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Help us honor Novi's teachers

Beginning next month, the Novi News will honor monthly a local teacher for his or her excellence in the classroom. We are looking for readers to help in identifying these outstanding teachers.

Nominations can be e-mailed to cstone@hi.homecomm.net, faxed to (248) number here or mailed to Cal Stone at the Novi News, 104 w. Main, Northville, MI 48167. Nominations must be received by the last day of

One teacher in the local area either public or private school — will be honored each month through June, then again beginning in September. The teachers will be photographed in their classroom for publication along with a feature story on the educator. The highlighted teacher will also receive a prize from the Novi News. Nominations can come from

students, parents, school administrators or community residents who have contact or knowledge of a teacher's classroom activities.

To nominate a teacher, please send the teacher's name, school address and the school's telephone number along with a statement of no more than 200 words telling us why this teacher deserves to be our Outstanding Teacher of the

The staff of the Novi News will make each selection. The winning teachers will be fea-tured in the Novi News on the second Thursday of the month.

Please help us in honoring the many dedicated teachers who do outstanding work.

Correction

In the Jan. 9 edition of the Novi News, the story titled "City Council picks Dr. Sanghvi" should have stated a motion to appoint Toni Nagy by roll-call vote and to appoint any-one by roll-call vote failed 2-to-4 with the dissenters

being Clark, Landry, Capello and Csordas. The story stated the dis-senters for both motions were Lorenzo and Bononi who were in favor of the motion placed on the table by Lorenzo.

INDEX

STATE OF THE CITY **ADDRESS - MAYOR CLARK**

NOVI PUBLIC LIBRARY Ĩ



That's Senator Cassis at the Capitol

By Sam Black SOUTH LYON HERALD EDITOR

As state Senator Nancy Cassis examines her goals, the economy and how it is affect-ing Michigan, the state's budget remains foremost in her mind.

Though a new senator, she has clout built up from eight years as a state representative serving on prominent committees. Only seven senators are incumbents, and her experience in the House has landed her on several important committees. In her coming term, she will be one of the most sought-after people in Lansing — people seeking answers and solutions, and of course, votes

in the Senate. Last week held great ceremony as she pre-Last week held great ceremony as sae pre-pared to take her seat on the floor of the Senate for the first time. Before business hours, staff, friends and family gathered in her new offices in Lansing's Farnum Building, the suite's broad windows offering a nearby view of the steps, pillars and dome of the state Capitol, Cassis' granddaughter cut teeth on the Senator's desk phone cord, and spoke with constituents.

By 9:30 the entourage dropped with an

elevator and made the short walk toward the Capitol on a surprisingly warm winter day. "It's so exciting. I'm going to pinch you," Pam Sass of Novi told Cassis.

"I didn't think it would be as exciting as when I was first elected, but it is," Cassis

when I was first elected, but it is, Cassis responded.

Cassis was not alone in her excitement. Senators from throughout the state filled the floor and balcony of the Senate with friends and family, and general rules of the floor were set aside.

Cameras flashed and guests became

were set aside.

Cameras flashed and guests became caught up in the ceremony among the ornate walls and the glass ceiling tiles showing was so packed that cold air blew from the vents along the walls to cool the onlookers and journalists gathered at the event.

Addressing the budget

In the coming months, the excitement will be overtaken by hard work — possibly the most difficult challenges the Legislature and the governor's office have coped with since Proposal A changed school funding a decade ago. In a recession, states are scrambling for cash and cutting programs. Predicted surpluses have changed to assured shortfalls in tax revenue.

Across the nation, politicians are making proposals to ease the burden. President George Bush has been pushing for tax cuts in hopes of increasing consumer spending and

continued on back page

Senator Nancy Cassis accepted her oath to represent the 15th District last week. Though a freshman senator, her experi-ence in the House has landed her on several important com-mittees — of which she is chair of two and vice chair of another.

- Finance Committee chair
- Republican Policy Committee chair
- Education Committee vice
- Technology and Energy Committee member
- **■** Government Operations -

DeRoche's freshman tenure begins

By Victoria Sadlocha STAFF WRITER

State Rep. Craig DeRoche is beginning

State Rep. Craig DeRoche is beginning his term with fervor, swinging into action during his first full week of business with residents of Novi close in thought.

The week ending Jan. 17 has been a busy one for DeRoche (R-Novi), focusing his attention on transportation and the increasing importance of road improvement projects in Novi.

"Road quality, construction and congestion are major issues for the residents of Novi," DeRoche said. "I am committed to ensuring Novi receives the funding it has been promised and continues to benefit from a strong working relationship with all of the organizations and people involved in the process." in the process."

in the process."
Meetings with the Road Commission of Oakland County, the Road Builders Association and the director of the Michigan Department of Transportation have been either attended or are in the works, along with a meeting with the House Fiscal Agency to discuss road funding formulas. ing formulas.

The former Novi city councilman also plans on spending the first few weeks in his new position learning the ropes about the budget process and the fiscal problems facing the state.

racing the state.
"It is important that we face our fiscal challenges head on," he said. "I am very interested in finding a bipartisan way to solve our budget crisis without harming K-12 education."

The state representative said he plans on taking a fiscally responsible approach to budget challenges he believes may be accomplished without hurting the state's

education system.

House Speaker Rick Johnson (R-LeRoy) said he feels very positive about the freshman class' first full week in session. including State Rep. DcRoche.

"We have a lot of talent in our freshman class, and I expect great things from

continued on back page

School board considers \$1.4 million deficit challenges

■ No increase in state aid in next two years spells possible trouble for school district

By Ramez Khuri

If the Novi school district's financial situation for 2003-2004

Assistant Superintendent of Business and Finance Jim Koster delivered the bleak news Novi school board last week when he suggested that the district would have to make substantial adjustments to its spending pat-terns to offset a nearly \$1.5 mil-lion budgetary shortfall.

Worse yet, Koster said the red ink probably wouldn't stop run-ning in the near future. Among the cutbacks Koster

continued on back page

When the going gets tough in Novi...

■ Mayor Clark deliverd his annual State of the City address, outlining city successes during a hard 2002 and promises of accomplishments

By Victoria Sadiocha

More than 100 attendees filled the Novi Civic Center Monday night for the City of Novi's annual State of the City Address, this year titled "When the going

State Senator Nancy Cassis speaks with friends and constituents while playing with her granddaughter, McKenna Weiner of Brooklyn, N.Y., the city where Cassis was Cassis was born.

> tough." together residents, members of the business and religious comm an evening looking forward to 2003 and celebrating the accom-

plishments of the past year despite the shadow of difficult times in See the full text of the "Even with a mayor's address on down economy, we did pretty good," said Novi Mayor Richard J. Clark, looking back on a

successful 2002 for the city. Echoing Clark's poremarks was Novi Councilman Louis Csordas. "I think that the city is in nice Past-year accomplishments cited by Clark during the address generating great applause includ-

ed:

• the progress made to ensure

of the Grand the replacement of the Grand River Avenue bridge over the CSX railroad tracks;

Life Support System to backup Novi's basic life support services at no additional cost to the city;

the life-saving efforts of Novi police officers Steven Balog and Craig Chismar using auto-matic external defibril-

lators purchased the city only months before their heroism.

touched on all the important points. We survived another year in tremendous difficulties." Novi City Manager Richard Helwig also applauded the mayor's address drawing attention mayor's address drawing attention to some of the accomplishments

"It was very nice," said citizen George Krieger after the speech.
"I think he (Mayor Clark)

d. Novi is just blessed Helwig was also pleased with the attendance considering the event marked the second year the Center (as opposed to the mayor delivering his speech during a

Pholo by Sam Black

sponsored luncheon) see more residents here tonight than last year," he said. Officials said the intent of mov-

Novi Chamber of Commerce

mentioned by Clark in his speech including many road work accom-plishments and the beginning of the end to the nearly-\$75 million Sandstone lawsuit.

"It was a very critical year in the City of Novi," Helwig said. "There are just so many things he men-tioned Novi is just bloomed."

to foster greater resident involve-

Lou Martin, president of the Novi Chamber of Commerce, attended the event and applauded the city's noticeable improved relationship with Novi residents as between officials and residents and



Richard J. Clark

the business community. "From the business standpoint we are extremely happy," Martin

All participants and atten enjoyed a reception in the Civic Center atrium at the conclusion of

writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105 vsadlocha@ht,homecomm.net.

Novi's newest face on board

■ The City of Novi hired a patrol officer last week, placing a new face in the community

By Victoria Sadiocha

The Novi Police Denartmen welcomed its newest officer last week as part of the city's plan to Department. Stempien worked for the 1st hire three officers early this year.

GETTING THE OFFICERS

The Novi Police Department received unanimous approval to hire three new officers in 2003 by members of the city council

The approval to hire will cost Novi \$112,000 from the budgeted amount of \$137,000.

The budgeted amount of \$137,000 was originally allocat ed as the match to a COPS Universal Hiring grant allowing the city to hire additional offi-

After the city received notification Novi's grant application was turned down, the alternate plan to use the match funds for hiring the three new officers in 2003 was adopted

Two additional applicants are currently in the notice department's hiring process and if further checks and examines yield be announced by the end of the

Jeremy Stempien is the depart ment's freshest face coming to the city after working two-and-a-half years as a patrol officer for the City of Detroit Police

Precinct Gaming Operations, han-dling police runs for the city's

more community policing experi-

reasons the department wa community policing.

has many of them,"

Along with his patrol experi-

"It provided good experience, and I think it turned me into a well-rounded officer," Stempten said, "Instead of being just backed up with runs all night, it gave me

Novi Police Department Lt. Tim McNamara said one of the attracted to Stemplen is his experience showing he is capable of taking on many roles, including

"We expect our officers to wear a million different hats," McNamara said, "There are a lot of slices of the pie to being a Novi Police officer, and he (Stempien)

ence, Stempien received a bachefor's degree in interpersonal and public communications from Central Michigan University and intends on returning to school to pursue another bachelor's degree followed by a master's degree in



Novi Police Department Lt. Tim McNamara, left, welcome new officer Jeremy Stemplen as Field Training Officer Kevin Rhea (a five-year Novi PD veteran) looks on monday morning

Novi Police Chief Douglas

Shaeffer also praised the department's newly-added officer.

"He is a very bright individual

and intersection of the department's process. Stempien as well as all new officers will go through a field training officer program lossfare beginning a one-year pro-

co-captain of the university's football team.

The training period involves four phases encompassing what it "He's'just a well-rounded guy."

MeNamara said. "This man has a lot of character."

At the end of the training period involves four phases encompassing what it will be a police officer for the City of Novi.

At the end of the training period involves training officer."

MeNamara said there is no doubt Jeremy is going to make it. "When he is done with his phases, be should have a good to be a police of the most advanced phases, be should have a good to be a police of the most advanced phases.

process, all new officers go through a shadow phase with their first field training officers, demonstrating they have compreand interacts very well with oth- hended the principles of their

ing officer, Kevin Rhea, said Stempien is doing a great job. "He picks up information very quickly," Rhea said. Rhea said his knowledge of

And so far so good.

Stempien's current field train-

phases, he should have a good idea of what it means to be a Novi officer," McNamara said. Michigan in my opinion," Stemplen said, "I don't think my grin could have been higger when the chief shook my hand."

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

While a student at Central Michigan, Stempien was also a before beginning a one-year pro-Take the straight road to fitness! Our Success is measured by your success! Start your fitness journey Today! 30 Minute fitness program that get you the results you desire! Most members lose 5-10 inches their first month! Fun, Fast, Fitness For Her Highland Lakes Plaza 43133 Seven Mile East Of Northville Rd. Frl. 7am-7pm, Sat. 9am-2pm 248-374-4600 Sun. 10am- 2pm www.itfiguresmi.com



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Reward increases in Wixom shooting of FCT employee

The reward for information leading to the killer of Eric Darnell Barnes has been bumped up a grand, and Wixom police think they're close to putting a name to the 21-year-old Detroiter's murderer

"We have some real strong suspects," offered Wixon Police Detective Jim Osborne. Late Jan. 9 a team of 10 offiprosecuting attorney."

cers from the West Oakland County Major Crimes Task Force, along with a half dozen Detroit police, conducted a raid in Detroit and arrested a 28-year-old Detroit man on out-standing misdemeanor warrants and a 26-year-old Detroit woman

ing, Jukinda Griffin was turned over to Detroit Police on an outstanding felony warrant for arson. Kevin Leon Russell was released to his lawyer. Russell was being sought by police in Detroit on a disorderly conduct warrant and by Hamu police on a contempt of court

Barnes was found dead in his car in the parking lot of Forest City Technologies from a single gunshot to the head Dec 17. His dinner was still warm.

Wellington, Ohio-based auto parts maker, offered a \$5,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of his services. He added that investigations had disconvered that reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of his killer Dec. 27. Crime Stoppers, said Osborne, boosted that by \$1,000 Jan. 6.

"We've gotten a lot of calls," said Osborne, "Unfortunately, none of them have been strate-In the weeks since Barnes gic." However, he added, "We have a suspect. The pieces are falling together, we just need more before we can go to the

According to Osborne, investigator's prime suspect, 'knows he's a suspect; he feels the heat." Investigators are hoping the increased reward will turn up the heat that much more. There is a history here, said Osborne,

declining to elaborate. In the hours following the disgathering videolapes from busi-nesses with surveillance systems between Pontiac Trail and the expressway, hoping to catch a glimpse of a vehicle that could be tied to a suspect. Osborne said he's even contacted NASA in hopes that satellite imagery might be available, "It's a long

shot," he conceded, "but it's

gators had discovered that another psychic in Detroit had recently told Barnes that "he would not see the helidays.

death, the investigative fearn has because the surrounding communities have cases of their own to be investigated and in part because not as many detectives are needed now.

"We have very high hopes of solving this case," he said. "We've done a lot of polygraphs. The people we thought would pass the polygraph did and the people we thought would not did not.

covery of Barnes' body, detectives assigned to the West Oakland County Major Crines Task Porce fanned out along Wixom Road detectives' office at the Wixon Police Department at (248) 624-0883 or Crime Stoppers at 800-

Phil Foley is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700 ext. 108 or at pfo-

Police Report

Black bag

A Novi woman found a black bag she keeps in her car missing after she tried to retrieve her work ID and the bag was gone. The woman liv-ing in the 1300 block of Mariga told police she had left the tote bag in the back seat of her locked vehicle at her home about 6 p.m. on Jan. 6. She returned to her vehicle the next and returned to mer venture the next morning to drive to work. After arriving in the parking tot of her employment, she reached for the bag and found it wasn't there. There was no damage to the vehicle. The woman did show police a set of footprints around where the vehicle was parked. Police believed the prints looked like they came from a pair of men's size 10 boots. The voman also told police she noticed a dark color Ford pickup sitting at the corner of Ferhoodle and Mariga the corner of Ferhoodie and Manga about 10:30 p.m. the night the bag

the rings missing belonged to her 66, skipping 70 and then asked

Speeding and drinking

A Novi police officer was parrolling Interstate 96 when a speeding, swerving car right in front of him caught his attention in a big way. The officer was patrolling 1-96 on Jan. 5 at about 1:32 a.m. east of Novi Road when he noticed the vehicle drift to left, continually crossing into the adjacent lane nearly striking another vehicle while traveling about 82 mph. After the traffic stop was initiated, the 23-year-old Dearborn Heights resident said he knew he was speeding and wanted to get home. According to the report, the man said he had about four or five Coronas a few hours cardriver was asked to count from 72 to

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Unattended purse

checked with restaurant emplo he was coming from the bar and just but her murse was not turned in She lier. During field sobriety tasks, the sonal cheeks and other miscella-

and was arrested by police.

A Farmington Hills resident learned never to leave a purse in a restaurant unattended the hard way last week. The 16-year-old female told Novi police she was at Denny's restaurant on Novi Road On Jan. 11 at about 8:30 a.m. when she left her table to use the bathroom, leaving her purse behind. The female said when she returned, the purse gone. According to the report, she contained cash, a cell phone, per-

public Jan. 20. He said the project, which included demolishing and rebuilding 40,000 square feet of the 160,000-square-foot building. features a library, historical museum and meeting spaces for com-

nunity groups in addition to the aquatic center.

Necci said the firm also is looking to bid on Warren's plans to replaced to aging city hall building revised it five times. One of the on Van Dyke with a new City problems was that one of the Hall/Library complex in the next

ural services, said he learned of Warren's desire for a fitting veter-

the renovation of the city's one 1949 high school into a communi-Warren veterans groups, trying to meld all their ideas and desires into a whole. Still, he said, "these ty center. The \$25 million project. which began four years ago, said Necci, will include "the largest indoor water slide in North guys were a great pleasure to work with." America," when it opens to the

will have a place to cor template and sacrifice part t JCK & Associates Inc. The Novi-base architectural and engi-

neering firm

donated its

design serv

Warren vet-

Novi firm designs Warren Veterans' Park

That meant the existing World

Warren city officials decided to

Adam Pew, a young architectur-al designer at Novi's JCK & Associates, Inc. is looking forward to spending at least part of this coming Memorial Day in Warren. talent behind what will become a

War II, Korean and Vietnam memorials on city hall grounds had to find new homes. space for the residents of move the small memorials to Michigan's third largest city to honor the service and sacrifice of their veterans. For years the Macomb County

community has had several small memorials scattered around its nondescript city hall building Now it will have a 75-square-foot space enclosed by trees and a across the street from the General Motors Corn Tech Center. Doug Necci, the firm's vice resident and director of architec-

low wall. Inside, along with the three city hall memorials, there will be plaques honoring the five branches of the military, three 45foot flag poles, a remembrance plaque for the victims of 9/11 and ans' memorial while working on the renovation of the city's old a path paved with engraved bricks.

Pew said it was a challenge working with the committee of

> While not a veteran himself, Pew said, "My grandfather served in Korea; my great grandfather served in World War II; I had an uncle in Vietnam, a cousin in Desert Storm and another cousin

who may be going to Iraq."

He said he started out with five concepts, and even after the veter-

for the new facility to be built behind the existing one, followed by the demolition of the old city tune and the tree probably would they'll plant several new locust trees at the new site, Another prob-lem was the World War II memo-

wall. That will have to be recreat Veterans Memorial Park at the corner of Campbell and Martin roads. The park has been there for came together." He said Warren

rial was a plaque on a masonry

years but it had no actual veteran's residents will now have a space for a place where people can sit and Need noted that JCK's archi-

lectural department was an out-growth of the firm's work with Novi's building and planning department. However, he added most Novi residents have no idea to avoid conflict of interest issues However, with recent moves by Novi city officials to spread its work to a broader circle of outside contractors, Necci said the departnent has gained importance in the

Warren city officials have formed a committee to raise the estimated \$130,000 it will take to complete Pew's design.

> Phil Foley is a staff yeriter for the Novi News. He can be reached ut (248) 349-1700 ext. 108 or a



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City puts Chilly Willy Festival on ice this year

event will be back next year. bigger and better

Nove's annual Chilly Willy Festival is taking a break this year, but will be back next year enhanced with more cold-weather

tun.

