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Novi News



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Thursday, April 7, 2005

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SPORTS



Spring sports preview

Lights. Camera. Action! It's a whole new sports season and the Novi Wildcats are geared up and ready to make some noise.

INSIDE



Happy ending

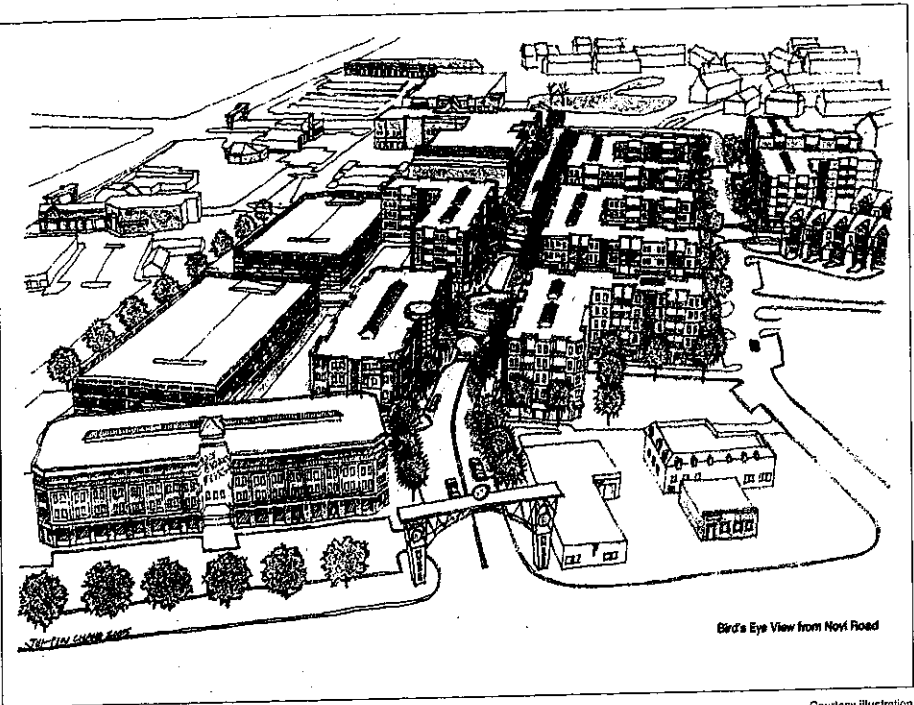
Oh, where, oh where could their little dog be? Oh, where, oh where has he gone? It's never easy to lose a family friend, but one Novi family was lucky enough to get theirs back following a scare and frantic searching.

Developing Novi's downtown

Feedback sought on pedestrian-friendly project

By Pam Fleming STAFF WRITER

Picture yourself strolling down a tree-lined street to a park for lunch. Or, you might drop by art gallery to view their latest offerings or a sidewalk cafe for a cup of cappuccino. That's the vision developer Triangle Development presents in the recent unveiling of its conceptual plan for MainStreet Novi.



This conceptual drawing shows Farmington Hills developer Triangle Development's ideas for MainStreet Novi. This bird's eye view shows Novi Road to the south and Grand River Avenue to the west.

project would be similar to Gateway Village the firm developed on Grand River Avenue at Meadowbrook Road. City council members decided at their April 4 meeting to have members of the Main Street Committee review Triangle's conceptual plan, and then present their findings to council.

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Locals mourn pontiff's passing

John Paul II's legacy touched lives in Novi

By Kim Kovelie RECORD STAFF WRITER

The legacy of Pope John Paul II isn't far from the hearts and prayers of many local clergymen. After Karol Wojtyla's death last Saturday, many say the pontiff's 26-year papacy has left an indelible mark.

continued on page 2A

Chamber explores move to Main St.

Board wants decision made by this June

By Pam Fleming STAFF WRITER

Novi Chamber of Commerce staff members are looking for a new place to hang their hats, with Main Street Novi as their first choice.

new home since their current location at the Novi Expo Center may be sold to another developer when Blair Bowman opens a new exposition center on Grand River Avenue west of Taft Road. The \$18-million project is projected to be completed late this summer.

Churches share in sheltering homeless

Goal is to provide a new outlook on life for the needy

By Ramez Khuri STAFF WRITER

The Holy Family Church of Novi has always been ready and willing to help people in need. But for about eight years, it has been going above and beyond that service by participating in the Interfaith Rotating Homeless Shelter.



Coleen Wagner, a Holy Family Church Parish member, assists Eugene Garnett (left) and Carl Jones as they make purchases in the church luxury store with the Holy Family Funny Money that they have earned.

In the last two years, however, the shelter has expanded to 10 days from seven. Between 40 and 80 men, women and teens and some children may be guests of the church during this time.

Clothing, shoes and other essentials, fresh bedding and shelter are also provided. 'We don't give them our leftovers, we give them what we would give our own families,' Debra Marxer said, a volunteer at the church.

continued on page 4A

Sale of Novi News and sister publications completed

HomeTown in good hands, says former chairman Power

By Phil Power FORMER HOMETOWN CHAIRMAN

On Thursday, March 31, I sold the assets of my company, HomeTown Communications Network, Inc., to the Gannett Company.

Gannett is one of the largest newspaper companies in the world, with a demonstrated track record of capable management, great financial stability and responsible journalistic ethics. I wanted the fine newspapers, telephone directories and other publications that I built during my career to wind up in good hands after I left.

That was important to me. I got into the newspaper business nearly 40 years ago when I started my company. It's been a long run and a good one. But I turned 65 a couple of years ago, a symbolic

continued on page 8A

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# FAITH

Ramez Khuri, staff writer (248) 349-1700, ext. 110 rkhuri@hl.homecomm.net

## Students clean up in Knights of Columbus essay contest

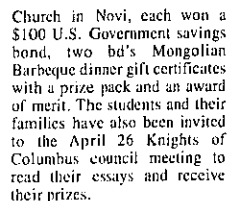
High school sisters among the winners

By Ramez Khuri  
STAFF WRITER



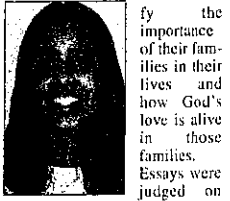
Nuculaj

Church in Novi, each won a \$100 U.S. Government savings bond, two \$25 Mongolian Barbeque dinner gift certificates with a prize pack and an award of merit. The students and their families have also been invited to the April 26 Knights of Columbus council meeting to read their essays and receive their prizes.



Fenandes

Thimn was born in Detroit and his family has always lived in the area. He is Irish. "This is exciting," Thimn said. "It was actually my mom's idea for me to enter. Last year I didn't really want to do it, and she told me to do it this year because I wrote a really good paper at school. She told me to try to win the contest, and I did."



Thimn

Valentina Nuculaj, who is in ninth grade, was a runner-up three years ago. She was modest about her accomplishment. "I was thinking that maybe a lot of people didn't enter this year, and that's how I won," she said. "I wrote about how I'm close to my family and how I see God in my family and how that is important to me."

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@hl.homecomm.net.

grades sixth through eighth. "I decided to enter because I thought it would be fun." Though her parents grew up in India, Fenandes, a straight-A student, was born in Cleveland. The family moved to Novi when she was 4 years old and she has been attending the Novi Community School District ever since. She has received many piano awards and is on both the soccer and volleyball teams at Novi Middle School. The four students, who all belong to the Holy Family

Students were asked to identify the importance of their families in their lives and how God's love is alive in those families. Essays were judged on writing style, idea development, content, original thought and insight. "I entered the contest two years ago and won first place then also," said Suzanna Nuculaj, a 10th grade student. She and her sister were Level II winners, which includes grades ninth through 12th. They, along with their

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# PARKS & REC

## Lots of summer fun planned

By Ramez Khuri  
STAFF WRITER

Imagine a place where you could be a road warrior, go horse back riding, sailing and just plain have fun all summer long.

All of that and much more can be done right here through the Novi Parks and Recreation Department.

"We're offering a bunch of camps this summer, including two brand new ones, called 'Road Warriors' and 'Summer Horse Day Camp,'" said Tracy Ringle, event and marketing coordinator. "We also have sailing classes at the Pootiac Yacht Club at Cass Lake."

Road Warriors is designed for kids seeking adventure and extreme recreational activities. Through this interactive camp, kids will have an opportunity to sharpen their team-building and leadership skills by participating in rope courses, canoeing, rock climbing, gaming, beach days, go carts, putt-putt and much more.

"It's the first year we're running Road Warriors and I'm still a little

bit nervous about it, but should be a great experience," Derek Smith said, recreation coordinator. "Our primary focus was to try to instill some leadership skills and provide a program that offers things for kids in the age group of 12-15. Between ourselves and community education, there aren't very many programs for kids in that age range."

Smith said that Road Warriors is also based around field trips. The two horseback riding camps are geared for kids and adults. The kids camp is called "Tiny Tots Horse Camp" where young children will get their first hands on introduction to ponies and horses while learning basic safety and care in addition to handling animals. Each day will include a pony ride and an educational subject regarding horses.

Activities for the adult program will be centered on hands-on learning. Students will learn about vaulting, obstacle course riding and more, in a safe atmosphere. Students will also have their own horse for the week.

At Camp Lakeshore, campers will experience art projects, games, sports, swimming, guest performers and field trips. It is for ages 6-12. "Camp Lakeshore has been around for a long time and it's a very popular, very successful camp," Smith said. "One of the reasons it has been so successful is that we have a great staff that comes back every year because it is their summer job."

At Camp Lakeshore, campers will go on field trips every Wednesday to Red Oaks Water Park, they will have access to the beach and spend a lot of time in the water.

Other educational camps include a Mad Science Summer Camp, where children will experiment with all types of science and build take home projects. "Chemicals, Cells and Science," where campers will experiment with chemical reactions, molecular models, DNA and more.

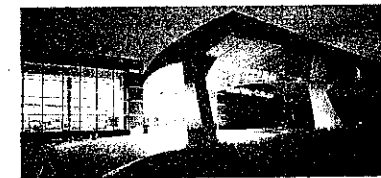
All of these camps run at different times throughout the summer. For more information, or to register, call Parks and Rec at (248) 347-0400.

