

SANDSTONE UPDATE

Done deal?

City Council gives what appears to be the final approval to end ongoing litigation between the city and Sandstone Assoc. LP

By Victoria Sadlocha
STAFF WRITER

On the eve of a Michigan Court of Appeals deadline, members of the Novi City Council gave their approval to settle ongoing litigation between the city and Sandstone Associates Limited Partnership.

With a vote of 5 to 0, David Landry, Michelle Bononi, Richard Clark, Louis Csordas and Craig DeRoche gave the nod to adopt a resolution approving an agreement to enter into a consent judgment to settle the sandstone litigation, said Novi Assistant Manager Clay Pearson.

"The resolution is to terminate litigation in the courts and enter the referenced consent judgment," Pearson said.

The Monday, June 24 decision was rendered after a nearly four hour combination city council meeting and executive session concluding around 10:45 p.m.

City decision makers were working under constraints, considering they were up against a 5 p.m. June 26 deadline issued by the Michigan Court of Appeals.

"There was a deadline," Pearson said. "It is safe to say all parties were aware of the appeals court deadline."

The Tuesday date was the final day motions would be accepted relating to the city's appeal of the previous court decision favoring Sandstone.

Oral arguments before the Michigan Court of Appeals were scheduled to begin July 9.

Pending finalization of the wording on the actual settlement document, acceptance by Sandstone and entry into Oakland County Circuit Court, the parties would make a motion to the appeals court to send it back to the trial court, officials said.

"We did achieve all of our goals," said Lou Csordas, Novi city councilman.

Csordas explained he and other members of the council would dis-

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Two Novi residents accused of tax fraud

Indictment accuses doctor and wife of conspiring against the IRS

By Victoria Sadlocha
STAFF WRITER

A Novi resident and his wife were indicted last week on several counts of trying to defraud the Internal Revenue Service, said officers from the U.S. Department of Justice.

Dr. Timothy Kosinski and his wife, Barbara, were charged with one count of conspiring with Detroit businessman Melvin Phillips "to impede, impair, obstruct and defeat the lawful functions of the IRS and with multiple counts of structuring transactions to evade reporting requirements," said Special Agent in Charge Mark Kroczyński of the Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation Division.

Each count of conviction for the violations carries a maximum penalty of five years imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine, said United States Attorney Jeffrey G. Collins.

Timothy Kosinski is also being charged with five counts of "sub-

scribing false personal and corporate tax returns" with each count carrying a maximum penalty of three years imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine.

According to documents issued by the U.S. Department of Justice, the indictment alleges the Bingham Farms dentist and president of T.J. Construction, his wife and Phillips made "off-the-books" cash payments to construction workers employed to work on jobs for the Kosinskis.

Kroczyński said they also tried to conceal the existence of the cash payroll by failing to maintain records and by filing false corporate and personal income tax returns.

It is suspected the Kosinskis and Phillips concealed the existence of

the cash payroll system by cashing hundreds of checks at banks in amounts lower than \$10,000 for the purpose of preventing the banks from filing currency transactions reports with the IRS.

Officials from the U.S. Department of Justice said many of the T.J. Construction projects were with Thyssen, Inc. - a subsidiary of German's ThyssenKrupp A.G. headquartered in Detroit.

Kroczyński said that from 1995 through 1998, Thyssen paid T.J. Construction more than \$41.8 million dollars and during that period, the Kosinskis and Phillips withdrew more than \$7.6 million from bank accounts maintained in their names or under their control and made cash payments to individu-

als associated with the construction projects for the purpose of impeding and impairing the IRS from ascertaining and collecting federal income taxes.

The indictment documents state Kosinski had hired Phillips to work on the construction projects and supervise various construction workers.

"On June 5, Mr. Phillips pleaded guilty before U.S. District Court Judge Arthur J. Tarnow to one count of conspiring to impede, impair, obstruct and defeat the lawful functions of the IRS, including ascertaining and collecting federal employment taxes, by concealing the payment of millions of dol-

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Courtesy photo

Novi Police Officer Ken Meier had followed Meghan McDonald's life every step of the way - ever since he delivered her Oct. 4, 1983.

A Special Bond

Officer and 18-year-old share unique past

By Angelo Parlove
STAFF WRITER

Over 18 years ago, Novi police officer Ken Meier ushered in a new Novi resident, a six-pound, 12-ounce baby girl, Meghan McDonald.

The new baby girl made a quick arrival on Gilbar Street on Oct. 4, 1983, with her mother, Judy McDonald, going into labor on her family room floor. Meier beat the ambulance to the McDonald's home and was put to the rare duty for a police officer - delivering a newborn baby.

Meier - trained for the situation only by videotapes in the police academy - snapped into action. He sent family members scuttling for towels and other necessary supplies to bring Meghan into the world.

Minutes after the police officer arrived on the scene, he delivered the baby. The ambulance then arrived and the mother and child were transported to St. Mary's Hospital.

"I told her to keep her knees up and things like that. We were lucky everything went the way it was supposed to," Meier told the Novi News for an October 1983 article.

"I was so happy when the baby started

"(Meghan) has always held a special place in his heart... She is kind of like the daughter we never had."

Eileen Meier
wife of Novi police officer Ken Meier

crying. We knew it was OK then," said Meier, the then 27-year-old police officer. "It was such a good feeling to be there. It was almost like being part of the family."

"When you're put into a role where you have to perform, it's good to know you can do it. This is something we're taught in the academy, but you never realize it will happen to you," Meier added.

Since that October day of Meier's and the McDonald's shared miracle over 18 years ago, the two families have stayed in touch, seeing each other about town. The now veteran Novi police officer has

reserved a soft spot for Meghan.

"(Meghan) has always held a special place in his heart," said Eileen Meier, Ken Meier's wife. "She is kind of like the daughter we never had."

On June 8, Meier volunteered for bike patrol at the 34th Novi High School Commencement at Compuware Arena in Plymouth. He wanted to see Meghan McDonald cross the stage with the class of 2002 and receive her diploma.

"He's always been there for the family," McDonald said.

And McDonald invited Meier, who has served the Novi Police Department for 20 years, to her graduation party on June 15. She sent an invitation to the police station on 10 Mile Road.

"He was really touched to be invited," Eileen Meier said. "He was so happy to be a part of it."

The Meiers have lived in Novi for 16 years and have three sons. Meghan McDonald plans to attend Schoolcraft College in the fall. She hopes to be a school teacher.

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

SEMCOG looking for Novi input

Residents being asked to comment on transportation improvements

By Victoria Sadlocha
STAFF WRITER

The Southeast Michigan Council of Governments invites interested residents to comment on projects for its fiscal year 2002-2004 Transportation Improvement Program.

The program that council executives are now looking to amend contains 645 projects at a total cost of \$1.9 billion.

Proposed amendments to the program would add 39 projects and delete eight, producing a net increase of \$98.8 million, said Jeffrey Tumidanski from the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG).

One Novi project, which has not received final program approval yet, is the replacement of the Grand River Avenue CSX railroad four-lane bridge with a five-lane bridge, Tumidanski said.

If given final approval, it is anticipated that \$2.85 million of financing for the bridge enhancement would come from the federal bridge fund and about \$250,000 from the Michigan Transportation Fund.

Tumidanski said other projects not yet part of the finalized TIP relating to Novi residents include:

- improvements to the Northwestern Highway and M5 connector;
- widening Orchard Lake Road to a six-lane boulevard; and
- realigning 14 Mile Road east of Northwestern.

"The improvements will make traveling to West Bloomfield a lot easier for Novi residents," Tumidanski said.

Tumidanski said the council also plans on introducing several "roundabouts" in the area including the intersection of Haggerty and 14 Mile roads.

"It should get the traffic through the area a lot faster," Tumidanski said.

