	6
18	Brighton/Milford	Away	5:30
19	Super Duals	Away	9:30a.m.
25	Lakeland	Away	5:30
17	Walled Lake Central HS	Home	7
24	Brighton High School	Home	7

Note: All times are p.m. unless otherwise noted. All games are scheduled for the month of January.

# Milford game should be good

Whenever you find two Kensington Valley Conference basketball teams going toe-to-toe on the hardwood, you can expect a pretty good game.

That is what I am expecting when the Milford Redskins come trotting into town tomorrow at 7 p.m. looking to beat our Novi Wildcats.



Sam Eggleston

The Wildcats, coached by veteran headman Pat Schuler, will no doubt be prepared and quite ready for their KVC opponents.

The Wildcats have the fun factor of turning to players like Jamie Schram, Shaun Dicker, Brandon Davis, Chase Chandler, Jeff Howdell, Chris Lewis, Adam Noble, Evan Rodriguez, Trek Simpson, Brian Smith, Eric Van Tassel and, lastly, Matt Emmerich.

The Novi Wildcats will not be heading into a game against a team like Milford thinking they are automatically going to notch a victory. These boys, along with their coaching staff, know that every team that takes the floor has the ability to win — no matter what the odds.

The Milford Redskins will be bringing decent speed and above-average shooting ability to the Wildcats' gym and will no doubt be planning on showcasing their talents tomorrow evening. Any team in the KVC comes ready to play — no matter their record or their abilities.

The 'Cats are lucky enough to have above-average basketball talent nearly clear across the board, from the top of the roster to the bottom. They will be ready for almost anything the Redskins have to offer — and that is going to be quite a bit.

Not that this is going to be an easy win. I don't think there is going to be a clear-cut winner in this contest until at least the fourth quarter.

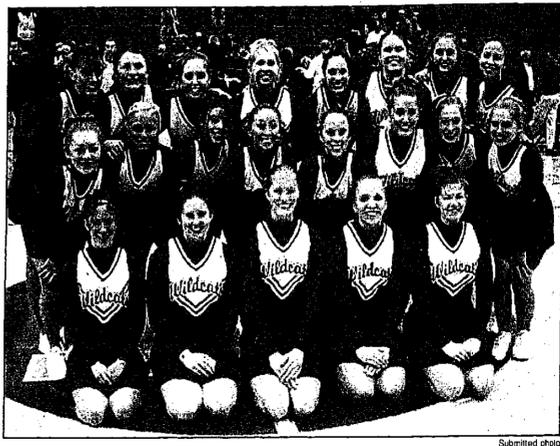
I am, of course, picking the Novi Wildcats to walk away victorious in this contest — and I know these guys are going to prove me right. **Novi 57, Milford 51.**

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

**GAME OF THE WEEK**

**Novi Wildcats BASKETBALL vs Milford Redskins**

Friday, January 18  
7:00 p.m. at Novi



The Novi Varsity cheerleading team looks as happy as can be as they pose for the camera after a recent event.

# Novi cheer ready for more

Continued from 1

"I was glad to see that the new material did not negatively impact our overall execution. The new sequences were just added this past week and, obviously, less practiced than the rest of the cheer."

presence in December. However, on Saturday, the team really pulled off an exciting cheer that the crowd really seemed to enjoy.

The Wildcats improved their scores in the Stunt round as well, after having added some material to their routine — including some tumbling sequences and stunting.

"I was glad to see that the new material did not negatively impact our overall execution," Denys said. "The new sequences were just added this past week and, obviously, less practiced than the rest of the cheer."

The teams, including the Freshmen and JV squads, will host the 8th Annual Novi Competitive Cheer Invitational Saturday at 9 a.m. with the JV and Freshmen opening the event. The Varsity and Junior High teams will begin around 12:30 p.m.

Amy Denys  
Novi varsity cheer coach

# First game notches win for White team

Continued from 1

successful careers. It is great to know that Novi hockey was a part of their life.

Phelps also noted that there will be plenty of players eager to come back and show their peers and fellow alumni how hockey is played.

"The seniors from this year will be in their [the alumni's] shoes," Phelps said.