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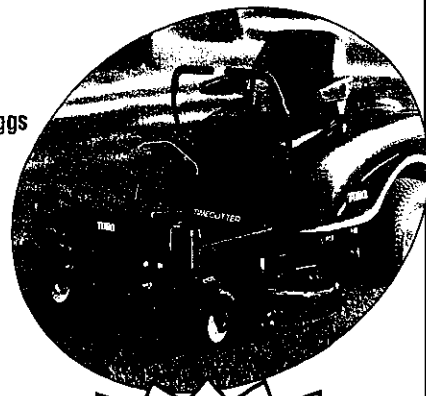
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Rocky's just underwent a complete remodel both inside and out to ensure that they continue to be the local favorite. Not to be outdone by the décor changes, Chef's Rocky and Dan spent weeks developing new menu offerings, including traditional French Bouillabaisse, Grouper Saute with avocado tomato salsa and jalapeno cornbread, Portobello Mushroom Ravioli, Bronzed Catfish with tomato mustard coulis, spinach and andouille, and a spectacular Bourbon Barbecued Shrimp, to name but a few.

Rocky's also boasts the area's only working raw bar with authentic East Coast Pan Roasts and Provençals.

Why not visit the all new Rocky's Northville today to see of the stunning décor changes, sample the new menu offerings and experience for yourself why the locals and the food critics alike continue to give Rocky's rave reviews?

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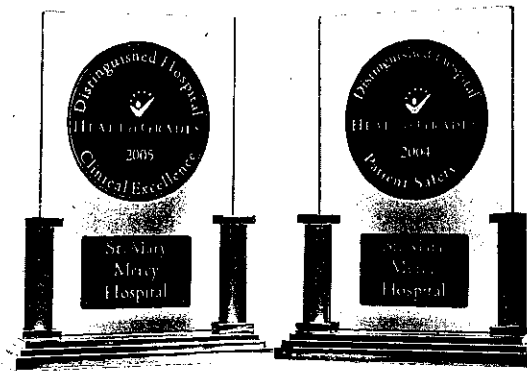
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# REGIONAL MARKETPLACE

Page 20A

Thursday, April 7, 2005

## Get money-smart this April

The Detroit Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, along with 33 organizations have joined forces to host the 2nd annual Money Smart Week, April 17-26. Together they've committed to host more than 300 seminars and events to help educate consumers—especially the elderly, the unbanked, and young people—in personal finance matters. Their mission is to combat financial illiteracy and provide greater education to consumers in Southeast Michigan and throughout the state.

Kids and teenagers are especially at risk for developing poor financial skills. High school seniors are still graduating with few of the personal financial skills they need to support themselves, bankruptcies are at an all time high and young adults are accumulating thousands of dollars of debt before the age of 30. Still, the state of Michigan doesn't require that financial education be part of the K-12 curriculum.

That means the responsibility of teaching children to respect money—and the hard work that it represents—rests squarely on the shoulders of parents and guardians.

Here are some simple ideas collected from sources like the National Youth Involvement Board (NYIB) and National Institute for Consumer Education (NICE) that parents can employ to help shape their child's attitude about the green stuff.

**Get them saving at an early age.** When your kids are young, around the age of three or four, show them how to tell coins apart. Then give them three clear piggy banks—label one for saving, one for spending and one for charity. Encourage them to regularly deposit coins into each bank reinforcing the concept of saving.

**Give allowances on a regular basis.** Regular allowances give children ample opportunities to practice saving and spending. When deciding on an appropriate amount, be sure to include enough money for some discretionary spending on top of what they'll need to cover lunches and bus fare.

**Teach them to distinguish between their wants and needs.** Central to the process of making wise spending decisions is being able to differentiate between wants and needs. A need is something we require to sustain life, like food, shelter, water and clothing. A want, in this context, is something that enhances the quality of life.

**Open a savings account for them.** Open a savings account in your child's name at a credit union or bank. Many credit unions have special youth savings programs for kids 12 and under. Accounts typically only require a \$5 deposit.

**Make saving a routine.** Make it a rule that your kids save a percentage of their allowance, birthday money, or part-time neighborhood job earnings.

**Craft a budget.** Before doling out an allowance each week, have your kids write down what they expect to purchase and spend for the week. Include both necessities such as bus fare and lunch and discretionary items like comic books or computer games.

**Set goals.** Have your kids write out a wish list of all they wish to purchase this summer, and rank them according to importance. Then, help them determine how much they need to save each week to reach their goals.

**Encourage them to work.** When your child is old enough, encourage him to find creative ways to make money. Suggest he do some extra chores around the house, walk a neighbor's dog, baby-sit or rake leaves. When he gets paid, take the opportunity to talk about the exchange of money for wages. When he's older, take the opportunity to discuss income tax. Explain the government takes about one-third of your earnings in taxes.

**Give them in the habit of spending responsibly.** Have your child plan a family meal, and then take him to the store with \$25 and have him buy the food. Encourage him to compare prices for the best deal.

For more about Money Smart week, call 1-877-MNY-SMRT or visit [www.chicagofed.org/moneysmart](http://www.chicagofed.org/moneysmart).

Mary Davis manages public affairs for the Michigan Credit Union League (MCUL), a statewide trade association representing Michigan credit unions. Send your financial questions to "Your Money Matters" c/o the Michigan Credit Union League, P.O. Box 8054, Plymouth, MI 48170-8054, or stop by our Web site ([www.mcul.org](http://www.mcul.org)) to learn more about smart money management.

ADVERTORIAL



Photo by Hal Gould

The crew at Bell's Landscape - (left to right) Ron Falkewicz, Grounds Maintenance Supervisor; Kurt Mosher, Parking Lot Maintenance Supervisor; Dave Crain, Landscape Construction Supervisor; Scott Bell, V.P. of Grounds Maintenance Division Sales - together have combined experience of over 50 years in the landscape industry, according to owner Mike Bell (right).

## Bell's Landscape offers guaranteed service

By Annette Jaworski  
SPECIAL WRITER

You might call them the one-stop shopping of landscaping. Bell's Landscape Service, Inc. in Wixom is ready to handle all of your outdoor landscaping needs - commercial and residential, from construction to maintenance all year long. Family owned and operated, owner, Mike Bell's background includes a hefty 33 years in landscaping and 26 years in business.

From installation to maintenance, they're proud of the diverse range of services they offer. Not only do they maintain residential sites, they also maintain condominium and apartment complexes, office and retail sites, commercial and industrial sites.

"If you're looking for someone to take care of all of your outdoor home and commercial landscaping needs, I'm your guy," said Bell. "The nice thing about what we do is that we can manage all those areas at once."

What does that include? From start to finish they'll create, construct, design and install an award winning landscape on your site. As a licensed builder, Bell's

Landscape Services can install a custom deck, retaining wall or gazebo; complete that with brick paver walkways and patios. Enjoy an evening outdoors and improved security by installing landscape lighting. Sit back and relax with popular water features including ponds and fountains.

Many of Bell's landscape outstanding designs have received awards from their peers in the industry. Most are for the design/build projects that they've created. Because their goal is customer satisfaction, much of their business comes through personal referrals and many are repeat customers that have stayed with them throughout the years.

Bell observes, many people, especially working couples often lack the time and energy to keep their landscape looking attractive. Hiring a dependable landscape service can remove one more task from a busy schedule. Bell's Landscape can keep your property looking beautiful with a complete schedule of landscape maintenance programs. That's their expertise.

"Seventy per cent of the households are dual income families and they don't have the time to main-



From green, kempt lawns to paver patios and landscaping, Bell's Landscape offers attractive solutions.

tain their landscape," said Bell. "My customers rely on me to take care of their grounds maintenance needs."

Bell's landscape maintenance program begins with the basics like lawn cutting and fertilization. Along with lawn service, they install and repair sprinkler systems to keep grass healthy and green. They also provide shrub and tree care, mulch installation; pruning and bed care to maintain beautiful flowerbeds. Seasonal services include those big jobs that are so hard to find time for - like spring and fall clean up.

Bell's commercial property customers have also received many beautification awards for their design. In addition to their routine maintenance, they also offer professional parking lot sweeping and maintenance for commercial buildings or subdivisions. Keeping a clear flow of traffic and preventing slip and fall on snow and ice is critical for commercial sites. During the winter season they offer professional snowplowing and salting.

Forget shopping around with several vendors. Bell's business philosophy is simple; offer a complete range of services with professional results. While some land-

scape companies come and go, quality work and professionalism is never compromised and it has helped them build a solid reputation. They guarantee quality workmanship.

Bell's Landscape Services has been located in Lyon Twp. for the past 16 years. They have been active supporters of local schools and the community since their location here.

Scott Bell-V.P. of Grounds Maintenance Division Sales; Ron Falkewicz- Grounds Maintenance Supervisor; Dave Crain-Landscape Construction Supervisor and Kurt Mosher-Parking Lot Maintenance Supervisor, together have combined experience of over 50 years in the landscape industry. They are a dedicated group of men committed to a higher quality of workmanship.

Mike Bell takes pride in his entire staff and believes in continuing education. It's one reason they call themselves "The Landscape Experts." Each employee completes an extensive training program and is supervised by professionals on the job site. Currently they're working with employees to participate in the new, (CLT) Certified Landscape

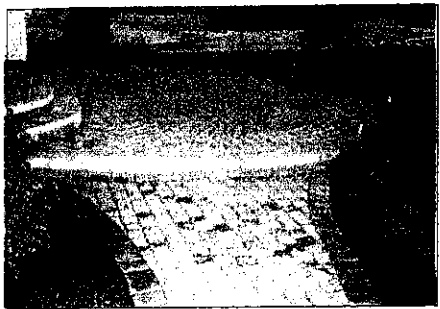
### TIPS ON SELECTING A LANDSCAPER

1. Select a landscaper that you feel comfortable working with.
2. If starting new construction, be prepared with an idea, concept and budget.
3. Determine what needs to be done to complete the project, such as what steps or materials are required.
4. Get a true cost so you won't be surprised with additional charges or low quality materials.
5. Check their credentials. Are they licensed and bonded or insured?
6. Get references from former customers.
7. Remember - you get what you pay for. If the price seems too good to be true, it usually is.

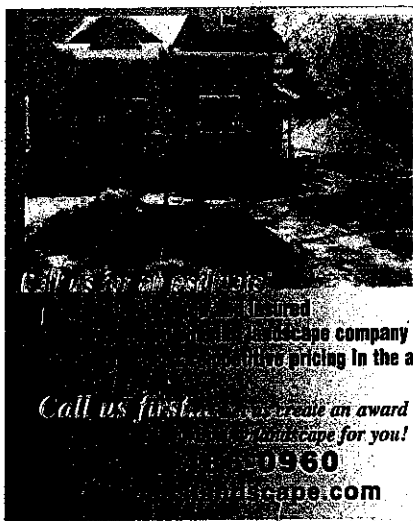
Tech program. "It's part of an effort to show a higher level of professionalism," he said.

