



NOVI PUBLIC LIBRARY Novi News



Voted one of the best sports sections in the country

Your hometown newspaper celebrating its 50th year serving Novi and the Lakes area

Thursday, March 9, 2006

www.novinews.com

50¢

Volume 50 Number 40

Novi, Michigan

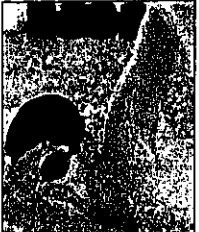
INSIDE

New power
Novi Energy's Anand Gangadharan talks about the energy alternatives his company finds for their clients.
— Page 4A



After retirement
Fox Run resident Gac McCord and fellow Fox Run residents give their views on an active life.
— Page 11A

SPORTS



Water-proof
Sean Bugbee and four other Wildcats will compete in the state meet at U of M Friday and Saturday.
— Page 1B

INDEX

- Business 4A
- Calendar 14A
- Classifieds 1D
- Community 2A
- Education 8A
- Faith 10A
- Opinion 12A
- People 6A
- Public Safety 7A
- Regional Marketplace 6B
- Seniors 11A
- Sports 1B

Greensheetclassifieds.com

CONTACT US

Novi News
104 W. Main
Northville, MI 48167

- Classifieds: (888) 999-1288
- Newroom: (248) 349-1700
- Fax: (248) 349-9832
- Home Delivery: (888) 840-4809



Postal Information: (800) 368-6276
NOVI PUBLIC LIBRARY
45345 W. 10 MILE RD.
NOVI, MI 48375-3014



Photo by: Elaine Maylen

Happy birthday, Doc!

All the students at Deerfield Elementary School gathered together to celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday last Thursday. Each student brought in their favorite Dr. Seuss books, with the older students reading to the younger students. Here, Jarret Robson, Andrew Hixson, Alex Tarrant and Eddie Tchouchev show their collection of books.

Tower strike possible

Bankruptcy emergence could lead to more problems

By Tracy Mishler
STAFF WRITER

Tower Automotive Inc. is off the chopping block and waiting for the judge's ruling.

Tower, which declared bankruptcy in February 2005, will know Monday whether or not the company can reject current union contracts as a way of saving money while trying to emerge from bankruptcy.

The Novi-based company had been in the United States Bankruptcy Court in New York for the past week asking the court to reject union contracts in order to impose necessary labor cost savings.

The trial concluded March 3, and Sharon Wenzl, spokesperson for Tower Automotive said the company is trying to negotiate outside of the courtroom.

"It is possible that a negotiated settlement could take place," Wenzl said. "We're hopeful we can reach a consensual agreement."

Judge Alan Cropper is scheduled to make a ruling Monday.

Wenzl said Tower representatives are ready to meet at any time with the company's unions to resolve labor matters.

There is no backing down by unions representing Tower employees if contracts are canceled, according to UAW Vice President Bob King.

"If they nullify the agreements, we'll go back to the membership, and I think they'll strike immediately," said King in a statement. "I'm deeply concerned, and I don't want

that result."

Wenzl said negotiations are part of the overall Chapter 11 process.

"Pursuing the 1113 and 1114 legal proceedings is part of the overall process and keeps the company on its plan of reorganization for emergence in 2006," Wenzl said.

Restructuring

Tower announced Feb. 27 two developments in its ongoing reorganization efforts, including a tentative agreement with its Milwaukee, Wis. unions and a plan to bargain further regarding the closure of its Greenville, Mich. manufacturing facility.

The agreement with Milwaukee

modifies benefits and resolves certain issues related to the planned cessation of operations this month.

"This agreement, which is the result of hard bargaining and tough discussions, enabled Tower to address approximately 85 percent of its post-retirement medical liability and achieve the savings we need from this group while also addressing a variety of issues important to the unions and their members," said Kathleen Ligocki, Tower Automotive's president and chief executive officer in a statement.

Tracy Mishler is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 107, or at tmishler@gannett.com.

"If they nullify the agreements, we'll go back to the membership, and I think they'll strike immediately. I'm deeply concerned, and I don't want that result."

Bob King
UAW Vice President

Anthony Tomey: Go get em, Tiger!

CC grad working his way through minor league farm system

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

As someone who loves pressure, Anthony Tomey has picked the perfect career path for himself.

Tomey, who's father and uncle own two Jimmy John's stores in Novi, headed down to Lakeland, Fla. last week to show off his throwing arm in the Detroit Tigers minor league system. More specifically, his "closing" throw-

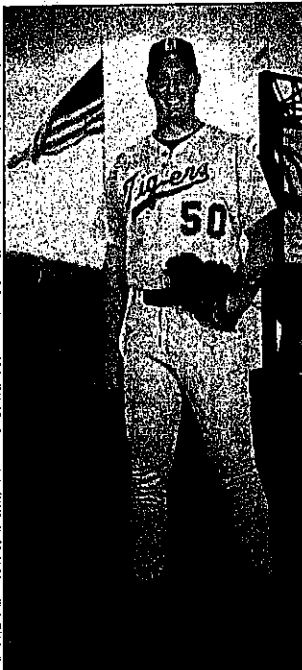
A closing pitcher is one who comes into games in the ninth inning to try to shut down the opposition, thus preserving victory for his team.

"I love the pressure and excitement of coming in at the end of the game," said Tomey. "I'm not afraid to fail. I just want to go out there and show my best, and hopefully see their best. As a closer you have to have that attitude."

Since the age of 6, Tomey has dedicated his life to baseball. He was always one of the bigger kids around, and discovered his talents early.

"I thought I should try to get it done," he said. "I play baseball year-round. I work out at Comerica Park, and I've been working out a lot with Demmie Taff who used to be a strength coach for the Tigers."

continued on page 9



Courtesy photo
Anthony Tomey hopes to some day play for his home town baseball team, the Detroit Tigers. He's currently in the team's minor league system.

Anti-drug steps taken

Parents-only workshop to feature a drug recognition expert Tuesday

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

The good news is John Lawrence has not seen an increase in drug use at Novi High School.

But he also knows drug abuse is prevalent in society. That's why the Novi High principal, with the help of parent Julie Sisson, has come up with a parents-only drug and drug paraphernalia recognition workshop, to be held Tuesday night.

"For me to say students who attend Novi High School are not involved in drug use, it would be a gross error," said Lawrence. "We know kids are making these bad choices, and it's our effort to curb that. It's a very alarming issue and topic which must be treated with the utmost urgency and concern by all."

"To Lawrence, there's no better teacher than parents. He said parents being educated and aware of these kinds of issues will help their kids and the district in efforts to prevent drug abuse in the high school.

"I don't know if it's possible to stop the flow of drugs. But for as many years as we've been trying to do that, I feel education is one of the best tools we have at our disposal to prevent students from making those kinds of choices," Lawrence said.

"The more we learn about drug use, the more we're finding out how wide-spread it is in society. It's very alarming, and I've given a lot of thought to how to solve this problem."

The workshop will feature a presentation by a drug recognition expert, Officer Jeramey Peters of the Auburn Hills Police Department. Parents will receive valuable information on drug recognition, what signals could indicate their child is involved with drugs, and how to approach the topic with their kids.

Lawrence emphasized the workshop is for parents of all children and not just those who have high school students.

"If I were a parent who had a child in grade school, I would definitely come to this," he 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@gannett.com.

Event details

The Novi High School For Parents Only Drugs and Drug Paraphernalia Recognition Workshop will be from 7-9 p.m. Tuesday. There is no charge for this event. For more information, contact Novi High School Principal John Lawrence at (248) 349-1504 or Julie Sisson at (248) 347-1681.

Find what you're looking for in the
Green Sheet Classifieds Call 1-888-999-1288

NOVI PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMUNITY

Cal Stone, editor (248) 349-1700 ext 113 cstone@gannett.com www.nov1news.com Fax: (248) 349-9832

Novi couple brightens smiles of children with deformities

■ Fund-raising gala slated for April 29

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Novi residents Mike and Jackie Schwartz like to make children smile.

As volunteers for Michigan Friends of Operation Smile, they help by providing decorations and asking auction items for the nonprofit organization's fund-raiser, Journey of Smiles.

This year's event, the second annual, is April 29 at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Dearborn.

Operation Smile sends missions of medical volunteers to 32 countries to treat children with correctable facial deformities such as cleft lips, cleft palates, tumors and burns.

Founded in 1982 by Dr. William P. Magee, Jr., a plastic surgeon, and his wife, Kathleen, a nurse and clinical social worker, Operation Smile provides reconstructive surgery to indigent children and young adults throughout the world.

In 24 years, the organization's medical volunteers have provided free reconstructive surgery for at least 98,000 children and young adults.

Client introduced her to event

Schwartz first heard about the organization from a client of hers, Terri Klimek of Northville, who serves as the organization's liaison for southeast Michigan.

Because Klimek, a nurse anesthetist with the University of



Photo by PAM FLEMING

Jackie and Mike Schwartz of Novi will handle the decorations again this year for the second "Journey of Smiles" fund-raiser April 29 at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel.

Michigan Health Care System, has been on numerous missions as a medical volunteer, she wanted to purchase a cleft lip for Jackie Schwartz, who owns the Home Accessory Warehouse in Walling Lake.

"It's really an incredible organization," Mike Schwartz said, "because it affords these children the opportunity to live a normal life."

"In 45 minutes, they give a child back his life," Jackie Schwartz said. When volunteers take on medical missions, they also teach the country's physicians and support personnel how to perform such operations.

"Operation Smile changes lives, one smile at a time," Klimek said. This year, Journey of Smiles will honor the children Operation Smile has treated in the Philippines, Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam.

Former NBA veteran John Salley and celebrity hair stylist Ken Paves will be among notables at the event.

The girl received a complicated surgery to repair an encephalocele — a condition where her skull did not fuse at the space on her forehead between her eyelids, and a large mass grew.

Her surgery and care was provided via the Michigan Friends of Operation Smile at the University of Michigan C.S. Mott Children's Hospital. She stayed with Klimek and her husband, Kevin, an anesthesiologist at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor, for two months.

Victims often ostracized

Schwartz said Operation Smile is special because for a small amount of money, the organization can give deformed children the kind of life they never would have had otherwise.

Children with facial deformities are often emotionally traumatized; many children are kept out of school; some are unable to eat or speak.

In some communities, these children have been ostracized. The organization has the knowledge and manpower to make a huge difference.

High school open house Saturday afternoon

The Novi Board of Education and Novi High School are hosting a Dedication Ceremony and Open House to celebrate the completion of expansion and remodeling projects at the high school from 1-3 p.m. Saturday.

Construction began in 2001 after community members approved a \$37 million bond issue to cover the costs of renovation projects at the high school and technology upgrades across the district. Renovation at Novi High focused on developing more common spaces for student learning, added spaces for vocational programs, secure entrances, and

Associates, known for their award winning design of educational facilities, were contracted for this project, as were crews from Skanska, one of the world's leading construction groups.

In addition to a brief dedication ceremony with members of the architecture and construction teams, the open house will feature student-guided tours of the new space and renovated classrooms, as well as demonstrations in several areas such as art and science.

For more information, contact Novi High School at (248) 449-1500.



Illustration courtesy Show Fritz

Brooktown moves another step closer

The Novi-based developer the ADCO Group LLC won preliminary site plan approval from city council Monday night for its Brooktown development, estimated to cost about \$65 million. The project will be built on the south side of Grand River Avenue west of Meadowbrook Road. This rendering shows a view of the project looking south down the main boulevard. The buildings on the right and left are live-work units. Beyond these buildings on the right is a 14-story condominium building. At the end of the street is the pool/clubhouse building. ADCO proposes a 225-unit multi-family residential development with some retail/office, restaurant and live-work buildings.

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@gannett.com.

Anthony Tomey

Age: 24

Occupation: closing pitcher in the Detroit Tigers minor league system for three years

Family: girlfriend of five years, Carla Orlow

Hobbies and/or interests: watching football, basketball and hockey as well as playing baseball. He also enjoys working out.

Advice: "Keep working hard," said Tomey. "You can't just show up during baseball season and expect to do well. It takes a lot of perseverance because millions of kids play baseball throughout the country and the world. Competition is tough."

Awards: While in high school he won All-State, All-Dream Team and All-American awards. He also won two Mid-American Conference championships in college.

Schools: He graduated from Catholic Central High School and Eastern Michigan University.

Grew up in: Farmington Hills

■ CC grad working his way through minor league farm system

continued from front page

Tomey said Taft resigned from the Tigers last year, and now has a workout facility in Canton called Velocity Sports. Tomey has been working out there five days a week since November 1.

"Myself, (Tigers pitcher) Nate Robertson and two of my best friends from high school, Bobby Malek and Charlie Hager, who play pro ball, work out there too," said Tomey. "We lift, throw, work on conditioning, foot work and agility. It's a great deal, and Dennie is an unbelievable trainer. I'm in the best shape of my life."

While attending Catholic Central High School, Tomey's team won the state championship during his senior year in 1999, and he was drafted out of high school by the Cleveland Indians.

But instead of signing with the Indians, Tomey decided to attend Eastern Michigan University, where his team won two Mid-American Conference championships. His play was so impressive that, once again, Major League Baseball took notice. This time, however, it was the Detroit Tigers.

Moving up the ranks

"I was drafted by the Tigers in 2003," said Tomey. "This is the greatest opportunity I've ever had. I'll play for anybody, but just to have the opportunity to play with the Detroit Tigers. It's my home town in front of my family and friends. It's a dream come true, and hopefully I can make it a reality."

Last year Tomey made the Midwest League All Star team as a member of the West Michigan Whitecaps. He led the league in appearances with a 2.50 earned run average. The team also won the 2004 Midwest League Championship.

