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SPECIAL SECTION

FALL Home Improvement

Home Improvement

This section includes tips on getting the furnace ready for winter, getting good drinking water at home and much more.

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Feature Teacher

It has been three years since Novi High's Bill Dunbar created the anatomy and physiology courses that so many students have made popular, and now he's at it again.

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Closest thing to wholesale

Realizing a quest that began in the 1990s, ABC Warehouse's Gordy Hartman last Wednesday cut the ribbon to his 42nd location, situated in Novi's West Oaks Shopping Center.

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HOMECOMING HOOPLA

Student hopes people understand her message

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

Not many students go from being suspended from school for three days for fighting, to being named a homecoming court representative, to receiving major newspaper coverage, to making an appearance on a national television show — all in less than a week.

Yes, Novi High School student Alexandra Burris had herself quite a homecoming weekend.

Burris did all of that, and she just hopes that her peers, teachers and community receive a positive message from all of this: that bullying is a problem in schools all over the country, but it can be overcome.

Burris' face was on the front page of a Detroit daily newspaper for two days straight last week.

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Lawrence sees many positives in Burris story

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

Novi High School Principal John Lawrence has been working for the Novi Community School District for 30 years, which means he has seen many homecoming festivities come and go. Most of them have run with a certain degree of normalcy, but nothing can compare to what he witnessed this year.

In only his second year as principal, one of his students, a sophomore named Alexandra Burris, has been featured in a major Detroit newspaper for several days in a row, was named a homecoming court representative for her sophomore class and ended up on a live national television show so she could tell all the country her story.

All of this was because of some rumors floating around the school that her peers were going to tease her because of her weight.

"Rumors started flying around about how Allie was voted onto the homecoming court so that other students could humiliate and embarrass her," Lawrence said. "That greatly disturbed us, and so

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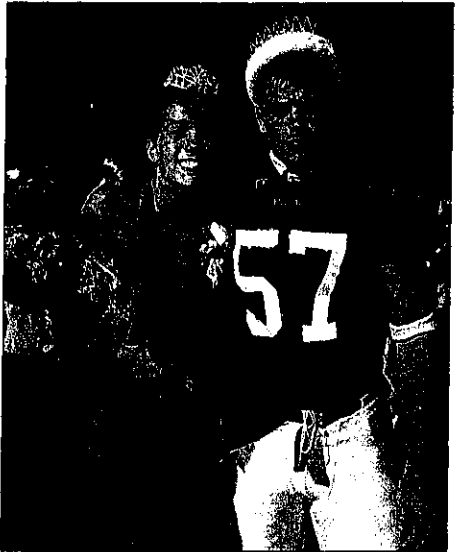


Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Novi High's Homecoming King and Queen for 2004 are seniors Ryan Pritchard and Sara Bielski. For more photos and a story, please see page 5B.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Superstitious?

Village Oaks elementary student Darrien Hannah was one of many students to lend their talents to painting Halloween-themed scenes to the Novi school's windows last week. The fourth grade student is painting a black cat.

Fountain Walk gettin' Lucky's

Center's latest venue to open Monday

By Kim Kovelle
STAFF WRITER

The billiards tables were being assembled, arcade games were being installed and the final touches were being put on Fountain Walk's latest addition early this week.

Hollywood-based Lucky Strike Lanes Lounge & Bowl is on schedule and on its way. It's set to open this Monday, despite Fountain Walk's filing for Chapter 11 bankruptcy in August.

A lower-level floor brimming with a restaurant, three bars, a 40-foot video wall, 200 video games stations and 14 billiards tables,

continued on page 3

Take a drive — come support our troops

Drive-A-Thon next Wednesday

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

No matter what political party we support, there's one group we all support during this war-time election — our troops and veterans.

In honor of these dedicated citizens, Michigan Paralyzed Veterans of America in Novi will have a Drive-A-Thon for Veterans from 6 a.m.-6 p.m. Nov. 20 at 40550 Grand River Avenue between Meadowbrook and Hagenzy roads across the street from Glenda's Nursery.

Motorists are encouraged to drive by and drop off a donation of any amount during these hours to help support those who have served our country.

"We're trying to make it as easy as possible for people to donate. They don't even have to get out of

their car," Tony Musu said.

Musu, a member of the advisory committee for the MPVA, assisting Maurice Jordan, executive director, MPVA, in the project, said the fundraiser will support the organization's programs, which include spinal cord research and the Military Family Relief Fund.

"Right now, we have a lot of service men and women in Afghanistan and Iraq that are serving us, protecting us, and quite honestly, many of them take a gigantic pay cut," Musu said. "This becomes a financial burden on them and their families.

"The military pay just doesn't rank with their civilian salaries, especially if you're a non-commissioned officer," Jordan said. "What we're finding is that a lot of those

soldiers and their families have homes that are going into foreclosure, utilities that are being turned off."

"We want to get the word out and let people know what PVA is doing for people in their own backyard," Musu said.

Members of the armed forces, including a general, will be on hand during the 12-hour fund-raiser at MPVA. Musu said he would like to raise \$20,000 on Oct. 20.

"That's a lofty goal, but I think it's very doable by the generous people of southeastern Michigan," Musu said.

The fund-raiser will also help purchase ramps for wheelchairs for veterans who cannot afford them. "PVA steps in and contacts with builders to get these ramps built, and there are always costs involved," Musu said.

Jordan noted that Gov. Jennifer Granholm did sign a new law Oct. 8 in support of the Military Family Relief Fund, giving taxpayers an option on their return to support this

THERE'S MORE

Doreen Doss of Novi is spearheading a subdivision-wide garage sale for families who have lost a soldier in Iraq or Afghanistan from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Oct. 30 and 31 in the Broadmoor Park subdivision off Ten Mile Road between Taft and Beck roads.

"We can make a difference, and we need the community's support to be successful with our efforts," Doss said.

Residents who have items they would like to donate to the sale or crafters or independent business operators who would like to set up a table can call Doss at (248) 842-6947.

appropriate funding levels for veterans," Jordan said. "These veterans that are coming home now, they may not be able to be seen for six to 12 months, because the VA [Veterans Administration] is overloaded. Funding is critically short."

Business owners interested in purchasing an ad in the Salute to Veterans 2004 event program can contact Jordan at (248) 476-9000.

The Oct. 20 fund-raiser is actually a kickoff for the MPVA's Salute to Veterans 2004 on Veterans Day, Nov. 11, at the Detroit Marriott Renaissance Center. The event is open to the public. Tickets are \$150 each, and donors may sponsor a veteran if they're unable to attend.

Make reservations for the dinner by tomorrow to guarantee a seat at the event by calling MPVA at (248) 476-9000.

Pam Fleming is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105, or by e-mail at pfleming@ht.homecomm.net.

Long-range school planning focuses on competition

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

Much has been established since the Novi Community School District held its first long-range planning meeting on Sept. 16, but the job is far from over.

That night, over 80 teachers, parents, administrators and students, were asked to study eight different categories and identify

the trends, predictions and forces at work outside of the district that may require attention to insure the future success of Novi Community Schools. The group was broken up into eight sub-groups, with each one taking a different category:

- Economic Profile
• Demographic Profile
• Technology Profile
• Social Profile

- Government/Political Profile
• Community/Cultural Profile
• Education Profile
• Competition Profile

The competition committee met separately on Oct. 5 to go over what has been established so far and to figure out what the next step is.

"Today we met to gather information and research the topic of competition," said Paul

Cavanaugh, leader of the competition committee and eighth grade special education teacher. "We're trying to figure out how competition affects Novi, who is that competition and what Novi should do to address the competition."

Cavanaugh believes that the

continued on page 3



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Tres Jolie Salon offers clients unique atmosphere



By Pam Fleming STAFF WRITER
If you're looking for a beautiful environment as well as professional salon services, visit Tres Jolie by Cameron Salon in Novi's Grand Oaks Centre. Owners Jim Warne and his wife, Angela, will soon celebrate two years at the salon, located at 39915 Grand River Avenue between Haggerty and Meadowbrook roads. The couple opened the salon in December 2002. "This is our first venture into the business. We partnered with Cameron Watson, who had a salon in South Lyon, Cammurs, which he sold. We went into business together and built Tres Jolie by Cameron in Novi," Warne said. "We've really caught the imagination of people who come in," he said. "Once they're here, they understand what we mean. We looked at a lot of salons, and the whole tone of our salon is different." "The salon is rich with color. There is so much color here, it knocks your eyes out," Warne said. Art work and antique furniture were combined with modern elements, since a salon must also be functional. Lounge areas with beautiful Italian furniture are featured throughout the salon. "The whole idea is to make people comfortable and allow them to have a great time while they're here," Warne said. "We encourage clients to bring their friends." Tres Jolie by Cameron is an Aveda Concept Salon, which means products contain pure flower and plant essences. Services include hair design, hand treatments, makeup, facials, massage, pedicures and waxing. "The basis of our business is that the client is No. 1. Everybody says that, but we absolutely guarantee satisfaction," Warne said. The Warnes recently purchased the former Venus Day Spa in Novi and have created a new salon, Tres Jolie at Venus, at 39800 W. Fourteen Mile at Haggerty. To make an appointment at Tres Jolie at Grand Oaks Centre, call (248) 888-0655; for Tres Jolie at Venus, call (248) 624-7922.