Bell's Landscape is licensed and insured, which is another guarantee that clients will receive quality work. To ensure prompt service they also own, maintain and repair all of their own equipment. Their service region covers a thirty-mile radius that encompasses a wide area north to M-59 and south to I-94, west to D-19 and east to Telegraph Road.

Bell's Landscape Services, Inc. is located at 28401 Haas Road in Wixom. Call (248) 486-0960 for a free estimate, or check out their website at [www.bellslandscape.com](http://www.bellslandscape.com). Hours of business are Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.



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BEND IT LIKE CRAWFORD  
STARRING STEPHANIE CRAWFORD  
KELLIE & KATIE WALKER B6

CATCH ME IF YOU CAN  
STARRING MARK MOORE  
& AMOL HUPRIKAR B7

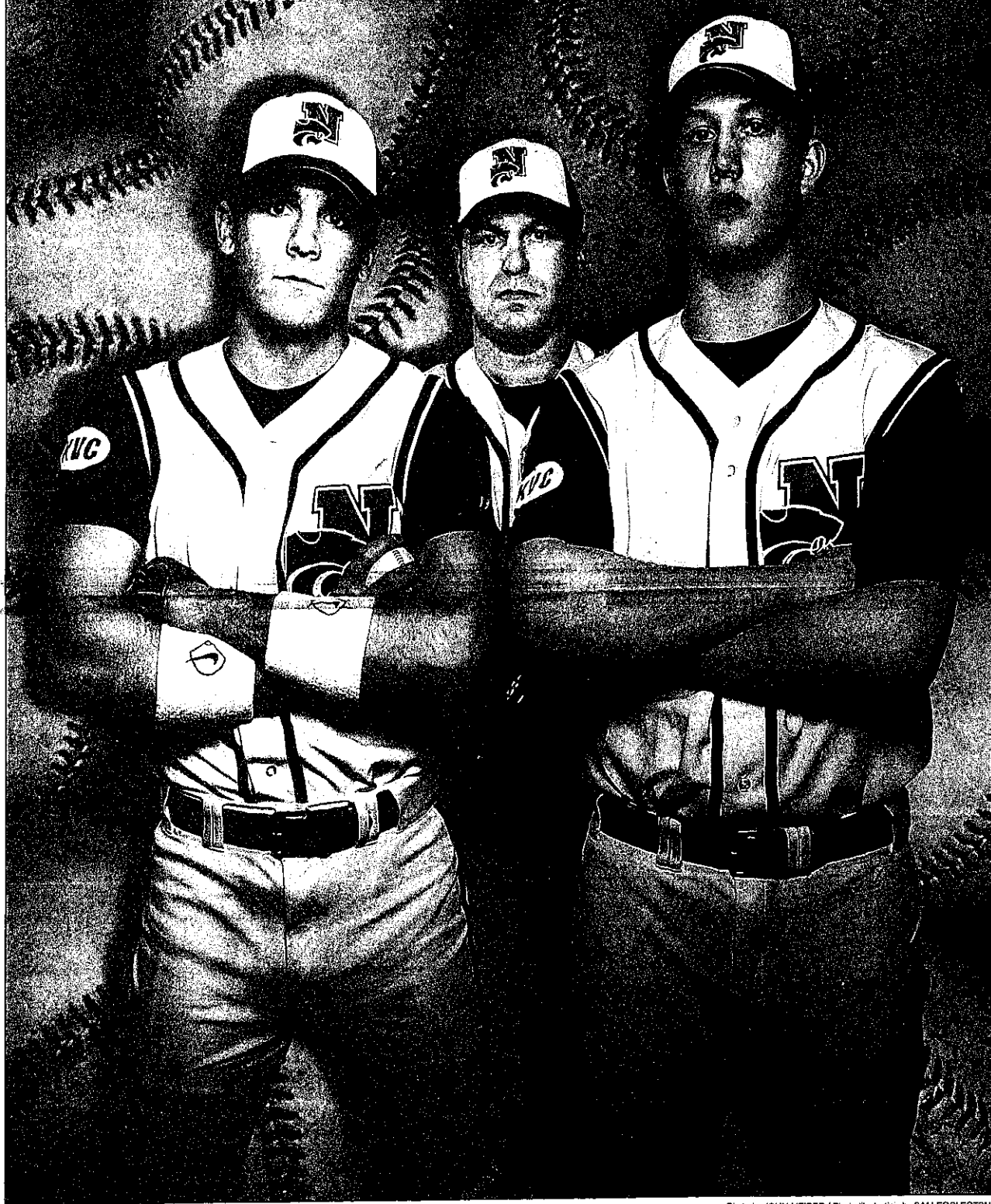
THE FEARSOME FOUR  
STARRING JEFF POLICICCHIO  
JOHN FAVORITE, KLYE SAFFORD  
& SEAN COSTELLO B8

RUN STARRING PATTI RAMOS B9

# BAD BOYS

WHAT YOU GONNA DO WHEN THEY COME FOR YOU?

"Bad Boys" presented by Novi High School Sports Association with Curt Ellis, Athletics Director  
 Directed by Rick Green with assistant directors Mike Koceski, Scott Combs and Paul Sabol  
 Starring Kevin Cislo, Zach Flavin, Trevor Borsak, Tom Ciaverilla, Cal DePotter, Steve Gilliam, Brett Glover, Steve Hart, Craig Lawler, Dave Lyons, Billy Morrison, Matt Perelli, Danny Piligian, Ryan Regan, Matt Simpson, Derek Smith, Tom Spisich and Richard Vanderveer



Kevin Cislo (left), Coach Rick Green and Zach Flavin hope to lead Novi to a sixth-straight KVC title this year.

Photo by JOHN HEIDER / Photo illustration by SAM EGGLESTON

## Will Novi make it six-straight KVC titles?

By Sam Eggleston  
SPORTS WRITER

Coach Rick Green said the Novi Wildcats baseball team definitely shouldn't be counted out of the Kensington Valley Conference title race. Of course, neither should any of the other teams in the league.

Green, who has coached Novi to five-straight KVC titles, said the Wildcats are going to be tough once again, but the rest of the conference is basically unknown to him.

"Brighton is supposed to have had a couple of transfers come in, plus I've been told they have a really solid junior class," he said. "Other than Brighton, South Lyon and Lakeland should be pretty good. I don't know much about the other teams though."

The Wildcats lost several top players to graduation, including two of their top three pitchers in Mike Hart and Chris Scott. The team, however, still has plenty of hurling potential with senior Billy Morrison taking up the position as ace and seniors Kevin Cislo and Zach Flavin picking up innings this year.

Cislo, who is also the team's starting shortstop, has committed to the University of Michigan for next season. Flavin, the team's starting catcher, is also the team's top hitter and led the KVC in homers.

"We've got some good bats," said Green. "Unfortunately, we haven't even had a scrimmage yet, so I haven't been able to see how we'll do."

The Wildcats will rely on their strong defensive presence to keep them in games and will look to their

offensive skill to keep the lead. The goals this year, as always, are to win the KVC and then focus on the final, ultimate goal.

"Every year we come out looking to win the KVC and then look to the playoffs," said Green. "Every year the goal is the big one: We go out to win the state championship."

Novi will have plenty of work to do in order to reach that goal, but Green said it's nothing that's out of reach with this team.

Leadership will play a big role in the hunt for such a lofty goal. Cislo is the team's captain with Morrison and Flavin earning assistant captain nods.

"Kevin has just been unbelievable this year in leading this team and with our conditioning," Green said. "He's been a workaholic. I think his future with Michigan has

something to do with that but that doesn't change the fact that he's been a great leader."

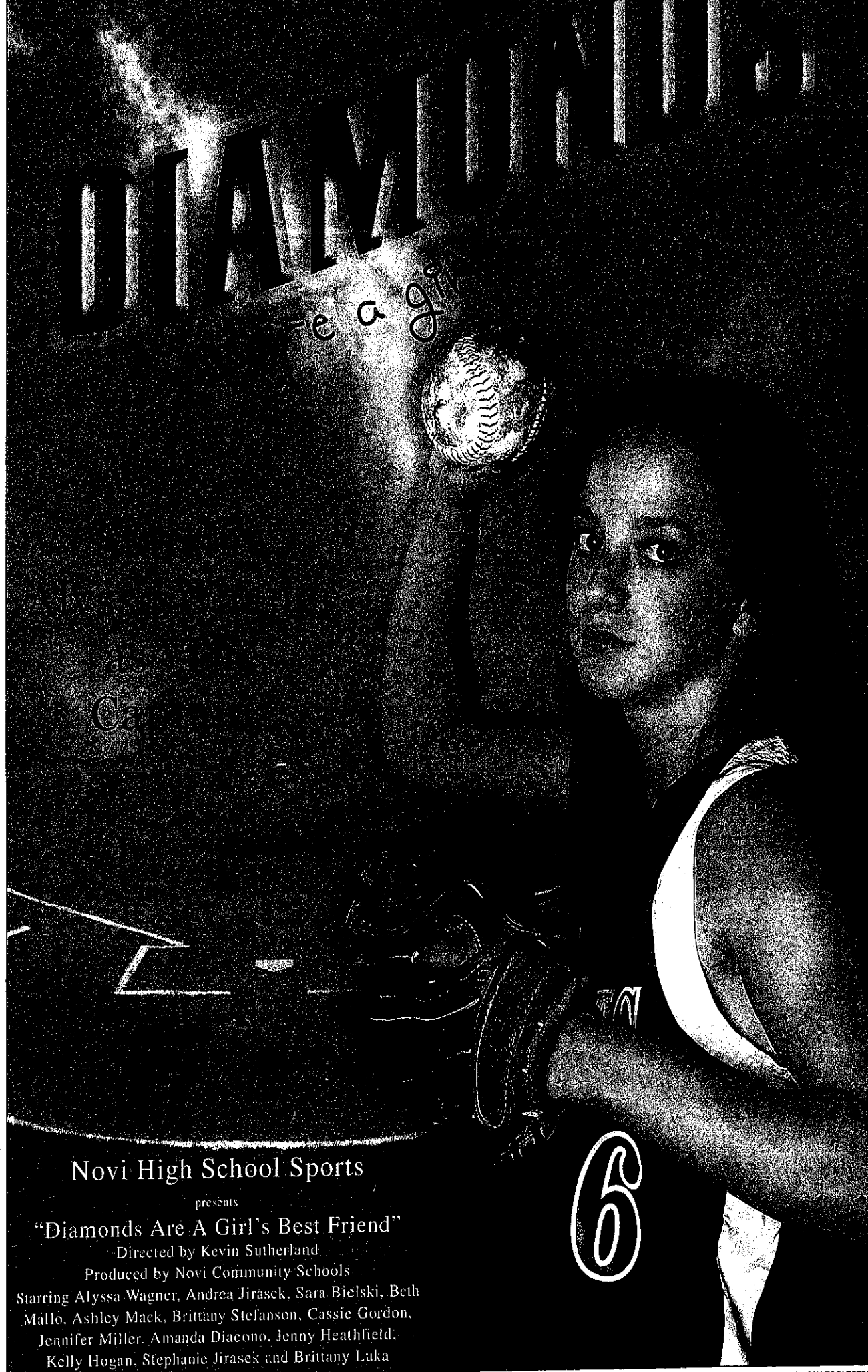
Novi will have plenty of talent to help them strive for their goals this season. Though the starters hadn't officially been named at press time, Green said he has lots of talent to choose from. Seniors on the team include Cislo, Flavin, Morrison, Richard Vanderveer, Ryan Regan, Matt Perelli, Dave Lyons and Cal DePotter while Tom Ciaverilla, Steve Gilliam, Steve Hart, Craig Lawler, Matt Simpson and Derek Smith represent the junior class. Joining varsity as sophomores are Trevor Borsak, Brett Glover, Danny Piligian and Tom Spisich.

