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NEWS

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INSIDE



Italian flair

The Country Epicure has a new name but the food and staff are still the best around. You can find more information inside. — Page 4A

MARKETPLACE



The Coney special

Freshness and a menu with choices might describe why Leon's restaurants are a success. Look for more on the successful eateries inside. — Page 15A

SPORTS



Novi tames Mustangs

The Novi hockey team continued its domination over rival Northville last week with a 6-3 win over the Mustangs. — Page 1B

W. L. SPORTS

Western wins

The Warriors defeat Canton 64-55 to boost their record to 7-5 overall and 4-2 in conference play — Page 4B



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Novi police arrest 2 in drug bust

By Victoria Sadlocha STAFF WRITER

What started out as a traffic stop on Tuesday resulted in one of Novi's largest drug busts as close to \$40,000 worth of marijuana was found in a speeding sport utility vehicle.

In the process, two Flint residents with lengthy criminal records were also removed from Novi roadways.

After searching the 2001 GMC Yukon the speeder was traveling in, Novi police officer Brian Woloski found about 10 pounds of marijuana in a garbage bag separated into 1-

pound storage bags under the rear seat. David Molloy, Novi Police Detective Sgt., said depending on the quality, one pound could sell anywhere between \$2,400 to \$4,000. The dollar value of the seized drug along with the about \$30,000 value of the impounded vehicle plus miscellaneous cash resulted in a possible \$71,000 traffic stop for the one-year Novi police officer.

"Officer Woloski did an excellent job developing the case and establishing probable cause," Molloy said.

Woloski was patrolling westbound on Interstate 96 near Beek Road at about 5 a.m. Jan. 29 when he noticed the Yukon traveling

at speeds in excess of 100 mph.

The officer said after pulling the vehicle over west of Wixom Road he immediately smelled an odor of fresh marijuana.

Woloski questioned the 25-year-old male driver about the smell. The driver said he and the passenger, a 24-year-old male, had been smoking pot.

"There is a big difference between the smell of burnt marijuana and fresh marijuana," Woloski explained as to why he believed the driver was not telling the truth.

The Novi officer called for assistance and retrieved the results of the driver's information search which showed the Flint resident had a

suspended license and lengthy criminal record. The driver was arrested for driving on a suspended license before giving the officer permission to search the vehicle.

Woloski also found other drug paraphernalia such as rolling papers in the truck. Both men were arrested and taken into custody by Novi police.

Malloy believes both men to be major drug suppliers and anticipates the formal charge will be possession with the intent to deliver.

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.

Edgar hearing delayed again in circuit court

Novi resident charged with criminal sexual assault

By LON HUHMANN STAFF WRITER

After two consecutive pre-adjudgments, suspended Northville city police officer William Edgar's immediate future regarding the charges of alleged criminal sexual misconduct will most likely be decided on Feb. 11.

On Monday, Edgar was due to appear for a pre-trial hearing at Oakland County Circuit Court in Judge Edward Sosnick's courtroom. However, an agreement between Edgar's attorney Christopher Andreoff and Oakland County prosecutor Cheryl Matthews pushed the hearing into

early February. Andreoff said there were a number of issues that still needed to be resolved.

"I think Mr. Edgar is painfully aware of the effects of criminal sexual abuse and the punishment it entails," Matthews said. "And I believe he deserves prison time."

Matthews said the next hearing would determine whether the case goes to trial or if there would be a plea.

Edgar, a 16-year veteran of the city department, was arraigned last fall at 52-1 District Court in Novi and then ordered by Judge Michael Batchik to stand trial for first degree and second degree criminal sexual conduct charges involving a child under the age of 13.

Edgar has been accused of allegedly sexually mistreating his former step-granddaughter, who is now age 10, Matthews said during the preliminary examination hearings accusative information was

Continued on page 4

Malone, Nowicki tender resignations

By Victoria Sadlocha STAFF WRITER

Two Novi city employees began the new year by leaving their positions and seeking employment elsewhere.

Community Relations Manager Maureen Malone and Director of Public Services Anthony Nowicki left the city, accepting positions with other communities.

"I had promoted Maureen shortly after I arrived and she did a very fine job," said Richard Helwig, Novi city manager.

"She started many initiatives, I'm very proud of her."

Helwig said everyone at the city wishes Malone well and hopes her new position will keep her challenged.

"I'm leaving to spend more time with my husband and 16-year-old daughter," Malone said before her last day on Jan. 18.

"I'm leaving to spend more time with my husband and 16-year-old daughter."

Maureen Malone former Novi Community Relations manager

Malone left, filling the position of executive director of the West Bloomfield Chamber of Commerce.

She had been with the city for four years, two which were served as community relations manager.

"I'll miss the people and the job itself."

The former manager said she has lived in Novi for 31 years and

Continued on page 4



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Novi's Outstanding Citizen of the Year Patricia Webb, right, receives a proclamation from the State of Michigan last Thursday night from Representative Nancy Cassis.

And the winners are... Novi Chamber honors top community members

By Victoria Sadlocha STAFF WRITER

The stars shined bright in Novi last week as many of the city's finest were honored for their contributions to the community.

Five attention-grabbing individuals received commendations and high praise at the 2002 Image Awards Dinner held from 6 to 9 p.m. Jan. 24 at the Wyndham Garden Hotel in Novi.

Those honored were Outstanding Citizen of the Year Pat Webb, Outstanding Students of the Year Matt Harsha-Strong and Sarah Holt, Outstanding

Business Person of the Year Peter Paisley and Outstanding Police Officer of the Year Randy Mince. Outstanding Fire Fighter of the Year, Mark Pehrson, was out of town the day of the event and Novi Fire Chief Art Lenaghan accepted the award on his behalf.

The annual Novi Chamber of Commerce event recognized each recipient for their efforts in 2001 to make Novi a better place to visit and live.

State Rep. Nancy Cassis presented with a great deal of pride the award winners with a plaque serv-

Continued on page 4



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Novi High School employees Gin Freers, left, Julie Hornacek, and Denise Shipley, right, will be walking in May to raise money and awareness for breast cancer survivors.

Novi High School employees to take part in annual cancer walk

By Angelo Parlove STAFF WRITER

Three Novi High School employees are going the extra miles for the fight against the illness that has afflicted each of their mothers' lives.

Hall monitors Denise Shipley and Gin Freers and secretary Julie Hornacek are going to tackle a 60-mile stretch of Michigan streets this spring to help raise money in support of non-profit breast health programs and state-of-the-art medical research on breast cancer.

The women are lacing up their walking shoes for the Avon Breast Cancer 3-Day, a 72-hour, 60-mile

walk from downtown Ann Arbor to Detroit, which passes through Dearborn and includes an overnight stay in tents at the Plymouth-Canton High School.

"My mother is a 20-year survivor, and I think about my daughter. I want to raise money to beat this disease," Hornacek said.

The three-day event begins on May 31 and ends June 2, with a closing ceremony in Detroit. The Novi High School walkers are building up their stamina for the long journey on foot.

"We are doing as much walking as we can," Freers said.

To participate in the event, each walker must raise a minimum of \$1,900 in donations.

"We're trying to raise some money and have some doors open up," Shipley said. "It's a lot of money, and we need all the help we can get."

Anyone interested in donating money to the cause can contact Shipley through the Novi High School office at 449-1500.

"My mother is a 28-year survivor," Shipley said. "That is motivation enough for me."

Over 3,800 people are expected to join the Michigan Avon Breast Cancer 3-Day. Since it began three years ago, more than 31,000 people across America have participated in the walks against breast cancer.

Teachers sling burgers for school fundraiser

By Angelo Parlove
STAFF WRITER

The staff at Deerfield Elementary in Novi rolled up their sleeves and jumped headlong into a world of hamburger meat, frying grease and drive-thru windows last Tuesday.

On Jan. 22, teachers, administrators and other staff members worked at the McDonald's restaurant on Grand River and 10 Mile Road in Farmington Hills to raise money for the Deerfield Community Council.

"There were lots of giggles and laughs," Deerfield principal Richard Nissen said. "For two hours, the fast food restaurant's newest workers fried hamburgers, made french fries and took orders from excited customers of all ages."

"There was such a wonderful amount of people," Nissen said.

Over 150 students and parents showed up to eat dinner and see their school's educators in a new light.

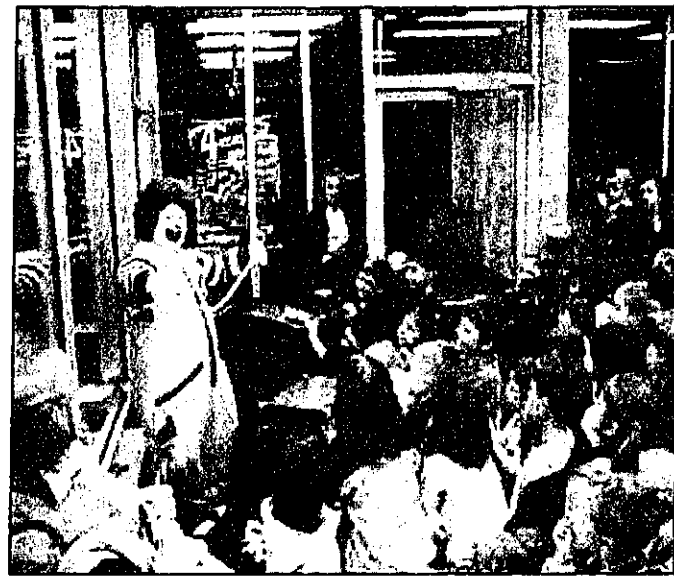
"The kids had a great time seeing their teachers working at McDonald's," said Deerfield Community Council member Patti Morsette.

The restaurant donated 15 percent of sales from 5-7 p.m. to the school. The money will go to the Community Council budget, which sponsors assemblies and other enrichment activities for the Deerfield students.

"It was very nice for the McDonald's owners to reach out to Novi schools," said Deerfield Community Council member Cathy Schramm.

The Farmington Hills McDonald's is owned by Novi residents Claude and Teresa Murphy, who have two children that attend Novi Schools.

"They are just very nice people to work with there," Schramm said.



Submitted photo

More than 150 students from Deerfield Elementary School enjoyed tricks from Ronald McDonald, and watching their teachers serve hamburgers to raise money for the school.

Furthermore, the fast food icon himself, Ronald McDonald, made an appearance, dazzling kids with magic tricks, as well as passing out crayons and coloring sheets.

"Everyone had so much fun," Schramm said. "It was a wonderful excuse to go out and meet with friends."

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

Novi on campus

The following Novi students were named as degree candidates at Michigan State University for the fall 2001 semester: Brian Abbott, Donald Babcock, Susan Fedorka, Melissa Halvorsen, Patrick Mallon, Lan Meng, Kristen Rein, Sarah Rittner and Julie Slayton.

The following Novi students were named to Michigan State University's fall 2001 honors list: Pasquale Alessi, Steven Barone, Ryan Beach, James Benton, Brian Blysk, Michelle Blumer, Rachel Carroll, Michelle Cheney, Jonathan Er-Yung Chen, Matthew Cieslo, Autumn Coy, Erin Craddock, Brian Dadds, Julia Eccleston, Emily Ernst, Justin Fischer, Andrew Frith, Meredith Greer, Sarah Hamilton, Rebecca Hallman, Kyle Karvita, Julia Katz, Daniel Kittle, Jeffrey Knox, Jessica Kocpzyński, Jennifer Krystoff, Dustin Kubas, Kristen Lenz, Lena Liao, Cassie Liu, Emily Liu, Michael Malle, Carrie Mainella, Christopher Malott, Alexis Mamola, Shane Martin, Katherine McCanna, Emily McCuekin, Alison Morris, Jerry Muskat, Leslie Nimer, Amanda

Noworyta, Derek Ornekian, Megan Parker, Jeffrey Perreca, Justin Reaume, Meredith Reavill, Allison Reeping, Rebecca Rittner, Sanmeet Sandhu, Steven Sawickas, William Schweitzer, Douglas Smith, Megan Smith, Stacey Smith, Betsey Stab, David Tardella, Lindsay Terzes, Michelle Thompson, Alyssa Tomasiak, Timothy Totosin, Melanie Turck, Lindsay Wells, Alisa Williams, Jeanie Wilson, Christina Wuerrh, Julie Anne Wuerrh and Jacqueline Zelepsky.