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Fountain Walk gettin' Lucky's

continued from front page

"Lucky's" is the first phase. In six to eight months, an upper-level bowling center and Tequila Rain, a Mexican Cantina lounge, will follow, General Manager Eddie Bourque said. "If you walked into an old country club, that's the feeling we're going for — that warm, country club feeling," Bourque said. "We are tapped into eight different societies. We will have every major sporting event possible on there. "It's not your typical sports bar when you walk in. It's very elegant. There's nothing like it as far as an adult entertainment complex in Novi." Italian leather seats, cherry wood walls, three fireplaces and a "Derby" arcade area replace typical sports paraphernalia. Corporate Chef Andre Lane helped develop "hands-irradiated," American bistro-style cuisine that blends health-consciousness and



California flair. "We're trying to appeal to a little of everybody," Lane said. "Our portions are very generous. We love everything." Choices include skewer samplers, combination platters, pizza, sandwiches, burgers, five types of salads and sauces ranging from spicy buffalo and honey mustard to ranch and sweet chili. Other trademarks are tomato cheese 'n' mores, a "Chocolate Intensity" fudge brownie concoction, "Mac and Cheese Balls," and potato pie pizza. "Imagine a potato skin served on pizza crust with a lot of melted cheese and the bacon and the chives that are baked into it," Lane said. "Delectable! is how we put it."

Prices for appetizers and entrees will range from \$4.95-\$18.95, Bourque said. Staffing for the first phase will be 150, with about half the employees coming from the Novi area, Bourque said. The upper floor will have 110 workers. Lucky's already has locations in Hollywood, Boston and Louisville, and soon will soon open in Denver, Toronto and St. Louis. Novi's version, which Bourque said is the company's largest concept to date, is situated across from the Ensigne Theater. "Lucky's really helps round out the restaurant component at Fountain Walk, offering both family dining and (a) sports bar feel," Fountain Walk Marketing Director Linda Busso said. "Part of our success is the recreational/entertainment component." The company has joined Novi's Chamber of Commerce, and an upcoming VIP party will benefit the (Darren) McCarty Cancer

Foundation. At a recent city council meeting, Lucky's was approved (6-1) for an arcade license for 113 machines. Laura Lorenzo cast the dissenting vote. The license was conditioned upon the opening of the second floor bowling lanes within one year of the granting of the Sept. 27 meeting, Bourque said that won't be a problem. "Six to eight months is where we're at right now on the upstairs," he said. "I don't think there's anything in here (anyone) can't find interesting." Lucky's hours will be 11 a.m.-2 a.m. daily, with a 21-and-up policy after 9 p.m. To book a private party, call (248) 374-3422.

Kim Kovelie is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 107 or via e-mail at kovelie@ht.homecomm.net.

Bowling down Novi Road

A few miles south of Lucky Strike Lanes' former home sits a bowling mainstay: Novi Bowl & Lounge. But according to managers of both locales, the close proximity of Novi Road, leaves comfort to spare. Jerry Harris, part-owner and manager of Novi Bowl, sees it as

a positive opportunity. "I'm actually looking forward to working with them," Harris said. "We do a lot of corporate parties and a lot of special events. There are times when I'm full. I look forward to the possibility of coordinating." Lucky's General Manager Eddie Bourque said the 14 new lanes will not threaten Novi Bowl's 40 lanes. "We are definitely a different breed," Bourque said. "It's a social environment. The bowling is put in to enhance the entertain-

ment value of our facility. We will not be doing any leagues." Novi Bowl, which opened 26 years ago, currently is home to about 50 leagues. Harris said the lounge facility will be renovated next June. Lucky's lanes will feature plasma scoring screens and digitized Quibica-brand consoles to keep tabs on scoring. Novi Bowl has consoles of the same brand, though Harris said it'll be a few years before they upgrade to the newest version. The center has a history of hosting

community fundraising programs, and works with bowling centers in nearby cities and townships. "I welcome all kinds of recreation, especially bowling centers," Harris said. "It only draws attention to our area." By Kim Kovelie

Long-range planning focuses on competition

continued from front page

committee accomplished its goals — to determine a process to complete researched materials, to prepare a presentation, to highlight group thinking about the most important findings, to prepare a written summary, to schedule an additional group planning meeting (if necessary) and to come up with a final group assignment sheet. "It's an ongoing process though, and we're still putting together information," Cavanaugh said. "There is so much critical information to present to the rest of the committee. An excellent question was brought up at the end of our meeting today: How are we preparing our students for competition in the global market?" Brought up during the meeting were five area private schools, which were believed to be Novi's biggest competitors: Catholic Central, Southfield Christian, Ladywood, Brother Rice and Mercy. Committee members were able to gather some statistics, and they believe that less than one percent of Novi's population attends those schools. Cavanaugh said that by the time students reach

ninth grade, a small number of them transfer to those private schools. With that information established, the next step for the competition committee is to come up with a PowerPoint presentation for the whole Long-Range Planning Committee, which will be studying strategic goals to guide the district in the next five to 10 years. "Hopefully, everyone will give me some feedback on what to add or take off and also address that last question about the global market," Cavanaugh said, who will be developing the presentation.

Each sub-group in the Long-Range planning committee will meet as a large group on Tuesday and Wednesday, Oct. 19 and 20; Tuesday and Wednesday, Nov. 9 and 10; and Thursday, Dec. 9. When they're all done, they would like to have recommendations for Superintendent Ernest Lippe and the school board of education on all eight categories.

Ramez Khuri is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 119 or by e-mail at rkhuri@ht.homecomm.net.

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Rick Solecki, C.P.A., with Solecki + Associates, C.P.A., P.C., 15 years
Tom Cardiano, LUTCF, with Western - Southern Financial Group, 21 years.

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BRIEFS

continued from page 7

A brilliant move

For its fifth annual chamber music concert, local "Ensemble Brilliance"...

Novi resident sings for Bush

Mary Grace Denton, 14, of Novi, was invited to sing the United States "National Anthem" at President George Bush's...

Compiled by Novi News staff

Airport Cities conference a boost for metro development plans

By Kurt Kuban BIRMINGHAM ECENTRIC

The highly anticipated Airport Cities Conference at Detroit Metropolitan Airport last week went off without a hitch...

Novi officials from every county in the world attended the two-day conference, which explored the concept of airport cities...

this conference was to create awareness among all the stakeholders - the communities, the developers, the vendors, the universities...

"I think we added new definitions to the concept of airport cities, some of the aspects that we explored I've never even thought of," he said.

For more information on Airport Cities, please see Phil Power's column on page 17A.

including the roads. We just have to have a collective vision to see it come together," Birn said.

"I promote economic development. It's in our best interest because people need money to buy...

our cars," Rothwell said. "We see the airports as being absolutely critical in the local business atmosphere."

"We will have strip malls and gas stations? Or will we have carefully planned, dynamic, forward-thinking development?" he said.

Novi, that the conference is over, Wayne County Airport Authority CEO Lester Robinson hopes it will lead to the right kind of development around the two airports.

"We will have strip malls and gas stations? Or will we have carefully planned, dynamic, forward-thinking development?" he said.

Novi Rotary PUMPKIN Sale Novi EXPO Center October 15, 16 & 17 PUMPKIN PRICES: \$1.00 to \$8.00

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BUSINESS

Deals on electronics and appliances get closer

New ABC Warehouse celebrates Novi grand opening

An official grand opening begins today and lasts through Sunday and will be marked by storewide savings of up to 50 percent...

ABC WAREHOUSE • Where: West Oaks Shopping Center • What: Electronics and appliances store...



The ABC Warehouse store in Novi's West Oaks Shopping Center.

The "closest thing to wholesale" is now Novi's closest new store for electronics and appliances...

Realizing a quest that began in the 1990s, ABC Warehouse last Wednesday cut the ribbon to its 42nd location...

also has a well-stocked car audio section and an installation bay. An attached warehouse holds another \$2 million in merchandise...

Regional Manager Michael Lynch said customer loan approval typically takes two minutes...

"The company is great," Nussouri said. "My daughter needed a job... and they are very happy to take her."

was national sales manager and Hartman bought the company. "We're very happy to have ABC come here," Coradis said.

possibility of someday filming an ABC commercial at his newest locale.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

ABWA hosts quitter At its Oct. 18 meeting, the Novi ABC Charter Chapter of the American Business Women's Association...

B. Bowman is currently overseeing the construction of the new Novi Expo Center, which will open in 2005.

Dixon's in 'Top 40' Novi resident Mark Dixon, partner with Platic & Moran Family Wealth Advisors practice in Southfield, was named to Crain's Detroit Business's '40 Under 40' list.

