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#### INSIDE



100 day celebration

On. Jan. 30, the first-grade students at Orchard Hills Elementary in Novi celebrated the 100th day of learning for the 2001-2002 school year in grand

- Page 3A

#### MARKETPLACE



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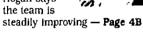
Swimmers riding a wave

The Wildcats, led by coach Larry Teahan, took and eighth place finish in the Oakland County Invitational swim meet - Page 1B

#### W. L. SPORTS

#### Western ice chips

The Walled Lake Central Hockey team falls to Livonia Franklin 4-2. but coach Jim Hogan says the team is



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## One Call Does it

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## City set to sell Mitchell property

Sandstone to purchase property as part of settlement agreement

By Victoria Sadiocha

With the settlement agreement on its way to the finish line, it looks as though the last piece of controversial property in North Novi Park will be sold to Sandstone Associates without further trouble to the city.

Despite initial arguments by members of the Friends of Novi Parks that selling the property may result in a potential lawsuit. 40 acres of park land once owned by Paul and Marianna Mitchell will more than likely go quietly away.

Arguments regarding the potential sale of

Judge John J. McDonald's Dec. 11 ruling following court proceedings between the City of Novi, Friends of Novi Parks and Sandstone. McDonald ruled despite arguments other-

wise, there is no prohibition upon the transfer of the Mitchell property even though it had been purchased under the power of eminent domain by the city. The judge ruled since the property was

transfer will be lawful. Lynda Racey, attorney and member of

the Mitchell property to Sandstone were quashed by Oakland County Circuit Court ing additional compensation by the Mitchells ing additional compensation by the Mitchells could be another potential lawsuit for the

> Racey drew attention to the 1994 condemnation of private property for the development of parks for public recreation docu-ment signed in Oakland County Circuit Court by the Mitchells, city officials and McDonald.

The document, which sealed the deal for the city to take the property, states at purchased in good faith to create a park, the the bottom the payment taken by the Mitchells from the city shall be without prejudice to the right of the land owners

to seek additional just compensation. In December, Racey called the language of the 1994 document clear and open-ended a

position she now backs away from. "We brought it to the city's attention so I am now assuming they looked into it," Racey said as to why she now believes there may

not be a viable lawsuit Paul Mitchell said he's asked legal council about seeking additional compensation since the land may now potentially be used for residential development, but did not find an attorney who felt he had a case.

Continued on page 4

## Schools plan for **MEAP** testing

By Angelo Parlove

From Jan. 21 through Feb. 8, the Novi Schools' fourth, fifth, seventh and eighth-grade students sized up their knowledge of math and science, as well as put their reading and writing skills to the rigors of the Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) tests.

Over the past years, MEAP testing has been a common measure of accountability for Michigan schools and a leading indicator for strengths and weaknesses of a district's curriculum when compared to standards established by the state of Michigan.

However, the Novi Community School District is choosing to development for its children, too, when assessing its MEAP scores, instead of strictly comparing student and district results against each other.

"We want to use it as a broader indication of what the kids can do." said Novi Schools' curriculum and testing coordinator Jane Hesse. "We want to look at the children over a cross-section of time.

Meaning, the district uses MEAP results to monitor an individual's growth from fifth grade to eighth grade and then onto high school. and attempt to meet the students' needs as they progress through the

"We want to be aware of the challenges to our students as they move through the school system. Hesse said

Thus, the students' MEAP scores are evaluated from year-to-year instead of comparing, say, this year's fifth grade class to the previous one.

"We want to compare the same kids to the same kids," said Novi Schools' assistant superintendent Rita Traynor. "It takes time to analyze it on an individual basis, but you give teachers information back on what the kids know.'

At the end of the year, teachers can then look at the data for the incoming students and assess their strengths and shortcomings.

creates conversations between teachers and they plan accordingly," Hesse said.



Photos by JOHN HEIDER

Andy Capanyola and Erin Reid were part of a Novi High School team that was recognized for its TV production skills by the Michigan Association of Broadcasters. Other members were Geoff Paquette, Sarah Wilson and Jordon Moblo.

## pen mic: Students capture awards

By Angelo Parlove

A handful of Novi High School students will be honored this month in Lansing for their broadcasting excellence.

The Michigan Association of Broadcasters (MAB) will recognize two Novi radio and television projects at the Great Lakes Broadcasting Conference on Feb. 18-20.

The students competed in the MAB High School and College Broadcast Awards Competition, which saw 253 entries from 14 high schools and six colleges.

Novi High School seniors Andy Capanyola, Jordan Mobio, Geoff Paquette, Erin Reid and Sarah Wilson produced a short television feature, "Senior Goodbye," which won first place as a large group television entry.

"It was our first project, so we weren't expecting much out of it, but it turned out good," Moblo said.

The four-and-a-half minute feature, which was made last April, captured the last days of school for the Novi High School class of 2001 in a montage of interviews, short video clips



Novi High School junior Kelly McMann nabbed a third place award.

"It has a strong narrative quality. The emotion in it is genuine without being forced," said Novi High School broadcasting teacher and WOVI 89.5 FM station manager David

Legg. "It struck a nice balance between emotion and telling a story.'

"Senior Goodbye" focused on what the out-going senior class will miss most about Novi High School, as well as what the underclassmen will miss about the departing stu-

"It was fun to make. I couldn't wait to work on it each day," Reid said.

Furthermore, junior Kelly McMann won an honorable mention third-place finish in the radio air-check category for a recording of her music request show on the student-run WOVI 89.5 FM radio sta-

"Kelly's strong point is her on-air personality that bubbles through and makes for a

strong show," Legg said. The honorable mention finish recognizes McMann's on-air delivery, creativity and show

All MAB entries were judged by profession-

al broadcasters throughout Michigan.

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

## candidacy for state representative

"Running for state office has

always been something I have had

By Anna Troppens STAFF WRITER

Lyon Township resident Doug Curry will throw his name into the hat as a Republican candidate for the 38th District state representative seat.

The district includes South Lyon and Lyon Township, as well as Wixom, Walled Lake, Novi and Northville south of Eight. Mile Road.

Boundaries for the 38th District were redrawn last year by the Legislature after U.S. Census Bureau results were released.

Because of the population increase, the physical size of the district decreased The

District is an open contest as term-District

limited Rep. Nancy Cassis (R-Novi) will run for the 15th

Senate seat against Rep. Mike Kowall (R-White Lake). And **Doug Curry** last week Sean Carlson.

Commerce, through his hat into the

15th District ring.

a desire to do," Curry said. He decided to run for office because of "an overriding desire to serve" and a love for his state. "I believe deeply in the concept of citizen involvement in the affairs of

our community and hold a life-long love and pride in the state in which I live," he said. "My parents, long ago, taught me the importance of involvement in the world around me and encouraged me to engage in activities that could be of service to others. The idea of helping to make a positive difference has always been a driving force for me." Curry wants to make Michigan an "even better place to live and grow," he said. If elected as state

representative of the 38th District. he would bring with him experience centered in community and professional involvement. Throughout my life, whether it

has been with my family, church, profession or community, I have strived to make my commitment to involvement and service to others a reality," he said.

In addition, he said he would address and represent the needs and desires of the local communi-

ty, as well as bring a strong interest and level of concern for the statewide issues of natural and human resources, health and education.

State officials should help provide workforce training, educational opportunities and job security all of which impact an individual's

ability to be successful, Curry said. One of Curry's focuses in his current position as executive director of the Michigan Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance is promoting

Continued on page 4

pictures of the items they brought

to class and passed out certificates'

to those with 100 days of perfect attendance so far this school year.

Samantha Smith, "You do lots of

stuff with 100, and 100 is my

Furthermore, the students took

the classic children's song, "I've

Been Working on the Railroad,"

and re-worded the tune into the

"100th Day Song," with the kids'

singing the new lyrics: "We've been

working in our classroom for 100

"There's so many thing to with

the number 100, you can't do them

first-grade teacher Becky Hurst.

favorite number."

days."

"My grandma is Japanese, and all," said Orchard Hills Elementary

"I love 100th day," said Orchard Hills Elementary first-grader

## Novi Robotics Team prepares for competition

By Angelo Parlove

Some voring minds from Novi are taking up the national challenge to build the nightiest 130-pound, remote controlled robot. The Novi Robotics Team, comstudents, are in the midst of a  $\sin \epsilon$ week project to brainstorm, design — machines, ... and construct a fully functional nacce of machinery that can out manetiver and out muscle its rival.

For Inspiration and Recognition of and mechanical engineer Daniel. Science and Technology (FIRST). Gee, "There will be over 600 huge, It gives us an advantage over in April at Walt Disney World in Robotics Competition, which will teams across the U.S. participatsee over 20,000 students and 600 ling and there will be over 600 member Jeff Hepler said. come from across the U.S. square. different solutions to the proboff for brouging rights to the lems." mation's top polint.

The class, you have to work hard only to develop innovation and all day to keep the kids interest- competitive spirit in students, but develop the kids," said Intier repreed." Novi High School math foster leadership skills and dedica- sentative Joe Gabiniewicz, "These teacher and Robotics Team facultation, as well.

ty advisor Duke Kelly said, "You

The purpose; to build a robot gate a playing surface, scoop soc- Competition. cer balls at will and score them in bullied around by competing The limits: the creative mind.

The project is part in the 2002 Robotics Competition supporter

Moreover, the event aims not

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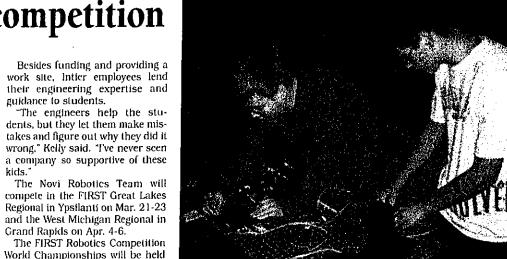
Tired of being cooped up this winter? igthered Tired of looking at the same old furniture?

"The secret of building a suc- Besides funding and providing a get them here working on this cessful team is not to assemble the work site, Intier employees lend project, and they don't want to go largest team possible, but rather to their engineering expertise and assemble a team that can work guidance to students. well together," said Dean Kamen, nearly five-feet tall that can navi- founder of the FIRST Robotics

Currently, the Novi Robotics wrong," Kelly said, "I've never seen osed of over 30 Novi High School - moveable goals, all without being - Team meets six days a week to fin- a company so supportive of these ish its robot by the Feb. 19 deadline date mandated by FIRST rules. The team meets at Magna "It teaches high school stu- Automotive Testing of Novi, a dividents how to design, engineer sion of Intier Automotive, an inter- and the West Michigan Regional in and problem solve," said FIRST - national automotive interior design - Grand Rapids on Apr. 4-6.

> "To be able to use a full shop is World Championships will be held other schools," Novi Robotics Team Orlando, Fla. Infler is the Novi Robotics Team's primary sponsor.

ing the community and helping to aparlove@ht.homecomm.net. kids are real sharp."



the Novi News. He can be reached Members of the Novi Robotics Team work on their robot, which "This is intier's way of support- at (248) 349-1700, ext. 108 or at is part of the FIRST competition.



Angelo Parlove is a staff writer for

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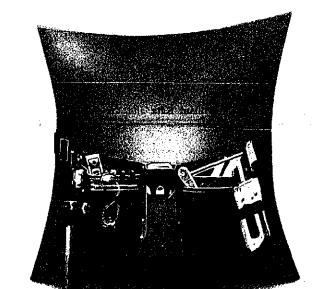
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## Orchard Hills students celebrate 100th school day

"I love the 100th

day (of school). You

100, and 100 is my

do lots of stuff with

Orchard Hills first-grader Tyler

All subjects of learning were

Samantha Smith

By Angelo Partove

year in grand style.

Happy 100th day of school! On. Jan. 30, the first-grade students at Orchard Hills Elementary in Novi celebrated the 100th day of learning for the 2001-2002 school

The school seized the opportunity to turn just another day of class into a theme-related event, with the youngster's entire day centered around the number 100. "On 100's Day that magic number comes to life as children have the opportunity to touch and see and play with 100 items," said Orchard Hills Elementary first- D'Ambrosio brought in 100 pairs of teacher chopsticks.

Grabowski. Each student brought in 100 she thought it would be nice to items of a favorite thing, such as bring them in," D'Ambrosio said. crayons, candy canes, hockey incorporated into the day's theme. for the Novi News. He can be cards and puzzle pieces, which Students wrote about what they reached at (248) 349-1700. ext. 108 they then counted into piles of two. would do with \$100, counted for- or at aparlove@ht.homecomm.net. five and 10 on their desks.

