



## ALL THE RIGHT MOVES

Wildcat volleyball enjoys breakthrough start. Sports, 1B.



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# Novi News

1B

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2007

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VOLUME 52 #20 50 CENTS

## Preparing for the polls: What every voter should know

### General election Nov. 6

By Kelly Murad  
STAFF WRITER

In order for voters to make informed decisions at the polls Nov. 6, they need to know what to expect on the ballot.

The most pressing issue anticipated for the 2007 election is the \$16 million library bond proposition.

The proposal is to build a new 60,000-square-foot building on the existing library property.

The library was built 30 years ago and, since that time, Novi's population has increased by 450 percent, currently accommodating more than 52,000 residents.

Voters will be asked if the City of Novi should borrow the money and issue its general obligation unlimited tax bonds to be paid within 20 years.

The estimated annual millage rate is 26 mills (\$0.26 per \$1,000 of taxable value). Meaning residents with homes valued at \$220,000 will be levied about \$28 per year.

But according to a resolution

passed by Novi's City Council July 23, the library bond may not cause residents' taxes to increase.

City council pledged to maintain the city property tax rate of 10.5416 mills, if the proposed bond passes on Nov. 6.

"We've made the projection and pledge that we could balance out funds and other obligations to not have to increase the city rate," said city manager Clay Pearson.

"This is city council's pledge."

As a result of the city's current and projected financial position, it is believed the proposed library construction millage can be absorbed through fiscal management planning, meaning no addi-

continued on 5A



## Third time's a charm for logo

### City's design is chosen

By Kelly Murad  
STAFF WRITER

It was the third time councilmembers were presented with designs for the new City of Novi logo that did the trick.

Members of the Novi City Council unanimously agreed upon a design that closely resembles the current city logo, at the Sept. 24 meeting.

"We gave it a cleaner look, yet preserved the 'history,'" said Community Relations Manager Sheryl Walsh of the navy and gold logo.

The idea to create a new logo arose last April when the city began discussing an entryway signage program throughout Novi.

According to Walsh, prior to embarking on a large-scale project, such as the entryway signage, implementing a new logo would be the first step to developing a consistent image for Novi.

"It's something that represents us and will propel us into the future," Walsh said in August.

But some Novi residents, such as former city councilman Joseph Toth, have had some concerns regarding the City's decision to adopt a new logo.

"I don't know the full intent of it. I can't see the purpose for creating a whole new logo," Toth said. "It's not something I think is necessarily good for the city. I think the money would be far better spent on something else."



cityofnovi.org

Walsh said the \$20,000 budgeted by the city was for the design and development of City of Novi style guides and templates for the new logo and the services provided by Ford and Earl Associates Inc., the marketing, branding and design resource firm.

The firm was hired to create the new city logo and brand and vision statements.

"It's something we have budgeted for, there isn't going to be an additional cost," she said. "We are not cleaning house, we are going to transition into the new look."

The city will only replace items such as letter head and business cards with the new logo as the older items run-out.

The new logo will also eventually appear on city vehicles. According to Walsh, the proposed vision statement and brand statements Ford and Earl developed will be discussed in the future.



Novi High crowned its 2007 homecoming queen, Madelyn Gardner, and King, Andrew Haggerty, during halftime of last Friday night's game.

## Haggerty, Gardner crowned

By Chris Jackett  
STAFF WRITER

The stands were overflowing with green-and-white clad fans last Friday at Novi's varsity football game against South Lyon as the Wildcats rang in their homecoming with a dominant victory while this year's homecoming king and queen were named.

Fourteen students stepped up at halftime with hopes of a crown, but only two heard their names called over the loudspeakers.

Seniors Andrew Haggerty and Madelyn Gardner were crowned homecoming king and queen, titles handed over by alumni royalty Robert Parkins and Kylie Spears.

"She's a really sweet girl. They're all really sweet," Spears said of this year's royalty. "Andrew's a good guy. He's very involved in the school."

Gardner said the first thought after her name was called was "OMG" because she wasn't expecting it.

"It's just amazing," she said. "It was an evenly matched court."

Seniors Kelsey Laux, Melissa Moss and Jessica Salley were the other nominees for homecoming queen. Junior Ashley Bush, sophomore Kathleen Barry and freshman Molly Sutika were the homecoming princesses.

Spears recalled her homecoming experience to be just as much of a shock.

"It was a very fun experience. I was very surprised and not

continued on 5A

## NOVI WEEKEND PLANNER

### FRIDAY

Let your inner country music lover out. At 7-9 p.m., Orchard Hills Elementary, 41900 Quince Dr., is hosting its third annual Family Hoe Down. This all ages family event will feature live western music, old children's favorites such as the "YMCA," "Hokey Pokey," "Macarena" and others, and also include linedancing during the second hour. For the \$2 entrance fee, the Parent Teacher Organization will be providing apples and bottled water. The festive fall activity drew 350 people last year. Call Peggy Wickman at (248) 449-1400 for details.

### SATURDAY

Ever wonder what a fire station is really like? Find out how similar it is to the movies from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Fire Station 1, 42975 Grand River Ave. The Novi Fire Department Open House will feature tours, demonstrations, fire safety tips, refreshments, child ID kits, Sparky the Fire Safety Dog, a rescue boat, "Jaws of Life" vehicle extrication and Ronald McDonald will visit at 11 a.m. Those interested may also talk to recruiters about becoming a paid-on-call firefighter during the open house event or call human resources at (248) 347-3275.