Already approved Novi TIP projects included in the 2002-2004 Transportation Improvement Program are:

- widening 1.7 miles of Grand River

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WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Anyone interested in commenting may do so by mailing written correspondence to:

■ Lorraine Corradino
Senior Planner
SEMCOG
535 Griswold
Suite 300
Detroit, MI 48226

Other ways include faxing comments to (313) 961-4869, e-mailing thoughts to corradino@semcog.org or by attending the 1 p.m. Executive Committee meeting on Friday, July 19.

Excitement building for Vietnam veterans recognition

Novi city officials prepare for ceremony

By Victoria Sadlocha
STAFF WRITER

After months of preparation and build-up, the City of Novi Vietnam Veteran's Recognition Day celebration is only days away.

This Sunday, the hard work of

many community organizations, The Novi Theatres, city employees and the mayor will come together as they all pay tribute and give thanks to those who served in the Vietnam War.

City of Novi Mayor Richard J. Clark has been heavily involved with the entire process and is eager to pay respect to the men and women who in his estimation served the country in the war of the forgotten.

"These men and women



answered the country's call without question," Clark said. "For the first time (in history) when they came home they suffered

again."

The mayor said the message he wants to get out during the event is June 30 is a day of healing, recognition and thanks.

He encourages all area residents to attend the 1 p.m. Novi Civic Center program and give support to the veterans along with a long overdue thank you.

Organizers of the event said the number of veterans registered for

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53174-22222-0

Japan Bound

Novi High School student to live international dreams

By Angelo Parlove

International dreams are about to become a reality for a Novi resident.

Novi High School student Tiffany Kelly will spend two weeks in Japan...

"It has been a life-long dream to go to Japan... When I get there, I'll drop to my knees and start sobbing. I won't believe I'm in Japan."

Tiffany Kelly, Novi High School student



television programs and Japanese comic books. She also works at a Japanese market in Novi.

The Novi High School students applied to the program last year, but was put on its alternate list. However, this time around she made the cut.

"When she got the news she was so excited," Smith said. "She was screaming and bounding off the walls."

However, Smith said her grand-daughter will have to adjust to the customs of Japanese life, such as the formal school uniforms that include a white skirt and a white blouse.

"She'll have to learn the little things," Smith said.

Rilly will be returning to Novi on July 10.

As part of the Michigan/Sligo Student Exchange Program, Kelly's family will host Japanese exchange students for two weeks in September, where the visiting students will live in their home and attend Novi High School.

In 1968, Michigan and the Sligo (Ireland) became sister states. Through this partnership, many

Novi High School student Tiffany Kelly will be taking her passport and heading off to Japan this week as part of a student exchange program. Kelly will be in Japan for two weeks and then host a Japanese student in Novi this fall.

Police Report

Basement Crasher

On June 16 a Novi man called the police to report someone had broken into the basement of his home in the 4000 block of Eight Mile Road. Upon arrival, the man told police sometime between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. an unknown person broke his basement window, entering his home. The 41-year-old man said the suspect then went through his house looking into all his dresser drawers.

Runaway Froot Loops

The Novi Police Department received a call from Country Club on Haggerty Road June 16 at about 5 a.m. The night manager told officers a group of teenagers visiting the hotel had stolen a glass cereal bin from the breakfast room. The manager said the suspects ranged in age from 17 to 19 and had been visiting friends who purchased a room. According to the report, before the suspects entered the breakfast room, a dispenser was missing. A check of the room after they left revealed a dispenser bin full of Froot Loops was gone. The value of the cereal and bin was estimated between \$12 and \$20.

Unwelcomed Guest

A Novi resident received a huge surprise when he woke up and

found a stranger in his bedroom.

On June 17 at about 4 a.m., a disabled male in the 26000 block of Georgia called police after finding a stranger on his bedroom floor. When police arrived the man told police someone had broken into his home.

Missing Truck

Surprised to find his truck missing, a Novi man called police for help. A 46-year-old male in the 31000 block of Springlake, between W. Pontiac Trail and West Park, told police someone stole his 1991 GMC full-size pickup sometime between 11:30 p.m. June 19 and 7 a.m. June 20. The truck was parked in front of building six in the parking lot of the Springs Apartments. A report stated the pickup had a cap and a ladder rack. The owner also told police the vehicle contained many tools and business checks. Noises were heard in the area at about 3 a.m. on June 20 and the Walled Lake Police Department took a call involving an older model Chevy pickup with a cap.

Novi City Briefs

Sounds of Summer

Tonight the City of Novi presents the Sheila Linds Trio at 7:30 p.m. on the north lawn of the Novi Civic Center. The jazz concert is part of the city's free "Sounds of Summer" concert series.

Learn to skate

Registration is going on now for the Novi Ice Arena's Learn to Skate summer program. Although the first session has begun, it is not too late to register for the arena's second session.

Senior master games

Area residents older than 49 are invited to register for the 11th Annual Oakland County Master Games July 26 and 27. Participants will compete for medals in athletic events including volleyball, basketball free throw, 3-on-3 basketball, race walking, swimming, track and field, tennis and more.

Summer Tax Bills

Keep an eye on your mailbox because the City of Novi 2002 property tax bills are on the way. The mailing will take place to all property owners on Friday, June 28.

Novi watering notice

With the warm weather finally here, city officials want to remind all residents of Novi's Alternate Day Lawn Watering program. The program allows the watering of lawns and landscaping on even-

Novi Schools superintendent gets praised with high marks and words

District gives annual evaluation of Emmett Lippe

By Angelo Parlove

STAFF WRITER

Novi Schools completed its annual evaluation of superintendent Emmett Lippe this month, announcing the district leader's "report card" for the 2001-2002 school year.

The superintendent was graded on a five-point scale by the seven Novi Schools' board of education members, with each member individually surveyed. The grades were then compiled together for single scores, with Lippe receiving near "excellent" marks in each area.

The evaluation covered six major rating categories, with a total performance average of 4.85. These rating categories addressed the superintendent's overall performance (4.9) and goal achievements for the 2001-2002 school year (4.8), as well as the four areas of community (4.9), administrative (4.9), faculty (4.9) and board of education (4.9) relationships.

"Excellence and ability is expected and that's what we have," Novi Board of Education Vice President Bruce Bagdady said.

Lippe received perfect scores for

"Excellence and ability is expected and that's what we have."

Bruce Bagdady

Novi Board of Education vice president

Lippe defended the board's praise and "symphony" references to the staff members at Novi Schools.

"We have a staff that is outstanding here. They play the music and make the school district what it is," Lippe said.

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

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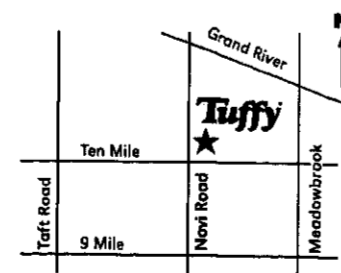
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David Thompson, flanked by his parents, Donna and Cliff Thompson, at the United States Air Force Academy's swearing-in ceremony.

From Novi High to a high-flyin' U.S. cadet

By Mary Ann Frazer
SPECIAL WRITER

U.S. Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld addressed a reflective, post-September 11 graduating class of the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs recently. Among the 929 graduates stood one of Novi High School's former students, David Thompson.

Standing shoulder-to-shoulder with his fellow cadets, Thompson listened as Rumsfeld reminded the graduates that "while you entered the academy in a time of peace, you leave in a time of war." Referring to the September 11 terrorist attacks, the statement seemed to strengthen the graduates' resolve to "preserve and defend" as they pursued the ceremony with the traditional tossing of the hats in the acad-

emy's Falcon Stadium.

Thompson, a 1998 Novi grad, rounded out his excellent high school academic record with varsity football, marching band and varsity track. In his senior year, after a highly-competitive selection process, he gained an appointment to the United States Air Force Academy. Forgoing a summer off, Thompson attended the academy's boot camp immediately following his graduation from Novi High.