MCIM appoints Stabb The Michigan Construction Industry Mutual said it recently named Charles A. Stabb of Novi to its board of directors.

"I'm proud to be an owner in a firm that genuinely values the client's best interest above all else," Dixon said.

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October is Dental Health Month Jeffrey Jaghab, D.D.S. Stephanie Jaghab, D.D.S. Joseph Sinkwits, D.D.S.

Blair Bowman, founder and owner of the Novi Expo Center, recently was honored by Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson.

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St. Mary Mercy Hospital presents The Circle of Hope Gala Friday, October 15 An Elegant Dinner Dance

12 hours of professional staff development OK'd

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

Educators in the Novi Community School District are required to spend at least 1,098 hours of time actually teaching students in a classroom every school year. But that doesn't leave much time for teachers to learn about how to make their schools more successful at achieving their goals.

STUDENTS OFF
Professional Staff Development day means no school for students on three days:
• Tuesday, Nov. 2, 2004
• Wednesday, Nov. 24, 2004
• Thursday, March 24, 2005

That's why the State of Michigan, the Michigan Department of Education and Gov. Jennifer Granholm have all said that educators are now allowed to take 51 clock hours from that 1,098 to use as Professional Staff Development Time. Novi is taking full advantage.

Nancy Davis, assistant superintendent of instructional services, spoke before the school board of education on Oct. 7, asking for 12 hours of professional staff development time to be spread across three days: Six hours on Tuesday, Nov. 2, and three hours a piece on Wednesday, Nov. 24 and Thursday March 24. The board granted her wishes.

What does all this mean for Novi? Well, for the students it means that there won't be any school on those three days. Teachers, on the other hand, will have to show up for work.

"In this day in age, information is changing so rapidly and research is constantly coming out

days was a pretty easy one. Nov. 24 is the day before Thanksgiving and the district usually seems to have a little higher absentee rate on that day because of it. The same is true for March 24, which is the day before spring vacation starts.

"We figured it would be less of a burden on families because some of them are choosing to take their children out of school on those two days," Davis said.

The district will be implementing a plan called CBRNE, which will address what the district should do in case of a Chemical, Biological, Radiological or Nuclear Explosives attack. School districts throughout the state are encouraged by the Michigan

Department of State Police, Emergency Management Division to implement this plan. "It's important to note that the district does have a crisis response plan, there is a crisis response team in each of our buildings, the plan is updated annually and we do training where appropriate," Executive Director of Human Resources Bob Schram said. "We implemented this expansion of our current plan called CBRNE, which is part of the state of Michigan Homeland Security Program."

In addition to these four types

Crisis plan to be improved

State wants CBRNE plan implemented by schools

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

Department of State Police, Emergency Management Division to implement this plan. "It's important to note that the district does have a crisis response plan, there is a crisis response team in each of our buildings, the plan is updated annually and we do training where appropriate," Executive Director of Human Resources Bob Schram said. "We implemented this expansion of our current plan called CBRNE, which is part of the state of Michigan Homeland Security Program."

In addition to these four types

of attacks, the Michigan Department of State Police, Emergency Management Division has strongly encouraged school districts throughout the state to develop plans to respond to an incident of terrorism or of weapons of mass destruction. Novi district staff, including all principals and at least one other person from each of the buildings, will be participating in training exercises on Tuesday, Oct. 26, to learn these plans.

"We feel that it's important to incorporate this plan that the state is suggesting, which is what we're doing," Schram said.

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.



Novi High School school-merchandise store workers Richie Fetters, left, and Sara Bielski keep track of their inventory during a recent busy lunch hour.

The Cat Rack's back

Novi High store's bigger and better

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

It's back, and it's better than ever.

The Novi High School store, The Cat Rack, has been in existence for 12 years, according to marketing and store operations teacher Jodi Forster.

The store was first opened in 1992 by former Novi High School Principal Art Miller. At the time it was about 200 square feet. But with all the construction and improvements that were made to the building this past summer, the store now has about 900 square feet to work with.

The student council ran it in 1992 before the school's marketing class took over, but now it has grown to where students and teachers alike can buy cookies, candy, balloons, T-shirts, sweat-shirts, hats, gloves and other apparel, with mostly everything bearing the Wildcat logo.

The students working in the Cat Rack are part of Forster's store operations class. They take marketing first and then based on an application process, they are welcome to work in the school store.

"We use the store basically as a lab to teach students how to run a store and a business," Forster said. "They get class credit to work and basically we break even with what we buy and what we sell. However if there is any additional revenue, it usually helps to pay for students who go to Nationals for DECCA."

DECCA is the co-curricular marketing coalition. Seniors Richie Fetters and Sara Bielski are both greeters for The Cat Rack. They also take care of security issues. Fetters is thinking about pursuing a career in business after college, so he thought working in the store would help him to learn what he needs to know.

"This is helping me with all the aspects of business, like security, merchandising and things like that," he said. "I'll greet customers when they come in and I'm in charge of lights and music as well. I also make sure the kids aren't taking any of the clothes or anything like that. I think that after a couple more weeks I'll get more of a general understanding of how everything runs."

Fetters also works with Bielski to figure out what the store should and shouldn't sell, order all the merchandise and figure out what to price everything.

"Supply and demand is basically what we talk about," Bielski said. "A lot of it has to do with competition like the candy they sell in the vending machines. We just have to compare and contrast the prices. It's a lot of fun."

Bielski also helps to design some of the logos on things like coffee mugs and campus teacher bags. A lot of the logos have the power cat or Novi High School logo.

"I want to pursue a career in advertising, and I want to be more on the creative end," she said. "That's why I have a lot to do with the signage and the posters and advertisements that we're going to put around the school."

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.

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Thanksgiving Christmas New Year's
Calling all cooks ...
It's time for HomeTown Newspapers' third annual Holiday Recipe Collection. This special section includes original recipes from your neighbors, friends and business owners in Livingston County, Northville, Novi, Milford, South Lyon and the surrounding areas. This collection has become a much-anticipated favorite in homes around the area. But, in order for it to be successful this year, we need your family and original holiday recipes. We're looking for appetizers, soup, cake, salad dressing, stuffing, cookies, pie, roast beef, punch, vegetable and any other recipes normally served during Thanksgiving, Christmas or New Year's. The recipes can be simple or gourmet. They can be handed down through your family, modified from another recipe or something you came up with all on your own. You can send in as many as you like. Even restaurants and professional chefs may submit recipes. Everyone who submits a recipe will be entered into a drawing to win one of two \$50 gift certificates to a local restaurant. Entering is easy. Just clip out the coupon below or e-mail your entry to espiegel@ht.homecomm.net before Oct. 20. Watch for Holiday Recipe Collection 2004 in your Nov. 11 edition of the Livingston County Daily Press & Argus, Northville Record, Novi News, South Lyon Herald or Milford Times.

Holiday Recipe Collection Contest
Mail this coupon, along with the recipe to: (Photos of the chef are also appreciated)
HomeTown Newspapers
c/o Candy Spiegel
323 E. Grand River
Howell, MI 48843
Or, e-mail it to: cspiegel@ht.homecomm.net

Name _____
Address: _____
City: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: (in case we have questions) _____
Why is this recipe special? (attach a separate sheet of paper) _____
All entries must be received by Oct. 20, 2004.

Oh Baby!
On Feb. 3, 2005, the Livingston County Daily Press & Argus will be launching a new special section entitled, "Oh Baby!" and your baby could be the main attraction. This new section will feature photos of all babies born in 2004, along with editorial and advertising for new parents. Each participant will receive a space similar to this:

Christina Louise Smith
March 22, 2004
Saint Joseph Mercy Livingston
Mike and Mary Smith

To publish your 2004 arrival in Oh Baby!, send a photo and \$20 to:
HomeTown Newspapers
P.O. Box 200P
Howell, MI 48844
Attn: Leslie.
Please Print
Child's Name (First, Middle & Last) _____
Date of Birth _____ Hospital _____
Parents' Name (First & Last) _____
Address _____
All entries must be received by Jan. 12, 2005.
Include a SASE if you want your photo returned. PRESS & ARGUS
 My check for \$20 is enclosed. Please bill my Visa MasterCard American Express or Discover card.
Credit card number _____ Exp. Date _____
Signature _____ (Required) Phone _____

Creating better readers

First Literacy Night held at Parkview Elementary

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

The first-ever Parkview Elementary School Literacy Night took place Sept. 30, and those involved agreed that it was a rousing success.

The purpose of the evening is nothing new to Novi's elementary schools - promote reading and writing among children - but the way it was done was pretty unique.

Parents and students were invited to show up to the school between the hours of 6:30-8:30 p.m. to participate in many fun activities and to listen to guest speakers, including some Novi High School students, read to the children. There was a book fair, and first grade teachers Bridget

Zahradnik and Kerry Kowalczyk provided a showing of some of the literacy activities parents can do with their children at home. They even compiled a packet of ideas for them to make it easier. Parkview Principal Jennifer Michos came up with the idea for the night. "Balanced literacy education is teaching children how to read and write," she said. "We're trying really hard to bring parents in as part of the team with a common goal of reading and writing."