### SUNDAY

If you love going out into public with a camera and no expectations, the Michigan Photographic Historical Society's 36th Photographic Show and Sale at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Rd., may be the thing for you. From 10 a.m.-4 p.m. talk with other photo enthusiasts and check out more than 50 tables of vintage cameras, equipment for sale, photographs and more. There will also be a silent auction and door prizes. For more information, visit <http://www.miphps.org>.

Head over to Fox Run, 13 Mile Road, after the trade show or anytime from 3-6 p.m. for an Oktoberfest event geared toward Fox Run residents, families and staff.

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### OBITUARY

Alexander C. Howell, 85 ... 6A

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## Former Expo Center requests postponement

By Kelly Murad  
STAFF WRITER

Kevin Adell, owner of the former Novi Expo Center, was due to appear in front of the Zoning Board of Appeals Tuesday night, but the issue was tabled for the second time.

The item was placed on the Oct. 9 Zoning Board of Appeals agenda after it was tabled at the Sept. 11 meeting.

According to city attorney Tom Schultz, it is assumed the issue will now be postponed until the November meeting.

Tabling the issue was at the request of Adell's attorney, Scott Smith of Clark Hill.

Adell, on behalf of Adell Brothers Children's Trust, has been seeking movement in his ongoing effort to open the facility at Novi Road and Interstate 96 as a Gibraltar Trade Center-like business.

In September, Adell said he was

approaching the board to ask for clarification regarding the zoning of the property.

But city officials said Smith was petitioning the Zoning Board of Appeals for release of a previous decision denying the use of a retail trade center at the 320,000-square-foot building.

According to city officials, zoning ordinances do not permit the opening of such an operation.

The property is zoned as EXPO, Exposition District ordinance, which states using the facility for retail sale of products or services is permitted no more than six times within a calendar year.

"I'm going to follow the zoning exactly the way the City of Novi wrote it," Adell said in September, stating he will only hold six-themed shows a year.

If the Zoning Board of Appeals chooses to change the previous use decision, Adell will open the trade center for its first show as soon as possible.

In September, Adell said he was

approaching the board to ask for clarification regarding the zoning of the property.

Adell began advertising and selling vendor space for the proposed Novi Trade Center in July, and said he has 4,100 people wanting a booth, including 100 Novi residents.

At the time Adell began selling vendor space, city officials said he did not have permitted use of the facility as a trade center.

"I don't hope for anything," Adell said in September. "Either they are going to give it to me or they are going to deny me."

Adell said if he is unable to proceed with his business plan, he plans to sue the City for blocking his ability to conduct business at the property.

### General election Nov. 6

continued from front

Incumbent councilman Bob Gatt is running for re-election for his second four-year term.

With councilwomen Toni Nagy and Lynne Paul not running for re-election, two new candidates, David Staudt and Kathy Crawford, will land the open seats on Novi's City Council.

Mayor David Landry is running unopposed for a second two-

year term as mayor for the City of Novi.

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### Haggerty, Gardner crowned

continued from front

expecting it. It was something I'll never forget," said Spears, who is now studying English and secondary education at Michigan State University. "Being back here and out on the field, I felt like I was back in high school."

Combined with his newingly title and sprinter, Haggerty was

taken back by how well the evening was going.

"This is great. South Lyon's a good team," Haggerty said as junior wide receiver Brandon Bradford was running into the end zone on a kickoff return, making the score 23-0 in the third quarter.

"I was surprised," Haggerty said of his crowning. "I was looking at one of my buddies (Lagan Smith) because I thought he was going to win. Everyone just loves him."

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approaching the board to ask for clarification regarding the zoning of the property.

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Adell said if he is unable to proceed with his business plan, he plans to sue the City for blocking his ability to conduct business at the property.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

### Tricky Traffic

The resurfacing of Taft Road will soon be one less obstacle for local drivers as the project is nearly complete. The intersection at Nine Mile and Taft roads is finished, and the road is completely open running south to Galway Drive, the last street before Taft Road runs into the City of Northville.

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# MY PUBLIC SAFETY

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Thursday, October 11, 2007  
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## Police warn senior citizens of area scams

By Tracy Mishler  
SPECIAL NEWS WRITER

The Wayne County Deed Fraud Task Force has been working overtime to see justice served for three men accused of swindling over \$600,000 in properties from several Detroit senior citizens.

The suspects, Paul Rhoads, 35, of Novi; Nelson Sumpter, 42, of Pittsfield Township; and Omar Sumpter, 35, of Sterling Heights, were charged with several counts of entering and publishing, a 14-year felony; identity theft, a five-year felony; false pretenses over \$20,000, a 10-year felony; money laundering, a 10-year felony; and larceny by conversion, a 10-year felony.

The crime, according to Maria Milker, assistant Wayne County prosecutor and director of communications, was that the suspects claimed to be real estate agents

who assist homeowners in selling properties to potential investors.

The suspected allegedly convinced elderly victims, in this case a 72-year-old woman, a 76-year-old woman and a 66-year-old man, all from Detroit, to give them information such as personal signatures, property information and personal documents in order to take possession of the properties without the owner's consent. The properties were then sold for a profit for the suspects.