Novi resident Brittany Kurth was named to Colby College's fall 2001 semester dean's list. Colby College is located in Waterville, Maine.

Novi residents Andrew Curtin, Brandon Astley, Carrie Levy, and Russell Walk were named to Ferris State University's fall 2001 semester dean's list.

Novi resident Joseph P. Pollicchio was among the graduates of Western Michigan University's December 2001 graduating class.

Students celebrate Native American experience

By Angelo Parlove
STAFF WRITER

Village Oaks Elementary students in Novi celebrated the Native American experience with music and dance last week.

The kids sat with their legs crossed on the school gymnasium floor, as Kelly "Red Feather" Kay, a Native American environmentalist and musician, shared songs about her heritage on Jan. 25.

"The Native American ensured that all living things would survive and today we are reaping the harvest of his efforts," Kay said. "We must honor these people for leaving us gifts of clean air, clean water and trees, which we all take for granted."

"The students clapped along to the beating drums in a variety of contemporary songs about the relationships between the Native Americans and Earth's wildlife, such as the deer, wolf and eagle.

"If we are to understand our world today, we must go back to the very beginnings. Life was without distractions and the rules of survival were clear."

Kelly "Red Feather" Kay
Native American environmentalist

"When we go hunting, we have to thank the deer for the food and the beautiful clothes," Kay said.

"Red Feather" chants and sounds stumpled back to times

before Christopher Columbus set foot on American land.

"If we are to understand our world today, we must go back to the very beginnings," Kay said. "Life was without distractions and the rules of survival were clear."

Furthermore, Kay provided a brief history on the Native American wardrobe, from the shawl to the feathers in the headdress.

"Every shawl has the story of the person who wears it," she said.

Kelly Kay is a member of the South Eastern Michigan Indians, Inc. and performs at schools, libraries and county fairs to promote a spiritual respect for Earth.

"This is the message of my people and the message of my music," Kay said.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Red Feather (Kelly Kay) claps along as Village Oaks student Jack Nissen beats on a deer-skin drum during Friday afternoon's Native American presentation at the Novi school.

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- Tuesday: Northville local business owners' neighbors night. Show your Northville business card or pay stub and we'll take 15% off your entire bill.
- Wednesday: Compassion Night. Complimentary pizza & outspoke after 10:00 pm (on bar service only).
- Thursday: Ladies Night. First drink free for all unescorted ladies.
- Friday: Pinotalese Wine Night. All Barolo & Barbaresco 15% off.
- Saturday: All Italian beer 1/2 price during lunch (11:00-4:00).
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The class guest instructor, Terry Heaton, PT, is an orthopedic physical therapist with over 35 years experience. Terry specializes in the prevention and treatment of injuries related to golf and was recently certified as a teaching pro by the Professional Golf Teachers and Coaches of America.

This is a one evening program. Please choose the evening most convenient for you. Participants should dress comfortably and bring a club!

There is no charge for this class, however, space is limited and we do require a RSVP if you plan to attend.

February 7th - or - March 7th
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Community Events

SERVICE APPRECIATION PRESENTATIONS: Filipy, Kowalski and Kathy Bell Moore were presented with proclamations of appreciation by Novi Mayor Richard J. Clark at the Jan. 28 Novi City Council meeting. Clark presented Kowalski with his official proclamation to express the city's gratitude for his service to the Novi Planning Commission. Moore received her official proclamation from Clark and Novi Library Board President John Chambers. Both recognized her efforts in securing a library grant which will service many of Novi's residents in need of assistance.

residents in need of assistance.

COUNCIL NEWS: Members of the Novi City Council unanimously voted to approve a zoning map amendment to rezone 4.63 acres located on the south side of 12-and-a-half mile road west of Novi Road from residential to low density multiple family residential or any other appropriate zoning district.

Members also approved the request for final preliminary plat approval for Bristol Centers North and South subdivisions. The one family residential districts are located on the east side of

West Park Drive south of Smith Park Drive.

2002 NOVI HOME IMPROVEMENT SHOW: The 2002 Novi Home Improvement Show is coming to the Novi Expo Center Jan. 31 through Feb. 3. The 10th annual show will feature products and services for the home presented by the nonprofit Building Industry Assoc. of Southeastern Michigan.

Some of the exhibit's features include the latest in home technology, products and services for kitchens and baths and plenty of decorating

ideas. Hours for the show are 2 to 10 p.m. Thursday and Friday, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$7 for adults, \$6 for seniors and children younger than 13 are free.

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

DADDY-DAUGHTER DANCE: The City of Novi Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department presents its Valentine's Daddy-Daughter

CHURCH DIRECTORY

For information regarding rates call The Northville Record or Novi News (248) 349-1700

<p>GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH Walter & Main Street, Novi Worship by Lutheran Synod Sunday 10:00 a.m. Pastor: Rev. John A. O'Connell Phone: (248) 349-1700</p>	<p>FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE 3061 Main St. at Northville (248) 349-0911 Worship by Lutheran Synod Sunday 10:00 a.m. Pastor: Rev. John A. O'Connell Phone: (248) 349-1700</p>
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<p>NOVI UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 1150 W. 12 1/2 Mile, Novi Worship by Methodist Sunday 10:00 a.m. Pastor: Rev. John A. O'Connell Phone: (248) 349-1700</p>	<p>ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN MISSOURI SYNOD High & Len St., Novi Worship by Lutheran Synod Sunday 10:00 a.m. Pastor: Rev. John A. O'Connell Phone: (248) 349-1700</p>
<p>MEADOWBROOK CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH 7135 Meadowbrook Rd., Novi at S. 12 Mile Worship by Methodist Sunday 10:00 a.m. Pastor: Rev. John A. O'Connell Phone: (248) 349-1700</p>	<p>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE 345-1144 8 Mile & Tall Woods Worship by Methodist Sunday 10:00 a.m. Pastor: Rev. John A. O'Connell Phone: (248) 349-1700</p>
<p>COMMUNITY UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH 125 S. Church St., Brighton Rev. Suzanne Paul, Minister (810) 225-2882 http://www.cuuc.org</p>	<p>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE 4530 11 Mile at 1st Worship by Baptist Sunday 10:00 a.m. Pastor: Rev. John A. O'Connell Phone: (248) 349-1700</p>
<p>ST. JAMES ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH 4455 10 Mile, Novi Worship by Roman Catholic Sunday 10:00 a.m. Pastor: Rev. John A. O'Connell Phone: (248) 349-1700</p>	<p>FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE 217 N. Wing Worship by Baptist Sunday 10:00 a.m. Pastor: Rev. John A. O'Connell Phone: (248) 349-1700</p>
<p>CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY 24200 E. Livonia, Novi Worship by Roman Catholic Sunday 10:00 a.m. Pastor: Rev. John A. O'Connell Phone: (248) 349-1700</p>	<p>FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 21200 Haggerty, Novi Worship by Nazarene Sunday 10:00 a.m. Pastor: Rev. John A. O'Connell Phone: (248) 349-1700</p>
<p>WORLDWIDE HARVEST CHURCH A Christian Family Church 24200 E. Livonia, Novi Worship by Christian Sunday 10:00 a.m. Pastor: Rev. John A. O'Connell Phone: (248) 349-1700</p>	<p>SPIRIT OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH E.L.C.A. See Me between Haggerty and Meadowbrook Worship by Lutheran Sunday 10:00 a.m. Pastor: Rev. John A. O'Connell Phone: (248) 349-1700</p>
<p>FAITH COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 24200 E. Livonia, Novi Worship by Presbyterian Sunday 10:00 a.m. Pastor: Rev. John A. O'Connell Phone: (248) 349-1700</p>	<p>OAK POINT CHURCH Northville High School on O. Mile Sunday 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Contemporary live band (248) 615-7050</p>
<p>OAKLAND BAPTIST CHURCH 2853 Beck Rd., Novi Worship by Baptist Sunday 10:00 a.m. Pastor: Rev. John A. O'Connell Phone: (248) 349-1700</p>	<p>Your Church Directory could be here!</p>
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Author set to visit Novi Woods

By Angelo Parlove
STAFF WRITER

Children's author and illustrator Patricia Polacco is coming to Novi Schools, and the Novi Woods Elementary students are preparing for her visit.

"An author visit is a wonderful way to inspire our students to read, write and be enthusiastic about books," said Novi Woods Elementary media specialist Kerry Marroni.

Along with Novi Woods, Polacco will be visiting Orchard Hills, Parkview and Village Oaks Elementaries, as well, on March 18-20, which coincides with the district's upcoming "March is Reading Month."

Polacco, who didn't start writing until she was 41 years old, has since published over 30 books based on her own childhood experiences. On her visit, she will discuss these works with the students.

Meanwhile, Novi Woods is getting ready for the popular children's author by reading as many of her books as possible. Marroni has been reading Polacco's books to students in the media center, while teachers have been taking her stories into the classroom.

"The kids will be very familiar with her books when she comes and talks about them," Marroni said. The school has a bulletin board in the media center with miniature replicas of Polacco's book covers. Each time a class finishes a story, their class name is written on the pages inside that particular book.

"We can show Patricia how many boys and girls have been enjoying her books this year," Marroni said. A school favorite is Polacco's "Thank You, Mr. Falker," a story based on the author's own struggles learning to read as a child.

"It's good for the kids to see that even with these problems, you can grow to be very successful," Marroni said.

Furthermore, each week a different Novi Woods staff member is videotaped reading a Polacco book, which is then played every day at various times on the Novi Schools' cable channel 10.

"This allows our students' families at home to become familiar with Patricia Polacco's work as well," Marroni said. Polacco lives in Union City.

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

Photo by JOHN HEIDER

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Drama students tops in competition

By Angelo Parlove
STAFF WRITER

The Novi High School drama department triumphed in one of the most competitive district drama competitions in Ann Arbor. The department performed Arthur Miller's "After the Fall" at the Michigan Interscholastic Forensic Association (MIFA) district competition on Jan. 26 at Ann Arbor Huron High School, showing a first place victory over five other Michigan high school productions. "It's a really different and interesting play," said Novi High School student and actress Lauren Lopez. "There's lots of emotional parts."

The play tells the story of Quentin, a man trying to come to terms with a wife he killed in his life. The play journeys through

"It's a really different and interesting play. There are a lot of emotional parts."

Lauren Lopez
Novi High School student

Quentin's life where he is haunted by memories of old lovers and friendships destroyed by a Communist past. "This is pretty serious material and the kids are handling it well," said Novi High School drama teacher and director Heather McKaig.

MIFA district competition rules thus year required a 45-minute, one-act play of serious content,

where it was judged on technical achievements, acting, costume and set design. "This was by far our most solid performance," Lopez said. "We worked really hard."

Lopez played Holga, Quentin's new love interest, and was artistically challenged to bring this reserved character alive on stage. "Holga is a soft-spoken girl and not very dramatic," Lopez said. "I

Emergency procedures implemented at schools

By Angelo Parlove
STAFF WRITER

In October of 2001, Parkview Elementary performed the district's first emergency lockdown drill. Parkview principal Joe Imrick announced over the school's public address system the practice safety procedures and that the kids "needed to move into a special place in the classroom to be safe."

"Since it was new, I didn't want to unduly alarm them," Imrick said.

The kids then proceeded to find their safe places within their classroom.

"The kids focused on the procedural part of it more than the meaning of it," Imrick said. "And that's good because you want them to focus on the procedures."

After the drill was successfully performed, the teachers resumed the day's lesson.

