



Novi News

Your hometown newspaper serving Novi and the Lakes area for 47 years

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INSIDE

East-West corridor considered

Local and county officials are looking at possible ways to improve east-west traffic corridors in southwest Oakland County.

The Road Commission for Oakland County met Tuesday with representatives from Wixom, Walled Lake and Lyon, Milford and Commerce townships on plans for improving the Pontiac Trail corridor between Milford Road and West Park Drive, as well as the Grand River Avenue corridor between Milford and Hagerty roads.

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Bondy backed by judges

Oakland County Circuit Court Judge Gene Schmelz (and former 52-1 District Court Judge) and retired 52-1 District Court Judge Harold Bulgarelli made an unprecedented joint statement in endorsing Robert Bondy for the open District Judge seat in the 52-1 District Court located in Novi.

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REGIONAL MARKETPLACE



Bondy backed by judges

Byron Muonio, owner of Lyon's Market Place in South Lyon, displays the wide array of meat that is available fresh daily.

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The best

Walled Lake Central's Class of 2002 Top Ten students.

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Arsenic clean-up begins at park

City workers block off North Novi Park acres

By Victoria Sadlocha
STAFF WRITER

Employees of the City of Novi Department of Public Works blocked access to transferred acreage of North Novi Park early this week preparing for the commencement of arsenic contamination clean-up efforts.

The Sandstone Associates Limited Partnership settlement-mandated remediation is going to cost the city about \$1.35 million

to remove arsenic found in the soil from what city officials believe came from previously applied pesticides.

Members of the city council approved contracts and service agreements during the July 1 meeting necessary to begin the process.

The bulk of the cost, \$1.1 million, will be paid to Waterland Trucking, Inc. for the excavation, contamination disposal and restoration of the land.

The contract approval was placed on the council's agenda as a change order to the West Park Drive extension contract.

Novi City Manager Richard Helwig said the contract was worded as a change order to ensure work would start right

away and would fall in the time frame agreed upon in the settlement documents.

Other work pertaining to the remediation will be performed by JCK and Associates and Hydro-Logic Associates.

In an attempt to defray the costs, the council gave the city approval to request partial reimbursement from the Oakland County Environmental Infrastructure Fund - an environmental infrastructure revolving fund established to assist cities, villages and townships with their environmental and infrastructure needs.

The request is for \$577,914 now and \$192,638 on Oct. 1.

According to the Oakland County Fiscal Service

Department, Novi's present unused balance is \$770,552, so if approved, the entire amount would be allocated to the off-set remediation costs.

The issue of land contamination and remediation has not always sat well with all residents.

When Novi Mayor Richard J. Clark announced last fall the land was contaminated and would have to be remediated, members of the Friends of the Novi Parks were outraged.

Organizers of the group created to support the protection, acquisition and development of parks and open spaces within the City of Novi, believed the need to remediate the contaminated land

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Board of Education swap seats

Bagdady Novi's new president

By Angelo Parlove
STAFF WRITER

The Novi Schools' Board of Education shuffled its seats last week as former board vice-president Bruce Bagdady becomes the new board of education president.

Bagdady replaces former board president Carol Elfring, who has served the district in its top board seat for the past two years. Elfring is now the board of education vice-president.

"It has been a thoroughly enjoyable experience," Elfring said on departing her position. "It was a learning experience and a growth experience. I appreciate the opportunity to work with the district and the central office administration."

The Novi Board of Education unanimously approved the swap of top seats for the 2002-2003 school year at its July 1 meeting, where Bagdady became the president immediately.

Also, board members Julie Abrams and George Kortlandt were named secretary and treasurer, respectively, for the 2002-2003 school year.

The district presented Elfring a plaque for her two years of service and a job well done.

"She did a great job keeping us focused and keeping us on target when we may not always have wanted to be," Bagdady said. "She has always shown great enthusiasm for what's going on in the district."

The board also recognized Elfring's leadership on matters involving state legislation impacting Novi Schools, her relationship with local political figures and acting as a liaison to other surrounding school districts.

"It was more than just two meetings a month," Kortlandt said. "She went above and beyond her duties."

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

New school board member sought in Novi

By Angelo Parlove
STAFF WRITER

Novi Schools will begin its search for a new board of education member after trustee Ann Newton resigned from her position at the July 1 school board meeting.

Newton served the district for seven years as a board member. Her resignation is effective Aug. 15.

The departing trustee is leaving the district position because she is moving out of Michigan. Other Novi Board of Education members expressed their gratitude to Newton at the meeting for her years of service and dedication to the district.

The resignation now creates a vacancy in the school board for the remainder of the upcoming school year which ends in June 2003. According to Michigan state law, the seat must be filled within 30 days of its vacancy, which gives the district until Sept. 15 to find Newton's replacement.

The district will now begin an interview process with potential candidates to fill Newton's seat. Application deadline for the position is Sept. 5 at 4 p.m. Interviews will begin Sept. 9.

Novi residents interested in serving on the Novi Schools' Board of Education should send a letter of interest to Sue Bushart, Novi Board of Education, Novi Community School District, Educational Services Building, 25345 Taft Road, Novi, MI 48374.

The new school board member would serve the remainder of Newton's term, which ends in June 2003. This person could then run to keep that seat for a four-year term in the June 2003 Novi school board election.

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

Fest takes it to the streets... literally!

Organizers look forward to Main St. move

By Sam Eggleston
STAFF WRITER

Beep, beep! Beep, beep! His horn went beep, beep, beep! If a little Nash Rambler can harass a Cadillac like in the song "Beep, Beep" by the Playmates, just imagine what a 1969 Mustang Mach 1 could do.

There will be plenty of beeping and cars like Ramblers, Mustangs and Cadillacs in the 11th Annual Music & Motor Festival's Classic Car Show and Cruise July 28. The cruise, which takes a tip down Grand River Avenue, comes to a stop near Main Street for everyone to come and admire the vehicles of America's past.

"It's open to all classes," said Art Cervi, the director of the car show and cruise. "You will see older cars, which we would call antiques, muscle cars and pretty much every car or truck you can think of. It is open to all makes and models, though we try to cut it off around 1979 or 1980."

Cervi noted that picking a year as the cutoff point is rather difficult due to all of the unique cars on the road today.

"People go out and they buy a Honda Civic and put 30 to 40 thousand dollars of add-ons in it," he said. "You have to admit, as a car nut, that some of them are works of art with their graphics and some of the things they do to them. If it is unique enough, it will be there."

Cervi said that though it is hard to define rare when it comes to automobiles, there should be plenty of unique cars on display - including some classics that America has fallen in love with.

"The '57 Chevy convertibles always go over big," Cervi said. "Same with the '56 and '57 Cadillac convertibles. Some of them that have been completely restored look newer and better than the day they came out of the factory."

And who can forget the Ford Mustang?

"The nice thing about Mustangs at a car show is that you can usually see the 1964-and-a-half, the first year they came out, right up through today being displayed," Cervi said. "Along with the Mustang, there should be plenty of Camaros, Firebirds, Trans-Ams and big muscle cars of that breed."

And though Cervi doesn't get to show his cars much, he said that like many of the classic car owners out there, he has his baby.

"It's a 1950 Desoto convertible," he said. "I don't usually get to show them, but that is my baby. I've restored it and I am

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Photo by John Heider

A view from the second-level of Novi's Fountain Walk Galyan's sporting goods and apparel store. On the far wall is the shop's two-story climbing wall open to customers.

Fountain Walk

Tapping into consumer wants

New 77-acre development will host more than 50 entertainment, retail, food sites

By Victoria Sadlocha and Angelo Parlove
STAFF WRITERS

Novi's new shopping development looks to give Oakland County residents an all-inclusive retail experience.

Fountain Walk, a 735,000 square-foot development that

spans 77 acres, includes a blend of leading retailers, entertainment venues, restaurants and night spots to create a one-stop shop for the consumer's needs - both the practical and the pleasurable.

"It is a totally different environment, but an environment people will feel comfortable coming to shop," said Michael Lutton, president of PLC, the commercial real estate development company from Newport Beach, Calif., that is heading the Fountain Walk project.

"This is a great opportunity. We like the area a lot," Lutton added.

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Fountain Walk



SOURCE: City of Novi



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Heatin' it up

Dennis Bielskis takes a look at his 1967 Ford Fairlane 500 at last Wednesday's Main Street Heat Classic Car Show in Novi. Bielskis has had the car for about three years and has done most of the restoration on it.

Photo by John Heider

Fest takes it to the streets... literally!

continued from front
right down to the last thing, putting the convertible top on."
Cervi said that the Music & Motor Festival's move to Main Street seems to be a good idea. "I am really excited that we are moving it over to Main Street," he said. "I feel in my heart that it is going to do well. It will regain the hometown feel that it had originally and will bring everything together. When people are walking, everything will be in a nice, general area."
If interested in registering your vehicle for the car show and cruise, pick up a registration form at a local car show or call (248) 349-1950 to have one mailed to you or for information.

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July 13	Golden Hits of Don Wop (Little Anthony & The Imperials, Bill Packney's Original Drivers and Carl Gardner's Coasters)	14	Franklin the Turtle * 11am & 7pm
July 16	Hear & Eric Burdon	15	Al Green & Ann Nesby
July 17	Chris Isaak	16	Paul Anka
July 20	Little Bear * 11am & 7pm	17	The Seintas
July 20	Kenny Rogers	23	Hank Williams Jr. & Trick Pony
July 27	WDWD Modern Music Festival (The Verve, Pato, Robert Bralby's Blackwater Surprise & Rubyhorse)	25	George Branson & Natalie Cole
Aug 6	Billy Ray Cyrus & Tammy Cochran	6	Aaron Carter
Aug 1	The Rippingtons, David Benoit and Jean Luc-Ponty		Tickets On Sale Now! * Children's Series \$30
Aug 2	Trinity Irish Dance Company		All shows and dates are subject to change.
Aug 4	Festa Italiana 2002 (Cecilia Francis, Sal Richards & The Capriots)		
Aug 6	Michael Bolton		
Aug 8	Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons, Felix Cavaliere & The Rascals, Lou Christie and The Association		

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www.freedomhill.net

Police Report

Novi

Dine and dash
One unknown man took the concept of dining and dashing to the letter as he literally ran out of Red Robin without paying his bill. On June 29 at about 9 p.m., the Novi Police Department received a call from the manager of the Town Center located restaurant stating a man and woman left the restaurant without paying their \$44 bill. The manager told the officers the man had been mostly drinking and the woman was eating food. He believed it was intentional because after they were finished the woman walked toward the restroom before the man literally ran out the door. The couple was described as both being in their mid-twenties. They drove off in a white Dodge Neon.

Explosive delivery

A Novi man carrying his mailbox in his hands visited the Novi Police Department on June 29 at about 9:30 a.m. showing officers someone had blown the mail receptacle up. The 40-year-old resident of the 4000 block of Paisley told police during the previous night, an unknown person or people put some type explosive device like fireworks in the box, destroying it. The police officer inspected the box, but could not determine what type of explosive was used. The man said there was no evidence in the yard, and he does not have any enemies. He also told police his box was the only one on the street destroyed that night.

used. The man said there was no evidence in the yard, and he does not have any enemies. He also told police his box was the only one on the street destroyed that night.

Novi vigilante

On July 5 at about 7:30 p.m., a Novi police officer was sent to the 24000 block of Willowbrook on a malicious destruction of city property complaint. When the officer arrived, he noticed two plastic speed bumps bolted to the road near Brenda Lane. A male resident of the street told the officer he put the bumps there because he and his neighbors have several small children and there is a big speeding problem. According to the report, the man told the officer he didn't know he was doing anything wrong and was only trying to protect the neighborhood children. The officer took photographs of the minimal damage to the street and left, advising the man of city ordinances and traffic control alternatives.

Should have stopped

A 21-year-old Northville resident made an expensive mistake last week after he rolled through a Novi stop sign near Galway and Center. A Novi officer pulled the man over at about 8:15 a.m. on July 1 after he disobeyed the traffic control sign east of Center Street. According to the report, the Northville man said he didn't realize he failed to come to a complete stop and give the officer his driving information. After processing

the man's information, the officer learned he had an outstanding warrant issued by the Northville Police Department for a misdemeanor traffic offense and for not carrying his driver's information. The man was handcuffed, issued a traffic ticket for disobeying the stop sign and held at the scene so Northville police officers could pick him up.

Walled Lake

Playing thief
A 20-year-old living in the 1100 N. Villa block said she noticed her basement door was pulled off the track by an intruder June 30. She said only items that were taken from the home were PlayStation games. She didn't have any serial numbers for the games taken.

Delayed reaction

A home was broken into in the 700 block of E. Walled Lake Drive. The 37-year-old owner said he noticed a half-gallon of Absolut Vodka was missing from his refrigerator. He noticed his Emehen CD and Olympus camera was also missing. He said he didn't report his missing belongings sooner because he thought they would turn up. The intruder broke in by prying at pieces of wood off of the broken window which was covering and then entering the home through the basement in the second apartment unit of the home. The man said he did not plan on making an insurance claim but he just wanted driving information. After processing

East-West corridors considered

Pontiac Trail, Grand River Ave. focus of county, local officials

By Philip Allmen
HOMETOWN NEWSPAPERS

Local and county officials are looking at possible ways to improve east-west traffic corridors in southwest Oakland County. The Road Commission for Oakland County met Tuesday with representatives from Wixom, Walled Lake and Lyon. Milford and Commerce townships also were present. The plan for improving the Pontiac Trail corridor between Milford Road and West Park Drive, as well as the Grand River Avenue corridor between Milford and Haggerty roads. Novi was not represented, but those at the meeting want to include that city, as well.

WHAT'S NEXT?

Officials with the Road Commission for Oakland County will meet individually with representatives from the affected communities regarding the future vision along Pontiac Trail and Grand River Avenue. The group plans to meet in the next month, but no definite date has been set. Once a plan along the two corridors is established, local and county officials will have to find a way to fund the projects.

Wixom Mayor Michael MacDonald first raised the idea over a year ago, and the idea grew to consider a regional approach. According to Matthew Gabbery, a planner with the Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC) all the affected communities must first determine their long-range plans along the corridor before continuing with specific ideas for road improvements on the major thoroughfares.



The intersection of Grand River and Napier could be part of a corridor the RCOC is contemplating.

"One of the goals we all have is the safe mobility for people who want to drive," he said. "We can look at each community, then find the underlying themes. We need to develop a vision."
And depending on the vision of community leaders will ultimately dictate what happens along stretches of road in each community.

"The roads won't all be the same," said Michael Rogers, RCOC transportation planning coordinator. "Some areas may be built, but those at the meeting want to include that city, as well."
It depends on everyone's master planning.
Commerce Township Supervisor Tom Zoner said the West Oakland Corridor Study, which studied possible north-south improvements between I-96 and M-59 can help these new studies.