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#### The following Novi students were military training at Lackland Air named to the dean's list at Force Base in San Antonio. Woltman University of Michigan-Dearborn is the son of Debora Going of Utica for the fall 2001 semester: Sarah Chan, William Katz and Trevor and Bill Woltmann of Wixom. The following Novi residents were Laupmanis. Tax time is a great time to think about a State Farm Individual Retirement Annuity. What are WHENEVER minutes? WHENEVER minutes" are plan minutes that nay be used anythne, whenever you want - reekday, weekend, day or night - while in your roceStream neighborhood State Farm IRA funded by 41390 W. 10 Mile Rd. Corner of Meadowbro What promotions are available to 248-477-0094 (Fax) Email: mike.gabriel.bo6r@statefarm.com NSURANCE



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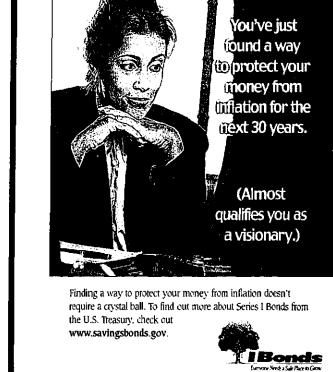
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## City set to sell Mitchell property

Continued from page 1

. In July of 1993, Mitchell sent a letter to ejty officials stating he did — land he would not have received not want to sell his acreage to the the money in one lump sum, but ity for park land. He stated be felt instead in installments, which he could realize greater profit if it—could have been over a five to 10 was developed for single-family year period. He also said he looks

In the end the city condemned the property and paid Mitchell \$998.919 from the \$9.9 million in City of Novi, said anyone can file a order approved bonds to acquire lawsuit, but the city did acquire his property for passive recreation—the property in good faith and is park land. The city had originally lawfully entitled to transfer the attened to pay him \$996,919. He was OK with me," Mitchell - the settlement agreement. and looking back on the condem-

ake it away from me.' Although Mitchell is a little sur- 27 years. prised to learn property he wanted to sell for residential development may now be used for that some purpose, he said there realis isn't anything he can do about

"You can't hold them [city offl-(ads) accountable forever and ver," he said, "It shows what the jovernment can do for you." Muchell said it isn't entirely a

Curry announces candidacy for state

Continued from page 1

the benefits of maintaining a healthy body weight. This is also Michigan residents rank in the top

cially public **ed**ucation.

school teacher in Detroit for 20 Education, Recreation and Dance, years and in Livonia for 10 years. ils role as a decision maker. "I will base **my** decisio**ns o**n prin-

olpies of effectiveness and respon- place in August, followed by the this position acknowledging the Curry said he will be busy with the tact that I do not have all the process of filing as a candidate and answers, but with the understanding that by working hard in cooper- during the next couple of weeks. ition with others, we collectively can come up with the best answers för Michigan effizens. Curry emphasized he is not run-

ning again<del>s</del>t anyone "Lam running for the opportunity to serve," he sald. "I will endeavor to let citizens know who I am they feel I can effectively serve atroppens@ht.homecomm.net.

them in Lansing, I hope they elect "I will always remember that it is my privilege to serve them and will

State University

The primary election will take

## High School Choir receive high marks at state competition

By Angelo Parlove

The Novi High School choir students stormed Bloomfield Hills with their singing prowess. On Jan. 25-26, the students participated in the Michigan School Vocal Music Association [MSVMA] District IV Solo and Ensemble Festival, which was held at Andover High School.

"It was an incredible experience for the kids," said Novi High School Hardikar, Varshney and Zhao, as well as Amelia Burkhardt, Kelsey choir director Don Daniels. They spent a tremendous amount of ime developing their skills to Nickels, Samantha Perry, Lindsay achieve a high level of expertise." Sprague, Christina Thompson The Novi Singers, the Novi Women's Ensemble and the Novi Michelle Zanskas and Kendall Men's Ensemble all received a First Division rating for their perform-

to work to develop the highest level

soloists spent months preparing their solos, often coachance. To receive this honor, stuing with professional voice teachers to improve their performance." dents must sing with the perfect blend of artistic and technical Daniels said. The students that received a First Division rating are eligible to

"Each performance must be executed with the highest level of techparticipate at the State Solo and Ensemble Festival on April 12-13 nical accuracy, and then develop at Walled Lake Western High an artistic and aesthetic interpretation. Danleis said. This chal- School. lenges each choral music student

Angelo Parlove is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached The following Novi High School at (248) 349-1700, ext. 108 or at ensemble members received First aparlove@ht.homecomm.net.

"I've used this money ever since,"

Mitchell said if he did develop his at the present value of the money he received from the city.

Cerald Fisher, attorney for the property to Sandstone as part of The Mitchell property abuts the

nation. It said let me develop it or - former Novi Tree Farm and had been in Paul Mitchell's family for On July 22, 1998 another con-

demnation judgment was signed Robert and Marcella LaReau lawfully taking a portion of their prop-

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

# representative

me. If not, so be it. one of his statewide interests since be grateful for the opportunity if

und a concern for education, espe- Island Queen at Kensington Metropark, serving as a trustee on In fact, Curry-has served on the the South Lyon Community Schools South Lyon Community Schools Board of Education and working as Board of Education for 19 years. In executive director of the Michigan iddition, he worked as a public. Association of Health, Physical He grew up in Detroit and has a He will strive to be an effective master's degree in health and listener and a constant learner in physical education from Wayne

lbility," Curry said, "I will come to general election in November setting up a campaign committee He and his wife April have three adult children - Todd, Ryan and enjoys running and walking, golfing, gardening, bicycling and

and what I have to offer. I trust the - the South Lyon Herald. She can be judgment of my fellow citizens. If reached at (248) 437-2011 or at

Division ratings: Ashley Atkins,

Andrew Becker, Matthew Britten.

Erin Chupinsky, Jeffrey Dodds,

Grant Flennoy, Marie Gouba,

Ashwini Hardikar, Timothy Kava.

Mark Ringvelski, Christopher

Sandberg, AJ Sansom, Bethany

Snow, Julie Stevens, Pranidhi

The following also received First

Division ratings for individual per-

formances: Atkins , Britten.

Chupinsky, Stevens, Gouba,

Varshney and Nancy Zhao.

## From her home to yours Local woman watches home business take off

table and hanging from library room doors

Looking your best has never been easier and Northville resident Pamela Szmadzinski is armed with scores of feminine ensembles and plenty of spring fashion ideas.

Szmadzinski, a wardrobe consultant representing Doncaster, is hosting a trunk show at her residence through Feb. 8. After initially purchasing some clothing from the Doncaster line approximately eight years ago, Szmadzinski said she fell in love with the quality and caliber of the fabric and workman-

"They look brand new to this day," she said "Eight years ago I went to a trunk show in Novi. The litens! hanging in the closet remain my

The clothing line is designed for women size 2-18, she said. Petite sizes are also available. In August 2001, Szmadzinski said she had the opportunity to attend another trunk show in Muskegon after having not seen any items from the Doncaster collection for several

"I fell in love with them all over again," she one in the area and asked if I was interested in opening an agency."

Based on her satisfaction with the high-fashion apparel. Szmadzinski began her agency in Szmadzinski said she is allowed to

"I fell in love with them all over again. I researched where I could buy them her and the company said there was really no one in the area and asked if I was interested

Northville resident Pamela Szmadzinski sells the Doncaster line of clothing out of her home. Apparel is displayed on her pool

Pamela Szmadzinski

one week during each season. However, clients do not have to wait for trunk shows to purchase new garments. Szmadzinski sald patrons may order year-long

in opening an agency."

swatches. Whether you're looking for streamlined said. "I researched where I could buy them slacks, sophisticated suits or comfortable office a half to arrive and exchanges and returns can here and the company said there was really no or casual wear, Szmadzinski said she can help buyers piece together the perfect ensemble for any occasion in her relaxed, private home envi-

"Professional women love it because they don't have to go to the mall." Szmadzinski said. "it's a very personal service. It's similar to havhome and display all of the clothes for off as well as it has."

"If someone told me a year ago I'd be selling clothes out of my home, I would have said

In addition to being able to try on numerous pieces with ease and efficiency in comfortable surroundings, Szmadzinski said the fabrics are crafted from high quality materials including washable linens and silks.

"The fabrics are wonderful," she said. "This appeals to me. I like clothes and I do like to shop but this is much easier. I fell in love with the quality. For some reason, these clothes feel so nice on. It's a personal, service-oriented way

Szmadzinski also said that customers will be able to find casual wear, denim, leather, sporty, professional and dressy attire. "This line is good for young to old," said Szmadzinski. "There's something for everyone." She also said clients will have spacious accommodations inside her home to try on

"I really want them to feel like they're a friend in my home," said Szmadzinski, "There from a large portfolio, complete with fabric isn't anything in this line that doesn't feel Clothing orders take approximately one and

> be easily handled, she said. Appointments to view and try on pieces of the Doncaster line may be scheduled by contacting Pamela Szmadzinski at (248) 347-2187.

Jennifer Norris is a staff writer for the Northville Record. She can be reached at (248) market the Doncaster clothing out of her ing a personal shopper. I didn't expect it to take 349-1700 ext. 107 or by e-mail at inomis@ht.homecomm.net.



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## District braces for potential cutbacks

#### By Angelo Parlove

Novi Community School District officials are bracing themselves for potential educa- what we will do in the future," tional cutbacks as a jaw-dropping said Novi Schools' assistant udget deficit looms ahead for the 2002-2003 fiscal year.

The district is currently estinating a budget deficit of over come head to head with some of \$2.25 million for its general oper- the issues we will find." iting fund, which covers the dayto-day operations of the district. two public hearings before the Novi including such educational Board of Education to seek public expenses as teacher salaries and comments regarding its budget enefits, school busses and plans and potential cutbacks. books and supplies, as well as. These hearings are tentatively ontinuing learning programs. "It's not a matter if we're going to have reductions, I think its a mat- I think we'll rise to occasion.

ter of how extensive of reductions make the necessary cuts that we we'll make and what the impact of have to that will have the least these reductions will be," said Novi impact on the educational pro-Schools' superintendent Emmett gram and we'll get through this,' Lippe. "I hope I'm 100 percent sald Novl Board of Education wrong, but on this particular topic, treasurer Julia Abrams. I'm not that optimistic." Thus, the district is assembling for the Novi News. He can be

in advisory committee composed - reached at 12481 349-1700, ext. 108 of school representatives and or at anadove@ht.homecomm.net.

community members to discuss a plan of attack for the upcoming 2002-2003 fiscal year budget. which begins on July 1.

"We are going to start to decide superintendent of finance James Koster. "We have to review the district in a priority fashion and

The district anticipates holding scheduled for Feb. 21 and Feb. 28 "We are a strong school district

Angelo Parlove is a staff writer

Great Valentine's Day Earring Sale!

### District uncertain about financial future By Angelo Parlove

potential budgets crises facing district. Michigan schools for the 2002-

'State of the State' address on Jan. 23) I waited for some hint of a solution to this problem." Koster said at the Jan. 24 Novi Board of the State' is over, and we still don't legislature to do something about ting. know what we will get next year."

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Engler, Novi Schools was expecting - ty, a cash reserve of over nine per- Koster said. Novi Schools assistant superin- to receive a \$200 per student cent of its general operating fund, tendent of finance James Koster increase in state aid for its general to ease the situation. expressed his disappointment for operating fund for the 2002-2003 the lack of answers coming from school year, resulting in about \$1.2 problem," said Novi Schools' superthe state government regarding the million more money overall for the intendent Emmett Lippe. "You will

nomic downturn, the state of expense." "During (Gov. John Engler's Michigan is not promising any increase at all in state aid for schools statewide. "We currently rely almost entire-

through millage elections for the how much or when." general operating fund was climinated by law with the passing of ly on the state for our funding. For Proposal A in 1994, Novi Schools is the Novi News. He can be reached Education meeting. "The State of the sake of the children, we ask the turning its attention to cost cut- at (248) 349-1700, ext. 108 or at "Our only option is to control this," Koster said.

According to the educational Furthermore, the district is costs because we have no control funding package adopted by Gov. reluctant to tap into its fund equi- any longer over our revenue," Currently, state aid accounts for

about 60 percent of Novi Schools' general operating fund, with the "That will only compound the rest coming from local tax revenue. "(The state) left the door open only have to borrow money next possibly that as we progress down the planning process, we may be However, due to the recent eco- year and then you have an interest able to get something," Koster said. "But no one knows at this point Thus, since seeking money

Angelo Parlove is a staff writer for



MOVIE GUIDE

SHOWTIMES 2/08 - 2/14 COLLATERAL DAMAGE IN SUR 11 15: 1 10 3 20 5.20. 7 20 15 - FRI SAT ES 1 1 20 H<mark>e count de monte cristo</mark> (PG-13) /SAT SUN 11 001 1 35 4 15 6 55, 9 35 A WALK TO REMEMBER (PG) (SAT SUN 10 55) 1 00 3 10 5 30 7 45



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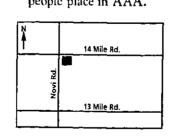
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Time: 9-11 a.m. Where: Wixom Comm. Center 49015 Pontiac Trail Who: Age 4-12

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35, 4:15, 6:55, 9:35 A WALK TO REMEMBER (PG)

1:50, 4:30, 7:20, 9:45 The rdyal tenenbaums (R)

BLACK HAWK DOWN (R)

12:40, 2:50, 5:00, 7:10, 9:15 A BEAUTIFUL MIND (PG-13)

1:30, 4:05, 6:40, 9:20 LORO OF THE RINGS (PG-13) 1:00, 4:40, 8:00

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#### **Library Lines**

Public Library is open Monday library meeting room. Community about using search engines to Dallas for the group's Feb. 14 through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 members are welcome to attend. p.m.; Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. The library is located at LIBRARY: Get up close and per- Suggested

STORY TIME NOTES: necessary for the all-ages event. Registration for spring story times begins. Feb. 11 and runs through available in the library. Spring Learn Internet basics in a America" show on Feb. 13 at 7 p.m. story times begin March 11.

information, call (248) 349-0720.

LIBRARY BOARD MEETING: Discover how the Internet works, The Novi Library board of directors practice using the Netscape GROUP: Senior booklovers are

LIBRARY HOURS: The Novi meets Feb. 11 at 7 p.m. in the Navigator browser and learn reading 'Alice's Tulips' by Sandra

WILD ANIMALS INVADE and hands-on practice. 45245 W. Ten Mile Road. For more sonal with wild birds and animals "Mastering the Mouse for Storyteller Linda Day will share her Feb. 12 at 1 p.m. No registration is advance for the class.