"The first year (at the academy) was the toughest," admitted Thompson. "But each year had its unique challenges and rewards." He admits he prefers learning "in the field" to bookwork in the classroom — referring to the instruction cadets receive in survival training, marksmanship, and jump training.

"Attending the academy was a great opportunity for an excellent education," said Thompson. "That's something I'll have the rest of my life."

As a graduate of the academy, Thompson will follow his own unique path in the U.S. Air Force rank and file. Commissioned as a second lieutenant upon graduation, he looks forward to attending pilot training next April. Thompson's parents, Cliff and Donna Thompson, long-term residents of Novi, are proud of him and share his enthusiasm for the future.

"Dare to propose innovative changes," said Rumsfeld in his speech to the graduates. Armed with these guiding words, it is hoped that Thompson, along with his fellow cadets, will enjoy the rewards of a challenging military career in the U.S. Air Force.

Two Wildcats appointed to AF Academy

The Air Force announces the appointments of two Class of 2002 Novi High School graduates to the United States Air Force Academy for the Class of 2006.

Christopher Stallard is the son of Sanford Stallard and Drew Stallard, both of Novi. Stallard attained valedictorian status and graduated summa cum laude. He was on the varsity wrestling and track teams. He participated in National Honor Society, Boys' State, Japan Foreign Exchange Program and Michigan Freedom Academy, and received the Presidential Award for Educational Excellence.

Stallard plans to study psychology. **Daniel St. Clair** is the son of Don and DrAnn St. Clair of Novi. St. Clair holds the Novi High School record in discus and was All-Conference in track. He also

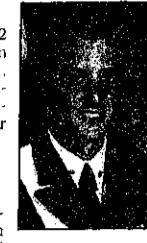


Christopher Stallard

played football. St. Clair participated in Marching Band, Winter Drumline, National Honor Society, National youth Leadership Conference, Interact Club and the FIRST Robotics Drive Team. He plans to study aeronautical engineering.

Ramsey completes Hargrave academy

Brandon Sudler Ramsey, son of Philip and Laura Ramsey of Novi, graduated with the Hargrave Military Academy's Class of 2002 with honor on June 1, which included 91 graduates and four academic post-graduates.



B. Ramsey

Combined, they represent seven countries and 19 states. Ramsey will be attending Bowling Green State University. To be an honor graduate, cadets must maintain a GPA of 3.0 or higher and complete the Advanced Studies Diploma. Twenty-six honor graduates also completed Hargrave's Honor Graduate Course.

In the Service

Marine Corps Pfc. **Valne V. Engolan**, son of Rita Engolan of Novi, recently completed basic training at

Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, S.C. and was promoted to his current rank. Engolan is a 1997 graduate of Novi Farmington High School. He successfully completed 12 weeks of training designed to challenge new Marine recruits both physically and mentally.

Marine Corps Pfc. **Brent M. Vogel**, a 1995 graduate of Walleye Lake Western High School, recently reported for duty with Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 13, Marine Air Group 13, 3rd Marine Air Wing, Marine Corps Air Station in Yuma, Ariz.

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June 29 Beach Boys	July 3 Alice 106.7 80's Fest w/ INXS & Simple Minds	July 9 Cirque Eos * 11am & 7pm	July 12 Teddy Pendergrass & Jeffrey Osborne
July 13 Golden Hits of Doo Wop (Little Anthony & The Imperials, Bill Pinckney's Original Drivers and Carl Gardner's Coasters)	July 16 Heart & Eric Burdon	July 17 Chris Isaak	Sept 6 Arnon Carter
July 18 Little Bear * 11am & 7pm	July 20 Kenny Rogers	July 27 WDDV Modern Music Festival (The Verve Pipe, Robert Bradley's Blackwater Surprise & Billyinos)	Aug 28 Billy Ray Cyrus & Tammy Cochran
Aug 1 The Rippingtons, David Benoit and Jean Luc-Ponty	Aug 2 Trinity Irish Dance Company	Aug 4 Festa Italiana 2002 (Connie Francis, Sal Richards & The Gaylords)	Aug 6 Michael Bolton
Aug 8 Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons, Felix Cavaliere & The Rascals, Lou Christie and The Association			

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Community Events

Child Health Clinics
 DATE: Every Monday
 LOCATION: Oakland County Health Division, 1010 E. West Maple, Walled Lake
 TIME: 9 a.m.-12 p.m.
 DETAILS: Free well-care service for pre-qualified children to 3 1/2 years who do not have well-care insurance or Medicaid.
 PHONE: (248) 926-3341

Summer Concert Series
 DATE: Mondays
 LOCATION: Walled Lake Villa is located at the intersection of Lash Road and Pontiac Trail. The gazebo is located at Riley Park on Common Street near the intersection of W. Walled Lake Drive and Pontiac Trail. The Boat House (for music) is located at 112 E. Walled Lake Drive.
 TIME: 7:30 p.m.
 DETAILS: Free concerts in Walled Lake.
 July 1 - Dick Murphy Band - Gazebo
 July 8 - Hi-Lites - Walled Lake Villa

July 15 - Straw Hat Band - Gazebo
 July 22 - Southern Knights - Walled Lake Villa
 July 29 - George Millsap - Motown R&B - Gazebo
 August 5 - Dixie Ramblers - Walled Lake Villa
 August 25 - Ramon Rock - The Boat House (Market Days, 3 to 5 p.m.)

Sounds of Summer
 DATE: every Thursday, June 27 - Sheila Landis Trio (jazz)
 July 11 - Phonic (blues)
 July 18 - Castillar Cowboys (country)
 Aug. 1 - Randy Vain & The Sonic

Blues (blues)
 Aug. 8 - The Millionaires (swing)
 Aug. 15 - Novi Concert Band (classics, marches and show tunes)
 LOCATION: north lawn of the Novi Civic Center, Ten Mile Road between Novi and Taft roads
 TIME: 7:30 p.m.
 DETAILS: free concerts hosted by the City of Novi, sponsored by Providence Hospital and the Novi Historical Commission (Aug. 8 show), concerts will be held in the center if inclement weather
 PHONE: (248) 347-0400

Rose Consulting
 DATE: Saturday, June 29
 LOCATION: Anglin Nursery &

Supply, 42750 Grand River
 TIME: noon-3 p.m.
 DETAILS: Rosarians from Roses West Rose Society will answer your rose-growing questions.
 PHONE: Fax at (248) 449-4626

Quick Date
 DATE: Tuesday, July 9
 LOCATION: Fifth Avenue Ballroom, 25750 Novi Road, Novi
 TIME: 7:15 p.m.
 DETAILS: Meet 10 to 12 new people for five minutes each. It's fast-paced, fun and exciting. Pre-registration is required.
 PHONE: (517) 552-0673 or www.quickdateinfo.com

National Association for Exposition Management 8th Annual Golf Outing
 DATE: Wednesday, August 7
 LOCATION: Links of Novi
 TIME: 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. registration, 10:00 a.m. shotgun start, four person scramble format, steak dinner and awards reception immediately afterward.
 DETAILS: Whether you are a veteran golfer or just beginning to learn the game, we invite you to join in the fun! Proceeds to benefit IAEM and The Dwarf Athletic Association of America.
 PHONE: For additional information, please contact Terri Freytag at 248/348-5600 ext. 205.

Tycoon Tee-Off Golf Outing
 DATE: Thursday, Aug. 15
 LOCATION: Links of Novi, 50395 10 Mile Road, Novi
 TIME: 9 a.m. check-in, putting contest; 10 a.m. shotgun start
 DETAILS: 15th annual Novi Chamber of Commerce outing; scramble format and rules; lunch at the turn; contest holes, games and prizes; 50/50 raffle; steak dinner; and team awards.
 PHONE: 9248) 348-5600

To get your event listed, call editor Cal Stone at (248) 349-1700, ext. 113 or e-mail him at cstone@nl.homecom.net.