"We should never lose scope of master planning for the region," he said. "The north-south corridor study suggested improvements for east-west roads."
But while the local representatives approved the general concept of the proposed corridor studies, concerns were raised relating to their particular communities.
"I don't want our city to be a series of corridors," said Leslie Meyers, Walled Lake director of planning and development. "We're a small city. Pontiac Trail is

already four lanes."
Lyon Township Superintendent Chris Olson said traffic concerns increase toward the east.

"Grand River, judging by the traffic I see, it does seem to handle the traffic in our part of it," he said. "The farther you go east, the more congested it gets."
Both Olson and Milford Township Supervisor Don Green don't want to see too much development along the Pontiac Trail corridor, because both communities want to maintain a rural atmosphere.
"I don't know if we want it set up as a five-lane road charging through the township. With the dust, noise, and all the things that go with it. We already have I-96. That's a contained, federal highway. It's a quality of life issue. It could hurt the township identity."

Clay Pearson, Novi assistant city manager said whatever decisions are made, improvements need to "fit in with overall trans-

portation in the community."
Wixom City Manager Mike Doran said once these plans are completed, a corridor master plan along each road can be created. From there, officials can determine how to go about implementing the project. And at that step, the big question on how to fund such improvements can be addressed.

RCOC officials will meet individually with the individual communities to discuss the information. Involved to determine the vision along the corridors and to gather all related information. Once that information is collected, a meeting will be held in about a month to discuss the information. "After the interviews are conducted, we'll have another meeting," said Gabbery. "Then, we can get into more of the technical stuff."

Philip Allmen is a reporter for HomeTown Newspapers. Reach him at (248) 437-2011 or by e-mail at pfallmen@ht.homecomm.net.

Wixom firm stars in film

Kawasaki brings robots to life in "Minority Report"

By Diane Dempsey Deel
STAFF WRITER

The telephone rang. Kurt Hochman, sales manager at Kawasaki Robotics in Wixom, picked up the line.
It was Hollywood calling.
That January 2001 call was followed by a call from Susan Scher, vice president of product placement at Twentieth Century Fox. Soon a group of Wixom robotics workers were on an odyssey into the movie "Minority Report," the Steven Spielberg movie starring Tom Cruise.
They began to work with the art department at Twentieth Century Fox to make sure that the robots would be up to movie star quality.
They flew off to Los Angeles last June to begin a six-day shoot with Spielberg and Cruise in an abandoned factory.
"It was a call great and friendly," said Mark Detman, manager of systems engineering at Kawasaki, of working with Spielberg. "Spielberg picked up a bull horn at the end of the day and thanked the people at Kawasaki for their work and said 'Cruise was as nice as Spielberg to work with and he was willing to pose for pictures.'"
"The set was like one big family," Detman said.
"I'm Steve, a customer service engineer, agreed."
"I sat and talked with Spielberg for 20 minutes about 'Saving Private Ryan,'" McCordie said. "He was nice and answered all of my questions."
The scene involving the robots is action-packed, he said. Cruise plays a cop in the futuristic movie about cops arresting people before they commit crimes. Cruise is later accused of a pre-crime himself and gets chased into the factory with the robots.
"The robots are an integral part of the action around (Cruise)," he said. "You can see the Kawasaki labels prominently displayed, which was really nice."



Tom Cruise (third from left) and Steven Spielberg (second from right) with Kawasaki reps.

"For all of the employees it was fun to see the robots they see on a daily basis in a movie," Slawski said.
"However, movie-goers won't be able to get autographs from the famed robots."
"Their movie careers are over and they're back to being normal robots again," Detman said.
Diane Dempsey Deel is a staff writer for the Lake Area Times. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700 ext. 110 or ddee@ht.homecomm.net.

However, it wasn't all play for the Wixom workers. He pointed out that they worked hard to make the robots successful in the movie.
"Jim Slawski, market manager, said it was amazing to see the Kawasaki robots on the big screen."
"Spielberg was able to make the robots appear threatening for the chase scene."
"The excellent part of that scene is multiplied by the fact that we were involved in making it," Detman said.
"The Kawasaki workers flew back to Los Angeles to attend the private movie premier with the entire cast. They were treated to first class hotels in Beverly Hills while making the film and while attending the premier."

"You can see the Kawasaki labels prominently displayed, which was really nice."

Walled Lake residents riled over traffic woes

Some residents say closing off road's the answer

By Diane Dempsey Deel
STAFF WRITER

Walled Lake residents said they are sick of traffic problems in the city at the July 2 council meeting. Residents brought up everything from road construction obstacles to other road hazards.
Laura Colbert, resident, expressed in a written letter that she would like to see a new stop sign on Gamma at the intersection of Beta.
"As a new resident, I watch the children in the subdivision riding bikes to the park and to the shopping centers and have found that the traffic is traveling faster than posted in most cases," she stated.
"After the traffic (coming from Farmer Jack's) passes the park, it is a straight away to the corner on Gamma."

Therefore, speeds surpass the speed limit of 25 mph by sometimes more than 15 mph, she explained.
"A child hit at that speed would most likely not just be injured but killed," she stated.
"Ann Mendelsohn, planning committee member, said her car is being beat up every time she crosses the railroad tracks at Decker."
"I've blown two rims on my car," she said. "I was trite. I've put two new tires on that car, and I am not a happy camper."
Other residents complained about the length of time Maple Road has been closed and they said it's hard to find adequate alternate routes.
Jenny Hoepke, resident, offered some council to barred residents.
"I just circle around everything to get around all of this," she said.
Other roads are being affected by alternate routing of traffic. Walled Lake police, with council approval, tried to bring so much litigation, Donahue said. "Speed bumps are

restricting left turns from southbound Ladd Road onto W. Walled Lake Drive Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. and restricted right hand turns from W. Walled Lake Drive onto northbound Ladd Road from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Council members approved extending the temporary traffic control signs.
Gary Shapiro, resident, said traffic control signs are also needed at Gamma Road.
"If we could get stop signs at all cross streets, it would slow people down," Shapiro said.
However, Dan Cyr, owner of D&R Auto World disagreed. He said traffic control signs interfere with businesses and closed there are other solutions to keeping residents safe.
"I don't want to see anyone get hurt here," he said. "But businesses have to continue."
Speed bumps in problem areas are also not the solution, according to John Donahue, city attorney.
"They bring you to a quick halt, but they bring so much litigation," Donahue said. "Speed bumps are

not the answer."
Macy Sheridan, resident, said she sympathizes with other residents. However, she does not believe roads should be closed as a measure to alleviate traffic problems.
Emergency workers would have a difficult time getting through to help the sick.
"If Walled Lake EMS are busy they have to go to the outside EMS and they don't know the roads," she said. "You're making it difficult for firefighters and police officers to come to your aid by doing that."
Heather Hill, council member, agreed that roads are meant to be kept open.
"We had to close Angle Road, and we didn't close it because we really wanted to but because we were told we would," Hill said. "Everyone is suggesting that roads be closed and that ridiculous."
Diane Dempsey Deel is a staff writer for the Lake Area Times. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700 ext. 110 or ddee@ht.homecomm.net.

However, when they returned home in the late afternoon the group of boys realized the boy was dead and called 911. Eichhorn was taken to Huron Memorial where he was pronounced dead. The Oakland County medical examiner and crime scene investigators were called to the home to look into the death.
Police questioned the boys on drug records. They told police that Eichhorn said the boy had been "sleeping" in his son's bedroom all day while he had been home.
The owner's son told police he had met Eichhorn at Maplegrove, a drug rehabilitation center, four days before he died. He said Eichhorn had only been staying with him for a couple of days but he and his other friends had become very close with him.
The homeowner's son said that the last time he saw Eichhorn alive was at 1 a.m. the day he was found dead. He told police the boy was snoring at that time, so he knew he was still alive at that time. He and his other friends left his home for awhile while Eichhorn slept on his bed.

WL Schools hit with discrimination suit

African American custodian alleges harassment and racial intimidation

By Diane Dempsey Deel
STAFF WRITER

A Walled Lake Consolidated Schools custodian filed a lawsuit June 21 claiming that she was racially harassed and discriminated against while administrative staff looked the other way.
Susie Smith, a White Lake Township resident, is bringing a cause of action against the people she worked with for both negligence and intentional infliction of emotional distress, concert of action and civil conspiracy.

According to court documents, Smith, who is African American, claims her supervisors and fellow custodians continuously made derogatory, racial remarks while she was employed at Walled Lake Central High School and Wixom Elementary. However, Smith alleges that the harassment started as soon as she began employment at Walled Lake Central in October 1997.

Smith also claims she was asked to take a urine test even though other custodians did not have to and they never ordered work uniforms for her like other employees.
In 2000 and 2001, her supervisor told teachers that Smith had broken into the school and stole items.
Smith is currently out on medical leave and acknowledged in the suit that she has suffered from emotional distress since the incident.
Diane Dempsey Deel is a staff writer for the Lake Area Times. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700 ext. 110 or ddee@ht.homecomm.net.

Her supervisor countered "The only

Teen found dead in home

By Diane Dempsey Deel
STAFF WRITER

Police are investigating how an 18-year-old Detroit boy died in a Walled Lake home July 8. Adam Eichhorn was found dead by the friends he was staying with in the 200 block of Windway Drive.
The 45-year-old owner of the home said the boy had been "sleeping" in his son's bedroom all day while he had been home.
The owner's son told police he had met Eichhorn at Maplegrove, a drug rehabilitation center, four days before he died. He said Eichhorn had only been staying with him for a couple of days but he and his other friends had become very close with him.
The homeowner's son said that the last time he saw Eichhorn alive was at 1 a.m. the day he was found dead. He told police the boy was snoring at that time, so he knew he was still alive at that time. He and his other friends left his home for awhile while Eichhorn slept on his bed.
However, when they returned



Celebrating the Fourth

U.S. flag-bearer Richard Rieger of American Legion Post 224 in Wixom participates in last week's Official Opening Ceremonies of the Fourth of July Festival at Wixom's Gilbert Willis Park.

Looking for bargains? Be sure to check out the finds in the classifieds.

Novi City Briefs

Police officers honored

Novi police officers Steven Balog and Craig Chisnar were honored last week for their life-saving efforts by Novi Chief of Police Douglas Shaeffer and Novi Mayor Richard J. Clark. Both officers received commendations signed by the mayor and a special pin representing their heroic efforts to wear on their uniforms. The officers received a 61-year-old Novi male on June 24 when they found him without vital signs after he crashed his truck into a wall near the intersection of Taft and 10 Mile roads. The officers used CPR and a portable automatic external defibrillator purchased only two months ago by the city.

Teens Aiding the Cancer Community

Members of Treas' Aiding the Cancer Community are hosting a fund-raising event Aug. 4 at the Wyndham Garden Hotel in the Novi Town Center. The 12:30 to 3 p.m. benefit brunch is being held so members may reach their goal of delivering 400 backpacks to children and adolescents affected by cancer by the end of the year. Tickets for the event are \$50 and include brunch, entertainment and speakers. Treas' Aiding the Cancer Community is a non-profit organization run by high-school students created to provide positive diversion and encouragement through the organization's backpack program. Backpacks, valued at about \$90, full of toys, gift and certificates are delivered to children at area hospitals and other groups including Angela Hospice and Gilda's Club.

Life Time Fitness camp

Life Time Fitness of Novi is currently offering fun, healthy Summer Camps for area children. The week-long camp sessions designed for children 3 through 17, are based on weekly themes featuring swimming, gymnastics, arts and crafts and special events and field trips. One-day camps are also available and include Adventure Days which are an opportunity to travel to exciting places such as zoos, museums, water parks and amusement parks. Adventure Days are offered on Fridays and provide fun activities, pizza parties, swimming, gym games and rock climbing. All programs are facilitated by qualified instructors. Camp programs are available to members and non-members of the club. For further information, call (248) 735-0100 or visit www.lifetimefitness.com.

Parks and rec meeting

The City of Novi Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department is holding a public input meeting 7 p.m. Tuesday, July 23 at the Novi Civic Center. The purpose of the meeting is to hear input from Novi residents which members of the department will keep in mind as they initiate a five-year master plan. City officials said the plan is being created to better meet the community's needs. For more information, call (248) 347-0400.

Novi watering notice

With the hot weather, 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-numbered days for properties with an even-numbered address and on odd-numbered days for property with an odd-numbered street address. To determine if an address is even or odd numbered refer to the last number in the street address. The Alternate Day Lawn Watering program was developed to ensure the city can provide water pressure to meet the domestic and fire flow requirements of all its customers.

Summer tax bills

Summer property tax bills were mailed out to all City of Novi property owners last month. Payments are due without penalty on or before Aug. 31.

Sounds of Summer

Tonight the City of Novi presents The Phoenix at 7:30 p.m. on the north lawn of the Novi Civic Center. The oldest concert is part of the city's free "Sounds of Summer" concert series. The concert is sponsored by Providence Hospital and the Ford Motor Company Fund. In the event of inclement weather, the show will be held in the Novi Civic Center on 10 Mile Road, between Novi and Taft Roads. For more information, call (248) 347-0400.

In the Service

Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Glen G. Hall, Jr., a 1983 graduate of Walled Lake Central High School, recently returned from a six-month deployment to the Western Pacific and Arabian Gulf while assigned to the aircraft carrier USS John C. Stennis, homeported in San Diego. Hall was one of more than 10,000 Pacific Fleet Sailors and Marines aboard the ships of the USS John C. Stennis Carrier Battle Group and USS Bonhomme Richard Amphibious Ready Group who proudly participated in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Anaconda. During the deployment, Hall's ship traveled more than 62,000 miles, launched more than 9,600 aircraft and dropped 275,000 pounds of ordnance.

Community Events

Child Health Clinics

DATE: Every Monday
LOCATION: Oakland County Health Division, 1010 E. West Maple, Walled Lake
TIME: mornings
DETAILS: Free well-care service for pre-enrolled 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 Laid 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 (formerly Bogey's) is located at 142 E. Walled Lake Drive.
TIME: 7:30-9 p.m.
DETAILS: Free concerts in Walled Lake.
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 - Ramos Rock - The Boat House (Market Days, 3 to 5 p.m.)

Novi Educational Foundation 7th Annual Charity Golf Outing

DATE: Tuesday, July 30
LOCATION: Links of Novi
TIME: 9 a.m. registration; shotgun start at 10; lunch at turn; dinner following 18 holes
DETAILS: The Novi Educational Foundation is a nonprofit organization devoted to expanding educational opportunities for the Novi community. The NEF supports student enrichment programs, staff development, classroom equipment and teacher in-service grants. All golf outing proceeds will contribute to the growth of Novi school children.
PHONE: (248) 449-1203

Blood Drive

DATE: Wed., July 31
LOCATION: Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital Conference Center
TIME: 6:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
DETAILS: Blood donors must be at least 17 years of age, weigh more than 110 pounds and be in good general health. The donation process takes a little more than an hour.
PHONE: (248) 937-3314

Novi Class of '72 30-Year Reunion

DATE: Dinner/Dance Friday - August 2nd - 6:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. at Baker's of Millford 860 per person; DJ and photographer will be there. Picnic - Saturday - August 3rd - 2 p.m. to whenever at Millville Recreation Club in Commerce Twp. \$12 per person (children under 12 free). BYOD (bring your own drinks) - alcohol permitted.
DETAILS: The following classmates are best: Can anyone help find them? Maria Ackert (Wixom?), Allyn Downey, Sue Hamilton, Paul Johnson, Lou Kregar, Penny Marchetti, Claudia Menger, Bruce Simmons, Judy Smart, Terri Tornow, Kirk Toth, Kendall White, Jim Wilentz, Sandy Wolosky.
PHONE: Natalie [Hard] Hill at (517) 545-2784 or Steve & Laura Pelech at (704) 552-5324 to reserve your spot!