"What we wanted to do this year was step back, reevaduate and come back next year with the event in an enhanced format for parade, Kris Kringle Work Shop the community" and Pando Recreation and Enrestry Department.

o foster greater citizen involve-

community event endeavor include last year's overhaul of Novi's holiday festival and Memorial Day parade. Both events were more grand as

a result of greater community side event," Lewis said. involvement "Ringing in the Holidays" was the city's new and improved holi-

and horse and carriage rides. Jack Lewis, deputy director of Recreation & Novi Parks, Forestry Department, was involved with the winter festival

The reason for the break resulted from the decline of activities from its inception more than 10 years ago.

ment to bring city events to the next level and, first and foremost,

Lake's festival used to incorporate outdoor fun like snowmobile races, ice skating and fishing. "I always wanted something similar to that," Lewis said.
And that is how the Novi Chilly
Willy Festival came about,

"It was supposed to be an out-In the beginning, Novi's cold-weather festival offered a fishing

Chilly Willy Festival changed into a chilli tasting contest with some

"That wasn't the original

area, including the Plymouth Ice Spectacular, and combine staff have a winter camival," Lewis bservations with resident input The deputy director said Walled

and department goals.
"We will come back with it next year with a new spirit," he Willie Evans, executive sous chef of the Whole Nine Yards,

was disappointed to hear the

For the past three years Evan has participated in the chilli-tast-ing contest and last year swept the competition winning both the people's choice and judges' pick for first place. "I guess they are scared of the

competition and they don't want me to win it again," Evans joked after learning the festival would be canceled this year. "They might as well give me the trophy

Evans reminds all Novi residents they may still enjoy a bowl full of his award-winning chili by

Ice-carver Mike Messing works on creating a fish out of a block of ice during Saturday's Chilly Willy Festival in

inside Novi's Double Tree Hotel.

visiting the Whole Nine Yards upriter for the Novi Neurs. She

Calendar of Events

Mentors Plus Training/Orientation

and February 15. TIMES: 9 a.m.

LOCATION: Oakland County ourthouse, 1200 N. Telegraph

DETAILS: As a Mentors Plus volunteer, only a few hours of your time each month will help a young person in your commu Be a positive adult role model for onicone 5 to 16 years old. PHONE: Oakland Count Youth Assistance, (348) 858

4h Annual Celebration of Dr. Martin

DATE: Monday, January 20, TIME: 5:30 n n

LOCATION: Walled Lake Central High School, 1600 Oakley Park Rd. DETAILS: Potluck dinner, folanchor, "Living the Legacy of Dr.

PHONE: Alec Bender, (248)

Sell-defense techniques for women DATE: Monday, Jan. 20

DETAILS: Nick Collin from the Dragon Academy of Martial Arts will instruct this informative demonstration for the American Cost is \$16, which includes full

PHONE: Chris Strawe at (248) 269-2035 or by e-mail at Christina.struwe@huntington.co in for reservations.

Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce membership luncheon DATI: Tuesday, January 21,

LOCATION: El Dorado Country Club, 2869 N. Pontiac Trail, Commerce Twp. TIME: 11:30 a.m-reception,

DETAILS: This is the annual membership luncheon, installation of officers and awards pres-PHONE: Chamber office (248)

Quick Date

DATE: Tuesday, Jan. 21 Balfroom, 25750 Novi Road,

DETAILS: Meet 10-15 new people for five minutes each. It's fast-paced, fun and exciting! Preregistration is required. Cost is

PHONE: Call (\$17) 552-0673

Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce "Heart of the Lakes Mystery Gala

LOCATION: El Dorado Country Club. 2869 N. Pontiar-Trail, Commerce Twp.
TIMH: 7 p.m.
DETAILS: Tickets are \$35 per

person. Buffet dinner, eash bar, dancing, live and silent auctions. Benefit to Cardiac Care Program at Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital and Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce's community and husiness services.
PHONE: Chamber office (248)

DATE: Friday, Feb. 7 TIME: 6:30-8:30 p.m. LOCATION: Wixom Community Center, 49015

something different to do! Bring your friends for an enjoyable evening out. Merchant's Fine Wine will bring samplings of fine wines along with cheeses from around the world, complimented by a wonderful selection of homemade breads, assorted

rackers and fruits. Wines from Tuscany, Piedmont and Veneto will be featured for the Italian lover in all of us. Wine orders may be placed through Merchan

49015 Pontiac Trail, Wixon DETAILS: Is it time to renew r driver's license, state ID eard, license plate tabs or want to register to vote? No need to drive far! Mobil Unit will provide every service that you can do at a branch office. Check or cash only.

Blues Series

DATE: Thursday TIME: 8 p.m.

Fine Wine, Must Pre-Register.
PHONE: Parks and Recreation (248) 624-2850 for more information or check the Web at

Secretary of State Mobile Unit visit DATE: Tuesday, Feb. 11 from Ha.m.-6 p.m. and Wed., Feb. 12 u.m.-3:30 p.m. LOCATION: Wixom Community Center parking lot.

PHONE: (248) 624-2850

ON-GOING

Sale Ends

King HickoryHekman

I.M. David

Visit Our

In-Store Clearance

Center

Howard Miller

Jan. 23rd,

LOCATION: The Boatho 42 Walled Lake Dr., Walled DETAILS: On-going blues series includes Stacia Jan. 16; Brett Lucas, Jan. 23; and Eric PHONE: (248) 669-1441

> Oakland County Health Division **Expectant Parent Classes** DATE: ongoing series LOCATION: Oakland County Health Division, 1010 East West

Maple, Walled Lake TIME: 7-9 p.m.
DETAILS: Classes will be taught by Public Health Nurses.

Topics will include childbirth preparation, labor and delivery care of the newborn baby, breast feeding, bottle-feeding, information about keeping children safe, and caring for them when they are ill. Cost is \$25.00. (888) 350-0900 ext. 84003

Dakland County Realth Division

DATE: ongoing scries LOCATION: Oakland County Health Division, 1010 East West Manle, Walled Lake,

DETAILS: Information cov ered includes pumping, solvingcommon problems associated with breastfeeding, taking care of mom, growth and development of

Winter Sale

ing; growth spurts, starting solids, and weaning. PHONE: (248) 858-4003 or

DATE: First and third Tuesday:

Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile, Novi

Asher is a dog groomer from Novi who'll be showing Jack Russell teniers, the breed made famous by the television show TIME: 7-8:30 p.m. DETAILS: Toastmasters will help you improve your communi They are just neat dogs," said Asher, who has shown dogs off and on for a quarter century. "They cation skills, voice your opinion polish your presentations and practice leadership.

tion, call Colleen at (248) 685-

DATE: Second and fourth Wednesdays of the month LOCATION: Novi Senior

"Novi Needlers" Quilting Group

DETAILS: Fabric donations PHONE: (248) 347-0414

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Hooker

Canal Dover

at Classic

Send calendar items to Cal year-old Northville girl will be showing animals that weigh nearly Stone, Novi News, 104 W. Main, Northville, MI 48168 or e-mail to



Hot dogs hit Novi

Novi resident Michele Asher gets a kiss from her Jack Novi Expe Center.

Don Leonard, who heads up the Russell terrier "Ch. Fox Valley Glowing Ember" who will Oakland Kennel Club, said his Club dog show at the Novi Expo Center, "Emmy" is one

Leonard and Gidday said their as much or more than she does Cook's mother, Carla, said that when they first started competeing shows will attract exhibitors from at least 20 states Canada, And while exhibitors will be coming two years ago, friends suggested, "A little girl and big working dogs were not a good mix, but Amanda was adament. She does all the han-dling and training herself." from as far away as California, some will be coming from right here in Novi and Northville including Michelle Asher and Amanda Cook. Cook will be competing in the

do two shows back-to-back at the

group hold's both its shows at the Novi Expo Center, but it hold its second show in November,

have great personalities. They are

Asher will be showing Fox

Valley Glowing Ember, known as

aunt, owned by an Illinois breeder

in the country, noted Asher.

is the top rated Jack Russell terrier

the smartest dogs I've ever

junior handler division Carla Cook said the breed was developed in Switzerland and said the dogs are similar in size and build to Saint Bemards.

"People often mistake them for Bernies," she said. According to Gidday, the Cook's animals won't even be the most unsual at the show. That would be one of the 11 rare breeds expected to be shown at Gidday's Federation of Rare Breeds show between held Jan. 17, 18 along

Emmy around the house. Emmy, who turned one-year-old on the 14th, has wen 11 of the 15 shows she's entered and established championship status. Emmy's with the Livingston County Kennel Club show. "There are more than 400 breeds around the world and the AKC only recognizes about 170," he noted, adding that number is

increasing.

Gidday and his wife raise bolognese, the royal dog of Italy, and

contondetuler. Madagascar's royal dog. Their contondetulers are among a mere 400 specimen in the country, while Bolognese number less than a hundred. However, ne the Giddays don't want to risk bringing home and illness,

There will, however, Gidday, be Icelandic sheep dogs, Nova Scotia duck tolling dogs, white shepherds and Norwegian bullunds, among others on displa Gidday noted the show is an excel lent way for people thinking about getting their children a dog to get a look at a lot of breeds in a short

doesn't want to get licked by a dog?"
Tickets for the show are \$15 for families, \$6 for adults and \$4 for seniors 65 and up and kids 12 and

under. The shows run 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day.

Phil Foley is a staff writer for the (248) 349-1700 ext. 108 or ht ife

Library Lines

Novi Public Library

The Novi Public Library is open Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday, 1-5 p.m. We are located at 45245 W. and caregivers only, please. 10 Mile Road, just east of Taft. For more information, call (248) 349-0720.

Homework help

Learn to use the library's mateials and find the best online resources to answer your home-work questions on Tuesday, January 28, from 4-5 p.m. or Wednesday, January 29, from 7-8 p.m. The sessions are for students in elementary or middle school and their parents.

Advance registration is required; During this two-hour session you may choose to work on any Internet skills you wish, with librarians to assist you and please call the library to register. answer any computer-related questions. Note: There is no set Children ages 12-24 months are invited to join us for a half hour of stories, songs, and games on Saturday, January 18, at 11

The library will be closed Monday, January 20, for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Holiday closing

a.m. Registration is not required.

seniors

for an opportunity to practice any of the skills you've learned in our

O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home,

Dr. James E. Remski

Corpsman during WWII.

agenda for this class; you may come and go as you please dur-ing the two-hour session. Please register in advance for all but space is limited, so toddlers. Internet classes in person or by

Using the library catalog

We'll cover author, title, sub ject, and keyword searches on Thursday, January 30, from 7-9 p.m. You'll learn how to limit your search results to items in our library and/or to specific types of media, such as videos or audiobooks. The session will include hands-on practice

Obituaries

Melvin P. "Mike" Pietron

Melvin "Mike" Pietron of Novi died January 8, 2003 in Whitehal! Convales Novi. He was 77. Mr. Pietror was born April 6, 1925. Survivors include his wife Barbara; three children, Marie

(Rick) Cartledge, Daniel (Gina) and Laura (Brian Mann) Kolke; four grandehildren, Jamie, Kenny, Emmanuelle, and Evan; Survivors include his wife. one brother, Casmier (Regina) Pietron; and two sisters, Frances Hebda and Rose Bishop. A funeral service was held January 13 at Holy Family Church, Novi. Interment will be at Oakland Hills Cemetery, Novi.

Memorials may be made to the January 10 at St. Aidan Church, O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home Alzheimer's Association or Livonia,

Mary; seven children, Mary (Sam) Giordano, Janet (Jeff) Bilfield, Julic LaFata, Jean (Rick) Kelly, James (Kathy), Martha, and Janey (Darryl) Peterson; and 15 grandchildren. A funeral service was held

Arrangements were made by

Arrangements were made by O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home,

Teresa McMahon

Teresa McMahon of Novi died Dr. James Remski died January 7, 2003 at Providence Hospital, Southfield. He was 76.
Dr. Remski was a Navy Gerald; three children, Gerald, Keyin (Lisa) and Eileen: one grandchild, Baby McMahon; and

January 10, 2003 at Holy Family



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Kindergarten: Full- or half-day?

Here's the burning question on nany people's minds in the Novi Community School District; what is the future of the district's kindergarten program?

This issue has gotten so big that parents throughout the district have started to flood the board of education meetings and voicing their opinions, leading the board to put out a survey which has descriptions of present kinder-garten programs and possible

"Right now you have a traditional program in all the schools except for Deerlield, and that's what we try to explain on the survey," Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services Rita Traynor said. The half-day tradi-tional program is the way it has been in this state However, in the last couple years, more people have gone more to full-time. When we created Deerlield, our committee's feeling was a full-time study group

should be offered as an option."
The survey states. The Novi
Board of Education is presently reviewing the kindergarten options and offerings for the upcoming school year. Feedback is needed from those parents who is needed from those parents who will be registering kindergarten students for the 2003-04 school year, Students for the 2003-04 school year, students for the 2003-04 school year, students and the board two dillocation of the 2003-04 school year, students are the board two dillocations and the board in the board two dillocations and the school will be registering kindergarten ferent choices - the half day and the board in the boar dents most be five years old by

According to Traynor, all the schools in the district were flooded with these surveys. Parents who did not receive one could call the Educational Services Building at (248) 449-1200, but all the principals were told to send one

principals were told to send one principals were told to send one more properties and the different schools." Traynor said. "The stereotype is, parents are sending the children to day care and that's not what the extended day or the half day? What the people and that's not what the extended day are the properties is. There are prople to the properties of the properties day option is. There are people day option of a full that would say the option of a full change Deerfield because you are

The program integrates art, music, physical education and Spanish on a weekly basis and is taught

by a certified teacher (non-fee, five days per week

The full-time kindergarten program teaches the State's core curriculum which includes lan-

quage arts, math, social studies and science. It

for the subjects and activities provided in the tradi

tional half-day kindergarten (non-fee, five days per

week, 6 hours 46 minutes, includes lunch time).

(Deerfield's present program).

• The extended day option for kindergarten stu-

dents would be fee-based for 1/2 of each day, five

days per week. The program would complement

sis on extension of curriculum to fit student needs

The program will be taught by a certified teacher

all day, with a paraprofessional included during the fee-based time. The State's core curriculum will be

taught (as stated above). Art, music, physical edu

cation and Spanish will be integrated on a weekly

basis. Note: The fee-based program must be licensed by the State, and, therefore, a paraprofes

sional is required to cover the number of students

in the classroom (fee-based, five days per week, 6

ents were thinking.

The board thought that if a sur

"I have to commend the hoard-

vey went out, members could have a better idea of what the par-

for at least trying to have a dia-logue out on this," Traynor said, "The board is trying to get some

information so they can make an informed decision. Maybe not everybody is going to be happy with the decision that will be

made, but in a democratic society,

Romez Khuri is a staff writer

for the Novi News. He can be

that's not always possible.

hours 46 minutes, includes lunch time).

the traditional half-day kindergarten, with empha-

A or PM, three hours, no lunch).

There has been considerable interest voiced in expanding the full-day kindergarten program beyond that which is currently offered solely at Deerfield Elementary. Because of budgetary concerns, the district cannot expand a full-day kinder garten program on a non-fee basis for all of its kindergarten students. Among the options the board of education is currently considering are:

. Adding one class of full-day kindergarten at each of the elementary schools (other than Deerfield) on a non-fee basis, offered to interested students under a lottery system; and

 Implementing a district-wide extended-day optional program which is fee based at all five elementary schools."

In order to make an informed decision on this matter, the district is trying to determine, as best as possible, what the actual demand would be for the options being considered."

The two present kindergarten programs are the half-day traditional program, which is offered at all the elementary schools but Deerfield, and the full-time kindergarten program at Deerfield. A possible option is the extended day option for kindergarten students.

 The half-day traditional kindergarten program leaches the State's core curriculum which includes language arts, math, social studies and science.

garten versus the full-day kinder-

ning, the program was going to be different there. It was based on a lot of research. So when it the board of education must teachers, we have half-day teachers, we have half-day teachers."

kindergarrens and they each have maintain the budget just as Mr. 25 students. Many people cannot get in, so that also has been distincted in the budget just as Mr. (Jim) Koster (assistant superinged in so that also has been distincted in the budget just as Mr. (Jim) Koster (assistant superinged in so that also has been distincted in the budget just as Mr. (Jim) Koster (assistant superinged in so that also has been distincted in the budget just as Mr. (Jim) Koster (assistant superinged in so that also has been distincted in the budget just as Mr. (Jim) Koster (assistant superinged in so that also has been distincted in the budget just as Mr. (Jim) Koster (assistant superinged in so that also has been distincted in the budget just as Mr. (Jim) Koster (assistant superinged in so that also has been distincted in the budget just as Mr. (Jim) Koster (assistant superinged in so that also has been distincted in the budget just as Mr. (Jim) Koster (assistant superinged in so that also has been distincted in the budget just as Mr. (Jim) Koster (assistant superinged in so that also has been distincted in the budget just as Mr. (Jim) Koster (assistant superinged in so that also has been distincted in the budget just as Mr. (Jim) Koster (assistant superinged in so the superinged in superin turbing.

"When our committee met, that would they look at something like

was really what we were told to talk about - options to look at concerning the half-day kinderit's been a deep inequity if they can't get into Deerfield and they want their child to have their full-day program. There is not another option for them because the district does not have it any place reached at (248) 349-1700, ext.

"The committee felt as long as there was space at every school, they would offer it," said Traynor. day would be great to have at every school. However, the board's job is to do as much as it can within the budget."

Traynor said that Deerfield is a magnet school, so from the begin-

Novi senior makes a difference by donating to Toys for Tots

Steele gives four bicycles to kids less fortunate

Toys for Tots received a spe-cial donation just before Christmas, as Brad Steele, a sen-ior at Novi High School, gave four brand new bicycles and some Hot Wheels Matchbox Cars so kids less fortunate then him could enjoy the holiday as

Steele woke up early on the day after Thanksgiving and went to Wal-Mart with his father after seeing an advertisement for bicy-cles. "There are a lot of sales that day and the ad was for cheaper bikes than usual, so my dad and I bought the bikes from there," he

Steele believes that if people who live in Novi have the means to donate around the holidays, they should, "My dad and I always try to donate every year." he said, "We figure a lot of peo-ple in Novi can, but not everyone does, so we do.'

Steele and his father have donated different toys in the past, but the bicycles were their biggest donation. Usually they ust go to the toy sections and think about it or don't see who pick out different things they think the little kids would enjoy. Most people have many child-like Barbies, Leggis, race ears and other similar items.

loading deck," he said, "From would otherwise, I plan on donal there I had some kids help me roll them down to the library. It makes me feel a little bit better

Ramez Khuri is a staff



Novi High senior Brad Steele donated four

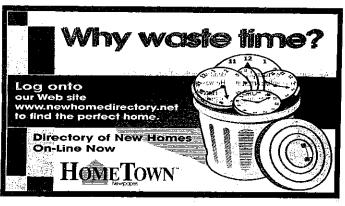
more high school students like himself donating toys around the holidays. "I think more kids in the area could be donating, but they just forget to or they don't so if you could buy just a few and other similar items.