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Notice is given that the following storage units will be sold to the highest bidder by way of open bid no earlier than 9:00 a.m. on July 5, 2002 at Shurgard Storage located at 1901 East West Maple Rd. Walled Lake, MI 48390 (248) 669-4020

Unit 9007 B.
 Sefanasky - Hand Truck, Halloween Decorations, Chairs, Bags, Lamps, Misc. Household Goods.

Unit 7049 L.
 Johnson - Bassinet, Couch, TV, Kiddy Toys, Lamps, Dressers, Misc. Boxes and Bags, Cooler.

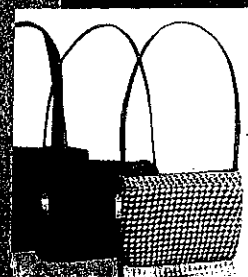
Unit 8032 D.
 Albertson - 71 Mustang "Boss 351", Golf Clubs, Misc. Boxes, Snow Blower, Snow Skis.

ONEDAY SALE SUPER SPECIALS

Friday, June 28 & Saturday, June 29



SUPER SPECIAL 50% OFF
 Birkenstock "Boston" slip in olive or steel grey. Orig. 104.00, sale 52.00. NOW \$1.99. IN WOMEN'S SHOES.



SUPER SPECIAL 19.99
 Entire stock of Nine West and relatively handbags. Reg. 42.00-79.00. IN HAND BAGS. SELECTION VARIES BY STORE.



SUPER SPECIAL 14.99
 Large selection of robes and sleepwear from Parisian Intimates, Cypress, Carole Hochman and more. Reg. 28.00-49.00. IN INTIMATE APPAREL.



SUPER SPECIAL EXTRA 50% OFF
 Entire stock of red-lined neckwear and dress shirts. Orig. 35.00-55.00, sale 24.99-39.99, now 12.49-34.99. IN MEN'S.



SUPER SPECIAL 8.99
 Solid plique knit sportshirts. Reg. 14.99. IN MEN'S.



SUPER SPECIAL 19.99
 Large selection of ladies' shoes and sandals from Steve Madden, White Mountain, Foxy & Co., Candie's, Rocket Dog and more. Reg. 25.00-59.00. IN WOMEN'S SHOES.



SUPER SPECIAL 50% OFF*
 Entire stock of swimwear for ladies and juniors. July 7.00-108.00; sale 4.50-54.00; now \$9.00-54.00. IN SWIMWEAR. *OFF ORIGINAL PRICE. EXCLUDES PREVIEW 2003 SWIMWEAR.



SUPER SPECIAL EXTRA 50% OFF
 Extra savings on already reduced separates from Jeanne Pierre, Sunny Leigh, August Silk and Parisian Signature. Orig. 20.00-88.00, sale 14.99-59.99, now 7.49-29.99. IN LADIES' SPORTSWEAR. SELECTION VARIES BY STORE.



SUPER SPECIAL 14.99
 Large selection of solid and striped sleeveless summer sweaters from Jeanne Pierre. Reg. 30.00-54.00. IN LADIES' SPORTSWEAR. SELECTION VARIES BY STORE.



SUPER SPECIAL 9.99
 Selected summer clothing from OldMosh, Buster Brown, Parisian Kids, CVS-21, Baby Toes, Little Me. Orig. 18.00-39.50, sale 11.99-29.99. IN CHILDREN'S.

Take an extra 15% off* any single sale or red-lined clearance item Valid Friday, June 28 & Saturday, June 29 only
 *Take 10% off any single sale or red-lined clearance item in shoes, men's suits and sport coats, and small electronics.
 EXCLUDES SUPER SPECIALS, SPECIAL EVENTS AND GREAT VALUE AND WARDROBE IN THE JEWELRY, INTIMATE APPAREL, LADIES' SWIMWEAR, ACCESSORIES, TOWEL BATHING, KIDS' SPECIALS, BRIGHTON ELECTRONIC GIFT CARDS, GIFT CERTIFICATES, COSMETICS, COSMETIC ACCESSORIES, HOMEWARE, FRAGRANCES, FUR SERVICES, LADIES' SUITS AND DRESSES, SKIN CARE AND PRODUCTS, LITTLE ME, PARISIAN & MOORE, PARISIAN SIGNATURE SPECIAL, SPECIALS, SPECIAL LOW PRICE ITEMS AND WATERPROOFING SERVICES.
 MUST PRESENT COUPON FOR SAVINGS. NOT VALID ON PREVIOUSLY PURCHASED ITEMS.

Take an extra 15% off* any single sale or red-lined clearance item Valid Friday, June 28 & Saturday, June 29 only
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Library Lines

Hours
The Novi Public Library is open Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Friday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The library is closed on Sunday during the summer. We are located at 15245 W. 19 Mile Road, just east of Fall. For more information, call 319-0720.

Tales Through Time
Sign up is now underway for the 2002 Summer Reading Program, "Tales Through Time." The program is for children in the 4th grade and below.

Time Machine Troopers
Kids going into the 5th grade and beyond are invited to sign up for "Time Machine Troopers." We'll feature award-winning projects, and prizes throughout the summer.

Tie-dye extravaganza
Kids going into 5th grade and up can make their own tie-dyed clothing on Monday, July 1, at 1 p.m. Wear old clothes and bring a 100 percent cotton T-shirt or other item to dye. There is a \$1 fee for this project. Register in advance in the Teen Area.

Adult book discussion group
Our July selection is "Discipline" by Jane Hamilton. The group meets Monday, July 1, at 7 p.m. in the library meeting room.

Craft programs
We have two craft programs scheduled for Tuesday, July 2. Crafts for children ages 5-6 will be at 1 p.m. and for children ages 7 and up will be at 2 p.m. There is a \$1.00 materials fee for each 30-minute program. No registration is necessary, but space is limited.

Mad Scientists
Mad Scientists will spark imaginations and explore natural phenomena with fun, interactive activities on Wednesday, July 3, at 1 p.m. No registration is required. The one-hour program, which is for children age four and up.

Independence Day closing
The library will be closed Thursday, July 4, in honor of Independence Day.

Drop-in story time
Story time for two- and three-year-olds will be held Friday, July 5. No registration is necessary for the 30-minute session.

A Frontier Adventure
Kids going into the 6th grade and up can experience what it was like to be a child in Michigan in the 1800s on Monday, July 8, from 1-2 p.m. With the help of an expert in frontier living, you'll learn about 19th century chores and games in this interactive, hands-on program. Please register in advance in the Teen Area.

Library Board meeting
The Novi Library Board of Directors meets Monday, July 8, at 7 p.m. in the library meeting room. Community members are welcome to attend.

Magical entertainer
Magical entertainer Chris Lim will amaze you with cool tricks and other fun stuff on Wednesday, July 10, at 7 p.m. No registration is required for the 50-minute program, which is for children of all ages.

School's out but books are still in with children

By Diane Dempsey Deel
STAFF WRITER

Walled Lake and Wixom children are still hitting the books after school is out. Many area children have joined summer reading clubs at the Walled Lake and Wixom libraries. The libraries are sponsoring "Join the Winner's Circle" for summer fun. Children's library director, said children are thrilled when they earn a sticker, which represents the books they have read.

They get so excited to come in and get their sticker," Rickabaugh said. Summer reading programs are also encouraged to join the summer reading programs for their special rewards.

Walled Lake and Wixom libraries both have additional programs for club members. Wixom will be offering everything from a Taste of International dishes to pass to craft sessions.

Walled Lake will be offering everything from creating chalk sidewalk designs to making finger puppets. Donna Rickabaugh, Walled Lake library director, said children are thrilled when they earn a sticker, which represents the books they have read.

learned at the end of the school year," Rickabaugh said. "We hope they develop a real love for reading." Many children can't wait to join the reading clubs each year, she said. Library workers sign children up for the program up until the end of summer. However, they must complete the required reading to be a winner.