"I had a pretty solid year last year, and this year I'm looking forward to keeping going with that," said Tomey. "The championship was just awesome. It was the greatest feeling because we played 142 games, and I worked hard all year with the same guys I was drafted with."

After starting the 2004 season on a down swing, the Whitecaps team found itself in last place.

"But then we just went on a tear," said Tomey. "We had the best record in baseball. It was unreal. Then we just won the whole thing."

"Tomey wasn't sure last week which team he was going to be assigned to before flying south. He guessed he'd wind up on either Lakeland's high A squad or AA's Erie.

"The plan is to work my way up," he said. "You just have to go with it and see what happens."

"And how is Tomey handling all the fame?"

"It's flattering when I'm out in the public and people ask for an autograph," he said. "It's nice. I have no problem with it and I won't reject anybody."

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@gannett.com.

Choi Kwang-Do students visit Ann Arbor veterans

■ Children perform patriotic music

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Twelve students from a Novi martial arts academy brought tears to some veterans' eyes Feb. 25.

The children from Herman Choi Kwang-Do, formerly Austin Choi Kwang-Do on Catherine Industrial Drive off of 10 Mile Road, performed for patients at a Veterans Affairs Hospital in Ann Arbor last Saturday.

Choi Kwang-Do is a type of martial art that provides a complete self-defense system and a health system for body and mind.

The art is based on principles found in biomechanics, kinesiology and sports medicine. Movements are natural and stress-free, reducing the chance of injuries that those can sustain in traditional martial arts.

Students who performed in Ann Arbor were members of the Novi academy's junior student leader-

ship group called the Hoa Rang Club, which means Flower of Youth Club, according to Erit Herman, owner of the local martial arts academy. Her husband, Jeff, serves as the academy's business manager.

Erit Herman recently earned her Sa Dan, which is the fourth degree black belt in Choi Kwang-Do. This accomplishment also comes with the title International Instructor. She joins an elite group with this achievement as only two other women in the world have attained this rank.

To be awarded the new rank, she traveled to Atlanta, where she had to pass a two-day, seven-hour private test administered by Grand Master Choi, founder of Choi Kwang-Do and a ninth degree black belt. This honor is considered to be the equivalent of achieving the rank of general in the U.S. Army.

She will have to train for another five years, however, before she can be considered to test for her fifth degree black belt and the title of Master.

"She's an instructor that's respected worldwide, and it's because she's still a student of the art," Jeff Herman said.

To be a member of the Hoa Rang Club, children must be age 6-12 and a gold belt or higher in Choi Kwang-Do. They must also have a letter of recommendation from their teacher at school, write an essay and go through a two-month evaluation.

Club members have special privileges and responsibilities, includ-



Courtesy photos

Marisa Ayerst of Belleville talks with a veteran at the Veterans Affairs Hospital in Ann Arbor during a recent visit from students who attend the Herman Choi Kwang-Do academy in Novi. The students performed for the veterans and gave them a token of their appreciation.

art, Jeff Herman said.

To be a member of the Hoa Rang Club, children must be age 6-12 and a gold belt or higher in Choi Kwang-Do. They must also have a letter of recommendation from their teacher at school, write an essay and go through a two-month evaluation.

Club members have special privileges and responsibilities, includ-

ing helping out in the various classes at the academy, attending advanced training, going on field trips and participating in community service projects.

Following the Choi Kwang-Do demonstration, the children talked with the veterans.

"It was very touching," Herman said. "I don't think there was a single person who didn't have a tear in

their eye."

Each student wrote a thank-you note for a veteran, and the note was tied with red, white and blue ribbon and had a small American flag attached.

A majority of the martial arts demonstration was performed to patriotic music.

The demonstration began with "The Stars and Stripes Forever" march as the children handed their note to a veteran one at a time, saying, "Thank you for my freedom."

Everyone who participated had to spend the previous Sunday practicing for the event, Herman noted.

"The veterans really seemed to enjoy the children's company and the conversations that they had after the performance," she said. The children recited the Pledge of Allegiance and performed martial arts to "God Bless America," "America the Beautiful" and "God Bless the U.S.A."

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@gannett.com.

Make a child smile

Tickets for the Saturday, April 29, Michigan Friends of Operation Smile, Journey of Smiles fund-raiser at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Dearborn are \$250 per person.

The black-tie optional event will include a reception, dinner, silent live auctions and dancing to the Jerry Ross Band.

For more information on sponsorship opportunities or to purchase tickets, call (248) 347-2797.

For more information about Operation Smile's efforts to help children with facial deformities, visit www.operation-smile.org.

THE NOV1 NEWS
Published Each Thursday
By The Novi News
104 W. Main Street
Northville, Michigan 48167
Periodic
At Northville, Michigan

Subscription Rates:
Inside Counties \$26 one year home delivery. Outside Counties (in Michigan) are \$40 per year, prepaid. Out of state, \$50 per year.

The Novi News is published by Federated Publications, Inc. a wholly owned subsidiary of Gannett Co. Inc. Postmaster, send address changes to: The Novi News, Post Office Box 470, Howell, MI 48846, POLICY STATEMENT: All advertising published in The Novi News is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card, copies of which are available from the advertising department, The Novi News, 104 W. Main Street, Northville, Michigan 48167, (248-349-1700). The Novi News reserves the right not to bind this newspaper and only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance of the advertiser's order.

Publication Number USPS 396290

Special auto insurance savings for GM and GM Supplier Employees

Call Mark Tarpinian for a FREE quote
TFI Insurance & Benefits
217 S. Center St.
Northville, MI 48167
248-347-3525

Charter One
Not your typical bank.®

RATES AS LOW AS
5.49%
APR

HOME EQUITY LOAN.
NO POINTS. NO CLOSING COSTS.

This ad might not run tomorrow.

Lock in a great rate today.

A simple application, an answer in minutes and your money in days. A Home Equity Loan from Charter One.
To apply, visit any of our 124 Michigan branches, go to charterone.com or call 1-877-TOP-RATE.

Other rates and terms available. Rates and terms vary by property type, loan amount and LTV ratio. Offer subject to change without notice. 1- to 6-month lower-occupied properties only. Not available for income property. Not all advertising is subject to this rate. Property insurance may be required. Third-party fees (origination, title, recording, etc.) are extra. All deposits are subject to individual approval. Fees and restrictions apply to completed loan applications submitted at branch or by phone, and third-party apply. See a banker for details. Equal Housing Lender. Member FDIC.

Get the answers to your Medicare Questions

Where can I find an affordable Medicare Advantage plan?

Imagine getting more for less. With HAP's Medicare Advantage plans, you get all your Medicare-covered benefits:

- Enhanced health care benefits
- Your choice of prescription drug plans (subject to limitations)
- Worldwide emergency coverage
- 50 copay for Medicare-covered services

All for less money than you probably pay for health care now! That's the HAP advantage.

Starting \$20/mo
as low as

powered by
hap

Health Alliance Plan (HAP) and Alliance Health and Life Insurance Company each have a Medicare contract with the federal government. To take advantage of these plans, you must continue to pay your Medicare Part B Premium if not otherwise paid for under Medicaid or by another third-party.

1-800-651-3525, TTY/TDD 1-313-664-8000

PPO is a product of Alliance Health and Life Insurance Company, a wholly owned subsidiary of Health Alliance Plan. PPO is powered by HAP.

www.hap.org
H2312 H2322 604NP

* Paid spokesperson; Doris Biscoe is powered by HAP.

BUSINESS

Cal Stone editor (248) 349-1700 ext. 113 cstone@gannett.com www.novnews.com fax (248) 349-9832

Energy on the rise

Business producing alternatives to lower the costs

By Tracy Mishler
STAFF WRITER

After spending several years working for Consumers Energy, Anand Gangadharam, a 43-year-old nuclear engineer and physicist, opened Novi Energy in 2002. Novi Energy provides a broad range of services in energy management, energy procurement and energy infrastructure project development for industrial, institutional and commercial companies across the U.S. and world.

"We go to various countries to define energy strategies and help them implement ways of cost minimization," Novi resident Gangadharam said. "(The President said) we are currently relying heavily on fossil fuels and need to decrease reliance ...

fuel diversity is a good thing," Gangadharam said there is a fair amount of wind power in Michigan, and other forms of energy could bring low fuel costs into the state.

"We already have biomass plants, and Michigan could look at clean coal technology," he said. "We need to look at other forms of energy, aside from natural gas."

Gangadharam said natural gas prices are high due to supply and demand.

Competition for energy

He said competition from other countries is the sole reason for high prices.

"External demands from growing economies such as China and India are competition for some of the same fossil resources that the U.S. secures its supply from," Gangadharam said.

Novi Energy works with some of the largest consumers in the world. Gangadharam said his typical customer spends between \$100 million and \$2 billion a year on energy.

The company has been recently working in Sri Lanka, helping the country define an efficient energy strategy after coping with the losses from the Dec. 26, 2004, tsunami.

Clay Pearson said Novi Energy is becoming a very solid center of expertise on what they can produce for companies.

"They have projects around the world and are doing good things," said the interim Novi city manager.

According to Pearson in a letter to city officials, Gangadharam's wife, Anitha, an electrical engineer and senior staff engineer for Novi Energy, is going to work with the city on the possibility of a solar energy cell cogeneration grant to help save the city money.

Pearson said a plan is only in the first idea stage.

Novi Energy only works with large corporations, such as automotive companies, area malls and large residential complexes. The company has customers spanning a broad range of industries, including agriculture, automotive, chemical, construction, defense, education, food services, hotels, manufacturing and

Novi Energy
Located: 3950 Orchard Hill Place Dr. Suite 110
Contact: (248) 735-NOVI
Web site: www.novienergy.com

not-for-profit organizations. Gangadharam said Novi Energy has no direct dealings with the oil business.

"Although more than 90 percent of business comes from out of state, we like being in Novi," Gangadharam said.

He said there will be a lot of opportunities in the future of energy, and business will be very exciting.

"Consumers are so driven by price, that even the slightest advantage offered by lower cost of energy can offer huge advantages," he said. "Our goal is to help customers be successful ... with low costs of energy."

Tracy Mishler is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 107, or at tmishler@gannett.com.



Novi Energy's Anand Gangadharam talks about the energy alternatives his company finds for their clients.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

DeMarla's outreach program a success

Over 50 minority subcontracting firms were in attendance on Feb. 22, to learn about construction bidding opportunities with Novi-based DeMarla Building Company and their clients within the metropolitan Detroit area. The outreach program, conducted each year by DeMarla, is designed to encourage certified minority contractors to network with DeMarla and learn how to win more contracts.

It was hosted this year at the corporate offices of Henry Ford Health System, 19 Detroit, Nancy Sehlisching, president and CEO of Henry Ford Health System, and Charles Perkins from DaimlerChrysler were the keynote speakers. Each spoke about the strong need for diversity and upcoming opportunities within their organizations.

Bobble heads at Second City

Second City announced the opening of its 27th revue "Bobble Heads of State," on Thursday, March 16, at 8 p.m. at The Second City located at 42705 Grand River Avenue, in Novi.

Directed by Jim Carlson, "Bobble Heads of State" covers birth and old age and everything that happens in between, like the war in Iraq.

Tickets for preview performances of "Bobble Heads of State" are available through March 15 by phone at (248) 348-4448.

continued on next page

SOUTH LYON THEATER
Newly Remodeled Theater
Starts Sat. March 11
Eight Below
ACTION ADVENTURE on Paul Walker
Rated PG 129 Min
NO MOVIE Fri. March 10
8:00pm Plaza Suite
Sat & Sun
1 & 7:30 pm only
4pm Plaza Suite
Mon-Thurs
7 pm everynight
7pm Shows \$4.00
Matinees \$3.00
Tuesdays \$3.00
Wednesday
FREE sm. Popcorn
with paid admission
Thursday
FREE Ice Cream
with paid admission
Monday is
Senior Citizen Night
\$3 admission
126 E. Lake St.
437-4545

The Five Freedoms of Medicare Plus Blue.

1. Freedom from high prescription drug costs
2. Freedom to choose your own doctor
3. Freedom from referral requirements
4. Freedom from high premiums
5. Freedom to travel with confidence

Medicare Plus Blue gives you the freedom and security to enjoy life to its fullest. It covers all your current Medicare benefits, plus prescription drugs and a lot more.

- Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage*
- You keep your own doctor**
- No required referrals
- Preventive tests and annual physicals
- Nationwide health care coverage
- Worldwide emergency and urgent care

In other words, with Medicare Plus Blue, you get more Medicare, more security, and more peace of mind.

If you have questions about Medicare Plus Blue, we'll be happy to help you. We'll even send you a free, no-obligation information packet. Why not call our friendly helpline today?

CALL TODAY!
1-800-485-4415
TTY 1-800-481-8704
8 a.m.-8 p.m., Monday-Friday



The benefits provided are subject to plan terms and conditions.
*Prescription drug coverage benefits subject to limitations.
**Medical providers must be Medicare-approved and willing to give you care and accept the terms of your plan's payment.
Medicare Plus Blue is a private-fee-for-service plan with a Medicare contract and is available to all Medicare beneficiaries who are Michigan residents who have both Part A and Part B of Medicare. Premiums vary by county. Medicare Plus Blue is issued by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, a nonprofit corporation and independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

Detail oriented

■ Celebrating 15 years of custom rides

By Tracy Mishler
STAFF WRITER

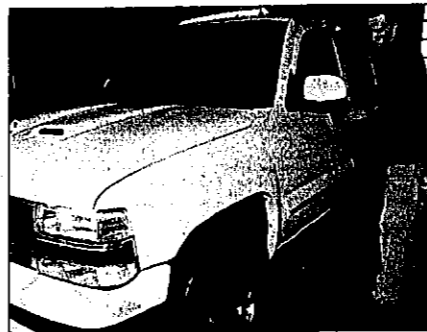


Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Novi Car and Truck Boutique employee Luke Kammer buffs the finish of a Chevy Suburban in a bay of the Novi Road business. Kammer was doing some basic exterior maintenance on the tricked-out SUV.