"I packed the bikes into the van, and after school one day I lad to use the help from one of my teachers to take them to the lad to use the help from one of my teachers to take them to the lad to use the help from one of my teachers to take them to the lad to use the help from one of their childhood thean they

just to know that I could make at least four kids Christmases a life better than they would have leen if I hadn't donated them."

for the Novi News, He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. the better than they would have leen if I hadn't donated them."

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Walled Lake announces the fourth annual celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day on January 20 at Walled Lake Central High School, 1600 Oakley Park Road, This year's thome, will be "Celebrate Control of the Cont theme will be "Celebrate Diversity-Create Unity. The food, fun and festivities

will begin at 5:30 p.m. with a potluck dinner, followed by Mr. Huel Perkins, POX 2 News

King celebration

For more information contact Alec Bender at (248) 956-4200.

Safety Town pays off

Walled Lake Schools Briefs

complained of chest pains. Luke and Jake Taylor of Walled Lake told the 911 operator where they lived and an ambulance was dispatched immediately

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Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther thanks to the lessons they learned teaches concepts such as fire in Walled Lake Sofate Town in Walled Lake Safety Town, a program provided through Walled Lake Consolidated Schools, Joan Sun, director of Walled Lake Safety Town said, "The important thing was that the

program for 4-to 6- year olds and

and free checking with **e-Club**

from Community Federal Credit Union.

safety, bike safety, and calling 911. The two-week summer pro-gram provides children opportu-nities to learn how to stop at stop signs, look both ways before crossing a street, and wave peo Two boys, ages 4 and 6, called boys knew what to do and were yery calm about doing it." ple to pass when it's safe. They use a simulator to practice calling 911 and speak with adults on very calm about doing it."

Walled Lake Mayor William T. Roberts recognized the Taylor boys Jan. 7 at the Walled Lake City Council meeting with an another line. Instructors stress the City Council meeting with an award for their heroic act. Walled Lake Safety Town is a

continued on 16

Novi High School adds defibrillator to its building

Novi High School Resource Officer Jerrod Hart displays

the automated external defibrillator that the school received from The Kimberly Anne Gillary Foundation

Thanks to The Kimberly Anne Gillary Foundation, Novi High has a life-saving machine to use

By Ramez Khuri

Novi High was one of 135 high schools in the state of Michigan that was benefited when it received a defibrillator from The Kimberly Anne Gillary Foundation last school year. According to Randall Gillary, Kimberly Anne's father, the foun-dation is working to place defibillators in every school in

"We started the foundation when Kim died of cardiac arrest at Groves High in 2000," Gillary said, "There wasn't a delibrillator accessible and they took her to Beaumont Hospital, but she never regained consciousness. They took her off life support two days

Gillary established the foundation to donate an AED, or an auto-mated external defibrillator, to every high school in Michigan and to advocate cardiac screening and testing of all high school athletes. So far the foundation has raised over \$405,000 and has

ites the effect that by donating it, the schools will recognize the need for it, Most of our donations come from private individuals."
When Novi School Resource
Officer Jerrod Hart was informed

of this, he applied for the grant.
"We were able to obtain one defibrillator from the Kimberly Anne Gillary Foundation and that was received at the beginning of last school year," he said. "Everyone was very happy to receive this grant, from the staff to the students. The defibrillator is hanging on the wall down by the athletic department near the athletic department near the athletic trainers. It's kind of a central location right now and I think that the hope is we can obtain more as the hope is we can obtain more as Kimberly Anne Gillary the school gets bigger. If you go to Foundation can send a check to providence Hospital, or City Hall, you will find them all over the lar donated is spent on either pur-

dollars, but an insurance company is going to pay out a couple hun-dred thousand dollars in life insur-

"Basically when someone goes into cardiac arrest, meaning their heart stops beating, we have about three to five minutes, like a window, to save them," he said. "The need to have some critical helr They need to have CPR and a defibrillator is the second part of a chain in the life-saving process i omeone goes into cardiac arrest We can hook it up to someone and it will advise us if that person needs to be shocked or not and it will administer that shock if nec essary. It will give more then one if necessary as well. It's extreme-ly important to have a very quick response when they go into cardiac arrest with CPR and a defib-

According to Hart, last June. police officers saved someone or the road with a defibrillator, "I know that gentleman now and knew him before the incident, and those officers were able to bring him back," he said. "Without that defibrillator, who knows what would have happened. He was dead when the officers were there.

He was gone."
Hart believes that supplying defibrillators is something that is essential to the school because of all the sporting events and plays

that go on there.
"There are all kinds of things going on with the kids here on the weekends and after school," he said. It's very important, not only for our kids, but our spectators and our staff to have this life-saying piece of equipment here on our campus. It's another tool in our toolbox to help the kids out

and also any visitor to the school."

We generally donate one to a high school, but I believe that everyone should have two or three," Gillary said. "The one that we donate raises the issue I or year just to stay on top of the issue. Hart said that the machine is very fool proof. There are instructions inside it that show how to use it and it will not shock AED can't be used on any children around eight years old or younger because it gives them too much of a jolt. "I'm sure the technology is

coming where you can punch in an age or weight for that problem," Hart said. "In an eight hour day we went through the CPR first aid and the defibrillator train-

place. Our police cars have them too."

Charl said that each machine runs about three to five thousand three to five the total three to five the total three to five the total three to five thousand three to five three to five

Ramez Khuri is a staff writer and it could help bring someone's 110 or by e-mail or loved one back to them 110 or by e-mai.
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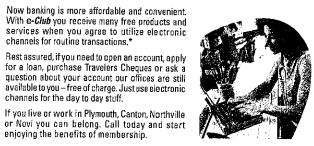


On Campus

The following Novi residents were named to the Dean's List at Schoolcraft College for fall 2002

Hawthorne Nathaniel James Hav.

Howard, Gwen Ann Jacques, Bryce Wayne Kidder, Juhcon Lee, Valerie Liebbe, Evan Thomas McAlpine, Michele Karen Nance Nelli Ghidella Altafin, Bryan
Mathleen Louise O'Connell,
Alan Beeler, Sherry Kay Belles,
Kathryn Grace Bellor, Mark Jason
Parker, Robert Anthony Rich, Ratiny Grace Being, Mark Jasoni Budd, Hubert Yee-Kwa Chan, Ashley Nicole Counsell, Ashley Senecal, Guy William Shaw, Claude Earl, Melissa Anne Farr, Michael Roman Fournier, Sue Michael Roman Fournier, Sue Thakore, Nicole Lynn Thomas, Ann Gibb, Sarah Anne Ashley Ann Walicki, Pamela Lynn Wilkes and Lei Chen Wu.



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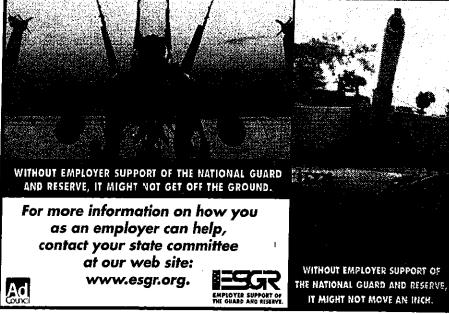
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gentlemen. I would like to begin my remarks tonight by extending a special welcome to our Congressman Thaddeus McCotter, Nancy Cassis on State Senator, Craig DeRoche our State Representative, Dr. Emmett Lippe, Superintendent of Novi schools, members of the judiciary of the 52nd District Court 1st Division -Robert Bondy and former State Rep. Bill Bullard. Also a special welcome to Log Martin President of the Novi Chambe ommerce members, my fellow olleagues on City Council: Mayor Pro Tem Michelle Bononi, and Council Members Kim Capello, Lou Csordas.

What to do when the going gets tough...

David Landry, Laura Lorenzo

Novi, and other guests.

Once again we come together to review where we have been and where we are going as a A year ago we spoke of the

tremendous challenges that we faced, which in a sense are a microcosm of what we faced as

How have we met those challenges? How have we measured up? Have we turned those chalenges into opportunities' Let us review briefly the year

Education

Once again, we must begin

The success of any community in both the short- and long-term depends on the quality of the education it provides its stu-It is those students who are

our future - they are the future leaders, the entrepreneurs, the doctors, nurses and educators of tomorrow. The stronger they are equipped to meet the challenges of the 21st century, the stronger we will be as a com munity to meet those chal-

lenges.
Novi has been blessed with educational systems within our borders that are, as I have said before, the crown jewels of our

of Dr. Emmett Lippe, his administrative staff, teachers. parents and a dedicated school board, we have in our commun ty one of the finest public school systems in the state and

This past year, an agreement was reached as a result of efforts of the Novi School System, the City administration with a plan that allowed for expansion of the existing high school, thereby avoiding the necessity to build a second high school and saving additional

verge of having one of the finest private schools for the education of young people in the country with the addition of Detroit Catholic Central to our commu-

campus is completed, it will represent an investment in this

I know I join with my fellow council members and the City administration in welcoming Fr. Elmer, President of Catholic Central, his staff and colleagues to our community and look forward to a ground-breaking this

munity the commitment to the concept that in this community norm and anything less is not acceptable" will reach new

connected with the educational system, once again, a profound

nent passing the road bond in 2000, we continue to implement and in the coming year more neighborhood roads are slated mprovement and upgrading In the past year the widening

Utility work is also underway

by March this eyesore and inpediment to progress along Grand River Avenue will be gone and replaced by years end

have continued at a significant pace throughout the city and

which began in 2002, complet-ing 12 Mile Road as a boule-yard to Novi Road and further westward is targeted for com

will be moving forward this

traffic anticipated in late 2004 The City has implemented a gencies than when these were

efforts to make Novi's Department of Public Works one of the finest in the State

In January of last year, an was opened that will save the

In May of 2002, the City

Committee composed of citizen representatives and council representation are to be commended for their efforts in this

to everyone associated with our extremely fast-paced gree in the City of Novi.

have done an outstanding job under the leadership of Chief Lenaghan in meeting the ever-increasing demand for services in our growing community. In the past year, Novi

their rescue skills In addition, an Advance Life Support System is in place that offers backup to the City's basic life support services. This was accomplished at no additional

rounding the completion of Fire Station No. 4 and Training Center were resolved and by

Once again, under the leaderoutstanding job in protecting the lives and property of its citizens

laptop computers in patrol cars to meet the demands of a growing community and increase the efficiency of officers in the

enhanced by the addition of two new police motorcycles.

Additionally, Automatic

placed in patrol cars and officers were trained in their use. Within a short period of time Novi officers, Steve Balog and Craig Chismar were instru resident who suffered a serious



o that improvements can con-

Roads and Ten Mile and

will continue at that pace in

year, building on the work already done with an opening

Planning Department

integrated Plan Review Center city taxpayers dollars that previously were spent for outside consultants while moving plans through the planning process in an expeditious fashion and ensuring compliance with eity ordinances and regulations.
In 2002, 52 site plans were

Council approved a Storm Water Management Ordinance that is vital to the protection of our community and the quality of life in any community. The Stormwater Management and Watershed Stewardship

A special thanks to David

reviewing plans and monitoring

Fire Services Once again Novi firefighters

Firefighters placed second in a regional competition in terms of

cost to the City of Novi. In the last year, problems sur-

ship of Director Randy Auler, the City of Novi has made A strategic action plan has

provided services to nearly 3.000 residents. The City of Novi was named Tree City USA by the National Arbor Day Foundation. During 2002, 800 street trees were planted in The City of Novi and unteers planted more than 300

Italian Restaurant and Jake's

In the OST area of our city, Magna and Owens Corning have made a substantial commitment to our community.

Both of these corporations are leaders in the automotive field. eaders in the automotive field.
They recognize the importance f being in Novi. In addition, in 2002 the new Expo Center was given approval, which when up and inning will inject approximate

200 million dollars into the local and regional economies This project had a great deal to do with the State of Michigan's willingness to move their time table up and provide 96 interchanges at Beck and Wixom Roads and the Oakland County's cooperation in the first phase that is now completed of the Grand River Avenue widen-ing from Wixom Road to Beck load to a five-lane highway before the interchange work

Neighborhood Services

Under the direction of Cindy glow, our Neighborhood rvices Coordinator, and code apliance officers, an excellent job was done this past yea Our sign ordinance is vigorously enforced as I'm sure all or my colleagues who have ran for office can attest and abandoned

and dangerous buildings are either rehabilitated or appropri ate steps are taken to remove them from our community.

Helpful publications are made available to residents and once again our Neighborhood Services Coordinator stands eady to make presentations to comeowner groups on timely

subjects.
The past year on September 7, the City of Novi sponsored a
Fall for Novi, giving citizens an
opportunity to interact with variety ious City departments as well as local community and civic

groups.
This program was well received with several hundred people in attendance and will be repeated in years to come.
Again, this month, in helping First, Neighborhood Services will recognize leaders of hom-

Human Resources

In the area of Human Resources, Tia Gronlund-Fox continues to do an outstanding positions. Her zeal for imple menting the new service pin recognition program for employees is deeply appreciat

A special note of thanks to Maryanne Cornelius city clerk and her staff for the outstandin job she does and her staff does every day in making sure elecrequests are met and setting an example for others, and for their efforts in this past year in spon soring mock elections in the

In 2002, Maryanne was also recognized as Clerk of the Year by the Michigan Clerk's

Sandstone Settlement

Any review of the past year I can report to you, the long nightmare is almost over.

The judgment against the City million dollars with interes No additional taxes needed to

the land Sandstone received in this settlement is proceeding accordingly. Almost two-thirds of that cost share of Oakland County's

Community Relations

We have continued to strive to keep open lines of communi-cations and provide our citizens publication of a quarterly newsletter, "Update Novi" and almost all boards and commis-

sions, with few exceptions, have their meetings broadcast on local cable television. The City's Web site has received a fresh look and it continues to improve and expand our local cable services and Cable Channel 13 is used as much as possible to disseminat information and provide impor

A special thanks to Community Relations Manager Sheryi Walsh for all she does to ensure open lines of communication and her countless efforts often unnoticed behind the scenes, including having me in the right place at the right time.

Veterans

In 2002, Novi once again had the opportunity to say thank you to its veterans - the men and women of our armed forces whose sacrifices ensure that the lamp of liberty continues to

burn bright. In 2002, we said a long overdue thank you to our Vietnam Veterans who up until then were

our forgotten heroes. in 2003, Novi plans to recognize those Cold War veterans who from 1945 through the fall of the Soviet Union ensured that freedom prevailed both for

Let us not forget those men and women of our armed forces who now stand in harms way and who soon may be commit-ted to combut to ensure that the world will never again allow the likes of a new Hitler to rise up and become ever more powerful and dangerous. Let us keep these young men and women both in our thoughts and

outstanding job in meeting the hallenges presented to us the th past year and since September 11, 2001.

However, much remains to be We cannot rest on the faurels of past performances, We live in a changing econo-

my and a changing world. The successes we have achieved in this last year are the direct result of the efforts and the dedication of the City administration and staff and the efforts of all of my colleagues

on this podium tonight, Without everyone working together to achieve our common goals, our past success would not have been possible.

management remains a big component of our success as a com munity and under the sound fis-cal policies of Finance Director Kathy Smith-Roy Novi again remains the sixth lowest community in Oakland County in

countless hours and efforts of service rendered to our forts the quality of life we enjoy in this community would not be possi

As an example, the mayor discussed what a success the city's annual appreciation dinner held Jan. 11 was and singled out volunteer and zoning board member Jerry Bauer for his 30 years of community volunteer-

We are now in the third year of a new century.

There is an ancient Chinese

werb that says "may you live n interesting times" and that is certainly the case for us.

While we cannot foresee the future of these interesting and,

yes, dangerous times one thing

this community and carried it through many challenges and crises in its long history is alive spirit in each other and in our

> the mayor's originally written speech and modifications made during the address. Although the

ENTERTAINMENT

Take control with Face Off 2003

a professional. That's their job, When 1 pick up a game like Faccoff 2003, I want the game to be easy to control. 989 Studios

brings that to me and so much

career mode. Tired of Cujo? I was. I made a pretty sweet trade

ager over 10 years while dealing with free agents, drafts, retire-

This game also brings you

great animation from every play-er on the ice, with goalies even

naking diving saves and actually

saving with both their glove and

their stick hands. There are a ton

of awards to win, besides the cov-eted Stanley Cup (which I won in

a single weekend by burning my

eyes out of my head playing a

Now, as with every game, NHL Paceoff 2003 isn't perfect. In

other thing I found was that when

a line switches, there is some

With 989's Face Off 2003, you get to run the rink

By Sam Eggleston

Tired of Curtis Joseph hogging time in the goal? So am I, and now there's something I can do

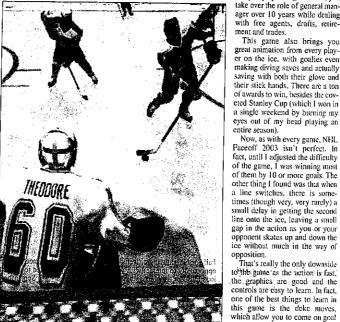
I can change that with a simple press of a button — on my Playstation II controller, that is. 989 Studios has put the power in my hands with NHL Faceoff 2003. This game is pretty sweet, especially when it comes down to the look of the players. I, of course, have taken to the role of even have to look at their jerseys calls by the referees the between-play ces to tell you who they

ers throughout the game. Too

many hockey games have an obsession with physics, and your players end up spiraling out of control because, if you're anything like me, you can't skate like well. Joe Louis Arena has each and every banner hanging, as does New York, Dallas and Colorado (those that I really paid attention to) — and I'm sure the others follow that lead.

Now, the realism in this game is pretty sweet. The puck bounces about like it should, dinging off the bar or whacking into the pads of the goalic, Hit a guy with a sweet hip-check and watch him skid across the ice, out of control. Crowds boo and cheer with the hits, the goals, the saves and the

with him to the Rangers just so I could get good old Manny Legace between the posts - he's a Faceoff 2003 has everything you could want from an ice hockgreat goalie anyway. Not only can you play a single season, you



989 Studio's NHL Face Off 2003 has nice graphics, and

the graphics are good and the controls are casy to learn. In fact, one of the best things to learn in this game is the deke moves, which allow you to come on goal at full speed during a break away and fake your way to a sweet goal. Once you do that, and score goal. Once you do that, and score any goal or make a great save, there are some really nice multithen you'll of course love this miracle team, he forced me to

times (though very, very rarely) a small delay in getting the second line onto the ice, leaving a small 989 Studio's NHL Face Off 2003's goalies can sometimes make saves while standing on their heads. Now that's what's called good goaltending. gap in the action as you or your opponent skates up and down th ice without much in the way of opposition.

That's really the only downside to the game as the action is fast.

Sam Eggleston is a beck of a I felt sorry for him and ~ no no it's true! I did! All right, defender, but please don't ask him to shoot. He'd much rather be checking people into the

made his own goalie, his own

angle replays of the play.

Besides career mode, there are also modes for practice, exhibition, season, tournament eand shootout. Oh yeah, and you can make your own player too.

Som Employee of the play.

one. If you're a big hockey fan, play as Florida and kicked me around the ice like I was in Pee Wee hockey.Lucky for me. T'll have the boportunity' to get some though I had two days practice time in oit this office, and he only had one. Truth was, the I'll ask for a rematch.