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

### BASEBALL SCHEDULE

DATE	PLACE	OPPONENT	TIME
4-09	Away	Northville	1 p.m.
4-12	Away	Fenton	4 p.m.
4-13	Away	Howell	4 p.m.
4-15	Home	Lakeland	4 p.m.
4-16	Away	W. Western & Central	10 a.m.
4-20	Away	Brighton	4 p.m.
4-22	Home	South Lyon	4 p.m.
4-23	Home	Novi Camp	TBA
4-27	Away	Hartland	4 p.m.
4-29	Home	Milford	4 p.m.
4-30	Away	Ann Arbor Huron	11 a.m.
5-04	Away	Pinckney	4 p.m.
5-06	Home	Howell	4 p.m.
5-07	Away	Farmington Tournament	9 a.m.
5-11	Away	Lakeland	4 p.m.
5-13	Home	Brighton	4 p.m.
5-14	Away	Lake Orion	10 a.m.
5-18	Away	South Lyon	4 p.m.
5-20	Home	Hartland	4 p.m.
5-21	Away	GPSouth Tournament	10 a.m.
5-25	Away	Milford	4 p.m.
5-27	Home	Pinckney	4 p.m.
5-31	Away	Districts	TBA

"Wagner's performance is inspiring... a real winner!"  
 - Cal Stone, Movies and Music Review



Novi High School Sports

presents

"Diamonds Are A Girl's Best Friend"

Directed by Kevin Sutherland

Produced by Novi Community Schools

Starring Alyssa Wagner, Andrea Jirasek, Sara Bielski, Beth Mallo, Ashley Maek, Brittany Stefanson, Cassie Gordon, Jennifer Miller, Amanda Diacono, Jenny Heathfield, Kelly Hogan, Stephanie Jirasek and Brittany Luka

Photo by JOHN HEIDER / Photo illustration by SAM EGGLESTON

Novi senior Alyssa Wagner is expecting to help lead her team to more victories this season.

## Wildcats softball looking to improve

By Sam Eggleston  
SPORTS WRITER

It's a year of possibilities for the Novi Wildcats softball team.

Entering into their second year under head coach Kevin Sutherland, the Wildcats are looking to have improvements over last year's record and finish games the way they know they are capable of doing.

"I want to have a better record than last year's .500," said senior captain and ace pitcher Alyssa Wagner. "I also want us to stick with it. Last year we'd hang in a game until the last one or two innings and then lose it. This year I think we can do better than that. I think we can finish the games."

Wagner, who is a four-year member of the varsity squad, said she expects that her team has what it takes to play with anyone in the Kensington Valley Conference. Despite several good pitchers around the league this year, she said it isn't out of the question to see her squad excel.

"I think we can play with anyone," she said. "I think once the younger players get some experience we'll be able to stay in every game. Then we just have to stay focused and get some wins."

The squad comes in with two pitchers this year, Wagner being the ace and Brittany Luka the relief. Luka, a sophomore, will probably see plenty of games

when Wagner moves to the outfield.

"She's a good pitcher," said Wagner.

Andrea Jirasek, a senior captain, will be back at shortstop this year while her little sister, sophomore Stephanie Jirasek, will take third. Senior Sara Bielski will play second and Amanda Diacono is expected to see time at first base. Catching for Novi will be Beth Mallo.

Rounding out the roster are outfielders Ashley Maek, a senior with a strong bat, Jennifer Miller, Jenny Heathfield, Kelly Hogan and infielder Brittany Stefanson.

Novi's squad seems to be closer than before, said Wagner. "I think we're a lot more

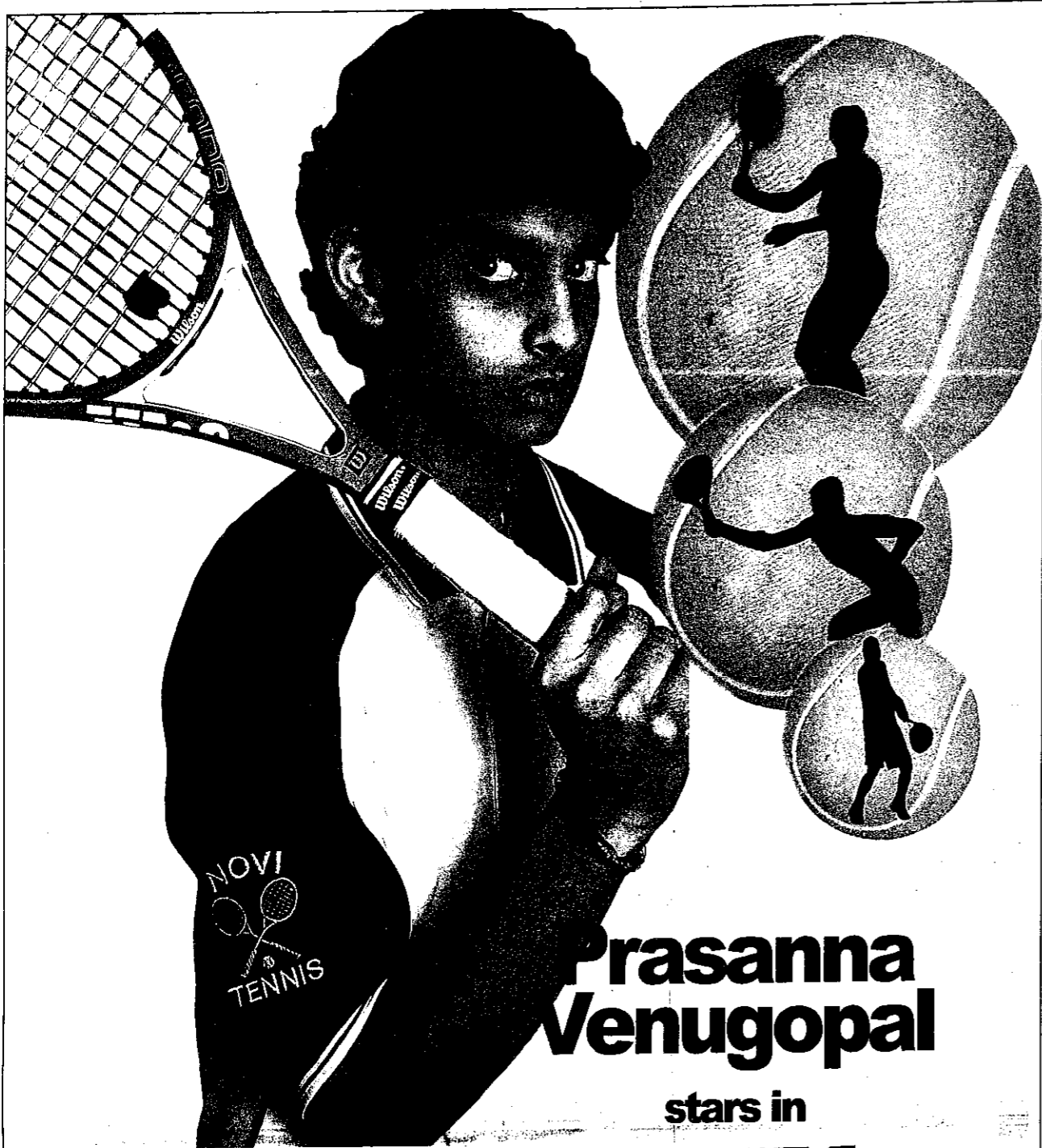
gelled this year," she said. "We have a lot of new players this year that don't have the experience that other players have, but we're definitely more gelled and communicate a lot better." Despite the inexperience, which Wagner said the team will overcome once the season starts, the team is full of solid players.

In fact, Wagner said she expects plenty of good results. "We have a lot of really good players that can play with anyone once we get some experience," she said. "Right now we have to focus on that and the wins will come from that."

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

### SOFTBALL SCHEDULE

DATE	PLACE	OPPONENT	TIME
4-06	Away	Walled Lake Central	4 p.m.
4-09	Away	Northville	1 p.m.
4-11	Home	Walled Lake Western	4 p.m.
4-15	Away	Howell	4 p.m.
4-18	Home	Lakeland	4 p.m.
4-16	Away	Tecumseh Invitational	4 p.m.
4-20	Away	Brighton	9 a.m.
4-22	Home	South Lyon	4 p.m.
4-27	Away	Hartland High School	4 p.m.
4-29	Home	Milford	4 p.m.
5-03	Away	Ann Arbor Huron	4 p.m.
5-04	Away	Pinckney	4 p.m.
5-06	Home	Howell	4 p.m.
5-07	Away	Canton Classic	9 a.m.
5-10	Away	Walled Lake Northern	4 p.m.
5-11	Away	Lakeland	4 p.m.
5-13	Home	Brighton	4 p.m.
5-18	Away	South Lyon	4 p.m.
5-20	Home	Hartland	4 p.m.
5-25	Away	Milford	4 p.m.
5-27	Home	Pinckney	4 p.m.
6-03	Away	Districts	TBA
6-11	Away	Regional	TBA



**Prasanna Venugopal**

stars in

**FROM NOVI**

**WITH LOVE**

- From Novi With Love - A Novi High School Varsity Sports Team -

- Produced by Curt Ellis, Athletics Director - Carol Sprys and Kristy Wills, Athletics Department Secretary -

- Directed by Jim Hanson, Head Coach -

- Starring Prasanna Venugopal, Richie Fetters, Adam Doster, Kyle Goodman, Ryan Heffernan -

Jason Hsu, Nan Jiang, Brian Jones, Kevin Lai, Felix Liu, Eric McQueen, Mike Mehl -

- Justin Namm, Roshan Ramachandran, Chris Shah and Uday Vadula -

Photo by JOHN HEIDER / Photo Illustration by SAM EGGLESTON

## Wildcats have plenty of promise, talent

By Sam Eggleston  
SPORTS WRITER

The Novi Wildcats boys tennis team looks to be well prepared this year in terms of experience and talent.