Miller said Omar Sumpter was the main suspect and his preliminary exam was held Oct. 3 at the 36th District Court. She said Rhoads turned himself into the police and was also arraigned and faces seven counts of fraud.

Miller said there are several scenarios of people taking advantage of seniors that people need to be aware of.

Those include in-home healthcare workers taking advantage of those with physical and mental disabilities; healthcare workers and family members adding their names to credit cards; posing as undercover police and telling seniors they need to accompany them to the bank because their money

was involved in a crime and is considered evidence; hooking laptop computers to a victims desktop and stealing personal information; pretending to be a social worker and having seniors give them money; and posing as members of professional service companies and demanding money for services not yet completed.

Detective Bill Helke of the Northville Township Police Department said anyone can be a victim of fraud and identity theft, but seniors seem to be easier to convince in scam situations.

"It doesn't do you any good to scam a 21-year-old with no money, but seniors have their entire life savings which make them big targets," Helke said. "My best advice is if it's too good to be true, it probably is. Everyone should remember that, not just seniors."

According to the Federal Trade Commission, more than nine million Americans have their identities stolen each year.

Helke said the best way to avoid fraud and identity theft is not to give out personal information or money until you are sure you're dealing with a legitimate business or business representative.

"Real estate agents are licensed by the state and should be able to be found on a state Web site of licenses," he said. "Do a little investigation of who you're dealing with."

He said the majority of identity theft cases are done over the Internet.

"It's easy to compromise someone's information over the Internet," Mayes said. "The more technology available, the bad guys will use to their advantage."

The best thing, as a resident, is to make sure you're using a secure Web site, make no telephone transactions and verify everyone who comes to your door before giving out any information or money.

to receive winning funds.

"If you didn't put in for a lottery, why send money to pay fees or taxes to receive millions of dollars?" he said. "Be careful. There are so many forged checks and potential orders that look legitimate."

Detective Sgt. Matt Mayes of the Northville Township Police Department said growing technology is also a factor in identity theft and fraud.

He said the majority of identity theft cases are done over the Internet.

"It's easy to compromise someone's information over the Internet," Mayes said. "The more technology available, the bad guys will use to their advantage."

The best thing, as a resident, is to make sure you're using a secure Web site, make no telephone transactions and verify everyone who comes to your door before giving out any information or money.

### Watch out

Helke said one of the biggest schemes used on seniors is lottery games.

He said the most common is the Nigerian lottery scam where someone says you won money, but fees need to be sent in order

## Strict security for Nordstrom's Twelve Oaks Mall opening weekend

According to recent police reports, two officers of the Novi Police Department reported to Nordstrom in Twelve Oaks Mall at about 5 p.m. Sept. 29 regarding a case of retail fraud.

When the officers arrived, a loss prevention officer had the suspect in custody, reports said.

According to the report, the loss prevention officer observed the man, via security cameras, place two belts and a pair of underwear in a white Macy's bag while riding the escalator.

As the man exited the store, the loss prevention officers took

### POLICE BRIEFS

him into custody, reports said.

By the time the Novi Police arrived, it was discovered that the man attempted to steal two belts, two pairs of sunglasses and a pair of underwear, reports said.

According to the report, the five items totaled \$200 worth of merchandise.

According to the report, the

officer initiated the traffic stop on Wixom Road, south of Grand River Avenue.

The man had difficulties getting his license out of his wallet and handed the officer a temporary license instead of his registration, reports said.

According to the officer, there was an odor of intoxicants coming from the man and he appeared lethargic and would not look at the officer.

The driver originally told the officer he was coming home from work, but later admitted to having a few beers at a club in

Farmington Hills, reports said.

According to the report, as the man stepped out of his vehicle, papers that were sitting in his lap fell to the ground. When he bent down to pick them up, he fell over.

The officer had a difficult time getting a correct reading from the preliminary breath test, but eventually the man's blood alcohol concentration registered .1 percent, reports said.

Neither the residents nor their neighbors had seen or heard any suspicious activity, reports said.

There was no physical evidence found at the scene, but the officer saw faint tire tracks leading to where the boulders had been, reports said.

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# MY CITY COUNCIL

Thursday, October 11, 2007  
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## City-wide pathway rehabilitation project approved

### Asphalt paving awarded

Council voted 7-0 in favor of contracting T&M Asphalt Paving Inc. of Milford for the 2007 Bituminous Pathway Rehabilitation Program.

This projects includes the rehabilitation of approximately 7,900 linear feet of existing 8-foot wide bituminous asphalt pathway within Novi at the following locations: Taft Road between Emerald Forest Drive and Dover Boulevard; Nine Mile Road between Chase Drive and Meadowbrook Road; Meadowbrook Road south of Nine Mile Road; Taft Road between White Pines Drive and Dumbarton Drive; Taft Road south of Nine Mile Road; Novi Road between 13 Mile Road and Wimbeldon Way; and Taft Road south of 11 Mile Road.

T&M was the lowest qualified bidder, for a total of \$131,795.80.

### MEETING NOTEBOOK

#### Council to build float

Mayor Landry added an issue to the agenda regarding the "Ringing in the Holiday Parade."

Landry and Mayor Pro Tem Capello came up with the idea for City Council to make a parade float.