News and the Northville Record. Comments can be directed to seggleston@ht.home.comm.net

Just forget it Just Married is a sad example of comedy

"Just Married " brought enough people to the theaters over the week-end to topple "The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers," but the

content, some crude humor and a enjoyable as having your wisdom teeth pulled out by a cavernan. The film staring Ashton Kutcher and Brittany Murphy is a sad exam-ple that poor writing, canned laugh-ter and no imagination will produce they office by

"Just Married" begins with an introduction to Sarah McNemey, played by Murphy, and Torn Leezak, played by Kutcher, as they part ways

angrily after returning from their Sarah is a Beverly Hills, Wesley College graduate, daughter of the part owner of the Lakers and the Dodgers, and is used to having the

On the other hand, Tom is a burn-

reporter on the graveyard shift every other weekend when the regular guy

It is when Tom returns to work able at all as a well-educated. that he starts having flashbacks, and upper-crust society gal. She was flashbacks within flashbacks, spanning from the day the couple met to to the upper class in "Clueless" his self-proclaimed botched propos- and as a disturbed psychiatric al to their wedding to finally their everything-goes-wrong honeymoon. Some of the happenings making their honeymoon so miserable and pretty cute as the boob. After all, the charac-

love spoof would be complete with out the boy daddy thinks is perfect. Peter Prentiss, played by Christian Kane from "Life or Something Like cated man Sarah once slept with and the favorite of her father, who hates

wedding and honeymoon adding

ense alone is trite at hest but even done-before ideas may turn into a gem - look at "My Big Fat Greek Wedding."

Production for

And of course no class-focused

extra drama to the situation. At the end of the film, the couple reunites as husband and wife, and the disapproving father realizes Tom may be a good catch after all. The pretense alone is trite a

No luck here.

In trying to comprehend why so many people spending \$18 million in three days would see this movie, I "Just Married" moviegoers must bling doofus from a blue-collar fam-ily who works as a spot traffic love the notion something

After their airport parting, Sarah returns to her daddy's gated mansion and Torn returns to his "Animal none in the nude. Adding to the heave" | Legal | Legal

Century Fox movie relied only



on physical pranks, missing any Levy of "Big Fat Liar," written Singer."

Cute couple, hey? Too bad their honeymoon turns into a wreck in Just Married.

Screen Beat

Coming to theaters this weekend is the twisted romantic comedy "A Guy Thing" starring Jason Lee as Paul Morse, a good, honest guy. When his friends throw him a wild bachelor party, he just wants to keep his conscience clean, which is why he's shocked when he wakes up in bed with a beautiful girl named Becky (Julia Stiles) and can't remember the night before. She also happens to be his fiancee's (Selma Blair) cousin. Desperate to keep his fiancee from finding out, he tells her a minuscule lie, that ums into a large web of lies, "A Guy Thing" is a MGM/UA release and rated PG-13 for language,

crude humor, some sexual content and drug references. Culture-clash comedy about two clueless New York boyhood friends (Anthony Anderson and Jerry O'Connell) who fall into the mob's ands and are forced to deliver \$100,000 to Australia, only to lose the cash to a kangaroo. With the help of a wildlife researcher (Estella Warren), the two bumbling eroes set out to kick some pouch "Kangaroo Jack" is a Warne

Goofy cop Hand Rafferty (Steve Zahn) as gling operation. "National Security" is a Sony Pictures release and rated PG-13 for violence, lar

In theaters next week Horror thriller "Darkness Falls" (R) and door-to-door vacuım cleaners wage war in "Super

log on to The Movie Insider at www.themovieinsider.com. Please The Robert Simonds Production for Twentieth Century Fox movie relied only film was directed by Shawn as directed b

as they were in 2002. of Grand River from Wixor tinue east to Novi Road. The intersection at Grand

River Avenue and Novi Road is also slated for improvements, Ten Mile and Meadowbrook

Road and Bike Path repairs

The Beck Road interchange

A special thanks to Benny

Thanks to the tireless efforts

taxes from being imposed. In addition, Novi is on the

CSX Bridge.
We have been promised that

When Catholic Central's new

Public Works Because of citizen commit-

Cranbrooke Roads intersection improvements have also been completed which include new light signals to improve public

In 2003 the 12 Mile Road gap

Evancoe for his continuing efforts as Planning Director and

of Chief Shaeffer, the Novi

Lakeshore has provided summer camp opportunities to more than 400 children who otherwise would not have been able to Combined, these programs

heart attack while driving in the

In keeping with this community's commitment to citizen involvement, two citizens, Louis Golematis and Lindsey Latka, were instrumental and key in the capture of a bank robber i his community and as a result

quality communities do not just happen. They exist because people care and this is but one xample of that caring citizen.

In December of last year, city council approved the addition of

to meet the growing needs of our community for additional police services. The department continues to operate the Citizen Police Academy for Novi residents and a new neighborhood speed

Parks, Recreation & Forestry

future needs of Novi and to respond appropriately.
In the past year, the recreation department has sponsored numerous adult recreational activities including 80 softball teams, 15 volleyball teams, 15

All in all, Novi has done an outstanding job in meeting the challenges presented to us in the past year and since September 11, 2001. However, much

State of the City

remains to be done. We cannot rest on the laurels of past performances. We live in a changing economy and a changing world. The successes we have achieved in this last year are the direct result of the efforts and the dedication of the City administration and staff and the efforts of

all of my colleagues on this podium

at that park to bring it up to modern standards. Work also proceeds on new playground equipment at Power Park and other park facilities are in the process of having

three additional police officers

our neighborhoods and to remind drivers to drive safely.

of this effort, several other rob beries in the metropolitan area were solved.

As I have said in the past,

Under the outstanding leader

trees at Community Sports Park. During the year, much needed new playground equipment was installed at Lakeshore Park and work is progressing on the concession and restroom facilities

their facilities improved as well The vitality and quality of life

In the past year, more than 820 individuals, participants staff and volunteers participated in nine productions with more watch program was initiated to ensure the safety of citizens in

> Festival was held with representatives of 12 countries and more than 2,000 people in attendance Also in December, the city initiated "Ringing in the Holidays" with an electric-light parade, bell ringers, two choirs, crafters, children's craft areas Santa visits and sleigh rides a well as food provided to all the

Economic Development In 2002, even though the state was in the midst of an economic downturn, once again the com-

as well as multiple dwellings

came on line, in addition to new

commercial and OST develop-

ment proceeded accordingly Novi as well, representing a

total commitment to our con

munity of 102 million dollars.

In the commercial area -ountain Walk continues its

Fountain Walk continues its build out with many new restau-

rants and a new theater which is

be imposed and remediation of

The Novi Theatre has offered opportunities to perform and showcase one's talent to old and

than 7,000 residents attending these performances. We have an outstanding the ater director in Linda Wickert who brings outstanding opportunities to those in the arts. In November, an International

excess of 2,000 people through the generosity of local restau

include blowing out the wiring of a ler wasn't much of a stretch from Freach Castle when trying to plug in an American adult device, driving their car into a snowbank, meeting The Robert Simonds

Food For Thought

attractive for all of the obview

common, and as a result time is limit ed for cooking. One-dish meals have the advantage

of easy eleanup, are great tasting, offer nourishment and they're easy on the check-

and mey re easy on the cheek-book.

There are a few fundamental rules - protein, starch, greens and/or fruit, minimal utensils and time. The object is to streamline cooking to allow for enjoyable, leisurely meads. It is important that when families sit down to eat together that qualiwit to cat together that qualigood quality tomatoes fill the time be spent. One-dish cals get back to basic, homey it. They can be simple or element enough for company. As a meral rule they are much more meals get back to basic, homey fair. They can be simple or ele-gant enough for company. As a general rule they are much more reasonable and nutritious than a it to be half the price of funch-frozen entrée or trip to the cor-ner fact food chain. The matter of the cooking, is

frozen entrée or trip to the cor-ner fast food chain.

The options are incredibly varied and range from soup, salad, casserole, sandwiches pizza, pasta and stews. Assorted cooking methods and utensits may be employed: crock pots, cookers, woks, microwaves and oceas

When planning a one-dish meal choose as many fresh ingredients as possible. Although convenience foods are an important part of saving time, they are often expensive for what you get. For instance, a two-pound bag of white rice is one-fifth the cost of boxed rice

In this hectic world it is important to find shortcuts to sallow more time with friends and tamily, not to mention them for the following forms the first sallow more time from the first sallow more than the following forms to the following forms to the following forms the first sallowing forms to find shortcuts to sallow the first sallowing forms to find shortcuts to sallow the first sallowing forms to find shortcuts to sallow the first sallowing forms to find shortcuts to sallow the first sallow the first

much more nutritions than prepared meats, supplies a sour carcass and is a treat in the

lunch box. I bought two. The

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THE STRONGEST LINK

LET'S TALK GARY S. WEIN

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wise to have some on hand, but spend a few extra min-utes when shopas an accompaniment. Homemade combread and a simple green salad would round out the meal. Try fresh fruit salad with a dab of yogurt for

lines I wait in, the dessert. happier I am. Most fruits and

Have the proper utensils If vegetables will fast a least a week if stored properly. can double as a pasta cooker. Celery, onions, carrots and pep-Casserole dishes are invaluable.

moral of the story is pre-plan, save money, time and supply a higher quality nutritional meal. After the grocery trip has been handled, the other half of the war is to be waged. The cooking! It is so important to be organized. If you are making revival, and justly so. If you're considering purchasing pots and pans, choose sizes suitable to your family size and favored cooking styles. A large wok doubles as a steamer when a

utes when shopping to read labels
extra chili, pre-soak the beans
and compare
prices.

Hike to plan my
Determine what will be served

Determine what will be served

Meals by Natalie Haughton. It Meals' by Natalie Haughton. It is available at Border's book-stores. So fill the pot and unwind, dinner is taking care of itself.

Mary Brudy is a certified executive chef and co-owner of Diamond Jim Brady's Bistro in appropriate sized stock pot. It the Novi Town Center. If yo

Recipe provided by chef Mary Brady of Diamond Jim Brady's

Eggplant Parmesan

medium eggplants washed, stem end removed 2 eggs or 3 egg whites mixed with _cup water l cup Italian bread crumbs, purchased or homemade l large canned tomatoes, crushed l teaspoon each oregano, basil, thyme Salt and pepper to taste

I cup Parmesan clieese, preferably freshly grated

Slice eggplant lengthwise into 1 inch slices. Dip in egg white, and then the bread crumbs. Broil on a cookie sheet until crisp and brown on both sides. Mix tomatoes and spices. Taste and adjust s casonings. Layer eggplant to cover bottom of casserole, sprinkle with Purmesan cheese and cover with sauce. Continue layering until ingre-tions are used. Finish with any remaining sauce. Cover and bake for ne hour at 350 degrees. Serves four.

Note: A Caesar salad and garlic toast are possible accompani-nents. The only fat in this recipe is from the cheese and that is min-mal. Approximate preparation time is twenty minutes.

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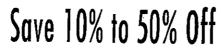


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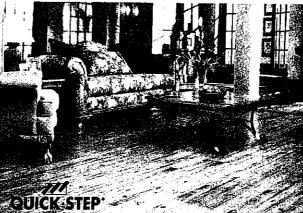
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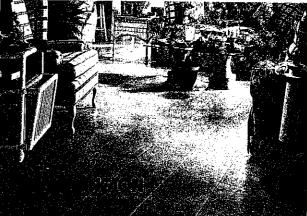
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Super Sucker not for the young

By Sam Eggleston ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

Schanebelt, played by Harve

Let's start off by saying that this movie was better than "Escanaba In Da Moonlight," which was Purple Rose Production's first attempt at a comedy. Escanaba in Da Moonlight."

Spunk and attitude of his days by thich was Purple Rose for production's first attempt at a omedy.

"Super Sucker" is the story of wo rival vacuum cleaner saleswo rival vacuum cleaner sales-

But, and no doubt you guessed this already, problems soon aris, for Barlow and his gang as sales

The movie brings back a lot of familiar faces from "Escanaba in da Moonlight," but this time they are much, much better than before. Though in no way does this match up with the great comedies of all time, or even The only problem that comes the better man.

The only problem that comes to see who was the better man.

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two rival vacuum cleaner salesmen that have went against each other in contest after contest to see who was the better man. Time and time again, their competitions lead to injury and arrest once the winner is announced. Finally, the president of the Super Sucker vacuum company tires of it, and demands a final contest to see who it is that would sell to all of Johnson City, Michigan.

The contest is a simple one—whoever sells the most Super Sucker vacuum company one catch though. Fred Barlow, played by Jeff Daniels, hasn't been doing so swell against his rival, Winslow

The contest is a simple one—whoever sells the most Super Sucker vacuum cannound throughout the film, and parents who make a labit of shielding against his rival, Winslow

The contest is a simple one—whoever sells the most Super Sucker vacuum such that the movie is the eventual plot developments. It's not that the movie is done in had taste, or pushes the envelope, It's usus that — well, you don't want to bring your kids to this one, The "R" rating is enough to let worth of new salesman Howard Butterworth's (Matt Let's just say that even if your 13 year old readly, really wants to see it for their biribday, the space of the contest is a simple one—whoever sells the most Super Suckers will have full rights to sell to the entire city. There's only one catch though. Fred Barlow, played by Jeff Daniels, hasn't been doing so swell against his rival, Winslow at the film, and parents who make a labit of shielding against his rival, Winslow at the film, and parents who make a labit of shielding against his rival, Winslow at the film with this due to the more who go and watch if you're a fan of Jeff Daniels, hasn't been doing so swell against his rival, Winslow at the move will probably work up a sweat in "Super Sucker."

The contest is a simple one—whoever selfs the most Super Suckers was filmed in Jackson, throughout the film, and parents who make a labit of shielding the victim of new salesman Howard Butterworth's (Matt Let's just say that even if your

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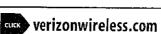
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OPINION

Cal Stone **EDITOR** VP. EDITORIA rd Brady | Phillip Power VP/COO | CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

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

Now is not the time for full-day

With the Novi School district facing a \$1.5 million budgetary shortfall for 2003-2004, this is not the time to take on the extra expense of adding full-day kindergarten classes to five of the district's six elmentary schools.

about Deerfield being the be it. only elementary school in full-day option is understandable from a parental point of view.

the choice of full-day or tary, then that's the half-day at the other wrong reason. schools as well would be a luxury, not a necessity. Deerfield was created as obligated to run this dis- its differences should not triet's finances the same be a surprise to anyone at way parents run their this point. household's.

have it. Simple economies. There are a number of and it's something the cost-cutting measures district should strive for being considered current- in the future - by budgetly, including elimination ing for it down the road if of the full-day program at and when money is avail-Deerfield. If that has to be able.

The current uproar done to make budget, so

However, if the district to offer the Deerfield cut is done only to appease the parents who have an all-or-nothing attitude regarding Unfortunately, having full-day at each elemen-

From the beginning, The administrators are a "magnet" school, and

The full-day option at Don't spend it if you don't each Novi elementary school is very attractive,

GOVERNMENT

Per reader request, we have compiled a list so you can get touch with your local and regional senators and touch with your total 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) 269 Russell Senate Office Washington D.C. 20510 senator2@levin.senate.gov Local office: 124 W. Allegan Suite 1810 Lansing, MI 48933 FAX: (517) 377-1506

Debbie Statenow (D-Lansing) 702 Hart Senate Office Building Washington D.C. 20510 (202) 224-4822 senator@stabenow.senate.go Local office: 280 East Saginay East Lansing, MI 48823

United States Congress

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11th District Thaddeus McCotter (R-Livonia) 415 Cannon HOB Washington D.C. 20515-8171 FAX: (202) 225-2667 Local office Livonia, MI 48152

State Senate

15th District Nancy Cassis (R-Novi) PO Box 30036 Lansing, MI 48909-7536 (517) 373-1758 enncassis@senate.michigan.ggv

State House of Reps

38th District Craig DeRoche (R-Novi) S0887 House Office Building PO Box 30014 Lansing, MI 48909-7514 (517) 373-0827 FAX: (517) 373-5873

39th District Marc Shulman (R-West Bloomfield) 351 Capitol Building PO Box 30014 Lansing, MI 48909-7514 (517) 373-1799 FAX: (517) 373-5777

Oakland County

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7th Commission Christine Long 1342 E. Commerce Road longc@co.oakland.mi.us

8th Commission 1099 Stable Lane South Lyon, MI 48178 (248) 437-7597 pottéri@co.oakland.mi.us

9th Commission Hugh D. Crawford 46275 11 Mile Road Novi. MI 48374 (248) 349-5079 hughcrawford@msn.com

LETTER

Mr. Phil Power I read your editorial about former governor John Engler. Lagreed with most of your comments, but was stopped cold by your negative

Supports Engler's

pro-life stance

spin of Mr. Engler's pro-life stance. In my opinon, anyone who speaks up for the unborn and takes a stand for life deserves some degree of respect. Politics aside, Mr Engler's pro-life views are to be commended. Unfortunately, those who champion abortion have been given an undeserved platform. mostly through the media, to hurt snide remarks and unfair comments at those who place significant value on the life of the unborn. Sadly, the marder of unborn children in this country has been reduced to a political

I would like to see the media use their power more wisely and come down on the side of life. Abortion isn't about choice. It's about right and wrong. It's a proven fact that 99.9 percent of the abortions performed in this country are not done to protect the physical health of the mother, but rather for con-

venience sake.

I ask you, what unborn child would ever choose to be aborted? I wonder if proponent of abortion would ever have the courage to actually witness an abortion? If they did, it wouldn't take them long to change their posi-

Many of our public figures today, including our new governor, love to use the phrase that children represent the future of this country. Ironically though, most of those voice belong to people who strongly support about

have had their future taken away from them merely for convenience sake. Mr. Engler's pro-life stance may not be to everyone's lik-ing, but to me it speaks volumes about his character.

Nathan Menoian

Fee-based not the way

The Novi Board of Education is presently reviewing the district's kindergarten options. The Board is considering expanding full-day kindergarten beyond Deerfield Elementary. the only school where it is now offered.

Developed at Deerfield after the district reviewed current research in elementary edu-eation, full-day kindergarten allows kinder iers to spend more time on curriculum and to participate in all house (K-4th groupings) and school activities and fully integrate into the school. Research clearly shows that full-day kindergarten is academically and socially beneficial to children compared to half-day programs (1, 2). By the 3rd and 4th grades, former full-day kindergartners get better grades, have better attendance, score higher on standardized reading and math register on standardizer reading and main tests, exhibit more independent learning, classroom involvement, and productivity in work with peers, and are less likely to have repeated a grade (1, 2). Nationwide, half of 5-year-olds, attend full-day kindergarten. I Eight states and the District of Columbia actually require schools to provide full-day

kindergarten (1).