Though no official line-up was available at press time, Novi coach Jim Hanson did say that he's confident that whatever finalized team he comes up with will be able to compete.

"I think we'll be pretty competitive," he said. "We're going to face some top-notch teams again this year, and we're going to be going for the KVC title again."

Standing in their way is Brighton, the team that earned the crown last season. Both teams are expected to be fairly strong again this year.

"They lost just about what we did," said Hanson. "I think it's going to come down to Novi and Brighton for the Kensington Valley Conference title. Of course, all of the other teams in the KVC keep getting better and better every year. You can't overlook any of them."

And none of them are going to want to over-

look the Wildcats, who made the state finals last year following a strong showing in the regional tournament along with Northville and Detroit Catholic Central. Normally, only two teams earn a berth, but Novi had enough points to make the trek last spring.

The Wildcats return plenty of experienced players to this year's line-up and hope to change the outcome of last year's regional.

Senior Prasanna Venugopal will be vying for a number one singles position this year to replace the graduation of Suraj Ramachandran. Also coming back are seniors Richie Fetters and Justin Namm.

Novi's line-up will be full of depth and talent this season. Seniors Uday Vadula, Chris Shah, Felix Liu and Nan Jiang are hoping to break into the line-up and contribute, and juniors Ryan Heffernan and Kyle Goodman will be expected to help lead a class that includes returners Mike Mehl and Eric McQueen.

Sophomores on this year's squad include veteran Roshan Ramachandran, who saw singles action last year, as well as Kevin Lai and Adam

Doster.

Jason Hsu is the lone freshman on the team this season.

Beyond their first match-up of the season, the Wildcats are looking forward to the Kensington Valley Conference tournament, which is slated to be held in Milford this year.

The Wildcats will have plenty of chances to see their major rival in the KVC as they are expected to play Brighton a few times in tournaments as well as in dual-meet action.

"We'll have a very good idea of just how strong they are and how we'll match up against them," said Hanson.

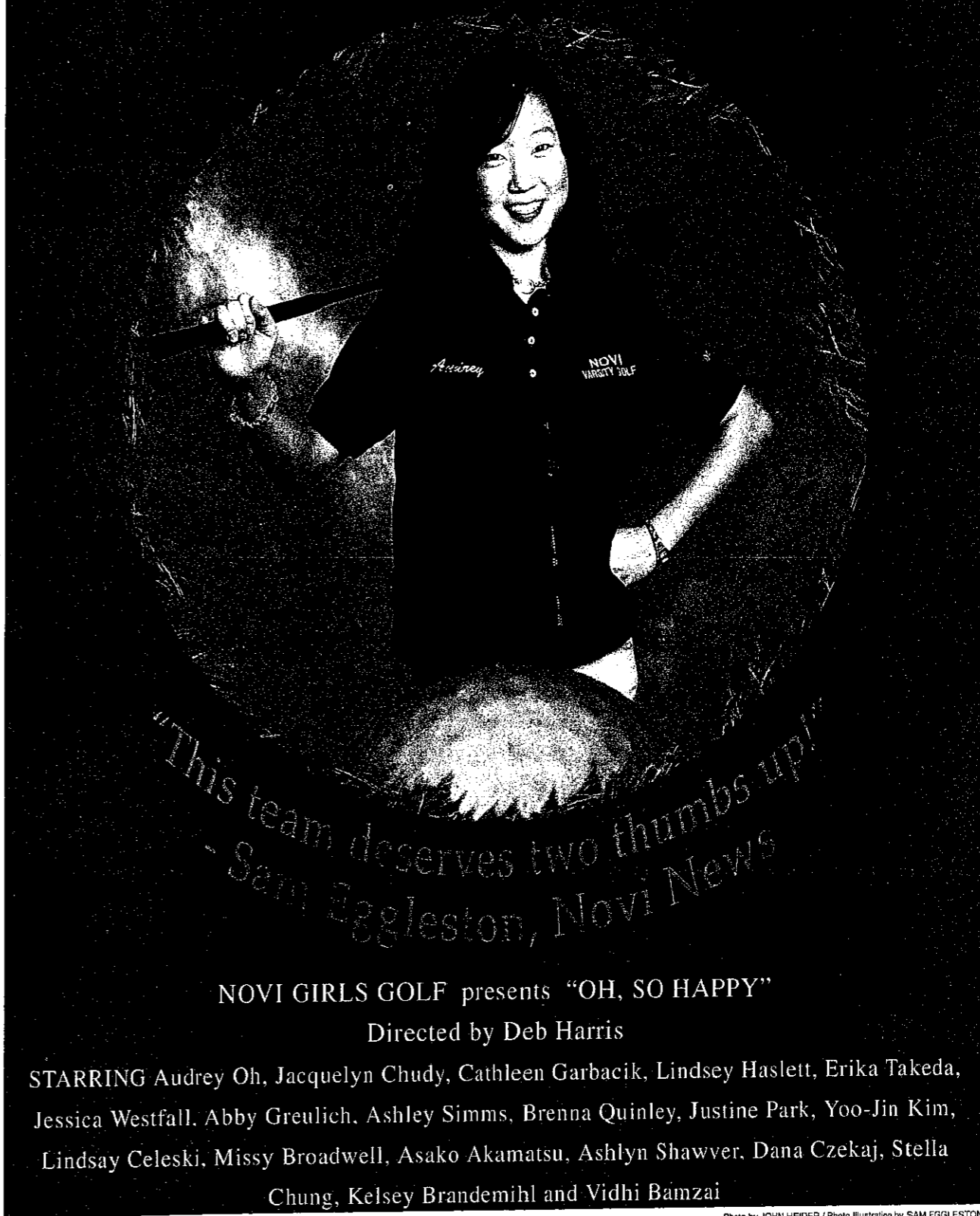
Currently, Novi is ranked in the top 10 in the state, and their schedule is full of teams, such as Catholic Central, that have earned similar recognition.

"They're going to be tough," he said. "If we want to qualify for the state tournament, we're going to have to have a great season. Our regional is going to be one of the tougher regionals in the state."

### TENNIS SCHEDULE

DATE	PLACE	OPPONENT	TIME
4-07	Away	Northville	4 p.m.
4-09	Away	Holly/Grand Blanc Invite	8 a.m.
4-14	Away	Saline	9 a.m.
4-16	Away	West Bloomfield Invite	9 a.m.
4-19	Home	Greenfield	3:30 p.m.
4-20	Away	Pinkney	4 p.m.
4-25	Away	Howell	4 p.m.
4-26	Away	Ann Arbor Pioneer	4 p.m.
4-27	Home	LakelandMS Tennis Court	4 p.m.
4-30	Home	Novi Invitational	8 a.m.
5-02	Away	Brighton	4 p.m.
5-04	Home	South Lyon	4 p.m.
5-07	Home	Novi Quad	8 a.m.
5-09	Away	Hartland	4 p.m.
5-11	Home	Milford	4 p.m.
5-14	Away	KVC Championships	TBA
5-17	Away	KVC Rain Date	TBA
5-19	Away	Regionals	TBA
5-20	Away	Regionals	TBA
6-03	Away	Finals	TBA

# AUDREY OH STARS IN OH, SO HAPPY



NOVI GIRLS GOLF presents "OH, SO HAPPY"

Directed by Deb Harris

STARRING Audrey Oh, Jacquelyn Chudy, Cathleen Garbacik, Lindsey Haslett, Erika Takeda, Jessica Westfall, Abby Greulich, Ashley Simms, Brenna Quinley, Justine Park, Yoo-Jin Kim, Lindsay Celeski, Missy Broadwell, Asako Akamatsu, Ashlyn Shawver, Dana Czekaj, Stella Chung, Kelsey Brandemihl and Vidhi Bamzai

Photo by JOHN HEIDER / Photo Illustration by SAM EGGLESTON

Audrey Oh, a Novi senior, is one of the golf team's captains and is hoping to show her team to a top spot in the KVC and hopefully a berth into the state finals.

## Novi looking for top-three KVC finish

By Sam Eggleston  
SPORTS WRITER

The Novi Wildcats girls golf team is looking to keep up their consistent play this season as they eye the Kensington Valley Conference and beyond.

The squad, coached by Deb Harris, is hoping to be one of the top teams in their league this season and to extend their playing days when the post-season rolls around.

"Our goals are to finish third place in the league or better and to make it to the states," Harris said. "Standing in the way of our goals are weather and consistency in play."

Novi has plenty of strong players that are hoping to help Harris lead her team to those goals. Seniors Jessica Westfall

and Audrey Oh will be responsible for leading their team as captains this year.

One player that sticks out in terms of value if consistency is reached is Jackie Chudy. Harris said she's an X-factor in Novi's final results.

"Jackie Chudy is a key player that is capable of making a big difference," she said. "She could be our number one player or our number eight. What she does will be a big factor. She showed a lot of potential her freshman year. Now she has to mature into the greatness we all know she's capable of."

The 'Cats, who lost four seniors to graduation last year, will be playing off their strengths this year. Harris said her squad enjoys being a part of the sport. She said they're also great representatives of Novi High School.

"They are kind, good sports and they're loyal," she said. "They enjoy playing the game."

Novi does, however, need to work on the little things that matter so much in the game of golf - chipping and putting.

Seniors on the team this year include Westfall, Oh, Chudy, Erika Takeda, Lindsey Haslett and Cathleen Garbacik while Abby Greulich is the team's lone senior. Sophomores in the golf program include Ashley Simms, Brenna Quinley, Justine Park, Yoo-Jin Kim, Lindsay Celeski, Missy Broadwell and Asako Akamatsu while Ashlyn Shawver, Dana Czekaj, Stella Chung, Kelsey Brandemihl and Vidhi Bamzai are freshmen.

Novi has had a history of showing marked improvement as the years wear on. This year, Harris hopes, is no different.