#### City to purchase 14 new vehicles

Council unanimously approved

to award contracts to the lowest qualified bidders for 14 new vehicles among various departments for the City of Novi.

The vehicles will cost \$322,739, which is less than the \$343,340 the city budgeted.

First reading of zoning ordinance amendment approved

Council unanimously approved the first reading of the

zoning ordinance text amendment regarding Town Center property.

Jonathan Brateman approached council requesting a modification to the ordinance to allow instructional centers for such uses as music, art, dance, crafts, martial arts, exam preparation and similar instruction.

The Planning Commission reviewed the proposed language at a public hearing Sept. 5 and

made a positive recommendation to City Council regarding the proposed text amendment.

Council Meeting Notes were taken from the Monday, October 8, 2007 regular meeting of the Novi City Council. All Councilmembers were in attendance. Next meeting: 7 p.m. October 22 at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Rd.

### Award for excellence in code enforcement

City manager Clay Pearson presented council with a video and announced the City of Novi won the 2007 Voice of the People Award for Excellence in Code Enforcement.

The annual awards are announced by the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) and National Research Center Inc. (NRC) to the jurisdictions with the highest rated services according to a representative sample of their own residents.

Novi was among more than 400 jurisdictions in the NRC database that participated in the 2006 National Citizen Survey.

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Presented by David A. Woody, D.D.S.

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Gum disease is a very big threat to dental health as well as overall health. And, as usual, the best way to deal with gum disease is to prevent it, with daily brushing, flossing and visiting the dentist on a regular basis. We are diligent in our approach to making sure periodontal disease doesn't destroy your smile. If it's been awhile since you've had a dental checkup, now is the perfect time to call us. It is our mission to deliver the highest level of care, using the latest materials and always caring about our patients' comfort.

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**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING: 7 p.m. Oct. 18 inside the Educational Services Building on Taft Road**

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# MY EDUCATION



Thursday, October 11, 2007  
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Victoria Mitchell, editor  
(248) 349-1700, ext. 102  
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## COMMENTARY

### PHIL POWER: Here's your chance to shape state's future

Everyone has — or should have — a vision for Michigan the way they would like it to be. How would you like to share yours — and maybe win a prize that could include a college scholarship, a vacation at one of our nicest resorts or a shopping spree?



**About Phil Power**

Phil Power is a longtime observer of politics, economics and education issues in Michigan, and was a report of the University of Michigan from 1987 to 1999. He is also president and founder of The Center for Michigan, a moderate think-and-do tank. These opinions and others expressed in his columns are his own and do not in any way represent official policy positions of The Center for Michigan. Phil would be pleased to hear from readers at [ppower@cmcenter.com](mailto:ppower@cmcenter.com).

I've been writing a lot recently about a forthcoming citizen engagement campaign. Michigan's Defining Moment. The goal is to bring thousands of Michigan citizens and leaders together in "community conversations" to grapple with some of the pressing economic and political problems we face — problems, quite frankly, that our political leaders have utterly failed to resolve.

Our problems are serious. The base of our economy — the auto industry and the United Auto Workers union — is struggling to survive. Our state's budgeting, legislative and political systems are broken. Taken together, we're facing the biggest crisis since the Great Depression, truly a "defining moment" for Michigan.

What we can't allow this campaign to become, however, is the usual fog of "policy wonks" blathering at other government junkies. That would make for a sterile, emotionless discussion that is totally disconnected from the lives and minds of "normal" people.

Well, we aren't doing that. And that's why an important part of the Michigan's Defining Moment campaign is something called "EnvisionMichigan." It's an invitation for anybody to share their vision for Michigan. What's your vision for our state?

What kind of Michigan would keep your grandchildren here ... or bring your

children back from Chicago?  
And, most importantly ... how do we get there?  
We want you to tell us. You can tell your Michigan story in words, in photos, or online audio/video stories. And EnvisionMichigan is offering more than \$30,000 in prizes, including college scholarships, vacations to top Michigan resorts and weekly Metjeer shopping sprees. Just go to [www.the-centerformichigan.net](http://www.the-centerformichigan.net) to enter.

Here's a sample, submitted by Bill and Nancy Woods, from Kalamazoo, together with a lovely photo of their dog, Ginger, in a snowy scene at Kalamazoo College's Lillian Anderson Arboretum.

"Michigan inspires wonder with its mixture of woodland and prairie, lakes and streams, cities and villages. Our hope is that we can join together in common pursuit of prosperity while preserving our natural resources. Those resources should be considered an integral part of economic planning, not only for the tourist industry, but also as part of what attracts employers and workers to our state. If you seek a pleasant peninsula, look about you!"

Submissions like this will help set the tone for the community conversations that will take place all over Michigan in the next two months. Once we've shared our visions for Michigan, it will be easier to discuss how

we can find common ground to get there. But there's a larger dimension to all this, as well. Here's what lay beneath the chaotic, frustrating and embarrassing spectacle that we saw acted out in Lansing a couple weeks ago: Basically, it was the inability of members of the legislature to come to a clear, common vision of the kind of Michigan they wanted to help create.

Lacking a common vision, they were unable to develop — much less agree on — a rigorously focused and disciplined plan to tax and spend the right amounts needed to achieve our goals.