The question then becomes "How can we afford to offer this option to all interested families in Novi?" Perhaps, the question should be "How can we afford not to?" There are no easy answers given current budget constraints. However, I'm deeply saddened and concerned that one of the options being considered is a fee-based program. In fact, in a survey that just came home, the proposed charge is \$16 per day (approximately \$320 per mouth or \$2880 per year). My family and I are blessed with the ability to pay even these high amounts, but I fear many (most?) are not high amounts, but I fear many (most?) are not

A fee-based program establishes a twotiered educational system in Novi that will Either way works exclude many children. I fear that the diversi-ty that enriches the Deerfield community will ne lost if families are excluded based on ability to pay I'm also concerned that many excluded families will be those who may not the precious gift of time. It is primarily stayat-home moms who volunteer thousands of hours and give generously of their many tal-ents to enrich the educational experience of all our children. These are the mons who help in the classrooms and functioners, day.

Amidst all the hub-bub, School Board Amidst all the hub-bub, School Board Company and C arrange assemblies, chaperone field trips, raise funds, bake cookies, and run errands.

These are the moms who help a child tie a up and reminded everyone that Novi offered a shoe, zip a coat, get a glove on, blow their nose, or wash their hands. These are the moms who wipe a tear, share a smile, a haugh, a hug, or a kind word when it's most for a full-day program which was fine. She said not all 5-year-olds were ready

I realize that the Novi Board of Education has many difficult choices to make given a projected \$1.4 million deficit. (Although ironically, as reported in the Novi News, the disprogram is a ricit recently saved \$1.474 million in refi-nancing its bonds.) However, I have difficulty understanding how we manage to afford full-

can't seem to do the same for our kindergart-ners. As I understand it, the state provides the same amount of funding for each student regardless of grade-level. How, then, can we treat our youngest, most vulnerable students so unfairly? I hope that the Novi Board o use our resources wisely to continue to pro vide a strong foundation for all of our children, regardless of ability to pay.

Maria D. Castro, M.D.

1. Viadero, Debra "Study: Full-Day Kinde igarien Boosts Academic Performance," Education Week, 21 (April 17, 2. Rothenberg, Dianne, "Full-day Kindergorten Programs," ERIC Clearinghouse on Elementary and Early Childhood Education, EDO-PS-95-4, May

P. S. I'm attaching a letter written by my daughter. Lysa, a second-grader at Decrfield, After writeling me write multiple letters to the Board, she decided she too wan ed to "do something," This is what she painstakingly pecked out on the computer.

...and her daughter's thoughts, too

Dear school board members I really hope that you don't have to make the amout of money 3,000 dollars for kinagarden each year! My little brother (Chase Hetrick) will be entering kintergar-den sept.2003. I really would like it if he could come to deerfield and he with me and his friends. I think that it would be unfair if kids couldn't come to deerfield be don't have out money! I would like to help with anything I can to raise money for the school board more box tops, lemonade stands whatever. I would feel bad if my brother and the other kinagarden didn't get the programs and skill bulding progects they need!

Half-day's not all bad

would like to thank Julie Abrams of the Novi Board of Education for her statement at the Thursday, January 9, 2003 School board meeting. During a discussion about full-day kindergarten, she commented that Novi's half (an hindergarten species). half-day kindergarten program is wonderful, too. She asked what's wrong with a child attending school in the morning and then spending the afternoon taking a nap, going for a walk, or going to the zoo. My answer to that is: Nothing! My son attends kindergarten in the morning learning with one of Novi's linest teachers and then comes home and learns different things with me. We read, play games, go for walks, go skating and even pla legos.

A headline in this Sunday's Detroit News

eads, "Robbing children of spontaneous play time may limit them." The article goes on to state, "In pushing out free play, we risk not just damaging social and imaginative skills but doing harm to the cognitive skills we are hoping to boost." There is possible long-term damage done by forcing young brains to master tasks they are not ready for

Since most of Novi's graduates go on to college, you can assume that these kindergarteners have at least 16 full years of school ahead of them. I see nothing wrong with let-ting a 5-year-old have some time to be a kid,

Sarah Savela

I attended the Novi Board of Education meeting on January 9th where there was a big discussion on full-day kindergarten. Several have extensive financial resources, but have parents made comments about how much they and their children enjoy the full-day pro-gram. The School Board is considering expanding the program to all five of its elememary schools, with the participating parour children. These are the moms who ems paying a fee for the second half of the

ag, or a kind word when its most or a funday program which was the foc. See e. See even went as far as suggesting that a half-day program provided a stay-at-home parent the

I believe that Novi's half-day kindergarten program is a great environment where the children have great academic opportunities. but it also allows them to develop their cre ative and personal skills, as well. Whether a

day programs at all other grade-levels yet child attends the full- or half-day program in Novi, they will equally be prepared for the educational challenges that lie ahead. Again, I want to thank Julie Abrams for reminding us of that fact.

Leave Deerfield alone

The kindervarten issue has us extremely concerned. We have three children. Our daughter is currently at Novi Meadows. She went to Deerfield for fourth grade the first year it was open. Our Son is currently a fourth grader at Deerfield and has also been there since the first year it was open. Our other sor is currently in preschool and will be in kindergarten next year.

We have been extremely happy with our decision to move our children to Deerfield. It is a great program and should continue. Fullday kindergarten should be made available in every elementary school to the extent finances allow. If funds are not available for all schools, do not change the current program at Deerfield. By continuing with the lottery system, every family in the district has an equal unity to have their student attend a full day kindergarten. By dropping the full-day kindergarten from Deerfield, the district will be eliminating an extremely successful program. If a fee is added for this program, eco-nomically-disadvantaged children will not be afforded the possibility to attend.

The Novi Community School District should formulate a plan where a full-day kindergarten program is added based on inter-est on a school-by-school basis as space and finances are available. Why change or alter a successful proven program like Deerfield Elementary? Let's go forward and make a progressive school district even better!

Martha Palmei

I'll be back

I want to thank the Novi City Council fo their diligent efforts in picking a replacement for Representative DeRoche who left the council to serve in Lansing. It was an arduous process that I was fortunate enough to be part of: Although disappointed that I was not chosen, I applaud the decision to add Dr. Sanghvi to the council "team". I stand reads that "bridge building" capability that I envisioned during my council interview, I hope that Mr. Cappello on one end of the bridge and Mr. Korte on the other will both endorse my candidacy. I will continue my role of protector, one that I performed admirably for nearly 27 years with the Novi Police Department. The only difference is that as a council member, I will be vigilant to detect and stop any reckless spending or other waste of OUR monies and OUR resources, I looi forward to remaining an integral part o Novi's very bright future.

Bob Gatt

Grow up!

After reading the entire Novi News of January 9, 2003, it has become apparent that the 4-2, or perhaps now the 5-2, voting decision of our city council is a reflection of an inability of our leaders to put forth the true representation of the citizens of Novi instead of enacting their own personal agendas. Although I did not view the council session on January 6, 2003, maybe because "Fear Factor" was on, it appears that the Neilson ratings might want to conside reviewing the "entertainment" factor involve with our local city council meetings. This is by no means, a medium to display the assi nine behavior that maybe we all are cabable of exhibiting, at some point or anot

Let's be proffessional when we are being viewed in the community! Save your dramatic behavior for when the doors are closed and the camera is off! Unless, perhaps "Lifestyles of The Incredibly Stupid" offers a

Steve Morianti

What was he watching?

be able to afford a fee-based program. If the district had to pay for the services (many of which are priceless) that these monts (and some dads) provide for our kindergartners, we mould be facing a much greater deficit than the control of the park of the pa And, to be frank, I wonder if Mr. Toth was

watching the wrong channel on his cable sys-tem by mistake instead of Novi Public Access. His description of the meeting is so

your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content.



E-mail to: cstone@ht.homecomm.net Fax to: (248) 349-9832

OTHER OPINIONS

Did Johnson solicit contribution, or bribe?

five seats in the November election, now con-trolling the House 63-47. Again, not a surprise. Johnson, a farmer from Northern Michigan,

s re-elected Speaker of the House last week

"Contribute, n. To give or supply in common with others; give to a common fund or for a So which was it that Michigan House

Speaker Rick Johnson was doing back in December when he wrote to lobbyists and other fat cats offering "a meal or a meeting" in return for a \$20,000 contribution to the House Republican Campaign Committee?

Written on Campaign Committee letterhead. the exact wording of Johnson's

letter is instructive: "I would like to let you know how imperative your assistance has been and continues to be to the House Republican Campaign Committee. ... In place of having our usual large Annual Dinner, I would like to spend a meal or meeting with you to discuss the upcoming year and the role of the House Republican Campaign Committee. It is my intention letter is instructive; "I would Republican Campaign Committee. It is my intention that each of these engage-ments raise \$20,000 to maintain and increase our majority Phil Power in years to come."

The exact amount requested is equally instructive. Turns out \$20,000 is the top limit n contributions to political action committees AC's) such as the House Republican Campaign Committee. What a surprise

The House Republican Campaign Committee led all PAC's in fund-raising between January and October last year, according to the Campaign Finance Network.

for a second term. He is generally regarded as hard working and fair, although blunt. To its credit, the story was broken last week by the normally Republican-leaning Detroit News. Editorial comment around the state called Johnson's letter "ham-fisted," "crass" and "clumsy." Lansing insiders I talked with called the letter "politically tone-deaf" and

"embarrassing," but empha-sized that the practice isn't anything that hasn't been going on for years and fol-lowed by both parties, Most said Johnson wasn't "embarrassing," but empha-

really soliciting a bribe, argu-ing that his letter didn't offer a specific quid pro quo in return for the \$20,000. I think that's mumbo-jumbo. Why would anybody pony up with 20 grand to have a nice intimate meal with one of the most powerful politicians in Michigan? Just because the food is real good at Johnson's vorite restaurant.

No, a quid pro quo is a quid pro quo, whether or not it is specific. People don't pay big bucks to chin-chin with the Speaker of the House just because they enjoy his company; they expect something in return for their \$20,000. Michigan political insiders for years have

argued vociferously there is a clear distinction between the widespread practice of asking for

pulling in \$2.02 million. Republicans gained five seats in the November election, now coneverybody has done it for years and, anywar how else are you going to finance the politica

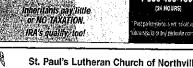
> I think that's just outrageous! All that kind f thinking does is condone a political system whose financial basis encourages the infesta-tion by wealthy special interests and generates

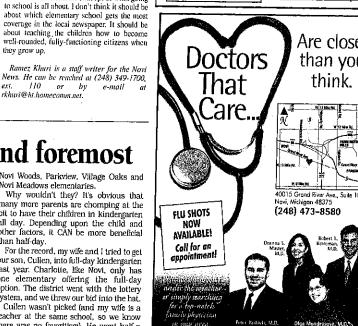
In this context, what's going on these day in Wisconsin offers an interesting alternative. There, a ton of legislators are now under indictment for taking kiekbacks and shaking people down in the hallways of the state capi-

Of course, the solution is not to cobble together yet another law better to regulate political campaigns. There is no law or regula tion that can suppress a system - wink-win nod-nod! - that is based on the exchange money for influence, access and power. Instead, we should be forthright and publicly fund elections, the way they do it in other industrialized democracies like England France and Scandinavia. But, of cour

solicitation for a bribe or merely a request for a generous campaign contribution. Either way, it's a disgusting shakedown.

Phil Power is the Chairman of the Board of the company that owns this newspaper. He would be pleased to get your reactions to this column either at (734) 953-2047 or at ppower@homecomm.net.









248-471-0396 ANNUITY OWNERS READ THIS!

over there really don't understand how democracy really works!

Speaker Johnson's letter may be an outright many important question

I'm not playing favorites with schools rizing all the big stories. This took many long hours, and since I was basically summarizing The reason I haven't been around to some of the schools lately is because I was under the

my memory serves me correctly, I don't think I got back with that person from Novi

Meadows to let them know that

I wasn't able to cover any of the school's events. If I'm

right, I truly apologize. There was no conscious effort to con-

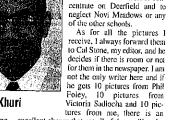
mails lately from people representing some of the elementary schools in the Novi Community School District, and at first I didsomeone else's work, it wasn't very easy.

The thing I believe I did wrong there was, if n't know what to say. It was quite an unpleas-ant surprise, so I took some time to gather my

thoughts. It seems that many people in the district are upset with me and the way I'm covering the schools. I am going to try to explain myself in this

All I can say is, I have been doing the best I can with what I have, but I think I may have explanation of what I did in December, In late November someone from Deerfield Elementary sent me a list of upcoming events going on at the school, which I covered Ramez Khuri

from then through the first two weeks of December. On December 8, someone from Novi Meadows sent me another list of the cut. events at that school, but I wasn't able to cover



tures from me there is an excellent chance that not all of them will make Someone recently alerted me of the Living Science Program going on at Novi Woods.

stand what I'm saying here. I had no intention of making anyone this angry. I assure everyreceive, I always forward them to Cal Stone, my editor, and he body that once things start to pick up, I will be ecides if there is room or not for them in the newspaper. I amnot the only writer here and it Foley, 10 pictures from Victoria Sadlocha and 10 pic-

events at that school, but I wasn't able to cover a single one. The reason being, at the end of each year the Novi News puts out a Year in Review, and from December 12 through 26 that is all I was working on. It entailed going through every single issue of this newspaper from January through December and summa-

doing stories like the ones I did when I firs started this job.

Somewhere along the lines here, I think that some of us have lost the concept of what going to school is all about. I don't think it should be about which elementary school gets the mos-

author Carl Sams.

coverage in the local newspaper. It should be about teaching the children how to become well-rounded, fully-functioning citizens when

I hope that the people who are upset under

Ramez Khuri is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 110 or by e-mail at rkhuri@ht.homecomm.net.

It's a financial matter first and foremost

Novi's elementary schools

Many folks seem to think

that the district can just

map its lingers and, presto!

The money to pay for the

has me confused.

Since September, I took over the han- with the needs of students, parents and Novi Woods, Parkview, Village Oaks and dling of our household finances. For 14 staff. years, my wife gladly accepted this responsibility, but she felt That's why the hubbub over full-day kindergarten at each of

over to me.

No problem - I thought. To say the least, it's not an easy task to keep every-thing paid and within

that it was time to turn it

And I'm just dealing with a five-person household. I can't imagine what the financial officers of big businesses go through Likewise, how about thos in charge of a school dis-

Keeping a district like
Novi in the black has to be
a mind-beedie.

I'm sure that if the funding was available, Novi's dministrators would like

our son, Cullen, into full-day kindergarten last year. Charlotte, like Novi, only has extra staff is there one elementary offering the full-day option. The district went with the lottery system, and we threw our bid into the hat. It doesn't work like that. We expect these administrators to stay within their oudget, much the same way Cullen wasn't picked (and my wife is a teacher at the same school, so we know there was no favoritism). He went half a our elected officials should (that's a whole different

Cal Stone is the editor of the Novi News a mind-boggling undertaking, dealing nothing better than to have full-day with millions and millions of dollars along kindergarten available at Orchard Hills, He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 113 or at cstone@ht.homecomm.net.

continued from 14

drastically different than my experience standing before coun-

ence, watching every one of the applicants proceed through their ed questions from each council including Rep. DeRoche, I found all the inters were conducted in a cordial

fessional manner. Mr. Toth uses words such as Mr. Toth uses words such as "vicious attack," "an ugly display of stupidity," and "a pre-prepared hate agenda to assault cach candihate agenda to assault cach candidates" These comments are gross-

ly inaccurate! Rep. DeRoche greeted each candidate warmly, and presented the questions in an unbiased and non-threatening manner. Rep. DeRoche primarily cil, I must assume that he was presented each candidate the

politically charged.
In fact, each member of council allowed to verbally thump each used about an equal amount of time to ask his or her basic set of questions. They were all quite professional and in no way did I perceive any threatening behavior. The only comment of the night that hinted of a less-than-warm that hinted of a less-than-warm tone was made by Mr. Landry,

- it is a function to effective interviewing, and required to perform these dues bestowed upon council by the citizens of Novi In the letter, Mr. Toth continues his attack on Rep. DeRoche, pon-dering "why this sad sack of a Republican politician was

candidate? ... did he have a bad hair day and discovered a loss of a few more on top? Or did his wife ask him to take out the garbage?" I do not know Mr Toth, and I have met Mr. DeRoche just once prior to December 19. However, it is blatantly apparent that Mr. Toth has underlying personal issues with Craig DeRoche and has used

Patrick Joh

Patrick Joh this forum to vent his own vicious

News became a public forum for such an unwarranted display. I would advise greater due diligence before printing such a man-

mend that Mr. Toth should contact his cable company and request a rebroadcast of the meeting so he can see the events that actually occurred. Mr Toth, here's a helpful hint; if the people on TV are wrestling program and not a Novi

Patrick John Ramsey

St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Northville will be flying its flag at half mast on January 22nd in memory of the 40 million plus lives that have been lost due to abortion. Thirty years ago the Supreme Court decision of Roe vs. impression that during winter break, there is nothing going on at the schools. That is the Wade legalized abortion only reason. I figured that if there were no stu-dents and no teachers at the schools, there probably wouldn't be any stories either. Again, on demand. We mourn that decision. I apologize if I'm wrong in this matter as well. That is the reason I went ahead and did stories like my feature on Ready, Set, Paint! (a local business in Novi) and my interview with St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School 201 Elm Street, Northville 248-349-3140 SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE • 6:30am - Regular Worahip Sorvice 8:45am - Sunday School & Bible Stud Main St. Are closer than you

They'll fall in love with the specials you're preparing for Valentine's Day weekend. Make your restuarant reservation's for this 2 week directory that starts Sunday, February 2nd. Run Sunday and Thursday

Share your opinions: We welcome your letters to the editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask that

HomeTown

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

WLS Briefs

continued from 9

ronment should they ever he separated from their parents. Children also learn their addresses, telephone numbers and parent's names in case of an

According to Sare, "This age group is a really good place to makes a big impact on the children and builds a foundatio for future knowledge. I really believe in the program.

for more information on Walled Lake Safety Town con

A rising star

Jeff Drewno, Northern High-School media specialist, is star ring in "Chicago," the Fredd Fibb and Bub Fosse musical, Jan. 23-24 and 30-31 and Feb. 1-2 and 7-9, at the Stagecrafter Theater, 415 S. Lafayette Ave., in Royal Oak, Thursday-Saturday performinges are at \$ performance for the deaf on

Friday, Feb. 7, Tickets are \$14 for Thursday performances, and \$16 for Friday-Sunday performances (\$14 for senior citizens and students, Sundays only). Call (248, 541-6430).

Matz awarded

Sue Matz, director of instructional programs for Walled Lake Consolidated Schools and Coordinator for the Walled Lake Reading Recovery Site, received the Reading Recovery Council of Michigan Award recently for her innovative district-wide implementation of Reading Consolidated School District.

In May 1999, Walled Lake's comprehensive strategic plan designed to increase the reading and writing achievement of all elementary students. Reading Recovery, an early intervention program serving children in first grade, was identified as an important part of the district's overall literacy strategy.

Matz worked on closing th achievement gap for low-achieving, high-risk students in the district by insuring that balanced literacy framework i evident in every classroom and by moving to full implementaion of Reading Recovery in th

the study of the effectiveness of the different intervention mod-els employed by the district. The research showed that Reading Recovery was the most effective early intervention model. As a result of this investigation, Matz led the district in the restructuring of the Title 1 program from that of a Para-educator model to Reading Recovery model. This resulted in full implement tation of Reading Recovery in all of the Title I schools.