Car and Truck Boutique

Located: 24400 Novi Road
Hours: 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday through Friday; 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday
www.carandtruckboutique.com
Contact: (248) 380-5960
Office: Interior detailing, exterior detailing, window tinting, audio systems, remote starters, custom dashboards and gas and diesel performance parts.

Several automotive businesses have since opened, including Tuffy, Auto Lab Diagnostic and Tune-up Center, Classic Collision and Valvoline Instant Oil Change.

"We're like a hidden jewel in Novi," Muldoon said. "This shopping center is the one-stop car shop. We're all open for business."

Muldoon said it is a good idea to have your car professionally detailed every six months.

"Detailing will never go out of business for people who are busy and want it done in a timely matter," he said. "Winter doesn't stop people ... but when spring comes they will bounce back even more."

Car and Truck offer one day services and Muldoon said the company will clean the vehicle, change the oil and put new tires on in one trip.

"Our services are a reflection of our operation," he said. "The finer your car the better. We'll take care of it."

Tracy Mishler is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 107, or at tmishler@gannett.com.

Newport cuts custom-made costs

■ Low overhead means savings

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Imagine being able to purchase custom-made home furnishings at department store prices.

Lisa and Thad Leppke want to help area residents do just that.

The entrepreneurs just opened Newport Furnishings in Wixom last week.

They are excited about their new warehouse showroom on Lyon Oaks Drive off the north side of Grand River Avenue just 1.5 miles west of Wixom Road.

The store offers savings up to 50 percent off on styles similar to those found at Crate & Barrel, Restoration Hardware, Pottery Barn, Z Gallerie, Homehouse and Williams-Sonoma Home.

"I can take a fabric sectional from Pottery Barn that runs about \$2,800. It's \$1,000 here," Leppke said.

Newport Furnishings offers fashion-forward, upscale furniture and home decor.

The idea is to keep business costs low and customer savings high by working directly with furniture

manufacturers.

Shoppers can order furniture for the living room, dining room, bedroom and home office plus a variety of home accessories.

With corporate headquarters in Phoenix, Newport Furnishings currently has warehouse showrooms in Albuquerque, Austin, Denver, Houston, Kansas City, Las Vegas, Minneapolis, Nashville, Philadelphia, San Antonio, Seattle, St. Louis, Tulsa, Fort Lauderdale and Phoenix.

The newest location, a 5,500-square-foot warehouse located just west of Novi, features a full showroom of product samples supplemented by a virtual showroom of furniture and home accessory product books.

With strong strategic relationships with more than 100 furniture manufacturers, Newport's more than 40 catalogs provide hundreds of styles and designs.

The showroom displays selections of wood, metal, fabric and leather so customers can personalize each piece of furniture, creating the look and feel they want in their homes.

"We try to stay in touch with what the big box stores are selling and carry those styles and more," Leppke said.

"Our customers shop with us on an appointment basis, but this is not high-pressure sales. It's just an aspect of the Newport Furnishings business model that helps us keep overhead low, while giving customers a high level of service and personalized attention."

Newport Furnishings offers appointments from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Saturday.

Call (248) 679-8910 for more information or to schedule an appointment. For more information, visit www.newportfurnishings.com.

Lisa and Thad Leppke invite area residents to their open house from 5 to 9 p.m. today at Newport Furnishings, their new store on Lyon Oaks Drive north of Grand River Avenue and 1.5 miles west of Wixom Road.

Those who would like to attend can R.S.V.P. by calling (248) 679-8910 or by sending an e-mail to leppke@newportfurnishings.com.

Those who fill out a card at the store will have a chance to win a \$1,000 gift certificate from Newport Furnishings in a nationwide drawing.

Pam Fleming can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105, or by e-mail at pfleming@gannett.com.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

ABC gets HD DVD players

Toshiba America Consumer Products, L.L.C. announced details of an integrated marketing communications plan to launch its line-up of High Definition (HD) DVD players. The Toshiba players will be the first HD DVD players to hit the U.S. market and will begin shipping to retailers, including Novi's ABC Warehouse at the West Oaks shopping center, this month.

Space leased in Wixom

Signature Associates-ONCOR International has negotiated the lease of 15,821 square feet of industrial space located at 50761-50773 Pontiac Trail in Wixom.

Jim Montgomery of Signature Associates represented both the tenant, Energy Products & Services, Inc., a large national company specializing in communications equipment. This lease represents a west side expansion.

DBA moves to city hall

The Walled Lake Downtown Development Authority office has moved to Walled Lake City Hall. The office is now located at 1499 E. West Maple Road.

'RARE' competition for students

Automation Alley encourages students to participate in this year's "Everyday Hero" student essay competition presented by the RARE Foundation in partnership with Automation Alley, Detroit Newspapers in Education and Your Child. Students in grades six to 12 have the opportunity to win savings bonds and other valuable awards by nominating their "Everyday Hero" in a three-page essay.

Awards include \$300, \$200 and \$100 savings bonds for the top essays in each grade level. The top essay in each of six categories, arts and communication, business and management, human services, research and technology, health services and natural resources, will be considered by RARE for its Everyday Hero Award that includes a \$1,000 honorarium for the winner.

Recipients of the RARE Award will also have their stories documented in print and video and

made available free to schools, mentoring programs and community organizations that serve youth. Nominations for the RARE Award are also open to the public. Details can be found at www.rarefoundation.com.

Essays are due March 28, and winners will be announced in May. For more information, please contact Jeanette Stump, Detroit Newspapers in Education, at (313) 222-8653.

Seeking tree planters

Global ReLeaf of Michigan, Inc., a state-wide, non-profit volunteer tree organization, seeks neighborhood organizations throughout Michigan interested in planting trees on public property in their communities. Global ReLeaf volunteers work with the community group to plan the event, arrange for the purchase and delivery of the trees and provide technical assistance on the day of planting. The community supplies the volunteers to plant the trees. Plantings are done on a cost-sharing basis with Global ReLeaf of Michigan matching up to 50 percent of the cost of the trees up to \$1,000.

Global ReLeaf emphasizes planting trees in areas with heavy residential use and little tree cover, such as playgrounds, parks, schoolyards and roadways. This is a great way for groups to help replace trees lost to the emerald ash borer.

For information or to receive a copy of Global ReLeaf of Michigan's Neighborhood Tree Planting application, call Global ReLeaf of Michigan at (800) 642-7353. Neighborhood tree planting applications are accepted year-round but must be submitted by April 15 for spring planting. Information is also available at www.globalreleaf.org.

Olga's supports Red Cross

In celebration of Red Cross Month in March, Troy-based Olga's Kitchen, Inc., and the American Red Cross Southeastern Michigan Red Cross Southeastern Michigan Blood Region are partnering to give blood donors a special thank you.

Olga's Kitchen is providing 25,000 Olga's Red Cross Single Double Triple Plus Cards to those who try to donate blood during March.

The offer is good while card supplies last. Each card provides a donor with a free Olga Sandwich. There's an Olga's Kitchen in

Send us your business news!
Novi News
104 W. Main
Northville, MI 48167
or e-mail to:
cstone@gannett.com
Briefs can come in the form of press releases or announcements, and the Novi News reserves the right to edit for length and content. For more information, call (248) 348-1700, ext. 113.

Novi at 27468 Novi Road on the second level of Twelve Oaks Mall between JC Penney and Marshall Field's. For hours of operation, call (248) 349-5520.

In addition, each time a donor uses the Plus Card they also enjoy savings on select menu items. Olga's Kitchen, Inc. will also make a financial donation to the Southeastern Michigan Red Cross each time a patron uses their card in 2006.

For public safety, a community blood bank should have at least a three-day supply of blood and blood types O and B often fluctuate between less than a one-day supply to a two-day supply.

Each time a Red Cross donor visits an Olga's Kitchen restaurant and uses their card they will receive at least 50 cents off each Olga Sandwich and each entire salad purchased.

Monday through Thursday after 4 p.m. the Plus Card increases the discount value to \$1 for each Olga Sandwich and each entire salad purchased.

The Plus Card increases the discount value to \$1.50 off each Olga Sandwich and each entire salad purchased every Monday in March; Sunday, April 2 (Daylight Savings time change); and Wednesday, April 26, for Secretaries Day. Additional Triple Coupon Days are posted on www.olgakitchen.com.

Donors can use the Plus Card as an Olga's Kitchen Cash Card by loading it with any amount from \$5 to \$500.

To give blood, donors must be in good health, weigh at least 110 pounds and be age 17 or older. To make an appointment, visit www.give.life.org or call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE.

Joe's Produce
Michigan's Finest

Joe's March Specials!

California Well-Pick Strawberries \$1.99 lb.	Dole Organic Salad Mixes 2/\$4.00	Dole Broccoli 99¢ head
LePetite Vin d'Avril 14.99 750 ml	Vintage Van Gogh Gouda \$8.99 lb.	LePetite Vin d'Avril \$12.49 750 ml
Joe's White Corn Tortilla Chips 2/\$4.00 14 oz. bag	Joe's Salsa All Flavors 2/\$6.00 15 oz. jar	Joe's All Natural Pita Chips 2/\$5.00 9 oz. container
Joe's Pickles 2/\$6.00 32 oz. jar	Stella Gorgonzola \$4.69 lb.	Joe's Canned Tomatoes 2/\$3.00 15oz. can
Edy's Family Favorite Ice Cream 2/\$6.00 56 oz. ctn.	Dairy Fresh Butter 2/\$5.00 \$2.50 each	Bareman's Gallon Milk All Varieties 2/\$4.00 \$2.00 each

Byrd's Choice Meats!
Boneless Chuck Roast, Boneless Pork Roast, Our Own Smoked Kielbasa & Andoville Sausage all for Only \$3.69 lb.
Don't Forget to order our Corned Beef for St. Patrick's Day!
33066 W. Seven Mile Livonia 248-478-8680

Shop Joe's Produce...
for a wide selection of fresh fruits and vegetables! We have a domestic & imported wine and cheese section, specialty grocery, bakery and bulk food sections. Joe's also has a coffee roaster that roasts green coffee beans. Stop in for your fresh roasted coffee today!
Prices Good Through March 12, 2006

Joe's Produce
33152 W. Seven Mile • Livonia, MI 48152
www.joesproduce.com (248) 477-4333

ICE CREAM PARLOR • RESTAURANT • STORE • DAIRY PLANT

EDUCATION

Cal Stone, editor (248) 349-1700; ext. 111; cstone@gannett.com www.novnews.com fax (248) 349-9632

Novi High students OK'd for field trip to Mexico

■ Trip to take place June 21-30

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

A group of Novi High School students were happy to see their wishes granted last Thursday night.

A group of Novi High School students were happy to see their wishes granted last Thursday night. Approximately 12-30 students are planning to go. They will be divided into groups of six with one chaperone per group. The price of the trip, which must be paid by each student, is approximately \$1,465 plus incidentals and spending money.

Fund-raisers will be held before the end of the school year to assist students with the cost of the trip. All details of the trip, handled by Interact Tours, have been reviewed and approved by Novi High School Principal, John Lawrence and Davis.

According to the trip itinerary, the main purpose is to give students the opportunity to see, hear and use Spanish in action, in a native setting, with all of the cultural components at work. Abel and Baker would like students to banish all of their pre-conceived notions and stereotypes about Mexico and Spanish speakers.

To qualify as a participant, students must have completed Spanish 3 with a B average or higher. If necessary, priority will be awarded to upper-level students. The maximum number of students allowed would be 30, with several chaperones.

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@gannett.com.



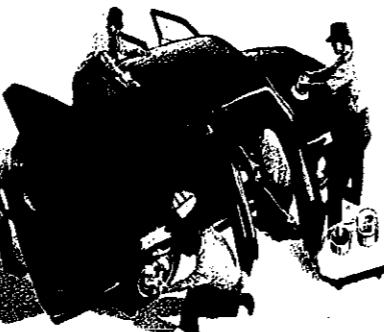
Courtesy photo

Reading across America

Third and fourth graders at Deerfield Elementary School participated in Read Across America. Here, Jack Twomey is shown speaking to a fifth grade class in Alpena, Michigan via video-conference.

The following was written by Katie Erdman, a fourth grade student: Fun, exciting, and extraordinary events are happening inside of Deerfield Elementary, especially Read Across America. Read Across America is a great way to talk to classes all over the United States about great books. Mrs. Kaufman, Ms. Mast, and Mr. McCurdy (third and fourth grade teachers at Deerfield) and all of their astonishing students had a video conference with a class in Fitchell, New York and Alpena, Michigan all about spectacular books. Mrs. Kaufman, Ms. Mast and Mr. McCurdy's class shared a wonderful fantasy book, Tuck Everlasting and the fun filled realistic fiction book, "Frindle."

We're passing on savings to you as we celebrate our 15 Year Anniversary!



Save 15%

on Any Detailing Service we offer.
Expires 3-31-06

Car & Truck Boutique
Professional Detailing Center & More

2440 Novi Rd., Novi, MI 48375 • 248-380-5960

www.carandtruckboutique.com

Great Lakes RE-UPHOLSTERY

also Wood Refinishing & Restoration

All In-Stock Fabric 40%-70% OFF
Free! In Home Estimates Pick Up & Returns

810-632-7000
313-961-3310

Kitchen Chairs from \$29.95 each
Free! In Home Estimates Pick Up & Returns

Win A Free Trip to Ireland

Meet the Irish Sat, March 11

11am to 3pm
Parisian Court

Join us and Cynthia Canty, the Master of Ceremonies (from Magic 105.1) as we kick off our "Green" celebration.