Each school in the district will practice a lockdown and an emergency lockdown drill once a year.

"We don't want to alarm kids for nothing, but if something goes wrong, we don't want to experiment then," said Novi Schools executive director of personnel Robert Schram.

During a lockdown, school doors and windows are locked, and the students are secured in the classroom while the teachers continue the educational process.

However, in an emergency lockdown when staff and students are at immediate risk of gunfire, all doors and windows are locked, while the teaching stops. Students move to a covered location under their desks until security is restored to the area.

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

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A dog named Disney...

"Disney" an English Springer Spaniel, looks into the eyes of her owner Kathy Schockl during last Friday's Livingston County Kennel Club Dog Show at the Novi Expo Center. The show is held annually and draws hundreds of dog owners from Southeast Michigan.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

District studies crisis plans

By Angelo Parlove
STAFF WRITER

Due to the string of shooting tragedies in American schools over the last few years, the Novi Community School District took a hard and comprehensive look at the safety of its students.

Over the past two years, district officials have been meeting regularly to address the emergency policies and procedures for maintaining a safe learning environment for each of its buildings.

School officials unveiled the results of these efforts and discussions at the Jan. 10 board of education meeting, with the Novi Community School District "Crisis Prevention and Management Plan."

"The Crisis Prevention and Management Plan" is a detailed handbook that encompasses what should be done before, during and after a crisis to ensure the physical and emotional safety of all school community members.

"Recent tragic and sudden acts of violence in our nation's schools remind us that no community can be complacent in its efforts to

make its schools even safer," said Novi Schools superintendent Emmett Lippe.

The handbook includes procedures for school lockdowns and evacuations for each district building, staff duties in response to a crisis, and phone lists to maximize information sharing throughout the Novi community in an emergency.

Moreover, it emphasizes prevention methods through social and extra-curricular activities in order to proactively avert tragedy.

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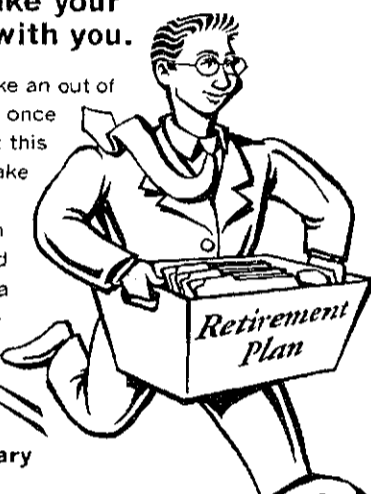
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Novi Business In Brief

Twelve Oaks is pleased to welcome six new retailers to our center. These retailers include Carnival Cafe, Frodo GameStop, The Great Steak & Potato Co., Haagen Dazs, and Seen on Screen. **Carnival Cafe** is a one-stop treat store, offering many goodies found at a typical fair or carnival, including flavored popcorns, cotton candy, caramel apples, frozen Coke sundaes, nachos and coming soon, elephant ears and funnel cakes. Carnival Cafe is located on the upper level, Lord & Taylor wing. **Ecco** offers smart, elegant, comfortable footwear for work, leisure and festive occasions. Ecco is located on the lower level, Lord & Taylor wing. **GameStop** sells the most popular new software, hardware and game accessories for the PC and next generation game console systems. From Sims, Madden, Microsoft and Sega, they are also the industry's largest reseller of pre-played games. In addition, GameStop sells computer magazines and strategy guides, action figures, collectible trading cards, and other related merchandise. GameStop is located on the lower

level, Marshall field's wing. **The Great Steak & Potato Co.** The concept is a simple one: A "meat and potatoes" fast food operation, providing a unique visual, sensory and eating experience for the customer, with the emphasis on low cost and high value for the customer. The Great Steak & Potato Co. is in the new Lifestyle Cafe, located on the lower level, JC Penney wing. **Haagen-Dazs** -- More than 35 years ago, Haagen-Dazs introduced the world to superpremium ice cream. Haagen-Dazs ice cream is real ice cream, made from real ingredients. Lovingly combined, Haagen-Dazs is located just outside of the Lifestyle Cafe, lower level, JC Penney wing. **Seen on Screen** offers hundreds of products usually only seen on TV, computers and infomercials. Shoppers can buy products off the shelves, eliminating shipping and handling charges, delivery waits and the necessity of revealing credit card numbers over the phone. Seen on Screen is located on the upper level, Lord & Taylor wing. Know before you buy... www.seenonscreen.com

Representatives of the Novi Public Library will be hitting the streets this Spring, bringing Internet training to area senior citizens facilities. Thanks to a federally funded \$23,495 Library Services and Technology grant awarded by the Library of Michigan, library personnel will have the opportunity to enhance the level of service provided to recipients of the library's outreach efforts. Katie Bell Moore, Novi Library's lead of specialized services, said the funds will be used to purchase seven laptop computers, a portable LCD projector and a mobile wireless Internet connector to create a mobile Internet training course. With the new equipment, residents who may not be able to come to the library will still have the opportunity to learn about the World Wide Web. Moore anticipates courses will be provided at Meadowbrook Commons, Grant Court and possibly Williamson Senior Housing. Kathy Crawford, special recreation coordinator for Novi senior

citizens programs. "There are so many seniors who are trying to be computer literate. We have a lot of people here... only playing blackjack..."

programs in Novi, said Meadowbrook Commons is very interested and excited about bringing Internet training classes into its newly constructed computer room. "There are so many seniors who are trying to be computer literate," Crawford said. "We have a lot of people here with computers only playing Black Jack waiting for lessons." Crawford said she has requests everyday for Internet training, including e-mail lessons, by seniors who want to communicate with their children and grandchildren. "It brings them into the world again." The equipment will also be used to check out library materials and answer reference questions during monthly book deliveries to Novi's senior facilities and homebound residents. "We're very excited and eager to get started on this," Bell Moore said. Bell Moore hopes the library will receive the funds soon to hit the target timeline of purchasing the equipment by the beginning of March and having the program up and running by June. In addition to funding the expansion of the library's Internet training, the grant will fund increased accessibility for people with hearing impairments. Library personnel will use a portable assisted-listening equipment for the library. Bell Moore said the "Walkman-type" apparatus, which will be purchased, is used to amplify the voice of anyone speaking to the wearer, allowing them to communicate effectively with anyone inside the library. The portable assisted-listening equipment may be used for a small group meeting or library programs, but Bell Moore said it will be used best to communicate with library personnel such as the reference librarians. "The 'Tune In, Log On, Reach Out' grant application was filed in July. The recipients were originally going to be revealed in October, but the announcement was delayed because of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. The Novi Public Library was one of 20 state recipients to receive the 2002 grant. It received the same grant once before in the early 1990s. Victoria Sadlocha is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105 or at vsadlocha@nl.home.com.net.



Aunt Polly (Caitlin O'Rourke) washes the face of Tom Sawyer (Ron Kettelhut) during rehearsal for the Novi Children's Theatre's Annex presentation of Tom Sawyer at the Novi Civic Center last Thursday. The play will be presented on February 1-3.

'Tom Sawyer' takes the stage Feb. 1-3

By Victoria Sadlocha
STAFF WRITER

The classic tale of childhood adventure comes to the stage this weekend in Novi Theatre's production of "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer."

Members of Novi Theatre's Children's Annex bring the 1876 Mark Twain novel to life with their adaptation of the popular story in three performances Feb. 1 through 3 on the Novi Civic Center stage.

"They've worked really hard," said Director Mary Kay Davis. Davis said, along with all the others, the actors portraying Tom Sawyer and Huck Finn are phenomenal.

"The way they react to one another is unbelievable," Davis said talking about Ron Kettelhut

and Max Landry. Davis said it is almost hard to believe such phenomenal performances come from such young actors.

"The artistically created set - complete with a white-washed picket fence - sets the stage for the 30 jovial actors ranging in age from 10 to 14.

"I love my character," Kettelhut said.

The 13-year-old actor who plays the role of Tom Sawyer has been in about 15 Novi Theatre's productions.

Four high school students also help behind the scenes coordinating all of the backstage duties needed to accurately depict Twain's first novel.

All of the youngsters involved promise to provide one-and-a-half hours of entertainment for all who attend.

Davis believes this a great play to watch because the story is familiar to everyone.

She also has advised the students through five weeks of hard work in preparation of opening day.

The show begins 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 3 p.m. Sunday.

Tickets are on sale now at the Novi Parks, Recreation and Forestry Dept. and price of admission is \$8 per person.

The Novi Civic Center is located at 45175 W. 10 Mile Road. For more information, call (248) 347-0400.

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

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Novi News

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Robert Jackson EDITOR... Jeane Towar VP EDITORIAL... Dick Agnina PRESIDENT...

Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the home towns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.

Is protecting Novi parkland a priority?

Some interesting comments came out of last week's Novi Planning Commission meeting.

Okay, we understand. You want to develop a majority of available land within Novi's boundaries and you want to expend taxpayer dollars acquiring park land outside of Novi's corporate limits...

Okay, we understand. You want to develop a majority of available land within Novi's boundaries and you want to expend taxpayer dollars acquiring park land outside of Novi's corporate limits...

Homeowners' associations. "We need to have discussions about the city being responsible for these pieces of land and their development instead of homeowners' associations," Markham said.

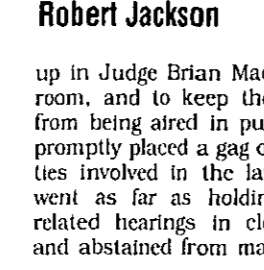


Photo by JOHN HEIDER

The 2001-02 Wildcats line up on their blue line before a January tilt against the Mustangs.

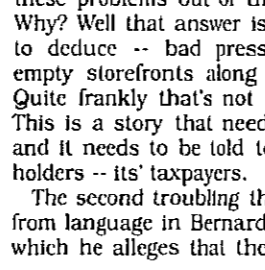
Is Main St. headed for trouble

The trials and tribulations of James Chen and his Main Street development project keep getting more interesting by the day.



Robert Jackson

regarding the hearings in the court files. "Still not interesting enough for you? Just wait. It gets better.



Robert Jackson

LETTERS

Lets put Sandstone behind us

To the editor: I read with interest the recent letter to the editor from Friends of Novi Parks.

Road south of Thirteen Mile Road. I do agree with our Friends on one BIG item, if citizens had been more involved with their government, perhaps this long-standing litigation and resulting financial burden could have been resolved a long time ago.

a Wildcat skater. They were awesome. And most importantly, we would like to thank our team-friendly coaches, Dan Phelps, John Smith, Dave Zarem and Dennis Gagnon.

Mary Beth and Bill Morrison Pat and Mike Karras Mike and Donna Malott

Richard Helwig City manager City of Novi

Thanks for supporting Novi hockey team

On Jan. 10, the Novi Wildcat hockey team led by Calumet, having been asked to participate in a Michigan showcase invitation.

First and foremost, we would like to thank Dr. Jennifer Cheal, principal of Novi High School, and her administration. Without their approval and cooperation, this trip would have been non-existent.

HomeTown COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

Building coalition an exciting prospect

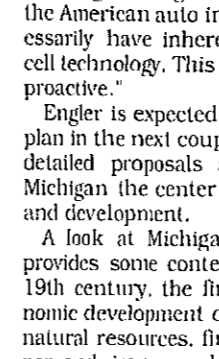
In his State of the State speech last week, Gov. John Engler talked glowingly about making Michigan the center for research and development of clean-burning hydrogen fuel cells to power cars.



Phil Power

Automotive Research to work in developing affordable hydrogen-based fuel cell technology.

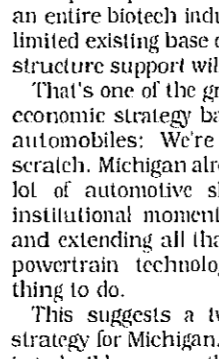
employing some 27,000 people — all based on gasoline-fueled internal combustion engine powertrains that might well become obsolete in a decade.