For information about the summer programs call the Wixom Library at (248) 624-2612 or the Walled Lake Library at (248) 624-3772.

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

collins said. "Mr. Phillips also pleased with the results of the tax evasion." Collins said according to the plea agreement filed with the court, the tax loss to the government exceeds \$950,000. Phillips is scheduled for sentencing Sept. 17. The Kosinskis are waiting arraignment. "IRS Criminal Investigation real-

izes the detrimental consequences that this type of crime has with the loss of tax revenue to the United States government and the loss of future social security or Medicare benefits for the employees," Krocynski said. "Employment tax crimes are one of the growing areas of concern for IRS Criminal Investigation and we will continue to be aggressive in identifying and investigating these types of crimes that only enrich some greedy individuals at the expense of their employees and the taxpayers who

are paying their fair share." Collins said the Kosinskis are entitled to a fair trial in which it will be the government's burden to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt. Neither Timothy nor his wife returned phone calls made by the Novi News.

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

Tax fraud: Novi couple faces charges

continued from front

bars 'off-the-books' cash wages to construction workers," Collins said.

Collins said the Kosinskis are entitled to a fair trial in which it will be the government's burden to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

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STARTS TOMORROW AT THESE THEATRES!

June 30: Recognizing vets

continued from front

recognition is in the high 90s and that does not include the veterans' families nor does it include veterans who called to say they were coming but prefer to sit in the audience.

Some of the activities planned for the indoor ceremony include a patriotic musical tribute, the play "War Stories," which is an original Novi Theaters production based on actual letters written by Vietnam servicemen and women to their loved ones at home, the POW Committee of Michigan's Missing Man's Table and special proclamations delivered by city, state and county representatives.

As part of the city-sponsored events leading up to the special ceremony, the Novi District Library hosted the program "What Film Teach Us About Us."

The nearly two-hour discussion and lecture was led by Eliot Wilhelm, curator of The Detroit Institute of Arts.

During the 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 18 program, Wilhelm dis-

cussed with a room-full of attendees how films of the 1960s and 1970s reflected society's attitude of the Vietnam War.

"Our expectations of the movies started to change," Wilhelm said. "The world was changing and people were feeling very different about things."

The Detroit curator discussed how films of the Vietnam War era were different from films of the past because of the more realistic endings, the bold characters' generic resistance to the system and the nameless, faceless enemies that never stopped counting like in the movie "Night of the Living Dead."

"People began making movies which seemed to them at that time to be more honest," Wilhelm said. Complimentary food and beverages were provided for all guests by Celler, Mueller, Picasso Cafe, Pastry Palace and Farmer-Jacks.

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



"Our expectations of the movies started to change. The world was changing and people were feeling very different about things."

Eliot Wilhelm
DIA Detroit Film Theater curator

Photo by Victoria Sadlocha

Eliot Wilhelm, curator of The Detroit Institute of Arts Detroit Film Theater, poses for a picture with Norm and Evelyn Young of the Friends of the Novi District Library's recent program titled "What Film Teach Us About Us." The two-hour June 18 discussion centered on films of the Vietnam War era.

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Recycle this Newspaper

Mr. Handyman fills niche while changing image of the industry



Co-owners of South Lyon's Mr. Handyman are Jim Faydenko (left) and Steve Wojciechowski.

Company fills the void if you don't have the skills, time or desire for the household project

By Lorraine Ross
SPECIAL WRITER

If you're looking to get a project done around the house but don't have the skills, time or desire to do it yourself, Mr. Handyman of South Lyon is your solution.

Mr. Handyman does all the little jobs that most homeowners either don't want to spend their free time on or don't know how to do themselves, says owner Jim Faydenko. From deck maintenance, drywall and roofing repairs and small bathroom and kitchen projects to installing doors, ceiling fans, power washing and painting, Mr. Handyman is there to do quality work with experienced employees.

"A call to Mr. Handyman will get immediate attention from one of two full-time office personnel," said Faydenko, adding this is just the first step in trying to remove the stigma that handyman services are typically unprofessional and unreliable.

"If you've ever tried calling a handyman ad from the paper you probably know what I'm talking about," he said, adding you may wait days or even weeks before getting a return call.

Beyond that, Faydenko said all of the technicians at Mr. Handyman drive fully logoed vans and look clean and neat upon their arrival. Employees are also required to have at least 10 years experience in the

industry, he said, which means they are very knowledgeable and know what it takes to satisfy customers. The company has built a reputation for prompt, safe and reliable service, he said, adding the main business philosophy is customer satisfaction.

Unlike many local repair services, Mr. Handyman service technicians are dedicated, full-time employees, bonded and insured and directly accountable for performing quality work. In fact, Faydenko said Mr. Handyman guarantees its work. It's hard to find all that from someone who is out to try making a little money on the side or from businesses who use subcontractors.

"You're used to the guy with a beat up truck pulling into your driveway," he said. "We're trying to change that image into one of a reputable company with clean, fair and honest workers."

Mr. Handyman specializes in the smaller jobs that most remodeling companies would rather not get involved in, said Faydenko, because it ties up employees and typically is not as financially lucrative. Remodeling companies don't like to pull employees off big jobs to go hang pictures or install door locks or water heaters, he said.

"We're perfect for those smaller jobs," he adds, "but if a client wants something bigger that takes longer than a week to do we try to guide them to the most efficient way for them to handle that."

For instance, Faydenko said his employees will handle a roof repair, but if a client wants to have their whole roof redone, his company would refer them to someone who strictly does that line of work. It's better and more efficient for the customer that way, he said.

Faydenko, who also owns a remodeling business, said running a handyman service is a totally different ball game. There's a lot more involved technically, he said.

For instance, Faydenko said he will get anywhere from 125 to 150 calls a month for handyman services, while the remodeling and construction industry is much slower paced. Because of that, he said it is much more important to have an office that is staffed full time and is knowledgeable about the business.

"Good employees and scheduling is the backbone of our business," he said. "We like to explain everything up front and give the best quality work we can."

Mr. Handyman's clientele tends to be people with a little more disposable income than the average homeowner, said Faydenko, and typically these people are willing to pay a little more for quality work from a reputable company.

"Most people today are double-income families who don't have the time or the interest in doing all those minor home repairs," he said. "They'd rather be spending their free time with their family."

QUITE HANDY

Mr. Handyman is located at 6760 Pontiac Trail in South Lyon. Office hours are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Call 248-486-6210 to schedule an appointment or for information. To access their Web site go to www.mrhandyman.com, or e-mail owner Jim Faydenko at svoc@mrhandyman.com.

Mr. Handyman of South Lyon has been in business for about a year and a half, said Faydenko, and while the growth has not been quite as fast as he was hoping for by this point, he said he is still very satisfied with the way things are going.

"Originally, I was hoping to have six vans up and running full-time at this point, but we're still at four," he said. "There are things happening in the world that I think has had some effect on that, but overall I'm very happy with the outcome of the business."

Faydenko said he spends a lot of money on advertising in order to get the company up and running, but the way things are going, he said he hopes to cut that back as they get more referrals and repeat customers.

"We're already seeing a lot of referrals and repeat business," he said. "The repeats alone are showing that people are embracing our way of doing business."

Faydenko, who has been in the construction and remodeling business for many years, earned his bachelor's degree in business at Ferris State University.

No experience necessary

There are creative ways to do business

By Tim Kisman
SBAM DIRECTOR OF PUBLICATIONS

Let's be honest. In the blue-suited, conservative power tie, charcoal gray, politically correct skirts-to-the-knee business world, creativity always takes a back seat.