Enter to win a trip to Ireland, including round-trip airfare to Boston, and a chance to stay in Cynthia Canty's Irish Cottage.

Enter to Win a FREE trip to Ireland

Meet the Irish Entertainment: Irish Step Dancing & Irish Music

Irish entertainment featuring award winning Irish Musicians from Mick Gavin's Irish Band.

See international award winning dancers from Tim O'Hare's and Kitty Heintzman's Schools of Irish Dance, two of the world's premier Irish dance schools.

FREE

- Award Winning Traditional Irish Shortbread*
- Shamrock Plants*
- Copy of "Ireland of the Welcomes Magazine"

SUPPORT THE CAPUCHIN SOUP KITCHEN

Luck of the Irish - Everyone has a chance to pull out a lucky coin and win other FREE Irish Giveaways.

Brothers from the Capuchin Soup Kitchen will be on hand. Donations will be accepted.

Brother's Place
Newburgh Roads 734-462-1100

BEST OPPORTUNITY

Lowest Prices No...
Call for a private showing

MICHIGAN HERITAGE Bank

www.miheritage.com

Farmington Hills 28300 Orchard Lake Rd.	Novi 21211 Haggerty Rd.
Troy 1917 E Big Beaver	Wyom 28445 Beck Rd. Suite 102
Macomb County (coming in 2006)	Livonia 18770 Farmington Rd.

Call us today at
1-800-914-3524

SCHOOL BRIEFS

Novi residents Sarah Alban, Alexandra Barabona, Craig Hearn, Matthew Messinks, Brittany Neville, Janie Vandommelen, Michaela Wosiek and Michelle Wuerth were named to the fall 2005 dean's list at Grand Valley State University.

Novi resident Andrew Glubinski was named to the fall 2005 semester dean's list at West Point Military Academy.

Carmen Sinkins, of Novi, was named to the fall 2005 semester dean's list at Illinois Wesleyan University.

Ashlie Poulton, of Novi, was named to the fall 2005 semester dean's list at Northeastern University.

Lance Suttle, of Novi, was granted the Clifford Roy/Gold Eagle Scholarship and Rachel Lilly, of Wyom, was granted the Detroit Scholarship Showcase Annual Scholarship for the 2005-2006 academic year. Both are students at Northwood University.

University of Detroit Mercy School of Law (UDM Law) student and Novi resident Sam McCrimmon and his moot court team brought home a silver medal last week after competing in the 19th Annual National Environmental Law Moot Court Competition. McCrimmon is a second-year evening student at the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law.

Novi High School students Asna Shaik, Kalyan Aareem and Subhasran Mohanram, each received \$500 Scholarships and Tammy Prakash received an Honorable Mention, in the Michigan Mathematics Prize Competition.

Karen Janik, of Novi, was named to the dean's list at Valparaiso University for fall 2005 semester.

Winter drumline still undefeated

■ Team scores 82.9 out of 100; highest in country

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

To say Matt Ownby has seen a remarkable improvement in his winter drumline this year would be an understatement.

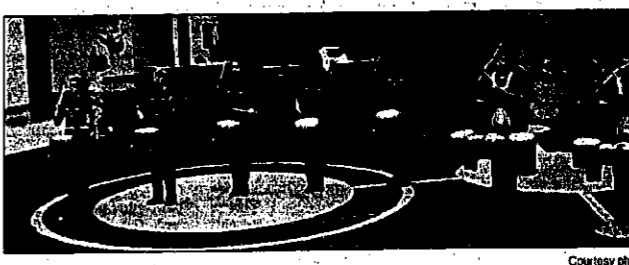
This team finished fourth in the state last year and did not compete nationally. But so far this year, the squad has gone undefeated, including a victory in the first-ever Winterguard International Regional held in Michigan Feb. 18. Novi scored 82.9 out of 100, the highest score in the top 20 of those to proceed to the semi-final round, and will have to be in the top 12 of those 20 to make it into the final round.

"If we can make the final round, I will be ecstatic," said Ownby. "Our initial goal this year was to compete in the regional, and then in the final round. We far surpassed that and even surprised ourselves by winning the preliminary round. We knew we were capable of it, but to actually accomplish it was a lot more rewarding and exciting."

The international regional featured drumlines from all across Michigan, Indiana, Ohio and Illinois. Novi finished first in both the preliminary and final round competitions.

"We're very proud of that," said Ownby. "There are approximately 400 drumlines nationwide that compete and they all culminate in Dayton, Ohio in April at the international championships of winterguard."

Having won the regional competition, Novi is qualified for international final competition.



Courtesy photo

Novi High students Vicki Kelsey, Dan Hawley, Elaina Shope, John Webber, Chris Edwards, John McKenna and Adam Burkhardt perform in the school's drumline.

and is also considered a contender for the championship. In the preliminary round there will be 48 drumlines to compete against. Novi will have to be in the top 20 of those to proceed to the semi-final round, and will have to be in the top 12 of those 20 to make it into the final round.

"Our group last year was sort of a starting over group from square one, where we worked on very basic things," said Ownby. "We've been able to expand on those skills considerably through our fall marching season and into this winter. The group of students we have now work so hard that they're barely comparable to where they were a year ago."

The international regional featured drumlines from all across Michigan, Indiana, Ohio and Illinois. Novi finished first in both the preliminary and final round competitions.

"We're very proud of that," said Ownby. "There are approximately 400 drumlines nationwide that compete and they all culminate in Dayton, Ohio in April at the international championships of winterguard."

Having won the regional competition, Novi is qualified for international final competition.

Novi High School's winter drumline remaining schedule:

- Saturday at Livonia Franklin High School
- March 25 at Lakeland High School
- April 2 in the state championship at Saginaw Valley State University
- April 19-22 in the international championship at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio. This is a three-round tournament.

Typically for local competitions, prices of admission is \$5 per person. The championship competitions are usually a bit more per round. Actual prices have not been established yet.

and whatever happens, happens," said Ownby. "We're not focused necessarily on beating other groups as much as we are on doing the absolute best we can do."

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@gannett.com.

IT'S THE REASON TO SWITCH NETWORK

THE MOTOROLA E815

Bluetooth® Capable
V CAST Capable
MP3 Player Capable
Records Video
Snaps 1.3 Megapixel Photos

\$49.99

After Rebate: \$99.99 2 year Agreement price - \$50.00 Mail-In Rebate.
With new 2 year activation.

CALL OR CLICK FOR FREE SHIPPING & OTHER EXCLUSIVE OFFERS

IT'S THE REASON TO SWITCH TO A MORE RELIABLE WIRELESS NETWORK

1.877.2BUY.VZW **PARA ESPAÑOL** verizonwireless.com

VERIZON WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS STORES		AUTHORIZED RETAILERS	
NEW HAMPSHIRE 2570 Jackson Ave. (East to Brockport) 254-709-7722	NEW JERSEY 20417 Ford Rd. (Just West of Telegraph) 919-275-4921	PORTLAND, ME 454 Telegraph Rd. (Acacia Hill) 248-335-5900	TRON 1913 E. Big Beaver Rd. (Troy Sports Center) 248-525-4040
OHIO 16300 W. 12th St. (at Lakeland) 419-425-7440	UTAH 14126 Woodward (West of 12th St.) 313-895-7392	WISCONSIN 31011 Orchard Lake Rd. (at Grand River & 14 Mile Rd.) 248-538-5900	WYOMING 32105 S. Rochester Rd. (at Auburn Rd.) 248-653-0250
ONTARIO 12447 Ford Rd. (corner of Ford & Lullay St.) 734-944-9491	VERMONT 17245 Silver Pkwy. (at Grand Plaza) 810-823-2733	WASHINGTON 11011 Oakdale (at 10th St.) 248-549-4177	WEST VIRGINIA 32105 S. Rochester Rd. (at Auburn Rd.) 248-653-0250
VERMONT 17245 Silver Pkwy. (at Grand Plaza) 810-823-2733	WISCONSIN 31011 Orchard Lake Rd. (at Grand River & 14 Mile Rd.) 248-538-5900	WISCONSIN 31011 Orchard Lake Rd. (at Grand River & 14 Mile Rd.) 248-538-5900	WISCONSIN 31011 Orchard Lake Rd. (at Grand River & 14 Mile Rd.) 248-538-5900
VERMONT 17245 Silver Pkwy. (at Grand Plaza) 810-823-2733	WISCONSIN 31011 Orchard Lake Rd. (at Grand River & 14 Mile Rd.) 248-538-5900	WISCONSIN 31011 Orchard Lake Rd. (at Grand River & 14 Mile Rd.) 248-538-5900	WISCONSIN 31011 Orchard Lake Rd. (at Grand River & 14 Mile Rd.) 248-538-5900

FAITH

Cal Stone, editor (248) 349-1700 ext 113 cstone@gannett.com www.novinews.com fax (248) 349-9802

CHURCH CALENDAR

Meadowbrook Congregational Church will return to the video series "Questions of Faith." The video is approximately 30 minutes long, and will be followed by discussion. Each class will meet Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.

The church will be celebrating its 20th anniversary as a chartered, independent church in Novi on Sunday. The celebration will begin with worship service at 10 a.m. with the Rev. Dr. Thomas M. Richard, Executive Secretary of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches, providing the sermon. The worship service will include a tribute to Meadowbrook's charter members and will feature Meadowbrook's Chancel and Youth choirs, under the direction of Patrick Kuhl, minister of music, accompanied by instrumentalists.

A catered luncheon and special program will follow the service.

Normal Sunday worship service at 10 a.m.

For further information, ask for the Rev. Dr. E. Neil Hunt, Minister of Meadowbrook.

Meadowbrook is located at 21355 Meadowbrook Road in

Novi. Call (248) 348-7757 or visit www.nbccc.org.

The Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross offers a worship service every Wednesday from 12:10-12:50 p.m. Come and share your lunch hour with God at a worship service that includes scripture and Holy Communion. The church invites all to worship Sundays at 7:45 and 10 a.m. Nursery care is available at 10 a.m. worship service. (The nursery is coordinated by a registered pediatric nurse.)

Adult Bible Study is Sundays at 9 a.m. Worship Center for children ages 3-7, and Sunday School is at 10 a.m.

Worship Service of Compline is held at 8:30 p.m. Rite 13 (ages 11-14) and J2A (ages 14 and up) groups meet at 5 p.m. for their program and dinner. Youth Worship Service is held at 7 p.m. the second and fourth Sunday of every month; all are welcome.

Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross is located at 40700 W. 10 Mile Road, Novi. Call (248) 427-1175 or visit www.churchofthe-holycross.com.

Faith Community Presbyterian Church invites you to worship at either the 9 a.m. or

10:30 a.m. services. Adult Sunday school is offered at 9 a.m. Sunday school and nursery care is available at both services.

Dr. Henderson will be teaching an Amos and Hosea class on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. and Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Cost for the book and class is \$19. Everyone is welcome.

Women's Bible Study, led by Jann Martin, is the first Wednesday and Thursday of each month, at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.

The church is located at 44400 W. 10 Mile Road in Novi. Call (248) 349-2345, or visit www.faith-community-novi.org.

The Holy Family Church is located at 24505 Meadowbrook Road; between Grand River and 10 Mile Road. Call (248) 349-8847 or visit www.holyfamilynovi.org.

Oak Pointe Church service times will be at 9:30 and 11:15 a.m. every Sunday. Visit www.oak-pointe.org or call (248) 912-0043. The church meets at Novi High School.

St. James Catholic Church is located at 46325 10 Mile Road, Novi. Call (248) 347-7778.

First United Methodist Church of Northville will be host-

ing a community-wide healing service, called Prayers for Healing of Body, Mind, Relationship and Spirit on the first Monday of each month. This service of hope is open to the Northville/Novi community and persons of all faiths who desire to ask God for healing in their life, or that of someone they hold dear.

A one day women's retreat will be held 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, March 25. Registration begins at 9:30 that morning. The \$20 fee includes continental breakfast and lunch.

Church worship hour schedules are as follows: 8, 9:15 and 11 a.m. on Sundays.

The church is located at 777 W. Eight Mile Road (at Taft Road), Northville. For more information, call (248) 349-1144, or visit www.funorthville.org.

St. John Lutheran Church is located at 23225 Gill Road in Farmington Hills. Saturday service begins at 5:30 p.m. and Sunday traditional services are at 8:30 and 11 a.m. Sunday contemporary service

begins at 9:50 a.m. and Sunday school starts at 9:45 a.m. Nursery is provided.

Prayer each Friday begins at 9:30 a.m. followed by adult bible study at 10 a.m.

Call (248) 474-0584 or visit www.stjohn-lutheran.com for more information.

Crosspointe Meadows Church meets Sundays at Meadowbrook Elementary School. Services are at 9 and 10:30 a.m. Fresh brewed hot coffee is available from 10-10:30 a.m. The church also has children's programs for all ages and a nursery available.

The church is located at 29200 Meadowbrook Road, just south of 13 Mile Road. For more information, call (248) 427-2700 Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. or www.crosspointemeadows.org.

St. Paul Lutheran Church in Northville will be studying the best selling book "Purpose Driven Life" by Rick Warren during Lent. Over 13,000 churches nationwide have

gone through this campaign. St. Paul is hoping to bring this book and study to homes locally. Those who already bought the book and are looking to get more out of it, may sign up for a study group. Books will also be available through the church. Study groups will meet at various homes in Northville, Novi, South Lyon, Plymouth, Canton and Livonia. Most will meet Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. For more information, call (248) 349-3140.