INTRODUCTION TO THE in your spring break with Baffling Feb. 23. Registration forms are INTERNET FOR SENIORS: Bill the Magician and his "I Love relaxed, supportive environment on Feb. 13 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

No registration is necessary. SENIOR BOOK DISCUSSION

find information. The class meeting at noon, which is held in includes interactive discussion the local history room. STORYTELLER LINDA DAY: pre-requisite:

from the Howell Nature Center on Seniors" Please register in stories on Feb. 14 at 1 p.m. The event is geared for children ages 4 and up. No registration is neces-MAGIC SHOW: Put some magic sary.

> THE WRITING LIFE: Award winning romance writer Kathleen Nance provides an insider's look at the world of writing and publishing popular fiction on Feb. 20 at 7 p.m. Registration is required.



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## Parkview Elementary celebrates Olympics

Parkview Elementary in Novi is and felt." bedecking its hallways with a The students are taking up the mighty collection student-made. Olympic challenge in teams of

The school's fourth-graders. under the guidance of Parkview different countries," said Elementary art teacher Leslic Parkview Elementary fourth-Starler and parent volunteers, are grader Curtis Berenguer, who is making over 50 national flags. tackling the classic white and red with each one representing a Polish flag. country and nationality of a student in the school's cultural-rich - teers are joining the students in

population. The project is part of the ing a helpful hand to the creative school-wide Olympic celebration, efforts. "One school. One world. Parkview celebrates the Olympics," which tant part of this project by sewing recognizes the 2002 Winter the flag banners and tracing intri-Olympics in Salt Lake City, Utah. cate flag elements on to the felt, It's up to the fourth-graders to said Parkylew Elementary PTO make the flags as a salute to the member Cindy Buckley.

Olympics," Starler said. The project began on Jan. 23, the school hallways through the with the kids sizing up the cre- week of Feb. 18. ative challenges that accompanies making a piece of national heritage that spans over three feet in colored felt.

"Making flags is a lot of fun," sald Parkview Elementary fourth- aparlove@hr.homecomm.net. grader Mary Reid, who is in

United Kingdom flag. "It's going to be messy dealing with a lot of glue

The flags will be displayed in

Angelo Parlove is a staff writer

for the Novi News. He can be

reached at (248) 349-1700, ext.

hand insights into some true Olympic adventures, lce skaters Elizabeth Punsalan and Jerod Swallow will be visiting

Parkview Elementary on Feb. 22, "It's fun learning about all the where they will talk to students about their experiences as U.S. Olympic competitors. The event is being sponsored by

Furthermore, parent volun tion, "One School. One World. the Olympic celebration and lend-Olympics," which aims to foster Buckley. student recognition and interest "Parents have been an impor Salt Lake City, Utah.

"(Punsalan and Swallow) will be the world. talking about their Olympic experi-

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letes, and that they are willing to consider to talk to our children is a real honor," Buckley

The skating duo, who married in Sept. of 1993, currently reside in Bloomfield Hills where they train under acclaimed coaches Igor Shpilband and Elizabeth Coates. Their training emphasizes a blend of on-and-off ice activities, including ballet, weights and ballroom

Punsalan and Swallow are also five-time U.S. National Dance Champions and plan to participate in the Winter and Spring 2002 Champions and Ice Tour.

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

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All interested bidders may obtain copies of the drawings and specifications from Etkin Skanska Inc. upon request and upon providing a bid deposit of \$50.00. Etkin Skanska Inc. will return all bid deposits to contractors(s) after bid date and when bid documents are returned to Etkin Skanska Inc. in good condition.

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#### Olympic skaters visit Parkview students and Jerod are professional ath-By Angelo Parlove "We appreciate that Elizabeth and Jerod are Next month, Novi students will get the opportunity to hear first-

professional althletes, and that they are willing to consider to talk to our children is a real

"We've also asked them to talk

healthy lifestyle," said Parkview the different cultures they've seen," Parkview Celebrates the Elementary PTO member Cindy Buckley said. Furthermore, the school's form as a figure skating pair, fin-

the Parkview Elementary PTO as ence, good sportsmanship and the about the exciting places their part of the schoolwide celebra- importance of maintaining a competitions have taken them and

Punsalan and Swallow, who perfor the 2002 Winter Olympics in Olympic celebration this month ished 14th and seventh at the 1994 honors cultural diversity across and 1998 Winter Olympics, respec-

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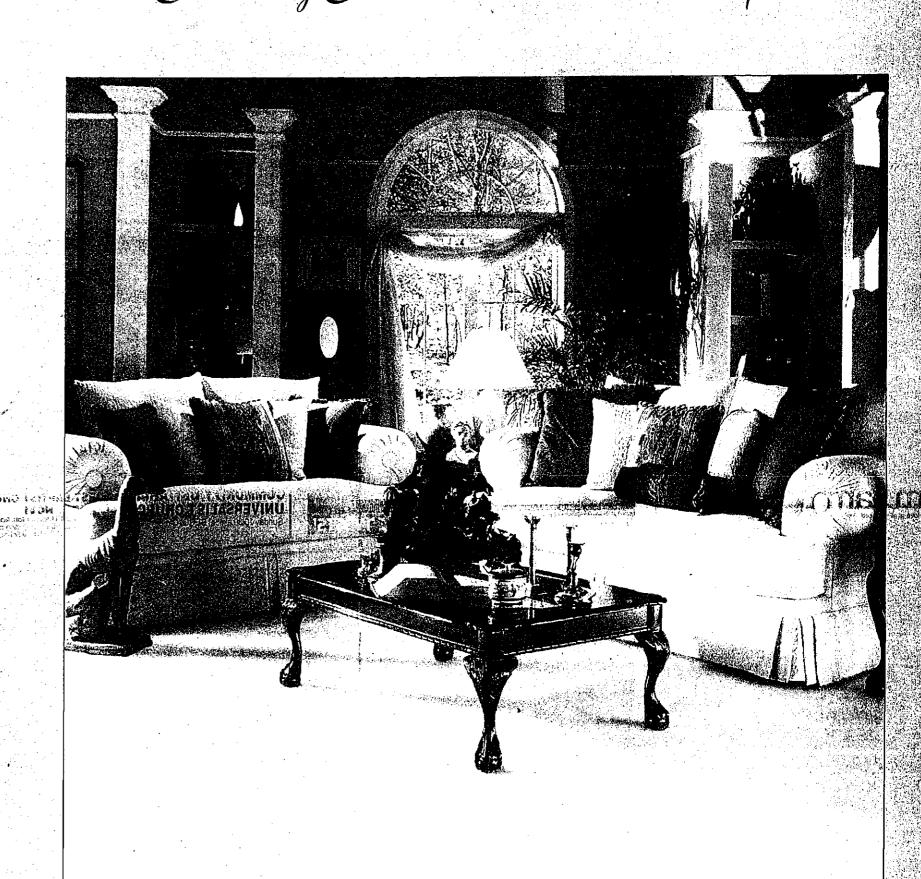


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#### **Obituaries**

#### Ernest L. "Ernie" Morris

Died Jan. 26, 2002 Beloved husband of Elizabeth "Betty" for 60 years. Dear Father of Reg (Sherriel, Sandy (Dave) Seifferlein, Larry, Alan (Joanne), Marsha, Debbie (John) Schumaker, David (Kathy) and the late Kathy Billings, Father in law of Mark Billings, 20 Grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, Brother of John Allen

Mr. Morris was a life long farmer, and was the farm manager of Toll Gate Farms for 36 years. Funeral Services were held Tuesday at O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, Donations to American Farmland Trust, 1200 18th St. Northwest, Suite 800, Washington D.C. 20036.

#### Peter Mrakitsch Peter Mrakitsch, 83, of Novi, died

Jan. 15 at Angela Hospice in

Mr. Mrakitsch was the husband of wife Edith (D'Angelo), father of Denise (Walter) Jenkins, grandfather of still (Michaell Kara, Brent Jenkins and his fiancee. Heather Elliot. He is also survivied by stepbrother Frank (Vera) Leblong and Thomas (Kay) Leblong, step-sisters Catherine Judge and Barbara Henderson, brother-in-law Carlo D'Angelo, and uncle to three generations of nieces and nephews. Visitation was held O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home in Novi, with the funeral liturgy held at Holy Family Church, Burial was conducted at Holy Sepulchire. Memorials may be sent Angela Hospice, 14400 Newburgh Road, Livonia 48154.

#### Jerome J. Cox

Jerome J. Cox died, 54, dan, 15, 2002 at St. Mary Hospital in

Mr. Cox was the Intsband of Joan; father of Andrew, Neil and David, Son-in-law Charles and Collette Dages, brother of Mary Ann Santilippo, Leo Cox, Colette

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 Vacuum over and around detectors to keep them free from dust and debris. When it comes to smoke detectors, a little change makes all the difference.



United States Fire Administration

Cox. Daniel Cox. and Casey Meyers. He is also survived by lovand brother and sister-in-law. the FBI for 28 years. He was also a U.S. veteran with the Air Force for

G €€€€

Visitation was held at O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home in ing nieces and nephews, in-laws. Novi, with the funeral liturgy at Holy Family Church, Burial was at Mr. Cox was a special agent with Rural Hill Cemetery in Northville. Memorials may be sent to the Jerry Cox Memorial Scholarship Fund, 1605 E. Central Road, #104,

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Roger Ebert, CHICAGO SUN-TIMES

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Beautyand the Beast

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Lloyd Edward O'Donnell Lloyd Edward O'Donnell, 81, died Jan. 16, 2002, at St. Joseph Hospital in Ann Arbor

Mr. O'Donnell was the husband

Arlington Heights, IL, 60005

of Mary Ellen, father of Mark, Craig O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home in (Kathleen), and Linda (Ronald) Hatfield. He was grandfather of Michelle, Adam, and Kate, Brother of Larry, Lorraine Langlois and the late Victoria Piquet, Allice Piquet and Jim O'Donnell.

Novl, with the burial at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Southfield. Memorials may be sent to the Alzheimer's Association of Detroit area Chapter, 17220 W. Twelve Mile Road, Suite 100, Southfield.

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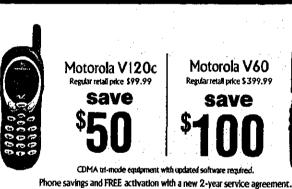
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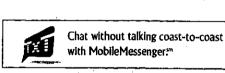
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#### **Statewide Briefs**

#### Waiting week may be added in UI reforms

to increase the unemployment ben- \$21,886. efits from \$300 per week to \$415. hey are also expected to try to ff workers can start collecting

package of bills, which is still being

But the AFL-CIO is already \$21,182. omplaining about it, "The House epublican plan includes a soilled waiting week, which proides no benefits during the first veek of unemployment," said spokesperson "It would more accuately be called a 'penalty' week, since benefits for that week yould only be paid if the worker emained unemployed for at least

The Michigan Chamber favors o-pay" into the unemployment—the state's aviation code. stem, similar to co-pays used in ther forms of insurance

#### Trash imports to go 'substantially higher'

Trash from Canada now constiutes 17 percent of the garbage flowing into Michigan landfills, up from 11 percent just two years ago. And the figure is expected to go "substantially higher" in 2003 when the metropolitan area of Toronto completes implementation of contracts to send 100 percent of its refuse across the border into this state's dumps, according to state Rep. Michael Bishop (R-Rochester.)

Further, Canadian haulers move the trash from Toronto to the border in small trucks. sealed to prevent leakage along the way. Once on U.S. soil, the garbage is transferred to large vehicles for transport to its fina destination.

Inside Michigan, the rubbish in those trucks is covered with noth ing more than a tarp, Bishop con-Bishop and fellow lawmakers Mike Kowall (R-White Lake) and Mickey Mortimer (R-Horton) are putting the final touches on a package of bills intended to ncrease regulations on the mportation of garbage to

#### State details plans for Mi-Family program

People who are trying to work heir way out of poverty won't risk osing their Medicaid health care benefits when they make a little more money, under a proposal unveiled by the state Department Community Health. The Mi-Family program will

more than memories alive.



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## extend Medicald benefits to an esti-

disabilities will be allowed to make up to \$31,188, without losing Medicaid. Currently, they are disqualified when they As Michigan Republicans move reach an income level of

Parents will be able to make up to 100 percent of the poverty level, install a "waiting week" before laid \$15,070 for a family of three, before losing benefits. Currently, they lose benefits at 50 percent of Legislators have not confirmed the poverty level, \$7,535 for a famhat the waiting week is in the ily of three. Pregnant women will be able to make \$23,980 before losing benefits. Currently the limit is

#### Fleet of state plans sparks

Rep. Robert Gosselin says some lawmakers want to "fly the friendly skies of Michigan" at taxpayer expense and are "trying to keep it ne idea as is a way of instituting a quiet" by burying it in an update of

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contends the Republican from Troy simply misunderstands. The bill would give legislative authority to the ongoing practice of operating a small fleet of planes. Michigan. Without reform, the

heads to meetings in remote parts the state to transport elected offi-

the door to the purchase of more Commissioner Frank Fitzgerald. planes. The word "acquire" was removed in committee, but when the bill reached the floor for a vote, Gilbert attempted to put that word back in. His motion failed

Gilbert explained the purchase of planes would be subject to the amend and pass the bill again in late Blue Cross, restructure the Blue

#### Blue Cross troubles called 'looming crisis'

nothing less than a "looming health care crisis. So says Barry Cargill, of the Small Business Association of

used chiefly to get department problems could, for small businesses, "spell the end of employer sponsored health care coverage." "If we ignore these symptoms possibility that BCBSM as we depend

> Premiums have increased of 25 percent annually for the last four years, yet Blue Cross has a \$400 million deficit. Fitzgerald is working on a three

buy back program

Michigan's Insurance

bill package to be introduced in the legislature shortly. The bills will increase the insurbudget. He said he will attempt to ance commissioner's ability to regu- that the gun is stolen or is the Cross board of directors, and create. a trust fund intended to protect res-

> idents should Blue Cross privatize. Granholm launches second

conduct a second firearm buy back program, running Thursday and

Jennifer Granholm said the first nuv-back, conducted in December resulted in 300 guns being turned in to Detroit police. For every functioning firearm

\$50 Meifer cash card redeemable for groceries and other merchandise at any Meijer store. The store has donated approximately \$30,000 to sup-Guns can be turned in from 8

a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Detroit Police Department's 8th Precinct, 21400 Grand River in Detroit. All guns turned in will destroyed unless it is determined subject of an ongoing investiga-

The program excludes police officers and firearms dealers. The program limits each individual who lurns in a weapon to a maximum of two Meijer cash cards.