Whether it's in memos, e-mails, annual reports and anything produced in a Power Point presentation, flashy graphics, crisp writing and clever dialogue never make it out the front door.

Instead businesses opt to cut and paste cliché's, use cheap stock art and tweak templates rather than invest in the time and brainpower it takes to bake something fresh from the business oven. It's easy on the pocketbook and is status quo, so why not, right?

Maybe, but if I hear "800-pound gorilla" or some parachute color used as an analogy again I'm going to scream.

It's not that all those instances need creative hooks. Many times the black and white basics of an account balance or memo suffice. But when that kind of thinking trickles into how you market your small business you're in trouble.

Eye-catching, brain-busting, wallet-opening, mouth-drooling ads and copy should always be on the top of the list when doing an ad for a newspaper, direct mail piece or Web site. While staff and budget considerations factor into the final decision, every effort must be made to jazz up the jalopy inside your advertising garage.

Clive Cussler, one of the greatest action, adventure novelists ever, told me in a letter (yes, I wrote a fan letter to him and he actually wrote back ... with advice no less) to always entertain your readers. I'll take that sound advice -- thank you Mr. Cussler -- one step further and say businesses

everywhere should strive to entertain potential clients.

Here's why:
• Stand out. The better the design, the better the chances someone will read it. Sift through your mail and pay attention to what catches your eye. Four-color publications, newsletters and postcards always stand out from the crowd. While that may not be in your budget, two-color publications might. Use whatever color you can. It'll help the quality, and directly affect how, or if, it's read.

• Reputation. Creative layouts sit better with potential clients. If they see you're making an honest effort to dazzle them, they're more likely to spend money with you. Take the time and effort to put together quality pieces, slogans and Web sites, and see how your clients react. They may clip out the work and save it on their cubicle or office wall for others to see. How's that for stretching the advertising budget?

• Morale. If you're a really small business the whole staff is involved in some way of creating a marketing piece. Keeping it black and white, or in some boring, overdone card stock is kind of like pumping elevator music through a brand new surround sound system. You're not taking advantage of your office's full potential. Everyone has a creative side. Have some fun with design and let everyone pitch in and see what develops. Not only will you have a nice looking piece, but also you'll install a sense of pride that's sure to ripple through your staff into everyday tasks.

If given the chance, be creative. There are places and times for dealing in black and white, but if you can avoid it, do so. If you do, I bet those campaigns will sell themselves and you'll have more time to deal with that huge monopoly, or conglomerate we like to call the 800-pound slippery, slimy, ring-nosed, hook-scarred, flopping on the ground while choking down a piece of white bread catfish.

Tim Kisman is the Director of Publications for the Small Business Association of Michigan.

Oakland County hosts small business seminars

Business owners and entrepreneurs who need assistance are invited to attend seminars in July 2002 offered by Oakland County's Business Center. All classes require pre-registration and will be held at the Oakland County Executive Office Building 34 East, 1200 N. Telegraph, in Pontiac. Call 248-858-0783, for directions and registration.

How to start a business is a seminar for anyone thinking about going into business. Participants examine their entrepreneurial skills, learn how to implement their ideas and receive a list of pitfalls to avoid when starting a business. The class runs from 9 a.m. to noon on July 11. The fee is \$30 and includes the "Starting a Business in Oakland County" book published by the Oakland County Planning and Economic Development Services. Space is limited. Representatives of the Michigan Small Business Development Center (MI-SBDC) conduct this seminar.

The Small Business Loan Workshop is a seminar on finance options for small business owners. In this workshop, participants will learn what a banker

looks for in a loan application, how a lender analyzes an application, the "5 C's of Credit," essential financial statements and SBA's Loan Guaranty Programs. The workshop will be held July 18, from 8:45 a.m. to noon. The fee is \$20 per person and includes program materials and refreshments.

How to Write a Business Plan is a workshop for small business owners who are developing a plan to serve as their road map to success. The class is held on July 25, from 9 a.m. to noon. The fee is \$40, which includes all materials. Space is limited. Representatives of the Michigan Small Business Development Center conduct this seminar.

The Web site address for Oakland County Planning and Economic Development is www.co.oakland.mi.us.

Business in brief

Kanamori promoted to VP at Mitsubishi EA

Northville Township-based Mitsubishi Electric Automotive announced the promotion of Kazunori "Randy" Kanamori to vice president of audio/video and communications products. Mr. Kanamori will oversee all efforts for the audio, video and entertainment business of MEAA in Detroit, an automotive sales and manufacturing unit of Japan-based Mitsubishi Electric Corporation.

Arch Associates meets ISO quality standards

Arch Associates, LLC of Northville has initiated discount priced web-based ISO 9001:2000 quality standards, auditing, certified auditor transition, and FMEA training. This growth provides cost effective client support beyond current customized/onsite productivity and quality system consulting and training activities. Web-based classes provide CEUs upon successful completion.

ATC names Gollapudi project manager

Uday K. Gollapudi, P.E. has joined ATC Associates Inc. (ATC) as a Project Manager in its Novi, Michigan office. Gollapudi has more than eight years of experience in environmental, geotechnical and civil/site engineering. In the environmental field, he has performed environmental site assessments, remedial investigations, feasibility studies, remediation system design and regulatory compliance assistance. His

geotechnical work includes subsurface evaluations for multi-story buildings, bridges, towers and airports. In civil/site engineering, Gollapudi's experience includes property condition assessments for commercial properties, site engineering planning and design, and construction cost estimates.

Gollapudi most recently served as a Civil Engineer for William A. Kibbe & Associates in Saginaw. He earned a M.S. in Geological Engineering from South Dakota School of Mines and Technology.

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Sultan of Swat in Oakland County

Novi's Matt Gorman smacks two-run homer to lead way to Oakland win

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

When a game is dubbed an "All-Star Game," some folks have to sit back and wonder just how good the players selected are — well, if you were witness to the Third Annual HomeTown Newspapers Baseball All-Star Game June 20, you need not wonder any more.

The Oakland County All-Stars got down and dirty against the Livingston County All-Stars in a game that found Oakland pulling out the late-inning 6-4 victory.

The win came as Novi's Matt Gorman stepped to the plate and cranked out a two-run homer in the eighth inning to seal the win. The Oakland squad was trailing heading into the eighth, 4-3, after gathering three runs in the sixth inning. Lakeland's Paul Maxwell drew a walk to start the inning off before Gorman stepped to the plate and sent his shot sailing over the fence.

"I just love it when pitchers bring it just about knee high and right over the plate," Gorman said. "I would have to say that this was one of the more relaxed games I played this year, and I'm glad I came out to play with these

guys one last time."

The game was a tight contest through all nine innings of play as both squads came out fired up and ready to play. The defense was spectacular at points of the contest, showing exactly why these players were named All-Stars. In the third inning, Livingston's Craig Reynolds smacked a rope to the gap between third and short, but a diving grab by

Third-Annual HomeTown All-Star Baseball Game

the air by Lakeland third baseman Tony Wiseman stopped the ball before Wiseman rose to his knee and picked Reynolds off at first with a strong throw.

Livingston had its fair share of impressive defensive showing as well. Two outs were notched against the Oakland team as a deep hit to right center brought Milford's Jordan Delling from second base and rounding for home. Brighton's Brian Cogley hurled the ball from his position in the outfield and managed to get the ball to home in time for the tag to end the Oakland

threat.

Livingston, which is comprised of Pinckney, Howell, Hartland, Brighton and Fowlerville, managed to carve a score for themselves in the fourth inning, capitalizing on an error and two stolen bases as well as three hits to snag three runs off of Lakeland pitcher Gary Newbold. Novi's Trevor Scott didn't have the greatest pitching performance either and had to deal his way through a very hot Livingston batting crew in the fifth inning as a solo homer found its way out of left center for a 4-0 lead.