Madonna University 7th Annual Scholarship Golf Outing

DATE: Friday, September 13
LOCATION: Links of Novi, 50395 Ten Mile Rd., Novi
TIME: Check-in: 11:30 a.m., shotgun start (scramble format); 1 p.m., awards dinner with mini live and silent auction; 7 p.m.
DETAILS: Golfers will enjoy a day full of activities and show their support for college students as proceeds go to the Madonna University Scholarship Fund. "Early bird" registration received before August 1, enters players into a drawing for golf for four at the Tournament Players Club.
PHONE: (734) 432-5421.

International Association for Equitation 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, stock 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.

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THE NOVINEWS. Published Each Thursday By The Novi News 104 W. Main Street, Northville, Michigan, 48167

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The Sports Club of Novi. The Dan Centre at The Sports Club of Novi will be offering the following Master Classes in Ballet & Modern

Fountain Walk

continued on page 8

Located between 12 Mile Road and 14th Street, West Oaks Mall is the new commercial development features such businesses as Galyan's, a sporting goods store, and the Great Indoors, a home furnishing retailer. They are surrounded by many restaurants, nightclubs, and entertainment providers, such as Vani's Skatepark, a skateboarding facility and Enigma, a digital theater that will show movies, as well as broadcast sporting events.

Lutton said Fountain Walk presents various retail choices for a consumer that are lacking in Oakland County while emphasizing the entertainment experiences.

"We are bringing use in the area not there," Lutton said. "It creates a place people can go to for an extended stay."

And consumers in search of the one-stop evening will traverse from store to store, restaurant to bar, through Fountain Walk's extensive and lush pedestrian walkways connecting the establishments.

Lutton said about \$1 million will be spent on landscaping and fountains for the development.

"The city of Novi has worked diligently to make something that is special," Lutton said.

In all when completed, Fountain Walk will house more than 50 store operations.

A preview of some of the confirmed destinations creating the entertainment and shopping development includes:

Imagine Entertainment

Scheduled to open in late summer or early fall, this 18-screen megaplex promises to bring more than just movies to Novi. The 86,000-square-foot theater will be one of the few movie venues in the Detroit area offering digital projection and sound and vows to provide the greatest variety of film choices and show times in the area. Each auditorium will include wall-to-wall screens, high-back reclining chair seats with cupholders and armrests and minimum 46-inch row spacing. The two largest auditoriums, with 500 seats each, will contain 130 over-stuffed luxury seats with 56-inch row spacing. The 20,000-square-foot lobby will host a full-service concession stand offering traditional movie-going fare, Pizzeria Uno Pizza, stuffed pretzels, gourmet chocolates and a full bar.

Vans Skate Park

More popularly known for its skateboarding apparel, Vans made a radical move to root in the form of a skateboard park. Vans Skate Park occupies about 53,000 square feet of the Fountain Walk development with an additional 5,000-square-foot outdoor street course scheduled to open this month. The park features a simulated in-ground swimming pool, 25,000-square-foot "Built Ford Tough" wood street course, 40-foot competition-size vert ramp, four-foot escalating mini ramp, spacious lounge, pet shop and an arcade and vending machine area. Vans encourages skateboarders, in-line skaters and BMX bike riders of all experience levels to try out its largest indoor park and only Midwest location. In the future, executives also plan on hosting special events like amateur skateboarding competitions. The park is open now seven days a week.

Modern Skate & Surf

Opening soon next to Vans Skate Park is Modern Skate & Surf. The shop catering to skateboarders, in-line skaters, surfers, snowboarders and other sports enthusiasts will be a perfect neighbor to the recently opened skate park, making the west side of the mall a hot place to visit. The Fountain Walk location makes this store number six in Michigan with other locations in Royal Oak, East Lansing, Traverse City, Ann Arbor and Ferndale. Executives said one of the shop's claims-to-fame was being one of the first 30 stores in the world to sell in-line skates in 1981. Since then, the variety of merchandise offered ranges from apparel to bearings. Other features of Modern Skate & Surf include kayak rentals, in-store demonstrations, ESPN sponsored challenges and participation in other events like the Vans' Warped Tour.

Cost Plus World Market

Best known for importing the merchandise of 50 countries, Cost Plus World Market is truly a one-of-a-kind store. The 86,000-square-foot emporium offers a variety of interesting, cost-conscious merchandise for any room in the house. The unique nature of the store's finds is its notable draw. Where else can you find an African Grief or hand-carved masks from Ghana? Also offered is a varied, cosmopolitan selection of nonperishable food items and beverages. It is hard to ignore all

the delectable chocolates, cookies, pastas, fries, sauses and rubbers. To wash it all down, the Fountain Walk store carries 400 different wines ranging in price from \$5 to \$200 a bottle and about 190 types of beer including a large selection of micro-brews and imports. Cost Plus World Market is open to the public.

Buffalo Wild Wings Grill and Bar

Whether you like them flaming hot, sweet and tangy or subtlely mild, the selection of chicken wings at Buffalo Wild Wings Grill and Bar will surely please the most finicky connoisseur. The 6,815 square-foot eatery which is open now focuses primarily on Buffalo, New York-style chicken wings spun in one of the restaurant's 12 signature sauses. Along with wings, the grill's menu will offer a variety of affordably priced

items including burgers and sandwiches, salads, Tex-Mex, Thai and Caribbean fare. Executives said the restaurant is perfect for families looking for somewhere to eat in-between fast food and casual dining. The grill and bar also offers 30 27-inch televisions, six projection televisions, electronic darts, video games, a jukebox and the popular national trivia network interactive question-and-answer game.

Great Indoors

Resembling a mall more than a store, the 105,000-square-foot, two-story mega store offers everything for inside the home in one place. Broken up into five sections, shoppers may easily find exactly what they are looking for by visiting the great both, the great bedroom, the great kitchen, the great room or the great surface areas. Interested shoppers

may browse the store searching through just about anything someone would find in the home including carpet, curtains, patio chairs, electronics, lamps, couches, bedding, bath hardware and accessories, and the kitchen. Come you and in a Starbucks, demonstrations and classes, great deals and a shopping-friendly environment, the store is truly great. Prices range from affordable to expensive and all purchases are backed by the store's 110 percent guarantee. The Great Indoors is open now.

The Bamboo Club

Boasting a sophisticated ambience and dynamic cuisine, this Pacific Rim restaurant promises to provide an up-scale and exotic experience. The 7,000 square-foot structure will feature an outdoor patio area, wine room and secluded bar area. Sheer

drapes separate sections, featuring comfortable couches and high-backed booths. Restaurant executives said the murals, bamboo sculptures, black ceilings, candlelight, lush foliage and lovely appointed furniture creates a very special environment. Along with the atmosphere, the club has fabulous food and menu selections from all over the world. The rich, traditional cuisine comes from places like Bangkok, Shanghai, Hong Kong and Korea. The menu is divided into sections, with items listed under headings labeled Steamed, Grilled, Sizzled, Woked or Broiled, depending on the culture of origin. The Bamboo Club anticipates opening later this year or early in 2003.

Harmony House

Although no specific details about the opening day are available, the store known for connect-

ing music and merchants is heading for town. Executives said the project is in the developmental stages, but make no mistake they are returning. The music-based entertainment store used to call West Oaks II home for about 11 years before the expansion of Kohl's and Jo-Ann Fabrics squeezed the store out. Now the shop is back and will be better than ever. The Fountain Walk location is scheduled to be larger than most Metropolitan stores. Patrons will have the opportunity to enjoy a full-line catalog of merchandise romancing music of all genres, an enhanced, sit-down music listening area and a Ticket Master office. Offering customers the opportunity to purchase tickets to entertainment events has been one of the company's primary draws.

continued on 9



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Fountain Walk

continued from 8

Chuck E. Cheese's

The "Birthday Capital of the World" led by that friendly mouse is now in Novi. Chuck E. Cheese's opened a 12,500-square-foot entertainment palace in the Fountain Walk development. The establishment features 85 different video games, a play area featuring tubes and Studio C. Executives said the new Novi location's location is different than other Chuck E. Cheese's stage shows. This one offers videos and is interactive. The center also offers pizza, submarine sandwiches and beverages. No admission is charged for entry, making access to the play area free. Executives said the fact patrons may bring their kids in to play for no charge, separates them from other child-entertainment places. Hours are 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

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Galyan's

If you haven't been to the place described as "America's Premier Active Lifestyle Store," then now is the time. The mammoth emporium is open and makes up a large portion of the development facing 12 Mile Road. The store encompasses a huge selection of recreation products. Whether you are training for a triathlon, getting ready for a game of paintball or hanging out with your buddies for a game of darts, this store has it all. The experience is enhanced by knowledgeable staff, an impressive environment and high-quality merchandise. Walking down the aisles, shoppers will find brands such as adidas, Patagonia, Timberland and Woolrich. And even if you aren't in the market for lets say some new camping gear, either scaling or watching others scale the store's rock-climbing wall is worth the trip.

Casual Corners

With a grand-opening date scheduled for Aug. 30, Casual Corners is preparing to bring fashion to Novi. The store executives say is based on a commitment to bring customers top-quality apparel, accessible pricing, and personalized service is excited to call Fountain Walk home. With more than 300 retail locations nationwide, the store catering to women emphasizes value, meticulous attention to detail, proportion and fit, easy-to-wear fabrics and a wardrobe-building selection of coordinates and matched pieces. Executives also said their clothing store is perfect for busy women because it offers fashions that work around the clock, taking today's woman from the office to the grocery store to an evening dinner. Adding to the shopping experience, the Fountain Walk location will offer a spacious shopping area and a warm and friendly environment.

Gleto's Salon and Spa

Novi resident Gleto Vushaj is bringing beauty, pampering and relaxation to the city. The licensed cosmetologist, currently in the process of approvals and details for his Fountain Walk salon, is very excited about the future grand-opening of Gleto's Salon and Spa. The luxurious establishment will offer a full-range of services for personal enhancement. A staff of qualified, in-the-know staff will transform clients with their training and expertise. Entering the future salon, promises to be a true experience. Patrons will be greeted with a large selection of retail products and make-up application area. Continuing through, visitors will be greeted by the salon's styling and service locations. Services in addition to coloring and styling will include facial and body massages, waxing, pedicures and more designed to bring perfection and Zen to all who visit.

Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory

Chocolate, chocolate and more chocolate will be flowing into Novi when the Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory opens its doors to the public in the city's Fountain Walk development. Although the plans for the shop are still in the works, the store known for being "America's Chocolatier" is on its way. The shop specializing in "large-size, decadent, mouthwatering deliciousness," will join the other world-wide locations totaling about 240 stores. Executives said patrons can look forward to entertaining fudge-making demonstrations, old-fashion caramel apples and an enormous selection of hand-made chocolates. Whether you prefer white, dark, milk of sugar-free, this is the sweet-tooth satisfying place to shop. Other delicacies include coffee, coconuts, cookies and chocolate-dipped fruit. The store also provides special-occasion selections such as gift baskets, personalized-message treats and corporate logo snacks.

Putting Edge

Where can you go to play glow-in-the-dark mini golf? The Putting Edge. The glowing world of the 18-hole, indoor complex offers golfing entertainment with a twist. Executives promise this is not your average golf game. The lights are low and the colors are crazy adding to the fun and challenge of the game. With locations in Houston, Memphis and Chicago, Putting Edge looks forward to calling Fountain Walk home in the near future. Golfers of all ages will be invited to test their skill on the long and zany glowing course featuring life-like animals, techno structures and fun to challenging obstacles. Hours of operation at the course's other locations are 9 a.m. to 1 a.m. and green fees range from \$5 to \$8 depending on the age time of day.

Other stores and restaurants in the works, anticipating on being one of the estimated 50 Oakland County places to be, include Cold Steam Creamery, "Sittin'" Restaurant featuring Japanese cuisine, Margarita Mama's featuring live entertainment, food and drinks, Just Sports, Foxy Nails, Linen Barn, Verizon Wireless, House of Blinds and Drapery, Spencer Gifts, New York Deli Cafe, Journey's, Coffee Bean and Mrs. Fields Cookies.

Angelo Parolce and Victoria Santolucito are staff writers for the Novi News. Angelo can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 108 or at aparolce@ht.hanecom.net and Victoria can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105 or at vsantoluc@ht.hanecom.net.



A south-facing mall of the Fountain Walk development in Novi.

Photo by John Heiser

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Novi News

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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.

A trio of icons lost

I can remember growing up and hearing my father talk about baseball. He played in the St. Louis Browns organization, which is now the Baltimore Orioles.

He pitched, played some outfield and later first base, but it was hitting I believe, that he relished most. And there was none better, according to my pop and many others, than Ted Williams - the Splendid Splinter.

A beautiful, graceful swing by a true master of the art of hitting. If you're a kid playing ball now, study Ted Williams and your game will improve that's a fact.



Cal Stone

I watched a bit of the All Star game Tuesday, and I can only imagine what it would have been like to see one of those contests with Williams.

Mr. Williams' passing was a major loss for the sports world, just like the recent deaths of two great musicians hit the entertainment industry.

John Entwistle, bassist for The Who, and Ray Brown, probably the most famous bassist in the history of jazz, both died this month.

Being a musician myself, currently a bassist, I can't imagine what rock and jazz would be like without these two musicians.

Entwistle literally redefined the role of his instrument in rock. He didn't just keep the rhythm - he played leads. Nobody before him did that, and nobody since has done it as well.

Take a listen to "My Generation" and you'll see what I mean. That is some serious thumping. His nickname was The Ox. He rarely moved onstage, but he didn't need to. His tone and volume conveyed rock and roll more than any stage antics ever could.

In a totally different genre, and a totally different style, Ray Brown was the epitome of swinging jazz bass playing. He began his career in the 1940s as a founding member of Charlie Parker's quintet, which also included Dizzy Gillespie.

Brown, who was also known for his marriage to Ella Fitzgerald, played with pianist Oscar Peterson for 16 years. His masterful upright bass playing can be heard on over 2,000 recordings. That makes him one of the most recorded artists in the history of music.

A little over a year ago, I was lucky enough to catch Mr. Brown at the Bird of Paradise in Ann Arbor. It was there doing a story on the club and its owner, Ron Brown, another fine bassist, and Brown was in town for a three-day stint.

He played there a couple of weeks ago, too, but I didn't have any free time to go catch him.

At least I have his recordings, as well as those of Entwistle's, to play over and over. And I can still give my dad a call to talk about the Splendid Splinter.