Michigan's Attorney General will Abandonment law

A dozen newborns were surrendered by their parents to Michigan hospitals, fire departments and police stations during 2001. according to the state's Family Independent Agency.

FIA reported that all quickly adopted. Before that, it was estimated tha 10-12 babies were abandoned annually in Michigan each year, and in several cases

the children did not survive

Those results are good enough for Scn. Shirley Johnson IR-Roya Oak) to declare Michigan's "abandoned newborn law" a success. The law allows parents to anony mously give up their child up to 72

hours after birth at hospitals or fire and police station without legal reprisal. "The priority here is to save the baby's life by placing them in a safe and secure environment. While it is extremely unfortunate that we need this law, it does provide an option to extremely sad and unsafe



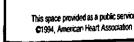


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Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the home towns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.

## Competition needed in broadband market

do so because we know that striv- and Energy in the Senate. ing to win brings out the best in Engler came up with the plan

underdog New England Patriots ations by the lack of access.

iron to battle for the championship, creation of 500,000 new jobs here. it should be lost on no one that

know that competition between of development. businesses will bring us the best in .... The problem with that argument services at the best prices, but it is that many of those critics have has to wear the white-and-black ket, for local telephone lines, is

And when it comes to the devel-

to spur development of broadband dominant in the cable industry in across the state. He has in mind—Michigan. the creation of an authority to provide capital for development of such dominant players will create a high speed access throughout most—broadband. of the state. That capital would be There are many who believe they made available, according to the are dragging their heels on broadplan, to private businesses or local—band because it is to their competi-

oversee the use of public rights-of- are lots of reasons to believe broadway that telecommunications band is being delayed, especially providers would use to run their since other less technically-orientlines to individual homes and busi- ed states have more access to high nesses. Use of the right-of-way speed service. would cost companies, according to - If the state wants to see broadthe present proposal 5 cents per band developed and avoid having to foot. The five bill package - Senate try to open up the broadband mar-Bills 879-81, 998 and 999 — have ket after the fact, after it has been expanded to include legisla- already been dominated by a player tion eliminating the "end user line" or two, it should lay the groundcharge" assessed to customers by work now for a competitive market. the telephone companies. The bills - And that is what Engler's proposals are now being reviewed by the would do.

governments to lay those lines.

Americans love competition. We Senate Committee on Technology

after a study of broadband develop-We recently celebrated what has ment by the Michigan Economic virtually become a national holiday Development Corporation concluddevoted to the competitive spirit, ed the new technology was being Superbowl Sunday, And we saw the - rolled out too slowly, and that there kind of extraordinary effort the con- were businesses in particular who test can draw from people when the were being hampered in their operbested the favored St. Louis Rams.

It is an economic development While we all recognize and admire—issue, according the governor. He the determination with which the believes that bringing more broadtwo teams went out onto the grid- band to Michigan could spur the Critics say the government ought

there were others on the field at the - not get involved here. They argue same time ... referees. Competition - that broadband is being developed only brings out the best in people in Michigan as quickly as the marwhen the game is played according ket will support it. Government should keep its hands off and let So it is with the free market. We—the free market determine the pace

only works when businesses play also been among the loudest comby the rules. When it comes to the plainers about the fact Michigan's free market, it is government that existing telecommunications maranything but competitive. Dominated as it is by Ameritech. opment of broadband, high speed competition for local phone service access to the Internet for Michigan is anemic at best and has been a residents and businesses, state long time coming. Three attempts government ought to be throwing by the legislature to spur a competdown a yellow flag for "delay of litive market have yet to produce much in the way of real results.

Gov. John Engler did just that Yes, high speed access can be when he called for a new program, - provided over cable lines too, but in known as "LinkMichigan," intended many ways, Comcast is just as

broadband infrastructure, the competitive market just because "backbone" lines that would carry—they are moving to a new field, to

tive advantage to do so.

Another authority would have to Engler's plan makes sense. There

GOVERNMENT

#### **United States Senate**

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**United States Congress** 

Joe Knollenberg (R-Bloomfield)

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#### Michigan Senate

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

#### Michigan House of Representatives

Nancy Cassis (R-Novi) State Capitol P.O. Box 30014 Lansing, MI (888)-38-NANCY

ncassis@house.state.mi.us



The winter storm that blanketed the area with more than six inches of snow didn't stop people from stretching their legs, as well as those of their furry friends.

LETTERS

I am responding to the 1/31/02 com? mentary regarding the protection of Novi's parkland (is protecting Novi parkland a priority?) where the editorial stated that my comments about acquiring new parkland were hypocritical in light of the Planning Commission's recent unanimous vote to believe that changing the city's master plan future of our city and for its taxpayers.

Parks are a priority for

planning commission

within the city. I did not say or even indicate that I want onger suitable property (a statement made ter plan to allow for a potential settlement aries. For the record, I disagree with that you and I pay for them. individual and fully believe that land is

available within our city limits. space in exchange for reduced lot sizes. Planned Parenthood's teen website, teen-Portions of that land should be of a useable wire.com with the recently offered advice nature and not just wetlands or otherwise - to teens concerning their parents and sex: unusable parcels. The other, as I have rec- "Your job now is to start paying attentionommended, is for the city to pursue state take the useful, smart stuff you've learned

able for such purchases. Commissioner Gwen Markham regarding. York for those affected by the 9-11 active recreational areas in neighborhood parks. By giving our subdivisions access to developed, city-owned parks, our neighbor- tion"? With financial coffers overflowing to hood children will have places to play the tune of total net assets of \$563.3 mil- ask that your letters be 400 words or games, roller blade, and experience lion at the end of its fiscal year ending on unstructured family time that is within June 30, 1999, I beg to differ. More like a walking and biking distance of their corporate monster who pushes the culture and content. homes. This concept will be a priority item of death. (For more on Planned on at least my list when reviewing subdivi- Parenthood, see George Grant's GRAND sion plans that are brought forth to the ILLUSIONS.) Planning C ssion by developers in the future.

Sincerely.

Stop rising water costs

Planned Parenthood: a arand illusion?

Since when is Planned Parenthood a feet of water or 7,500 gallons. These rates respected not-for-profit organization"? On do not include the sewerage rates which this 29th anniversary of Roe v Wade, let's will also be raised equally.

take a look at the background of Planned Parenthood, founded by racist Margaret Sanger in 1916, originally called the (\$11.51 to 13.13), Walled Lake (\$11.22 to American Birth Control League. She used the organization to push her racist and eugenics philosophies.

Notable quotes from Margaret Sanger include, "Birth control to create a race of to deliver to their residents.In Oakland thoroughbreds," "More children from the fit, less from the unfit, that is the chief aim of birth control," and "the most merciful members is to kill it.." amend the city's master plan. I firmly Sanger handed the reins of her organiza- It is expected that the combined water

was the right decision to make for the Parenthood won the Supreme Court battle 12% more over the next two years. Recreation department of a similar sized education. When asked by a reporter, in bitant rate increase? city. I give a resounding Yes to parkland 1973, how he planned to keep abortion being a priority. Parkland in the city's over- legal, Guttmacher responded with 'sex all planning should be an ongoing activity of education'. Planned Parenthood sex eduthe Parks, Recreation, and Forestry depart- cation under the guise of "Health" or ment as developers continue to build on "Family Life" and even incorporated into undeveloped property; property that will Biology, has invaded the classrooms of continue to "disappear" and increase in cost. America, including the Novi and Northville I did encourage the city to look into the school districts. Planned Parenthood possible purchase of additional parklands knows the value of getting to our kids Best of luck Tony

early, in the formative years. Planned Parenthood makes money if o spend taxes paid to the city for parkland people are having sex while trying to avoid purchases. I stated that if there is no pregnancy. They make their money from distributing contraceptives, performing by an individual against changing the mas- pregnancy tests, and selling abortions. with Sandstonel that we should consider for "free" fool you. "Free" services are problems and find viable solutions to our property that is adjacent to our city bound- charged to government. That means that

Planned Parenthood is engaged in a financial struggle for corporate existence parkland for the city and not expend tax- the philosophies of Humanism. It is the and/or federal dollars that may be avail- from your folks and kick the crap to the curb." (Not to mention the offer of free Share your opinions I totally agree with Planning abortions by Planned Parenthood in New

tragedy. Such caring and compassion.) A "respected not-for - profit organiza-

Rosemarie Zwiller Denton

The Detroit Water and Sewerage dept. has proposed raising water rates starting july 1, 02.The city of Novi rates \$14.13 (2001-2002) will be increased by 14.58% i.e. \$16.19 (2002-2003). The rates based on a typical monthly usage of 1,000cubic

The surrounding cities of Novi like Northville (\$9.93-11.31), Farmington Hills 12.75), Plymouth { \$8.93 to 10.75 have/will have less rates. The Detroit city sells water at a wholesale rate to municipal customers and the municipal city mark up county there are only three cities, Orion

have higher rates than Novi. And most of thing a large family does to one of its infant the Wayne and Macomb cities do not have that high rates, what we pay in city of Novi. tion to Alan Guttmacher. In 1973, Planned and sewrage rates will increase 10% to As a past Director of a Parks and workers they would begin to focus on sex tors should look into seriously on the exor-

Twp, Sylvan Lake and West Bloomfield

Ramesh Verma

Tony Nowicki - thank you for all of the years of service you provided in the city of Novi. As residents of the north end of this Don't let the fact that they "provide' these city, you always recognized the unique concerns. We will miss your input and support for an area of the city that was neglected for many years.

Things have improved greatly for us in There are two ways to acquire sultable and a philosophical struggle in spreading this area of the city in the last few years. We owe a great amount of these improvepayers' dollars. One is by reviewing the site darling of the media and entertainment ments to you and of course our mayor. plans that developers propose under the industry. The vast majority of individuals Richard Clark. We still have a long way to Subdivision Open Space Plan ordinance in the news business and entertainment go and are sorry you won't be part of the that allows a percentage of land for free industry are pro abortion. Check out process. We wish you only the best in your

Asa and Carol Smith

We welcome your letters to the editor.

Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We less. We may edit for clarity, space

> Letters to the Editor Robert Jackson Novi News 104 W. Main St. Northville, MI 48167 E-mail:

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> HomeTown COMMUNICATIONS

## OTHER OPINIONS

Thursday, February 7, 2002

## Engler, McNamara would enhance legacy by setting up airports for the future

right here in Michigan. Professor John

Memo To: Governor John Engler Wayne County Executive Ed McNamara

Re: Monument To Your Careers You two are among Michigan's most from public office at the end of this year. together to bequeath an enormous legacy to the citizens of our state: What could become the single largest economic development project in "put together right." Michigan history.

Metropolitan

already ranks third in the nation in freight—an effective professional management that traffic Linked together, competently man- could exploit the terrific economic develaged, effectively marketed and promoted. the two airports could create an "aerotropolis," a powerful economic development senger and freight transportation.

erates \$60 billion in annual business.

North Carolina and a world authority an Ed. as you come to your final months in airport-driven economic development, is office, your distinguished career is at risk effective politicians ever. By remarkable enthused about the prospects of linking of being soiled by continuing management coincidence, both of you will be retiring air passenger and freight hubs in Michigan: "Nowhere in the world have I But there's still time for you to work seen anything like the potential Wayne pounding your protégé and Democratic County Metro and Willow Run have if they're nut together right."

As you both realize, the key is to figure out a governance structure that works. month, the new Right now, both Willow Run and Wayne midfield terminal. County Metropolitan airports are owned and runway at by Wayne County and managed through Wayne County an impenetrable thicket of inscrutable politics between the Wayne County Board of Commissioners and Ed McNamara, But Airport will go just wait, If things at the airport are bad

ing it one of the year with a new Wayne County Chief

Executive and Board of Commissioners. So now is the time to sit down and put world. Just 12 together a governance structure for both miles to the west, airports that is not infested with the renovated Willow cronyism of local politics, that is transparopment potential of an aerotropolis right here in Michigan.

I'd hesitate suggesting how to do this to board with governance authority over can For years, scholars have pointed to both Detroit Metropolitan and Willow transportation hubs as the main drivers of Run could be created by an act of the legeconomic growth: seaports in the 18th islature. The Wayne County Executive century, railroads in the 19th century, could appoint some members outright highways in the 20th century. Powerful and pick some from a list of names subevidence is emerging that giant airports mitted by the Wayne County will be the engines of economic growth in Commission, while the Governor could the 21st century. Los Angeles appoint some others. Members shouldn't International Airport, for example, has be solely from Wayne County; maybe already led to 400,000 new jobs and genthere should be some representation from metro area counties like Oakland

Regardless of how the details work out. Kasarda, director of the Kenan Institute of cutting this deal is in both your best inter-Private Enterprise at the University of ests.

and contracting problems at Detroit Metro. The Republicans are already gubernatorial candidate, Attorney General Jennifer Granholm, trying to tie her to The big stumbling block, of course, is "scandals" at the airport. Plainly, it's in your interest to make a fresh start with the way the airport is governed and man-

And, Governor, you've got a bunch of state legislators who are just dying to snatch Metropolitan Airport away from southeastern Michigan. Can you imagine the fuss that would erupt when politicians from Detroit and Wayne County start screaming about outstate Republicans into service, mak-now, just think of what they'll be like next stealing first their courts, next their schools and finally their airport? Collaborating on a fix for the airport solves a big political problem for your party and helps burnish your legacy.