"It was a very competitive game," Novi's Trey Simpson said of the contest. "You spend four years playing against most of these guys and you really don't know what their personality is like. These guys seem to want to have a lot of fun. They joke around and it's nice to not see them all straight-faced like you do when you play against them."

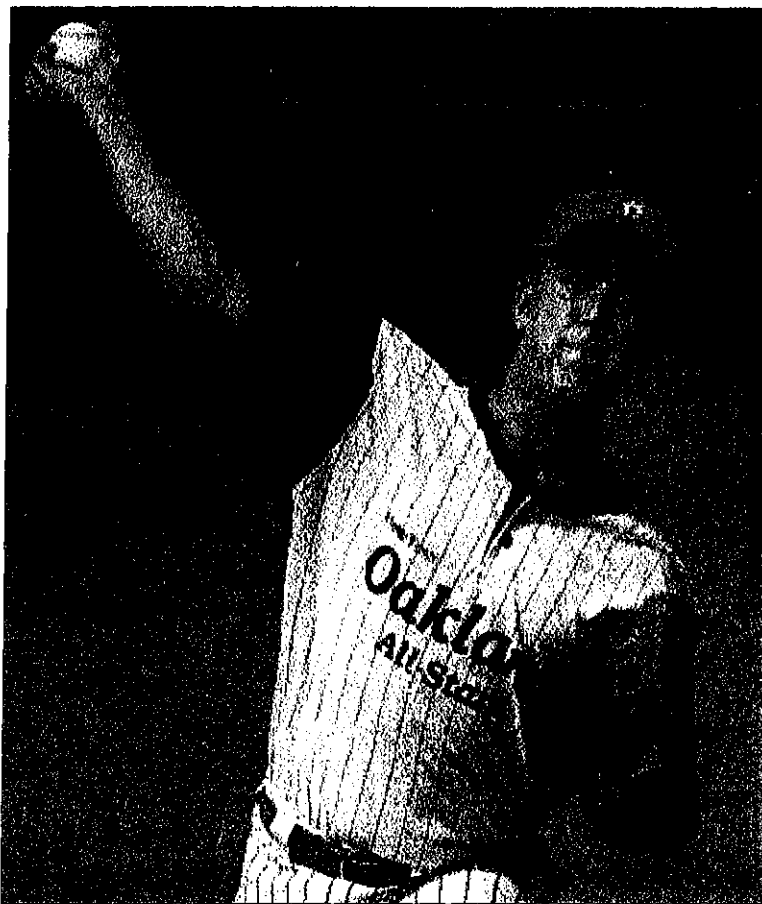
The sixth inning turned the game into the Oakland Show as Lakeland's Kris Janssen led off with a single followed by a ground out to first by Wiseman before Paul Maxwell flew out to center field. It wasn't until the boys from Novi stepped up to bat that the rally started. Scott collected two strikes before singling to right-center to bring Janssen home from second to get the first Oakland points on the board.

Oakland coach Rick Green took advantage of the game's lax free-substitution rule and brought in Gorman as a pinch-runner. The speedy Novi senior stole second before scoring on a single by Milford's John Cotcher. Cotcher, one of the two final Milford Redskins playing baseball, advanced to second on the throw to the plate before getting to third on a passed ball. The third and final score of the inning came on a wild pitch that found Cotcher scampering home for the run and drawing closer to Livingston, 4-3.

"It was a lot of fun to see these guys play again," Coach Green said after the game. "It looked like it was going to be pretty close for a while there."

The eighth inning found all the relief Oakland would need as Gorman slapped his two-run homer before Cotcher scored on another wild pitch for a two-run advantage, 6-4.

The game's ninth inning found Livingston attempting to make the final-inning comeback as



Novi's Brandon Davis was the Oakland starting pitcher and held his own. The deciding factor in the game proved to be the KVC's golden boy, Matt Gorman — he hit a two-run dinger to lead the squad to victory.

Novi's Mike Crawford walked the first batter before coaxing Howell catcher Tony Murray into a game-ending double play to end the contest.

"That last double play sure was sharp," Green said. "This is a great experience for these kids."

Many of these top-notch athletes will go on to play college ball, while others won't be able to take that next step in their athletic careers. Some, like Gorman, will choose to play in other games like football and will just remember the great times they

had as Oakland County baseball players through their high school careers.

The strange thing for two of the players will be their final claim to fame — they were the last Milford Redskins to take to the field of play. Milford will be officially changing their school mascot from the Redskins to the Mavericks beginning next season, but that didn't change the way Delling and Cotcher felt about playing in the All-Star game as the Last of the Redskins. "I had a ball. It was a great day

for baseball," Delling, who plans to play baseball at Central Michigan University, told the *Milford Times*. "It was nice finally getting to know some of these guys we've been playing against all year."

"They're not as bad as I thought they were," he joked.

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



Photo by HAL GOULD

When the dust settled on HomeTown Newspaper's Third Annual baseball All-Star game, the Oakland County team was once again victorious, winning all three games in the series history. This year, the Oakland County team prevailed 6-4.

Oakland girls fall in tough softball match



Photo by TODD VANSICKLE

Jenni Fuhs of Lakeland puts the tag on Fowlerville's Kim Mills during the All Star game at Howell.

Livingston takes 2-1 overall series lead in All-Star contest

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

It probably wasn't the showing that Walled Lake Western head coach Ron Repicky expected when he agreed to take on the duties as the coach for the Oakland County All-Star softball team as they took on the Livingston All-Stars in the Third-Annual HomeTown Newspapers All-Star Softball Game June 29, but at least he had a good time.

The Oakland squad took a punishing loss to the over-powering Livingston girls, who were coached by Fowlerville's Amy Jarvis, as they fell 9-4 in the contest.

"It was a tough game with a lot of really good players in it," Repicky said after the contest. "I wasn't sure what the outcome was going to be, but I knew that it was going to be tough for either team to win."

And tough it was. It really came down to a battle of the pitchers as Oakland relied heavily on the throwing ability of Lakeland's Kira Maloney and Livingston turned to hurler Molly Downing of Fowlerville. Downing was the one to come away with the victory, settling down after a shaking first two innings in the contest as she walked four and allowed a single that resulted in two Oakland County runs, and gave up only three more hits and one walk while posting the complete game while striking out six batters.

"I was a little nervous before the game but it was cool," Downing told David Troppens of the *Livingston County Daily Press and Argus*.

Downing had to pitch the entire game because the Livingston County team had just one hurler. "It took me a little bit to get the hang of things, but it was fun."

"Once I started getting ahead in the count I felt better. I was behind in the count early but then I started getting ahead and I had more confidence. And the runs helped too."

Maloney noted that even though she took the brunt of the loss that it was still a good time to be had by all.

"We came out here to have fun and that's what we did," she said. "I didn't have the greatest pitching performance of my career, but I had a good time. I think we all did."

The Oakland All-Stars led the game 2-0 after the second inning before Livingston cut the advantage to 2-1 in the bottom of the inning before taking the lead for good and not looking back after a six-run third inning.

"They just kept scoring in that inning," Novi's Victoria Kaiser said. "We wanted to win that game too, but I think they came out to play and just wanted to win more than we did."

When all was said and done, it didn't really matter what the score was — at least not to Repicky.

"Everybody played and that's all that matters," Repicky said. "I don't know any of the girls and they don't know me. We just moved people around and tried to give everyone as much playing time as we could. And whatever happens, happens."

All-Star contest full of positives

Besides a nasty sunburn I got on my arms and neck, I would have to say the Third-Annual HomeTown Newspaper Softball/Baseball All-Star games were quite the success.

With the guidance of some of the best coaches in our area, the Oakland County All-Stars ended up splitting their games against Livingston County. The softball team fell 9-4, and the baseball team earned a close 6-4 victory as they scored three runs in the top of the sixth inning and three more in the eighth.