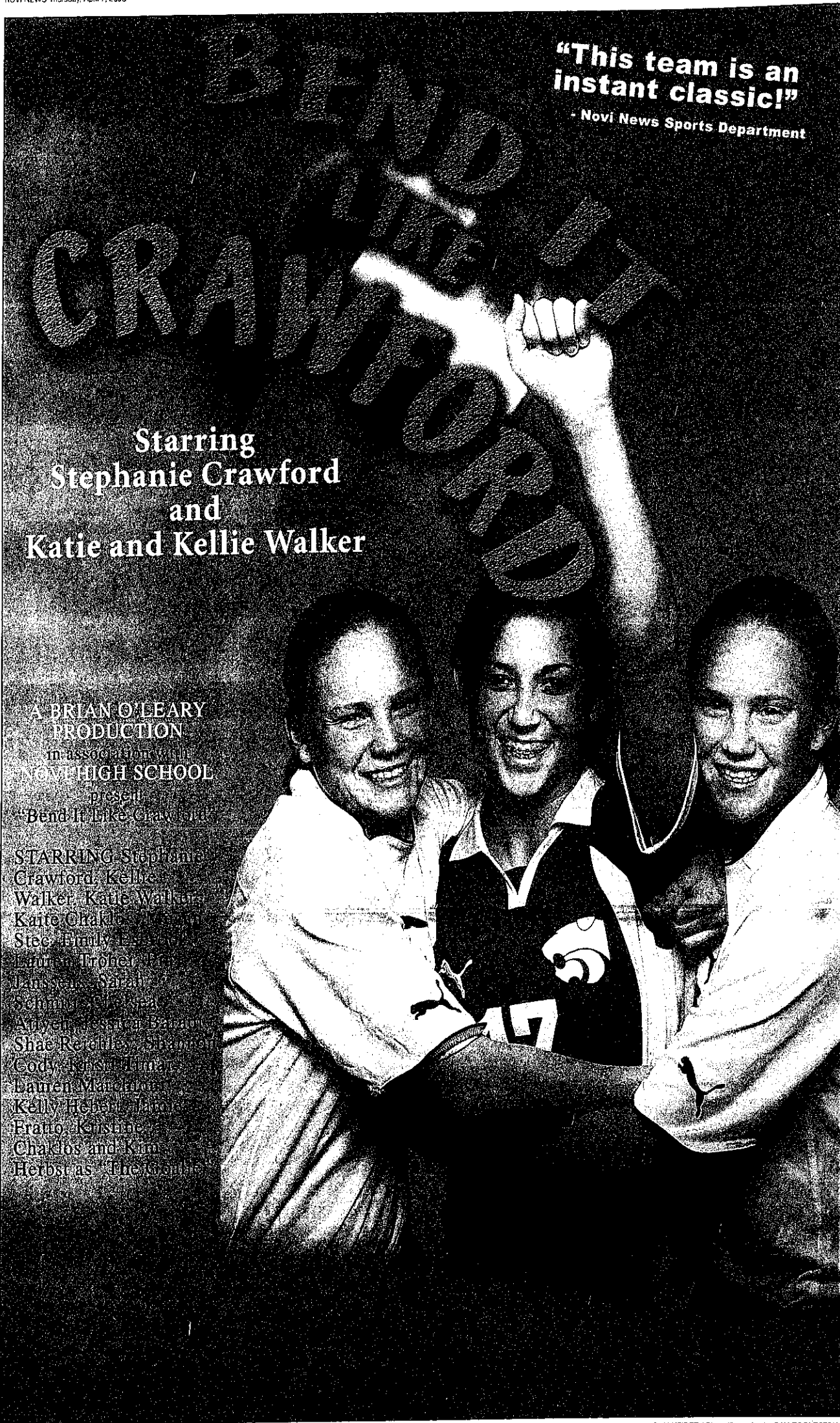
"If the returning players improve as much as they have in previous years (we'll do fine)," said Harris. "Some of these players have had steady improvement and if they continue that progress we will have a good team."

While the veteran players look to have continued improvement, eyes are on the underclassmen to see what they'll be able to accomplish. "Some of the underclassmen show promise," Harris said. "Will they make the leap from rookie to veteran? Many of the girls on the team have the potential to be good. Can they, and I, pull it out of them?"

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

### GOLF SCHEDULE

DATE	TIME	OPPONENT	TIME
4-14	Away	Northville	3 p.m.
4-16	Away	Grosse Ile Invite	9 p.m.
4-18	Home	Pinkney Riverbank GC	3 p.m.
4-19	Away	Oakland County Meet	9 p.m.
4-21	Home	Howell Riverbank GC	3 p.m.
4-22	Away	Pre-KVC Tourney	9 p.m.
4-25	Away	Pre-KVC Tourney	9 p.m.
4-27	Away	Lakeland	3 p.m.
4-29	Away	Traverse City Tourney	TBA
4-30	Away	Traverse City Tourney	TBA
5-02	Away	Lady Pirate Golf Invite	8 a.m.
5-05	Away	South Lyon	3 p.m.
5-09	Home	Hartland	3 p.m.
5-12	Away	Milford	3 p.m.
5-16	Home	Brighton	3 p.m.
5-19	Away	Regionals	TBA
5-23	Away	Post-KVC Tourney	TBA
6-03	Away	Finals	TBA



**"This team is an instant classic!"**  
- Novi News Sports Department

**Starring**  
**Stephanie Crawford**  
**and**  
**Katie and Kellie Walker**

A BRIAN O'LEARY PRODUCTION  
in association with  
NOVI HIGH SCHOOL  
presenting  
"Bend It Like Crawford"

STARRING Stephanie Crawford, Kellie Walker, Katie Walker, Karie Chalko, Steve Timmer, Brian O'Leary, Kristi Timar, Shae Riehl, Kristi Timar, Lauren Marchionni, Kelly Hebert, Kristi Timar, Karie Chalko, and Kim Herbst as "The Coach"

Photo by JOHN HEIDER / Photo Illustration by SAM EGGLESTON

Stephanie Crawford and Kellie and Katie Walker are looking to get Novi to the top of the heap in the KVC this year.

## Novi returns plenty of talent, experience

By Sam Eggleston  
SPORTS WRITER

It's hard for a team to graduate two players who were on the All-State team and expect to recover from it.

The Novi Wildcats soccer team, however, has just those expectations.

The squad, coached by Brian O'Leary, graduated five seniors, including All-State Dream Teamer Maureen Pawlak and second-team All-Stater Nikki Hermann.

"You would think losing such players would devastate a team, but that really isn't the case for us," O'Leary said. "You can never replace those two, but our two forwards this year are

exceptional."

Those two forwards just happens to be senior Kristi Timar and sophomore Stephanie Crawford. Last year, Timar had 20 goals and 11 assists and was a second-team All-Stater that has committed to Michigan State's soccer team in the fall. Crawford, as a freshman, had 23 goals and 11 assists for the varsity team.

"Stephanie's style is much like Maureen's in that she plays very aggressive, has great skills and outworks the other team's defense to create scoring opportunities," said O'Leary.

The Wildcats lost Hermann in the midfield, but their returning talent is hoping to make up for her absence. Senior Sarah Schmitt, a four-year varsity

player, joins juniors Katie and Kelly Walker and sophomore Emily Esbrook in the midfield. Senior Chelsea Attyeh, a starter from last year, won't return due to a torn ACL that has her out for the entire season.

"I think this group of four can make up for those two losses, but it obviously won't be easy," said O'Leary. "How well we do that could be the key to our season."

On the defensive end of the field, the Wildcats did not lose any talent to graduation but felt the sting of losing Kelli Copess, a starter last season, in a move out of the district. Novi will have the presence of four-year starter Kelly Hebert to anchor the defense while junior Lauren Marchionni returns as a starter

from last year, as does sophomore Jessica Barndt. Kristine Chalkos will start on the defense as well.

O'Leary, as usual, has high expectations of his defensive corps. "Last year we only gave up 14 goals in 21 games," he said. "I think this year we can improve on that number with this group."

And the key to any great season is usually the worth of the player between the posts. The Wildcats goalie, Kim Herbst, is a two-year starter and a three-year member of the varsity squad. She's worth her weight in gold to the "Cats."

"So far in this young season she has been our most improved

### SOCCER SCHEDULE

DATE	PLACE	OPPONENT	TIME
4-06	Home	Salem	7 p.m.
4-08	Home	Salem	7 p.m.
4-13	Away	Northville	7 p.m.
4-15	Home	Greenhills	7 p.m.
4-15	Home	Canton	7 p.m.
4-18	Away	Ann Arbor Pioneer	5:30 p.m.
4-22	Home	Lakeland	7 p.m.
4-25	Away	South Lyon	7 p.m.
4-27	Away	Hartland	7 p.m.
4-29	Home	Brighton	7 p.m.
5-02	Home	Milford	7 p.m.
5-04	Away	Lakeland	7 p.m.
5-06	Home	Grosse Pointe South	7 p.m.
5-09	Home	Howell	7 p.m.
5-11	Away	Pinckney	7 p.m.
5-16	Home	South Lyon	7 p.m.
5-18	Away	Milford	7 p.m.
5-20	Away	Stevenson	7 p.m.
5-27	Away	East vs. West	TBA
5-31	Away	Districts	TBA
6-07	Away	Regionals	TBA
6-15	Away	Semifinals	TBA
6-18	Away	Finals	TBA

continued on B10

## Mark Moore

## Amol Huprikar

Ryan Adams - Chris Albery - Peter Andrews - Steve Bunker - Mike Beard - Mike Bello - John Brown - James Brunner - Steve Bumgarner - Brandon Carnegie - David Carnegie - Alfredo Caceres - William Chalko - Adam Chalko - Dan Chalko - Brandon Coles - Jonathan Craven - Yarin DaCosta - Chris Dalton - David Davis - Eric Deighton - Jesse Dillman - Mark Dupresne - Robert Dugons - Matt Evans - Steve Fannon - Benjamin Foery - Robert Gordon - Robert Grubbs - Jiefu Han - Henry He - Sok Yong Hong - Thomas Hilman - Eric Johnson - Sean Kelly - Jozsef Kocs - Mitch Kopela - Saravanasudaram Lakshumanan - Bradley Larson - Nickolas Laudicina - Andrew Lee - Kevin Lee - Patrick Lee - Derrick Leonard - Daniel Lian - Joshua Lumley - Kenneth MacDonagh - Chris Machisak - Richard Maaza - Michael Marsouplan - Taro Maruyama - Marcus McDuffie - Joseph McNamara - Marc Michaels - Kip Miller - Matthew Morrison - Wiley Moss - Tyler Mouch - Timothy Nally - Justin Namm - Sean Nemoto - Brenden Neville - Drek O'Branovic - Bryant Ornes - Spencer Ozier - Robert Park - Steven Park - Alexander Prasad - Joseph Pritchard - Ryan Pritchard - Alexander Pyden - Nathan Quay - Ryan Ridenour - Nathan Robinson - Aditya Saha - Arun Sen - Patrick Shrider - Luis Siqueira - Brad Sisson - Sungmo Son - Brad Spisich - Joseph Taffraian - Richard Tana - Thomas Ustery - Elliott Valkandis - Eric Van Bulder - Christopher VanWiemersch - Scott Wagner - Michael Weigert - Mike Wheat - Christopher Williams - Jarrell Woods - Josh Woods - Joshua Wu - Kamal Yehodor - Michael Yu - Shan Zhang - Eric Zhao

DEFENDING KENSINGTON VALLEY CONFERENCE CHAMPIONS!