If won't be easy. Governor, you'd have to keep some of your own legislators from Airport ent to public scrutiny and that supports hijacking the process lo smear Ed McNamara and slam Jennifer Granholm. And Ed, you'd have to keep the Board of Commissioners and other miscellaneous Wayne County politicians from screaming that another pet project has been stolen district arising from the competitive you guys, both savvy and experienced from them. But if you guys can't figure advantage that comes from air-based pas-dealmakers. But certainly an airport out how to do this, I don't think anybody

> Time's running short, gentlemen. You're both got only a few more months of power left. Why not use them to put your stamp on something genuinely important to the

Phil Power is chairman of HomeTown Communications Network Inc., the companu that owns this newspaper. He welcomes your comments, either by voice mail at (734) 953-2047, ext. 1880, or by e-mail at

## Blue Cross is a 'sleeper' issue that may have an impact on all Michigan residents

If you have health care coverage hikes to their workers in some form or one "community rate" so that everyone, through Blue Cross Blue Shield but didn't another. realize there is a question about whether Barry Cargill, of the Small Business insurance at an affordable rate. your insurer can remain solvent in the Association, predicts that if the issue is So private companies have been "cherry

"the small group market" - was released up.



Mike Malott

Nonetheless. the continued effect. existence of Blue Altogether, half of the residents of

"This is a kitchen-table

care what happens to Blue Cross." He's absolutely right, even if most peo-Already, small businesses - those with resort." 50 employees or less — have been seeing — Other insurance companies can charge

on Sept. 14 of last year. We were all distracted with Most are self-insured under federal rules.

events elsewhere But in many cases, those larger compa-

rank as one of the Cross. According to Fitzgerald, if you priority issues of count all the residents who receive some the year, accord- services through Blue Care Network, then ing to Michigan's it comes closer to 70 percent of the state. Blue Cross President Richard Whitmer missioner Frank isn't convinced you can take care of the the higher risk customers. problem by reforming Blue Cross alone. He says there have to be "market reforms" that prevent "abusive rating practices" industry issue, the kind of wide. He argues the rules have to apply to thing people will all health insurance carriers in Michigan, sit around talking about," he said. "They in order to "level the playing field" between Blue Cross and other carriers.

If Whitmer's perspective wins the day, of ple don't realize the seriousness of the course, it would affect every one of us. problem yet. But if you have any kind of What is at issue here is nothing less curve" about terrorism and Middle East serious or chronic illness, or if you have a than the fundamental purpose for which spouse and/or kids that you have to make Blue Cross was formed. It was established sure continue to have health care insuras as a private, non-profit years ago by the ance, you'll soon realize its importance. legislature to be Michigan's "insurer of last" and the health insurance industry.

businesses are passing along the rate overall risk. But Blue Cross has to charge by e-mail at mmalott@homecomm.net.

young and old, healthy or sick, can get

not addressed, small companies that typi- picking" the youngest, healthiest cus-That's because the audit that identified cally have handed out insurance as an tomers and undercutting Blue Cross' the problem - \$400 million in loses in employment benefit may have to give that rates. That leaves Blue Cross with the older, riskier customers, a practice Whitmer refers to as "dumping." Fitzgerald however believes reform can

be accomplished through changes internies have their plans administered by nal to Blue Cross. Specifically, he's look-Blue Cross to, so they may feel an indirect ing for legislative authority to allow Blue Cross to adjust its rates according to risk. But then, that raises the question of Cross ought to Michigan get their insurance through Blue whether Blue Cross will continue to be the "insurer of last resort."

If Blue Cross is simply allowed to do what the private companies have done, set differential rates by risk, my fear would be that premiums could go out of sight for Worse yet, since employers most often

pay the premiums for their workers, the effect might be to put pressure on businesses to get rid of their older, riskier employees, and go out and hire a younger, Back in September, when the issue was

first identified, we were all distracted with the task of "getting on a quick learning

Now it is time for us to apply that quick learning curve to the politics of Blue Cross

premium hikes of 25 percent annually for different rates depending one how healthy tions of state and regional events. He can the last four years. Already, many small you are, or how old you are, or for your be reached by phone at (810) 227-0171 or

#### **Community Events**

orientation Feb. 12 from 10 1791. a.m. to 1 p.m. Volunteers are needed for office work, fundrais-

school year on March 9. Parents 349-0203. will have an opportunity to meet the school's teachers and see typ-

Arbor Hospice and Home motor and small motor areas. For winter months on Feb. 23 at 2 which will be held at 2:30 p.m. Care will be hosting a volunteer more information, call (248) 348- p.m. Admission to the programs at the Northville District Library

ing and education efforts. Daughter Dance will be held (248) 349-3858. Volunteers assist terminally ill Feb. 9 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. patients and their patients with and again from 7 p.m. to 9

ical activities available to children hosting a winter hike on Feb. 26 speaking on organizing at the school, which follows a at 2 p.m., and a walk-through of genealogical records at the philosophy. the park farm and a chance to Northville

The Waterford Bend Questers eating, reading and errands. For p.m. at the Northville No. 1013 will be meeting Feb. will be offering a five-week, more information, call (248) Community Center. Tickets 12 at the home of Marianne five-session course for are \$12 per couple and \$5 for Heaton at 11:30 a.m. The probeginning runners. The class each additional person, which gram will be an appraisal fair by is designed for novices. Fees The Northville Co-op includes dance instruction, Virginia Fournier. One item — for the course are \$35, or \$45 Preschool will be hosting an refreshments and a party gift not including jewelry, oils or at the door at the first sesopen house and registration for ladies in attendance. For books — should be brought for sion. Participants should opportunity for the 2002-2003 more information, call (248) appraisal. For more information, bring clothes in which to run. call (734) 420-0422

Maybury State Park will be Author Carolyn Griffin will be p.m presentation. Genealogical Classrooms are divided into large see the farm operate duringthe Society's Feb. 10 meeting, ister, call (248) 380-3338.

are free, but a state park motor Newcomers to the group should vehicle permit is required for arrive at 1:30 p.m. For more The 19th annual Daddy- entry. For more information, call information, call (734) 878-

> Running Fit of Northville A 6:30 p.m. run will kickoff the course, followed by a 7:30

from Feb. 21 through March 21

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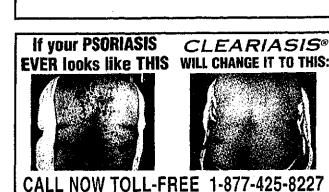
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING **ROAD COMMISSION FOR** OAKLAND COUNTY FOR THE WIDENING AND **RECONSTRUCTION OF GRAND RIVER AVENUE** FROM CLARK ROAD TO 300 FEET EAST OF BECK ROAD CITY OF NOVI, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN

Your Board of Road Commissioners for Oakland County in cooperation with the City of Novi invites your comments on the proposed project to reconstruct and widen Grand River Avenue between Clark Road and 300 feet east of Beck Road. The proposed project is to widen the existing roadway to five lanes. We invite all interested citizens to attend and express their views on the Environmenta Assessment prepared for this project in compliance with the Federal Highway Administration. For this purpose, we have scheduled:

PUBLIC HEARING

DATE: Wednesday, February 27, 2002

PLACE: City of Novi City Hall, Council Chambers, 45175 W. 10 Mile Rd. At the meeting, staff of the Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC) and City of Novi will be available to discuss the project and answer questions. The tions; Novi City Offices of the Clerks and Building Department; the Novi Public Library, 45245 W. 10 Mile Road, Novi; and the RCOC's Permits & Environmenta Concerns Department at the address listed below. Your attendance at the public hearing will give the best opportunity for presenting your views and gaining desired information. However, we welcome you

written statements and exhibits prior to March 9, 2002. Send your comments to: Road Commission for Oakland County, Permits & Environmental Concerns Department, 2420 Pontiac Lake Road, Waterford, Mt 48328. If you require accommodation in accordance with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act please provide our Environmental Concerns Department at (248) 858-4891 with BOARD OF ROAD COMMISSIONERS Larry P. Crake, Chairman Richard G. Skarritt, Vice-Chairman

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Gotcha!

Hunter Robinson, 13,

right, tries to nail Brady

Babala, 14, with a

snowball last Thursday

morning as they enjoy

a day off of school after

the snowstorm. The

epic battle took place

along Novi's Sullivan



#### **Community Health**

#### PROGRAMS

· Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital offers free seminars: Alzheimer's Association 2769. Community Caregiver workshop -

Feb. 20 at 1 p.m. nar - Feb. 26 at 7 p.m. Golf Fitness seminar Feb. 27 at 7 p.m.

made available to local clubs and mation call (888) 362-2500. organizations a representative to . Divorce Support Group meets discuss topics that include assist- on Feb. 20 at the Women's ed living, long-term care, services available, reimbursement under Medicare. For information call Marsh for information and advice

#### SUPPORT GROUPS

(888) DMC-2500.

 Alzhelmers Family Support at Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital. Alzheimers Disease and Related family members.

 Arthritis Club meets at 6 p.m. mation call (248) 857-7096. on Feb. 21 at Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital. Offers educational, social sponsored by Catholic social' and recreational activities for those Services of Oakland county is lookdealing with arthritis. Call 937- ing for caring volunteers to assist

is for women who are at high risk dren for ages 17 months to 3 years for developing or who have been of age and their parents. For infordiagnosed with breast cancer. The mation call (248)334-3595.

group meets the First and Third Wednesdays t 6:30 p.m. at the Providence Medical Center in Novi. For information call (248) 424-

• Cancer Support Group (Moving On) is held at 7 p.m. on Feb. 25 at Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital in conjunction with Barbara Ann' Karmanos Cancer Institute. This group for cancer patients and/or For information or to register call survivors and their support per sons provides information and an • Milford Park Place announces open forum to improve coping the Medilodge Group, Inc. has skills and quality of life. For infor-

Resource Center, 207 E. Grand River in Howell, Join counselor Peg Milford Park. Place at (248) 685- along with the support of others in the same position as you. For information call (517) 548-3525.

#### **VOLUNTEERS**

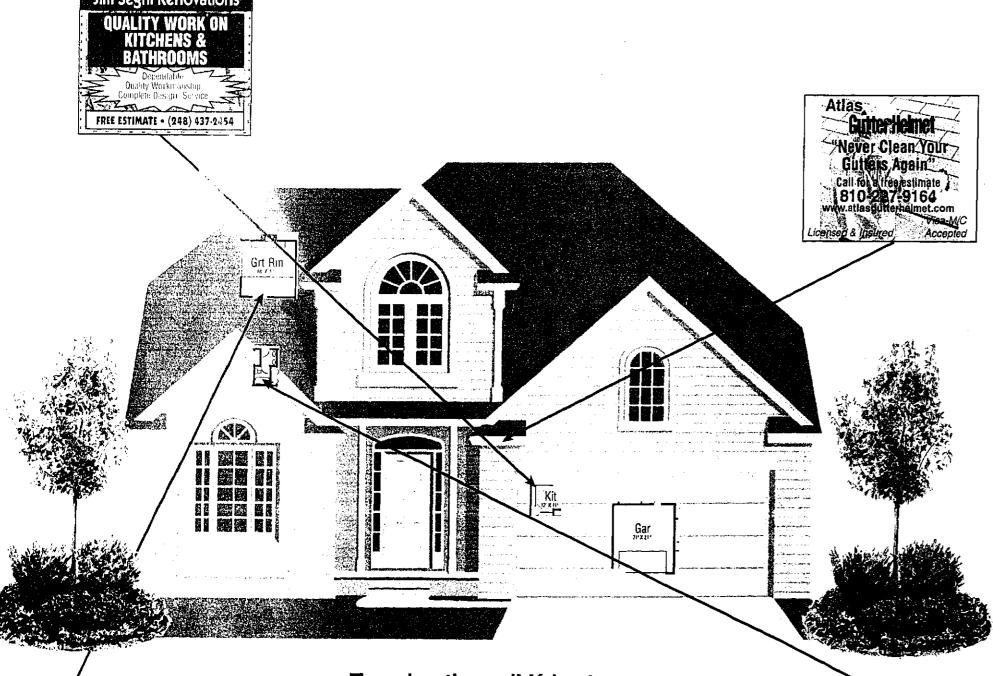
· North Oakland Medical Centers (NOMC) - is looking for volunteers Group meets at 7 p.m. on Feb. 27 and interns to help plan special events and perform daily tasks. Volunteers should be of high Disorders Association and HV school age or older, spend two Hospital provide information and afternoons per week at the coping strategies for interested Foundation office, located on the main campus of NOMC. For infor-

• Parent-Child Home Program with the parent-child home pro-• Breast Cancer Support Group gram. The program services chil-

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#### By Annette Jaworski CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The minute you walk in you know it's different. Club Elite Fitness For Women is unlike any other health club you've seen. Walking through the front door is more like the lobby of a first rate hotel rather than a gym with it's elegant décor. Everything from the furnishings to the restrooms are subtle and refined.