For the softball team, the girls definitely played admirably against a very tough Livingston squad. Our area was represented well by the likes of Liz Stevens, Victoria Kaiser and Megan Colligan of Novi as well as Samantha Cooke and Ashley Knicely of Northville. Walled Lake Western sent its fair share of players to the game as well. Nicole Tucker and Laura Bell made appearances along with coach Ron Repicky.

Continued on 4

Continued on 8

Maxim's life used to be all about soccer

By Brian Doyle
SPECIAL WRITER

For recent Northville graduate, Ben Maxim, soccer has been a way of life since before he could walk.

"My dad used to hold me up and I would kick the ball," Maxim said of his early start in the game.

Maxim will be moving off from Northville High School and will be attending Michigan State University in the fall. He plans to major in computer science.

"It's something that I can see myself doing for a while," he said of his proposed major.

While in high school, Maxim was a three-sport athlete. He began soccer in his earlier days, and took up track in middle school, but he didn't start swimming until later in his life.

"I just did it to keep in shape," Maxim

said.

Maxim also said that he enjoys scuba diving, which his dad introduced him to. He has gone in Ohio and Florida and said that he really enjoys it.

According to Maxim, his parents, Bruce and Norma, are very supportive of him in his athletics. His dad used to be a soccer coach in Ann Arbor also, so he has been around the game for a long time. Maxim also has a younger sister, Katherine, who is 13.

In high school, his favorite subject was German and he plans to continue to study that as he goes on to Michigan State. He also wants to continue playing soccer in an intramural league and possibly run track at the varsity level. Sports are the main thing which Maxim said he will miss most about high school. "I think I'm going to miss the sports," he said. "The teams are so close. I'm going to miss everything."

This senior is all about sports — even those he doesn't play. Maxim said that his favorite sport to watch is college football.

Maxim said that his closest friends in high school have been Emily Ott and Alan Law.

"We have similar personalities and we all play sports together," Maxim said.

Maxim said their friendships grew mainly because of their time together on the Northville track team.

Earlier this year, Maxim went to Myrtle Beach with his family and friends for spring break on a trip which he said was a lot of fun.

Around Northville, Maxim uses his 1991 Grand Marquis, which he said he likes pretty well, to get around in.

Although Maxim enjoys pretty much all types of music, he said that his favorite band is Five for Fighting.

For entertainment, Maxim said that

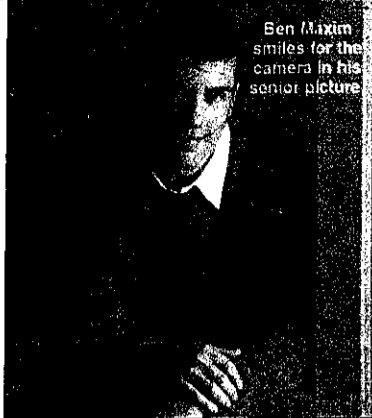
Ferris Beuler's Day Off was his favorite movie and that Katie Holmes is his favorite actress.

For a good meal, he enjoys going to Chili's or eating his favorite food, which is pizza.

Now as Maxim is looking to head off to Michigan State University, he is very excited about it and looking forward to the college experience.

Maxim said, "I'm looking forward to getting away and just being able to experience everything."

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



Ben Maxim smiles for the camera in his senior picture.

Kaiser enjoyed playing the sports she loves

By Brian Doyle
SPECIAL WRITER

While in high school, softball for Victoria Kaiser was always a big part of her life. Kaiser gained a lot of friends and experience from softball and hopes to continue her softball career in the future.

Kaiser has played varsity softball since she was a freshman and just loves playing the sport.

"I've always enjoyed playing," Kaiser said. "I've been playing since I was in kindergarten."

Kaiser got her start on softball at a young age after watching her sister, Katie, who is seven years older than her, play.

"My sister played softball so I always looked up to her," Kaiser said. "I always enjoyed her games when I was little."

Kaiser also said that her entire family has been very supportive of her in athletics. Besides her older sister, she also has an older brother, Jonathon, who is 19.

"We're really close," Kaiser said of the siblings.

Her parents, Tina and Stephen Kaiser, have always helped her out in athletics.

"They've come to almost every

single game of mine," Kaiser said. Kaiser hopes to continue her athletic career next year at Oakland Community College.

"I'm trying to get a hold of the OCC coach to talk about softball," she said.

While in high school, Kaiser also played soccer and volleyball, though not at the varsity level. Kaiser had to choose between soccer and softball because the seasons conflicted and ended up playing softball.

As one of two freshmen on the varsity team her first year of high school, she said that she became really close to the other freshman on the squad, Megan Colligan.

"Megan and I both made varsity our freshman year and we got closer because we were the only freshman at the varsity level," she said.

Kaiser has also formed friendships with Liz Stevens and Emily Major through softball. She also said that she has very close friendships with Jessica Hokett, Lindsay Sorrentino and Melissa Baum.

While at Novi High School, Kaiser said that her favorite subjects were those in science. She

also said that she really liked the teachers, Mr. Dunbar and Mr. Langley.

"They're just nice and you can talk to them and they give you good advice."

When she's just hanging out, Kaiser enjoys listening to R&B and rap music. She doesn't have a favorite artist but said that she really likes Britney Spears. She attended Spears' concert on Monday night.

In other forms of entertainment, Kaiser likes watching movies with Freddie Prinze Jr., Brad Pitt or Julia Roberts in them. She said that her favorite movie is *Pretty Woman* and that she also has a connection with Julia Roberts.

"Some people say that I kind of look like her," Kaiser said.

Kaiser also enjoys going out to any Mexican restaurant and said that her favorite food is ice cream.

Earlier this year, Kaiser went to Panama City for spring break and said that she really enjoyed it.

"It was the best time of my life," she said.

Now, as Kaiser leaves Novi High School behind her, she said



Victoria Kaiser

that she enjoyed her years there and will miss her friends and is very grateful to her softball companions.

"I enjoyed high school," Kaiser said. "I'm going to miss all my friends especially all the softball girls and I wanted to thank them."

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

All-Star: Very positive

Continued from 1

The baseball team was only represented by Novi from this area, as Western's and Northville's players were all wrapped up with previous engagements. Matt Gorman, Mike Crawford, Trey Simpson, Brandon Davis, Trevor Scott and Ty Mohr all showed their proud Wildcat stripes as they took to the field to help represent our communities. In fact, Gorman showed why we are so eager to get such top-shelf athletes into this game as he cranked out a two-run homer in the eighth inning to help the Oakland All-Stars take the lead and the eventual victory.

Novi's own Rick Green took the helm for the All-Star team, coaching them to victory against the likes of very tough Livingston County seniors.

Novi definitely should be proud of their All-Stars — and Gorman wasn't the only one to make some noise. In the hitting contest before the softball game, Colligan found herself trailing other Oakland players in the point totals, but managed to make it to the final round where she gathered 15 points to blow the competition out of the water. She stepped up to the plate, took a deep breath, and put Casey at the Bat to shame. Mudville was wishing Colligan wore their pinstripes as she blasted three consecutive shots

into left center field before walling one over the right-center fence and smashing another into right field to gather the trophy-winning points. Way to go, Colligan!

I look forward to next season when we go about doing this again. Rumor has it, though I can't verify as of yet, that we will be shooting to get the games played in either Northville or Novi — that way all of our hometown fans can come and watch these HomeTown All-Stars.

Just as a side note, I would like to thank Steve Bell, Karl Kling and Tran Longmoore of our Millford and South Lyon papers for being there to help with the game and to represent Oakland County's HomeTown Newspapers, as well as Tim Robinson and David Troppens for representing Livingston County's HomeTown branch. Looks like those gals out west have the series lead, 2-1, while the Oakland boys are dominating the run, 3-0. Can next year find Oakland tying up the softball season or Livingston finally notching a baseball win? Only time will tell — see you at the game next year!

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

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