What we got instead was an unfocused and expensive outcome: An increase in the income tax, plus a 6 percent sales tax on a bewildering and seemingly unrelated set of activities from palm reading to coin-operated blood pressure testing.

That, and — oh yes — a pledge to cut "\$435 million in state spending" over the next 30 days. Is this a rigorously focused and disciplined taxing and spending plan?

We know better. If, for example, our lawmakers had agreed with Bill and Nancy Woods that the beauties of our natural resources and our environment are a vital part of our plan for prosperity, they would have made sure there was plenty of money in the budget for the Department of Natural Resources to do its job.

But that didn't happen, and the DNR will almost certainly get its budget cut yet again. What if our lawmakers had agreed that a clear vision of Michigan's future meant we need our universities to attract talented people from around the world? People, that is, who can help companies develop laboratory inventions into commercial products.

That vision alone ought to have been enough to spur the legislature into voting a special appropriation for our universities, reversing years of scandalous disinvestments. But the sad truth is that Michigan colleges and universities will be lucky just to get back the money withheld from their appropriations last year.

They aren't slated to get a dime of additional money, not even to keep pace with inflation — which means that in reality, we are cutting higher education once again.

Now, you have a chance to have your say about this. The Michigan's Defining Moment campaign offers a way for citizens to come together, develop a shared vision of what they want our state to look like — and then, to derive from that focused and disciplined policy and spending plans. Plans, that is, which allocate budget money to what's important and weeds out what's not.

To learn more and reserve a seat at a conversation near you, go to [www.the-centerformichigan.net](http://www.the-centerformichigan.net).

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## Class NOTES

### Novi High School marching band

The Novi Wildcat band now has a Web site providing information for upcoming events. Everything from dates, maps, event schedules, etc. is available. Access to this information may be found by visiting <http://www.novi.k12.mi.us/parents/00rgs/WebPages/HISband.aspx>.

### Free and reduced lunch program

Oakland County schools have released the policy for free and reduced-price meals for children unable to pay the full price of meals served under the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Program.

The chart breaking down the criteria for the 2007-08 school year is now on the Oakland Schools Web site at <http://www.oakland.k12.mi.us>.

Application forms are being sent to the homes of students and will also be available in the school office. Families may apply for meal benefits at any time during the school year.

For more information, please contact Mary Chay, child nutrition consultant for Oakland Schools at (248) 209-2102.

### Novi Athletic Booster's All Sports Pass

Now is the time to purchase an athletic booster all-sports pass for entry into all home athletic events throughout the 2007-08 school year. Tournaments, invitational and playoff games are excluded. The family pass includes all family members living in the same household for \$340. Individual passes are \$40. Please bring photo identification. For more information contact Michele Ryzewski at [mryzewski@1@yahoo.com](mailto:mryzewski@1@yahoo.com) or [moira.robinson@hotmail.com](mailto:moira.robinson@hotmail.com).

### Sally Ride Science invites kids to enter competition

Sally Ride Science™ is giving girls and boys in grades five through eight the chance to step out of their classrooms and experience engineering hands on by creating their dream toy or game for the sixth annual TOYchallenge™.

The mission of this toy-design competition is to motivate kids, especially girls, to get involved in engineering, see that engineering is in everything, and experience engineering as fun, creative, collaborative and relevant to everyday life.

The competition is open to fifth through eighth graders in the United States, its territories, or possessions, and Canada during the 2007-08 school year. Team size can range from three to six members, half of which must be girls. To get a team



**Top Honors**  
Novi High School's 2007 National Merit semifinalists, front row, left to right: James Brunner, Robert Burgos, Christy Duan, Jingyun Fan, Paul Fritschen, Henry He, Sami Khan. Back row: Vikas Kodali, Patrick Lee, Simisola Oyeleye, Bala Sekaran, Malati Vadapalli, Jackie Wang, Ruixiao Zuo. Not pictured, but a commended National Merit student - Tianling Xiao.

### Panel Bread essay contest

As school districts across Michigan continue to face revenues struggling to keep pace with expenses, many teachers reach into their own pockets to purchase essential classroom materials. To assist in supporting them to build the best possible learning environment, Panera Bread® of Southeast Michigan,

### Panera Bread essay contest

in conjunction with Oakland County Schools, will oversee a Dough for Teachers (DFT) essay contest for sixth, seventh and eighth grade students. The contest will be held Oct. 1-31 and will recognize three outstanding Oakland County teachers with a \$1,000 check.

### MSU student wins German Auto Show trip

Michigan State University senior and car enthusiast Eric Tingwall of Novi, may have spent less than a week at an auto show in Germany, but the experience will last a lifetime.

### MSU student wins German Auto Show trip

Michigan State University senior and car enthusiast Eric Tingwall of Novi, may have spent less than a week at an auto show in Germany, but the experience will last a lifetime.

## ON CAMPUS

Edmunds, a high-speed automotive online magazine. Tingwall was the trip after he crafted a 500-word essay for a contest posted on the site.

### Howe Military School

Howe Military School, a private educational school, grades five-12, located in northeastern Indiana, announced their Headmaster's List for the first grading period.

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**Physical Therapy Rehabilitation Update**  
by Dennis Engerer, P.T.