"We will have six kids graduating and I know they will be coming back to support this program. I have been notified that this is going to become an annual event."

Phelps added that this type of game isn't just for the players. "There was a lot of parent involvement here," he said. "They were always involved, especially when their sons played here. It is great to see them and to see how proud they are of the program we have built. We want to keep it improving and keep striving for bigger and better things in this arena."

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

# IV Scores

**Novi JV Basketball**  
The Novi Junior Varsity basketball team hosted Kensington Valley Conference (KVC) rival South Lyon last Tuesday and posted a solid 57-33 victory. The Wildcats came out of the gate with a lot of heart and hustle to set the tone of the game, and the outcome never was in doubt. J.W. Woods led the Wildcats with 14 points. Kerry Kreuzberg had 10 points. In the second game of the week, the Hartland Eagles handed at Novi last Friday and flew back wounded, as the Wildcats clawed the Eagles, 60-39, to raise their undefeated KVC record to 4-0. The Wildcat defense held the Eagles scoreless in the first quarter and to only eight total points in the first half of the game. Every player saw some action. Mark Angelecci had a great game overall with 17 points and 10 rebounds.

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# Next Level Athletes

By Sam Eggleston  
SPORTS WRITER

The Next Level Athletes article in the sports sections of the Northville Record, Novi News and Lake Area Times is dedicated to all of the young adults who have taken the next step beyond high school athletics.

It is here we are able to applaud them for their efforts, their dedication and their determination towards the sports they love.

**Dave Whitbeck, Sophomore, Case Western Reserve University** — Dave Whitbeck, a graduate of Northville High School, is a member of the Case Western Reserve University Spartans swim team.

**Steve Yutzky, Sophomore, Case Western Reserve University** — A specialist at the breast stroke, Steve Yutzky is a swimmer for the Case Western Reserve University Spartans swim and dive team.

**Christina Mocerri, Junior, Oakland University** — Christine Mocerri, a graduate of Northville, is a free style and backstroke swimmer with the Oakland University Golden Grizzlies women's swim and dive team. Standing 5-foot-8, Mocerri is a returning letterwinner for the Grizzlies.

**Matt Gabrielli, Senior, Oakland University** — Matt Gabrielli, a former Novi High School student, is a left-handed batter with the Oakland University Golden Grizzlies baseball team.

**Tim Edick, Sophomore, Oakland University** — Tim Edick, a 2000 graduate of Northville High School, is a right-handed pitcher on the Oakland University Golden Grizzlies baseball team.

**Chris King, Junior, Oakland University** — Chris King, a Walled Lake Western graduate, is

a 6-foot-3 golfer for the Golden Grizzlies of Oakland University. As a sophomore, King recorded the fourth-best average among the Golden Grizzlies with a 77.4 and played in 10 of the 11 tournaments that year.

King shot his best score of the season (69) at the Bellarmine Invitational where he finished second overall. King also tied for second at the Bay Valley Intercollegiate Golf Tournament and broke 75 six times in 24 rounds of play.

**Lydia Raburn, Senior, Kalamazoo College** — Lydia Raburn, a senior forward for the Hornets and a graduate from Novi High School, was a first team selection for the Academic All-District team as well as the NSCAA/Aldias All-Great Lake Region team.

Raburn led the Hornets with 21 goals, 15 assists and 57 total points this season while earning All-MIAA first team honors for the second consecutive year. Raburn earned third team All-Region honors last season.

**Ryan Churella, Freshman, University of Michigan** — Ryan Churella, a 2001 graduate of Novi High School, finished second at the Eastern Michigan University Invitational with a 4-1 record Nov. 3 before collected a 3-0 record at the Michigan State University Open Nov. 17.

Churella, who is in his first year wrestling with the Wolverines, is in the 141-pound weight class.

**Mark Churella, Senior, University of Michigan** — Mark Churella, who is a graduate of Novi High School, is a 157-pound senior (junior year in eligibility) who finished third at the EMU Invitational Nov. 3 with a 5-1 record before taking sixth place at the MSU Open Nov. 17 with a 4-3 record.