Cal Stone is the editor of the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700 ext. 113 or cstone@hometowncomm.net.

LETTERS

Sandstone settlement - Novi honored vets

Some people seem to regard the sale of Novi's parkland as a "regretful" but ultimately right thing to do. In my view, the settling of the Sandstone lawsuit with parkland had to do with giving in to greed and politics, and it was not justified.

First, greed: Novi didn't drag its feet on paying up to the developer. Our previous city administration immediately appealed Judge Barry Howard's decision which awarded the two individuals who are Sandstone Associates multimillions of dollars, plus an unpaid 12 percent interest rate.

For 30 years the image of the Vietnam veteran has been demonized by Hollywood fiction, liberal media sensationalism, and simple misunderstanding. Veterans reaped the blame and shame of "losing" an unpopular war. In reality, those veterans were the same kids from next door who followed their World War II fathers' example in answering the call to serve our country.

The overwhelming majority of their best friends and neighbors followed them home as soon as possible to resume living their lives in peace. Unfortunately, a confused public saw the veterans as an embarrassing reminder of the country's moral and political failures.

Next, politics: Some think our city has acted properly. I disagree. During our first years in office, millions of dollars ago, our current city leaders never once mentioned the word "settle." They wanted their bid to sell parkland, then months later showed the idea down residents' throats.

Next, the public's sacrifice: North Novi Park with walking, biking and ski trails, used only by families, bikers, dog walkers and others. It isn't land merely being considered for future use as parkland. It is being sold coldly and expediently, to satisfy a greedy developer and political aspirations of some of our local officials, not because there's too much Novi parkland.

Novi does not have surplus parkland for its population. The City played a numbers game on the idea of "surplus." Last year the parks commission recalculated the city's park needs in a new parks and recreation master plan using 2000 census population data and a conservative estimate on projected population at build-out.

Using the city's overall master plan, with parks information over five years old, and even older census data, they took out of context that the northern sector of the city had a surplus. The truth is, the same city master plan cites severe shortages of parkland in all other parts of the city, states Novi needs all its community-wide parkland and must develop it to meet community recreation needs.

As the city bulldozes much of North Novi Park this week, stop by Twelve Mile Road and watch the destruction of this special place, and ask yourself, did Novi officials make the right land use decision for the long term benefit of this community? Residents who are relieved it's all over, should continue to pay attention. It's not the costs of the settlement are just beginning. The need for more parkland in Novi is more acute than ever. We will feel much more so with every passing year if the city does not address the problem quickly.

West Lake has a right to use South Lake and East Lake or any other road in this City that is deemed "public." East Lake is in a much better position today. Traffic has been diverted to Decker/Novi Road corridor. The widened paving, bike/safety path established syndrome works, looks lovely.

Phil Power is the Chairman of the Board of the company that owns this newspaper. He would be pleased to get your reactions to his column either at (734) 953-2206 or at ppower@hometowncomm.net.

Please note our policy regarding political letters:

In order to be fair to everyone, this newspaper will not run letters to the editor the week prior to an election; that open new issues. Expressions of thanks to political supporters are best made by buying an advertisement.



Mail to: Letters to the Editor, Cal Stone, Novi News, 104 W. Main St., Northville, MI 48167

E-mail to: cstone@hometowncomm.net Fax to: (248) 349-9332

GOVERNMENT

For reader request, we have compiled a list so you can get in touch with your local and regional senators and representatives. Their accessibility allows you as readers to voice your concerns directly and allows them to better represent their districts. If you feel we have missed anyone, contact us at (248) 349-1700, ext. 113.

United States Senate

Carl Levin (D-Detroit) 453 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington D.C. (202) 224-6221 senator@levin.senate.gov

Local office: 1110 Michigan National Tower 124 W. Allegan Lansing, MI 48933 (517)-377-1507

Debbie Stabenow (D-Lansing) 476 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington D.C. senator@stabenow.senate.gov

Local office: 280 East Saginaw East Lansing, MI 48823 (517)-203-1760

United States Congress

Joe Knollenberg (R-Bloomfield) 2349 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington D.C. (202) 225-5802 Local office: 30833 Northwestern Hwy. #100 Farmington Hills, MI 48334 (248)-851-1366

Michigan Senate

Bill Bullard Jr. (R-Highland) State Capitol P.O. Box 30036 Lansing, MI 48909-7536 (888)-736-2855 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

County Commission

Hugh Crawford (R-Novi) 1260 North Telegraph Pontiac, MI 48341 (248)-349-5079 hughcrawford@msn.com

Nancy Dingeldey (R-Wixom) 2220 Euna Road Wixom, MI 48393 (248)-669-5921 dingeldeyn@co.oakland.mi.us

Share your opinions: We welcome your letters to the editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask that your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content.

Oxford holds lessons for education here

I've just returned from a conference in England, where I had my eyes jolted wide open by the differences between our two countries, so thoroughly separated, as the saying goes, "by oceans and language."

Some background first. Many years ago, I won a Marshall Scholarship to attend Oxford University. I wound up enrolling at one of Oxford's 31 colleges, University College. A couple of years ago, Univ. (as it's called) celebrated the 750th anniversary of the original founding grant it received in 1350 from the Bishop of Durham.

Returning to the original funding grant it received in 1350 from the Bishop of Durham. Hoping to survive for another 750 years, Univ. put together a gathering at which the Master, various faculty members, a few administrators and I were invited to talk about how best to do this. It was during these conversations that I suddenly understood the enormous gulf that exists between basic assumptions about the role and power of government in each country.

The English way, going back to the days when King Henry VIII took over the church and created the first total state. Is that government control is the normal state of things and that grants of authority to individuals or the locals are relatively unusual. The American assumption is quite the reverse. Article 10 of the Constitution, for example, says that those powers not explicitly given to the government are reserved for the people.

These differences were highlighted by our discussion about higher education, which in England is micro-controlled by the government. In a way inconceivable to an American university. Here's how:

The Ministry of Education tells Oxford University and each of its colleges exactly how many students from Great Britain and European Union countries it may admit. The government funds Oxford University and each college per student enrolled. Since 1989, this support has halved, dropping from 7700 pounds to around 4800 pounds today.

The government also caps the fees for tuition and board and room that the colleges are allowed to charge students, explicitly forbidding "top up fees."

The sum of per student government grants plus the fees colleges are allowed to charge students is substantially less what it costs the colleges. So the colleges lose money on every student they enroll.

The government even tried (and eventually failed) to forbid individual colleges from giving scholarships to poor students. (This is odd, because one of the government's main objectives is to increase the number of poor kids enrolled in universities.)

The Americans at the meeting, of course, went appalled at all this. They talked knowledgeably about how an Oxford degree is a "world class brand" that entitles the colleges to the determination of the quality of an Oxford degree. And they suggested the colleges "go private" and tell the micro-managing government bureaucrats to bag it.

They had a point. Imagine Gov. Engler telling MSU President Peter McPherson just how many students he could enroll at Michigan State! Consider the helm as board president and set to lead the district into the new school year. An

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Arthritis Foundation Your Source for Help and Hope

Photo courtesy: Kerry Bowman, Bowman Photography

Time for a change? Diapers. Oil. Smoke detector batteries.

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Follow these tips to keep your smoke detectors in top working shape: Test your smoke detectors monthly and put in new batteries at least once a year; 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 Federal Emergency Management Agency http://www.usfa.fema.gov

Novi schools busy through summer

Well, just because school is out, it doesn't mean the Novi school district quits working. An entirely new central administration area, busy coordinating the upcoming construction projects - spurred by the \$75 million bond proposal passed in June - 2001.

Construction plans headed into high gear this summer. Here is a quick update on the construction goals, as projected by the superintendent himself, Emmett Lippe:

• new tennis courts and concession stands to be finished at Novi Middle School, fall 2002

• to begin the new addition to the transportation building on 11 Mile Road, fall 2002

• finish the complete overhaul of the media centers at Orchard Hills and Village Oaks Elementarys, Dec. 2002/Jan. 2003

• begin the reworking of the Novi High School, Jan./Feb. 2003

• The district has been busy preparing Novi Schools' Instructional Technology Center (ITC) for its temporary visitors. The students of Novi Woods will be moving into the ITC next school year while their building gets updated, modernized and beautified.

The Novi Board of Education approved construction bids for the Novi Woods overhaul in a special board meeting on July 8. The project is about to take wings. Look for construction vehicles on Tall Road.

Furthermore, the superintendent announced a potpourri of district goals for the school year, which includes considerations on a debated topic in Novi in recent months - the district's full-day kindergarten program.

The district hopes to add to board of education discussions next year the feasibility of additional full-day kindergarten programs at elementary schools besides Deerfield Elementary. Novi's school of choice.

The Novi Board of Education flip-flopped positions, with Bruce Bagdady taking over the helm as board president and set to lead the district into the new school year. An

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Double-standard, AG?

Recently I've found an article and have heard rumors that Justice Granick is driven to work everyday by a police officer. The article was from The Michigan Daily dated November 5, 1998, after she won the seat for Michigan Attorney General. What really upsets me (an NRA member and gun enthusiast) is that she wants to remove our right to have concealed weapon permits in Michigan.

So am I to understand that we can't carry protection but she can have an armed police officer drive her to work everyday (and who knows where else)? If our right for responsible, law-abiding citizens to carry guns for defense is taken away, only the criminals will have them. Remember, they are called criminals for a reason: they will not obey gun laws!

I am 23 years old so people may not take me seriously, or think that I'm a "gun-crazed NRA psycho" and that you shouldn't pay attention to me. Hopefully, one of the local news agencies will take time to hear me out, express my views to the public, and not view me as the above.

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United Way opens new volunteer center in Oakland

United Way Community Services in Detroit and United Way of Oakland County in Pontiac have launched the United Way Volunteer Center of Oakland County. The announcement was made at the HomeTown Heroes event, held June 5, in Birmingham.

The United Way Volunteer Center of Oakland County will facilitate and support volunteer opportunities and events in order to maximize services to enhance the quality of life within Oakland County. The center will encourage volunteers, provide training for volun-

teer coordinators, build leadership development among volunteers and boards of directors, support volunteer recognition and connect people to local volunteer opportunities, as well as national initiatives. The center will serve diverse groups, including health and human service organizations, civic and government, business and industry, arts and cultural, youth, and faith-based organizations.

"Since 1836, United Way Community Services has provided volunteer opportunities and training for those who wish to give their

time to agencies in need of volunteer help," said Virgil H. Carr, president and CEO, United Way Community Services. "United Way realizes the important role volunteers make in our communities. Our organization is far more effective in strengthening communities and positively impacting the lives of tri-county residents, thanks to the support of volunteers."

While United Ways have always encouraged volunteer participation throughout southeast Michigan, the United Way Volunteer Center of Oakland County will focus on max-

imizing volunteer efforts in Oakland County," said Rick David, president, United Way of Oakland County. "This partnership is a pilot project that can be replicated in other counties, supporting United Way's role with the business community, public sector and nonprofit arena."

Those interested in learning about volunteer opportunities and training in Oakland County can call the United Way Volunteer Center of Oakland County, at 248.874.1621, or log onto <http://commnet.org/volunteer>.

New shops open at Twelve Oaks

One clothing store and one restaurant recently joined over 180 establishments at Twelve Oaks Mall.

Tommy Hilfiger's collections embody many different styles, ranging from preppy to updated business attire. The store is located on the Upper Level, Lord & Taylor wing.

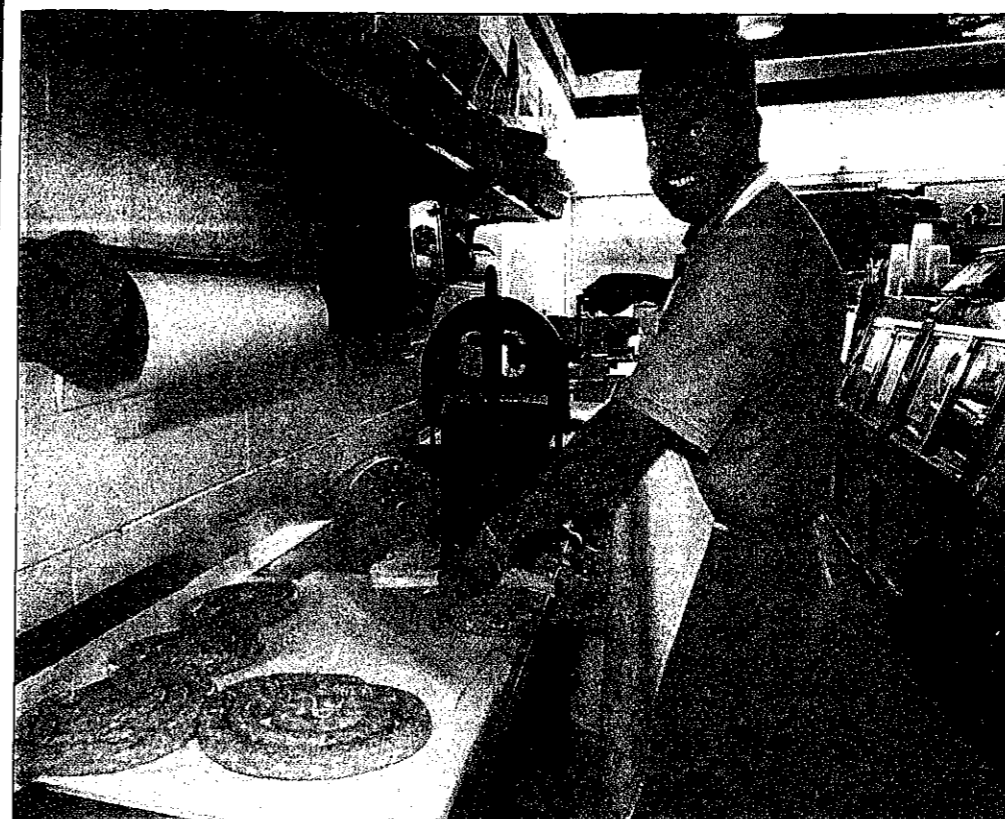
Mr. Pita offers sandwiches, soups and salads at the eatery, located in the Lifestyle Cafe Food Court located on the Lower Level, J.C. Penney wing.

REGIONAL MARKETPLACE

Page 15A

Thursday, July 11, 2002

Just what the butcher ordered



Old World practices are a norm at Lyon's Marketplace. Here, owner Byron Muonio makes fresh Italian chicken breast sausage, which is low in fat for health conscious patrons.

Lyon's Marketplace now featuring a healthier selection of meats to choose from

By Lorraine Ross

Lyon's Marketplace combines old-fashioned service with modern-day convenience.

"Natural, fresh and choice selection is important when buying meat and other gourmet foods," their Lyon's Marketplace is just what the butcher ordered.

Lyon's Marketplace in downtown South Lyon uses old world business practices combined with just the right touch of modern day convenience. Many people visit the store for the top quality meats, while many others stop in for the conveniently delicious deli salads and sandwiches.