Michos said that the most important key to learning in elementary school is for students to be avid readers. She believes that reading and writing are skills that are going to help them be successful for the rest of their lives, and she feels it's her and her staff's number one priority to help children become the best readers they can be.

Literacy specialist Wendy Gould explained that in order to get into literacy adults, children need to start reading early and that teachers want to get the students in the habit of reading and

enjoying words in print. "Hopefully the children realize that reading is fun and that they get excited about it," said media specialist Jenny Kramer, who was in charge of running the book fair. "I'm seeing that, which is great. They are so excited about the book fair."

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.

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LIFESTYLES

Cal Stone, editor (248) 349-1700, ext. 113 cstone@hl.homecomm.net

ENGAGEMENTS



Slanina-Plummer
Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Slanina of Novi announce the engagement of their daughter, Nichole, to T. J. Plummer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Plummer of Collierville, Tenn. Nichole graduated from Northville High School in 1992. She graduated from the University of Michigan with a degree in aerospace engineering in 2002. She is employed by Honeywell, Phoenix.



Bryant-Rollins
Elaine Cavin of Northville announces the engagement of her son, Jason Rollins, to Leigh Ann Bryant, daughter of Richard and Carla Bryant of Wilson, N.C. Jason is also the son of Eugene and Sandra Rollins of Hampstead, N.C.

The groom-elect is a 1999 graduate of Novi High School and a 2003 graduate of the University of North Carolina, Wilmington. He is employed at Fokman Public Relations, Atlanta.
The bride-elect is a 1998 graduate of Boddington High School, Wilson, N.C.
An October wedding is planned. They will reside in Phoenix.

OBITUARIES

Elmer H. LaFevre, 83

Elmer LaFevre died Oct. 3, 2004. He was 83.
Survivors include his wife, Louise; children Sandra (Jim Yencel), LaFevre, Russ (Maris), Pamela (Jerry) Hirst, Dennis (Mary), Cheryl Kobel, Janet McSikley, Fred (Mary Jo), and Timothy; eleven grandchildren, Michael, Jayme, Dylan, Lauren, Bradley, Lindsay, Jessica, Brigitte, Nicholas, Kaitlyn and Sarah; seven siblings, Marian "Pat" Schooley, Robert Brugnart, Jane Brodzick and the late Albert "Slim" LaFevre, Edward Brugnart, Doris Handing and Gerald Brugnart; and his loyal companion, Buttons.

A funeral service was held Oct. 6 at Good Shepherd Evangelical Church, Novi.
Memorials may be made to Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church.
Arrangements were made by O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, Novi. Online sympathy messages at www.obrien-sullivanfuneralhome.com.

O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, Novi. Online sympathy messages: www.obrien-sullivanfuneralhome.com.

Anna Roblin, 94

Anna Roblin died Sept. 27, 2004. She was 94.
Survivors include one daughter, Milly Duncan; four grandchildren, Stuart, Gary, Christine and Carole; three great-grandchildren, Michael, Lindsay and Brian; and one great-great-grandson, Gavin.
Proud grandparents are Ken and Beth Stevens of Howell, formerly of Novi, and Greg and Gwen Dobson of South Lyon, also formerly of Novi. Proud great-grandfather is Ted Bourne of Onsted, Mich.

Memorials may be made to Angela Hospice, 14100 Newburgh Rd., Livonia, MI 48154.
Arrangements were made by O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, Novi. Online sympathy messages at www.obrien-sullivanfuneralhome.com.

BIRTH

Madalyn Gwendolyn Stevens

Caryn and Gabriel Stevens of Fenton, formerly of Novi, are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Madalyn Gwendolyn Stevens, on Monday, Aug. 9, 2004, at Genesys Regional Medical Center. She weighed 7 pounds, 9 ounces and was 19 inches long. Madalyn joins her big sister, Macy, 3.
Proud grandparents are Ken and Beth Stevens of Howell, formerly of Novi, and Greg and Gwen Dobson of South Lyon, also formerly of Novi. Proud great-grandfather is Ted Bourne of Onsted, Mich.

Memorials may be made to Angela Hospice, 14100 Newburgh Rd., Livonia, MI 48154.
Arrangements were made by O'Brien/Sullivan Funeral Home, Novi. Online sympathy messages at www.obrien-sullivanfuneralhome.com.



SENIORS

Kim Kovelie, staff writer (248) 349-1700, ext. 107 kkovelle@hl.homecomm.net

Seniors schooled on 'awesome' travel

■ Crawford, Schwarcwark and entertain

By Kim Kovelie
STAFF WRITER



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Kathy Crawford, seated, and Karen Schwarcwark spoke to a luncheon-hour crowd at the Novi Senior Center last Friday on their experiences in traveling around the country and world.

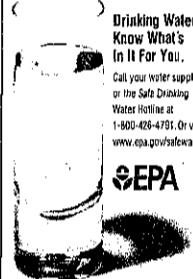
Even though they've learned a lot (such as traveling for five days with a 7-month-old, both stepped by the Novi Senior Center last Friday to hear travel tips from two seasoned pros.
Kathy Crawford, formerly the center's manager, and Karen Schwarcwark, who's organized senior group tours with Escapes for 14 years, announced their motives upfront.
"We'll talk about some practical tips for the traveler," Schwarcwark said to the 110 attendees.
"Between the two of us, we many say some things that will strike your funny bone."
The duo, recently returned from a five-week United Kingdom tour of Ireland, Scotland and England, didn't disappoint.
Using personal luggage and clothing to demonstrate, Schwarcwark suggested taking a suitcase with a long handle, avoiding red eyes that can leak, and labeling cases inside and out.
She also recommended rolling up clothes and using new "vacuum bags," which help compress clothes.
Crawford demonstrated with some white undergarments, allegedly her own.
"Look at this," Crawford said. "Your underwear's like freeze-dried beef. You can do this with all kinds of fluffy stuff!"
On Schwarcwark's luggage was using garbage bags for rain protection, pre-leading a credit card ahead of time so red flags aren't raised, sending postcards UPS or FedEx for quicker delivery and using plastic straws to keep necklaces from tangling.
Crawford's advice ranged from the practical — "Why take a travel iron, when you don't iron at home?" — to the humorous: "Don't press red buttons or pull on cords unless you are having an emergency," and "Don't drink cheap mini punch with the group and then sign up for optional tours like white water rafting."
Schwarcwark underscored the value of group traveling for seniors.
"Somebody else is the designated worrier," she said. "You can simply go and have a good time. It also gives you the opportunity to make new friends."
But whether the road leads to a special event at the center or a country tour, Crawford said, keeping a positive and open mind is key.
"People have the greatest stories," she said. "You gotta be open to this stuff!"
And, you may be able to verify another one of the lessons Crawford said she learned: "Older adults become absolutely fearless when you take their glasses away from them."

SENIOR CALENDAR

Friday 10-15	Tuesday 10/19
9 a.m. Panera Bread	9 a.m. Panera Bread
9 a.m. Stretch & Strength cancelled	9:30 a.m. Line Dance
10 a.m. Body Recall	10 a.m. Asian Pacific
11 a.m. Growing Stronger While Getting Older	10:30 a.m. Bookmobile
Dr. Lummy Orr	noon Lunch
noon Lunch	12:30 p.m. Bingo
12:30 p.m. Bingo	Autumn Apple Trip
12:30 p.m. Dupli. Bridge cancelled	Wednesday 10-20
Monday 10-18	9 a.m. Stretch & Strength
9 a.m. Stretch & Strength	9 a.m.-1 p.m. Massage
10 a.m. Body Recall	10 a.m. Body Recall
11:30 a.m. Goodie Lady	11 a.m. Blood Pressure
11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday Shop Open	noon TOPS Class
noon Lunch	noon Spooktacular Halloween-adv. ticket req.
12:30 p.m. Pinocle	12:30 p.m. Clogging*
1 p.m.-3 p.m. Healing Touch	Activities designated with an "*" will be held at the Novi Civic Center. The Senior Center is located at 25075 Meadowbrook. Call (248) 347-0414.
2:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m. Tea-free	
6:30 p.m. Clogging*	

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Fox Run residents get flu vaccine

All 347 men and women living at Fox Run in Novi will be receiving free, annual flu immunizations in time for the cold weather, according to the Erickson Retirement Community. Despite a national shortage of the flu vaccine, Erickson said it has already received the vaccine from Aventis. It'll be given to all of the 14,000 residents who live in the company's 11 communities across the United States.
"Residents, as always, are our number one priority and will receive vaccine first," Erickson Vice President Richard Powell said. "Secondary to the residents will be all health care-related employees. Sufficient quantities are available for them as well."
Matthew Narrett, M.D., medical director at Charlestown, said more than 90 percent of people who live in communities developed or managed by Erickson choose to be immunized against the flu each year. The national average, he said, is 50 to 60 percent.