**CAUGHT FROM BEHIND**  
When pain is experienced in the back, lower back, and down the back of the thigh, the culprit may be the piriformis muscle. Piriformis syndrome is a condition in which the piriformis muscle in the buttock irritates the sciatic nerve. A small muscle located deep in the buttock that helps the hip to rotate, the piriformis runs horizontally beneath the gluteal muscles of the buttock, stretching from the lower spine to the femur (thighbone). The sciatic nerve runs vertically and usually passes beneath the piriformis muscle. In about 1% of individuals, the sciatic nerve passes directly through the piriformis muscle. These individuals are particularly prone to piriformis syndrome when the muscle tightens and exerts pressure on the sciatic nerve.

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P.S. A diagnosis of piriformis syndrome is based primarily on its symptoms and the results of an exam of the back, hip and legs. Typically, motion of the hip will produce the pain.

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# MY NOVI COMMUNITY

Thursday, October 11, 2007  
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## Million-dollar market, upscale homes available in Novi



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Developer Mark Guidobono stands in one of his company's Tuscany Reserve homes, the "Portofino," on Monday-afternoon. Cambridge companies and Guidobono Building held a grand opening gala for the development off Eight Mile Road on Oct. 3.

By Chris Jackett  
 STAFF WRITER

While many on the move are worrying about the real estate market, Eric and Mark Guidobono are building multi-million dollar homes at Tuscany Reserve.

The subdivision, located off Eight Mile Road west of Beck Road, is currently under development, holding its grand opening last week.

The community has the potential to fill its 77 acres of land with 58 homes sized at 4,000 square feet and up in two phases over the next five years.

Such custom-built homes will cost between \$800,000 and \$3 million, with most averaging between \$1.5-1.8 million.

"We felt there was a need for it," Eric Guidobono said. "We'll always have people in this market looking for custom built homes. We get 20 couples in to look at the homes every weekend."

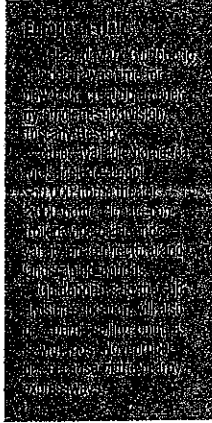
Eric is president of Guidobono Building and Mark is president of Cambridge Companies. Together, the brothers are building Tuscany Reserve.

Other shared communities include The Bellagio in Novi and Woods of Edenderry in Northville, where homes run between \$800,000 to \$1 million. They also built 50-60 homes at Pheasant Hill in Northville and a number of individual locations and subgroups.

The Bellagio, located off Beck Road south of Nine Mile Road, is one of Novi's most expensive communities.

It reached its capacity in November, six years after it was built, filling up with entrepreneurs, auto executives, internet and wine investors, professional athletes, a commercial cement contractor and others.

"It's the same type of product,"



Eric said of Tuscany Reserve. "The interiors all have custom trim work. The standard specifications are generous compared to competitors."

### Big houses, small market

Despite the ever-present "for sale" signs stagnating on modest suburban homes, the Guidobonos are cautiously optimistic.

"We're positioned. We've got a great location. We've got the perfect storm coming in. Now is the best time to buy. We're able to buy labor and most materials cheaper than we could've four years ago," Mark said.

"All price ranges (in) real estate have been impacted by the automobile industry. There's a slump from overbuilding, but (Michigan) isn't as overbuilt as other areas like Florida, California and Arizona. We feel it will turn around here sooner."

The industry is looking good for not only builders, but potential

home buyers as well.

Scott Lorenz, president of Westwind Communications and spokesman for Tuscany Reserve, said labor costs are more competitive, giving buyers more house for their money.

### Feeling the pinch

Although home shoppers may find better deals in the current hard economic times, many are also willing to spend less to purchase a home.

"People shopping in the \$5 million price range in 2002 are down to \$1.5-2 million," Eric said. "We hit the market right at the really bottom. It's going to be slow sailing for the next year or two."

Eric said they've had to scale down homes from 5,600 to 4,600 square feet to make it more affordable.

Mike Fontana, former president of the Michigan Mortgage Association, said a mortgage on a \$2 million home could cost about \$11,700 per month, which can vary depending on principle interest rates, property taxes and homeowner's insurance.

He said the narrow market is a special niche commonly filled by successful white-collar professionals, but it will still see the same problems as the rest of the industry.

"It's definitely a challenge right now. With income, credit and whether they have a house to sell, it can be a big predicament," Fontana said. "Because the market is oversaturated, they would have to drop the price (of their current home), which creates less equity for down payment for the next home."

Although costly, the Guidobonos think it's quite a deal.

"There's nothing like this on this side of town," Eric said. "It's a one of a kind development."



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# MY LIBRARY

Thursday, October 11, 2007  
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## Local student paints mural for Novi Public Library

By Chris Jackett  
STAFF WRITER

When she's not busy with extracurricular activities, Joy Chen creates her own community service projects by beautifying the places around her.

The junior at Northville High School spent about 30 hours this summer painting a mural for the Novi Public Library.

"I went to the library one day and asked if I could paint a mural for them," Chen said. "They took a little while to respond, but then they called and asked if I was still interested."

The mural, which depicts the illusion of a scuba diver waving from an aquarium full of tropical fish, sharks and coral reef, is not Chen's first project of the sort. She also painted a mural at the Northville Civic Center and worked alongside fellow junior Louis Dorantes as eighth graders, painting murals at Hillside Middle School in Northville.