Phil Power

Engler is expected to propose a detailed plan in the next couple of months to make detailed proposals about how to make Michigan the center for fuel cell research and development.

Detroit through Ann Arbor and East Lansing to Grand Rapids. The University of Michigan, for example, is in the middle of building a \$200 million Life Sciences Center on the central campus...

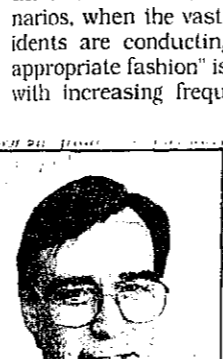


Phil Power

This suggests a two-pronged fuel cell strategy for Michigan. Offensively, the idea is to build — promptly, firmly, immediately — on our technological and manufacturing strengths in the auto industry.

Ritalin legislation is well written

There seems to be a growing confusion in Lansing over what lawmakers is really all about.



Mike Malott

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

threaten to initiate a child abuse investigation of reckless moms and dads.

However rarely parents are being prescribed, legislation to stop is very appropriate. And so far, three different versions of such a law have been proposed in Lansing.

whether Ritalin, and other drugs like it, are being over-prescribed to Michigan school children.

That's exactly what these bills do.

GOVERNMENT

Per reader request, we have compiled a list so you can get to touch with your local and regional senators and representatives.

Local office: 30833 Northwestern Hwy. #100 Farmington Hills, MI 48334 (248)-851-1366

Michigan Senate

Bill Bullard Jr. (R-Highland) State Capitol P.O. Box 30036 Lansing, MI 48909-7536 (888)-736-2855 scbullard@senate.state.mi.us

Michigan House of Representatives

Nancy Cassis (R-Novi) State Capitol P.O. Box 30014 Lansing, MI (888)-363-NANCY ncassis@house.state.mi.us

County Commission

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

United States Congress

Joe Knollenberg (R-Bloomfield) 2349 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington D.C. (202) 225-5802

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MOVIE GUIDE

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Imagine fighting for your independence and not being able to make a fist.

Juvenile arthritis is a painful fact of life. Today, there are more than a quarter million children who live with a disabling condition more common than juvenile diabetes and cerebral palsy.

Find what makes you happy...and do it

It's that time of the year for the college-bound Novi High School seniors, when you decide where you want to spend the next four years of your life.

What are you going to study when you get there? You were always good at math. Study math. Uncle Joe is a mechanical engineer. You like Uncle Joe, so be a mechanical engineer.



Angelo Parlove

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

So, seniors, not only do you have to figure out where exactly you want to attend, but you have your parents jumping down your throat about what you will study.

What gets you up in the morning feeling good about getting up? There's your starting place. If washing cars is your thing, then wash cars like nobody has ever washed cars before.

other people are doing and saying. Meantime, life is blowing by right in front of them. Moreover, most people I grew up with are either bored or boring because they still don't know what they like.

I say, ride what you get a kick out of. Grab it by the ears and take it through the weeds, back alleys, car dealerships, overpriced apartments and unemployment line, if need be. And the more it backs you in the teeth, the better - the more character you will grow.

Listen, it's easy to jump off and piggy-back ride on someone else's plans. Anyone can do that. But why would you do that to yourself? You aren't headed for the same finish line as Uncle Joe anyway. I guarantee it.

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

THE JOB PAYS NOTHING, BUT THE BENEFITS ARE AMAZING. 4 HOURS A MONTH CAN KEEP A KID OFF DRUGS FOREVER. BE A MENTOR.

Obituaries

Joseph C. Marocco
Joseph C. Marocco of Novi died Jan. 24 at St. Joseph Hospital in Ann Arbor. He was 84.

Mr. Marocco was born May 17, 1920. He was the wife of Ann, daughter of Anthony, Joseph and Michael, grandfather of Anthony, Jr., Michael, Jessica, Mario and Angela, great-grandfather of Nicholas, Francesca, Ella and Ashira.

A memorial service for Mr. Marocco was held Jan. 26 at O'Brien / Sullivan Funeral Home in Novi. Interment will be at Glen Eden Cemetery in Livonia.

Memorial contributions may be sent to the Westland Community Foundation, 38110 Executive Drive, Ste. 100, Westland, Mich. 48185. Funeral arrangements were made by O'Brien / Sullivan Funeral Home.

Patricia Ann Visger

Patricia Ann O'Neill Visger of Novi died Jan. 29. She was 78.

Ms. Visger was born April 25, 1923. She was the wife of Frank, mother of Dan (Linda), Patricia and Ann Marie, grandmother of Ashley Marie, Brad, Jack (Bretney) and Claire, Harold, Rita and Frank Patrick Zimmerman, sister of Madeline, Nora Ruth, James O'Neill and Kathleen Waterski and the late Dan O'Neill, Robert O'Neill and Peggy Berlin.

Ms. Visger was an active member of the Detroit Irish community. She was active in her church and several charitable organizations.

A memorial service for Ms. Visger was held Jan. 23 at Holy Family Roman Catholic Church of Novi. Interment will be at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Southfield. Memorial contributions may be made to Capuchin Soup Kitchen of Detroit. Funeral arrangements were made by O'Brien / Sullivan Funeral Home of Novi.

Eldredge Gerard "Sy" Simonson

Eldredge Gerard Simonson died Jan. 23 at his home in Novi. He was 75.

Mr. Simonson was born Jan. 23, 1927 in Wauwatosa, Minn. A graduate of Wauwatosa High School, Mr. Simonson enlisted with the U.S. Air Force in 1944 and served with the Pacific Air Command in Japan as a staff sergeant.

Mr. Simonson attended Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minn. He later married Joan Hilliard on Oct. 21, 1950 and worked for Sanborn Map Company of New York for 50 years — a position from which he retired in 2000.

Mr. Sanborn enjoyed hunting, fishing and golf, and was involved in Little League and the Boys Scouts of America. He was a life member of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 2269 and served as commander of the post for six years.

In addition to his wife, Mr. Simonson is survived by his daughter, Katherine (Richard) Weisbacher, Chris (David) Eskler, his son, Bruce (Alicia) Simonson, his brother, Donald (Irene) Simonson; and six grandchildren.

A funeral for Mr. Simonson was held Jan. 26 at Heeny-Sundquist Funeral Home of Farmington with Rev. Daniel Cave officiating. Interment will be at Oakland Hills Memorial Garden in Novi. Additional services will be conducted by the VFW.

Memorial contributions may be sent to the Karmanos Cancer Institute or Henry Ford Hospice.

Harold A. Seestadt

Harold Seestadt of Novi died Jan. 25 at his home in Novi. He was 82.

Mr. Seestadt was born Feb. 24, 1919 and later married his wife, Laura Seestadt. Mr. Seestadt was a retired World War II Air Force lieutenant colonel and a graduate of New York University. He was a long-time member of the Propeller Club of Detroit and worked as a marine insurance manager for Home Insurance Company and William H. McCle Company, from which he retired after 25 years. In his spare time, Mr. Seestadt enjoyed playing tennis and was an avid sports fan. He also enjoyed traveling, having been to all seven continents.

In addition to his wife, Mr. Seestadt is survived by his children, Judith and Robert (Colleen); his grandchildren, Robert P. and Michael, Joseph and Jennifer; and three great-grandchildren.

A memorial service for Mr. Seestadt was held Jan. 29 at Nardin Park United Methodist Church in Farmington Hills. Interment was at Fort Custer Cemetery in Battle Creek.

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

Frank Schwehofer

Frank Schwehofer of South Lyon died Jan. 27 at Bostford General Hospital in Farmington Hills. He was 67.

Mr. Schwehofer was born Oct. 13, 1934 in St. Clair to Alvin and Mary Rhein. Jean Pelling, Josephine Schwehofer and Annett Burgess. He was preceded in death by one brother.

A memorial service for Mr. Schwehofer will be held at 1 p.m., Feb. 2 at Trinity Middle School in Ann Arbor. Mr. Randy D'Alessandro will officiate the service. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society Great Lakes Division, 18505 W. Twelve Mile Road, Southfield, Mich. 48076. Funeral arrangements were made by Casterline Funeral Home of South Lyon.

(Freeman) Schwehofer — who survives him — on Aug. 25, 1961. Mr. Schwehofer also worked on the Great Lakes in steamships and on Michigan oil rigs. He enjoyed fishing, deer hunting, and telling jokes. Mr. Schwehofer was a member of the United Church of God in Ann Arbor and was a South Lyon resident for many years.

In addition to his wife, Mr. Schwehofer is survived by his siblings, James Schwehofer, Benjamin Schwehofer, Peter Schwehofer, Dorothy Ann Wathen, David Schwehofer,

Mary Rhein, Jean Pelling, Josephine Schwehofer and Annett Burgess. He was preceded in death by one brother.

A memorial service for Mr. Schwehofer will be held at 1 p.m., Feb. 2 at Trinity Middle School in Ann Arbor. Mr. Randy D'Alessandro will officiate the service. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society Great Lakes Division, 18505 W. Twelve Mile Road, Southfield, Mich. 48076. Funeral arrangements were made by Casterline Funeral Home of South Lyon.

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REGIONAL MARKETPLACE

Page 15A Thursday, January 31, 2002

Get a healthy dose of home cooking
Leon's offers two locations where you can get the meals like your mom made you

LEON'S
Leon's has a total of 11 locations, with two locally. One is located in Novi at 39455 10 Mile Road call (248) 478-9742 and the other is in Wixom across from the Ford plant at 29710 S. Wixom Road, call (248) 926-5880. Hours are 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Saturday and Sunday 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

By Annette Jaworski
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Freshness and a menu with choices might describe why Leon's restaurants are a success. It's two things you can count on when visiting the Novi or Wixom locations. But you should probably include a strong dose of work ethic by founder and owner, Moe Leon.

Back to Basics
The proprietor doesn't believe in taking the easy way out. To him, a successful chain of restaurants means long hours and good food means never taking shortcuts. That means fresh food all the time, not pre-prepared, like home made potatoes for hash browns and home made soups. "Everything we serve is prepared here, just like home cooking. For hash browns we cut and peel the potatoes," he pointed out. His restaurant is geared toward family dining by offering a wide variety of dishes and an emphasis on healthy eating. He's particularly proud to offer the freshest fruit and heart healthy dishes.