CATCH THEM

IF YOU CAN

**If you want the Kensington Valley title, then you better start chasing these guys**

A ROBERT SMITH PRODUCTION

Produced by Curt Ellis, Novi High School Athletics Director, in association with secretaries Kristy Wills and Carol Sprys

PHOTO BY WESTSIDE PHOTOGRAPHY/Photo Illustration by SAM EGGLESTON

Amol Huprikar (left) and Mark Moore will try to lead Novi's track and field team to another KVC title this year.

## Wildcats want the KVC crown again

By Sam Eggleston  
SPORTS WRITER

The only problem with being the defending Kensington Valley Conference champions is the fact that the Novi Wildcats boys track and field team will have to fend off every team in the league.

When you're the best, everyone brings their best against you. This year in the Kensington Valley Conference, any team that doesn't bring their best to the track will be the team leaving with the loss on their record.

But that won't stop the Wildcats. The team, coached by Robert Smith, has their eyes set on their prize yet again this year.

"Our goals are to win the KVC and the region," said Smith. "It is quite obtainable, yet by no means a guarantee. We are in for many epic battles in the league this year."

The key to reaching those goals

for the Wildcats? Focus, focus, focus.

"We must remain focused," Smith said. "Quality practices lead quality performances on meet day."

One key for the Wildcats is to make sure they don't let their egos stand in the way of a quality performance. The more well known an athlete is, the more others tend to try to beat them.

Novi has plenty of very talented athletes, but races and events are won on knowing there is potential and talent. They're won by going out and proving it.

"I'm a bit nervous that some athletes may rely too much on their reputation," Smith said. "We need to go out there every day and earn our props."

Standing in the way of the Novi Wildcats will be the familiar faces of the Brighton Bulldogs, the Milford Mavericks and the

Pinckney Pirates. All four teams had just one loss heading into the conference meet last year. Smith said Howell will also be a difficult team to beat this season.

"All four teams, along with taking the title," Smith noted. "There is tremendous parity in the league this year."

Novi will rely on the depth of the team to get them through the rough spots this year. The Wildcats boast several quality athletes in most events. Of the guys the Wildcats sent to the state meet last year, most of them return and, as always, the team will be strong in the distance events. Smith said his team also has strength in their preparation for this season.

"Our strength is also in our conditioning," he said. "We had the best pre-season ever. We had guys in all disciplines working out this winter. I'm hoping it will pay huge

dividends."

The Wildcats are satisfied with how well their program has been working over the years and Smith said continued hard work and dedication will help the squad improve on their statistics this season.

"I believe we're the only team that is working out for the entire Spring Break," he said. "That kind of attitude and desire will be the keys to our success."

Smith enters into his 25th year coaching the program. In that time, he has coached KVC champions, state champions and even national champions.

"Our athletes have the luxury in knowing that they are following in the footsteps of legends," Smith said. "It's exciting to see our current athletes strive to be on our top 10 lists, our school records and to qualify for the big dance (state finals), just like the athletes who have made it year after year."

### TRACK AND FIELD SCHEDULE

DATE	PLACE	OPPONENT	TIME
4-07	Away	Northville (B)	3:30 p.m.
4-07	Home	Northville	3:30 p.m.
4-09	Home	Novi Relays (B & G)	9 a.m.
4-12	Home	Pinckney	4 p.m.
4-19	Home	Howell	4 p.m.
4-21	Away	Lakeland	4 p.m.
4-26	Home	Brighton	4 p.m.
4-30	Away	Holly 9&10 meet	9:15 a.m.
5-03	Away	South Lyon	4 p.m.
5-07	Away	Stafford Relays (G)	9 a.m.
5-10	Home	Hartland	4 p.m.
5-13	Away	Spartan Twilight Invite (B)	4 p.m.
5-14	Away	Sunshine (B & G)	9 a.m.
5-17	Away	Milford	4 p.m.
5-20	Away	Regionals	2 p.m.
5-24	Away	KVC	2 p.m.
5-27	Away	Oakland Co. Meet	3 p.m.
5-28	Away	County Freshman (B&G)	9 a.m.
5-28	Away	Team States	TBA
6-04	Away	Finals	TBA

**SIMONE POLICICCHIO FAVORITE SAFFORD**

**"TWO THUMBS WAY UP!" - Ramez Khuri, Sports Entertainment Weekly**



the  
**FEARSONE  
FOUR**

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**"THE FEARSONE FOUR"**

Directed by Brad Muston and Produced by Novi High School

Starring Bobby Watts, Jeff Policicchio, Parker Beardt, Matt Olson, Will Deighton, Keven Gee, Corey Simone, Jacob Haf, Derek McClelland, Yuichi Saji, Jon Moses, John Favorite, Scott moran, Jimmy McCusker, Ryan McNamarea, Ryan Gee, Kyle Safford, Justin Cameron, Jeff Freers, Scott Smith, Travis Blackledge, Sean Costello, Nick Shafer, Jeff Kolb, Rob Carter and Ryan Belt

The Novi Wildcats lacrosse team is back in Division I this year and will be led by Cory Simone (left), Jeff Policicchio, John Favorite and Kyle Safford.

**Novi looking forward to lacrosse season**

**By Sam Eggleston**  
SPORTS WRITER

The Novi Wildcats lacrosse team knows one thing for sure - they're tired of being underestimated.

The team, which was dropped a division last year by the former governing body of the sport, has returned to Division I now that the Michigan High School Athletics Association has taken over control. The statement Novi would like to send? They're happy to be back.

"I think we're definitely going to compete this year," said coach Brad Muston. "We've got a lot of talented kids on the team and we've had some of the best practices we've ever had since I came here."

on the defensive end of their game thanks for returning several starters to that end of the line-up. Muston said such notables as Sean Costello and Kyle Safford will be haunting around the defensive end of the field.

Novi has the luxury of having one of the best goalies around, said Muston, who credited Corey Simone as being one of the top players in the field.

"He's an amazing lacrosse player," Muston said. "We're going to be relying on him to help us reach our goals."

"Our defense is very strong,"

he said. "We'll be relying on them a lot this year."

Of course that doesn't mean the Wildcats won't have plenty of scoring potential. Jeff Policicchio returns this year after being the team's leading scorer in 2004. He'll be looking to add to his career totals.

Novi has long been known as one of the most talent-laden teams in the state and they've already proved it again this year. Policicchio and Costello have earned college scholarships to play in New York next year.

"I'm really proud of both those guys," said Muston.

Novi's defense will also be represented by Will Deighton, Jeff Freers, Jeff Kolb and Nick Shafer.

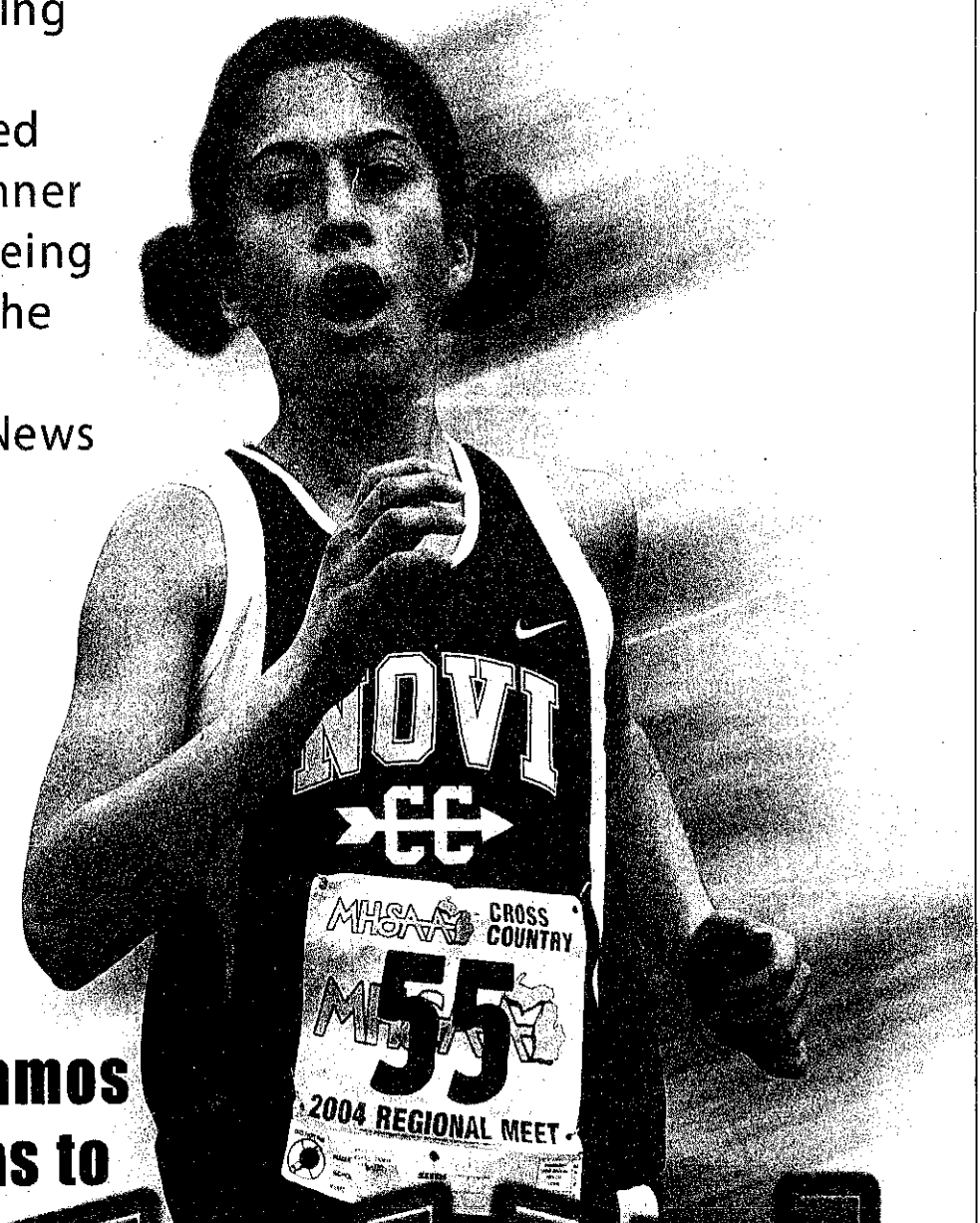
The Wildcats did, however, take a loss over the summer. Former coach Kelly Kroll departed to take a head coaching job at Detroit Catholic Central. Kroll coached Muston in his days at Novi High School.