"Women are surprised when they walk in. One of the first things they comment on is how welcome they feel," said Krissie Owens, co-owner of Club Elite in Novi.

And the second surprise is their all female clientele. But make no mistake about it, the members of this lady's only gym are serious about their results.

And when it comes to fitness most of us want results fast, said Owens. She says the concept of Club Elite's program is circuit weight training. Although members come in for fitness results, they can have fun and meet new friends, too, And it's all within a program that they can fit into their busy schedules. Just three times a week is enough for the members to truly see results.

"What makes it appealing to them is that for around thirty minute you get a total body workout," said Owens. The program combines cardio

training and weight bearing exervise with a new twist. Club Elite uses rebounders, looking like small frampolines, which seems to bring out the kid in everyone. Even the skeptics find these are a lot of fun, -The first time I tell them to try tebounding, their expression

Corriveau added.

Some of the big gyms with lots of

equipment can be overwhelming,

you're not sure how to use it, they

believe. And having an all women's

gym encourages members to be

more comfortable and relaxed.

Long term contracts are not

as varied as their goals. They see

ever their goals. Corriveau and

Tanning is available and can be

added to a membership for a mini-

Elite membership is limited to

to franchise to other locations in

changes from uncertainty to delight," said Krissle Owens. takes the guesswork out of exer-required at Club Elite, members eise. In addition to the circuit can choose from month to month machines and rebounders, there or one year memberships. equipment available for individual guidance and advice from the staff. teenagers with their moms to 70-Co-owner Wendy Corriveau year-old grandmothers, But whatagrees that everyone wants to be in shape, but they come to the club for different reasons. It may be for help members to achieve them. toning, weight loss, health reasons

"We offer one on one consulta- mal fee. Shower and changing tion to new members," said facilities are available to members Corriveau. "It's important to us to as well. They're now offering their understand the main reason a own private label vitamins. Club client comes to Club Elite." At the client is measured and ensure the best workout experiweighed so they can actually see ence. Future plans are underway

"Once you feel good and look Michigan and eventually through-



Wendy Corriveau works her deltoids at Novi's Club Elite - with the supervision of Chrissie Owens.

**Business in brief** 

#### New board elected

Central is the group which coordinates Northville Business Association elected its several special events in the new board at the January meeting held on Jan. 22. Officers elected include president Julie Fraser (Fraser Inn), vice-president Ed Fleming (Northville Record), treasurer Chris VanDam Street Family Chiropractic

Candlelight Walk. All positions on VanDam's Women's Clothing) paid position - the event coordi- The affiliation gives Dr. Arends and and secretary Ken Stopa [Main nator, which is an unoccupied his patients access to a wide array of

the board are voluntary.

Northville's Hopping, the Bargain

ship primarily composed of down- 501 W. Dunlap, Northville, Mich. downtown area, including

Physician Eye Care Associates, the ophthalmology practice of Robert C. Bazaar, Santa Parade and the Arends, M.D., has joined the health center manager. Dr University of Michigan W.K. Kellogg Arends' practice takes the new The NCBA does employ one Eye Center, as of February 1, 2002. position at present. Candidates medical and surgical services, rang-

established in Milford in 1979, is located in a historic designate building at 320 West Commerce Street. The staff will remain much the same, with Theres Hunt continuing in her role as name of the U-M Kellogg Eye Center-Milford. For more information, about the U-M Kellogg Eye Center-

Dr. Arends' practice, which he

Center).

The NCBA, with its member
position at present. Cantidates include and surgical services, ranging from laser eye surgery to a host send resumes to Julie Fraser, of vision sub-specialties.

Include and surgical services, ranging from laser eye surgery to a host of vision sub-specialties.

Include and surgical services, ranging from laser eye surgery to a host of vision sub-specialties.

### No Experience Necessary

#### By Tim Kissman BAM DIRECTOR OF PUBLICATIONS

Make no mistake about it; disgruntled employees can hurt a business. Or. at the very least,

they can try. Big business, with hundreds of employees connected to a massive computer mainframe, are victims of information sabotage, looting and espionage on a regular basis. Big business also has backup systems. Small business, with fewer employees and even less technology, may not be at the greatest risk, but the smallest breach of security could be crip-

You have to know where to look for problems. That being said, small business owners should pay attention to what employees, loyal or otherwise, are doing with company property.

Take for instance the case of a company in Duluth, Ga. Last month a disgruntled employee anonymously approached a rival company's CEO with an offer to sell his company's complete customer database for \$20,000.

The rival company's CEO informed the disgruntled employee's business and eventually got the FBI involved, became an undercover agent and gathered enough information to lead to the employee's arrest. It was a happy ending to a potentially horrible

The CEO said he wanted to beat the rival company on merit and product, rather than espionage. What a guy, huh? Not all CEOs or business owners are that ethical. Some would jump at the chance to get the leg up on a

#### Instead of dishing out some tips this week to keep your employees happy, I'll dish out some facts to

ponder that may startle you, fascinate you, and hopefully help you decide how much of a risk your employees are when you have to let them go. Here you go: · Loyalty. Researchers say

when information is taken from a company the thief is a seemingly loyal employee. Seemingly is the operative word here. Then they seemingly steal because of dissatisfaction with salary, promotion, working conditions, conflicts, financial problems or drug use.

· Fun at the breach. After conducting a nationwide survey, the FBI discovered that 85 percent of the businesses surveyed experienced computer intrusions, with 64 percent serious enough to cause financial losses. This was a 43 percent increase from the previous year.

> After all that, I have to throw in a helpful tip. This stuff is scaring

 Follow protocol. Experts say the best defense against information pilfering is to have the employee, who is being fired, or moving to another job for other reasons, leave immediately. Once they're gone, change passwords. remove access, and basically kill their digital identity from within the company. They can always

keep all employees gruntled, shelved and liked. When, or if, the time comes to remove an employee, know the potential exists for

#### Corporation assists home buyers with down payment

Everyone dreams of a new home. But in today's economy you may have a good job and decent credit but you just can't seem to save enough money for the downpayment. Great news! Now there is an answer to your

has designed a down-payment assistance program that provides gift funds to qualified homebuyers. This program allows people to get a gift from 1 to 6 percent of sales price depending on the needs of the buyer. The funds can be used for downpayment, as well as closing costs. The gift never has to be repaid. How it works is that the gift money is withdrawn from a pre-existing pool of funds and wired directly to the Title Company. Then at closing, the money is used to Feb. 28 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the pay the downpayment and closing costs, which allows the Mile Road and I-275 in Livonia, homebuyer to get into a home in or March 13 at the Novi Expo many cases with no money. Center Call 1-800-312-5467 to This is not a loan program. It is used in conjunction with a loan. Many people have the misconception that a program like this is not for them or too complicated to understand. That is Homestead USA Mortgage. Her untrue. The key to making this toll-free number is 1-800-312work is an experienced and 5467.

knowledgeable mortgage consultant who can teach you how easy it can be. The program is for everyone. It is not just for first time homebuyers; it is for anyone who wants to own a home, as well as approved condominiums. There is no income limit, and no location restrictions, and can be used anywhere in the United States. This program exists for the simple

These types of gift programs have been around for several years; however they have not been widely known or publicized. They definitely have not been utilized to their full potential. If you are currently working want them to call to get more information. If you would like to learn more about this gift program and other creative loan Down Home Seminar held on register or to obtain more infor-

Susan Daratony is a personal mortgage consultant for





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## Financial troubles for Blue Cross described as a 'looming crisis'

By Mike Malott HOMETOWN NEWS SERVICE

The financial troubles confronting Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan are nothing less than a "looming health care crisis."

So says Barry Cargill, of the Small Business Association of Michigan, Without reform, he contends, Blue Cross' problems could -- for small businesses with fewer than 50 employees — "spell the end of employer sponsored health care coverage in Michigan.

Michigan's Financial Insurance Services Commissioner Frank Fitzgerald agrees.

"The Small Business Association is not being alarmist when it says we are facing a crisis," Fitzgerald said. And he's said it before.

"If we ignore these symptoms today, we are creating the distinct possibility that BCBSM as we depend on it will not exist at decade's end," he stated last September. The problem is "a threat to affordable and accessible health care coverage in Michigan."

State Rep. Paul DeWeese (R-Williamston), who is also a doctor, said the crisis is already developing. Premium increases of 25 percent annually for the last four years have forced many small business owners to find alternative ways to pay for insurance for their workers. Some have asked employ-

ees to cover much of the cost increases themselves. Others now just give employees a stipend to purchase health insurance on their own. Still others have dropped insurance altogether.

Considering that half Michigan's residents get their insurance through Blue Cross, this is a "pocketbook" issue for most of

Nonetheless, it is an issue few have recognized because the audit that identified the problem - \$400 million in loses by Blue Cross over the past five years - was released in September and was quickly overshadowed by events in New York and Washington.

So it counted as a surprise, for legislators as well as the public. when Gov. John Engler highlighted the problem in his recent State of the State address.

Legislation to implement Engler's calls for reform is being drafted now, Fitzgerald explained, and he expects a three-bill package will be ready for introduction in the next two to three weeks.

Among Engler's proposals were: · Increase the insurance commissioner's ability to regulate the operation of Blue Cross. Fitzgerald said it "should be on par" with the commissioner's ability to regulate any other insurance company in

Michigan. · Restructuring the Blue Cross board of directors. Fitzgerald anticipates cutting it from the current membership of 35 to "somewhere in the teens." He'd like to see the membership, now selected from a number of special interests. changed to increase public repre-

· Engler also proposed creation of · a trust fund intended to protect residents should Blue Cross privatize. More than 20 other states have turned their programs over to forprofit businesses, and while Fitzgerald insisted Engler is not advocating that, it might still occur.

Blue Cross of Michigan is the largest remaining state sponsored, not-for-profit health plan in the country, Fitzgerald explained. It was set up by the state legislature back in the '30s to serve as the "Insurer of last resort."

it's status as a private, non-profit insurer lies at the heart of the issue. By state law, Blue Cross must charge all its customers a single "community rate." It is not allowed to adjust rates up for people who are older or less healthy, as private insurance firms can. Nor can it turn customers away.

According to Cargill, private insurance companies have been able to beat Blue Cross' prices by "cherry picking" employers with vounger, healthier, less risky groups of employees. That leaves Blue Cross with the older, less

healthy, costlier groups of employees to insure.

Cargill therefore believes reform will have to include rate reform throughout the industry. He advocates a plan called "rate banding," which allows insurers. Blue Cross as well as private companies, to adjust premiums according to risk, but also requires all insurers to take a certain percentage of good and bad risks. That would end the "cherry picking," he contended

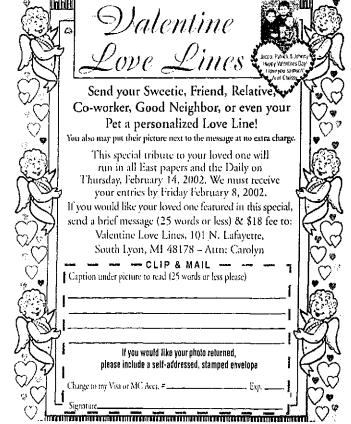
Fitzgerald isn't convinced. When you have a "behemoth that dominates the market as Blue Cross does," it isn't reasonable to believe that a few private companies could have much of an impact. "At best, they are just nipping at your heels," he said.

Fitzgerald instead believes the reforms have to be internal to Blue Cross. They would include allowing Blue Cross to adjust rates for risk.

DeWeese agrees with the internal approach. But if higher risk customers can be charged more for premiums, it raises a question of whether Blue Cross can fulfill its role as "insurer of last resort."

"That is something we are going to have to talk about," both DeWeese and Fitzgerald said.

The goal is to reform Blue Cross without having to cut back on benefits, that is what conditions and treatments the insurance plan will cover, Fitzgerald said.



#### How to feel good about that old car

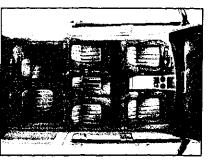


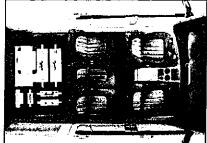
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# Cagers keep on winning

By Brian Doyle SPECIAL WRITER

The Novi Wildcats refused to let Hamtramck close to them when they beat them 64-39 last Tuesday. The Wildcats jumped out to a big lead and never looked back.

Novi took a 41-18 lead at halftime and were able to do some things in the game that they wanted to.

"Our goal was to get everyone in," Novi coach Pat Schluter said. Novi was able to get all 12 players a lot of playing time.

Even though Novi scored over 60 points, junior Shaun Dicken was the only Novi player in double digits with 15 points. Brandon Davis, senior, scored nine for the Wildcats. The team was able to rotate the ball well and did not have to go their leading scorer, Jaime Schram as much as usual.

"He probably only played half the game," Schluter said.

Schluter pointed out the strong

play of juniors Eric VanTassel and Evan Rodriquez, VanTassel scored five points for Novt. Despite the score Novi's play did

have some downsides. "We actually didn't shoot well," Schluter said. Hamtramck used a zone and tried to take Schram out of the game. According to Schluter Novi missed a lot of wide open shots that they usually would have hit.

Hamtranick also did a couple of things well.

"They did a good job helping on (Schram)," Schluter said.

Hamtramek performed better in the second half when they scored the same 21 points that Novi did.

Novi was also supposed to play on Friday but the game against Howell was cancelled because Howell did not have school. The teams will have made up the game Wednesday (after the Novi News went to print). Novi will play conference rival Lakeland

## Gymnastics meet may be good one

By Sam Eggleston

The Northville-Novi Wild 'Stangs gynnastics team will be looking to notch yet another win Feb. 14 when they visit Salem in a conference contest at 7 p.m.