All Your Favorite Choices

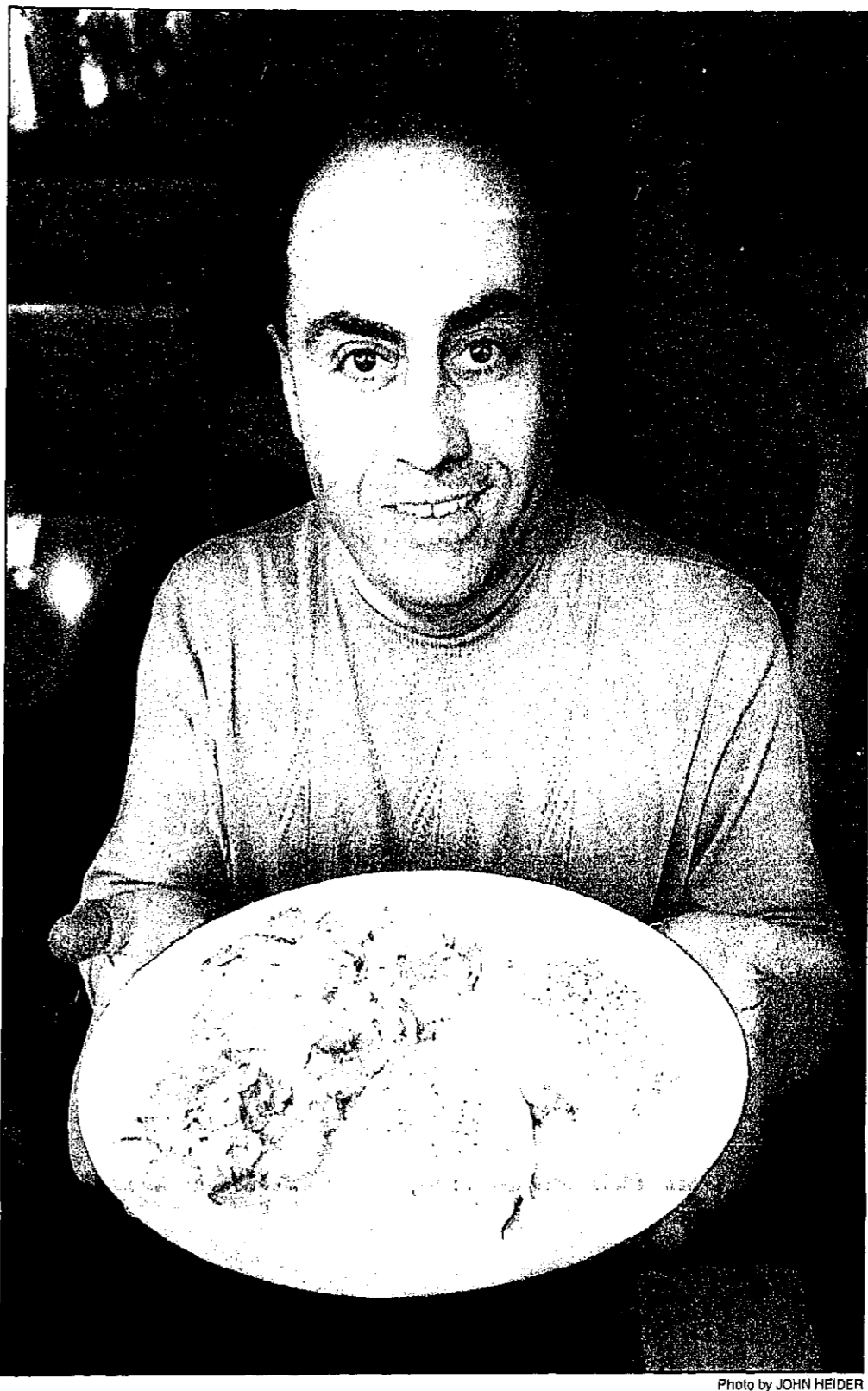
Seven days a week you can count on your favorites. If you've got a taste for stuffed peppers, come in on Monday, any Monday, and it's on special. If you crave chicken parmesan come in on Saturday, it's always on special. Also, six days a week you have a healthy choice of fish, from broiled salmon to rainbow trout. Or find your favorites like fish and chips or barbecued ribs. All the dinners include the all you can eat soup bar, choice of salad or applesauce, cottage cheese or coleslaw and most are \$6.95-\$7.95 for the entire meal. In addition to daily specials, they offer senior discounts and a kiddie's menu to please customers.

Their Specialties

Another popular favorite offered by Leon's is their breakfast buffet on Saturday and Sunday. Look for fresh fruits and pastries as well as 15 to 20 other items including all your traditional favorites like waffles, French toast, biscuits and sausage and hash browns. The buffet also includes juice. The homemade soup bar is a trademark of sorts for the restaurant. There are three different soups offered each day, chicken noodle every day and two other selections. Depending on which day you stop in, there might be a creamy clam chowder or Canadian cheese or a lighter choice like vegetable or cabbage.

The Customer is King

And if you don't see it on the menu, they'll be happy to satisfy your appetite. Just ask and chances are great they can make it for you. The staff aims to please.



Moe Leon, owner of Leon's, offers breakfast diners many treats including eggs benedict and hashbrowns.

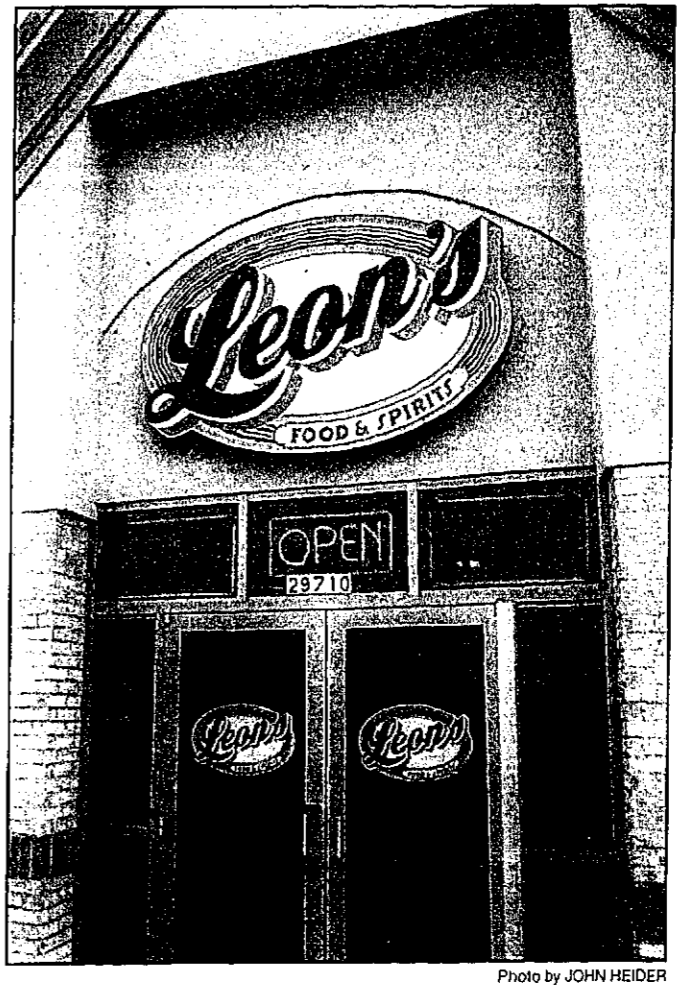
"I go out of my way to please the customer...if the customer is happy, everybody's happy," he said.

Leon observes that it's great help like server Gina in Wixom that makes customer satisfaction possible. One employee in Novi has been with him since opening in 1983, and now her two children have grown and work there, too. He's proud to have served the area for 19 years.

You might be surprised to know that Leon's also offers catering and a banquet room with facilities for up to 100 people. In Wixom, they also serve beer, wine and cocktails.

And in keeping with the more health conscious clientele, Leon took the bold move of turning his Novi restaurant into a smoke-free environment on Jan. 1. At first he did a trial run, and decided it was a good idea. "Since then I've had nothing but good comments," he observed. "We've also seen a lot of families that we've never seen before."

You might also have noticed them recently on television station WXYZ where the Leon's crew spent an entire day with Warren Pierce covering dishes from omelet's to salads.



Leon's on Wixom Road.

REGIONAL MARKETPLACE: UP NEXT
Feb. 7 Club Elite, Northville
Feb. 14 Waterwheel Health Clubs, Northville

Tips to saving big on homeowners insurance

By Lori A. Bahnmueller
MICHIGAN CREDIT UNION LEAGUE

Unless you've recently purchased a home or filed a claim, chances are you haven't visited your homeowners insurance policy in a while.

The price you pay for your homeowners insurance can vary by hundreds of dollars depending on the company you buy your policy from. Companies offer several types of discounts, but they don't offer the same discount or the same amount of discount in all states. That's why you should ask your agent or company representative about any discounts available to you.

From the Insurance Information Institute (www.iii.org), the following 12 steps may help save money on your homeowners insurance.

Shop around

Friends, family, the phone book and Internet are some of the sources you can use to find homeowners insurers. Get a wide range of prices from several companies.

But don't consider price alone. The insurer you select should offer both a fair price and excellent service. Quality service may cost a bit more, but you buy insurance in case you need to make a claim, so it's important to get a company with a good reputation. Talk to a number of insurers to get a feeling for the type of service they give. Ask them what they would do to lower your costs.

Check the financial ratings of the companies with AM Best or Standard and Poor's.

Raise your deductible

Deductibles are the amount of money you have to pay toward a loss before your insurance company starts to pay. Deductibles on homeowners policies typically start at \$250. However, if you double that deductible you could save up to 12 percent. Increase it to \$1,000 and your savings potential increases to 24 percent. Buy your home and auto policies for the same insurer.

Some companies that sell homeowners, auto and liability coverage will take 5 to 15 percent off your premium if you buy two or more policies from them.

When you buy a home

Consider how much insuring it will cost. A new home's electrical, heating and plumbing systems and overall structure are likely to be in better shape than those of an older house. Insurers may offer you a discount of 8 to 15 percent if your house is new. Avoiding areas that are prone to floods can save you about \$100 a year for flood insurance. Homeowners insurance does not cover flood-related damage. Also, the closer your home is to firefighters and their equipment, the lower your premium will be.

Insure home, not land

The land under your house isn't at risk from theft, windstorm, fire and the other perils covered in your homeowners policy. So don't include its value in deciding how much homeowners

insurance to buy. If you do, you'll pay a higher premium than you should.

Improve your home security and safety. You can usually get discounts for the discount. Before you buy a detector, burglar alarm, or dead-bolt locks. Some companies offer to cut your premium by as much as 15 or 20 percent if you install a sophisticated sprinkler system and a fire and burglar alarm that rings at the police station or other monitoring facility.

These systems aren't cheap and not every system qualifies for the discount. Before you buy such a system, find out what kind your insurer recommends and how much the device would cost and how much you'd save on premiums.

Stop smoking

Smoking accounts for more than 23,000 residential fires a year. That's why some insurers offer to reduce premiums if all the residents in a house don't smoke.

Retired people stay at home more and spot fires sooner than working people and have more time for maintaining their homes. If you're at least 55-years-old and retired, you may qualify for a discount up to 10 percent for some companies.

Get group coverage

Alumni and business associations often work out an insurance package with an insurance company, which includes a discount for association members. Ask your association's director if an insurer is offering a discount on homeowners insurance to you and your fellow graduates or colleagues.

It can pay to be loyal

If you've kept your coverage with a company for several years, you may receive special consideration. Several insurers will reduce their premiums by 5 percent if you stay with them for three to five years; by 10 percent if you remain a policyholder for six years or more.

Test the limits

You want your policy to cover any major purchases or addition to your home. But you don't want to spend money for coverage you don't need.

Look for private insurers

If you live in a high-risk area — one that is especially vulnerable to coastal storms, fires, or crime — and have been buying your homeowners insurance through a government plan, you should check with an insurance agent or company representative. You may find that there are steps you can take that would allow you to buy insurance at a lower price in the private market.

Lori A. Bahnmueller is vice president of Association Services for the Michigan Credit Union League. Send financial questions to: "Your Money Matters," c/o Michigan Credit Union League, P.O. Box 8054, Plymouth, MI 48170-8054. Or visit the League Web site at www.mcul.org.

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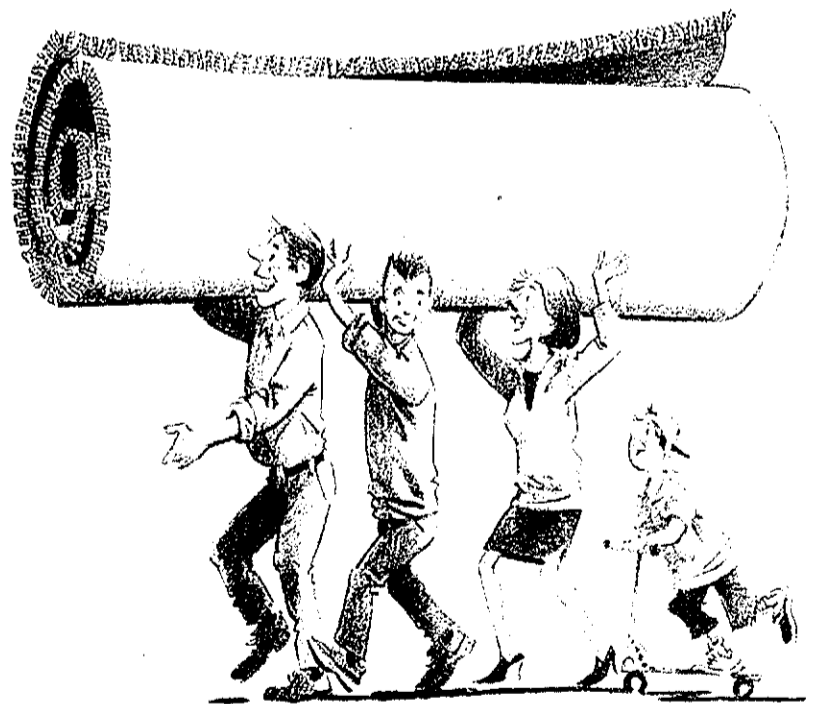
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Victors in the Battle of the Baseline

Novi tops Northville in game that shot the lights out of the Ice Arena

By Sam Eggleston
 SPORTS WRITER

The Novi Wildcats knew they were a third-period hockey team with the ability to score when the time was needed. They just didn't know they were going to score so much.