Karen L. Stewart Attorney and Counselor ESTATE PLANNING

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- "DISH UP BY JOHN" METRO DETROIT'S FINEST CHEFS & RESTAURANTS WILL CONDUCT COOKING DEMONSTRATIONS FRIDAY - SUNDAY
- "ASK THE DESIGNER" ONE-ON-ONE CONSULTATIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE ASID
- COMPLIMENTARY ONE-ON-ONE KITCHEN & BATH RENOVATION CONSULTATIONS FROM THE EXPERTS AT THE NKBA
- HAVING A STRESSFUL DAY? COOK AND SMASH! A FURRY FUN FOR A GOOD CAUSE. AT THE NOVI ROTARY CLUB PUMPKIN SALE AND FUNDRAISER
- RAISES OF CRAFTS AND UNIQUE ITEMS PRESENTED BY THE NORTHVILLE FARMERS MARKET & ALICES CRAFTS

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- WXYZ-TV CHANNEL 7 (broadcasting all day on Friday)
- WYU-TV CHANNEL 10 (Home Improvement host, Mervyn Gorb broadcasting live on Sunday)
- Early on WYUC "Kitchen Rejuvenation" Giveaway sponsored by Kitchens Alternatives of West Bloomfield

SHOW HOURS
Friday Noon - 9 p.m.
Saturday 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Sunday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

ADMISSION
Adults: \$6, Seniors: \$5,
Children 12 and younger admitted FREE

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COLORING CONTEST



Northville Record/Novi News Coloring Contest Rules:

- Open to all readers up to age 10
- Family members of HomeTown employees not eligible
- All entries must be received by 5pm October 25th
- All entries must be completed by entrant
- Judging will be broken down into age groups: 3 - 6 & 7 - 10
- Winners in each category will receive a pizza & ribs combo courtesy of Pizza Marvelous & have their drawing printed in the October 28th editions of the Northville Record & Novi News

Coloring Contest - Entry Form

Name _____
Address _____
Phone # _____
Age _____
Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Please send or bring entry blank and colored picture to:
104 West Main St. • Northville, MI 48167

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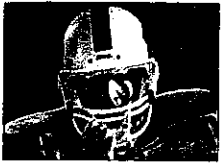
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*Actual savings may exceed stated percentage off. "Regular" and "Original" prices reflect offering prices which may not have resulted in actual sales. Merchandise selection may vary from one store to another.



KVC CHAMPIONS!
The Novi Wildcats football team not only won their Homecoming game Friday night, they earned their second-straight KVC title and a berth into the playoffs.

— Page 2B



A complete experience
The Homecoming festivities at Novi High School found seniors Ryan Pritchard and Sarah Bielski earning the nod as king and queen. Both said it added to their senior years.

— Page 5B



Regional Marketplace
Michael and Patrick Rugg are carpet and duct cleaning specialist. Ducts and ventilation systems should be cleaned every seven to 10 years, and Rugg Brothers has the experience, equipment and expertise to do the job right.

— Page 6B

SPORTS & MORE

B¹

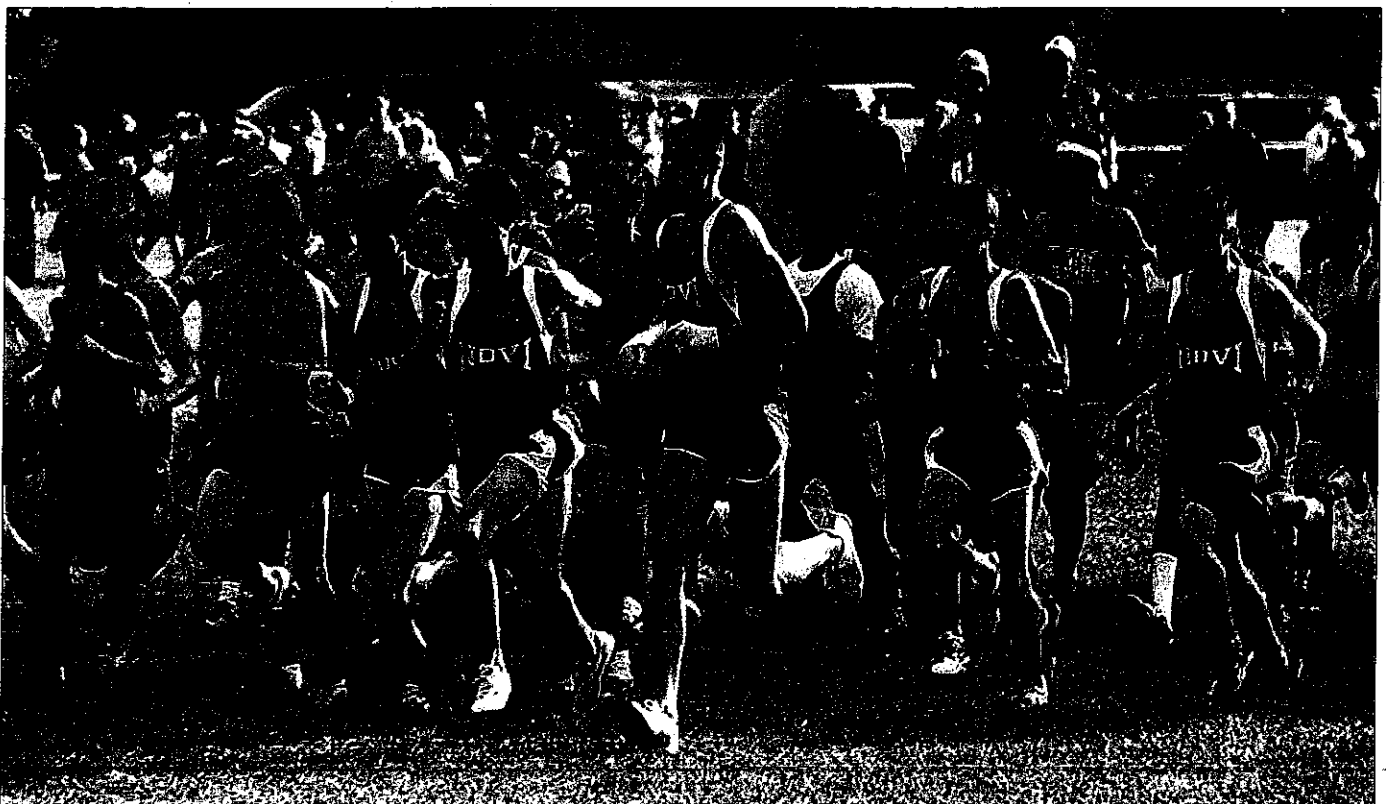
NOVI NEWS

hometownlife.com

Thursday, October 14, 2004

Novi cross country is burning up the course thanks to some

RED HOT RUNNING



Courtesy Photo

The Novi Wildcats boys cross country team is currently ranked second in the state. Here, the top five peel out ahead of the pack as they run to a second-place finish in the Oakland County meet behind top-ranked Milford.

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

For the Novi Wildcats boys cross country team, the Oakland County meet is a great way to measure themselves against one of their most bitter conference rivals, Milford.

The measuring took place last Saturday when the two teams faced off along with a slew of other Oakland County schools. The result? Milford earned the top spot in the meet with 57 points while Novi came in second with 68.

"We didn't get to see everyone like Pinckney, the Ann Arbor or Traverse City, but we did get to see the depth of our team," Novi coach Bob Smith said. "In the Oakland County meet if you have any weaknesses they are going to be magnified. There might end up being a whole army running between your third and fourth guys." Novi, thankfully, didn't have

such an occurrence.

"I don't think we have any glaring weaknesses," said Smith. "All of our top five runners stayed really close together. We are tough through the top runners, including our three through sixth, which is a combination other teams are finding hard to beat."

Except, of course, Milford — the team that has found itself ranked first in the state in the coaches' poll and second in the Midwest and ninth in the country by running groups. Novi isn't far behind, earning a second-place ranking in Michigan, ninth in the Midwest and possibly the top-25 in the country.

"I don't like talking about rankings," Smith noted. "We can't get stupid and play the rankings game. That came up and bit us a few years ago."

So, his squad needs to focus instead. Every day and every meet has to be run like they are entering the twilight of the season. Why? Because the confer-

Novi collects perfect score against South Lyon

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

It looks like South Lyon cross country coach Scott Smith is in debt for yet another steak dinner.

A bet that has been around for as long as the Lions' coach and his brother, Novi boys' cross country coach Bob Smith, have been coaching each other has once again come due.

"I think he's behind by four," Bob Smith noted. Novi took charge of the meet, earning a perfect score as they trampled the South Lyon Harriers, 15-49.

Leading the way for Novi was Amol Huprikar, who ran to a first place finish for Novi while

Bobby Watts took second.

Spencer Ornes showed that his continually driving himself to be better and stronger, notching a third-place finish in the race while Kip Miller captured fourth and Justin Namm took fifth to capture the perfect score. In sixth was Mark Moore, while the nearest South Lyon runner came in seventh in the race, which was held at South Lyon's home course.