**Next Level Athletes includes former athletes from the readership area of the Northville Record, Novi News and the Lake Area Times. The Next Level Athletes are individuals who have taken the next step beyond high school athletics to the next level — including college, semi-professional, minor league and professional athletics. Anyone who would like to submit information about an athlete can do so via e-mail at seggleston@ht.homecomm.net or mail information to The Northville Record, 104 W. Main Street, Northville, MI 48167.**

# Carlson is more than a gymnast

Snowboarder, friend, fun all describe Wild 'Stang senior captain

By Sam Eggleston  
SPORTS WRITER

When Wild 'Stang gymnastics senior captain Lindsey Carlson started learning gymnastics at the age of three, she had no clue what the future was going to bring for her.

Now that she is on her way and looking at an upcoming graduation and the beginning of her collegiate career at Western Michigan University — she still isn't clear and what the future holds.

"I am not sure what I am going to do or what I want to become," Carlson said of her future in Western and beyond. "I guess I want to see what interests me and what there is for me to do before I make up my mind on the rest of my life."

Carlson, who hopes to transfer to Michigan State University after her freshman year at Western, said that she is pretty sure her immediate future doesn't hold too much in the way of gymnastics.

"I know the coaches over at Western and I am sure if I wanted to I could walk on over there," she said. "I don't know if I am going to. I think I am just looking to stay injury free this season and go from there."

Carlson, who is in her first year wrestling with the Wolverines, is in the 141-pound weight class.

"It's a red Geo Tracker. Everyone knows that car. I think it is the only Geo Tracker ever made that is here in Northville."

Lindsey Carlson  
Wild 'Stang gymnast

been best friends since the beginning of high school. We don't mind being stuck together."

Carlson noted that the people who always support her and push her to strive to be her best is her mom and step-dad. Marie and Mike McCall, with whom she lives, and her dad and step-mother Nels and Dolores Carlson.

"They are always there for me," Carlson said. "I have a pretty good relationship with all of them and they are always supporting me in everything I do."

And when life isn't filled with gymnastics, snowboarding, shopping with a bunch of friends at the mall, family or friends, what fills in the little time Carlson has left in her week?

"I work at Rocky's in Northville," Carlson said. "I am a hostess and I bus tables. I am going to start waitressing once the season is over, right now it would just be too much."

Carlson said that she is pretty sure a lot of people at Northville High School know who she is — and if they don't know her, they know her car.

"It's a red Geo Tracker," Carlson said with a laugh. "Everyone knows that car. I think it is the only Geo Tracker ever made that is here in Northville."

Sam Eggleston is the sports writer for the Novi News, Lake Area Times and the Northville Record. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or at seggleston@ht.homecomm.net.



Wild 'Stang senior gymnast Lindsey Carlson competes in the vault during a December tilt at home against Hartland.

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# WALLED LAKE SPORTS

lakeareatimes.com

Thursday, January 17, 2002

## Central, Western tankers go head-to-head

By Brian Doyle  
SPECIAL WRITER

Vikings collect the win against cross-town rivals, former teammates

The cross-town swimming rivals that were teammates just two years ago faced each other last Thursday when the Walled Lake Central Vikings beat the Walled Lake Central Warriors by a score of 115-69.

This is only the second year when swimmers at Walled Lake Central and Western have been on separate teams.

So far, the Vikings have held the advantage in the competition.

"Initially when the teams broke up, Central was far stronger [than Western]," said Warrior head coach Stuart Mair.

The former teammates are still developing the rivalry between

the schools. Although last week's meet wasn't as close as the Warriors may have liked, the meet is growing.

"It's evolving into a healthy competition," Mair said.

The Vikings managed to take nine first place finishes and the Warriors took three.

The Vikings started off strong. They took first in the 200-yard Medley Relay with a time of 1:49.45. The winning team consisted of Ryan Booms, Justin Fenwick, who swam a personal best during this event, Dan Lynam and Brian Wolak.

Booms, a freshman, went on to take three individual first place finishes and one more relay first. Booms took first in the 200-yard

individual medley (2:08.79), 100-yard freestyle (55.28) and the 100-yard breaststroke (1:05.59). Along with Sean Pientak, Fenwick, and Wolak, Booms also took first in the 200-yard freestyle relay with a time of 1:42.56.