"We like to say we're an old-fashioned deli," says Cami Mionio, who is in business with her husband Byron.

Lyon's Marketplace will celebrate its three-year anniversary this fall, and the Mionios say they are extremely satisfied with the continuous growth of their business.

The Mionios started the business sharing space with Rocky's Ice Cream.

Lyon's Marketplace is located at 509 S. Lafayette in downtown South Lyon. It is open 7 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday, closed on Sunday. The phone number is (248) 446-1822.

After about six months as a joint venture, they bought out the business and eliminated the ice cream section in order to expand the meat business. Around that time they purchased a meat saw and became a full-service butcher shop. Since then, business has grown at a steady pace, and they have continued to add new foods and expand their services.

Alongside its choice cuts of steaks, roasts, pork, free-range chicken and fresh fish, Lyon's Marketplace prepares daily seasonal entrees ready for oven or grill. Summer fare includes bacon-wrapped filet mignon, marinated shish kabobs, pork, chicken, fish or beef, and the delicious and health-conscious Italian chicken breast sausage.

"Besides the obvious advantage of not having to walk a half mile from the front door to the meat counter," Byron says, "is the small-store advantage of receiving individual orders. Recently, I made sausage for a customer with an old-family recipe that she provided."

The commitment to customer service is obvious. Veal brains, cow tongues, whole pigs or beef sides, employees at the market take your order with a smile. They will fill it or bend over backwards trying.

Byron says a smaller market like his is able to provide a fresher, all-natural product that doesn't contain growth hormones. This comes from animals that are allowed to roam free rather than be penned. For the doubtful consumer, he suggests a taste test between his Bell & Evans chicken breast and a pre-packaged chicken

breast from a chain grocer.

"Among our grocery staples are Guernsey Dairy and Cantaro's Bread," says Byron. He picks his bread up each morning from Livonia's renowned Italian bakery and his bagels from Detroit Bagel Factory. While it makes for an early start to the day, the bread has helped give Lyon's Marketplace a niche in the sandwich market. Sliced or unsliced, it is also sold by the loaf and distributed to local restaurants.

In addition to the walk-in business, Lyon's Marketplace also offers catering services. The same product you see in the counter is what goes onto their trays and into their salads. The fresh taste appeals to corporations looking for a tasty but light business lunch.

A great product line, attention to detail, staying on top of ordering and inventory control to ensure freshness were enough to get Lyon's Marketplace off the ground. A loyal customer base has made them a destination point in South Lyon.

"When we opened our doors, a lot of people thought that South Lyon wasn't ready for a top-quality meat market," Cami said, "but we were warmly welcomed into the community, and since then everything else has just been icing on the cake. It's rewarding work to be part of the community that you love."

The Mionios, who live in Lyon Township with their four children, say the small-town feel that led them to South Lyon in the first place was the perfect atmosphere in which to open their market.

"People stop by just to say hello, or to let us know they're going out of town but they'll be back in two weeks," says Byron. "That's just great."

"Perhaps it's that kind of aura that makes this new spot on the block feel like your dad's recliner — safe and welcoming."



Byron Muonio, owner of Lyon's Market Place in South Lyon, displays the wide array of meat that is available fresh daily.

No experience necessary

Fore business sake, make a press event fun

By Tim KISSMAN
SIAM DIRECTOR OF PUBLICATIONS

Just when I thought the perks of being a business writer couldn't get any better I received an invitation for a day "Fore the Media" at the Diamond Springs Golf Course.

That's right, a day of golf for me.

It was a way for owners and developers to show off the new nine holes at the Diamond Springs Golf Course, located between orange construction barrels of Grand Rapids and nearby Holland.

The owners hoped for free press to generate some play and by inviting writers for a round, maybe even get some good opinions from people who knew about golf, and golf courses.

And yes, while I like to write about small business quirk and dish out tips like Tiger Woods makes birdies, I play golf, too. But I never received an invitation for a round, so this was a first for me and there wasn't anything to keep me from going.

But how do I turn a day of golf into a worthwhile lesson for business owners? I'm famous (almost) for telling small business owners how to purchase a chair, or how to get respect from the media, maybe even telling owners about Web sites, but golf? If you saw me hit my ball into a deep ravine, a pond or stick it in a tree, you don't want my golf advice.

What I can tell you is how this golf course owner — a small business owner — made a great impression on me and the rest of the writers who braved the 90 degree, sweating heat for a round of 18 holes.

Heard help. Knowing that first impression counts everything, Kris Shumaker, one of the course owners, hired a local firm to publicize

the event. This PR firm sent out invitations, greeted writers at the door, coordinated the outing, chatted during lunch and kept things moving. It gave Shumaker the chance to walk the course with a foursome and get instant feedback.

Nice touch — quite unlike my approach shots to the green.

Make it informal. Once all the writers arrived — thanks to construction I was a bit late — Shumaker sat down with all of us and talked about how he financed the course, built it and ran it. Instead of lecturing us at a podium, he kept everything at a very informal level, answering questions as they were asked. It was a very refreshing format and informative. Everyone there, myself included, was comfortable. Too many times small business owners feel they need to make a big splash, or act like the big companies with a press event when all they really need to do is just talk.

Not while I'm putting though, I'll miss for sure. Just ask the guys in my foursome.

Be available. Every owner at the course treated us like royalty, and that was totally unexpected. Every press conference I've ever been to, and I've been to quite a few, the owners brief the press, answer questions and that's it. Everyone picks up and goes home. But not here. After the round we chatted, asked a few more questions and made new friends. Small business owners who want good press should make it an event. Hand out refreshments with informational packets. Tell employees to mingle, chat and answer questions.

Like how do I stop from slicing the ball into the woods? Anyone? Anyone?

Oh well. Sometimes the best place to do business is on the golf course. Last week, I saw why that was true. Now, if I could just make a three-foot birdie putt I'd be in business for good.

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

Business in brief

RCOC launches site

The Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC) has launched a new and improved Web site. The new site is intended to make it easier for visitors to quickly find the information they are looking for.

Located at www.rcocweb.org, the site offers a wealth of information about the Road Commission, how it's governed and funded, its mission statement, challenges, etc., road projects, and a wide variety of Road Commission activities, such as pothole patching, snow plowing, gravel road maintenance, etc.

Additionally, the site allows visitors to send questions or concerns to RCOC's Department of Citizen Services via e-mail, which will treat the messages the same as a phone call, including providing a response to the question or issue. There are also links to other related Web sites.

The site was redesigned for RCOC by Web Information Technologies.

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Walled Lake Central's Top Ten Students '02



Katharina Daub
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Clubs, horseback riding, scuba diving class, National Honor Society, community service activities through school and church, piano, theater productions-tech crew, member of Diversity and Science Clubs.

Honors: Academic letter and two pins, certificates of excellence and the President's Award for Academic Excellence, Apple Awards, MEAP Scholarship, Beve & Ron Rentschler Scholarship, University of Michigan Regent's Scholarship, Outstanding Senior (WLC) award, and teacher nomination luncheons.

Post-Graduation plans: University of Michigan, Ann Arbor (Honors Program) majoring in marine biology.

Parents: Christlane Daub and Peter Daub



Kate Henderlong
Grade Point Average: 4.142
Activities: National Honor Society, work as a medical assistant at Edgwood Pediatrics, scrapbooking, and hanging out with friends.

Honors: Michigan Competitive Scholarship, Detroit Association of Phi Beta Kappa, Honor Roll, Detroit Free Press Writing Contest (Certificate of Commendation), Merit Award/MEAP Scholarship, Scholarship to Kalamazoo College (for academic performance), and Outstanding Voc-Tech student.

Post-Graduation plans: Attend Kalamazoo College in the fall to major in pre-med with plans to become a pediatric oncologist.

Parents: Edward and Susan Henderlong

Who has influenced you most in your academic career?

Parents: Edward and Susan Henderlong

Who has influenced you most in your academic career?

James Garrison

Grade Point Average: 4.24
Activities: Cross Country Captain, Track, President of National Honor Society

Honors: National Merit Scholar

Post-Graduation plans: United States Military Academy at West Point (Army Infantry Officer)

Parents: John and Karen Garrison

Joel Kulesza

Grade Point Average: 4.113
Activities: Varsity Football Manager, Internship with Computware, Junior member of Multilakes Conservation Association, Aided in Developing the High School Web page.

Honors: Four years on Top Honor Roll, MEAP Scholarship, University of Michigan Regent's Scholarship, Walled Lake Central Apple Award, Presidential Award for Academics.

Post-Graduation plans: University of Michigan, School of Engineering, majoring in nuclear or naval engineering and design.

Parents: Ron and Julie Kulesza

Mark McCubbin

Grade Point Average: 4.33
Activities: French Club; treasurer for last three years.

National Honor Society, chess Club; treasurer during senior year, Fitness Club.

Honors: Honor Roll four years, AP Scholar with Honors

Post-Graduation plans: University of Michigan, Ann Arbor majoring in biomedical engineering, planning on doing research in human genetics or work with biotechnology.

Parents: Margaret McCubbin, John McCubbin

Brandon Stone

Grade Point Average: 4.13
Activities: Editor for Walled Lake Central's School Newspaper The Call, Varsity Football, Varsity Track, National Honor Society, French Club, German Club, German Exchange Program, Babysitting little brother, Walled Lake Central's unofficial ultimate Frisbee team, reading novels, writing short poetry, participated in Canned Food Drive to Fight Hunger.

Independent Contractor for Detroit Newspapers Association, Michigan Math Prize Competition, performed community service such as volleyball marathon raising money to support the Foundation for Excellence and Paint the Town, tutoring peers in Math, Physics, Chemistry and English, volunteering at Keith Elementary School.

Honors: Sports Editor for The Call, Captain of track team, class rank of 4, highest honor roll, nominated for Who's Who Among American High School Students, Nominated for National Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C., Nominated for United States High School Football Association Merit Award, Received Western Lakes Activities Association Scholar Athlete, Received Michigan Merit Award Scholarship.

Post-Graduation plans: University of Michigan, Ann Arbor in pre-medicine program. Planning on researching and developing new medications and medical techniques.

Parents/Step-parents: Sharon Gibson, Jeff Gibson, Robert Stone.



Rose Turner
Grade Point Average: 4.018
Activities: Marching Band, play, musical, Children's Theater.

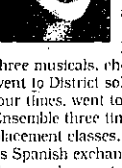
National Art Honor Society, and National Honor Society.

Honors: National Merit Scholarship Competition (commended) and Environmental Science Department Award

Post-Graduation plans: Attend University of Michigan for pre-med studies.

Who has influenced you most in your academic career?

Parents: Mary and Kevin Turner

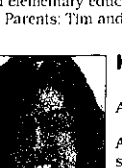


Sara Megge
Grade Point Average: 4.119
Activities: Four-year varsity swimmer and team captain, National Honor Society, choir member, went to District solo & ensemble four times, went to State Solo & Ensemble three times, advance placement classes, went to Spain as Spanish exchange student for three weeks, went to Germany and Austria with choirs, participated in two Paint the Towns, work at Kindercafe, and life-guarded.

Honors: Joan Calhoun Scholarship, Choir Scholarship, MEAP Scholarship, Top Spanish Student Award, and National Honor Society top honors.

Post-Graduation plans: Attend University of Michigan to major in elementary education.

Parents: Tim and Debra Megge

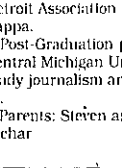


Kristin Zechar
Grade Point Average: 4.081
Activities: An editor on school newspaper, Madonna University Summer Institute, and National Honor Society.

Honors: Four-year honor roll, Who's Who Among American High School Students, Central Michigan University Board of Trustees Scholarship, Michigan Merit Award, Michigan Competitive Scholarship, and Detroit Association of Phi Beta Kappa.

Post-Graduation plans: Attend Central Michigan University to study journalism and psychology.

Parents: Steven and Mary Zechar



Gretchen Schreiber
Grade Point Average: 4.057
Activities: National Honor Society, Marching Band, and Jazz Band.

Honors: Recipient of Louis Armstrong Jazz Award, John Philip Sousa Award, Michigan Competing Band Association Scholarship, MEAP Merit Award, 4.0 GPA and above all four years, horn sergeant in Marching Band.

Post-Graduation plans: Attend Michigan State University to study music education.

Parents: David and Susan Schreiber

Congratulations to these fine students!

Beck opened north of Grand River Ave.

The Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC) announced that Beck Road is now reopened at Grand River. It had been closed to allow the widening of Grand River through the Beck intersection.

The opening of this intersection should help to relieve some of the congestion in the area caused by the ongoing widening of Grand River between Beck and Wixom. This section of Grand River is being widened from two lanes to five.

The \$6 million widening project is expected to be completed

by July 31. In the meantime, motorists should continue to expect some delays along this section of Grand River and at

the Grand River/Beck and Grand River/Wixom intersections.



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Wolbers ready to attend U of M

By Brian Doyle
SPECIAL WRITER

Northville's Jimmy Wolbers will be moving on from high school and high school athletics as he steps into a new life next year. Wolbers will be heading off to the University of Michigan in the fall to study engineering.

He's not sure what type of engineer he wants to be but for the present he's thinking of mechanical engineering.

"I like math and science and I don't like English and history," Wolbers said about academics.

For him, engineering seemed like the right fit. He will be following in his dad's footsteps who is an engineer.

"I see some of the things he builds and does around the house," Wolbers said. "I think that knowledge would be cool."

Wolbers, who played football and baseball at Northville High School, said that both of his parents have been very supportive of him in athletics. His mom, Mary Owen, and his dad, Eugene, have gone to a lot of Wolbers athletic events.

"They've probably gone to every sporting event I've ever been in," he said.

Wolbers also has an older brother, Jason, who, although he didn't follow in his footsteps athletically, Wolbers drew other inspiration from his brother.

"I've looked up to him," Wolbers said.

Wolbers began playing sports when he was very young — he started playing baseball when he was right around six years old.

"I've always been active in

Continued on 3

HomeTown presents the Players of the Year

Simply the best of the best in their respective athletics

By Sam Eggleston
and Steve Bell
SPORTS WRITERS

Here, we have listed all of those athletes who have earned the title as Player of the Year in their respective sports. For many of them, it was the last time they were going to get a nod from the HomeTown East All-Area selections, but for a few it just marked the first of many times they would be named as the best of the best.

Girls' Tennis

Lauren West
Senior
Northville

A well known face and a well known name in the Northville tennis community, West has been a consistent factor for the Mustangs throughout the season. West, a senior first singles player for the Northville girl's tennis team, is one of the team leaders and someone coach Sandy Woolfall said "is a solid tennis player." Her ability and dedication to the sport of tennis has helped us select her as the HomeTown East Player of the Year.

Boys' Golf

Tom Borda
Senior
Northville

Borda earned All-State Honorable Mention honors last year and tied for fifth at the state tournament. He earned all-division his freshman, sophomore and senior years and all-conference his junior year. He was also the HomeTown Newspapers' Goller of the Year in 2000, a feat he repeated for 2001. His ability and his skill made him the ideal candidate for the HomeTown East's 2001 Player of the Year.