"The two I did at Hillside, my friend was painting and I asked if I could help," Chen said of her first mural-painting experience. "I've always been interested in art. When I was little, I did lots of doc-

**"Her work is unbelievable, and she's an incredibly talented young lady."**

Margi Karp-Opperer

Head of youth and teen services at the Novi Public Library

bles."

Chen, who lives on the Novi-Northville border, is currently taking the AP studio course at Northville High School, but doesn't plan on making art a profession, but rather a hobby many would say she does very well.

"Her work is unbelievable and she's an incredibly talented young lady. She captured gorgeous colors, so it's extremely realistic," said Margi Karp-Opperer, head of youth and teen services at the Novi Public Library. "Around the perimeter she put facts in about some of the fish, so it's also educational. Every day you look at it and notice something new."

Chen said she had lots of ideas about what her mural could be, but the library's vote of preference ran parallel to her own.

"I didn't want it to be so cliché with books or animals," Chen said.

"I came up with a bunch of different designs and showed them to a librarian who shared them with the other librarians and they liked the aquarium, which was good because it was the one I liked too."

Painting is Chen's "in my free time" summer hobby, as she keeps herself busy during the school year playing flute for the Northville High School Band, tennis for fun and is a member of Interact Club, National Honor Society, Make a Difference and the Debate Club, organizing events such as Dance Dance Revolution charity fundraisers, 5k races and trips to senior homes and food pantries.

"She's a very caring and compassionate individual who wants to give back to the community," Karp-Opperer said. "The thing that impressed me is that she was so committed to it and she approached us."



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Northville High junior Joy Chen looks at the aquarium scene mural that she created at the Novi Public Library. It took Chen about 30 hours to finish the acrylic paint mural. This is Chen's third creation, with the other two at Hillside Middle School.

## Who is it?

By Kelly Murad  
STAFF WRITER

The new library director for the Novi Public Library was unanimously selected by the library board Sept. 29, but was not announced at last Wednesday's board meeting.

However, it was confirmed that interim library director, Mary Ellen Mulcrone, was not offered the position.

"I'm going back to my role as assistant director and will continue to work in support of the library and the board," Mulcrone said last week. "I don't want people thinking this change is bad."

Mulcrone has been running the day-to-day operations of the library since February.

After some discrepancy regarding whether the decision made by the library board followed correct procedure of the Open Meetings Act, Tom Schultz, City of Novi attorney, confirmed the board was not in violation of the act.

"There was some perception that the decision was made in closed sessions, but that does not seem to be the case," Schultz said. "The decision was valid."

Schultz said the interviews and decisions made during the selection process of the new library director were done in public forums.



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Thursday, October 11, 2007  
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# BE SCENE IN NOVI



Novi Meadows students and faculty dribble basketballs as they participate at the Jim "Basketball" Jones assembly.



Novi Woods' students Jeren Ghoushesi, left, and Mandita Ravi walk with the school Wednesday morning during its Walk to School Day activities. Students were encouraged to walk to school and join others in a jaunt through a nearby subdivision to encourage health and fitness.



An actress helps to present the story of "Bullyburg" to an assembly at Parkview Elementary last Wednesday afternoon. Bullyburg told the story of a fictional town where a bully holds sway over some people and taught its audience what to do when faced with bullies: tell a parent, teacher or principal and help your friends if they're dealing with bullies.

## A Day at School

Photos by JOHN HEIDER



With a hemostat clamp and suture needle in hand and with some help of Physician Assistant Leonard Russo, left, Novi High students Rachel Winagar and Rohith Ravi practice making stitches on chicken breasts during a Partnerships in Education visit to Providence Hospital.



Jim "Basketball" Jones entertains a group of students at Novi Meadows. Jones taught the importance of following directions, and brought civic lessons mixed in with basketball skills, noting that if you care for others feelings you're showing respect and being responsible.



Novi Woods Elementary students, staff and parents stroll around the school on Oct. 3 to promote walking and fitness.

CELEBRATE: Let us tell everyone your big news: engagements, anniversaries, births, weddings...

Victoria Mitchell, editor (248) 349-1700, ext. 102

MY NOVI PEOPLE

Thursday, October 11, 2007 www.novnews.com

ENGAGEMENTS



Miles-Michalak Stephen and Yvonne Miles of Novi announce the engagement of their daughter, Heather Corinne Miles to Jeffrey Elliott Michalak, son of David and Judith Michalak of Birmingham.

The bride-elect is a 2001 graduate of Novi High School and 2007 graduate of Western Michigan University with a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education. She is currently employed as a pharmacy technician. The groom-elect is a 2001 graduate of Grrosse Ile High School and will graduate in 2008 from Western Michigan University with a degree in industrial design. A July 2008 wedding is planned at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Roman Catholic Church in Wyandotte.



Buckner-St. Clair Pat and Nancy Buckner of Yorba Linda, Calif. announce the engagement of their daughter, Andrea Elizabeth Buckner to Daniel Ryan St. Clair, son of Don and Dyan St. Clair of Novi.