"That will be our big rivalry," said Muston. "We're looking forward to playing CC. It's going to be a battle and it's going to be a lot of fun."

**LACROSSE SCHEDULE**

DATE	PLACE	OPPONENT	TIME
4-07	Away	Plymouth Canton Salem	8 p.m.
4-13	Home	East Grand Rapids	5:30 p.m.
4-14	Away	Ann Arbor Piacere	7 p.m.
4-21	Home	Catholic Central	6:30 p.m.
4-27	Home	Grosse Pointe South	6:30 p.m.
4-29	Away	Harland	6:30 p.m.
5-04	Away	Brighton	7:30 p.m.
5-05	Away	Ann Arbor Huron	7:00 p.m.
5-09	Home	Lakeland	6:30 p.m.
5-11	Home	South Lyon	6:30 p.m.
5-12	Home	Northville	6:30 p.m.
5-16	Home	Harland	6:30 p.m.
5-19	Home	St. Mary's	6:30 p.m.
5-23	Home	Forest Hills Central	6:30 p.m.
5-26	Home	Cranbrook Kingswood	6:30 p.m.
5-27	Home	Brighton	6:30 p.m.
5-31	Away	Regional Playoffs	TBA
6-02	Away	Regional Playoff	TBA
6-03	Home	Regional Semi Final	TBA
6-04	Home	Regional Semi Final	TBA
6-07	Home	Regional Final	TBA
6-09-05	Away	MHSAA Semi Finals	TBA
6-11-05	Away	MHSAA Championship	TBA

"An inspiring story of a determined young runner bent on being the best she can be."  
- Novi News



**Patti Ramos just has to**

**WIN!**

Produced by Novi High School in association with Curt Ellis, Athletics Director  
Directed by Marsha Reid, Head Girls Track and Field Coach

Patti Ramos, a senior, is hoping to have another impact season when she competes in track and field this spring.

**Girls hope to compete in KVC**

**By Sam Eggleston**  
SPORTS WRITER

The Novi Wildcats girls track and field team will be looking to compete at the highest levels in a conference that is known for having some of the best athletes in the state.

The squad, coached by Marsha Reid, will rely on veteran leadership and extremely talented athletes to put a dent in the highly-competitive Kensington Valley Conference.

Leading the way will be state-finals competitor Christina Lis in her senior season. Lis has made several trips to the state finals and will be expected to lead the way against this year.

Following a highly-successful cross country season, senior long distance runner Patti Ramos will be looking to repeat

the magic as the team's number one harrier. Another long distance runner will be Katie Shannon, who will be fighting for the top spot on the team.

Novi's eye will be on Emily Reid as she looks to set some high marks in the hurdle events. Reid has been the top hurdler on the team for several years and will be hoping to get through the regional this season.

In sprints, the Wildcats have the luxury of two big names to help them out. Margents Reizian will be burning up the track, as will 400-meter dash runner Allie Sisson. Reizian will also be competing in the pole vault, an event left empty with the loss of Jenn Mehl, who

finished third in the state last year.

The Cats has high hopes for Hope Morris, who was penciled in to run sprints this year. Morris, who recovered from a knee injury during basketball season only to go down with another knee injury, is hoping to recover from surgery in time to compete this season.

Standing in Novi's way are the traditionally tough teams in the Kensington Valley Conference. Milford is still considered one of the favorites to win the crown again, while Brighton will no doubt be challenging.

The keys for the Wildcats are consistency, which they have grown accustomed to under the tutelage of Reid. The now-veteran coach has seen marked improvement from her track

stars each season and will no doubt be expecting the same this year.

The squad's sheer numbers will help them in their hunt for some victories this season. Novi has several athletes capable of placing in each event and will look to use the depth to edge out several of their Kensington Valley Conference opponents.

The Wildcats will kick off their season with a meet against the Northville Mustangs at home today. Northville is expected to compete for the Western Lakes Activities Association title this season with several returning state qualifiers from last year.

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

**TRACK AND FIELD SCHEDULE**

DATE	PLACE	OPPONENT	TIME
4-07	Away	Northville (B)	3:30 p.m.
4-07	Home	Northville	3:30 p.m.
4-09	Home	Novi Relays (B & G)	9 a.m.
4-12	Home	Pinckney	4 p.m.
4-19	Home	Howell	4 p.m.
4-21	Away	Lakeland	4 p.m.
4-26	Home	Brighton	4 p.m.
4-30	Away	Holly 9&10 meet	9:15 a.m.
5-03	Away	South Lyon	4 p.m.
5-07	Home	Stafford Relays (G)	9 a.m.
5-10	Home	Harland	4 p.m.
5-13	Away	Spartan Twilight Invite (B)	4 p.m.
5-17	Away	Sunshine (B & G)	9 a.m.
5-17	Away	Milford	4 p.m.
5-20	Away	Regionals	2 p.m.
5-24	Away	KVC	2 p.m.
5-27	Away	Oakland Co. Meet	3 p.m.
5-28	Away	County Freshman (B&G)	9 a.m.
5-28	Away	Team States	TBA
6-04	Away	Finals	TBA



# Soccer returns plenty

continued from 6B

player since last year and will play a strong role in keeping our goals against under 14 this season," O'Leary noted.

Novi also boasts a strong crew of substitute players.

"Our subs this year are a very strong group and will probably be the second key to how our team does this season," O'Leary said. "All of them are untested but have great ability."

At forward, Novi has junior Lauren Troher ready to step onto the pitch at anytime while the midfielders are backed up by sophomores Pia Janssens and Megan Stec as well as freshmen Jamie Fratto and Shannon Cody. On the defensive side of the ball, junior Shae Reichley and freshman Katie Chaklos will be looking to get playing time.

"They are as talented a group of subs as I have ever had and should only get better when

they gain experience as the season goes on," O'Leary said.

The Wildcats are slated to be on the road tomorrow against Northville in a re-match of last year's district tournament title game. Northville won the state title last year. Game time is 7 p.m.

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



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### SPORTS SHORTS

#### Spring leagues

Northville Parks and Recreation is offering several leagues this spring. Call the Parks and Rec. department at (248) 449-9947 if interested.

#### Adult Women's Softball League

Starts Tuesday, May 3 — Entry fee \$460/team with 11 games played.

#### Adult Coed Softball League

Starts Sunday, May 1 — Entry fee \$460/team with 11 games played.

#### Adult Coed Kickball League

Starts Friday, May 20 — Entry fee \$210/team.

#### Adult Coed Golf League

Starts Monday, April 25 — Entry fee \$468 for 18 weeks. League will be played at Brae Burn Golf Course. Tee time starts 5:22 p.m.

#### Take your summer to the ice with Suburban

Suburban Hockey Schools, Michigan's leader in providing a progressive approach to ice hockey instruction for all ages and ability levels, kicks off its summer class schedule on July 11 with programs at the Onyx-Rochester Ice Arena and Suburban Training Center in Farmington Hills.

Summer programs continue throughout July and August at Kensington Valley Ice House in Brighton, Suburban Ice-East Lansing, Novi Ice Arena, St. Clair Shores Civic Arena, Suburban Ice-Macomb, Birmingham Ice Arena and the Dearborn Ice Skating Center.

In addition to age-specific programs for mini mites (ages 5-6), mites (ages 6-8, squirts (ages 9-10) and pee wee/bantams (ages 11-14), men (ages 18 and up), girls (2U/14U (ages 8-12), girls 14U/16U/High School (ages 13-18) and women (ages 18 and up). Suburban Hockey Schools will once again hold specialized programs for forwards, defensemen and goaltenders as well as a power skating class.

Suburban-trained instructors, including those with professional and college coaching and playing experience, will lead these programs. Classes are open to players of all ability levels. All classes have limited enrollment, with a six student-to-one instructor ratio (four student-to-one instructor ratio in the goaltending program.) Classes will fill fast. Call (248) 478-1600, or visit [www.suburbanhockey.com](http://www.suburbanhockey.com) for more information or to register. Multiple class, family and team discounts as well as mite and goalie combos are available.

#### Novi Ice Arena to hold spring hockey leagues

The Novi Ice Arena will hold spring adult hockey leagues for adult teams, including 18 and over "D" on Sunday nights, 18 and over "C" on Wednesday and Friday nights, 18 and over "B" on Tuesday nights and 30 and over "A" on Thursday nights. League features include excellent game times, no checking, focus on fun and even competition, and trained scorekeepers.

Friday and Sunday divisions will play a 7-game schedule (plus playoffs) and Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday divisions will play an eight-game

schedule (plus playoffs), with one game per week beginning in late April. Games will consist of three 15-minute running time periods.

For information on adult hockey leagues at Novi Ice Arena, call (248) 347-0100 or visit [www.novoicearena.com](http://www.novoicearena.com).

#### WRIF Summer Hockey Challenge presented by Labatt returns in June

Registration is underway for the Adult Summer Hockey Challenge presented by WRIF 101 FM and Labatt Blue. Games will be played on Fridays and Saturdays from June 3-25 at Suburban Training Center in Farmington Hills, Novi Ice Arena, and the Onyx-Rochester Ice Arena.

The tournament will feature four divisions — Blue (men's 21 and older upper), Blue Light (men's 21 and older lower), Nordic (men's 30 and older open) and Select (coed 21 and older open with a minimum of five women rostered). Teams will play a minimum of three games that consist of three 14-minute run-time periods (the last two minutes of the third period will be stop time). Teams are welcome to sign up twice to play more games.

All participants will receive great prizes, including MVP gifts courtesy of Bauer. In addition, there will post-game parties at bars near each location.

Space is limited, so call Suburban Training Center at (248) 888-1400 or visit [www.wrif.com](http://www.wrif.com) to sign up. Teams that register by March 31 will receive 10 free t-shirts from Labatt.



## Good Luck to the Novi Wildcats from these Area Businesses



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