The 'Cats, led by coach Dan Phelps, had to rely on their ability to notch tough third-period goals last Friday when they took on the Northville Mustangs in the Battle of the Baseline game and came away with a 6-3 non-conference victory. Two days prior, the 'Cats made another mark in the Kensington Valley Conference with a 10-2 slaughter of the South Lyon Lions.

Between the two games, the Northville victory did more for team morale, determination and pride than any conference victory could possibly bring.

"It was a true Battle of the Baseline," senior Robby Overfield said. "Northville is a team with a lot of determination and a lot of dedication. They took the early lead on us and we had to fight to come back for the win."

The early 3-1 lead of the Mustangs looked as though it would be enough to top the 'Cats — but that wasn't the case. The Wildcats followed the lead of defenseman Bryan Ellis, who collected three points on the night, as the Wildcats made a comeback in the third period, scoring four unanswered goals for the win.

"You never know what is going to happen when you go into a game like this," Phelps said of the Novi-Northville rivalry. "We knew that Northville wasn't going to give up, not at all. We were able to come back in the third period and put together some much needed goals."

The first Wildcat goal of the night came from rock-steady senior Adam Haberman with 3:23 left in the first period with assists from Ellis and Brian Jausst. The Mustangs were quick to answer though, collecting two goals in the first period to take a 2-1 lead. The first goal came with two minutes remaining in the first with the Mustangs coming against goalie Dan Morrison on a power play. Ryan Hohl took an assist from Bobby Salerno and put it past Morrison with the second assist

going to Tim Hillebrand. Just 20 seconds later, sophomore Troy Engelland added Northville's second score with a backhand on the open wide-side of the goal with assists being credited to his brother, senior Jason Engelland, and Jeff Crawford.

The Mustangs kept their momentum through the early minutes of the second period as well. Jason Engelland found Crawford standing alone in the slot and fed him the puck on a soft pass from behind the net, which Crawford quickly snapped into the goal for a 3-1 lead. The second assist went to senior defenseman Adam Dilley.

"They came out strong against us," Haberman said. "We are a third period team and we knew it would be close for the first two. After they scored their three goals, we just put the nails in the coffin."

The Wildcats discovered that four nails would be all they would need to secure the lid to that coffin.

Novi came back with a goal from Overfield with 3:04 remaining in the second period to cut the Mustang lead to one with assists going to Justin Collins and Chaz Bulbuk. The goal came just a minute and a half after Northville's Jason Engelland sent a slapshot off of a teammate's stick and to the ceiling of the ice house, shattering the glass covering the light just above Morrison's head in goal, causing a brief delay in play that gave the Wildcats time to come back and regroup.

"We knew what it was going to take to win," Northville coach Jeff Bond said. "We had to keep Novi from playing their game and keep the tempo going in our favor. We did that until the end of the second period and they just came back with everything they had."

Everything the Novi squad had included Robert Vulaj, who scored with assistance from John Murray and Ellis with 12:12 remaining in the game to tie it all up. Six minutes later, Overfield scored on a tight pass from Robby Harrell that made its way through the sticks and skates of two Northville defenders before being blasted past Northville's goalie Dave Stewart for the score and the lead.

"We came out ready to play," Overfield said. "We were pumped in the third period and we came out



Fred Napier prepares to take a face-off in last Friday's game.

Photo by JOHN HEIDER

there looking to score some goals." Harrell scored at the 4:28 mark with an assist coming from Vulaj to put the cap on some well-timed and planned Novi attacks to seal the game against the Mustangs and to give the Wildcats a 5-3 lead.

With three minutes left in the game, the Mustangs pulled Stewart in hopes of being able to notch a couple scores of their own, but the plan backfired. Haberman took a pass from Ellis at the blue line and made no attempt to hurry his shot as he gracefully tagged the back of the net without a Mustang in sight to cap the scoring on the night.

"You have to love shots like

those," Haberman said. "I just saw the open net and shot. The rest was on the scoreboard."

The Wildcats relied heavily on their defense, especially in the second and third periods, to shut down the Mustangs. Ray Kennedy and Collins were extremely effective for Novi's defense while Morrison handled the shots, power plays and glass that the Mustangs threw at him.

The 'Cats will return to action when they host the Pinckney Pirates in a Kensington Valley Conference game Feb. 5 at 7 p.m.

Novi 10, South Lyon 2

The Novi Wildcats left no doubt about who controls their destiny in the KVC when they shelled the Lions with a devastating loss Jan. 23.

The 'Cats followed the lead of captain Jared Perras, who had a five-point game, on their way to victory while John Murray collected four points on the night along with Harrell, Overfield and Haberman.

The Lions were the first to score in the contest, but the Wildcats answered swiftly and often. Their first goals on the night came in the first period with Murray and Harrell notching a score each

before the crew collected four goals in the second period.

The third period found the Lions notching their second and last goal of the night before the Wildcats added four more to cap the scoring and to put the game on ice.

Trent Sisson and Steve Stork shared time between the posts with each giving up a goal and both looking solid against 17 shots apiece. Collins ended the game with three points to add to his statistics list while Jausst collected two points in the win. The 'Cats collected only two penalty calls against them the entire night.

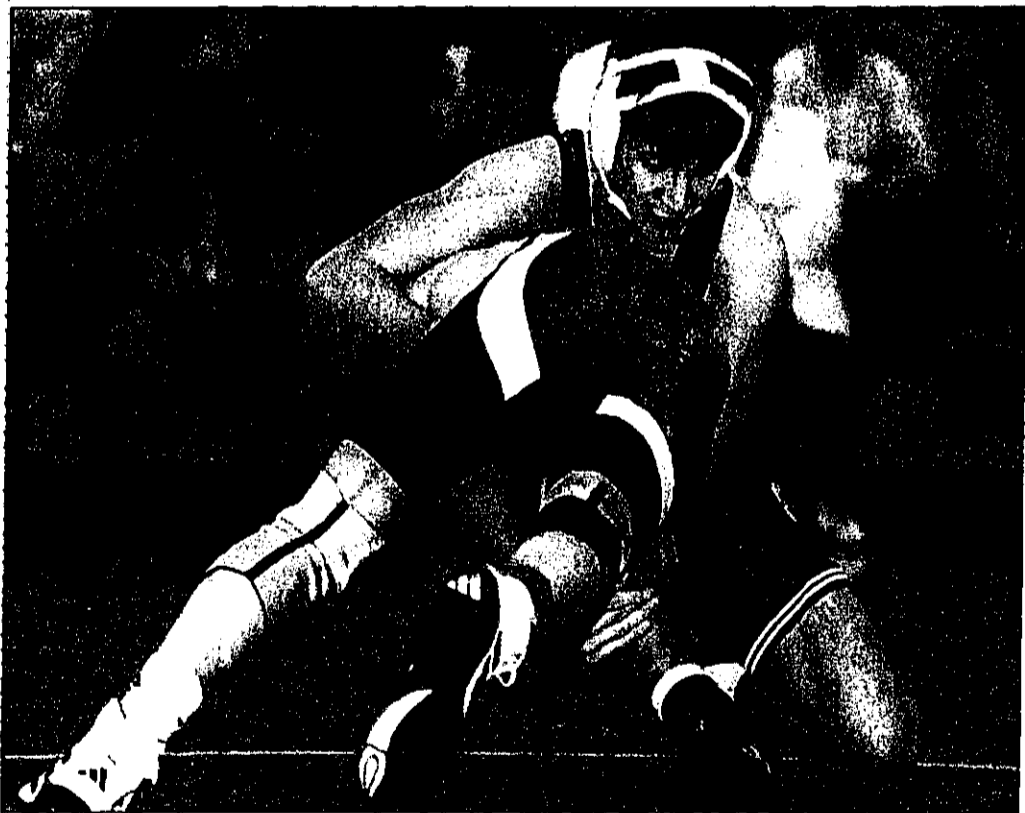


Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Novi's J.R. Muldoon, top, wrestles Howell's Chaz Tillman.

Wrestling goes right here

By Sam Eggleston
 SPORTS WRITER

When a wrestling team starts to feel the pinch of injuries, most begin to slow down — not the Novi Wildcats.

The 'Cats, who are feeling the pinch of major injuries to Brian Ong, Scott Kortlandt, Matt Kolich, Andy Becker and Brad Terbeek, are still going strong. They have notched wins over Brighton (43-21, Jan. 18) and Milford (49-6, Jan. 18) as well as collecting wins in the Super Duals against Stevenson (46-18, Jan. 19) and Roseville (48-24) before topping Lakeland 60-6 Jan. 25 and Pinckney 33-24.

"We are extremely beat up at this point," Novi coach Brad Huss

said. "We have lost seven starters due to serious injuries."

The Novi grapplers are not ready to give up, no matter what amount of starters are out with injuries. Against Brighton, the Wildcats rolled as they followed the lead of their top wrestlers. Craig Hearn collected a pin (103-pound weight class) in one minute, 43 seconds while Josh Churella notched a pin (125) in 52 seconds. J. R. Muldoon (130) was not about to be left out and collected a pin in 5:47 while Ong (135) got his pin in four minutes flat. Chris Stallard (140) won on a void, as did Kolich (215), while Matt Harsha-Strong (145) won 12-5 and Kortlandt (189) got a pin in 2:45.

Against Milford, the Wildcats

made it known they were not ready to get a loss in the Kensington Valley Conference. Hearn got a pin in 45 seconds while Churella kept up his brutal winning pace with a pin in 2:48. Muldoon notched a win in 5:08 while Terbeek got a 7-6 decision. Stallard, Vince Slovan (171, dec. 14-2), Kortlandt (dec. 11-8) and Kolich (pin, 2:45) each earned wins.

Heading into the Super Duals, the Wildcats were on quite a roll. In their win over Stevenson (46-18), the Novi grapplers got wins from Hearn (pin, 4:56), Passaniti (112, void), Eric Hansen (119, void), Churella (pin, 1:42), Muldoon (dec., 9-8), Ong (dec., 7-

Continued on 2

Novi cheer working hard

By Brian Doyle
 SPECIAL WRITER

The Novi Varsity cheer team has made an excellent showing on the last two Saturdays, performing at the Oakland-Macomb meet and hosting the Novi Invitational.

On Saturday January 26, the Novi varsity cheerleaders headed to Grosse Pointe South to compete in the Oakland-Macomb meet. The team made a strong showing and finished second out of the five Class A teams.

"We had a strong day all around," said Novi cheer coach Amy Denys.

The team began the day with a strong showing in the vocal area of round one. Out of ten points, the team received 9.5, 9.5, and 10 for their cheer in the areas of voice inflection, clarity, volume and word choice.

"Our aim has always been to work on our vocals in our material," Denys said.

Novi made some cheers at the beginning that they feel may

have helped their performance. The team kept on going strong with their performance in round two.

"Round two had an incredibly strong beginning," Denys said.