The Baha'i Faith will host a community-wide devotional gathering focusing on prayers for peace at 11 a.m. on the last Saturday of each month at the home of the Kians, 23803 Ripple Creek Street, Novi. Interested parties are asked to call in advance. (248) 473-0355.

The Novi Jewish Center will be hosting a party in honor of the Purim holiday 6:45-8:30 p.m. this Monday. It will be fun for the whole family. For more information, call (248) 790-6075, or e-mail novijewishcenter@earthlink.net.

Compiled by Ramez Khuri

Kitchen To Stop Inc.



Sale on STARMARK Cabinetry

248-477-835


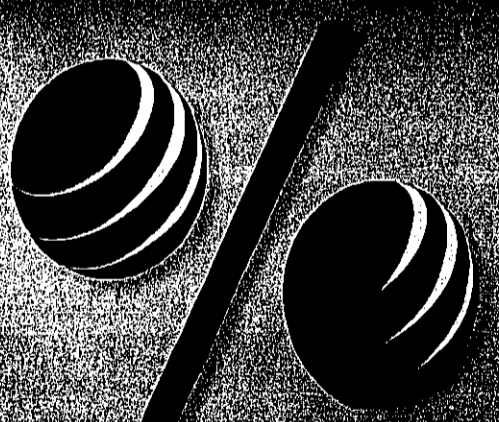
Open till 8 p.m. Tues. & Thurs.

Make Dreams Come True!



- Someone is going to WIN a four-year scholarship of up to \$50,000 on March 11, 2006. IT COULD BE YOU!
- Buy a ticket for yourself, your child, grandchild, niece or nephew.
- No more than 1,000 tickets (at \$100 each) will be sold.
- Tuition Expedition is a 50/50 raffle for college scholarship funds. The winner(s) has up to 20 years to assign the scholarship to up to 4 students.
- You do not have to be a resident of the Walled Lake Schools to participate. Anyone, 18-years or older in the country, can purchase tickets.
- For more information visit www.walledlake.k12.mi.us or call 248-956-2117 to purchase tickets with VISA/Mastercard.

Net proceeds to support programs for the Foundation for Excellence - Walled Lake Schools Raffle License #R23973

BETTER CD RATES

4.90% APY

14 Month Term Renew auto. monthly

Walled Lake City Bank

CITIZENS BANK

Heslop's
China & Gifts

Save 25% Off Clearance Only

Prices drastically reduced! Take advantage of additional savings!

Thursday March 9th thru Sunday March 19th, 2006

SENIORS

Cal Stone, editor (248) 349-1700, ext. 113, cstone@gannett.com www.novnews.com fax (248) 349-9832

Looking for fun during retirement

Choosing to retire wasn't hard for some Novi seniors

By Tracy Mishler
RECORD STAFF WRITER

Doreen Poupard made no mistakes choosing between continuing to work or retiring to spend her life how she wants.

The 69-year-old Fox Run resident retired in 1999, with more than 40 years working in education, as assistant superintendent for the Ann Arbor Public School District.

"(When retiring) you have to think a long time about money and how to get rid of all the stuff you've compiled over the years," Poupard said. "Retirement was an invitation to celebrate who I am ... to make my own choices."

Poupard is among many women who had to take on the responsibility of retiring without the support of a significant other.

"Women are givers ... they pay themselves last," she said. "It's not selfish to think of long-term needs."

According to the Women's Institute for a Secure Retirement, women typically earn less money than men, so the amount of their retirement benefits are lower, in both pension and Social Security payments.

Know-how for retirement

Retirement is supported by three main sources of income, including Social Security, employer-sponsored pension plans and individual savings.

Gae McCord said she was prepared when her husband, Denver, past away.

"He prepared me to be able to take care of myself financially," McCord, 80, of Fox Run said. "Most men don't know how to teach women about all this. I knew where everything was and I knew our accountant."

McCord said her full-time job was raising her children and volunteering with several organizations.

"It's hard (to retire)," McCord said. "It's especially hard for widows. We're overwhelmed with the laws ... especially those who didn't know what was going on when their spouses were alive."

Spend wisely

Theresa Bizek, 64, said retirement for her was an easy choice.

"I retired at age 56 after 34 years with the county," Bizek said. "I found I could collect more money from my pension than I



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Fox Run residents Doreen Poupard, left, 69 and Theresa Bizek, 64, talk about how "retirement" has changed their lives.

If your husband dies before you do...

- You can no longer receive the combined Social Security benefit.
- His pension is likely to be reduced or may stop. Even if you and your husband choose a widow's benefit, most plans pay only half the pension to the widow.
- Your monthly expenses are likely to remain at 80 percent of what they were before. You will still need to pay for housing, utilities, transportation, medical care and insurance.
- You are guaranteed some of your husband's pension because under the federal pension law, traditional company and union pension plans must provide a survivor's benefits to the wife if the employee dies first.

Source: "What Every Woman Needs to Know About Money and Retirement" by the Women's Institute for a Secure Retirement and the Teresa and H. John Heinz III Foundation

could working."

Bizek said it was hard after her husband, Edmund, died in 1995, but she knew what to do.

"I handled most of the money ... but it was hard to do everything on my own," she said. "I was covered by my husband's insurance and what we saved over the years."

Bizek said although on a fixed income, she's found ways to make her money last.

"I got into mutual funds and found ways to make my money grow," she said. "Retirement for me is one big vacation ... sense of freedom."

Poupard said seniors shouldn't have to worry about money after retirement.

"You have to plan before and know what you're going to do," she said. "People think retirement communities are the end, but I meet people everyday who I'd like to be like when I grow up."

She said some people are afraid to retire because they don't know

any other life besides going to work every day.

"When you work, you think work defines your life," she said, "but you should define your life, not work."

Tracy Mishler is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 107, or at tmishler@gannett.com.

Herniated Disc Technology Discovered by NASA Scientists

Ann Arbor - A new free report has recently been released that reveals how breakthrough medical technology is offering new hope for sciatica sufferers. Discover how research has proven non-surgical decompression 86% successful in treating debilitating back pain. Find out how NASA's accidental discovery led to the most promising treatment today. For your free report entitled, "How Space Age Technology Is Solving Back Pain Without Drugs Or Surgery!" Call 1-800-469-3618 for the toll-free recorded message. Supplies are limited - call now. If phone lines are busy, visit: www.mldischerniation.com

SENIOR CENTER CALENDAR

Friday 3/10

- 8:45 a.m. Panera Bread
- 9 a.m. Stretch and Strength
- 10 a.m. Body Recall
- noon Lunch
- 12:30 p.m. Dupl. Bridge
- 12:30 p.m. Bingo
- 2-2:30 p.m. Massage

Monday 3/13

- 9 a.m. Stretch and Strength
- 10 a.m. Body Recall
- noon Lunch
- 12:30 p.m. Pinochle*
- 2-2:30 p.m. Massage by appointment
- 2-2:30 p.m. Tea featuring the DIA "Rivera Murals" 51 at the door
- 6:30 p.m. Clogging*

Tuesday 3/14

- 8:30 a.m. Panera Bread
- 9 a.m. Line Dance*
- 10 a.m. Asian Pacific
- 11 a.m. "Stroke/Brain Attack," Sharon Tomaszewski, Health Nurse
- noon Lunch
- 12:30-3 p.m. Focus Hope/TTAP Distribution
- 12:45 p.m. Bingo held in Activities Room
- 1-3 p.m. "Ask the Lawyer" with Eric Glick, by appointment
- 2-2:30 p.m. Massage

Wednesday 3/15

- 9 a.m. Stretch and Strength
- 10 a.m. Body Recall
- 11 a.m. Blood Pressure
- 11 a.m. Taking Off Pounds Sensibly class
- 11:30 p.m. Clogging*
- noon Lunch
- 1 p.m. Game Day-free
- 2-2:30 p.m. Massage
- 2-4 p.m. Estate Planning with Karen Stewart, by appointment

Thursday 3/16

- 9 a.m. Line Dance*
- 9 a.m. Medicare Part D Assistance by appointment
- 9:30 a.m. Travel Meeting
- noon Lunch
- 12:15 Contract Bridge*
- 1-2 p.m. Line Dance
- 1-3 p.m. Computer Lab open
- 1:30-3 p.m. Reading and Discussion group, "The Lincoln Lawyer," by Michael Connelly
- 2-2:30 p.m. Massage

* Activities will be held at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road. Phone (248) 347-0414.

WHOLE HOUSE WATER FILTER

NEW TECHNOLOGY - NON ELECTRIC

FREE INSTALLATION

\$9.95 A Month

Rent-to-Own

Systems Eliminate: Yellow Water, Iron, Odors, Radium, Hardness & Removes Chlorine

clearwater KINETICO

SINCE 1946

1-800-342-0405

Exp. 4/16/06

NOTICE CITY OF NOVI REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY USE PERMIT TUP 06-006

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that McNish Sports is requesting a Temporary Use Permit to allow an outdoor sale at 44375 Grand River Avenue, from March 10, 2006 through March 14, 2006. A public hearing can be requested by any property owner of a structure located within 300 feet of the boundary of the property being considered for temporary use permit.

This request will be considered at 10:00 a.m. on March 10, 2006 at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 West Ten Mile Road. All written comments should be directed to Sarah Marchioni and must be received prior to March 10, 2006.

SARAH MARCHIONI
BUILDING PERMIT COORDINATOR
(248) 347-0415

(3-9-06 NN 271996)

BY THE BOTTLE

1000 wines from around the world!

248-344-8992

Located in City Center Plaza at the corner of Grand River & New Road

Good Neighbor. GREAT RATES.

Looking for great rates and a secure place to grow your money? Call your local State Farm agent today for more information about a CD from State Farm Bank.

CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT

90 days	4.30%APY*
180 days	4.40%APY*
1 year	4.45%APY*
2 years	4.50%APY*
3 years	4.55%APY*
4 years	4.60%APY*
5 years	4.65%APY*

State Farm Bank

LIKE A GOOD NEIGHBOR, STATE FARM IS THERE.

*Annual Percentage Yields as of 3/6/06. Rates subject to change without notice. Minimum balance to open an account and obtain the stated APY is \$500. Rates apply to deposits less than \$10,000. A penalty may be imposed for a withdrawal prior to maturity. Certificates automatically renew at maturity at the then-current rate for the same term.

POSTAL: STATE FARM BANK • HOME OFFICE: BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS • STATEFARM.COM 3875

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF MEETING OF BOARD OF REVIEW

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Review shall convene in its first session at 9:00 a.m. EST, Tuesday, March 7th, 2006 in the Novi Assessing Department at 45175 W. Ten Mile Road for the purpose of reviewing and correcting the assessment roll.

Notice is further given that the second session of the Board of Review will meet for the purpose of hearing and considering assessment appeals in the Novi City Council Chambers at 45175 W. Ten Mile Road on March 13, 14 & 15, 2006. All appearances before the Board will be by appointment only. If you or your representative want to appear in person, the appointment must be made on or before 5:00 p.m. EST, Friday, March 10, 2006. Appearances before the Board of Review are limited to five (5) minutes or less. Petitions are available at the Assessor's Office or at www.ci.novi.mi.us. NO APPOINTMENTS WILL BE GIVEN UNTIL A PETITION IS RECEIVED BY THE ASSESSING DEPARTMENT.

Letters of protest will be accepted on or before 5:00 p.m. EST, Wednesday, March 15, 2006. Postmarks will not be considered. When submitting a letter of protest for the Board of Review consideration, you must attach a completed petition along with any supporting information.

All agents protesting values on property, other than their own, MUST HAVE written authorization from each property owner they are representing.

Persons on fixed or limited income may be eligible for a reduction in property taxes due to poverty. Applications are available at the Assessing Department, or at www.ci.novi.mi.us.

BOARD OF REVIEW SCHEDULE

Monday, March 13, 2006 - 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, March 14, 2006 - 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Wednesday, March 15, 2006 - 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Any questions should be directed to the Assessing Department at (248) 347-0485.

MARYANNE CORNELIUS
CITY CLERK

(2-23, 3-29-06 NN 263694)

Serta

Sweet Dreams
Sweet Prices

SALE!

WE MAKE THE WORLD'S
BEST MATTRESS.™

SAVE UP TO 65% ON THESE
MATTRESSES!