All six of Novi's runners cross the line shoulder to shoulder, but had to be given places by the officials at the meet.

That was Novi's plan — have the boys run together and finish in a tight pack.

"It's a tremendous confidence

builder and those guys understood what it takes to stay in a pack and just how close they really are to the front runners."

However, Novi's ability to pack did leave the Lions in the dust.

"We were able to keep a tight pack of six and we ended up taking care of a very good team's lead runner and put them in our pocket," Smith noted. "My poor brother was a victim of our training strategy though."

South Lyon, however, may be back next season to help even the odds and the steak dinners.

"We'll graduate a lot of very talented runners this year," Bob Smith said. "They graduate no one."

once meet and the regional are right around the corner.

"It's been kind of a wild ride," Smith said. "We have to keep our focus daily."

The Wildcats had a strong showing at the Oakland County race with Mark Moore leading his squad with a third-place finish. He ran the course in just

16:19. Not far behind was Amol Huprikar with a sixth-place finish while Spencer Ornes finished 14th and Justin Namm finished 20th. Taking 25th was Kip

Miller, while the always-improving Bobby Watts crossed the finish line in 29th. Mike Wheat, a sophomore, was the seventh runner for Novi, earning a 60th place.

"This was Milford's home course," Smith said. "You've got to see that they have a little advantage."

Home course advantage is more prominent in cross country than nearly any other sport. With hills, twists and turns and trails to be run, a team that races the course and practices on it now and again will have the better advantage.

If the run would have taken place elsewhere?

"It just may have been too close to call," Smith said, noting he wasn't going to speculate.

His team will have their chance to prove their mettle against the Mavericks. Novi is scheduled to visit Milford Tuesday at 4:30 p.m.

Sam Eggleston can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or at seggleston@ht.homecomm.net.

Wildcat girls continue with strong races

Ramos, Shannon earn honors as they lead team to third-place finish in Oakland meet

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

In the beginning of the season, Norm Norgren said that he hoped his girls would strive to bring their times down with each meet and compete in the Kensington Valley Conference.

They've done both, and it only looks as though they are going to continue on course for a great ending to a great season thus far.

Novi ran to a victory over South Lyon October 5 at South Lyon's home course, 18-45, and showed they are at the top of their games heading into the final stretch of their year.

"Individual times are coming down, but we still need to work

on the pack," said coach Norm Norgren.

Leading the way for the Wildcats was none other than consistent senior leader Patti Ramos, who took first overall in the race with an impressive time of 20:02.

Not far behind the leader was Katie Shannon, who took second overall in 20:27 while Megan Bannatz took fourth in 20:36.

Finishing in fifth was Andrea Kramer, running a time of 20:41 with Laura Brunner finishing in 20:50 in sixth place.

Novi is currently 4-1 in dual meet action and is slated to take on top-ranked Milford Tuesday before competing in the KVC championship Oct. 25.

Oakland County Meet

Novi, led by two All-Oakland-County runners Ramos and Shannon, pounded out a third-place finish in the Oakland County Meet last Saturday.

The showing was one of the best in school history, considering the 'Cats finished third behind the number one ranked team in the state in Clarkston and the third-ranked team in Milford.

Clarkston notched their first-place finish at the county meet with 33 points and Milford was second with 126. Novi finished with 189 points.

"The Novi girls' cross country team had a great outing," Norgren said.

"This was one of the better efforts by the Novi team and gave the Novi girls 12-straight years in the top 10 of Oakland County."

The key? A great pack time. Novi was led by Ramos, who finished 22nd in a time of 20:41, while Shannon took 28th in 20:48.

The top-30 finishes gave the two Wildcats All-Oakland County recognition.

Finishing in 38th for Novi was Bannatz, who ran a 21:05, while Laney Sekuloski took 48th in 21:22.

Notching a 21:28 was Kramer (53rd), while Brunner ran a 21:35 (58th) and Erin Haynes recorded a 21:41 (64th).

The pack time for the squad

through the top five runners was just 47 seconds while the top seven runners were split at just a minute flat.

The times may have been better had it not been for the weather conditions.

"The always-tough Possum Hollow Course was in good shape after the overnight rains, but there was a strong wind for the start and the mile mark," Norgren said.

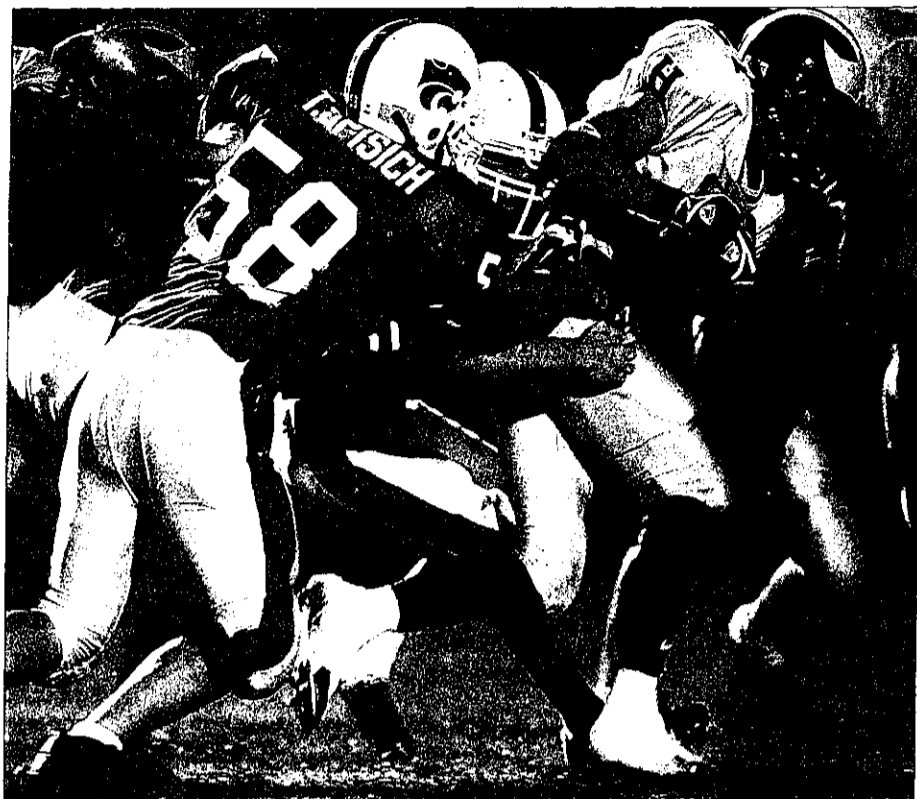
"The 'Cats were very impressive with their start and their pack during the entire race. Senior leadership is working well for the girls."

Sam Eggleston can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or at seggleston@ht.homecomm.net.

"The 'Cats were very impressive with their start and their pack during the entire race. Senior leadership is working well for the girls."

Norm Norgren
Girls cross country coach

KVC CHAMPIONS!



Photos by JOHN HEIDER

LEFT: Wildcat Tom Spisich, left, and others bring down a Hartland ballcarrier during last Friday's home victory. RIGHT: Wildcat quarterback Kevin Ciso scampers to the north endzone for his first rushing touchdown of the night against Hartland.

Novi wins Homecoming, earns KVC title and berth into the playoffs

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

It was the sweetness of a Homecoming victory but with a little extra sugar.

The Novi Wildcats football team earned a convincing 33-3 victory over the winless Hartland Eagles last Friday to secure their Homecoming. The added excitement came in the form of the victory also guaranteeing a playoff berth and the outright Kensington Valley Conference title for the second straight year.

"Our Kensington Valley Conference is a very important goal for us," Novi coach Tab Kellepoury said. "It was one of those things we set out there and the kids went and got it. It's a great accomplishment because no matter what else happens this year this team will always be the 2004 KVC champs."

Novi still has two weeks to go to find out just where they stand in the bigger scheme of things. If they hope to secure a first or second seeding in the playoffs the team will want to win at

least one of their next two games.

Tomorrow Novi will visit the Milford Mustangs at 7 p.m. in a classic KVC showdown. The following week finds them visiting Northville in the annual Baseline Jug contest.

In both games, the Wildcats will see exactly what has made them so successful to this point with a 6-1 record — their ground attack and their defense.

Novi scored all five of their touchdowns on the ground. The first came with just 16 seconds left in the first quarter as senior quarterback Kevin Ciso spurt around the end and broke free on a 79-yard sprint. Pat Sijau hit the extra point for the 7-0 lead.

Novi continued their ground attack in the second quarter, scoring on runs of 14 and 15 yards by Jarrell Woods and David Carney, respectively.

With a 20-0 hole to dig out of, the Hartland Eagles made their only scoring push of the night. After driving down the field on eight plays for 46 yards, the Eagles settled for a 33-yard field goal to cut the Novi lead to

20-3.

That would be the last time Hartland would score while the Wildcats went on a seven-yard touchdown jaunt with just eight seconds left in the half for a 27-3 lead following Sijau's extra point.