The first part was the precision drill in which the team did very well. In the precision drill the girls received a 9.5, 9.5 and 9.

"The precision drill was executed nearly perfectly," Denys said. The girls kept on going strong in the third and final round and made drastic improvements.

The team improved nearly 60 points above the previous week. Their final score was 672.5 only behind Sterling Heights Stevenson's 697 and ahead of Troy Athens, who they were behind last week, who had 650 points.

"We had a much better showing than last weekend," Denys said.

The team still feels that they can improve in certain areas as they prepare for the KVC meet Saturday at South Lyon.

"There are still improvements to be made, but I was very pleased that so much improvement was evident," Denys said.

The team made a strong showing and has a group of very talented girls.

"I have great seniors, my seniors are all really great role models. They do really well in school, so they're really great in that sense," Denys said.

The team also has a group of juniors which the coach said were very good.

"Lisa Matheny and Nicole Root are both really dedicated and determined and really good all around," Denys said.

The team also hosted an event on Saturday January 19. Fifty-four teams at all levels came to Novi making it the biggest it has ever been. Novi's junior varsity cheer team took first place in their division of 11 teams showing their capabilities. The freshman also did very well and took second place out of ten teams.

Novi's varsity did well and

Continued on 3

Broadwell is definition of dedicated

By Sara-Beth O'Connor
 SPECIAL WRITER

Six years, 12 seasons, 66 months, 168 games, and over 520 practices make up the time senior Jenny Broadwell will have spent cheerleading at the end of her high school career.

Going into the second half of her senior year, Broadwell has experienced a lot. Beating Brighton for the first time in cheerleading, earning the honor of being a Valedictorian, and the tragedy on September 11 when terrorism first struck the United States.

"I was in class," Broadwell said. "And now I know I'll never be as excited to fly in an air-



Jenny Broadwell

plane."

In taking pride for the United States, the Novi cheer team took on a new theme for their competition performances. They cheer

for patriotism and their country. Broadwell competes in all three rounds during competitions with her teammates. Not every girl can be in every cheer, and Broadwell as a team co-captain leads the team in every round.

"She is a great role model," said coach Amy Denys. "She's the kind of kid that all coaches hope to have on their team because of her complete commitment to the sport."

Making the varsity team as a sophomore Broadwell had to leave her friends she had been cheering with for the past three years.

"I'm glad I did it, but it was a

Continued on 3

'Cats bounce Pinckney

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

When you have a center the likes of Janice Schram and a shooter like Shaun Dicken, you use them. That's exactly what the Wildcats have been doing this season and that is exactly what they did against Pinckney last Friday night.

The Novi Wildcats' boys' basketball team followed the lead of Schram, as did everyone, as he led all scorers with 22 points, while outside shooting star junior guard Dicken added 21 points in the 58-56 shelling of the Pirates.

Novi (8-3 overall, 4-2 KVC) staged a game behind league leaders South Lyon and Brighton with the win while the Pirates 14-6, 3-3 fell to fourth place in the with the Howell Highlanders.

The first quarter seemed to be all Novi as the Wildcats collected 21 points to Pinckney's eight while missing only a single shot the entire quarter. The second quarter was much of the same, with the 'Cats putting together an 18-3 run to go up by as many as 28 points.

Pinckney senior Adam Lezotte knuckled down a three-point field goal to open the second quarter and the Pirates didn't score again until a jumper filled the basket with less than a minute to play in the quarter. Schram and Dicken combined for 19 points in the first quarter, but Schram picked up two quick fouls late in the first, which forced Novi coach Pat Schiller to sit his star center on the bench for most of the second quarter. Even with Schram sitting out, the Pirates could not gain the upper hand with Dicken showing his worth with nine points in the quarter.

The Pirates were far from done, though, and came out looking to take away much of the Wildcats' 22-point halftime lead and succeeded in doing so by chipping the lead fourth place in the with the Howell Highlanders tomorrow at 7 p.m. in a KVC contest.

The Wildcats will return to action when they visit the Howell Highlanders tomorrow at 7 p.m. in a KVC contest.

Novi followed the advice of Schiller, who said he believed fewer minutes to play in the quarter would be one of the most important fundamentals of basketball, and hit seven foul shots in the fourth to put the game out of reach. The Novi cagers collected a total of

Wrestlers still looking strong despite injuries

Continued from 1

OJ, Stallard (dec., 10-2), Slovan (void), Kortlandt (void) and Chad Thurman (void). The victory over Roseville (48-24) found Hearn (pin, 1:24), Passantini (pin, 1:20), Hansen (void), Churella (pin, 1:15), A. J. Morris (1:52, pin, 4:40), Slovan (pin, 1:59), Thurman (void) and Joe Harris (2:75, void) getting wins.

The Super Duals were not all fun and games though. The 'Cats felt the sting of losses to Bedford (48-19) and to Detroit Catholic Central (47-20). Against Bedford, Hearn (9-8), Churella (15-4), Muldoon (8-4), Burch (pin, 1:56) and Slovan (pin, 1:26) each earned wins. Against CC, Churella (pin, 28 seconds), Muldoon (technical), Ong (pin, 1:16) and Burch (7-6) notched victories — the injuries to the

Passantini (pin, 1:12), Collin Cody (1:25, void), Muldoon (pin), Andy Sunslow (1:35, pin), Stallard (pin), Morris (pin), Slovan (pin), Kelch (void), Josh Buck (2:15, void) and Harris (void) notching wins. The match against KVC opponent Pinckney (Nov 33-24) found Hearn (pin, 36 seconds), Scott Bergeson (1:19, pin), Slovan (void), Kelch (pin) and Harris (pin) getting victories.

"We are 16-3 (overall) and 5-0 in the KVC," Huss said, noting they will resume action when they take on Hartland Friday. "If we can get a couple of key guys back, we can beat Hartland on Friday."

"In 12 years combined, I haven't seen this many injuries. It is a shame because we have an excellent team."

Brad Huss
Wrestling coach

The Super Duals were not all fun and games though. The 'Cats felt the sting of losses to Bedford (48-19) and to Detroit Catholic Central (47-20). Against Bedford, Hearn (9-8), Churella (15-4), Muldoon (8-4), Burch (pin, 1:56) and Slovan (pin, 1:26) each earned wins. Against CC, Churella (pin, 28 seconds), Muldoon (technical), Ong (pin, 1:16) and Burch (7-6) notched victories — the injuries to the

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@home.com.net.

Next Level Athletes

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

The Next Level Athletes portion of the sports section is dedicated to the local athletes of Northville, Novi and Westland Lake areas and schools who have taken the next step to play sports at the next level. It is here we are able to commend them, applaud them and congratulate them for jobs well done.

Christine Herridon, senior, Elmhurst College — Christine Herridon, a graduate of Northville High School, is a member of the Elmhurst College — Hooey's. Herridon recently led the Bluejays in scoring with 15 points in a 72-44 loss against North Central. The Bluejays are a charter member of the CCBW and compete at the NCAA Division II level.

Joe Hillbrand, Co-Captain, Junior A Hockey club — Joe Hillbrand, a former Northville resident and graduate of Redford Catholic Central High School, is a co-captain with the Green Mountain Glades Junior A Hockey Club. Hillbrand was named Player of the Week in the Eastern Junior Hockey League for the week ending

Jan. 20. He received the honor after he collected two goals and two assists versus Bridgewater and three goals against the Stars to finish off a five game weekend. Hillbrand also attends Vermont Community College part-time.

Chris Toloff, freshman, Michigan State University — Chris Toloff, a 2001 graduate of Novi High School, is continuing to make a name for himself, this time at the collegiate level. Toloff collected many honors this season, including a place on the Big Ten Conference Second-Team All-Conference team as well as being named as Athlete of the Week in the Big Ten this season. In addition, Toloff was named to the All-Great Lakes Regional Team and was the MSU freshman of the year. Toloff collected a second place finish against Grand Valley (first for the Spartans), a ninth place finish in the Spartan fronted team third, a 23rd place finish in the Big Ten meet (team first), a 22nd place finish in the pre-Nationals (team first), a ninth-place finish in the Big Ten Championships (team first), a 22nd place finish in the Regionals (team fifth) and a 54th-place finish in the Nationals (team first).

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Broadwell loves cheer, 7th Heaven

Continued from 1

big adjustment," said Broadwell. Being one of four sophomores to move up to the varsity team was hard to do. She had to catch up with the skills of the older more experienced girls and then keep up with them.

Along with cheering varsity for three years, Broadwell plans on participating with her twin sister, Lindsey. In their fourth season of varsity golf this spring.

The best thing about having a twin is always having someone to talk to and hang out with," Broadwell said. "The worst part is when she steals my clothes, but I guess any sister would do that."

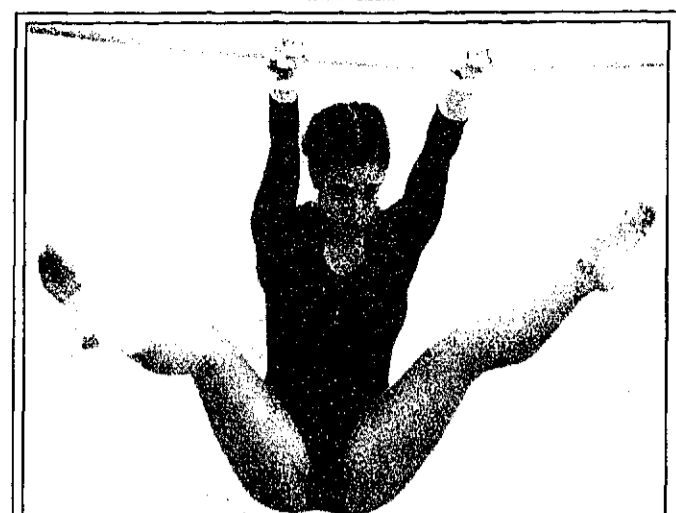
These reheaded twins are not troublemakers at all. They have never switched places or taken advantage of looking alike. They are very understanding when people mistake them each other and do answer to each other's name.

The craziest thing they've done is sunbathed on the roof," said Broadwell. "A couple years ago our Mom didn't want to go to the pool and we thought it would be cool to sunbathe on the roof instead."

Needless to say mother Lynn Broadwell was scared but everything turned out ok.

Jenny accepts people the way they are," said Lynn. Broadwell has made many lasting friendships with that attitude.

Broadwell has a great relationship with all her family members. Her younger sister by a couple



Andrea Ledbetter performs on the bars in December 2001.

minutes Lindsey, 12 year old, Missy, and her mom and dad, Lynn and Scott have all supported her through out high school.

"They always want what's best for me," Broadwell said.

Focusing on her grades and also having a co-op job as a secretary at Novi Middle School, Broadwell enjoys her time off.

On a "slow day" for Broadwell, one can usually find her hanging out with her friends. She enjoys shopping and going to the movies. Her favorite show, Seventh Heaven, is always waiting for her on tape after a long week of cheer. She takes it every week because she is at practice when it is on. After high school Broadwell plans on cheering for a summer job.

"I'm trying out for Victory staff," Broadwell said. "It's a summer day camp where I would be teaching cheers and skills to younger girls."

Before graduating she hopes to go to states for cheerleading. Jenny Broadwell will leave the Novi cheer team as the first person the have consistent gymnastic skills such as back handsprings and tumbling passes.

She will leave the high school as a Valedictorian, a reputation of being a sweet and humble girl, and her motto of, "Never give up."

Sara-Beth O'Connor 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.

JV Scores

NOVI JV BASKETBALL
Overall Record: 10-1, 6-0 KVC
The Novi JV basketball team, coached by Bill Kelp, traveled to Pinckney last Friday and crushed the Pirates, 49-26, to remain undefeated in league play. The Wildcats jumped out to a 16-6 lead after the first quarter and never looked back. All the Wildcats saw playing action on the night, Brad Simpson tossed in 11 points, and Brad Chandler added five. Kelp's squad won two more games the previous week over cross-town rival Northville and KVC for Milford. The Wildcats completed their 2-game season sweep by winning, 56-48, at Northville. Novi JV led the entire game against a scrappy Mustang team. Mark Angelucci led the Wildcats with 17 points, and Brad Simpson tossed in eight.