**SERTAPEDIC
CARLYE DRIVE
CUSHION COMFORT**
\$449 Queen Set

**PERFECT SLEEPER
ROYAL GARNER
PILLOW SOFT**
\$649 Queen Set

**PERFECT SLEEPER
EURO TOP RUBY**
\$849 Queen Set

Twin Set \$339 Full Set \$399 King Set \$649

Twin Set \$499 Full Set \$549 King Set \$899

Twin Set \$699 Full Set \$749 King Set \$1149

**PERFECT SLEEPER
DESERT LIGHT
EURO TOP or EXTRA FIRM**
\$999 Queen Set

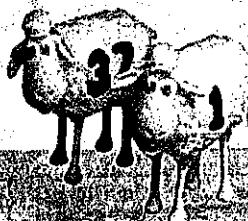
Twin Set \$849 Full Set \$899 King Set \$1349

**SPECIAL PURCHASE
MELISSA EURO TOP**
\$599 Queen Set

**PERFECT NIGHT
COMPASSION
DELUXE LUXURY PILLOW SOFT**
\$1449 Queen Set

Twin Set \$1349 Full Set \$1399 King Set \$1899

Serta **FIREBLOCKER**
EXCEEDS FEDERAL & STATE FLAMMABILITY STANDARDS



FREE Delivery!
All Mattresses \$499 & Up
in Service Area

FREE Set Up!
Mattresses Only

FREE Removal!
Of your old bedding with a
\$499 or more purchase

**Bunkbed
FUTON**
\$219
Fashion Bed Group

**Melrose
FUTON**
\$279
Fashion Bed Group

FUTON
\$199
Fashion Bed Group

Simmons Futons
Michigan's
Largest Simmons
Futon Dealer
In-stock for immediate delivery.
100's of Futon Covers at Each Location

**Fashionable
HEADBOARDS**
from...
\$59
Fashion Bed Group

Visit us today and
discover the miracle of
Tempur-Pedic!
In Stock for
Immediate
Delivery!
TEMPUR-PEDIC

Mattress & Futon Shoppe

14 METRO LOCATIONS

- ANN ARBOR 2131 W. Stadium (South of W. Liberty) 734.222.9472
- BIRMINGHAM 32767 Woodward (1 block South of 14 Mile) 248.549.1951
- CANTON 42489 Ford Road (At Lilley in Canton Corners) 734.844.0400
- LAKESIDE 13909 Hall Road (Across from Lakeside) 586.532.8055
- LIVONIA 31629 Plymouth Road (1 block West of Merriman) 734.425.1500
- NOVI TOWN CENTER (Near Mervyn's South of I-96) 248.348.5494
- ROSEVILLE 32098 Gratiot (Across from Macomb Mall) 586.294.8360
- ROYAL OAK 28074 N. Woodward (South of 12 Mile) 248.414.6909
- SOUTHGATE 17820 Eureka (Between Reeck & Allen Rd.) 734.281.7766
- TAYLOR 22385 Ecorse (1/2 Mile East of Telegraph) 313.291.3603
- TROY 23650 Eureka (Near Southland Mall across from Value City) 734.287.0454
- WARREN 26645 Hoover (Hoover & 11 Mile Road) 586.754.1088
- YPSILANTI/ANN ARBOR 4563 Washtenaw (1/4 Mile East of US-23) 734.975.9200

mattressandfutonshoppe.com
FREE DELIVERY • FREE SET-UP • FREE FINANCING • FREE REMOVAL OF OLD BEDDING
*Free delivery excludes futons and bunk beds and applies to orders of \$699 and up. Futon mattresses & covers sold separately.

SPORTS



(248) 349-1700 www.novinews.com fax (248) 349-0832 Thursday, March 9, 2006 Novi News 11

WATER-PROOF

Wildcats send group of tankers to state meet

By Courtney Ratowiak
INTERVIEW

For 10 years, varsity swim coach Bill McCord watched it happen.

This season, he decided to participate.

For the first time in his coaching career, McCord became involved in the team's league meet tradition - by shaving his head at the Novi boys swim and dive pre-KVC championship dinner.

"I've never done it before. I didn't plan on doing it, but the guys just kept stepping up and every one of them did it," he said. "I was just inspired by their priorities being so in the right place that they didn't care about their hair. What was important to them was the unifying of the team and doing everything for going faster, for performing better."

"Early on, somebody said, 'McCord, are you going to do it?' and I said, 'No way,' but then ... I just got caught up in it. I liked that I connected one more way to the team."

Novi placed third at the KVC meet on Feb. 24-25, qualifying several athletes for the state meet and winning a league title in diving.

The 200 medley relay of Derek O'Branovic, Drew LaDuke, Nick Wright, and Sean Bugbee had a time of 1:43.86, earning a state cut and finishing second in the KVC.

"I saw my split and I knew I was going pretty fast, and then I saw Drew keeping up with the rest of the guys, and Nick and Sean just flew through the water," O'Branovic, who swam backstroke for the relay, said. "I was just screaming as loud as I could to get Sean to the wall faster."

"Everyone had a great swim, and we did better than I expected," Bugbee, a junior, added. "I

thought that we would come close, but we were almost a second, three quarters of a second (faster than the state qualifying time). I thought it was going to be closer than that."

McCord said that the relay team's accomplishment was due to dedicated athletes and months of successful training.

"I believed it from the start. I really thought it could happen, but I knew we really had to work," he said. "When I saw the time (for the 200 medley relay state cut), I cried ... I was so proud of them and what they had accomplished within the realm of what they were given. Some people can just dive in and swim a state cut, but we really had to do everything right."

"We worked hard for that state cut. That was the best part about it. We really wanted to go after it, and we finally got it," Wright, a senior, said. "It was probably the most exciting moment I've ever had."

Bugbee also qualified for the state meet in the 200 yard freestyle, placing second in the league in 1:49.39.

"The first thing I thought was, 'Finally,'" he said. "I had been working all season long. I kept trying, and I got a state cut at one of the last meets."

Chris Alberty was first place in the KVC with an eleven-dive score of 454.55, surpassing brother Michael Alberty's eight-year-old school record of 411.65.

"I got up on the board. My score was 406, and I was five points away from the record," Alberty said, recalling his final dive. "I was so nervous. I thought, 'Just don't fail the dive, just don't fail the dive.' I completed the dive, and underwater, I just yelled as loud as I could ... I came out of the water and I leaned over to see the score. I saw 454 come up, which was unthinkable. I

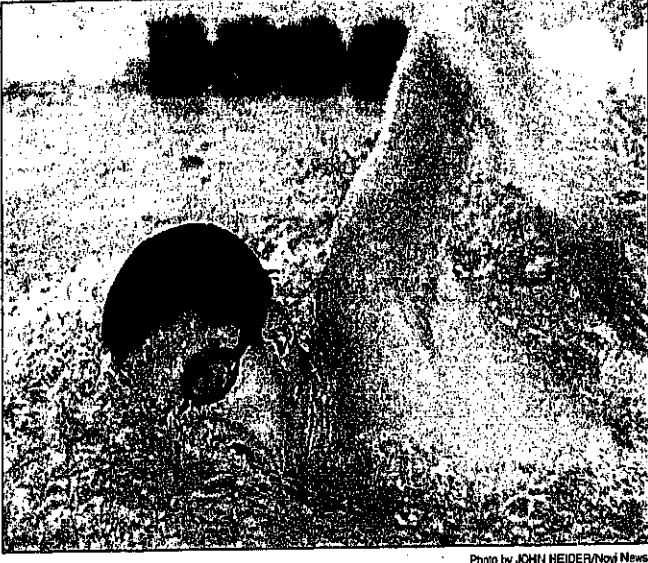


Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Novi's Sean Bugbee swims freestyle for the Wildcats.

never thought I could score that high."

Following his performance at the KVC meet, Alberty became eligible for All-American consideration. All-American status is determined after a reevaluation of the athlete's dives by a committee of judges in an attempt to eliminate the possibility of favorable scoring. Honorees, the top forty male divers from nationwide public schools, are notified during the summer.

Next up

The state meet is on March 10 and 11 at the University of Michigan. To advance to the state

finals on Saturday, swimmers must place in the top 16 at Friday's preliminaries.

O'Branovic, in his last year of high school swimming, will be participating in the state meet for the first time.

"I've always wanted to go, but I've always been just focused on my (individual) times, and my times have really never been too close to state cuts," O'Branovic said. "It kind of feels like I cut it close, it was my last chance to get it, but it feels really good to know that I'm going to states."

Wright feels that, at the state meet, personal success will not depend on swimming in the state finals or breaking the 200 medley

relay school record.

"I have no expectations for what we're going to do," Wright said. "I want to swim the fastest I've swam all season, I want to have our relay's best time all season, and I want to have fun. If we end up making it back the next day, and if we end up breaking the varsity record, that would be nice, but I just want to go there fired up and swim as fast as I can."

Courtney Ratowiak is an intern sports writer from Novi High School. She can be reached through the Novi News sports department at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104.

Quick Hits

It's All-Area time!

The Novi Wildcats and the Catholic Central Shamrocks have the potential to be well represented on several All-Area Dream Teams for winter sports.

The annual team, selected by writers from the Novi News, Northville Record, South Lyon Herald and Milford Times, features the best athletes in the area in their respective sports.

This year's All-Area team will be revealed March 23. Don't miss it.

Schoolcraft College names new basketball coach

Michael Brown is the new head basketball coach at Schoolcraft College, having served as an assistant coach during the 2005-06 season. Brown was an assistant varsity basketball coach at Belleville High School and a four-year starter in college, playing for Siena Heights University his freshman and sophomore years and for Wayne State University his junior and senior years.

"I am genuinely inspired by the appointment of Michael Brown," said Sid Fox, Schoolcraft director of athletics. "I'm extremely confident that as head coach, he will demonstrate an astute skill level, an eagerness and excitement that will be welcomed by the college community."

"Michael has the charismatic qualities and capacity to bridge the college community into a new era of support for basketball at Schoolcraft."

Brown said he is extremely excited to step into his first head coaching job. "Schoolcraft has a great reputation, and the basketball program has had a lot of success in terms of the number of wins and players going on to four-year schools," he said.

"That's what we want to do, take players on to the next level and help them get a degree."

Brown said there will be no scholarship players returning for the 2006-07 season, and his first task is to recruit between 12 and 16 players.

"We want to put the best talent we can on the floor," he said. "There is a process for finding out what kind of person potential players are, what kind of players they are, and will they buy into my goals and the direction the school wants us to go."

Spring has almost sprung

With winter sports about to come to an end, the start of spring is officially almost upon us.

Girls soccer, baseball, softball, lacrosse, track and plenty more!

This year's spring preview will be in the April 6 edition of the Novi News and will feature all of your favorite sports with some of the most highly touted area athletes. Make sure to mark your calendar because spring sports are almost here.

Break time

If you e-mail sports writer Sam Eggleston this week, you're going to get an out of office reply. Eggleston is on vacation for the week. If something is urgent, please e-mail Ramez Khuri.

(rkhuri@gannett.com) or Cal Stone. (cstone@gannett.com).

Also, the Novi News can be reached at (248) 349-1700.

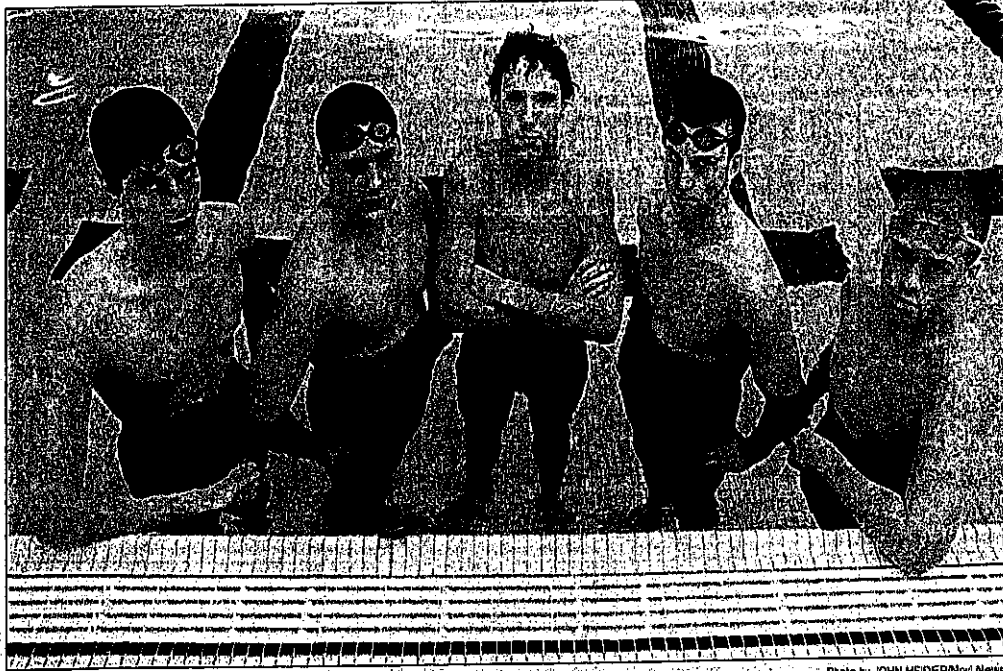


Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Wildcats going to the state finals this weekend include (from left): Sean Bugbee, Derek O'Branovic, Chris Alberty (diving), Nick Wright, and Drew LaDuke.

Novi wins a wild one on ice, beats WLC in overtime

Rousseau ties game, then scores in OT

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

Headed to the third period up 5-2, the Novi Wildcats varsity hockey team thought it had the game well in hand last Friday against Walled

Lake Central. But not so fast. The contest was a regional championship game, and if Novi's players thought the Vikings were going to just go away, they were in for a rude awakening.

Central stormed back in the third period and took a 6-5 lead.

Stunned, the Wildcats looked to their captain, Steve Rousseau, for inspiration. And he delivered in the form of a tying goal, followed by the game-winner in overtime. Novi

ended up winning the game 7-6. "I guess we let up a little after gaining the big lead," said Rousseau. "They scored and started to gain momentum and they kept coming at us."

Rousseau's tying goal came with 23 seconds left on the clock, and seemingly the Wildcats' season. In between the third period and overtime, coach Dan Phelps spoke to his team about playing "the hardest they've ever played."

"We talked about getting as

many shots on goal we could," said Rousseau. "We wanted to keep working and doing the same things we were doing all game and throughout the whole season."

Rousseau described his overtime goal:

"I was skating down the ice and got a pass," he said. "I faked an opponent, lost the puck for a second, then got it and circled the goal and shot it top shelf."

"It's incredible to have a game unfold how it did," he added. "I

would have liked to win it in the third and have the score be 5-2. But the fact they came back and took the lead and we came back to win, it was crazy."

Novi played in the state quarter final game against Saline Tuesday night. Visit www.novinews.com for the results.