Though the meet will be taking place on St. Valentine's Day, I am not predicting the Wild Stangs are going to let the Salem squad slip away with a victory just out of the kindness of their hearts.

The Wild 'Stangs, a team consisting of players from both Novi and Northville, are coached by Lindsay Schultz and are looking to continue their improved style of competition when they take the short roadtrip to Plymouth for this match up.

The team consists of players like Lindsey Carlson, Andrea Ledbetter, Jennifer Sturgis, Sara Wilchowski and Jenn Mehl as well as top-notel gymnasts Tricia Brownfield. Amanda Crawford, Marcie Fink, Nika Frimenko, Jessica Glancy, Catlin Miller, Maggie Mills,

If one were watching Novi senior

Jamie Schram down low on the

hardwood, few would be able to cor-

rectly characterize him off the floor.

While on the court he may pound

his way to the hoop with his flery

red hair, off the court Schram is as

Schram is the center and a co-

captain of the Novi basketball team.

Although some small schools have

laid back as they come.

By Sam Eggleston

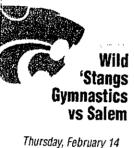
SPORTS WRITER

Continued on 2





Center of attention



By Sam Eggleston SPORTS WRITER

The murmur in the crowd seems to be saying that this is the best season of Novi Wildcat volleyball Schram is top 'Cat on court The Novi Wildcat volleyball

expressed interest in him playing team, headed by coach Julie basketball for them, Schram's cur-Fissette, made another notch in rent top choice is Michigan State that argument with a big win over University. the Brighton Bulldogs 7-15, 15-11, 15-4 Jan. 28 before entering "I'm strongly looking towards MSU," Schram said. the Schoolcraft College Invitational Schram has a line of Spartan and notching both wins and losses alfiliation. His older brother Ryan,

with whom Schram said he is real-"It was a big thing for this team ly close with, is attending MSU. to beat Brighton," Fissette said. Even his mini-schnauzer dog is "Novi hasn't beaten Brighton in vears, 10 years to be exact." named Sparty.

Schram's family has been very When asked who really stepped up for the Wildcats, Fissette echoed the thoughts of the football world champion New England

athletic ability. They are currently undefeated in the Kensington Valley Conference.

Patriots.

"They played as a team," she said. "It was a big team win for us. They went in knowing they would have to play as a team and they came out with the win because they did."

With the win, the Wildcats and the Milford Redskins are the only two teams left standing without losses in the Kensington Valley

"I think we really pulled together," Fissette said. "We worked towards a common goal and knocked off a big team. These girls believe in themselves. They have played very good volleyball all season long and we are just chugging ahead, one game at a time."

And though the Wildcats try not to look too far into the future, Isn't the thought of a KVC title tempt-

Looking ahead, there is a possibility that we could take the KVC this year," Fissette said. "We are very excited."

The Wildcats will return to action when they host the Hartland Eagles today at 6 p.m. in a Kensington Valley Conference

#### Schoolcraft College Invitational

The Novi Wildcats knew that the Invitational was going to be quite tough when they loaded the bus and they knew that gathering even a couple wins in a tournament like this is something to be proud of.

The 'Cats started the tourney with a match against Dearborn a match they lost in two games, losing 15-11, 15-4.

"Dearborn played really, really well," Fissette said. "They went on to do very well in the tournament and possibly win it."

Carmen Simkins collected two aces in the contest while Crystal Corte and Angie Schmitt notched five kills each. Fissette also noted her defensive specialist, Brittany Barrett, played an outstanding

game against Dearborn. The Novi spikers went on to take a fall against one of the tougher teams in the Western Lakes Activities Association in Livonia Churchill, 15-5, 15-10. In their

Continued on 2



Continued on 2

Photo by JOHN HEIDER Novi's Juhwan Yoo swims the breaskstroke portion of the 200 meter relay during a January meet.

## Swimmers continue to look strong in '02

The Novi Wildoats girls volleyball team seems to be on quite a roll this season with the help of determination, dedication and

Spikers going strong

By Sam Eggleston SPORTS WRITER

An eighth-place finish in the Oakland County meet and a win over Saline are just some of the things the Novi Wildcats swim and dive team has done so far this sea-

The Wildcats, led by coach Larry Teahan, took and eighth place finish in the Oakland County Invitational swim meet with 72 points Feb. 2 after defeating Saline 114-72 Jan. 25 in a non-conference contest.

The Wildcats, who placed ninth in last season's Oakland County swim meet, came on strong in the County Invitational tournament with two swimmers and a diver taking fourth place finishes and a slew of others placing in the top-12

of the meet.

Jordon Moblo took home a fourth-place finish in the Oakland County Invitational in the backstroke, finishing the event in 56.92 seconds while teammate Jack Tyler took fourth in the 500 freestyle with a time of four minutes, 54.49 seconds.

Diver Dan Bassett took fourth in his specialty, collecting 350.95 points in the process.

Tyler and the Wildcats weren't finished collecting points though as the sophomore swimmer went on to take 12th-place in the 200 freestyle and Ian Robertson continued his steady season by grabbing a ninth-place finish in the butterfly as well as a 10th-place in the 200 individual medley.

Continued on 3

#### RESCHEDULED

The following Novi High School athletics contests were resecheduled:

> Wrestling match rescheduled

The Novi wrestling match again nst Hartland and South Lyon at Hartland High School scheduled for Feb. 1 was postponed due to weather conditions.

The meet was Feb. 6 at Hartla nd High School (after the Novi Ne ws went to print).

Basketball postponed The Novi Wildcats basketball game against the Hartland Highlanders was postponed due to weather conditions.

The game was played Feb. 6 at Hartland (after the Novi News w ent to print).

Information on both of these matches will be available in next week's sports section.

hometownnewspapers.net

Sam Eggleston, Sports Writer 248-249

## Schram is ready to go to college

Schram to go to:

arpportive of hun and his athletic ind academic pursuits. They've always come out and attended all of my athletic events," Schram said: His parents have also instilled in him that academics always come turst. They're also very easy for

"I can talk to them about any

thing," Schram said. Besides his family, Schram's dosest friends include cross-country and track standout. Tim Moore, Dan St. Clair and what he calls his basketball crew, Sarah Boyle and Melissa Roemer, Schram has been friends with Moore since the sixth grade and also met St. Clair when

ie was very young. "We were on a T-ball team together," Schram said of himself and St. Tair. Their first encounter was not the most friendly. Schram was taking practice swings in the on deck circle when St. Clair decided to go out near where Schram was and pick up a bottle cap. "He stood up excitedly because be found it and I clubbed him in the

bead," Schram said. Schram is currently dating Novisenior Bethany Kittle, who runs track and cross-country. Schram turned on to a possible education and Kittle got to know each other at a career by former Novi teacher and 113. Forrest Gump and most recent-Nove's homecoming and started a corrent dean of students Matt. ly, A Beautiful Mind. In music relationship 3-4 weeks later. "She ended up coming out to my

band competition, that's when I in the future," Schram said. knew she was keeper." he said. According to Schram, he and wear in college because of the new his favorite restaurant, On the Kittle get along so well because she — atmosphere and new responsibilis— Border. His favorite item is the faii is very easy going and friendly. Schram is a member of the Novi High School Band and in the fall is changes," he said on the drumline. His junior year, Schram played football and also blue 1994 Ford Escort Wagon LTD. good restaurant and going to or was a member of the drumline at Schram appreciates. the car renting a movie,

the same time. During the winter - because it gets him where he needs months. Schram is plays percus- to go and doesn't understand why making sure you're relaxed the sion in the Wind Eusemble Although he is currently in band would be discontinued in the class, his favorite class is Finance - future.

"He's always excited about what - car is such a gem," he said. he's teaching," Schram said. At MSU, Schram thinks that he - Escort to the movies where he - department at (248) 349-1700, ext.

Wildcat basketball team gets another win

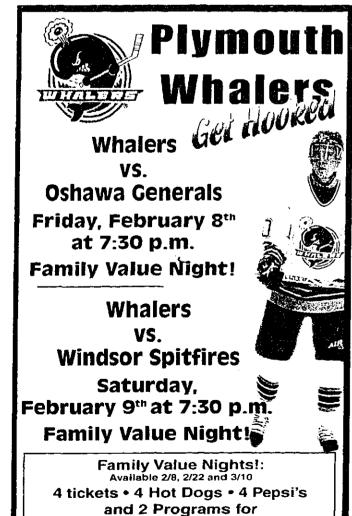
on Friday. Since the game was games. cancelled Novi has to deal with some changes. "I wanted to play so we would have a whole week to prepare

Continued from 1

for Lakeland, Schluter said.

Now, Novi will only have one News and the Lake Area Mt. 48823-7392. day to rest up and prepare for Times. Comments can be Howell also has to make ment at (248) 349-1700, ext. each, which includes parking at lets. some adjustments because 104.

tive," Schluter said,



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## Hockey earns KVC win

By Scott Kelley

nights Jan. 30 when it traveled mark of the first period. resulting in a 7-1 loss.

"This is really a tough one to Dowd. swallow." Hartland co-coach

the ice. In fact, Gardiner wasn't 1:34 of the first. sure his team brought any kind of game on Wednesday night. "We played terrible," he said. lied with "I don't think we really woke upand started going after the with two more goals to close out 1700, ext. 104.

am stunned right now."

The Eagles were competitive the flurry off with a goal at 2:45 up to the start of the second and then Chaz Bulbuk followed Every once in a while a team period. Neither team had tallied with the third goal of the game has one of those nights where a goal until Novi's Robble for Novi at 3:28. Robby Overfield nothing goes right. The Hartland Harrell smuck one past Hartland and Robert Vulaj also scored in hockey team had one of those goalie Chris Palaian at the 12:36 the period.

The Eagles dumped the puck team," he said. Scott Gardiner said, "We ran deep in the Wildcats' zone and into a superior team in Novi Dowd raced in behind the net lines and a very solid defense. I tonight, but we weren't ready to and dished it out to a wide open am not sure on their goallender As good as Novi is, the Eagles do with the puck as he snapped to test him tonight." did not bring their best game to it into the back of the net at

back was short-lived. Novi ral- and 10-1-0 in the KVC. two goals in less than a until the final five minutes of minute. The two-goal tally took the game. It wasn't until then the wind out of the Hartland Comments can be directed to the

Novi's Jordan Collins started

Novi added a power play goal to Novi to take on Kensington But Hartland came right back at 6:44 of the third and another Valley Conference co-leader and tied it up early in the sec-tally at 12:28 to close out the ond on a pretty play by Ryan scoring.

> "They have three really good Jim Kraus, Kraus new what to since we really didn't do much The Eagles are now 10-7-2 overall and 5-5-1 in the KVC. However, the Eagles' come- Novi improves to 15-3-2 overall

Scott Kelley is a special writer for HomeTown Newspapers. did we have a jump in our step sails and Novi took advantage sports department at (248) 349-

## Wild 'Stangs will do fine

Yankowitch and Amy Wild. Ledbetter, Carlson, Sturgis and petitor, Wilchowski leading the way

Janua Ramsey, Laura Motz, Erin her style seem to have her on the happening. right track to high school gymnas-No doubt I am expecting these ties greatness with two more years. Wild Stangs and call it a win with. girls to be able to notch a win over for her coaches to work with her "heart-throbbing" excitement in Salem, especially with the likes of and to watch her grow as a com-

I am not saving this is going to Seniors Carlson and Ledbetter be an easy meet. Salem is not some are looking at their last regular blow-over program in any sport writer for the Northville Record. season meet with the Salem squad and no doubt their girls and coach- and the Novi News. He can be before they take the road of gadu- es know the meaning of competi- reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. ation in the spring while Sturgis tion. They are going to come out 104 still has another year to improve with everything they have in hopes seggleston@ht.homecomm.net.

upon her already impressive skills. of notching a victory against Wilchowski, on the other hand, is defending state champion Wild Courtney Paul, Whitney Paul, only a sophomore. Her ability and "Stangs - but I just can't see it-I am going to give this one to the

event. Northville-Novi

### Is this the best spiker season ever? Fans, coach, even players looking at KVC

Continued from 1

Schram currently is driving a night out would be going out to a game against the Chargers. Novi's Schram said, "The key part is with four kills."

Wildcats as they took on Ladywood Fissette said "played well." in a game that would find Novi winning, 15-12, 7-15, 15-9. Brian Doyle is an intern for the Northville Record, Novi News and the Lake Area Times, Comments

in three games, 9-15, 15-5, 16-14, division, I think," "Tina Hildreth had a good game In their final game of the Simkins carved our five aces while for us." Fissette said, "She had a Schoolcraft Invitational, Corte col-Schmitt staved on top of her game couple of kills and two solo blocks." lected five kills and Schmitt The luck finally turned for the Simkins and Barrett, both who added four kills of her own in the

In the team's final game of the tournament, the Wildcats felt the "That took us out of the 104 ney, the Wildcats earned a win over Schoolcraft tournament," Fissette seggleston@ht.homecomm.net.

the Walled Lake Western Warriors said, "We took third in the silver Also contributing in the win was notched nine while Jamie Jo Sabol losing effort.

Sam Eggleston is the sports "The team played very good sting of a loss that pushed them out writer for the Novi News and the 

enroll, call Suburban Hockey at

#### **Sports Shorts**

His favorite movies include Apollo

Schram said that his favorite band

Schram also frequently travels to

relaxed and easy going. His ideal

favorite song is Ants Marching.

Center Jamie Schram goes in for a layup in Novi's game

Business Marketing because of the Meyers movies.

Marketing or Education, He likes Douglas, Adam Sandler and Mike

have with people. Schram was can't stop laughing," Schram said.