Football

Steve Bell
Senior
Walled Lake Western

Walled Lake Western's premier runner is the exact role Steve Bell

stepped into this season. Combined finesse running with battering ram power made Bell one of the toughest runners to take down in the Western Lakes Activities Association. Coach Mike Ziobski feels Bell is the "best All-around player on my football team."

Bell's ability to take charge and to lead the team and to be an example on and off the field made him a prime candidate for our highest award — HomeTown East's Player of the Year.

Boys' Cross Country

Tim Moore
Senior
Novi

This one was quite obvious, even for those who only flip to the sports section now and again. Tim Moore, a National Champion and an athlete with multiple All-American tags after his name, is pretty much impossible to replace. He pretty much has gained the reputation of being untouchable, which stood true throughout the entire cross country season and into the national scene. Heck, you really can't complain about a runner that only felt defeat at the hands of his World-peers while running in Ireland. We have come to view Moore as the athlete who can't help but get his name in the paper. No matter what he does, be it in the classroom or on the competitive athletic field, it's worth mention.

Girls' Cross Country

Nina Schmitt
Junior
Novi

Schmitt was a consistent and steady bright spot for the Wildcats this season. On a team that had to challenge themselves in order to be competitive, Schmitt was the model that all of the Wildcats looked to set themselves by. Her running captured her first-place

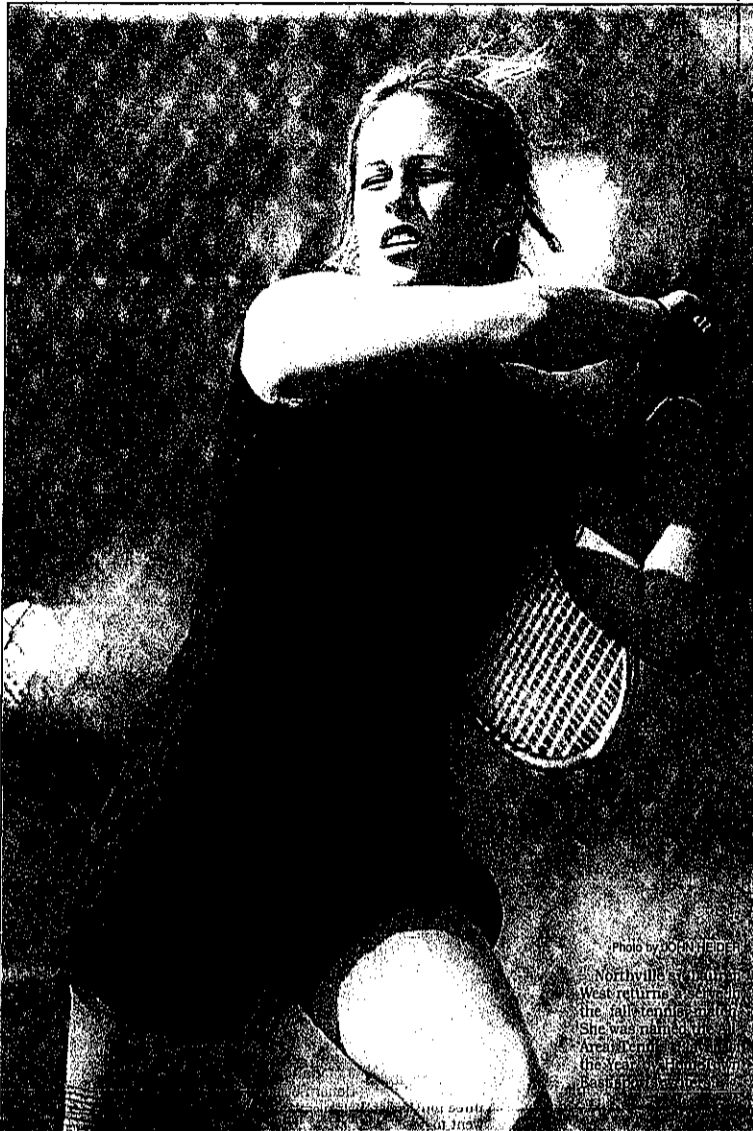


Photo by JOHN HEIDER
Northville's Lauren West returns a shot during the fall tennis season. She was named the All-Area Player of the Year by HomeTown East's sports writers.

Most Valuable Players of the Year

Novi's Tim Moore gets boys' MVP recognition

It seems like every time I turn around I am talking about Tim Moore. Be it in the sports pages,

with fellow writers or with my friends that are just interested in good athletes, Moore always seems to come up.

Not that there is anything wrong with that. Heck, you could do a lot worse than talking about a runner that has a national championship under his belt along with multiple All-American tags next to his name. He wins plenty of state titles to be recognized, but moving up to the national and the world level just blows my mind when I meet someone who claims they love sports and they don't know who he is.

Moore's ability when it comes to long, long, long distances made him a shoe-in for HomeTown East's Most Valuable Player of the Year for the boys. When he wasn't too busy winning national titles, Moore always found time to get a headline in a HomeTown newspaper. His dedication to the sports he participated in and his determination to excel both on the field of play and in the classroom pretty much made him an ideal athlete.

If you take a step back and look at his grades — 4.0 GPA — you might know that he is not only a student in the classroom, but also on the field of play. He learns what it takes to win and he does just that.

I figure that even if Moore wanted to try out for football or basketball that he would succeed in making the team, just do to his heart throbbing in his chest with each beat pushing him harder and trying to make him become better and better with each passing pulse.

Moore is definitely one of a kind. Neither Novi High School or Coach Bob Smith are going to find an athlete quite like him ever again. I know I won't ever get the opportunity to write about such pure long-distance running ability again in my career — unless I start writing for the South Bend paper and get the cross country and track beat for the University of Notre Dame.

One of the things that I have come to admire about Moore is the way he never gives up. It's pretty much understood that his ability to win races decreases as the length of the run decreases, yet give him the 100-meter dash and tell him to give it his best and he will. The same with the 400, the 800 and so on and so forth. Heck, tell Moore to throw the shot put and he would probably do it and do an OK job at it.

I can safely say that Moore is going to be missed. He will be missed by Novi High School, the Novi community, Coach Smith and, yes, even myself. HomeTown Newspapers would like to wish Moore, and all of the other collegiate-bound athletes, the best of luck in all of their future endeavors.

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.



Sam Eggleston

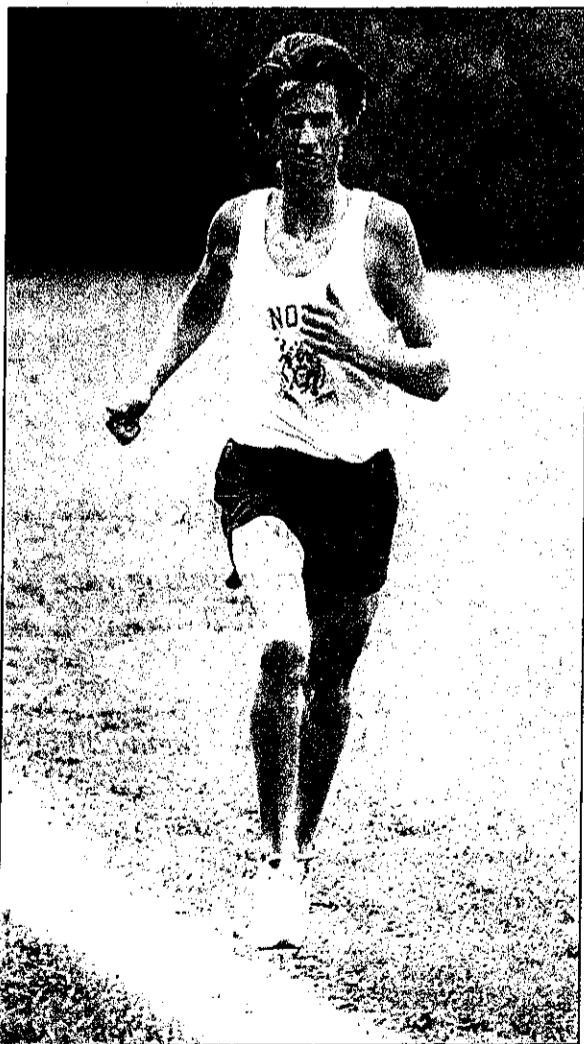


Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Tim Moore is one of two Most Valuable Players of the Year named by HomeTown East sports writers.

Mallinson female MVP of the Year

Both scenarios don't sound ideal. But to witness them is to understand why Milford High School grad Connie Mallinson is HomeTown East's Female Athlete of the Year.

On the basketball court Milford hoped the other team had a big-time scoring guard. Because the Redskins

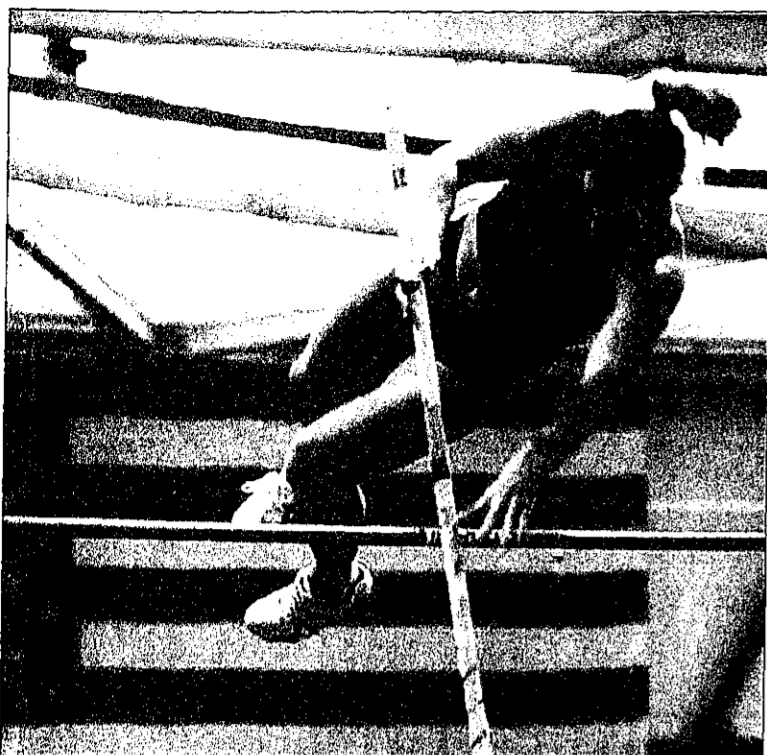
had an answer. Mallinson, a three-year starter, could lock them up and in the process throw the entire offense for a loop. That's how it worked, as Milford made it's magical post-season run last fall, beating KVC champion Brighton and winning the district title. Mallinson, a first-team all-conference pick, was the stalwart, hard to check with her own dribble, then turning the tables on the other end.

Then, in the spring, on the track. Perversely, maybe, but probably not a few Milford fans enjoyed seeing one of the girls' relay teams trailing after the first three legs. Because if Mallinson was running the anchor they were guaranteed a good show, win or lose. And with Mallinson it was usually win, as she captained a team which unseated Brighton as conference champions. Four times she claimed the KVC title in the 400 meters.

Mallinson will run track next year at Central Michigan University. The Chips will be getting a terrific athlete, to be sure. But better yet, as foes, fans and coaches from throughout the area can attest, whether it be indoor and outdoor, with a ball or just her feet, they'll be getting a true competitor.



Stephen Bell



Submitted Photo

MSU pole vaulter Mickey Rzepka, of Novi, goes up and over with Old Glory as her witness.

Rzepka reaching new heights

By Brian Doyle
SPECIAL WRITER

For most, collegiate athletics is something to dream about. For 2001 Novi graduate, Mickey Rzepka, it is a reality. Rzepka was on the Michigan State women's track and field team this year and actually took the lead as the team's top pole-vaulter. Rzepka set new indoor and outdoor track and field records in the pole vault. She was also the top freshman in the Big Ten conference in the outdoor season.

At Novi, Rzepka was a top pole-vaulter and also ran sprints and relays. At MSU, pole vaulting is her only event.

"I really enjoyed being able to focus on vault," she said.

With just focusing on the vault, Rzepka was able to improve from her 11-foot best in high school to 12-foot at the college level.

"I improved a foot since high school," Rzepka said and added that she was able to improve on techniques this year by watching film and focusing on one small part of her vault and improving on it.

"I get to work on every point of the vault," she said, "I really liked being able to pick apart and watch film."

Rzepka went in to Michigan State as a recruited walk-on but impressed the coaching staff so much she was offered a scholarship for the second semester. It is unknown right now whether or not she will be receiving a scholarship for her sophomore year.

As a freshman, Rzepka had to deal with not only the normal adjustments of a freshman to college life, but with college athletics also. She also had to deal with the pressure of being one of the

new members on the team and becoming the top vaulter, beating out those in classes ahead of her.

"That was a little struggle," Rzepka said.

On the MSU team there were a lot of freshmen who were very close in competition.

"A lot of the freshmen were all neck and neck," Rzepka said.

Rzepka had to deal with the added pressure of classes, mandatory study sessions for athletes, practices and expectations of coaches.

"It was a big adjustment," she said, "I guess everyone had to go through it."

Rzepka said that she would leave her room at 8 a.m. and not get back until 10 p.m. She also had to deal with the pressure of added expectations of coaches.

"There is a lot of pressure even from the coaches on me as an athlete," she said. "They expect something out of me."

However, with all the time put into athletics and college classes, Rzepka said that she enjoys it.

"I love being busy," Rzepka said. "One of the nice parts is that you get to pick one thing you love the best and make that your life for the year."

In Rzepka's case, that was pole vaulting.

She said that she will miss parts of high school athletics also.

"I will definitely miss the laid back atmosphere," she said. "Just being able to have fun."

Rzepka feels very lucky to be in the position she is as a top rate college athlete and hopes it will be another step on her road of athletics.

"It's so lucky that I'm able to be in college athletics," she said. "She also had to deal with the pressure of being one of the

Championship and took ninth place, one place out of a scoring position.

"A goal is that every athlete will score some points, that is what I wanted to do for the team," she said.

Rzepka also went to the U.S. Junior Nationals in California which she qualified for with her 12-foot vault.

"It was an awesome experience," she said.

While Rzepka didn't do as well as she hoped, she got to meet famous athletes such as gold medalist Stacy Dragita.

She has very high aspirations and goals.

"Down the line I want a Big Ten championship in the vault," Rzepka said.

She also hopes to make an impact at the national level. She wants to qualify for the NCAA Championships, which would take a 13-foot-6 jump. She is also hoping to place in the top eight at that competition her senior year.

Rzepka has achieved much in just her first year at Michigan State University. She has set new records, earned a scholarship, and made the transition from high school to college seem easy.

"I feel so lucky that it was such an easy transition," she said.

Rzepka also feels that anyone who is interested in college athletics should attempt it.

"I would tell anyone who is semi interested in pursuing college athletics to go for it," she said. "It is such an awesome experience."

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.