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@gannett.com.



Classic champs

The 95 Novice Ice Cats took the Chicago Mid-Winter Classic hockey tournament by storm winning all five of their games...

Courtesy photo

UNDERCLASSMAN WRAP-UP

JV Basketball

Brighton 28, Novi 51

The JV Cats bounced back with a tremendous team effort Feb. 14, dominating Brighton 51-28...

one assist (between an opposing player's legs), Point guards Shuan Rydzewski and Chris Bellamy had 8 assists and only 2 turnovers combined.

Millford 30, Novi 41

In winning their fourth game in a row and nine of their last 10, the JV Wildcats clinched second place in the KVC Feb. 24 with their 41-30 win over Millford...

The Cats maintained a small 2 point lead at halftime, 17-15 as both teams graded it out defensively and couldn't shake the other team.

Mark Heard and Brandon Bradford each had 6 points, Collin Crandell had 5, and Shuan Rydzewski, Miles Reichley, and Chris Bellamy each had 4...

Novi 47, South Lyon 46

The JV team held on Feb. 17 to beat South Lyon 47-46 as the Lions' last two attempts to win the game fell short...

Novi 51, Willow Run 31

The JV Wildcats finished their season in style by defeating the Willow Run Flyers 51-31...

Chris Bellamy again controlled the game from the point guard position by setting 15 points...

The JV Wildcats finished with an overall record of 14-6 and 11-3 in Kersington Valley Conference action.

Freshman Basketball

On Friday, the team traveled to Willow Run to play its final game of the season...

The second quarter was back and forth as the Wildcats held a four-point lead with just seconds left...

The third quarter was closely contested as Willow Run began to press a little more and chipped into Novi's lead at 28-23 heading into the fourth...

During the final quarter, Willow Run made a huge run, putting up 16 points to take the lead by two with five seconds remaining...

Novi's inbound was a perfect job from Kilger to Nick Brockman on the move...

During overtime Novi quickly fell down by four. However, the Wildcats stuck with it and had some clutch free throws by Max Wujczyk and Brockman...

Novi came out and took control early and maintained the lead throughout to win 51-47...

That put the Wildcats at 9-11 (4-10 KVC) for the season.

JV Volleyball

The girls' JV volleyball team lost to Millford. The team came out strong winning the first game 25-21, but lost the next two...

Chris Bellamy again controlled the game from the point guard position by setting 15 points...

Plymouth Canton cagers end Wildcats' season

27-point third quarter too much to overcome

By Ramez Khuri STAFF WRITER

That loud thud echoing from Novi High School's gymnasium Monday night was the Wildcats' basket-

ball season ending at the hands of Plymouth Canton. The final score read 69-37 — a site coach Pat Schlueter couldn't bare to look at...

overall record. "Canton came out, hit every three they shot and played awesome," said Schlueter. "We played hard, but we couldn't play well enough..."

players were in double digits in scoring, as Todd Jynor and A.W. Stanek had 12 each, Kaleb Dane scored 10 points and added 14 rebounds...



Wildcat Eric Zhao brings the ball towards the net while guarded by Canton's Neil Sharma.

Close call for CC, but it's agony for Northville

Shamrocks first to defeat Northville

By MICK McCABE GANNETT NEWS SERVICES

Northville, the team with the 20-0 record, was trailing by a point with eight seconds left when Novi Detroit Catholic Central, for the third straight time, missed the front end of a one-and-one free throw situation...

Storrs raced down the court and leaped in the air at the free throw line, floating toward the CC basket when he let go of the final shot...

"I thought for sure it was going in," said CC's Rob Fene, who was guarding Storrs. "My heart stopped for a second. It really did. Get out the defibrillator..."



Mustang Chris Lorente, left, tries to put pressure on a Shamrock during the final seconds of Monday's playoff game.

the start. Our shots were long early. That just wasn't us early, but these kids aren't quitters..."

Garrett Senczynzyn (16 points) gave CC a seven-point lead with 1:08 remaining after Northville had blocked a CC shot that Anyrio Rainer (15 points) missed...

Storrs led Northville with 22 points and Chris Lorente added 14 as the most successful team in school history ended its season on the first night of the state tournament...

Following the game, CC (15-0) was happy, but certainly not gloating over the victory. "I know how they feel, we've been there," said CC coach Rick Coran...

Catholic Central iced by OL St. Mary's, 3-2

Shamrocks beat West Bloomfield, Farmington before bowing out of playoffs

By Ramez Khuri STAFF WRITER

Detroit Catholic Central's hockey season ended last Saturday, as the Shamrocks were defeated by Orchard Lake St. Mary's 3-2 in regional championship competition...

Withelm and Alex Kolpaczek. Assists were recorded by: Jeff Scherrer with three, Wade LaFover with two, Kolpaczek with two, Steve Jankowski, Greg Merrill, Adam McGee, Kroll, Wilhelm, Christopher and Scala...

about 10 minutes, as the officials forgot to bring pucks. But some were found and the game started very slowly...

The Shamrocks controlled the play throughout the first period and finally scored when Mariavilla gathered a rebound off the Flyer goalie Brandon Glossop and put a backhand shot behind him for the score...

started the second period off with a bang when he won the opening face-off, got a pass back for Dan Naurato and scored shortly after just eleven seconds into the period...

Farmington finally got on the board in the third period when Flyers sniper Dean Hall took a pass from Nick Pederson and snugged a wrist shot past Shamrock goalie Ross Tashjian...

Six Shamrocks headed for state wrestling competition

Six Catholic Central wrestlers are headed to Individual State competition at the Palace of Auburn Hills after qualifying this past Saturday at the Individual Regional competition held at Southgate Anderson High School...

John Farmer made a strong comeback after losing his first match and winning his final three matches, placing him third overall. Senior Matt Farmer lost his second match by a narrow margin of 2-3 but went on to win his final two matches to take 3rd place...

Antonio Cosme went 1-3 on the day losing two close matches, leaving him unable to move on to State. The Shamrocks also had one sophomore and one freshman vying for an opportunity to make their first appearance at the State level...

The six qualifiers from Catholic Central will have a week to prepare for the State Competition which will be held this weekend at the Palace of Auburn Hills...

The final match up of the evening was Catholic Central and Canton with Catholic Central leading a close one by a score of 30-34. Cosme, Matt Farmer and John Kinville all won their matches by Falls...

The Shamrocks held Farmington to only eight shots for the game, including two in the third period. CC managed to score four goals on twenty-seven shots...

Table with columns: Weight, Name, Year, Record, Thursday, March 9, Friday, March 10, Saturday, March 11. Lists wrestling matches and results for various weight classes.

Advertisement for 'failure to launch' featuring Matthew McConaughey, Sarah Jessica Parker, and Jessica Alba. Text: 'failure to launch some men just need a little push.'

Advertisement for 'YOU'RE INVITED TO THE PARTY OF THE DECADE!' featuring 'WILD DAVE CHAPPELLES' and 'BLOCK PARTY'. Includes details about the event and ticket information.

Advertisement for 'HILARIOUS!' featuring 'The Shaggy Dog' with Tim Allen. Text: 'The Shaggy Dog is Tim Allen's funniest movie yet!' Includes showtimes and ticket prices.

RAH! RAH!



Wildcat competitive cheerleaders show their spirit as they run through a routine.



Competitive cheer Wildcats go through their routines as they prepare for regional competition.



Rachael Zbranchik, left, helps fellow varsity cheerleader Emily Kostzewa with her hair ribbon.



ABOVE: Varsity cheerleaders Emily Kostzewa, Quinn Priests and Georgia Katopodis toss teammate Emily Jilg into the air.

RIGHT: Novi High varsity cheer coach Emily Parker demonstrates a move to her team.

Photos by JOHN HEIDER



LET'S GO WILDCAT CHEER!

Hard work pays off for Rachele Folino

Sitting at the dinner table with an advanced-placement calculus book cracked open is a situation most athletes would rather avoid. Add a human anatomy and physiology book and another for finance to the scene and most jocks would break land speed records getting out the door.

Not Rachele Folino. The Novi senior has seen plenty of tough numbers. On the basketball court, she saw two defenders on her most of the game. Off the court, she saw her grade maintained at a 4.0. Both were products of hard work.

And hard work has paid off for Folino. She's the first-ever Division I basketball scholarship recipient from Novi High School. She's an All-Area All-State, All-Conference and All-State player. Now, she can add All-American nominee and Academic All-State to her resume as well.

"It's an honor," she said. "It's just a great feeling to know all of my hard work has been recognized."

Folino found out recently she was nominated for the honor of being a McDonald's All-American. The nomination came from her high school coach Bill Kelp and her AAU Michigan Belle's coach, Jim Halverson.

Being named to the Academic All-State team required more work off the court than most basketball accolades. She had to carry a 3.5 or better, so Folino's 4.0 grade-point average was perfect. She also had to have some kind of All-State recognition, which she earned with an Honorable Mention All-State nod.

"It's nice to see hard work pay off," Folino said. "I'm glad my hard work with my home work is paying off too. I'm kind of nerdy about my home work. People make fun of me about it because I'm so passionate about my grades."

Both awards are difficult to obtain. To be nominated for All-America requires outstanding presence on the hardwood basketball floor and as a leader. To make the academic team in Michigan means she's just one of 15 girls from the Class A team to earn such an honor.

But there's only so far high school accolades will take Folino, and she's well aware of it.

The senior said she's going to enjoy them while they're here, but they don't mean much in the way of her collegiate career.

A full ride to Niagara University awaits Folino next year. To keep the scholarship, she has to maintain a 3.0 GPA or better. Of course, she has to do even more than that to get some playing time.

Folino will be one of four forwards on the team next year. She'll be expected to add weight through strength and conditioning while increasing her speed and shooting capabilities.

"It's going to be difficult," she said. "I don't have a choice other than to work as hard as I can and see what that gets me."

If her high school career has been any indication, hard work will get Folino plenty.

But it's more than brawn where she's going. Freshmen on athletic teams at Niagara are required to attend study hall. Folino said it will only help her maintain her grades and, eventually, graduate with a degree.

That's the future, though. She has a lot of time between now and then.

No doubt there's going to be plenty of awards along the way.

Sam Eggleston can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or at sseggleston@gannett.com.



Novi Wildcat hooper Rachele Folino was recently named to the Academic All-State and McDonald's All-America teams.

Volleyball season ends with loss to WL Northern

Kuhn comes up big all year for Novi squad

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

After defeating Walled Lake Western and North Farmington in three games apiece, the Novi Wildcats volleyball team ran into a brick wall with Walled Lake Northern last Saturday.

Keeping up with the theme of "three's," Northern ended up defeating Walled Lake Central in three games, before ousting Novi in three.

"I think the girls pulled together and played well," said Wildcats coach Julie Fisetie. "Walled Lake Northern is a very competitive team, and they just outplayed us. They did a great job."

The second game was the closest for Novi, as the Wildcats lost 26-24. "That kind of took the wind out of our sails," said Fisetie. Fisetie described her team as one of the most skilled she's ever had in terms of individual capabilities and volleyball knowledge.

"We had a bit of a problem bringing those skills together and playing as one and utilizing everyone's individual talents together," she said. "Our goals are always the same, to do better than we did before. But we fell short of that this year."

Last year's team tied for conference champions, but tied for fourth place this year. The Wildcats also won district competitions back-to-back the last two years, but lost this year.

"We didn't really pull it all together this year as we had hoped to," said Fisetie.

One bright spot on the team was senior Jenna Kuhn. She not only led the team in kills on Saturday, but also throughout the season with 306 total. She had 45 aces, 60 blocks and was second in passing with 145 digs for the season as well.

"Jenna's been our leader," said Fisetie. "She did a fine job all year."

Ramez Khuri can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 110 or by e-mail at rkhuri@gannett.com.

Girls finish third in regional

Next up: state finals tomorrow at Troy Athens

By Ramez Khuri
STAFF WRITER

With a number of injuries and strong competition trying to earn a coveted state final position, the Novi-Northville gymnastics team finished third in its regional meet Saturday.

Novi-Northville's overall score of 144.25 would have placed the team first in two other regions and second in another. The effort earned a spot in the state final team competition tomorrow night at Troy Athens. Only Livonia and Canton High Schools were ahead.

Overall, the team had the fourth highest score of the all teams competing at the four regional events.

"They had a somewhat disappointing start on floor, which is normally one of their stronger events," said coach Mark Foucher. "But they rebounded with excellent results on the other three events."

Six girls qualified for the individual state meet this Saturday, also at Troy Athens. Two of the team's seniors, Rachel Deneux and Sarah Ilkhan-Pour, qualified all around for the first time in their careers. A third senior, Emma Platt, qualified in three events.

Individual state qualifiers/regional finishes were:

- Division 1: Amy Reynolds-fourth on bars, seventh on beam
- Division 2: Sarah Ilkhan-Pour-fourth on all around, first on bars, second on beam; Rachel Deneux-third on all around, first on beam, second on floor; Emma Platt-third on vault, fifth on bars, seventh on floor; Jacqueline Glezette-second on bars, second on vault; Lauren Dade-sixth on vault.

"The team is very excited about this weekend," said Foucher. "While cracking the top three may be out of the question, there will be close competition for positions four through eight, just like the past several years."

"With another good meet, (Novi-Northville) may just find themselves finishing even higher than last year," he added.



Wild Stang gymnast Kylea Pohl's favorite - the floor routine.

WORK ETHIC: The key to captain's success

By Sam Eggleston
RECORD SPORTS WRITER

For Kylea Pohl, being a leader means being someone other gymnasts can look up to.

That's why Pohl, a senior captain for the Wild Stangs, focuses on being a visible example.