The Warriors grabbed first in the last relay of the day as Eric Budai, Emilio Diaz, Andrew Hall and Steve Helewski swam a time of 4:54 in the 400-yard freestyle relay. Diaz, was an unexpected addition to the team and is welcomed.

"He was a pleasant surprise," Mair said.

Along with that first place finish Steve Helewski took the 50-yard freestyle with a time of

2:05. For the Warriors, Ken Belrose swam a 1:05.19 in the 100-yard backstroke.

Besides Fenwick's two first place relays he gained one first place on his own for the Vikings. Fenwick took first in the 100-yard butterfly with a time of 57.72. Dan Comiski also had a big day for the Vikings. He took first in the 200 and 500-yard freestyle events with times of 2:06.13 and 5:41.67 respectively. Diving captain Brian Chrzanoski won the diving portion of the meet by picking up 187.25 points.

With this victory the Vikings moved to 1-2 as the Warriors fell to 0-4.

Both teams have hopes for the

future, however.

"Both teams are building to become better teams," Central coach Jeremy Brandon said.

The Western team also has youth working for them. Mair estimated that 90-percent of the swimmers for the Vikings were sophomores. Among the sophomores, there is one senior who came back from last year. Besides Diaz, Matt Nielson is the only senior.

The team also has been impressive in the early going although their record doesn't show it. Last Saturday, they qualified three relays for the Oakland County meet and two individuals are just tenths of a second away from qualifying.

"They're the most exciting team I've ever coached," Mair said.

Walled Lake Central also has some definite positives. They just beat the Warriors and look to take on the Novi Wildcats today. They feel, this year, they may be able to topple the tough cats.

"Last year we came as close as we ever have," Brandon said. However, the team won't focus on obtaining victory but rather on cutting down their times.

Brandon said, "We're hoping that our team continues to make good progress."

Brian Doyle is an intern for the Northville Record, Novi News and the Lake Area Times. Comments can be directed to the sports department at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104.

## WL gymnastics; Brown steps up

By Sam Eggleston  
SPORTS WRITER

With the return of one of their top gymnasts and emergence in dedication and talent of others, the Walled Lake gymnastics team is starting to look as though they are ready to take on the remainder of their schedule.

The gymnasts, led by coach Jennifer Hart, felt the pinch of close losses against Hartland, 142.65-139.8, and against Salem, 139.95-131.75, but also found the joy of winning with excellent performances turned in by Lindsay Brown in a 136.45-114.7 victory over Berkley.

The most recent event, and the one Hart said was their best performance, was the team's run against Hartland Jan. 14.

"We really did well, but we lost," Hart said. "It was our team high score, but we had some fouls and hobbles that hurt us. Up through the vault and bars we were neck and neck, but there was a big difference after that."

The biggest difference came in the floor event in the contest, an event the Hartland gymnasts dominated.

"They had excellent floor routine," Hart said. "They also had two nines on the bars."

The Walled Lake team (4-3 overall) found Sarah Chrzanoski tying for third-place in the vault portion of the meet with a total score of 8.8 with Hartland taking first, second and tying for third.

The bars found Brown collecting 8.8 points for second place, but not good enough to stop Hartland's Megan Turner, who notched a 9.2 from the judges for first while Walled Lake's Amy Gursky took third with 8.55.

The beams found Eagle Erin Sturm taking first with an impressive 9.55 and Hartland teammate Turner in second with a 9.2 while Walled Lake's Gursky followed up in third place with an 8.95.

The floor program, dominated by the Eagles, found Sturm collecting 9.55 points for first place, Abbey Korchmak in second with 9.5 and Christin Perry in third with a 9.4.

"They had an impressive floor routine," Hart said. "Our two top scores for floor were 9.3's, which is

a very good score. In most meets, it probably would have been high score."

The Walled Lake team, which is seeing the comeback of stellar junior gymnast Stefanie Schmalz this week, was waiting the news on the outcome of knee surgery to one of their top gymnasts — junior Genna Borg.

The Walled Lake girls will return to action when they host Farmington Jan. 24.

**WL 136.45, Berkley 114.7**  
The Walled Lake gymnasts started off fast and furious and kept the pace through the entire meet as they blasted Berkley with a loss.