The final Novi tally came with 7:29 left in the third, just as the rain started pouring down on the field. Carnegie took the ball nine yards for the score to seal the victory at 33-3.

"Homecoming is a lot of fun for the kids," Kellepoury said. "The student body is in attendance, the cheerleaders are there and so is the pom team. The kids have a good time building floats and being a part of that, but come Friday night they are ready to play."

And ready they were. Novi was led by Ciso's 116 yards on just five carries while Woods pounded out 69 yards on 10 hands.

On the defensive side of the ball, Sean Costello and Brandon Carnegie each snagged an interception while junior Tim Thomas and Brad Sisson each

Team	Overall W-L	Pct.	League W-L	Pct.	PF	PA
Novi*	6-1	.857	6-0	1.000	216	67
Howell	5-2	.714	4-2	.667	162	76
South Lyon	5-2	.714	4-2	.667	170	43
Brighton	4-3	.571	4-2	.667	150	124
Milford	2-4	.333	2-3	.400	169	123
Lakeland	2-5	.286	2-4	.333	73	219
Pinckney	1-6	.143	1-5	.167	66	244
Hartland	1-5	.167	0-5	.000	44	152

* indicates clinched playoff berth

recorded a sack each and the Woods brothers — Jarrell and Josh — assisted.

Leading in tackles was senior lineman Elliott Volkman, who is recorded five solo and two assisted while Costello added four solo and two assisted. Thomas had three solo tackles,

as did John Favorite, Josh Kellepoury said. "Between those three guys I know the defense is taken care of."

"Coach (Dave) Hartman is our defensive coordinator and gets help from Coach (Dave) Ray and Coach (Jeff) Burnside."

Sam Eggleston can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or at seggleston@ht.homecomm.net.

'Cats win KVC, fall in region play

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

It was an ending that came more abruptly than the Wildcats tennis team may have liked, but the girls took it well.

Of course, it helped that during the same week their season came to a close, the team earned their fifth-straight outright Kensington Valley Conference championship.

"We had a good week of tennis," Novi coach Jim Hanson said. "Sometimes you're not going to make it to the state finals. Many of the better teams in the state are in our area and are going to be in our regional."

And that was the case. Two of the top 10 teams in Michigan were in the regional Novi bowed

out of, but that didn't mean the 'Cats just stepped back and gave up.

Instead, they played some of their best tennis of the year. A team needs 18 points or needs to finish first or second to escape the regional. Novi finished fourth and had 16 points.

Farmington Hills Mercy upset a lot of flights and earned the top spot with 22 points while West Bloomfield took second with 21 and Clarkston was third with 19.

Novi did, however, have a fight champion in the duo of Emily Holt and Lauren Thomas. The doubles team earned the one doubles title after beating Walled Lake Western, 6-0, 6-0, before moving on and defeating Lake Orion, 6-0, 6-0. In the finals, Novi took on a very tough West Bloomfield duo of Alex Gold

and Stephanie Gooel and earned a 6-1, 6-1 victory.

"They played some outstanding tennis," Hanson said.

The fourth doubles team of Allison Yee and Amanda Brandemuhl made it to the finals but fell to Mercy, 6-4, 6-4. Carly Lyall also made it to the finals in her respective flight of third singles. She fell to a tough Clarkston player named Alyssa Lucas, 6-0, 6-0.

"We had a really good team this year," Hanson said. "Just because we didn't make it to the state finals doesn't mean anything should be taken away from them. They played some great tennis this year."

Conference champions
The Novi Wildcats were much

more productive earlier in the week when they secured their fifth-straight outright conference championship.

The 'Cats edged out Brighton and Hartland — who were tied for second but finished second and third in the conference, respectively — to take the top spot.

"I was very pleased with how well the girls played," Hanson said. "They showed just how good of a team they can be."

Plenty of Novi netters walked away from the day with a conference championship, including two singles player Ayano Nakamura, who has been on fire in the late meets of the season.

"She has been playing outstanding," Hanson said.

At third singles, Lyall earned a conference title as well, as did Samantha Caldwell at fourth singles.

Thomas and Holt made their mark in the KVC, winning the title at one doubles while Amanda Cassidy and Kaylan Pustover put the final touches on their senior seasons with a Kensington Valley Conference championship.

The final championship flight came at fourth doubles as Brandemuhl and Yee notched a league victory.

Sam Eggleston can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or at seggleston@ht.homecomm.net.

Wildcats earn two conference victories

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

Slow starts can end up costing a basketball team a victory if they happen against the wrong foe.

The Novi Wildcats have proven themselves lucky this year, finding their slow starts coming against squads they have been able to bounce back and defeat.

Novi, coached by Bill Kelp, beat South Lyon, 48-30, and Hartland, 47-34, in Kensington Valley Conference action last week. Both games found the Wildcats coming out slower than they would have liked.

"Both games mirrored each other in that we came out with slow starts," Kelp said. "We came out and struggled in the first half but pulled away in the second half."

Novi's main concern at this point is that they have too many individual trying to win the game instead of a team trying to do it.

"We just need to work together," Kelp said. "That's the key to winning right now."

The Wildcats are currently in third place in the Kensington Valley Conference behind such foes as Brighton and Pinckney, but they have a chance at climbing the ladder when they play both squads for the second time in the coming weeks.

Novi will visit the Pirates Tuesday at

	KVC		Overall	
	Wins	Losses	Wins	Losses
Pinckney	6	0	11	1
Brighton	5	1	9	2
NOVI	4	2	9	3
Lakeland	3	3	8	4
Howell	3	3	6	6
Milford	2	4	6	6
South Lyon	1	4	2	9
Hartland	0	6	4	8

7 p.m. but won't see the Brighton Bulldogs until October 28th.

Novi will rely on their impressive scoring ability to earn their victories. Against South Lyon, Novi had 18 points come from the smooth shooting of Rachelle Polino, while Jessica Gustorik, Kelly Hobert and Stephanie Crawford scored eight apiece.

Polino also led her team against the Hartland Eagles, scoring 15 despite stunting the entire second quarter due to foul trouble. Nicole Stephen scored 12 in the victory while Hobert added six and Crawford, Gustorik and Amanda Diacono notched four each.

Even with the slow starts this year, Kelp said he's happy with the intensity his girls are putting forward.

"I'm proud of the way they've been working hard and how hard they get after it," he said. "We just need to start taking care of the basketball."

With a 9-3 record overall and a 4-2 mark in the KVC, Novi has had a strong showing thus far this year — but they'll have to have an even stronger showing to end the regular season if they hope to reach one of the team's top goals in winning the league.

"There aren't any easy wins in the KVC this year," said Kelp. "We've got to play our best basketball in the second half of the schedule."



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Novi's AW Stanek races upfield with a Pinckney defender on his heels.

Novi feels sting of heart-breaking loss

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

The Novi Wildcats soccer team unfortunately learned a new definition last week — heartbreak.

The squad's definition solidly represents the word. They tied perennial rival Brighton, 1-1, last week, but failed to win which meant they can't even get a share of the Kensington Valley Conference.

"It was a little bit of a heart-breaker because now we are a game and a half behind South Lyon, so even if we were to beat them they would still be in first place," Novi coach Brian O'Leary said.

The Wildcats did come out with a lot of energy though. They scored their lone goal in the first half as Matt Simpson snagged a flick pass from Dan Best and scored past the Bulldog goalie on the side of the net.

The Bulldogs, however, weren't about to be denied and tied the game in the waning minutes of the second half on a head-

er — something they accomplished thanks to their height.

"Brighton is such a big team they gave us a lot of trouble in the air," O'Leary said.

"Especially since our best player in the air, David Deighton, hurt his leg right before halftime and had to sit out the rest of the game."

With a minute left, Brighton was awarded a free kick at the 50 yard line that they played into the box and headed into the goal for the 1-1 final.

Brighton had other chances throughout the game, but the acrobatic showing of senior goalie A.J. Glubirinski helped keep the Wildcats ahead.

Novi will be back in action today when they visit Hartland in a Kensington Valley Conference showdown. They are currently 10-2-3 overall and 9-1-2 in the KVC.

The Wildcats will then participate in the district tournament. They are scheduled to play Farmington at Farmington High School Tuesday at 7 p.m. The

winner will advance to play the victor of the Walled Lake Western versus Churchill game at 7 p.m. at Livonia Stevenson High School next Thursday.

Sam Eggleston can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or at seggleston@ht.homecomm.net.

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REGIONAL MARKETPLACE

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Novi News

Thursday, October 14, 2004

Got fired? Start a small business

Getting fired by Donald Trump before a television audience of 20 million people might be painful for those getting the boot, but they should be consoled by the fact that Americans hold a favorable view of those who pursue a career in business, even when they aren't successful.



Jack Faris

Although small-business owners can't get fired, they sometimes fail. But even in failure, they continue to be viewed as good guys. The public, by an overwhelming majority — nearly 90 percent — consider bankruptcy a good-faith effort that just didn't pan out, according to a recent public opinion poll, "The Public Reviews Small Business," conducted by the NFIB Research Foundation.