"The more the team sees you working, the more they want to work," Pohl said. "You have to show them that you work to get what you want, that it's not going to come easy. Especially this year."

With just 14 members on the combined Northville-Novu gymnastics team, Pohl and the other captains have had to get big scores. They've been doing that well enough to keep them in the running for a state final berth this weekend.

Pohl has qualified for the state finals in at least one of their three events: floor, vault and beam. She hopes to advance to the state finals in at least one of them.

"Floor is my favorite," Pohl said. "I love to perform. I'm also a dancer, so that plays a role in it being my favorite. Floor really shows your personality, your presentation and how much fun you can have."

Others have applauded her passion for her floor routines.

"Her floor is a real strong point and she's hands down our most polished performer on that event," coach Erin McWatt said. "She really knows how to play the crowd and show everything off."



Kylea Pohl and the success she's had this year.

But gymnastics holds a special place with Pohl.

"I started when I was five and 'Oooh I can't, remember back then, I must have had interest in it because I stuck with it," she said. "Now I love the sport. It's a big part of my life."

Pohl's leadership extends beyond the beam, bars, floor and vault. McWatt said the way Pohl is capable of balancing all aspects of her life is an example for all to follow.

"She's also involved with dance and really excels in the classroom, which is a testament to how she manages her time," McWatt said. "This is a difficult sport and it's a long competition season for these girls. So the fact that Kylea is able to be as successful as she is in the classroom, on the competition floor, and with her dancing in between really shows you what a dedicated person she is."

"I'm extremely proud of Kylea

She quit club gymnastics that year, focusing on making friends at the high school level instead. Her determination in the sport hasn't wavered.

"Her work ethic, this season especially, is admirable," McWatt said. "Kylea is a most outstanding leader and captain for this team this year. She joined us two years ago as a sophomore, and even then as an underclassman she displayed a real maturity. She leads by example and the girls certainly look up to her."

It's a role Pohl enjoys. She said she tries to work hard in all aspects of her life. She maintains a 3.9 grade-point average, dances at Flex Point Performing Arts Center in jazz, ballet and lyrical styles and she puts in hours as an employee and Guernsey's restaurant.

But gymnastics holds a special place with Pohl.

"I started when I was five and 'Oooh I can't, remember back then, I must have had interest in it because I stuck with it," she said. "Now I love the sport. It's a big part of my life."

Pohl's leadership extends beyond the beam, bars, floor and vault. McWatt said the way Pohl is capable of balancing all aspects of her life is an example for all to follow.

"She's also involved with dance and really excels in the classroom, which is a testament to how she manages her time," McWatt said. "This is a difficult sport and it's a long competition season for these girls. So the fact that Kylea is able to be as successful as she is in the classroom, on the competition floor, and with her dancing in between really shows you what a dedicated person she is."

"I'm extremely proud of Kylea

Sam Eggleston can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or at sseggleston@gannett.com.

SPORTS SHORTS

LTC camp hosts NCAA Division I coaches

Lacrosse Training Centers brings some of the top East Coast lacrosse coaches (and staff) during their June 23-25 lacrosse camp in Brighton.

Tom Mariano enters his tenth season as the head men's lacrosse coach at Sacred Heart University. Mariano has helped the Pioneers evolve into a solid and competitive program as they enter their fourth season as members of the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA), arguably one of the top lacrosse conferences in the country.

Currently in his eighth season as head coach, Tim McIntee has been at the forefront of the successful turnaround of the Manhattan men's lacrosse program. McIntee joined Manhattan after a stellar playing and coaching career on the collegiate, professional and international level.

Darryl Delia is a certified US Lacrosse Progression Instructor, as well as a co-director of Run and Shoot Lacrosse Camps. Delia coaches at Fairfield University where his duties include serving as Offensive Coordinator as well as Recruiting Director for the Stags.

Register online at www.LacrosseTC.com or give (248) 788-7020.

Spring Learn to Skate

Novi Ice Arena will run an eight-week spring session of its Learn to Skate Program from March 8-May 13, 2006 (no classes April 12-23). Classes are offered Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, and skate rental is available.

Learn to Skate students get a punch card for free admission to open skating at Novi Ice Arena throughout the program they are enrolled in. Classes will run once per week for 30 minutes with optional 30-minute practice sessions.

The following classes will be offered:

- Beginning Toys
- Snowplow Stan 1-3
- Basic 1-4
- Skate's Edge Accelerated Bridge Program

3-on-3 youth hoop tourney

Northville Parks & Recreation will be hosting the first March Madness 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament March 25-26 at the Recreation Center located at Hillside Middle School on the corner of Eight Mile Road and Center Street.

The cost is \$85 per team with three or four players on each team. T-shirts will be given to all participants and awards will be given to the first-place team.

For more information, call (248) 349-0203 for more information.

All Star Basketball Camp

Applications are now being evaluated for The Teen Star All Star Summer Basketball Camp.

This camp is by invitation only. Boys and girls, ages 10-19, are eligible to apply. Past participants include: Michael Jordan, Tim Duncan, Vince Carter, Jerry Stackhouse, Grant Hill and Antawn Jamison.

Players from every state and 18 countries attended the 2005 camp.

College basketball scholarships are possible for players selected to the All-American Team. Camp locations include: Lebanon, Tenn.; Prescott, Ariz.; Thousand Oaks, Calif.; Sterling, Colo.; Bridgport, Conn.; Babson Park, Fla.; Gainesville, Ga.; Champaign, Ill.; North Manchester, Ind.; Towson, Md.; Schenectady, N.Y.; Hickory, N.C.; Commerce, Texas; Blackburg, Va.; Lyndonville, Va.; and Boboli, Wis. Call (704) 373-0873.

REGIONAL MARKETPLACE

Page 6B

Novi News

Thursday, March 9, 2006

Home Owners... How is Your Attic's Insulation and Ventilation?

During the winter, attic insulation prevents heat from escaping through the ceiling and into the unheated attic space. During the summer, attic insulation reduces outside heat from radiating downward through the attic into the home. All insulation materials work in the principle of trapping. The tiny air pockets in the insulation restrict heat from trying to pass through. The value of insulation is expressed in terms of R values. In general the thicker the insulation the more air pockets it has and the higher R value it gained thus increasing the ability to resist heat transfer. Generally older homes are under-insulated by today's standards and should be evaluated to determine if it is economically feasible to upgrade the attic insulation and help reduce your utility bills.

- Have a home attic inspection performed. Current knowledge of the home's attic condition, and improving the attic insulation and ventilation, will generally improve the home's utility cost as well as help when placing the house on the market for sale.

TYPES OF ATTIC VENTILATION:

The general heat difference between the attic air temperature and the outside air should be approximately 10 to 15 degrees F. This will help in avoiding the reduced lifespan of the roof shingles. Never block soffit vents by placing insulation over them. This will create condensation

in the attic space and cause problems. In a properly insulated attic space, the ventilation is important and will not lower the temperature of the home living areas. In the Mid-West section of the country, the general rule of thumb for attic ventilation is one to three square feet of vent area for each of 100-150 square feet of attic floor.

- Soffit Vents - are provided on the underside of the eave either as grills or the continuous style. Soffit vents work in conjunction with gable, roof, or ridge vents.

- Roof Vents - are cut in the roof near the top of the roof line. The higher the better to allow HOT AIR to rise and dissipate to the exterior via these vents.

- Gable Vents - are lowered openings at the gable ends of the roof. Generally on the side walls at the top of the roof height.

- Ridge Vents - are cut into the ridge along the top of the roof line.

- Power & Gable Ventilators - are equipped with a thermostat that will turn the fan on when the attic temperature reaches a certain point and turns off when the attic temperature is properly reduced.

TYPES OF ATTIC & ROOF CONSTRUCTION:

Gable & Hip Roofs - Common roofs that can easily be insulated by placing insulation between the ceiling joists or bottom chords of trusses. A vapor barrier must be placed under the insulation (towards the warm side of insulation) to reduce any moisture from entering the attic space from the house. It is recommended that soffit vents have baffles installed to help prevent the insulation from covering the vents thus allowing adequate airflow from the soffit vents to the roof, gable, or ridge vents installed in the attic for intended ventilation.

Cathedral Ceiling - Due to the inherent lack of access above cathedral ceilings, it is very important that adequate ventilation be provided in these roof structures. The best ventilation system is one that uses continuous ridge and soffit vents by venting each rafter bay. It is recommended that 1" air space is provided above the insulation and below the underside of the exterior roof sheathing for proper air flow. This air flow is required to remove any condensation and avoid build up of heat, which can shorten roof shingles life span.

One & One Half Story Homes - These types of attics have several small sections that must be properly insulated and the knee walls, floor, sloped ceilings, and any flat roof areas. The outer attic is treated as a non-heated area and should be insulated and properly ventilated. This allows air to enter through the soffit vents and exit up above the sloping ceiling to the attic space above the 1 1/2 story portion of the home. The top portion should have either roof or ridge vents installed.

ONE LAST BIT OF ADVISE: Ensure the bathroom vents are not venting into the attic space which could cause excessive moisture build up and possible mildew/mold development. Vent these to the exterior of home.

Call us to have your attic inspected and ensure your have the proper insulation and ventilation for your home.

Randall Patterson
Certified Pillar To Post®
NAHICRI Home Inspector
Toll Free 800-767-3800
Direct (248) 755-3122

For additional information please visit our web site at www.pphome.com/westlandlivingston

We also provide home owners with the following Environmental Testing Services:

- Radon Testing
- Mold Evaluation
- Asbestos Sampling
- Water & Air Quality Testing
- Pest Inspections
- Well & Septic Inspections
- Home Energy Surveys
- Custom Inspections for any area of your home.

Randall Patterson is a Certified Home Inspector with Pillar To Post® serving Western, Oakland and Livingston Counties.

ADVERTISEMENT

ADVERTISEMENT



Photos by Hal Gould/Gannett News Services

Gina's Bridal owners Gina Licavoli (left) and Judi Licavoli (right) help a customer find the perfect dress. Everyone at the Milford boutique will make sure you look perfect on your wedding day.

Gina's Bridal Boutique

Gina's treats brides like family

By Kate Phillips
SPECIAL WRITER

Brides have been driving to Gina's Bridal Boutique from as far as Chicago and the East Coast. The Milford business has already created a reputation since its fall opening.

Just a step inside and it's clear that there is something different about Gina's. Old wooden floors and ornate antiques are combined with feathers, tulie and flowers to create a romantic look. Swirling white cloth billows about, forming soft edges.

The bride can stand on a restored carpenter box as she peers into a heavy wood-framed mirror. Crystal chandeliers shroud her in light.

"I think people love that it's small and intimate with a romantic style," said owner Gina Licavoli. "And it's a very comfortable, cozy place."

The space is organized so that there's enough room for a family or bridal party to look at dresses together. Custom built wooden dress racks border the walls, so the group has room to enjoy the experience.

Those that call ahead can bring bridesmaids together for an evening celebration with champagne and hors d'oeuvres or could bring the entire family in for a morning of coffee and muffins.

Bringing families together comes naturally to owners Gina and Judi Licavoli - a mother-daughter team. The longstanding Highland family has all pitched in to open the new



Gina's Bridal Boutique, located in downtown Milford, offers a perfect customer service fit for brides.

shop. Sisters and cousins come in to work or just chat and even the men in the family help out with the heavier jobs.

"We're a close-knit family," explained Gina. "This is fun for us to do together."

And bringing customers into the family circle is a part of the experience at Gina's. By building relationships, Gina and Judi can make wedding preparations more special and they can serve the family better. They get to know the bride and look forward to the wedding like the

rest of the family. The mother-daughter team sometimes lends a hand with decorations, clothing and other last minute details.

Many brides purchase bridesmaid dresses at Gina's so they can rest assured that the order will be processed correctly and on time. It's more convenient to take care of alterations at one place instead of making extra work during an already busy time.

"Trust is crucial with something as important as bridal

gowns and bridesmaid dresses," said Gina.

And one thing that Gina and Judi stress is that one-use dresses shouldn't cost a fortune. Both the bridal gowns and the bridesmaid dresses are priced modestly. Bridesmaid dresses start at \$140 while bridal gowns range from \$600 to \$3,000. That's quite a bit less than the typical boutique.

So Gina has worked hard to find unique gowns that are moderately priced. They are each a work of art.

GINA'S BRIDAL BOUTIQUE
Location: 222 S. Main Street in Milford
Phone: (248) 684-4462
Web: ginasbridal.com
Hours: Open Tuesday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and other hours by appointment.

"Every girl wants to be original and have something different from what her sisters or friends had," explained Gina. "If you come here your dress won't be the same as any other."

Hanging on the rack is a light Georgette dress with beaded Chantilly lace and Georgette draping around the waist. The wispy creation would be well-suited to an outdoor summer wedding.

Another is natural colored silk with a pick-up skirt. It's a more classic look made trendy with the use of a newer shade of white. The dresses vary widely to allow room for personal expression.

Gina and Judi can help a bride select a dress that will work well for an outdoor or cool-weather wedding, or one that will travel well for a wedding on location.

At Gina's every bride will find a dress that makes her look beyond beautiful. It's the stuff that dreams are made of.

"What girl doesn't dream of having an incredible dress," said Gina. "It's the kind of dress that will make her so beautiful that when she opens the doors and walks in, everyone gasps."

"It's the perfect beginning to the journey together as husband and wife."



Gina's

Bridal Boutique

222 S. Main St.
Milford, MI 48381
248-684-4462
www.ginasbridal.com

Tuesday - Friday 11 - 7 • Saturday 11 - 5
Sunday By Appointment only!

Gowns by:
Alen Siani Couture

Happily ever after begins here.