The biggest outcome of this meet, which was primarily dominated by the girls from Walled Lake, was the emergence of Brown as one of the team's top performers.

"She has really stepped it up," Hart said. "She gets up there and does what she has to do. She is learning new tricks, which is important for us at this point. Most gymnasts would just want to perfect their routines at this point in the season. Lindsay wants to perfect her routine and add other elements to it as well."

Brown's determination — along with the other gymnasts on the team — proved too much for Berkley to handle as Brown took a first in the vault with an 8.9 with Schmalz right behind her in second with an 8.55 and Berkley's Sarah Berman in third with an 8.5.

The bars found Brown notching another first with a 9.1, while Schmalz added another second-place finish to her comeback with an 8.95 and Gursky took third for the Walled Lake sweep with an 8.55.

The beam found Walled Lake taking first and second with Brown taking the top spot with an 8.75, Gursky in second with an 8.45 and Berkley's Berman in third for a 7.8.

Gursky strutted her stuff in one of her strong areas — the floor routine — as she snatched up a first-place finish with a 9.1 while Berman took second for the Berkley squad with an 8.95 and Brown took third with an 8.9.

## WL Western volleyball falls to 6-13 on season

By Sam Eggleston  
SPORTS WRITER

The Walled Lake Western Warriors volleyball team will be looking to continue to grow strong as the season progresses — and if all else fails, they will make sure to keep the season fun.

The Warriors, who recently fell to 6-13 on the season, felt the sting of a loss against cross-town rival Walled Lake Central Jan. 14 15-1, 15-2 after playing in the Royal Oak tournament that resulted in the Vikings climbing out of pool play but falling in the later rounds 13-15, 15-12, 3-15 as well as losing to Canton (15-7, 15-8) and Farmington (15-1, 15-4) in Western Lakes Activities Association play.

"We just have to keep improving," Western coach Fritz Tallian said. "We are going to have to focus on our middle and have to

really advance our middle attack."

Tallian pointed out that there has been steady improvement in his team, just not enough to beat a top-ranked program like Walled Lake Central.

"Once we start spreading out our offense and fix our problem of passing the serve to our target we will be able to compete at a higher level," Tallian said. "We have lost to some quality programs and it isn't because of a lack of effort."

The Warriors will have the daunting task of defeating Plymouth Salem Jan. 24 when they return to action in a game that will require a lot of patience, determination and dedication for the Western team to pull off a win.

"Salem is as good as Central, if not better," Tallian said. "I think they may have even beat Central when they played. It is going to be a tough game, but it is going to be a real test of our abilities."