- "Those are decisions to be made - is the Dave Mathews Band and his

"It's going to bring a lot of new Schram describes himself as

against Walled Lake Western.

interaction he would be able to

tie is looking forward to the next

Ford announced it as a car that whole time."

Schram enjoys taking his trusty

Wrestling tickets on sale March 7-9 at the Palace of Auburn for that competition. Hills, may do so by mailing their - Early-bird tickets are available

All-tournament tickets (for all and go on sale Feb. 19 at the directed to the sports depart five sessions) are available for \$35. Palace and at Ticketmaster out-

Fans wishing to purchase 26. they have to play back to back advance tickets for the Michigan. Those ordering tickets must three one-day, mid-winter work-Tuesday and Wednesday High School Athletic Association's indicate which division they prefer shops at Suburban Training player. Lower Peninsula Individual to watch, which will give them a Center in Farmington Hills on "It's a positive and a nega-- Wrestling Finals, scheduled for seat directly in view of the mats. Thursday, Feb. 14.

the Northville Record, Novi 1661 Ramblewood, East Lansing, marked by Feb. 1.

All tickets will be mailed by Feb.

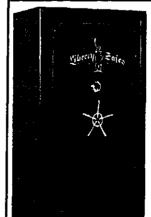
Brian Doyle is an intern for requests to the MHSAA offices, by mail only and must be post-Single session tickets are \$8

Mid-winter workshops for players age 6 and up. The workshops will be two Suburban Hockey will have hours, and each one is \$45 per For more information or to

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## Cheer takes third Wild 'Stangs compete,

SPORTS WRITER

A third place finish in the league meet is nothing to be dis-

The Novi Wildcats cheer squad KVC league meet, held at South The 'Cats fell to the Hartland

Eagles, who took first with 664

points, and the Brighton finisher, which was Lakeland, only collected 524 points. The Wildcats took to the meet expectations and came out days worth of practice." stronger than they were expect-

"We had an energetic and precisely executed round one." Novi coach Amy Denys said. "I will be the first to admit that we only practiced out round one a few times since out last meet. It is our most polished cheer and we chose to spend our practice time this past week focusing on rounds tow and three. However, despite the presence and energy." lack of practice, the girls had and outstanding performance."

The girls did indeed have and outstanding performance, collecting 177.5 points in the rounds. Hartland collected 180.5 and is to come in first at Regionals early lead, notched 184 points. The second rounds, which Denys admits to being the team's

weakest link, found the 'Cats only 174.5 points to Brighton's reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 186 and Hartland's 193.5. "It was still a close contest for seggleston@ht.homecomm.net.

that first-place spot," Denys said. "After round two, our third place finish was pretty definite. With Brighton 18 points ahead and Kensington Valley Conference South Lyon 39.5 points below, we pretty much cinched third." Round three found the girls of Novi performing what Denys

notched a third-place finish in the described as a "great round." The 'Cats, who ultimately took the Lyon High School, with 604 total third-place finish, had a few obstacles to overcome before they could do their best in the KVC. "We had to replace an injured athlete, Lindsey Howell, and the Bulldogs, who took second with new participant. Courtney 640.5 points. The fourth place Bernier, had an excellent per-

formance," Denys said. "I am so proud of Courtney for having the stamina to complete such a with lots of enthusiasm and demanding cheer with only a few And those few days of practice were cut short thanks to some interference by Mother Nature. With a snow day on Thursday (Jan. 31), we were unable to hold

> "The unexpected day off made out preparation time minimal. However, despite this obstacle, the girls had a great performance. I was thrilled with the girls' floor Wildcats will visit Ladywood High School Saturday. "Following Ladywood, we only Regionals," Denys said. "Our goal

a regular practice." Denvs said.

Brighton, which had taken an and travel to the State Championship on March 2." Sam Engleston is the sports writer for the Novi News and the falling behind as they gathered Lake Area Times. He can be

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## take third-place finish

By Sam Eggleston

Lindsay Schultz, took third place n the Invitational tournament with a total score of 144.2 points Feb. 2 while Rochester Adams 8.95 with the vault. took first with 148.3 and Portage took second with 145.1.

the judges in hopes of notching a performance on the bars. victory. Senior captain Lindsey poard in the other three events, points and Carlson collected taking a 9.05 in the vault, a 9.15 35.35 points in the third-place n the bars and an ever-impres- effort

The Wild 'Stangs had plenty of other weapons to bring to the The Northville-Novi Wild Stangs Invitational as well. Jennifer gymnastics team looked to be in Sturgis continued her top-shell good form when they took on competing with a 9.125 in the some of the best teams in the area vault, a 9.26 in the bars, a 9.2 on the Plymouth Canton the beam and an unbelievable 9.65 in the floor exercise The Wild Stangs, led by coach Alongside Sturgis was sophomor standout Sara Wilchowski, who

8.65 in the vault exercise while The Wild 'Stangs turned to their collecting an 8.9 for her floor rouveterans and their up and coming—tine while Jenn Mehl took an 8.50 players to make an impression on on the bars and an 8.95 for her Taking top honors in total Carlson was impressive with her points for the Wild 'Stangs was performances in the vault, the Stugis, as she gathered a very pars and the floor, but struggled impressive 39,175 for her per slightly in the beam exercise (7.8). formances while teammat Carlson was impressive across the Wilchowski took 36.75 total

took an impressive 9.525 on the

bars, a 9.15 on the beam and a

Andrea Ledbetter notched ar

## Tankers look good?

Continued from 1

seventh in the diving portion of the in 3:57.47.

The relays also had some suc-Invitational. The 200 medley relay team took 10th in the meet while well as Moblo in the 100 backthe 200 and the 400 freestyle relay stroke with a time of 58.00 secteams each notched a ninth-place onds.

Novi 114, Saline 72

in the Saline swimmers -- they as Moblo's first in the 100 free, were definitely up against a better with a time of 53.4. team. The Wildcats (4-2 in dual nabbing first place finishes in all and the 100 fly (56.38).

path to victory against Saline as points. the 200 medley relay team of Moble. Tyler. Juhwan Yoo, Tyler and Taewan Yoo took first in a Pieprzak and Robertson took first 104 in the 200 free relay with a time of seggleston@ht.homecomm.net.

Tyler, Pieprzak, Mobio and Novi diver Scott Rettmann took Robertson took a first-place finish

Individual events the Wildeats took first-place in included cess in the Oakland County Taewan Yoo in the 100 breaststroke with a time of 1:16.31 as

Also taking first place for Novi was Robertson in the 500 freestyle event, with a time of 5:06.53, and The Novi Wildcats left no doubt in the 200 free, in 1:53.80, as well

Tyler continued his outstanding meets this season), came out swimming this season with victostrong against the Saline squad, ries in the 50 free (24.31 seconds)

Taking the best diving spot for The Wildcats turned to their Novi, which was second place, was leaders in the pool to forge the Bassett with a total of 230.35

Sam Eggleston is the sports writer for the Novi News and the time of 1:46.03 while the team of Lake Area Times. He can be Taewan Yoo, Matt Swift, Chris reached at (248) 349-1700, ext.

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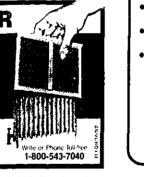
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## **Gymnastics** team gets win

By Brian Doyle SPECIAL WRITER

The Walled Lake gymnastics team is off to a strong start to the 2002 season. The team has a 5-4 record and has recently completed two strong matches.

The team squared off against Royal Oak and ended up snagging a 136.05-123.8 victory Jan.

28 after strong performances. "We were pretty much solid all the way around," said Walled Lake coach Jennifer Hart.

Lindsay Brown and Sarah Chrzanowski tied for first in the vault event and scored 8.7.

"We did very well that night on the vault," Hart said.

That night Brown finished in the top three in all

four events. She took first in the vault with an 8.7, second on the bars with an 8.6, second on the beam with an 8.6 and third on the floor with an 8.85.

Stefanie Shmoltz also performed well and took first on the bars with a 9.0, third on the beam with an 8.2 and second on the floor with a 9.05.

Also finishing in the top three for Walled Lake were Arny Gurski who took third on the bars with an 8.55 and third on the beam with an 8.2.

The girls fell short in their meet previous to Royal Oak, when they lost a close one to Farmington 144.1-133.5. Brown and Shmoltz performed well and tied for third in the vault with an 8.55. Brown also took third on the bars with a 9.05.

beaten Farmington the previous year but just couldn't pull it off this "We had a rough night." Hart

On the positive side, some of the girls had their highest scores of the year. However, these were not all Walled Lake's strongest gymnasts.

According to Hart, so far Walled Lake's strongest competitors have been Brown, Gurski. Shmoltz and Chrzanowski. The team as a whole does have a lot of collective strengths.

"Even if we start off rough, we can come back and do great," Hart said.

The team works very hard to achieve that recoverability. The team also works hard at consistently on all pieces of equipment.

"We're pretty consistent on vault and floor," Hart said. The team also has the capabil-

ity of doing very well on the bars and on the beam. "It's a matter of staying solid on the beam," Hart said.

They have the ability but can't always seem to put everything together in those events. According to Hart, they can land the big tricks, but the smaller ones are the ones that sneak up and cause trouble.

"It's the little things," she said. The teams next match was Wednesday against a Northville-Novi who Hart said is always of the most challenging teams. On Saturday, they will be attending an Invitational at Ann Arbor Pioneer High School.

Brian Doyle is an intern for the

## Western gridders earn Spicer award

Warriors football team just wasn't ready to stop making headlines instead, they were determined to gather at least one more before

they called it quits. The Warriors, head Mike Zdebski, was recently named the Class A winner of the 2002 Steve Spicer Award for the football team that does the most for it's

The Warriors were indeed a busy group of gridders, having done community service from the spring

of 2001 through October. In October, the Warrior gridders took a trip to the Wixom Panther Hunt and handed out candy and worked the event's games and rides before being a part of the Wixom Haunted Woods while working with children by escorting kids, handing out candy and being the props that added a little spook to the Haunted

Woods. In July of 2001, the Warriors worked with youth in the Hawks Football Camp, teaching them the skills of football. The month of May was also filled with plenty of com-

The Walled Lake Western munity service with the Warriors working on an exterior clean up of retired senior citizens homes in Commerce before working at the spring fair at Guest Elementary School. Not only did the Warriors do all of that, they also got down and dirty laying 9000 square feet of sod for the Lakes Area Hawks foot-

> In April, the Walled Lake Western football players refereed a middle school flag football league, hosted a Youth Bike Safety course at the Community Center, instructed a youth football camp and red and tutored elementary students in the Walled Lake school district. The month of March found the Warriors working games at the Look Lake Spring Fair and reading and tutoring to the elementary students in their school district.

> the Warriors spent tutoring and reading to elementary students at Pleasant Lake as well as being involved for the tutoring of high school students, which was offered all through the winter and spring seasons.

ball program.

shoes, not hockey. The Walled Lake Central Vikings made another huge improvement in their game in hopes of collecting a win, but, alas, it would not be so and they fell to Western Lakes February of 2001 was the month Activities Association opponent Livonia Franklin 4-2 Feb. 2 after having their games versus Farmington and Canton postponed

#### Trapped like a rat



Novi's Matt Emmenecker finds himself caught between a threesome of Western Warrior defenders during a game at Novi.

Northville Record, Novi News and the Lake Area Times. Comments can be directed to the sports department at (248) 349-1700,

success."

By Sam Eggleston

to sports, almost is only in horse-

due to inclement weather condi-

to these guys all the way through the game," Walled Lake Central

coach Jim Hogan said. "We came out and scored first, but they answered pretty quick and ended up leading 2-1 at the end of the

The first goal of the game was credited to Eric Krajewski, who collected a single goal and an assist on the night. The Vikings collected their second and last goal of the night off of sophomore Adam Griffin, who also collected an assist in the game. Closing on the collection of points for the Vikings was senior captain James Kerbawi, who notched an assist in the contest. "The team is certainly gelling," Hogan said. "It is unfortunate for us that the season is so short. We only have six or seven games to go. Everything is starting to come together for us, I can really feel it. We could really use another month, like March, and make it a long Between the Franklin Patriots and the Walled Lake Central icers, only five penalties were called. Unfortunately for the Vikings, four of those were called on them. "This team is fairly disciplined." Hogan said. "I like the way we are going right now. This team has managed to get itself under control

first (period)."

"We ended up staying really close

After the game, which was Senior Appreciation Night for the Vikings. They are always so close, always the Franklin coach had a few almost there - but when it comes important words to say to the struggling Walled Lake Central

players. "He paid a visit to our locker room." Hogan said, "He complimented us and said that our record was not indicative of our quality. He said that we should hold our heads high and that we should keep forging on because we are not

too far off the mark. Senior goalie Craig Przytulski

guarded the posts for the Vikings, taking on 30 shots and stopping

Central's Eric Krajewski tries to control the puck in his opponent's zone during a home game in January. Krajewski is one of

WLC icers on right track

butstill fall to WLAA foe Livonia Franklin

"He had a real nice game for us." Hogan said. "I am really happy with

his performance." The Vikings also had top-notch games from Ben Brand, who is a sophomore defenseman, as well as the line of Griffin, Kralewski and Kerbawi, which is continuing it's stellar play. Hogan also noted the play of Kevin Francis, who is a sophomore defenseman for the

Vikings. The Vikings will return to action when they take on Livonia Churchill tomorrow. The Chargers are 8-0 in the league and are not known for backing down against

"We are going to throw everything we have at them," Hogan said.
"We'll take it to the streets and do whatever we can to get this win."

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and that is important for us to have Central's Adam Griffin brings the puck into the Western Warrior's zone during their earlier tilt.