After graduating from the University of Michigan with a mechanical engineering degree. Jeff Smith spent a decade designing advanced composites for McDonnell-Douglas fighter air-craft program in St. Louis. Meadowbrook, Roads about 10

ing truck chassis and most recently castings for Metaldyne. "I simply always wanted to have my own

Liberty fax Service in the Novi 10

McDonnell-Donglas (ighter air corner of 10 Mile and real program in St. Lonies, Lan. 6 be and wife Marie opened the first Liberty Tax Service franchise to be located west of Liberty Tax Service offices in the first Liberty Tax Service offices in the first Liberty Tax Service of the first confidence of the first

Novi couple opens tax service just in time

DIE OPERA

Oodward.

In between he took turns at selling truck chassis and most recently castings for Metaldyne. "I simply mouth and South Lyon and expect to expand their business over the next few years.

"If I do the join right," he said. "I won't do a single return. I'll facts the business." Marie aid Liberty Tax Service is located at a full-service tax preparation service. Marie affel Liberty Tax Service is a full-service tax preparation service. Marie said Liberty Tax Service is located at 1744 West 10 Mile Road. For a full-service tax preparation service. Service is located at 1744 West 10 Mile Road. For more fund antipation refund antipation refund antipation."

Service

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**Information call (248) 465-1029.

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Service

Service ice offering refund antipation loans, E-filing and E-refund checks. She said that while the nationwide company has been hovi News. He can be reached at

Potter takes post as Oakland County commissioner

He has five times the condents for 13 years looked to for enthusiasm about their city is tak-ing his think-outside-the-box phi-losophy to Oakland County.

"It was fun, everybody had their family there." Potter's November election to

serve the newly drawn commussion district maintains his ties
with South Lyon residents and
adds to his representative responsibilities the communities of
term Townshin, Wixon, Walled

This new position also will give
him a new, "legitimate" forms to
50,000-plus people will be more
difficult.

The committees Potter will
sorve on are General Government

This new one crossor.

It's now on

ence and I hope they do that again

Like Sophiea, senior Alexia Karanikas wasn't able to ask a ques-

"I wanted to ask how be felt about

the affirmative action at U of M. but

going on with Iraq and North Korea and he felt that terrorism is our

FIRST UNITED METHODIST

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Dr. Gury Ethor Postor

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE

217 N.Wing 348-1020 Sunday Worship, 10:45a.m. & 6:30 p.r. Wad, Youth Meetings 7:00 p.m. Boys Brigade 7 p.m. Pioneer Girls 7 p.m

Sunday School 9:30 a.m

OAK POINTE CHURCH

Sunday 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Casual, contemporary live band (248) 615-7050

tion because of time restraints

enditistissing about their city is taking think-outside-the-box phisophy to Oakland County.

Leftiev Potter pledged the continuoities of Lake, and part of Novi.

Leftiev Potter pledged the continuoities of Lake, and part of Novi.

The it as a natural outgrowth pointiac.

The it as a natural outgrowth pointiac.

The was kind of like a mass baptism, "I we of was five already been doing." Potter said. "My key issue all along has been regionalism, interiormunity cooperation and more distinct in the continuoities of them," he side of them, "he said.

Despite individual identities, his district's communities have in common features, such as their relatively small size, environmental community cooperation and more distinct in the committees. The committees Potter will serve on are General Government and Public Services. The proceedings are somewhat like the common features, such as their relatively small size, environmental transfer to the continuoities of them. The committees Potter will serve on are General Government and Public Services. The proceedings are somewhat like the relatively small size, environmental transfer to the continuoities of them." It is the ability to have people with the committees of them, and part of Novi.

Material Public Services. The proceedings are somewhat like the relatively small size, environmental transfer to the committees of them. The committees Potter will serve on are General Government and Public Services. The proceedings are somewhat like the communities and Public Services. The proceedings are somewhat like the committees point and provide the continuoities and Public Services. The proceedings are somewhat like the committees point and provide the continuoities and Public Services. The proceedings are somewhat like the relatively small size, environment and provide the continuoities and Public Services. The proceedings are somewhat like the relatively small size, environment and Public Services. The proceedings are somewhat like the relatively small size on a natural providenc

effective government."

Decisions about how the country will allocate a budget of more than \$500 million will be part of his responsibilities.

His new position also will give that relationship with the part of his responsibilities.

The policy of the part of his responsibilities.

In a small community people can look around to see how you're doing, he said.

The how one chooses to occurrence that the process of the policy of the part of the office is limited, he said.

The how one chooses to occurrence that the process of th

Rare opportunity gives high schoolers a chance to speak with a U.S. senator

By Ramez Khuri

Live by videoconference, a group of 10th. 14th and 12th grade stu-dents at Novi High School spoke to U.S. Senator Carl Levin on Jan. 14, Contact with a dispersion of the high

one who brought this idea to life. through months of hard work. "First of all I went through Marilya Kiefer, who's the head of our media center staff," he said, "We have a program through Oakland Schools and mine is television on which we offer videoconferences to students. I went on-line, I filled out

actually a very tedious process."

According to Nuckolls, the process started back in August. "Senator Levin is a very busy individual." he said, "I put in calls faxes, e-mails, you name it, until-today became a reality. I wanted to create a real life, 'being there' experience for the students. You can rem about something in a textbook or a newspaper article, but it's nothing like the real thing, so I wanted to

forward direct answers."

Sophomore Peter Sophica didn't

CHANGES ARE MADE IN DETERMINATIONS OF THE CITY OF NOVI, OAKLAND COUNTY. MICHIGAN, BASE (1% ANNUAL **CHANCE) FLOOD ELEVATIONS (BFEs)** UNDER THE NATIONAL FLOOD **INSURANCE PROGRAM (NFIP)**

This modification to the effective FIRM reflects fill, more up-to-date hydrautic analysis and new topographic data. As a result, there are changes to the flood hazard information shown on the FIRM for the City of Novi. The revised BFEs for Tribulary C are as follows:

Sase Flood Elevations (NGVD)*

Location

At a point approximately 520 feet upstream of Wixom Road*

954

At a point approximately 870 feet upstream of Wixom Road*

955

1955

*Elevation in feet National Georgetic Vertical Datum The changes are made pursuant to Section 206 of the Flood Disaste of the of 1973 (RL. 93-234), and are in accordance with the tational Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended. (Title XIII of the lousing and Urban Development Act of 1968, P.L. 90-448) 42 U.S.C. 001-4128, and 44 CFR Part 65.

45175 West Ten Mile Road Novi, Michigan 48375-3024

(01-09/16-03 NN 32339)

Students got a chance to ask him any questions they wanted for a half hour in this rare opportunity. The students posed questions to the Senator from the Novi High School media center and Levin answered their inquiries from a studio in the U.S. Capitol.
Teacher Korey Nuckolls was the

a proper application, contacted Senator Levin's office and it was

create a real life experience for the kids so they can learn about politics and government from an actual per-son who works in the system. The students asked very challenging questions and be gave us straight

get an opportunity to ask a question because of time restraints, but he

On May 3, 1993, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) identified Special Flood Hazard Areas in the City of Novi, Michigan, through issuance of a Flood insurance Rate Map (FIRM). The Federal Insurance Administration Maigation Administrator has determined that modification of the elevations of the flood having a one-percent chance of occurrence in any given year (base flood) for certain locations in the City of Novi, is appropriate. The modified BFEs amend the FEMA FIRM for the community.

This modification to the effective FIRM reflects fill, more up-to-date hydraufic analysis and new topographic step. As a certificiple of the community.

4001-4128, and 44 CFR Part 65.

Under the above-mentioned Acts of 1968 and 1973, the Federal Insurance Administration Mitigation Administrator, must develop criteria for floodplan management. In order for the community to participate in the NFIP, the community with european period plan management measures of the NFIP. These modified BFFs will also be used to calculate the appropriate flood insurance premium rates for new buildings and their contents.

Upon the second publication of notice of these changes in this paper, any person has 90 days in which he can request through the Chief Executive Officer of the community that the Pederal Insurance Administration/Mitigation Administrator reconsider the determination. Any request for reconsideration must be based on knowledge of changed conditions or new scientific or technical data. All interested parties are on

conditions or new scientific or technical data. All interested parties are on notice that until the 90-day period elapses, the Federal insurance Administration/Mitigation Administrator's determination to modify the BFEs may itself be changed.

Any person having knowledge or wishing to comment on these changes should immediately notify:

The Honorable Richard Clerk
Mayor of the City of Novi
Chric Center

enfoyce the experience. This was excellent, the said. "I enjoyed watching him on television. It was a lot different than reading or watching another interview about a politito different than reading or watch-ing another interview about a politi-cian. It was a different experience, but I liked it a lot better then through

e-mail or through anything else. This definitely has the advantage over anything else I have ever done here." Junior Lindsay Zeigin-Nener did - 1 didn't get the chance to because Jointo Lindsty Zeigin-Neller did ask a question. "There was a recent proposal to re-instate the draft. I was wondering, because (Senator Levin) is the chairman of the committee of armed forces, what his opinion of force and the control of the proposal state of the proposal state of the manner of the proposal state of the proposal state of the proposal state of the manner of the proposal state of the proposal state of the proposal state of the proposal state of the manner of the proposal state of the p armed forces, what his opinion of that proposal was," she said. "He said that he was not a supporter of it. but he thought that Americans should contribute to their nation through community service, and I was very impressed with the way he answered the question. It was very

higgest threat right now, not either one of those, which kind of made me think a little bit. Now that he said it, and the way he said it. I do agree with that. He really made son neat. It's very rare that you get to talk one-on-one with a senator and it's like something out of C-SPAN, It's incredible that you can actually everything he said. I am an AP government student and I just thought that it kind of puts everything together to actually talk to one of be involved like that and speak—these people and to see that they directly to him and know that he's care.

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(248) 449-800
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Minister Barbara Clevenger

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH 8:30 & 9:45 Traditional Services 11:15 Confemporary Service

CHURCH DIRECTORY

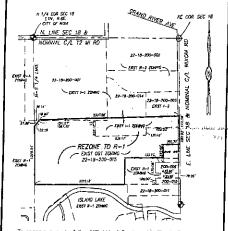
The Northville Record or Novi News (248) 349-1700

Your Church Could Be Here!

CITY OF NOVI **NOTICE OF ENACTMENT - ZONING** MAP AMENDMENT 18.624 THE CITY OF NOVI ORDAINS:

Part I. That Ordinance No. 97-18, known as the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Novi is hereby amended as indicated on ZONING MAP NO. 18.624 attached hereto and made a part of this Ordinance. Part II. CONFLICTING PROVISIONS REPEALED. Any Ordinance or parts of any Ordinance in conflict with any of the provisions of this Ordinance are brether benealed.

rdinance are hereby repealed.
Part III. WHEN EFFECTIVE. The provisions of this ordinance are ereby declared to be necessary for the preservation of the public peace ealth and safety and is hereby ordered to take effect fifteen (15) day ther final enactment. The effective date of this Ordinance is January 21



To rezone a part of the NE 1/4 of Section 18, T.1N., R.8E., City of Novi, Oakland County, Michigan, being part of parcels 22-18-200-011, 22-18-200-014 and 22-18-200-015, more particularly described as fol-

Part of Parcel 22:18-200-015

Part of Parcel 22:18-200-015

Part of Parcel 22:18-200-015

Part of Parcel 22:18-200-015

Part of Section 18, said point on the North-South 1/4 line of Section 18, said point being distant \$500°15'03'E, 1320.00 feet from the North 1/4 corner of Section 18; thence \$69°31'51'E, 1097.20 feet; thence \$09°10'03'E, 259.17 feet; thence \$00°41'00'E, 259.17 feet; thence \$00°41'00'E, 260.92 feet along said East Line; thence \$898'19'17'W, 302.50 feet; thence \$00°41'00'E, 297.40 feet; thence \$898'19'17'W, 133.11 feet; thence \$00°41'00'E, 79.00 feet;

orth-South 1/4 line N00°15'03"W, 87.85 feet to the point of beginning

122.26 feet to the North-South 1/4 line of Section 18; thence along said North-South 1/4 line No?0*15/33*W, 87.35 feet to the point of beginning. Containing 0.09 acres more or less.

Also excepting therefrom, all that part of the previously described parcel with the existing zoning of R-1. Containing 6.41 acres more or less. Part of parcels 22-18-200-001 & 22-18-200-014

Beginning at a point distant S00*15/03*E, 1308.50 feet along the North South 1/4 line of Section 18 and N89*19/00*E, 99.37 feet from the North South 1/4 corner of Section 18 (nominal C/L of Wixom Road); thence S00*14/10/E, 172.55 feet along said East line; thence S89*19/00*W, 600.00 feet; thence S00*41/00*E, 120.18 feet; thence N89*3*15/1*W, 1011.07 feet; thence N01*10/33*W, 259.17 feet; thence N89*3*15/1*W, 1011.07 feet; thence N44*32'02*E, 18.80 feet to the point of beginning. Containing 923 acres more or less.

FROM: H. LIGHT INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT OST OFFICE SERVICE TECHNOLOGY

TO: R-1 ONE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT ORDINANCE NO. 18.524

MADE AND PASSED by the City Council of the City of Novi, Michigan, line 6th day of January, 2003. Copies of the City Clerk, Novi, Michigan, line 6th day of January, 2003. Copies of the City Clerk, Novi, Michigan, weekdays between 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM, local time.

III. 16-03 DAILY 33919)

MARYANDRA CONDRELIES COTA CLERKY.

(1-16-03 DAILY 33919)

RICHARD J. CLARK, MAYOR
MARYANNE CORNELIUS, CITY CLERK

Who should you turn to with



Team Up & Talk
With Your Pharmacist.

Your pharmacist is one good answer. You may not know that your
pharmacist can help you understand how to take your medications
properly. This is one of the best ways to decrease your overall health
care costs—and your pharmacist is there to help you get the most
form your mediations.

By working together with your pharmacist, you can be sure that your medications will make you better when you are sick or help keep

our pharmacist can help you get the most from your medicines, so be sure to ask your pharmacist...we are always there for you...helping your medicines help you.

REGIONAL MARKETPLACE

Steering small business to

Like a NASCAR 500-mile race, each two-year session of Congress gets off to a fast and will leap to the front of the pack, knowing they have little cha roaring crowd. Others with ample power will lag just behind that moment when the over-ambitious ones fizzle out or tangle

ound and round Capitol Hill they'll go. Sometimes it will be other times long, boring stretches Occasionally, we'll be treated to Occasionally, we'll be treated to spinouts, fender benders and even a few big pile-ups.

Some people scoff at our federal lawmakers for their biennial

understand that behind all that smoke and noise, some important vork gets done. Often, it's not pretty, but it is our democracy, alive and well and in full pursuit of representative government.

American small businesses are

gearing up for their own race according to the latest statistics Economic Trends. In the most recent survey, those expecting the six months rose 11 points to 42 percent of all firms, a very strong

ading. Much of this optimism on Main Street is due to large gains in their outlook for general busiencouraging were the statistics first time in nearly a year-and-a-

Over the past three months, 12 reported increasing employment a seasonally adjusted average of mpre than six employees, while 14 percent said they reduced their workforces by just over three

Are you listening Congress? ness owners who keep the nation's economic engine hum the time to make your move. The road ahead is clearing, just slightly, and the opportunities to jump But it won't be easy. There

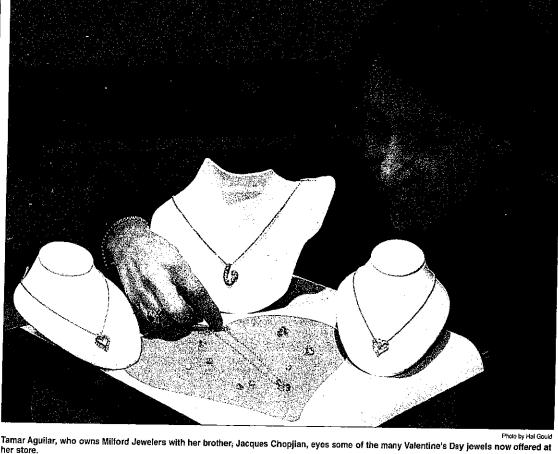
will be challenges and stem competition. No sooner than the first gavel of the 108th Congress fell, the opponents of free enterprise were trying to jump-start legisla-tive proposals that would grind away the already-narrow profit margins small firms manage. They should pay heed to NFIB surveys which show that although late last year, profit trends for small businesses did not rise with them. The net percent of those reporting higher earnings fell by

In the survey, small business mapped out a winning strategy. But they can use some help from Congress: Taxes took first place problem, while the cost and availability of insurance were right behind. Poor sales came next, followed by government regulation and red tane.

Wise legislating can win the race. By clearing the obstacles of anti-growth taxation and unaffordable health insurance, and by dodging the potholes of burden some regulation, Congress can steer the small-business sector

Jack Faris is president of NFIB the National Federation of Independent Business), the nation's largest small-business advocacy group. A non-profit, non-partisan organization found ed in 1943, NFIB represents the consensus views of its 600,000 members in Washington, D.C., and all 50 state capitals. More information is available on-line





Milford Jewelers: 'My special valentine'

styling of a particular ring that boasts an Old World appeal. Or maybe it's the platinum prongs used exclusively by Milford Jewelers to set all of its clear diamonds and jubilant gernstones. Often, it's the customer service,

the friendly, laid-back approach to We see that look a lot, especially with new customers who are used to having jewelers tell them they can't have — or worse yet, they can't afford — the jewelry they really want," Tamar said.
"Here, it makes us feel good to know that people are getting exactly what they are paying for." She said such customer satisfaction is too often a surprise among newer customers typically used to getting far less quality for a much higher price.

"People are so overwhelmed by what's possible. They find it hard ry piece they have always wanted

The expression of half-surprise and half-relief by new customers have been telling us, "We wax mold tomers have been telling us, "We wax mold tomers have been telling us, "We The old tomers have been telling us," we way mold to the control of the never knew we could have a jew

> else. No one ever told us that." Jacques said the difference between what customers imagine and what a jeweler offers is many times a tell-tale sign about a jew-eler's true ability. At Milford

Jewelers is one of only a handful of jewelers who specialize in more than mere retailing, Born into a family which has spent the past 30 years refining its craft and its professional reputation, Jacques and Tamar are the youngest of five jewlery-entrenched siblings entrenched siblings.

what affordable, hand-erafted jewelry looks like up close.