NOVI 9th VOLLEYBALL
UNDEFEATED
The Novi freshmen volleyball team remains undefeated for the season with wins last week over Farmington Harrison, Lakeland, Howell, and Pinckney.

Cheer improving

Continued from 1

earned an honorable mention with a score of 582.5 and a seventh place finish. They started out the day with what Denys called a "flawless first round performance." The team had overcome the fact that one of the team members was very sick hours before the performance.

"She really pulled through for her teammates," Denys said.

The second round cheer earned the team their highest score to that point with 187. This round is very important to the team and they will need to build this round even more if they want to be a contender at regionals in the end of February.

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.

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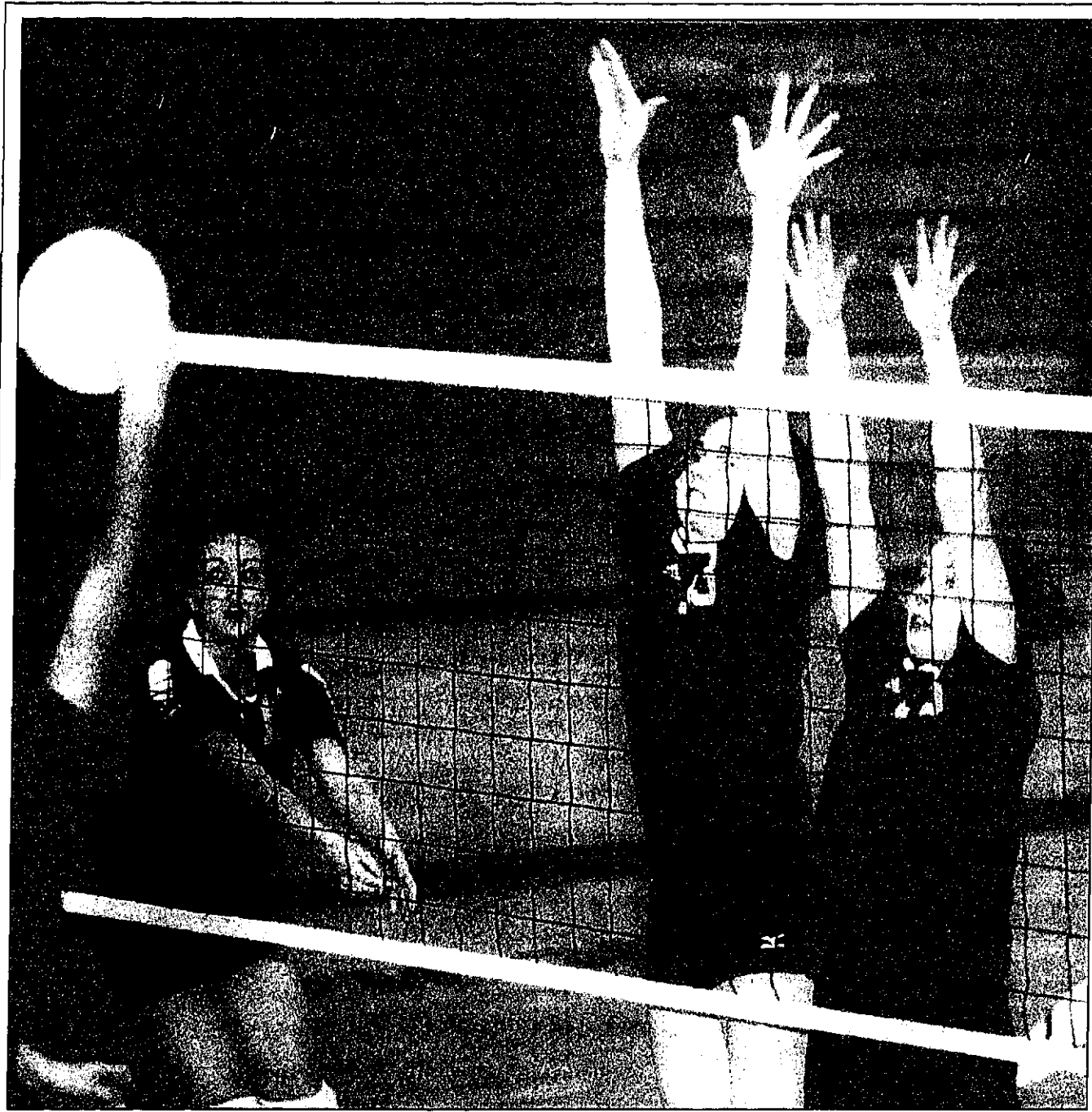


Photo by JOHN HEIDER

A pair of Vikings go up for a block against a soft lob shot at the net by a Mustang. The Central spikers have been on a roll and are just one game behind in the WLAA conference race.

WLC spikers still winning

Viking volleyball team tops Canton Chiefs

By Brian Doyle
SPECIAL WRITER

The Walled Lake Central Volleyball team continued their success on Wednesday, January 28, when they beat Plymouth Canton.

The Vikings lost their first game of the match in a close one, 15-17. After that, however, the team got down to business.

"We kind of dinked around right there at the end [of the first game]," Viking head coach Mike Lindstrom said.

The Vikings had the lead most of the first game but lost it in the end.

Walled Lake Central came back and won the next two games 15-4, 15-4 to take the match. As soon as they had lost the first game, reality set in and the team stepped up their performance.

"Part of it was we hadn't played since [January] the 14," Lindstrom said.

The Vikings had not had matches the previous week because of Finals and then because of Martin Luther King

day. The Vikings were aided especially by three very strong players. Junior Katie Rademacher had 11 blocks, 16 kills, and went 12-13 serving. Kelsey Cross, setter and another junior, had 43 assists, and was a perfect 11-11 serving with 2 aces.

Cross and Rademacher are both second year starters even though they are only juniors. Amy Rathsburg also played strong and had 14 kills, and went 10-10 serving with three aces.

According to Lindstrom, senior Stephanie Klasowski, junior Jackie Fisher, and junior Kansas Raby had good games. Although the team may have had a lull over the week previous to their match, a lack of games will no longer be a problem.

"From now on it's a couple games a week," Lindstrom said.

With this win the team's overall record improved to 17-9-2. Inside the Western Lakes conference, the team is 3-1 having beaten Franklin, Walled Lake

Western, and now Plymouth Canton. Their only loss came to Salem on January 9.

"We were kind of sluggish the night we played Salem," Lindstrom said.

Despite that loss the team still has high hopes of winning the conference.

"Neither of us have played Churchill," Lindstrom said.

Currently, Walled Lake Central is behind Salem because of their loss to them. However, Lindstrom believes the team is looking forward to their match against Churchill on February 6.

"That's our opportunity to get back in the door," he said.

The team does have some obstacles to overcome the rest of the year. According to Lindstrom, staying healthy is something they've had a little trouble with but look to overcome. Still, the team believes they can play with anyone.

"We have the total capability of being ranked in the state," Lindstrom said.

The team is full of strong players.

"We're very dynamic," Lindstrom said.

The team has a range of athletes which help them out.

"We do a lot of things well. We block well, we pass well and we have five or six kids that can spike," Lindstrom said.

The team has two middle hitters that can touch rim and Allison Summerville who is playing for Oakland University this year.

The team will compete in the West Bloomfield invitational on Saturday. It will be a tough tournament and the Vikings are in a pool with Novi, Tempest Bedford, Salem, and Marion. Mike Lindstrom believes the team will do well.

He said, "I think we're going to do well. We finished third last year and we are a better team this year."

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.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Central's center and captain Erik Wilcox tries to corral a pass.

Central gets win two, downs Salem

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

Some say the third times a charm — Walled Lake Central basketball coach Bob Shoemaker just might agree with that statement, but the Plymouth Salem Rocks won't.

The Central Vikings basketball team took on the Salem cagers and walked away with a 48-43 Western Lakes Activities Association win Jan. 25. The Rocks, who were playing in their third consecutive overtime game against a WLAA opponent, became the second team to fall to the Vikings this season. In the Rocks' other overtime games, they defeated North Farmington 67-59 and beat Plymouth Canton 63-58 — that was not the case when they took on the determined and win-hungry Vikings of Walled Lake Central.

The Vikings held the Rocks, who were without leading scorer David Hoskins and starting guard Stevland Davis — both benched after reportedly violating team rules, to just six points in the fourth quarter and overtime combined as they rolled to a win.

The Rocks fell for the first time in WLAA play, standing at 6-5 overall and 4-1 in the conference, while the Vikings celebrate the sweet taste of victory with a 2-10 record (2-4 WLAA).

The Vikings sat back in a 2-3 zone and did their best to dictate the tempo of the game. The Salem basketball team tried to mix up their defense to get the game back in their favor, but the Vikings still prevailed.

The Salem squad led the Central cagers 12-9 after one quarter and increased their lead by halftime, 23-18. Going into the fourth quarter, the Rocks had increased their lead even more to 37-31 and looked as though they would be able to hold on for the win — but not against these Vikings.

The Walled Lake Central Vikings boys basketball team had something to prove when they took on a very tough Plymouth Salem Rocks team. They had to prove they were a force to be reckoned with in the WLAA.

Walled Lake Central held the usually powerful Rocks to just two points in the fourth quarter as they made their comeback. The Walled Lake Central basketball team outscored Plymouth Salem 16-6 in the final 13 minutes to ensure the victory.

The Central squad followed the lead of Brandon Cassise, who continued his absolutely stellar shooting for 21 points, while the relentless and determined Maxx Morris poured in 11 points with his hard-nose style of play.

The Vikings will return to action when they host the Farmington Hills Hawks tomorrow at 7 p.m. in a WLAA contest before hosting the Northville Mustangs Feb. 5 at 7 p.m. in another Western Lakes Conference bout.

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.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Western's Brian Verdun tries to save a rebound from going out of bounds during a home game in January.

Western basketball team notches victory against Plymouth Canton

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

At least it isn't the Walled Lake Western Warriors boys basketball team hearing the lectures and watching the demonstrations of fundamentals this week — they already know the value of a good free throw.

The Walled Lake Western Warriors took advantage of poor free-throw shooting and costly turnovers to notch another win this season — this time over Western Lakes Activities Association opponent Plymouth Canton 64-55.

The win boosted the Warriors to 7-5 overall this season and 4-2 in the conference while Canton fell to 5-6 overall and 2-3 in the WLAA.

The Warriors didn't make this game an easy one for their opponents as they took a 21-11 first-quarter lead. The Chiefs were not

going to be stuffed away in the win column that easy though and came back to tie the game 35-35 in the third quarter.

It is at a moment like that when momentum plays the most vital of roles. Three straight Canton turnovers found the Warriors back in the driver's seat and Canton's errant free-throw shooting — 6-of-14 in the game, including 2-of-9 in the fourth quarter — proved enough to put the final nails in the coffin.

Western was more than prepared for their shooting from the charity line thanks to the coaching of Rex Stanczak. The Warriors converted 20-of-25 from the line, including an impressive 15-of-17 in the fourth quarter.

Another shining moment for the Warriors was their point leader, Stellar point guard David Zeitlin proved he had more to offer that fancy passing and excellent court

awareness as he poured in 19 points to pace the Western cagers while teammate Bryan Verdun continued his steady performance with 17 points on the night.

Nick Houdek and Kyle Lasko each scored 11 points for the Plymouth Canton Chiefs in the losing effort.

The Warriors will return to action when they take on the Farmington Hills Harrison Hawks in a Western Lakes Activities Association contest tomorrow at Harrison with tip-off scheduled for 7 p.m. The Warriors will take another trip when they visit the Farmington Falcons in another WLAA match up Feb. 5 at 7 p.m.

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