Submitted photos

It's Simply Madness

The Novi Motor City Madness 10-and-under fastpitch softball team placed second in the Plymouth/Canton Pride Invitational June 29-30.

During the tournament, pitcher Deanna Wagner gave up only four walks while facing 100 batters over the weekend. Pitcher Miranda Cleary struck out 12-of-53 batters she faced while on the mound and she batted .500 with two doubles and drove in six RBIs. Megan Burns batted .760 with an on base average of .800 as she drove in five runs with two doubles and a triple. Kelsey Hart batted in 11 runs while batting a strong .750 with three doubles. Catcher Suzanne Anderson caught every game and had a good performance at the plate as well, driving in four runs with a .357 batting

average and an on base average of .471. Megan Morad, the lead off batter, had an on base average of .556 and a swatting average of .385.

"The entire team stepped up their play after a bleak showing in the first game," head coach Phyllis Wagner said. "It was a very hot weekend and we faced many strong teams. Making it to the championship game was awesome. The girls didn't think they could do it, but everyone pitched in and did their job." Pictured above: Left to Right, Front row: Megan Burns, Deanna Wagner, Megan Morad, Suzanne Anderson. Second Row: Laura Sheeran, Kelsey Hart, Leah Topper, Laine Farley. Third Row: Miranda Cleary, Hilary Diacono, Heather Schramm. Coaches: Phyllis Wagner.



Deanna Cleary, Josie Henderson, Alyssa Wagner. Not Pictured: Aubrey Quinley, Lindsey Battishill and Chloe Henderson. Pictured at the right: Pitcher Deanna Wagner.

Wolbers: Looking to Univ. of Mich.

Continued from 1

some kind of sports," he said. However, football has been Wolbers' favorite sport to play.

"It's more physical and faster paced," he said.

In high school, Wolbers is very glad that he has participated in sports throughout his high school career.

"High school sports is probably the best thing I've done," he said. "I've met a ton of people through sports."

Wolbers also said that he's made his closest friends through school. Brian Hoffman, Brian Peterson and Jimmy Deacon are a few of his best friends.

"We have a lot in common," he said. "Most of my friends like to play sports or stay active."

When Wolbers isn't playing sports, he likes to hang out with his friends, watch TV and play video games.

Wolbers' favorite movie is "Braveheart" and he said that he enjoys going to friends' houses, out to eat or the movie.

Although he usually doesn't go there with his friends, he said that Big Buck is his favorite restaurant to go to.

Wolbers also enjoys listening to almost every type of music, save country or jazz, but his favorite genres are rap and alternative.

Currently Eminem is his favorite artist.

Wolbers is looking very much forward to traveling off to college and all of the privileges that come with it.

"I can't wait for dorm life and just being with friends," he said. Wolbers will be rooming with Peterson at Michigan and is excited about that.

"I can't wait to get out of the house," he said.

Wolbers plans to continue playing some sort of athletics in college. He will play at least intramural basketball and see whatever other sports they have that he would be interested in.

"I'm going to try and be as active as possible," he said.

This summer, Wolbers is work-

ing installing above-ground pools for a friend of his mothers. He travels where he needs to go in his Pontiac G600, which he is just taking in about.

"It's all right. It gets me where I need to go," Wolbers said.

Earlier this year, Wolbers traveled with some friends down to Florida for his spring break trip and said he had a great time.

"I do every year," he said.

Wolbers has a lot to look forward to at the University of Michigan and a lot of new experiences, which he is excited about.

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.

Senior Spotlight on Jimmy Wolbers



Submitted Photo

Dancing the Night Away

Two local dancers from Walled Lake went on to win the baton title for the TU Regional Duet Competition for ages up to 20 years old. Courtney Lindsay and Moriah Muscaro won the competition, which was held June 29 in Spring Arbor, Michigan. The competition was presented by Twirling Unlimited. Twirlers from across the United States and Canada attended the event in pursuit of coveted regional titles.

During the competition, Lindsay, age 10, also received first-runner-up in the TU beginner Pageant, ages 9-11, which includes modeling, solo twirling and fancy strut marching routines. Muscaro, age 8, won regional titles in her age group for fine twirling, two-baton twirling and the TU Regional Majorette Competition for ages up-to-eight years of age.

Both girls, who attend Gheorgy Elementary in Commerce Township, twirl under the direction of Rhonda Muscaro in the area's baton group known as Twirl-M's. Lindsay is the daughter of Scott and Kelly Lindsay and Muscaro is the daughter of David and Rhonda Muscaro.

Youth Results

It was an exciting finish to the girls intermediate softball season as the Northville Giants outlasted the Northville Tigers for a 1-0 win.

The Powers sisters, Jounie and Blair, combined to pitch five near-perfect shutout innings for the Giants, while Hillary Ferencik scored the games only run in the victory.

Corrections

Angie Schmitt is not going to be a junior this coming season as stated in the Future Athletes article July 4, she will be a senior along with her sister Nina Schmitt.

AJ Sansom is a graduated senior and will not be back next season as stated in the same article.

The Sports Department of the Novi News regrets the errors.

Story Idea? Call the Sports Department at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104!

Novi Carpet receives World Series invitation

The Novi Carpet U16 Baseball team, which made it to the championship game a week earlier at the Hoosier Classic, again went undefeated in their bracket and continued on to win the championship game at the Chelsea USSSA Invitational. By winning the tournament, Novi Carpet received an invitation to the U16 World Series held in Oklahoma, July 21-28.

In game one, Jeff Green pitched a complete game as Novi merited the Holland Elite team, 11-0. Josh Buck had three hits and Adam Brandau and Mazk Sorensen chipped in with two hits each.

Game two featured the pitching of both Steve Gavronski and Mike Hart to close out the Michigan Fury, 7-3.

The third game was again pitched by Jeff Green as Novi beat the Livonia Wildcats, 8-0. Adam Brandau reached base three times with a triple, single and walk. Doug Benton had two singles and two RBIs.

In the semi-final game, Novi Carpet crushed the Royal Oak Razorbacks, 13-1, behind the pitching of Adam Zorra and three hits by returning guest player Jeff Davis. Matt Nickels added a triple. Dan Morrison had two hits. Kerry Kreutz had a double and two RBIs and Mike Hart added a key double.

The championship game was a 6-5 win for Novi as Mazk Sorensen went the distance on the mound and also added two RBIs at the plate. Jeff Davis added two hits and scored runs.

In all, Novi outscored their opponents by a 45-9 margin.

2002 FOOTBALL SCHEDULES

Walled Lake Central		Milford	
8/29	H		
9/6	A		
9/13	A		
9/20	H		
9/27	A		
10/4	A		
10/11	H		
10/18	A		
10/25	A		
Walled Lake Western		Belleville	
8/30	A		
9/6	A		
9/13	H		
9/20	H		
9/27	A		
10/4	H		
10/11	A		
10/18	H		
10/25	A		
Novi			
8/30	A		Chelsea
9/6	H		Howell
9/13	A		White Lake Lakeband
9/20	H		Brighton
9/27	A		South Lyon
10/4	H		Harland
10/11	A		Milford
10/18	H		Pinekey
10/25	A		Northville

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Sports Shorts

Coaching positions available
Walled Lake Consolidated School recently announced they have openings for the following positions: For Walled Lake Northern, Head Volleyball coach, Assistant Volleyball coach and Head Wrestling coach. For Walled Lake Central, Head Volleyball coach, Head Wrestling coach and Assistant Volleyball coach.
If interested in any of the above positions, please contact Dave Yarbrough at (248) 956-0171 or email him at dcooper@walledlake.k12.mi.us

Next Level Athletes
The Northville Record sports department is looking for submissions for the new section, Next Level Athletes. Eligible athletes include college senior pro, professional and minor league players. Please email submissions to dcooper@hometown.com.net

or mail them to The Northville Record, 104 W. Main Street, Northville, MI 48167. Please include name, year and college as well as the sport and position the athlete plays.

Football camps
The Walled Lake Central Vikings, coached by Chuck Appa, will be holding various football camps this summer. The first is a stunt defense camp geared toward sophomores, juniors and seniors and is open to any high school student that is interested in attending. The camp will be held July 8-10 and the cost is 60 dollars. July 15-17 will be the dates for a high school Wing-T camp geared toward sophomores, juniors and seniors as well as coaches. The camp is also 60 dollars.
If interested in attending both camps listed above, the price is discounted to 100 dollars. A camp for sixth grade through ninth grade will be conducted July 22-25. The first two

days of the camp will focus on the Wing-T offense while the last two days will focus on defense. All four days of the camp are 60 dollars.
If interested in signing up for the camp or for more information, contact Coach Chuck Appa at Walled Lake Central High School, (248) 956-4778.

More football camps
Walled Lake Western High School's Warrior football program, coached by Mike Zdebski, will be hosting a defensive and an offensive camp this summer. Both camps are offered for players, from any school, grades 7-12.
The defensive camp is June 14-16 and will be instructed by the WLV coaching staff and will include the fundamentals, drills and reads of the 4-4 and 4-6 defense.
The offensive camp is July 19-21 and will include fundamental Wing-T series and drills.
Camps are 70 dollars each or 100 dollars for both. For more

information, contact Coach Mike Zdebski at (248) 956-4419 or email him at zdebski@walledlake.k12.mi.us.

Summer Baseball Camp
Total Baseball will be holding their Total Baseball Summer Baseball Camp July 15-17 in Wixom from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. for ages 7-17 years old. Professional players and college coaches will instruct those who attend in the proper techniques of pitching, hitting and fielding. Kids will be checked on a radar gun for arm and hand speed. The cost of the camp is \$125.
For more information, call (248) 668-0166 or email totalbaseball@wixomia.com.

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sional players and college/HS coaches. Pitching, hitting and fielding are the lessons available and are by appointment only. The fees for the lessons start at \$35 per 1/2 hour or five private lessons for \$180.
For more information, call (248) 668-0166 or email totalbaseball@wixomia.com or check out the website www.tecml.com/totalbaseball for more info.

Mustang Golf Outing
The Second Annual Northville High School Football Golf Outing will be held July 19 at St. John's Golf Course in Plymouth. The event is held to help raise funds for the Northville High School football team.
The schedule of events begins at 8 a.m. with registration and a continental breakfast before moving on to a 9 a.m. tee-off for 18 holes of golf. At 2 p.m. there will be lunch and prize presentations. Also, there is opportunity for sponsorship, including food breaks, game prizes and hole

sponsorships.
For more information, contact Bill Clark at (248) 643-2287 (daytime) or (248) 349-8749 (evenings).

Lakes Area Football Camp
The Lakes Area Hawks will be sponsoring the 10th Annual Lakes Area football camp July 27-28 from 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at the Hawks Field. The program is open to all young athletes, ages 8-14, and will emphasize on learning the fundamentals of football. Learning the basics help make football a fun and safe sport to compete in.

This year's speakers will be High School State football Champion coaches Mike Zdebski, of Walled Lake Western, and Chuck Appa, of Walled Lake Central. Certified coaches are on hand each day for instruction at the best little league football camp in the state. The cost is \$65 per person. Please contact Pete Lester at (248) 360-8724 for more information.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Bourne to be Wild

Could Jason Bourne become the next great super spy like James Bond, 007?

By Chris C. Davis
NORTHVILLE RECORD EDITOR

Jason Bourne has a number of problems.
First, he doesn't know he is Jason Bourne.
Second, he doesn't know who he is...at all.
And third, everyone in Europe is trying to kill him, though he has no idea why.

Such is the captivating and roller coaster-type fun movie-goes will be treated to in "The Bourne Identity," based on the novel by the late Robert Ludlum. Set primarily in modern-day Europe, "The Bourne Identity" will probably be regarded by most critics as an action flick, but a quality plotline keeps it from falling into the category of "The Bourne Identity."

Bourne is played convincingly by veteran actor Matt Damon. In one of

the few films as of late that hasn't patted Damon with Ben Affleck. The film opens as Bourne is rescued in the middle of the Mediterranean Sea by an Italian fishing crew. Using basic medical equipment, the ship's captain brings Bourne back around and nurses him to health before turning him loose in a French fishing village with a few francs to his name. Bourne, however, is struck with amnesia and can't remember anything about his life, including his own name. His only clue about his life rests in a small electronic laser pointer which the ship's captain removes from Bourne's body, revealing a Swiss bank account number. Frustrated at his dilemma, Bourne sets out across Europe to Zurich to track down the one lead he has.

But despite not having any memory, Bourne realizes he still has knowledge fit for a spy: he's keenly aware of those around him, possess-

es deadly fighting skills and a fluency in several languages. What he's not aware of is the fact that a group at the Central Intelligence Agency, headed by Ted Conklin (played by Chris Cooper, who played the detestable next-door father in "American Beauty") is trying to kill him. Along the way, Bourne begs for a car ride from Marie Kreutz (Franka Potente). The fateful decision to help out Bourne pulls Kreutz into an international espionage/cat-and-mouse chase she doesn't want to be part of, yet can't seem to pull herself away from. For the last 90 minutes of the movie, those heading the concession stand to refill the popcorn bucket will almost assuredly miss something critical to the movie's story.

The balance of the film flips back and forth between the CIA sending its goons to take out Bourne, and Bourne wielding his Jedi-spy skills to defend himself. For each major

crisis averted, Bourne (and the audience, for that matter) is given a cookie, in the form of another nugget of information as to what the heck is going on. It's a time-tested formula intent on keeping viewers begging for more.

But the answers to the most puzzling questions — who is Jason Bourne, and why is everyone out to get him? — are answered in strategically placed "faceoff" sequences between Bourne and Conklin, when the fog in Bourne's memory begins to lift.

If "Bourne" has any shortcomings, it's in the sometimes overly complex plotline and the shallowness of one of the key characters. Though his involvement in the film itself is minimal, a scene putting Adelwalte Alkmanye-Agbojye's character Nykwana Wombosi in a television interview looked less like an incensed foreign leader spouting off and more like a conical pro wrestler spewing his wild-eyed venom at the world. Subplots in "Bourne" can be somewhat tricky to follow, but the central theme is a classic story spiced up with a lot of electronic wizardry.

The door is left open for sequels to "Bourne." Though a timetable has not yet been determined, industry insiders say this is just the first in a series of "Bourne" films, which stand to be the U.S. answer to Double-O-Seven's 40-year stranglehold on the suave spy market.

Viewers will leave "The Bourne Identity" satisfied at having been entertained, and will probably face a momentary temptation to start filling out job applications as spies themselves. "Bourne" isn't going to change the world, but much like the real-life roller coasters it will be compared to, it's a fun experience laden with twists, turns and unexpected dips.

Chris C. Davis is the editor for the Northville Record. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 114 or at ccdavis@hometown.com.net.



Jason Bourne, played by Matt Damon, could be the next 007.

BOURNE IDENTITY
Starring: Matt Damon, Franka Potente, Julia Stiles and Chris Cooper
Viewer Rating: PG-13
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Based on the Novel by: Robert Ludlum
Final Rating: 7 (out of 10)
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Fall sports just aren't going to be the same

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

Last week I highlighted the players that I believe are going to be the top members of next year's sports teams. This week, I've decided to highlight those athletes that are probably going to be the most missed due to their graduations. Because of the large number of seniors that make an impact on their teams, I've decided to cut the list into three parts — you guessed it: Fall, Winter and Spring. This week, we will start with the Fall season.