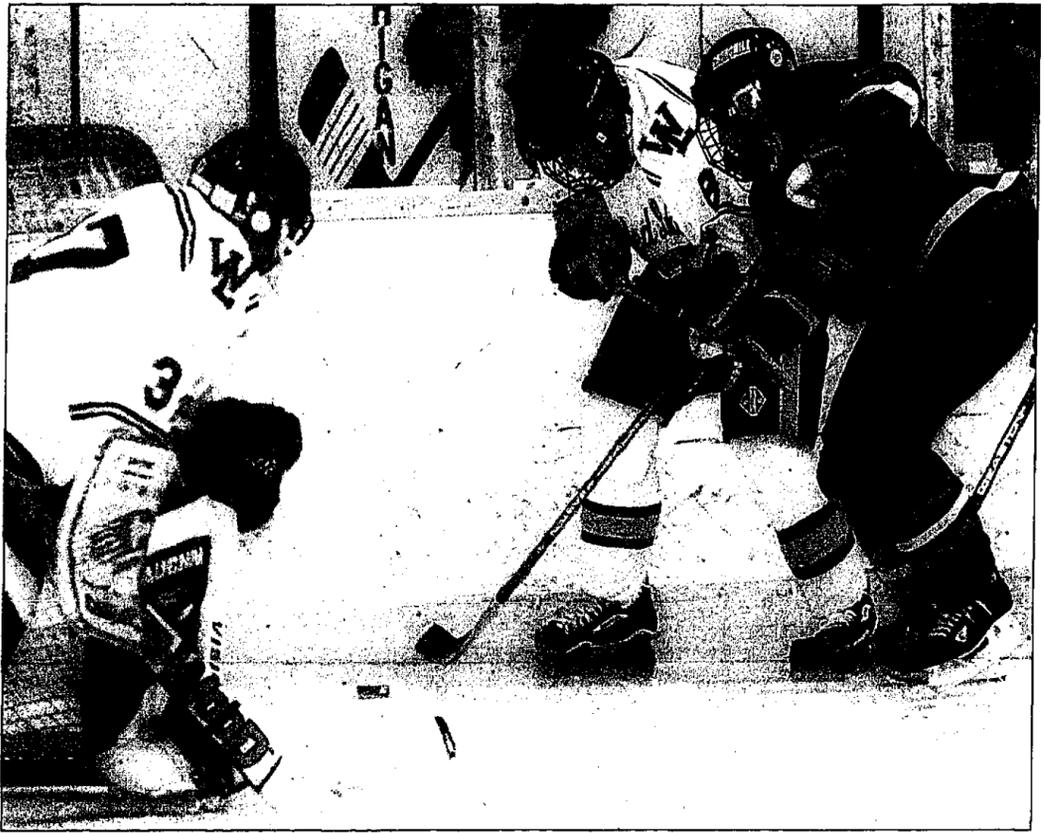


Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Central's #8, right, Adam Griffin, battles a Livonia Churchill skater for the puck in his end as Viking goalie Craig Przytulski looks on.

## Vikings hockey falls

Churchill proves to be too tough; Central still looking for second win of season

By Sam Eggleston  
SPORTS WRITER

5:20 p.m.

**Farmington 4, WLC 2**

The Walled Lake Central Vikings hockey team is looking for their second win of the season — and hopefully that will be coming soon.

The Vikings, who fell to top-ranked Salem 6-0 Jan. 2 before falling to Farmington 4-2 a week later, recently felt the sting of another close game as they fell to the Churchill Chargers 4-1 in a WLA contest.

"It is probably our best results yet," Central coach Jim Hogan said. "Though I am not talking about a win. The game was really up and down and was only 1-0 at the end of the first."

The Chargers went on to score two more in the second period before the Vikings finally got on the board with a goal from James Kerbavy that pulled the Central icers to a 3-1 deficit — but that was all the scoring the team would be able to muster. The Chargers capped the scoring and the game with another goal midway through the third period.

The Vikings had top-notch play from first-time starting goalie Craig Przytulski, who handled the net the entire game and stopped 29 shots on goal.

"We are very encouraged by what we are doing here," Hogan said. "We are just not getting over the hump. It seems to me that the hump gets bigger every time we turn around. The guys are working a lot harder than they were in the beginning of the season and it is starting to show."

The Vikings will return to action when they take on the South Lyon Lions today at South Lyon before hosting Notre Dame Saturday at

The Vikings played even with the Falcons for most of the contest after falling to a 2-0 deficit early in the first period.

(Farmington's coach) Mike Harris said he had the ability to skate with the big boys," Hogan said. "It just happens that when we make a mistake, it is the one that hurt us. Unlike the big boys, we are having trouble dodging that bullet."

The Vikings fought back in the second and third periods, scoring a goal in each, but the Falcons' lead was already too much and the loss was added to the Central icers' growing total. The Vikings scores game off of senior Mike Slakoe (unassisted) with the second coming off of senior Andrew Naylor (assisted by Slakoe). Central used Matt McCallum in the net and her stopped 34-out-of-38 shots on goal.

**Salem 6, WLC 0**  
When a team goes against the best team in the WLA with the three best goal scorers in the conference, most teams are a little unsure about themselves. Tack on the fact that the Vikings had won only a single game prior to the encounter and it turns into a game that a coach only hopes his kids can survive.

"They are the best team in the league," Hogan said. "They pounded us pretty good. It was the second period that killed us for some reason. We didn't have an extreme amount of penalties, but Salem was able to capitalize on the ones that we did have."

The Vikings held the Rocks to one goal in the first period and one in the third — but the four scored in the second was enough to break them.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Central's Ryan Lukkari heads up ice against Churchill.