Maybe it's the hand-engraved down and made into something

Jewelers, he said the sparkling possibilities of the universe are limitless — and affordable. That's because Milford

Boasting a myriad of high-tech equipment (including laser sol-dering machines and platinum casting ovens) and about 30,000

wax jewelry molds, the family is prepared for just about any jewel-ry need, "We hear a lot of jewelers claim they can craft this or that," Jacques said. And we always

Tamar Aguilar and Jacques break their bank account," Tamar And where? We have a manufac turing facility that requires 4,000 sed, "That's also kind of sad, square fect, Anyone can make a square fect, Anyone can make a square feet, Anyone can make a square feet, and some a square feet, and square wax mold, but that's only half the

> detail, the finishing touches which are hallmark Milford Jewelers meticulous diamond and gemstone settings, coupled with per-sonalized styling and handengraving, Such services need not come with a hefty price tag, Jacques

The other half is attention to

And contrary to what some jewelry customers have been told through the years, the road to quality fine jewelry does not trek exclusively through the high-priced forest of mass-produced

designer lines.
"Some jewelers sell only designer lines because they don't have the ability to craft jewelry themselves," Jacques said, "Believe me, the more customer look around for someone who can actually work with their hands, the better off they are going to Tamar said since last May

when she and her brother opened their Milford Jewelers doors for the first time, nearly 1,000 new customers have discovered the affordable difference that hand-

Soon Milford Jewelers — "Your friendly jewelry store" — will-

By spring, Milford Jewelers will also become "Your friendly ewelry Web site." The new 24-hour online store will feature a wide array of fashionable and affordable fine jewelry, including rings, bracelets, necklaces and specialty gifts. Additionally, the site (www.milfordwelers.com) will feature an online vault filled with literally thou-

ands of available loose diamonds and precious gemetones. But the site will be more than just an online jewelry store, said Tamar Aguilar, who owns the popular Main Street, Milford jewelry outique along with her older brother, Jacques Chopjian. "We have taken our time developing our Web site because we wanted to do it right," she said. "We wanted to offer more than

imply jewelry you can purchase.' She said the forthcoming site, slated for a spring debut, will eature much more than mere product, it will also be part of a ewelry partnership' with several industry leaders. "Let's just say we have several pleasant surprises scheduled

t's in a store setting or on the Internet," Tamar said. "Our family has always been a leader when it comes to cusomer service, so when it comes to the Internet, we are looking o carry that same reputation there as well." Tamar's best advice: "Bookmark and register at our site now

(www.milfordjewelers.com). Believe me, by spring, you'll be very

for people who find it difficult to shop for fine jewelry, whether

alad you did." ized customer service can make

"We have gotten that 'look' a they have gotten the jewelry they lot during the past year," she said.
"But it makes us proud to know can actually afford."

"People are so overwhelmed by what's possible. They find it hard to believe that they can actually work with us to design the jewelry piece they have always wanted — and that it doesn't have to break their bank account.'

Tamar Aquilar

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now at the Capitol

encouraging investment by busi-nesses. Meanwhile. California nesses. Meanwhile, California Gov. Gray Davis is asking his state's legislature for an \$8.3 billion

state's legislature for an S&3 billion tax hike in a state where the sales tax is already 7.5 percent.

Here in Michigan, the state is forecasting a \$1.5 to \$2 billion shortfall. On Tuesday, the Legislature embarked on its Revenue Estimating Consensus Conference where the Senate, House and Treasury, with the help of University of Michigan economists, began designing a foundarists, began designing a foundarists. mists, began designing a founda-tion for funding the 2003-2004 budget. Despite the concerns, Cassis remains hopeful that Michigan's downtum will be shallow and short-lived. She points to economists' outlooks published in the Wall Street Journal that show Michigan and the nation as a whole rebounding better than earlier

expected.

That's our sense that the economic but it's growing at a my is growing, but it's growing at a slower rate," Cassis said.

As chair of both the Senate Finance Committee and the Senate Republican Policy Committee, Cassis will play a significant role on economic proposals before they reach the floor for a vote. She said her goal is to encourage

policies and promote ideas that will help business, industry and invest-ment recharge sluggish economic growth. And for many constituents, it's the standard Republican policy.

"Remove restrictions where we can, and facilitate business attraction to the state is all important," she said, "We're building on the achievements over the past 10 or 12

Cassis argues that Michigan has weathered the recession better than much of the nation because the Engler administration, especially, worked to encourage a more diverse economy. Though Michigan is dependent on the auto industry, it's less so than it was a

support for the Automation Alley and the Bio-Science Corridor and other diverse industries will help Michigan's economy expand and to become less prone to dips in employment and consumer and

employment and consumer and business spending.

And that leads to more tax revenue for the state.

"We've worked hard to get to this point." Cassis said. "The policies and structures are in place to keep Michigan's economy moving forward."

Big plate

Though the economy has taken center stage for more than a year, Cassis' duties are more varied than that of an elected economist. She will serve as vice chair of the Senate Education Committee, and education is an area where she has some expertise. She is a former school teacher and school psychol-ogist who earned a master's and an education specialist degree from

the University of Michigan.

She serves on the Technology and Energy Committee. Here, too, she has experience after serving on the House's version of the com the House's version of the commit-tee for six years. As well, Cassis is a member of the Government Operations Committee, which will review, consent and advise on appointments made by Gov. Jennifer Granholm. Though Cassis welcomes tech-nological advances and the mems

nological advances and the means to attract them to Michigan, and though she has strong views on supporting education, there remains an underlying theme - revenue is needed. And deciding where to spend the state's money will be the most complicated issue. "That will dominate much of the

first six months," she said.

Sam Black is an editor for Hometown Newspapers. Reach him at 248-437-2011 or at sblack@ht.homecomm.net.

It's Senator Cassis | DeRoche begins freshman tenure

them," Johnson said, "Craig and his new colleagues are already getting involved and making sure their voice is heard in the process."

voice is heard in the process."

DeRoche said he has been very enthusiastic about his new duties and responsibilities since being sworn in Jan. 8.

sworn in Jan. 8.

DeRoche was accompanied at the ceremony in Lansing by his wife, Stacey, and 21-month-old daughter, Carley.

"I am very excited about the upcoming session, and I look forward to serving the residents of Novi," he said. "Representing the voice of our neighbors in Lansing is what this process is all about." all about."

DeRoche's contact info is: 887

House Office Building, PO Box 30014, Lansing, MI 48909-7514, (517) 373-0827, Fax: (517) 373-5873; craigderoche@house.mi.gov.

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



State Rep. Craig DeRoche, R-Novi, today took the ceremonial oath of office at the Capitol. The oath was performed by Michigan Supreme Court Justice Stephen Markman. Joining the freshman representative are his wife, Stacey, and 21-month-

Novi School Board considers \$1.4 million deficit challenges

continued from front

· eliminate instructional field

trips;

• eliminate new uniforms for sporting events and band;
• eliminate Novi Meadows fifth

grade camp;
• eliminate late buses and after school buses;
• eliminate exploratory lan-

guages;
• reduce K-4 Spanish;

• eliminate elementary para-techs; • reduce A.P. Classes; and

· eliminate all day kindergarten at

Deerfield.
"None of those cuts are set in stone right now," Koster said. "They are just examples that we have to review. There are a few options we have. We could reduce fund equity or increase flee student nonthing. or increase the student population. We could also consider a schools of choice program in Novi.

A school of choice program takes

in students from other school districts and the more students a school district has, the more aid it will receive from the state, It's for parents who want their children in other districts than the one they live in for

Koster said that since there will most likely be no increase in state aid for the next two years, and the district already has a deficit of \$1.4 million, some changes will need to be made.

The district's total receipts figure is \$62.2 million, which consists of local, state, intermediate and federal sources and other. The total disbursements figure is \$63.6 million. which consists of salaries and benefits and operational expenses. Basically, this means that the Novi School District is spending more then it is receiving.
"We are at the mercy of the state

of Michigan," Koster said, "We must maintain an excellent program and be financially stable at the same

Kostér read off a list programs and services that the district already has and said that the board must review all of them to determine which, if any, will need to be cut. He said that 37 reductions of activities would total the deficit of \$1.4 mil-

Ramez Khari is a staff writer for the Navi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 110 or by e-mail at rkhari@ht.homecomm.net.

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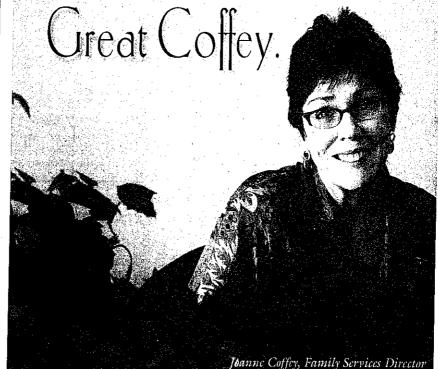
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ursday, January 16, 2003

High flying 'Cats

Dive team sweeps at invitational

By Sam Eggleston

The Novi Wildcats hoys swimming and diving team showed that they are serious contenders no mater what pool

contenders no matter what pool they are swimming in.

In the West Bloomfield Lakers 2003 Boys' Swimming and Diving Invitational, the Wildcats had a marvelous showing and showing and came away with second Hovi Boys'

place, collect-Swimming ing 237 points
— just shy of and Diving winning team

Farmington's 240. Host squad West Bloomfield collected 138 points, which was good for third place, while Troy Athens had 101, Monroe notched 90 and Livonia Churchill was slammed, collecting only 42 points on the day.

slammed, collecting only 42 points on the day. The meet was held different than most, with heats finding one swimmer or team from each school participating. Points and places were kept for each heat in each event, thus giving the teams such high points for final tallies. Essentially, the fourth swimmer on a team in a given event can on a team in a given event can score as many points as the best swimmer in that same event.

The highlights of the meet for Novi were Dan Bassett's performance in the diving event, collecting 403.65 points for first place in the top heat, as well as Scott Rettmann's 367.70 points for first in the second heat. Chris Alberty swept for the 'Cats, taking first in the third heat of diving with 158 25 points.

158.25 points. In the 400 freestyle relay, the Wildcats took first in three heats, with the best time com-

heats, with the best time com-ing off at 3:25.69. In the 100 yard backstroke, Derick O'Branovic took first for the 'Cats in a time of 1:06.42. In the 100 free, Matt Swift was first in his heat with a time of 54.01, while Ian Robertson was first in his with a final time of 49.53. Robertson had a nice swim in the 50 fear had a nice swim in the 50 free as well, taking first with a time of 22.60 to better his state meet cut. His time in the 100 free also bettered his position in the state finals.

The 100 butterfly found John

Wang taking the top spot of his run, collecting a time of 1:07.03, while Jack Tyler won his race with a 54.87, which qualified him for the state meet.

In the 200 yeard freestyle relay, the Wildcats were able to win two heats, with the best time between the two coming in at 1:34.82. Another first-place finish came to a team in the 200 medley relay as they finished in the top spot of their heat in a time of 1:58.80.

Over 50-percent of the swim-



Novi Diver Dan Bassett competes during a January meet at Plymouth Salem High School. Bassett was one of the divers who recently swept the West Bloomfield invitational, a meet that the Wildcats took second place in and had over half of the team achieve personal best times.

mers on the team collected per-sonal records in the meet, showing just what a good meet against good competition can do for such a dedicated team.

In a meet earlier in the week, the Wildcats had good perform-ances as they took on Plymouth Salem, a meet they fost 100-86 against one of the best teams in

Association.

Robertson took firsts in the 200 IM (2:04.96) and the 100 fly (55.34), while Bassett was first in diving with 228.75 points and Rettmann was second with 227.70.

The 400 free relay team of Tyler, Nick Wright, senior Matt

Shafer and Robertson was first in a final time of 3:29.15.

Tyler improved his standing in the 500 freestyle for the state finals meet to be held later this year with his final time of this meet, which was good for sec-ond place with a time of 5:00.8. He was second behind a Salem victory in a time of 4:59.71.

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

Novis sizzling seniors

If you want to watch three amaz ing seniors play some of the best basketball in the entire area, you bet-

ter head over to Novi tomorrow

night. The Wildcats, led by coach Pat Schluter, will be playing hos to the Hartland Eagles at 7 p.m., as they take to the court in

hopes of notching yet another Kensington Valley Conference vic-Eggleston

tory. Now, there are three players that have the ability to change the tempo of the contest — no matter who the Wildcats happen to be playing. The most notable of the trio is

Matt Emmenecker, Having been a potent scorer since he was in diapers, Emmenecker just has the natural statement and the same and the sa ral talent to drive and score, or sit back on the key and score, or hit the three-pointer for the score, or score from the free-throw line, or score from the five-foot jumper, or the lay-up or — never mind. Let's just say that if Emmenecker's on the court, he's going to score in double digits. So a team says they'll just double

team him? Oh yeah, he passes too.
And on the receiving end of those
passes are Chase Chandler and
Chris Lewis, Take these guys and look at their statistics for a moment. Chandler is one of those players that one can expect to see a double-dou-ble out of for every contest. He's in on rebounds, steals, assists, blocks and, of course, he scores. Lewis is the kind of player that can do it all. He has very solid rebounding skills, a shot to die for and comes up on the defense like a dark cloud on the horizon. When he's in the game, they just know it's going to rain points for Novi.

You just have to love having a team that has the seniors with the experience, the ability and the dedi-cation it takes to be leaders on and off the court. Each one of them is quite capable of being a star in numerous athletic arenas, and their ability to play practically any position on the floor shows the type of sersatility that they possess

tion on the floor shows the type of versatility that they possess.

Don't get me wrong (and don't send a letter, please), because there are other players on the team. Players like Brad Simpson and Brad Chandler – juniors who know their roles in the game and are willing to play them. Once again, you have on your hands the idea of multi-talented artheless. Almost every nature on the artheless. Almost every nature on the athletes. Almost every player on the Novi bench is a player on another squad in one capacity or another. The pure athleticism on this squad just bodes well for the future of the program as well as what may lie ahead for this group of defending district champions,

But Hartland isn't going to fall over and throw their hands in the air as Novi cruises by for the uncontest-ed score. Instead, this will probably

prove to be a fun Kensington Valley Conference game with a lot of fun scoring and fast-paced play. Of course, I'm going to venture out on a limb and guess that the Wildcats will come away with the victory, defeating the Eagles in classic Novi style as Emmenceker, Lewis and Chandler all manage to get into the double digits yet again.

Novi 68, Hartland 44

Novi off on right foot with tough wins

By Michael Zerkich SPECIAL WRITER

It looks to be obvious that the Novi Wildcats volleyball team is on the right track for the

It has already been a year of close matches for them, but the girls are on course for a great season. Novi's record stands now at 12-9 overall and a per-

fect 2-0 in the rugged KVC. Novi beat a perennially tough Brighton squad in three gruel-ing games, 17-15, 15-2, 15-13 on Jan. 9 in a Kensington Valley

Conference match-up. Novi coach Julie Fisette was

spent after this win

"To say the least, the match was a barnburner," Fisette said. "We had Andrea Borashko being the star of the evening with six kills and other players doing terrific jobs as well so doing terrific jobs as well so that we could go on for the win."

Jan. 4 found the Novi Jan. 4 tound the Novi Wildcats lasting through the quarterfinals of the Northwood Invitational Tournament. It was a tough day at Northwood. In the first pool

Novi played very well, beating Farwell and Warren Cousino but losing to Davison. That was good enough to qualify the

Wildcats second place to advance to the next of pool competition where they faced a mighty Lansing Catholic Central and beat them. Finally, the day ended for Novi with with their second loss when they were defeated by Lahser in the quarterfinals.

There were many individual bright spots for Novi

Crystal Corte had five kills against Farwell, seven more

against Cousino, eight against LCC, and four against Lahser for a tournament total of 24 for

Hildreth contributed Tina four kills and five blocks in the Cousino win while teammate Amanda Toffoli didn't miss a serve for the entire tournament

with 33 straight good services.

Angie Schmitt added four aces and four kills against Farwell and another five kills against Davison.

Shannon Shrader retrieved six digs against LCC, another four digs against Cousino, and

finished with seven more digs against Lahser. \Kim Zarczynski lent seven kills against two opponents for the

The Wildcat's next garne is Thursday at Pinckney and return home January 23 against KVC opponent South Lyon .

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



Those winning ways

Charged Wildcats still winning on court

By Sam Eggleston SPORTS WRITER

The Novi Wildcats are definitely proving you don't have to be a lion to be king of the jun-

gle.
The 'Cats took it to the South Lyon Lions January 10 in a Novi Boys' Conference

match-up and Basketball walked away with a con-vincing 55-37

victory. Just three days prior, the Novi cagers triumphed over the improving Plymouth Canton Chiefs 70-57. Against the Lions, the Novi squad followed the lead of Matt Emmenecker as he poured in 17 points while Chase Chandler was runner-up for totals with

The 'Cats didn't have too much of a struggle on their hands when they hosted South Lyon, and walked into the locker room after having scored 30 points in the first half alone.

The true challenge came against the Canton Chiefs, who

Lakes Activities Association at The Wildcats were able to build an eight-point lead in the first quarter and kept chipping away until they scooted home with a 70-57 victory tucked

under their belts. The Novi Wildcats were well aware of the inside presence the Chiefs had, as the Canton post players Steve Thornton and Brad Waidmann combined for 34 points against Northville the week prior — Novi held them to

The biggest difference in the game was no doubt at the free-throw line. The 'Cats hit 21-of-30 from the stripe for 69.3-percent conversion. Canton, on the other hand, was only 4-of-6, showing just how bad fouls can

nurt you.'
The Wildcats led by eight after one quarter, going up 19-11 after hitting 7-of-7 from the charity line. The advantage climbed to 32-22 by the half after Chris Lewis buried two three-pointers in the second half. And by the end of three? The Cats only held a 56-43 lead at that point,

Emmenecker once again the way for Novi, pouring in an impressive 22 points in the contest. Lewis added 20 in a great the contest while Brad performance, while Brad Simpson climbed onto the leader board with 18 points on the night.

the Chiefs with 20 points, being the only Canton player to score a double digits on the night.

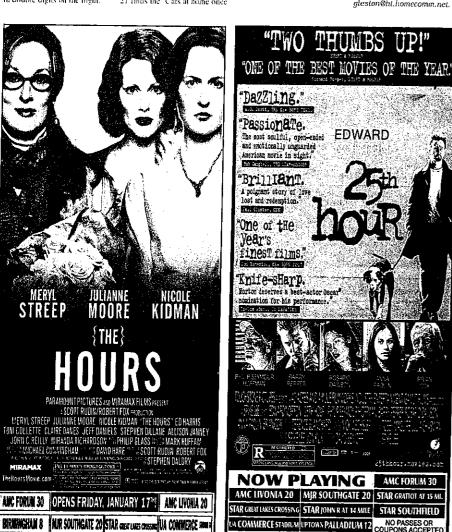
Novi's Mike Hart, a forward, pump fakes and gets his South Lyon defender in the air during last Friday night's home game. The 'Cats only have one loss on the season to this point, and are looking to keep that rolling as they take on the Hartland Eagles tomorrow at 7 p.m. at Novi High School.

eader board with 18 points on the night.

The Wildcats will return to again, this time against be night.

Canton's D. J. Bridges paced the Hartland Eagles tomorrow take a road-trip to Milford to the Hartland Eagles tomorrow. at 7 p.m. in a Kensington Valley take on the Mavericks in anoth-Conference match up. January er KVC showdown January 24.

Sam Eggleston is the sports writer for the Northville Record and the Novi News.





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KVC Tri Meet

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MHSAA Regionals

Hockey

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Pom Pon

Cheer

Wrestling

Figure Skating

Walled Lake Invite JV 9 a.m.

Madonna Invite Fresh noon

South Lyon Invite JV 9 a.m.