Once again, I would just like to point out that this is far from factual representation — it is all based on my own thoughts and beliefs. No coaches, players, parents or fellow sports writers had anything to do with the athletes listed below.

Tim Moore, Novi, Cross country — This one was quite obvious, even for those who only flip to the sports section now and again. Tim Moore, a National Champion and an athlete with multiple All-American tags after his name, is pretty much impossible to replace. He pretty much has gained the reputation of being untouchable, which stood true throughout the entire cross country season and into the national scene. Heck, you really can't complain about a runner that only felt defeat at the hands of his World-peers while running in Ireland. I have come to view Moore as the athlete who can't help but get his name in the paper. No matter what he does, be it in the classroom or on the competitive athletic field, it's worth mention.

Bethany Kittle, Novi, Cross Country — Kittle is a tough competitor that just thrives off a challenge. I figure that she is going to be one of the toughest to replace in the way of work-ethics, though Norm Norgren will come up with something.

Nick Moroz, Northville, cross country — Moroz made a point to be one of the toughest runners in the WLAA this last fall. I expect that the Mustangs will be hard pressed to replace his determination and his speed. The sixth-fastest Mustang ever, Moroz will leave shoes that will be tough to fill for those stepping up.

Kelly Driscoll, Northville, cross country — Coach Nancy Smith has always had great things to say about Driscoll and no one has to wonder why. Her workhorse mentality helped lead the Mustangs the entire season. Though she was just one of a handful of impact seniors, her leadership position will be tough to fill.

Drew Herpich, Northville, Football — I have to admit right out of the starting gate that I have found Herpich to be one heck of an athlete and one heck of a kid in general. He's outgoing, quick-witted and fun to be around. The reason I think he is going to be tough to replace is because of his desire to win and his willingness to do whatever it took to get the job done. Five touchdowns against WLAA rival North Farmington was enough to get his name etched into the history books at Northville High, and it is a number that isn't going to be repeated for some time.

Matt Gorman, Novi, Football — This guy was pretty much the bread and butter of Novi's football program this year. It could be third and 10 yards to go and it was probably a safe bet to say that Gorman was going to take it on the option either up the middle or around the end. His speed is quite impressive and his ability to snake around defenders helped earn more than one touchdown in 2001. Gorman helped make up for a tough 2000 loss to Northville and the loss of the Baseline Jug by bringing the house down on the Mustangs in 2001 and

reclaiming the coveted prize. Don't expect to see a quarterback putting up numbers like his for some years to come.

Steve Bell, WLW, Football — Steve Bell. Even the name makes you think sports, doesn't it? Bell proved his worth to the Walled Lake Western Warriors as he became the work-horse of the team. Carry after carry, tackle after tackle, Bell just wouldn't give up. After the games, you would see a Warrior that was bruised, but not beaten. He would carry the ball in excess of 30 times in some contests and would be out there for every single defensive play as well. Though I predict the Warriors will be tough again this year, it is near impossible to get a runner that emulates Bell.

Maxx Morris, WLC, Football — Double-X Morris was just that — a double threat for the opposition. It was pretty much understood that if a ball went in his direction, he was going to haul it down for the reception or the interception. This Vikings' tall and lanky frame helped turn him into one of the more dangerous receivers in the WLAA this last season. Though it seems that the quarterback is the tough player to replace on many teams, it is a receiver who can really catch that makes the plays complete.

Mike Pisha, WLW, Football — I know, I know. It seems like every time you open up the sports section I am rambling about Mike Pisha. But honestly, if a writer gets to cover one athlete like this in his entire career he is pretty blessed. Pisha made playing defensive back look like the glory position with his game at Walled Lake Western. Throw the ball in his direction and you could pretty much place a safe wager that it was going to be knocked down or intercepted. His speed and his ability to recover from a quick move made him a defender that was more than difficult to play against.

Kristen Burgess, WLW, Basketball — Quite the little point guard, Burgess not only led her team in three-point field goals for the season, she also holds the school record for most threes made in a season and in a career. The reason that I feel that Burgess is going to be tough to replace and missed on the Warriors squad is because the way she was able to lead her team. No matter who they were playing or what the scoreboard read with time running out, she managed to get her team on their feet and out on the court looking for victory.

Megan Colligan, Novi, Basketball — A tough defender and a positive offensive player, Colligan made an impact on the hardwood by being a player that was not only tough to defend and go into the paint against, but also as someone that was fun to play against. Her outgoing attitude helped make her one of the more cheerful players on the Novi squad and her opponents were quick to note that.

Kelly Anderson, Northville, Basketball — The little point guard who could pretty much describes Anderson. Her shooting ability was only surpassed by her ability to pass the ball and it showed on her season totals for points and assists

this season. Anderson proved to be a tough varsity player through four years at that level of competition and topped it off with a very tough and very headline-grabbing senior season. Her intensity and experience is going to be irreplaceable this coming Fall season.

Maggie Ossola, Northville, Basketball — Here is another Mustang who went out on the court in hopes of earning more than a few victories her senior season. Ossola's tall stature pretty much made her one of two inside players for the Mustangs this season by default, but she took it in stride and did her job.

Emily Ott, Northville, Basketball — Heck, Ott turned the heat up on her game so high in the second half of the season, she started to melt to soles of her shoes. From the first game of the season to the last game, Ott was a totally different player. She became very, very effective as a defender inside guarding the top centers in the Western Lakes, as well as an aggressive offensive threat that began to put together double-digit scoring totals like they were something she wanted to collect.

Matt Peurach, Novi, Golf — This golfer is going to be one of the toughest to replace in the entire KVC, let alone Novi. Expect coach Brad Huss to have a heck of a time finding a golfer with the ability to learn and adapt like Peurach.

Tom Borda, Northville, Golf — The HomeTown East Golfer of the Year for two years running, Borda is going to be next to impossible to replace on the Northville squad. I expect to see a big gap where his numbers used to be, though Northville and the Mustangs have a way of surprising people.

Pete Kobylarek, Novi, Golf — A solid golfer with a ton of skill, Kobylarek is going to be one of those guys who are really never replaced, just attempted to be such. I am not sure that his impact-style of play is going to be repeated at Novi for some time.

Kyle Dehne, Northville, Golf — A traditional type of golfer with a smooth swing and a good read of the course, Dehne is going to be one tough player to find a replacement for. I think that his ability combined with his knowledge of the game make him a tough leader to replace come this fall.

Ben Maxim, Northville, Soccer — The multi-talented Maxim was one of those players who did what he could no matter the situation in hopes of earning a victory. It was an effort well spent as he and a slew of other seniors helped boost Northville to quite a few victories last fall. Maxim is going to be sorely missed in 2002.

Robbie Harmer, Northville, Soccer — Another Mustangs that is going to be hard to replace is the ever-vocal Harmer. This guy lets you know what he is thinking, right Robbie? I know that I am going to miss his presence, and wish that I would have gotten to know this particular Northville athlete just a little better.

Alan Holdorf, Novi, Soccer —



Novi cager Megan Colligan fights for the ball in a basketball home game. Her ability and inside presence makes her a very tough player to replace.



Steve Bell gets a good grip on a Mustang. His abilities are all but irreplaceable for next season.

Pretty much the dominator in the way of scoring, Holdorf was named the Player of the Year in 2001 by HomeTown East. His 17 goals helped him lead the Wildcats as they looked to earn victory after victory in the KVC. Let's just say it is going to be tough to see a repeat performance by a player next year.

Mike Crawford, Novi, Soccer — The well-rounded and never mentioned enough Crawford was the mainstay of the soccer team this season. His 12 goals and six assists helped keep the Wildcats afloat when the waters got choppy. I expect that his amazing athletic ability is going to be next to impossible to replace.

Lauren West, Northville, Tennis — West was quite the player this last season, and one that will be remembered for her ability as well as her leadership skills. Our Player of the Year selection. It is a safe bet to say she is going to be hard to replace next season.

Lauren Farris/Sara Poirier, Northville, Tennis — This duo of tennis players is a fight that is going to be sorely missed this fall. I am not sure that the level of talent they brought to the game can be emulated, nor am I sure anyone is even going to try to match their teamwork skills. If they do, it may be an effort wasted because it was like these two could read minds.

Carolyn Vermeulen, Novi, Tennis — Another athlete who was never afraid to speak her mind,

Vermeulen was a tough competitor as well as a newspaper editor for the *Wildcat Roar*. I expect that I will not be coming across another athlete quite like her next year, and neither will the Wildcat tennis team.

Melissa Roemer, Novi, Tennis — A fairly quiet, yet effective player, Roemer was never one to toot her own horn. She went onto the court and did her job. I don't think she had a tick that I would complain about, especially when it comes to her abilities and dedication to the game.

Alex Oliveria, Novi, swimming — Another very dedicated athlete and student, Oliveria is going to be the leader that will be missed the most next season. Her outgoing nature and her well-balanced abilities make her a tough athlete to replace.

Deirdre Schwiring, Northville, Swimming — Always with a smile on her face and never complaining, Schwiring is going to be a tough asset to find a fill in for as the Mustangs hit the pool next fall. I don't think that there are really any athletes that can copy the attack that Schwiring had when in the water, nor the smile she always flashed at everyone.

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.

All-Area Players of the Year: Deserve credit for dedication to sports

Continued from 1

titles on more than one occasion, including impressive running at the Holly Regional and the MHSAA state finals meet.

Schmitt was looked to by much of her team as the shining example of how a cross country runner should be. Her steady pace and her determination, dedication and competitive nature made her a tough foe to run against in the Kensington Valley Conference. Schmitt's running ability and her dedication makes HomeTown East proud to present her as the Player of the Year.

Boys' Soccer

Alan Holdorf, Senior, Novi
Holdorf, a senior for the Novi Wildcats, collected 17 goals throughout the season on the Wildcats' way to pretty much controlling the KVC. Though his speed is less than average, Holdorf's skills more than make up for it.

"He has a great touch on the ball. Novi coach Brian O'Leary said, 'He has a hard shot, he is accurate and a good dribbler. He is probably our most skilled player.' Holdorf's skill and dedication to the sport of soccer make him a quality selection as the HomeTown East's soccer Player of the Year.

Girls' Basketball
Stephanie Anderson, Senior, Milford

Anderson ran Milford point for four years — one KVC champion and one district champion — and, fittingly enough, finished her career with the school's all-time assist record. This season, Anderson was at her best in the biggest games, leading the Redskins to a district title and a region victory. An all-around guard who could beat you with the pass or score, inside and out, Anderson was a first-team all-KVC pick and Milford's leading scorer at 9.7 points per game.

Wrestling

Josh Churella, Junior, Novi
There was little more that could be said about Churella this season except "champion." A tough competitor with a willingness to improve and succeed, Churella showed that a mix of incredible talent and outstanding determination is exactly what the doctor ordered when it comes to a winning formula. The Novi junior has stayed undefeated for two seasons and continued that streak through state championships for the second season in a row. Look for this wrestler to make it three in a row — just like his brother, Ryan, and his Dad, Mark — come next season. His ability and winning streak makes Churella a perfect fit in the HomeTown Player of the Year position.

Hockey
Robby Overfield, Senior

Novi

With 36 goals, senior Wildcat Robby Overfield not only led the number two team in the state in scoring, but also one of the toughest conferences in the state — the Kensington Valley Conference. On his way to the scoring title, Overfield collected 31 assists as well in his 27 games. Overfield was also named to the All-State First Team this year. He is a prime example of what is looked for in a HomeTown East Player of the Year.

Boys' Basketball

Matt Friel, Senior, South Lyon
Coach Daren Clayton called Friel the Lion's "pillar of strength" inside and the best post player he's coached. He averaged a double-double — 21.3 points and 11.4 rebounds per game. Friel was extraordinarily efficient when he got the ball on blocks, making 57 percent of his two-point shots. He could also hurt teams with his three-point shooting from the corners. And it wasn't just on the offensive end that Friel excelled, as he also led the team with averages of 1.3 blocks and 1.6 steals per game.

Friel finished second to Brighton's Chris Grimm in the KVC player of the year voting. "Matt was one of the best players in the greater Detroit area," Clayton said.

Volleyball
Erica May

Senior

Milford
A standout performer from her sophomore year forward, it was as a senior that May found team success equal individual success.

Softball

Lindsay Noren, Sophomore, South Lyon
Noren had a 24-8 record as a pitcher with 223 strikeouts and an earned run average of 0.76 as South Lyon finished second in the KVC and won a district championship. At the plate she hit .349 with 45 hits, one off the school record.

Baseball

Mike Pisha, Senior, Walled Lake Western
The thing that is probably most noticeable about Pisha is not the way he takes to each and every game like it is his first and last, but the way he gets the rest of his team pumped up to do the same. Pisha quickly became a mainstay for the Walled Lake Western Warriors baseball team this season under the guidance of coach Ken Connor. There were times that other teams lit him up like the Fourth of July, but the majority of games found Pisha simply dominating. His steady control over the corners of the plate and a fairly wicked fast-ball were even enough to douse the strong arm of Michigan State's own Drew Stanton during the regular season. That wasn't all this stellar

player could do either, his batting was just as potent as his pitching and he was just one of three batters to collect a hit against Stanton and the Hawks in their second meeting of the year.

Girls' Golf

Kate MacDonald, Senior, Northville
There is little more that can be said about Kate MacDonald than the fact that she was not only the best player in the Western Lakes Activities Association this season, but also the best golfer in Division I high school. MacDonald took it to the field in the MHSAA State Golf Tournament as she collected a very impressive 75.72 over two days to take the medalist spot.

Through her four-year career, MacDonald has shown her worth more times than once as she has helped lead the Mustangs to two state tournament appearances, with this year resulting in a fourth-place overall finish.

MacDonald will now be taking her amazing links ability to Grand Valley State University to compete in the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference. Her hopes and dreams seem to revolve around golf and she looks forward to one day swinging the clubs with the best of them on the LPGA tour.

Girls' Soccer

Larissa Fill, Senior, Northville
Wow. What more is there to say

about a player like Larissa Fill? She is a player that has collected so many goals throughout her career that she leads the Northville Mustangs in goals scored in the history of the girls' program. Coach Ron Meteyer noted that it may well take two players to make up for the loss of this senior. A hard-nosed player, Fill made her impact on the very successful Mustang season as she tallied goal after goal after goal to lead them on an almost-undefeated regular season before taking the reins and pushing her team to play to the best of their abilities until they fell to the Stevenson Spartans, who was also the only team to stop the 'Stangs in the regular season, to end their playoff run.

Boys' Tennis

Brian Schubert, Sophomore, Milford
Two years into his prep career Schubert has already become the best player in school history. He won the KVC number one singles title as a sophomore and placed second at the regional. Schubert reached the Division I state quarterfinals and was named all-state by the coaches' association.

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