The poll revealed that the nation enjoys a culture that strongly supports small business and entrepreneurial activity. Those favorable opinions have a significant influence on the ultimate success of small firms.

Getting ahead in this country demands perseverance, sacrifice and a strict focus on one's goals. Along the way, there are certain to be setbacks and challenges, especially by those who take the path of entrepreneurship.

If you want to get ahead in America, own a small business. Two-thirds of Americans hold that view and it's even stronger among the nation's minorities, 81 percent of whom see business ownership as an avenue to opportunity. What's more, an overwhelming majority of Americans — 90 percent — would approve if a daughter or son started a small business.

Sorry, Donald, but the public by a large margin believes that small business exerts an even greater positive influence on the nation than television. Actually, small business ranks well ahead of many major institutions including higher education, federal government and even big business. And here's a heads-up to politicians in this election year: 67 percent of those surveyed said big business has too much influence on the way things are going in America and 58 percent believe small business has too little sway.

Public support is vital to those who take the entrepreneurial plunge because it influences the number and type of people who attempt to start businesses and how often they will try. Additionally, it shapes the formal and informal rules that govern commerce.

Why does the American public have such a close bond with small business? Because many have "been there, done that." One-in-four Americans have been self-employed full time at some point in their lives; over half have had a direct association with private business ownership and operation. Many have worked in small firms and many have personal relationships-particularly friendships-with small-business owners.

Most Americans think small-business owners possess desirable personal attributes. Ninety-one percent of those surveyed say these business people work harder than people like themselves, and 82 percent believe that the owners of small firms contribute more to the betterment of the community than they do.

So would-be apprentices, don't sweat Mr. Trump's pink slip. Take your entrepreneurial skills and join the growing number of men and women who are starting their own small businesses. Americans will applaud you for it.

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 founded 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 at www.NFIB.com.

Story idea?

Send it to:
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Northville, MI 48167
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Advertorial



Submitted photo

Michael and Patrick Rugg are carpet and duct cleaning specialist. Ducts and ventilation systems should be cleaned every seven to 10 years, and Rugg Brothers has the experience, equipment and expertise to do the job right.

Rugg Brothers have answers to cleaning

The sad news is, we can't always control how much air pollution there is in our cities. The good news is, we can control how much indoor air pollution there is indoors, inside our homes, offices and other indoor areas we use frequently. One of the ways to control indoor air pollution is by regularly cleaning your air ducts. The term "ducts" refers to various components heating and cooling components of forced air systems around your house, such as:

- Supply and return air ducts and registers
- Grills
- Diffusers
- Heat exchangers
- Heating and cooling coils
- Condensate drain pans and drip pans
- Fan motor and fan housing

Why clean your ductwork?

Patrick Ruggiero says Since the ventilation system/ duct work is often the biggest culprit in poor indoor air quality, inspecting the ductwork should be the first order of business. In most cases, this system has been operating for some time without much attention. Dirty ducts can circulate odors, contaminate like mold, and irritating dust, dust mites pollen and dander throughout your building or home. Recently found items in duct work such as beer cans, bottles, glass, saw dust, rocks, sand other construction debris and one dead mouse.

Think about this. Do not vacuum under your bed for five, 10 or 15 years and see what would accumulate. That is what is found in duct work.

How much of a difference does duct cleaning make? Rugg Brothers says, you would be amazed and they even offer to show you how dirty they are.

How often should your duct work be cleaned? Michael Ruggiero answers: "If the ducts in your house have not been cleaned in seven to 10 years it is time to get them cleaned."

Does every house need to have their duct cleaned? Patrick and Michael Ruggiero both answer, no do not have the duct work cleaned until it has been inspected. Rugg Brothers

will give you a free duct work cleaning inspection.

Where did Rugg Brothers learn to clean duct work?

Michael Ruggiero states, "While enlisted in the United States Navy I was a Hospital Corpsman and while on board a ship he learned how to clean duct work. It is a necessary task to clean the duct work every three months to ensure healthy living and preventing fuel (such as dust) for a fire to run through out the ship. But, a house only needs to be cleaned every seven to 10 years.

Be careful when hiring a duct cleaner.

Michael Ruggiero states "I have been to customers houses just after they had their ducts cleaned, and when asking the homeowner how they did it, they said they used a leaf blower and shop-vac." So make sure you hire a company that has invested time and money in the equipment and that their employees to do the job right.

How long should duct cleaning take?

Patrick Ruggiero answers, "Duct cleaning done the right way in a 1,200-square-foot house should take about two to three hours."

How does Rugg Brothers do their duct cleaning

- The duct work is inspected at no charge.
- All vents and grill covers are removed.



Rugg Brothers can clean the duct system of a 1,200-square-foot home in two to three hours. Reach the company at 248-446-2008.

- An access hole may be needed in the main duct run (varies by home).
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- As the duct brush is scraping the lining, all debris is being removed by the powerful truck-mounted equipment.
- The process is done through-out the house.
- The furnace filter is checked and turned back on.
- All vent and grill covers are replaced.

In addition to ridding your home of the hidden dirt in your ventilation system, cleaning your air ducts can save you money by increasing the efficiency of your heating and air conditioning system. It can also help prolong the life of your expensive HVAC components. Air Cleaning Systems strives to provide you with the highest level of service available in the industry. Our service technicians are trained to protect your home and perform the job in a clean and efficient manner. When inside your home our technicians wear booties to ensure they will not soil your carpets. To avoid leaving fingerprints on your walls, they wear surgical gloves when cleaning your vents.

When cleaning your HVAC system we are thorough and we never rush through a job. Since most of the dirt in your ventilation system is hidden, it could easily be overlooked during the cleaning process. To prevent re-contamination of your system it is important to remove all the contaminants from the site and not just mask them with chemical sprays and deodorizers.

When does duct cleaning make sense?

There are several situations when duct cleaning could make sense. If you have a problem with water in your ducts, this may result in mold growth in the duct. In this situation, solve the water problem first, clean and disinfect the ducts where mold growth has occurred, and have the rest of the ducting system cleaned as well. In some cases, it may be necessary or more cost effective to simply replace the affected duct

areas.

- If you are moving into a newly constructed house, and have doubts about the diligence of the construction crew, duct cleaning can be useful. Drywall dust, fiberglass pieces, and sawdust have no place in ducts. Duct cleaning will also catch the occurrence where lunch bags or soft drink cans have fallen or been swept into ducting. For similar reasons, duct cleaning may be advisable for older houses following major renovations.
- If you are having trouble with furnace airflow, a duct cleaning could reveal significant blockages. Have the ducts cleaned before you embark on more expensive duct replacement or rerouting to solve an airflow problem. Has been shown to make difference in duct air flow.
- If you look in the return air registers and see an accumulation of debris in the duct below, you may want to have it removed. It's probably worse further in where you can not see. research showed that return air ducts, which are relatively big and have slow moving air, are generally far dirtier than the supply ducts.

How often should residential HVAC systems be professionally cleaned? Frequency of cleaning depends on several factors, not the least of which is the preference of the home owner. Some of the things that may lead a home owner to consider more frequent cleaning include:

- Smokers in the household.
- Pets that shed high amounts of hair and dander.
- Water contamination or damage to the home or HVAC system.
- Residents with allergies or asthma who might benefit from a reduction in the amount of indoor air pollutants in the home's HVAC system.
- After home renovations or remodeling.
- Prior to occupancy of a new home.
- How much of the dirt, debris, and microbial growth do you get out of my system?

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■ Rugg Brothers Process can reduce the dust, dirt and debris from the air ducts and HVAC unit. The entire air duct system can be treated with EPA-registered products to help reduce microbial contamination. SPORICIDIN®

■ Allergy relief — Eliminates up to 82 percent of mold, mildew and bacteria from your ducts.

would be stretching the truth a good bit. Our goal is to get 95 to 99 percent of the material out of the system during our cleaning. In most cases, our technicians cannot reach 100 percent of the entire mechanical system, and so we are not able to clean every inch. But through our years of experience, we know where the problem areas are, and our goal is to make sure those spots they do have access to are 100 percent cleaned. These areas include the supply plenum, the evaporator coil, the drain pan, the blower motor, and the ductwork. The spots that our equipment cannot reach aren't the true problem spots and so the ramifications of not cleaning these thoroughly are limited.

The Cost of HVAC Cleaning The Environmental Protection Agency says that duct cleaning services typically but not always range in cost from \$300 to \$1,000 per heating and cooling system, depending on the services offered, the size of the system to be cleaned, system accessibility, climatic region, and level of contamination and the type of duct material. Consumers should beware of air duct cleaning companies that making sweeping claims about the health benefits of duct cleaning such claims are unsubstantiated.

Consumers should also beware of blow-and-go air duct cleaning companies. These companies often charge a nominal fee and do a poor job of cleaning the heating and cooling system. These companies may also persuade the consumer into unneeded services with and/or without their permission.

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Dander
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Pollen
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- Duct Cleaning
- Scotchgard®



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