Cheerleaders earn third place finish

Not a bad showing, though these Cats feel they can do better. Last weekend's pre-KVC Meet held at Howell High School final results saw Novi's cheerleading team finishing third in a six-team field. With four panel judges' scores (most meets there are only three panel officials). Hardland came up on top with 896 points. Brietton as on top with 896 points, Brighton at 848.5, Novi collected 821, Howell

challenges for upcoming practices.
"I felt that my team had performed this cheer better at their first meet back in December," Denys

goes. However, I did replace two athletes that were struggling with the handspring and walkover skills. I am hoping that, eventually, we can managed 734.5, Milford carved out 628,5 points and Lakeland finished

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\$100cm. For example, if you lose \$80cm you will receive a

upon your level of play, you may also earn invitations to

will work on polishing it back to perfection for next weekend." Denys noted that she was happy with the way round two worked for

the Wildcats, as well as the judging in the round,
"The judging in (round two) was The judging in (round two) was quite consistent," Denys said, "From three of the four officials we received overall scores of 65. We had made no changes to this cheer since December, as far as material

628.5 points and Lanctaine in these areas with a 605.

Referring to the pre-KVC meet, Novi Coach Amy Deny's saw some challenges for upcoming practices.

build their confidence in these areas and add them back into the cheer.

Coach Deny's still sees this year's Novi Competitive Cheer Team still accomposition for a great run for the state title but she says there is work

state title but she says there is work to be done first.

The Movi Cheerleaders perform for a crowd at Novi High School.

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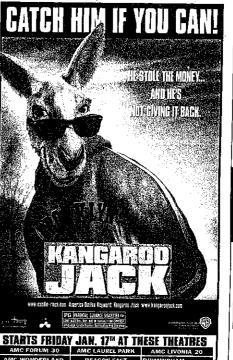
The

And don't miss.

Cheerleading event featuring teams from all across Michigan. ringing their junior high and freshmen into competition beginning at 9 a.m. with varsity and JV starting at approximatel 12:30. All event throughout the day can be seen with one \$4.00

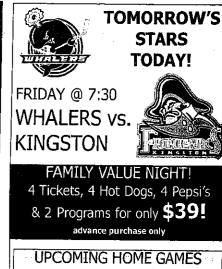
Some of the best teams in the state will be performing with last year's Class A State Champ for 2002 Rochester leading the way. Excellent teams last year's Class A state runner up Grandville, and other top teams like Hartland, Chesaning (2002 Class B runner up), and, of course, our own very competitive Novi squad will all be there.

Novi Cheerleading Coach Amy Denys added her excited





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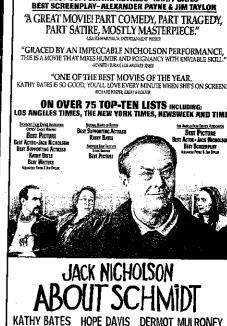
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AND THE THREE THAT THE THREE THE PROPERTY HAS BEEN AND THE BEEN AND THE THREE PART AND THE PROPERTY OF THE P AMC FORUM 30 NOW PLAYING AMC LIVONIA 20 BIRMINGHAM 8 MJR SOUTHGATE 20 STAR FAIRLANE STAR GRATIOT AT 15 MILE STAR GREATLAKES CROSSING STAR JOHN R AT 14 MILE STAR SOUTHFIELD UA COMMERCE STADIUM COUPONS ACCEPTED FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS MOVEL COMMUNICATION

Trade pays off

Whalers' trade pays off in first game with win

Newly-acquired center Chris Thorburn proved to be a positive addition to the Whalers program as they skated against and defeated the Windsor Spitfires Saturday.

The Whalers went on to defeat the Spits 4-2 at Plymouth's Compuware Arena giving them a 26-7-7-1 record in the Ontario Hockey League, first in the West Division, Windsor is 25-14-2-1

Thorbum's first goal as a Whaler une at 12:11 of the first period. For Thorburn, acquired last week in a trade with Saginaw, it was his 20th of the season. Martin Cizek and David Liffiton assisted. Chad LaRose made it 2-0 1:33

into the second period (Cole Jamett and goalic Paul Drew assisting), but five minutes later Windsor got on the board with a power-play goal from Rob Hennigar. Plymouth countered with a power-play score from Karl Stewart, who took a pass from LaRose and scored to make it

3-1 at 11:02 of the second period. LaRose's second goal of the game at 16:51 of the third period (from Ryan Ramsay and Stewart) increased the Whalers' lead to 4-1. A second power-play goal by Hennigar late in the game nar-rowed the gap, but it wasn't enough

Whalers make trade

The Whalers sent right wing Taylor Raszka, a native of Petersburg and the Whalers' num-ber one choice in the Ontario Hockey League's entry draft last spring, to the Saginaw Spirit for center Chris Thorburn and the Oshawa Generals' second-round draft pick this year. In terms of production, this deal

would seem rather lopsided. Thornburn is 6-foot-3, 218 pounds and scored 19 goals and assisted on 38 others (57 points) for the Spirit;

he was their leading scorer. Raszka, a 6-1, 175-pound right wing, had limited playing time, with three goals and four assists in 34 games. The reason for the Spirit to make the rade: Raszka is 16-year-old and in his first OHL season. Thorburn is 19, he'll turn 20 in lune He will play this season and June. He will play this season and could conceivably play next year as an over-ager (if he does, the Whalers will surrender a conditional fifth-round draft choice next sea-

nt). Thorburn was drafted by the Buffalo Sabres in the third round in 2001. In his last two seasons with the North Bay Centennials (who have since become the Saginaw Spirit), he scored 37 goals and assisted on 75 others.

Whalers 3, Knights 3

The Whalers had a lead against London - but they just couldn't

hold on to it. Plymouth bounced back from a 2-0 deficit with a pair of short-handed goals in the second period, then went ahead 3-2 on a ower-play goal by Chad LaRose st 17 seconds into the third peri-

od (David Liffiton assisted).

The Knights earned a 3-3 draw with a goal by Kyle Piwowarczyk with 8:57 remaining, the Whalers

with 8:57 remaining, the Whalers second-straight tie.
London had the early lead on first-period goals by Matt Weir and Dennis Wideman. Plymouth closed the gap to 2-1 on Jonas Fiedler's unassisted short-handed goal at 13:40 of the second period, then tied it 13 seconds later on Tim Sestito's score (from Sean Thompson). Both Whaler goals came with Jimmy Gaenon in the came with Jimmy Gagnon in the

penalty box for charging.
Paul Drew stopped 32 shots in goal for Plymouth, Gerald Coleman had 34 saves for the

WL gymnasts working hard at being so good

By Sam Eggleston

It's not easy to take on some of especially when you're at their house. the toughest teams in the area

The Walled Lake Gymnastics team entered into the Troy Athens Invitational to face some of the best talent in the metro area and came

talent in the metro area and came away with third place.

The squad, coached by Jennifer Hart, collected 133,95 points with their efforts. Host squad Troy, athens was first in the invitational competition while Livonia took second place with their abilities. In the youth portion of the exerts.

In the vault portion of the events.

Stephanic Schmaltz rook fifth in division one with a score of 8.6, while Lindsay Brown was ninth in division two with an 8.45. Genna Borg, Amy Gursy and Sarah Chrzanowski were all tied for 10th in the second division with an 8.4. In the bars event, Schmaltz once again found herself in fifth place

with a score of 8.15 in division one, while division two found Brown in first with an impressive 8.75. Gursky collected a fourth-place finish in the second division with an 8.3, while Borg and Chrzanowski were fifth with 8.1.

The balance beam found the Walled Lake gymnasts kicking it up another notch as Schmaltz took seventh in division one with a 7.85.
Borg managed a first-place finish in division two with an 8.8, while Brown was sixth with 8.25 and Gursky took ninth with an 8.0. Borg also collected a fourth-

place spot in the floor exercise in division two with an 8.7, while Gursky took sixth with an 8.55.

For all-around honors, Borg was ird in division (wo with a total of 34.00 points, Brown was fourth with 33.70 and Gursky was seventh with a 33.25.

The gymnasts will return to action when they h Northville/Novi today at 7 p.m.

Lions ambush Novi

Unsuspecting Wildcats get beat in KVC

By Sam Eggleston

No doubt, this wasn't one of the Novi wrestling team's New Year's

The 'Cats started off the Kensington Valley Conference stretch of their schedule in a tough way, falling to the South Lyon Lions 45-29 January 10. "We lost to South Lyon Friday in

a very poor performance by us," Novi coach Brad Huss said, "We need to be improved in a hurry as we go into the remainder of the we go into the remainder of the KVC, or this is going to be a long, dissapointing season

The thing that really seemed to bother Huss was the way his squad had been steadily improving up to the holiday break — and now seems to have lost most of that.

"We were improving before Christmas break, but we took a big step back," he said. "We need to refocus our efforts and dedicate

ourselves to doing a much better job that we did on Friday." In the South Lyon match, the Wildeats were able to pull out five victories while the rest went in the favor of their rivals.

In the 103-pound weight class,

Jason Sierra was able to collect a pin against Chris Mauney in three inutes, 12 seconds.

Craig Hearn continued his excel-

lent wrestling with another pin, this one coming against Tim Tice in 1:34 in the 112 division. In the 130-pound division, Alex Baum collected a pin against Alex Chauller in just under true cit-

Chandler in just under two min-utes, while Matt Jezzior continued to improve as he notched a pin of his own in the 189 against Dan Gelnin. His time for the pin was

This is a familiar stat: Josh Churella earned a pin in the 140-pound weight class in 1:08 as he took down Brandon Marken for yet

The Lions were no pushovers though. Josh Haron (275), Shawn LaChance (125), Cody McDaniels (152) and Jake Williamson (140) all placed at the Oakland County meet last month. In addition, Jim Rhoad has become a force for the Lions since having moved down in the lineup to the 189-pound weight division. All of them got pins to account for 27 team points.

Huss noted that he knows his

team is better than just five wins in a single meet. They've proved it in the past and he knows they can prove it again.
"We can be a good team, but the

guys need to step up and push themselves to be the best that they are capable of," he said.

The Wildcats will return to action when hey face Hartland and Brighten temorrow at Brighten High School before taking on a slew of talent the following day in the Detroit Catholic Central Super



The Northville wrestlers have been stepping up to the top of their game since losing to Novi early in the season. Here, two 215-pound wrestlers are looking to see who is: going to walk away the victory.

'Cats mercy Pinkney Pirates

10-goal rule finds KVC opponents leaving early

By Ryan Edwards

Shutdown and shutout—those two words best describe the way the Pinckney Pirates felt when they left Novi Ice Arena Ian 8

Nine different Wildcats lit the lamp in this contest, and Trent Sisson earned his first shutout of the season as Novi sunk the Pirates' ship. The white flags came out with 3:22 remaining in the game, as Novi notched a 10-

0 mercy of their KVC opponent. Less than a minute before Jordan Collins scored his second of the scason, a goal that would eventually prove to be the game-winner for Novi, Pinckney's goaltender made the save of the year so far. Novi was on the powerplay and the Pirates were trying to clear the zone, but Jared Perras negated the attempt at the blueline and found team-

at the other and found team-mate Robert Vulaj wide open on the opposite side of the ice. Vulaj was just inside the face-off circle on the goalie's stick side, where he had over half of an empty net to look at. The ney goalie slid across the to face Vulaj just as he sniped an absolute rocket towards the far, top corner. What may have been the best shot by Wildcat on the night, turned into the best save by far. With all

of the goalie's momentum carrying him towards the nearside of the goal, he was able to make a lightning quick, magical glove-save on Vulaj's shot.

Luckily for Novi, it would be one of the few Wildcat shots he would save all night, and Collins and the 'Cats would capitalize on the powerplay opportunity mere seconds after the glove save to give Novi a 1-0 lead at the end of the first period.

The second period was the beginning of the end for Pinckney, as Novi would score time goals in a 25-minute span stretching between the second and third periods. Dan Hunter second his second goal of the season 1:52 into the period when he circled in front of the goal

and buried the puck into the back of the net. Two minutes later, at 2:54, Vuluj found John Murray around the goalline. He deked past one defender before scoring his fifth goal of the season.

At 8:35, Jon Jannsens made

good on a second chance opportunity that doesn't come too often in sports or life. Jannsens fanned on what looked to be a great one-timer, but just when it seemed all was lost, Jannsens fooled everybody, especially the goaltender, by sliding one past him for his first goal of the sea-

At 9:46, Brett Jaussi proved that it never hurts to get a little lucky. He just flipped the puck towards the goal from the blueline and it dipped and dunked its way under the goalie's leg and into the back of the net. The goal was the first of two on the night for Jaussi and gave Novi a 5-0 lead heading into the second

termission. The Wildcats manhandled the Pirates in the third period, scor-ing five goals in exactly 10 min-utes before mercifully sending them home on the 10-goal mercy

Mario DeGrazia scored his first goal of the season in mar-velous fashion, stealing the puck from one Pirate, then putting the puck through another's legs, before wristing a shot past the goaltender. A minute later, Chaz Bulbuk broke a personal fourgame dry streak when he sniped a shot from the left face-off circle to the far bottom comer of the goal, dinging it in off the post. The goal was Bulbuk's 12th

of the season and was assisted by Mark Eberline and Perras. At 5:06 in the final period, At 2000 in the final periou, Brett Jaussi made a great move past some defenders, deked the goalie and put it under his legs for his second score of the night, and his fourth on the spage. He and his fourth on the season. He was assisted by DeGrazia

scored his first goal of the sea-son at 9:45 on a 4-on-4 situation. The goal was assisted by Ryan Dixon and Ray Kennedy. When Mark Eberline scored Novi's 10th and final goal of the night with 3:22 remaining in the third, it didn't have quite the excite-ment of a sudden-death overtime score, but it put the Pirates out of their misery just as well. The goal was Eberline's fifth of the season and was assisted on by DeGrazia, giving Novi a 10-0

Aside from the onslaught of goals the Wildcats scored, Sisson also made a couple of clutch saves, including a big one on a breakaway in the second period, and he was supported by a dominant Novi defense. The win put Novi at .500 for

The win put now at 200 for the season overall as they sit at 5-5-3, while raising their conference record to 2-2-1. The Wildeats head to Brighton Jan. 23 for a Kensington Valley Conference match-up with the Bulldogs before welcoming Bulldogs before welcoming South Lyon to Novi Ice Arena Jan. 29.

Ruan Edwards 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

Novi Underclassmen

JV competitive cheer 2nd place in KVC event

The Novi junior varsity competitive cheer team finished in second place in last Saturday's Kensington Valley Conference (KVC) event at Howell. The scores from this KVC competition will be combined with the KVC competition scores in Hartland on Feb. 1 to determine the 2003 KVC

champion.
The Wildcat JV team finished with a total score of 741.50 (three rounds). Brighton's JV won the competition with a combined score of 799.50. Harrland was third (622 points), Howell was fourth (593), Lakeland was fifth (504.5) and Milford was sixth (446.5).

Freshman volleyball

Overall: 1-6-1; KVC: 0-2 Novi's freshman volleyball team

lost a close match to Brighton last Thursday, 11-15, 7-15, 19-25. Heather McManaman led the team in serving, scoring eight-straight points in the first game. Meredith Farrugia and Audrey Smith paced the Wildcats in attacking.

Freshman basketball

Overall: 4-3; KVC: 3-1
The Novi freshman basketball

team broke its three-game losing steak last Friday with a parrow 37-36 victory over South Lyon. Steve Gillam led the Wildcats with 10

steals. Sean White came off the bench in the final quarter and sank four big free throws—the last two were made with less than 30 seconds left to pull out the victory. He had six points and six rebounds. Steve Fannon also contributed with 10 boards and three blocks.

Three days earlier, the Wildcat freshmen lost a non-league home game to Canton by three points, 51-48. Novi was led by Todd Janer with 14 points. Steve Gillam added nine points and four rebounds Craig Lawler scored eight points

JV basketball

Overall: 4-3; KVC: 2-2
The Novi junior varsity basket-ball team was outscored by 13 points in the second half and lost to rival South Lyon, 53-40, last Friday at Novi. The game was tied at halftime. Mark Moore led the

Wildcats in scoring with 16 points.
Three days earlier, Novi edged
Canton, 42-39. Coach Bill Kelp aid his squad played its best game of the young season against the Chiefs. Mark Moore led the Wildcats with 12 points, 3ordan Pustover added 10 points and hit some key free throws down the

One week earlier. Novi beat a tough Brighton squad, 39-38. 38. Freshman A.W. Stanek hit a free throw with three seconds left in the game to seal the win. Bret Cocke led the Wildcats with 11 points, including a trio of three-point baskets. Mark Moore added

Sports Shorts

Jeff Jones Pitching and Hitting Camp

Total Baseball will be offering a hitting and pitching camp hosted by Jeff Jones with special appearances by Detroit Tigers catcher Brandon lnge. This camp features over 25 different instructors, including Leff. Legacy. tors, including Jeff Jones - a 26-year professional baseball veteran with the last 15 years being spent as the Detroit Tigers pitching coach. Also to teach will be Jason Beverlin, a pitcher for the Cleveland Indians, and Larry Feola, a professional player for Detroit and New York.

The pitching camps run Jan.

11-Feb. 2 on Saturdays from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. and Sundays from 3:30-5:30 p.m. and 5-7 p.m. Hitting camps will be

Hitting camps will be Saturdays from 12:30-2:30 p.m. and Sundays from 2-4 p.m. and 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Camp fees are \$195 each or \$350 for both. For more information, call (248) 668-0166 or email totalbballwixom@aol.com, or check out the Web site at check out the Web site a ww.eteamz.com/totalbaseball.

AAU Basketball tryouts

The Western Wayne Wildcats 003 Northville AAU Girls Basketball team will be holding

tryouts for the upcoming season for 11-year-olds on Jan. 17, 6:30-8 p.m. at Northville Community Center.

If you have any questions regarding the Western Wayne Wildcats AAU Basketball teams, call Kim Fiscus at (248) 380-9496 between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Softball/Baseball Private **Lessons and Training**

Total Baseball will help players, ages 6-18, improve their game. Instructors include Oakland University coaching staff, Big 10/MAC All-Conference softball/baseball

players, the Toledo Mudhens manager, former professional 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

information, call (248) 668-0166 or e-mail totalb ballwixom@aol.com, or check the Web

Rec Basketball Registrations

The Northville Parks and

Recreation department is accepting final registrations for its Winter Youth Basketball Season. Several openings remain for sixth-through-eighth grade girls eighth- and ninth-grade boys and leagues. A waiting list has been initiated for the ninth-through 12th- grade girls league. If enough girls register for the league waiting list, an additional team will be formed.

team will be formed.

All leagues will play a 10game schedule, primarily on
Saturdays beginning Jan. 18 and
ending March 22. Teams will
practice one or two times per week beginning Jan. 6 through

Youth Free Throw Contest

All boys and girls ages 10-14 are invited to participate in the local level of competition for the 2003 Knights of Columbus free throw championship. The local competition for Council 11817 will be held Sunday, Jan. 19 from 2-5 p.m. at Holy Family Church Gym in Novi. The church is located at 24505 Meadowbrook Road, one-quarter mile north of 10 Mile Road.

For more information or to obtain an entry form, contact Ted Mech at (248) 478-1132.