The bride-elect is a 2002 graduate of Esperanza High School and a 2006 graduate of California State University Fresno. She is currently employed as a career counselor at Work Opportunities Unlimited in Pensacola, Fla. The groom-elect is a 2002 graduate of Novi High School and a 2006 graduate of the United States Air Force Academy where he earned a bachelor of science degree in aeronautical engineering. He is currently a 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force pilot training program, Pensacola, Fla. A wedding is planned for Dec. 29 in Yorba Linda, Calif.

WEDDINGS



Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Lappari Kristen Leigh Sullivan and Clayton William Lappari were married June 16 at Walnut Creek Country Club in South Lyon. Rev. Tim Lawson officiated. The bride is the daughter of Rod

and Karen Sullivan of South Lyon. She graduated from Novi High School in 1998 and from Michigan State University in 2002. She is currently employed in the entertainment industry in Los Angeles. The groom is the son of Martin and Carol Lappari of Covington, La. He is a 2001 graduate of Emerson College in Boston and is currently employed as a television writer in Los Angeles. The maid of honor was Katie Corp and bridesmaids were Peggy Abraham, Jessica Rountz, Brooke Gaston, Kim Purman and Megan Rasmussen. Gabriella Gaston served as flower girl and the best man was James Lawson. The bride wore a simple, fitted white silk gown and carried a bouquet of peach oriental lilies and roses. The couple honeymooned at a spa weekend in San Diego and reside in Los Angeles.

OBITUARIES

ALEXANDER C. HOWELL

October 2, 2007, age 85. Retired engineer with Detroit Edison. Preceded in death by his wife Marjorie, "the light of his life." He was a kind, proud man, with a twinkle in his eye for his beloved music and grandchildren. Dear father of Joseph (Patricia), James (Donna) and Jeffrey (Laurie). Grandfather of Greg (Laura), Jeremy (Erin), Amy (Kyle), Stephanie, Kimberly, Mary and Carol. Great grandfather of Lila Jean, Teagan James, Malissa, Jared Robert and Carson Foss. Brother of Paul (Vivian) and the late Walter and Arthur. Leaves many friends at Wolfwood of Novi and special friend Rebecca Hyman. Visitation Saturday, October 13, 2007 from 1pm until time of Memorial Service at 2pm at the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, 2860 South Main Street, Plymouth. In lieu of flowers, contributions are suggested to Angela Hospice. Share memories at schrader-howell.com

OBTUARY POLICY

The first seven lines of an obituary are published free of charge. After that, there is a fee of \$3 a line. Pictures may be published for \$25. \*Deadline for obituaries is Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. for publication in Thursday's newspaper. For more information, call 888-999-1288, or contact your funeral home. \*Bridal, wedding and subject to change.

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CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Novi will hold a Public Hearing on the use of Community Development Block Grant Funds. The hearing will be held on Monday, October 22, 2007, at 7:00 p.m., EST, at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, Michigan 48375, for the purpose of hearing public comments on the Community Development Block Grant Program Year 2008 application in the approximate amount of \$116,769.

All interested citizens are requested to attend this hearing. Comments will also be received in writing or in person at the City Offices, 45175 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, Michigan 48375, until 5:00 p.m., October 22, 2007.

Notice: People with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in this meeting should contact the City Clerk at (248) 347-0455 at least seven business days in advance of the meeting. An attempt will be made to make reasonable accommodations.

MARYANNE CORNELIUS CITY CLERK (10-11-07 NN 380823)

Table listing various churches and their services, including Harvest Ministries Church of God, First Church of the Nazarene, Meadowbrook Congregational Church, Holy Cross Episcopal, Faith Community Presbyterian Church, St. James Roman Catholic Church, Church of the Holy Family, St. John Lutheran, ELCA, and St. John Lutheran, ELCA.

CHURCH DIRECTORY For information regarding rates call The Northville Record or Novi News (248) 349-1700

Large advertisement for 'bargain days' and 'Super Bonus Buys!' featuring 'stores open Friday and Saturday at 9am' and 'shop early for great savings on amazing items - now through Sunday, October 14.'

Large advertisement for Parisian clothing store featuring '20% off' coupons for extra savings on apparel and jewelry items. Includes multiple coupon codes and store locations.

TALK ABOUT IT: Join in discussing our stories online via Story Chat at novinews.com

Victoria Mitchell (248) 349-1700, ext. 102

MY YOUTH

Thursday, October 11, 2007 www.novnews.com

Church supports youth before football battle, Kitna attends

By Chris Jackett STAFF WRITER

Any time Novi and Northville square off in high school sports, it's an instant baseline battle between students from both schools fully support. Jack Janigian, pastor of high school ministries at Oak Pointe Church in Novi, knows this and used it as a reason to form a pep rally for the annual football game between the two schools. Add Detroit Lions quarterback Jon Kitna as the keynote speaker and you've got yourself a real party.

The crowd of honor was Katie Corp and bridesmaids were Peggy Abraham, Jessica Rountz, Brooke Gaston, Kim Purman and Megan Rasmussen. Gabriella Gaston served as flower girl and the best man was James Lawson. The bride wore a simple, fitted white silk gown and carried a bouquet of peach oriental lilies and roses. The couple honeymooned at a spa weekend in San Diego and reside in Los Angeles.

Novi/Northville Pep Rally

What: The second annual Novi/Northville Pep Rally, featuring Jon Kitna of the Detroit Lions speaking and signing autographs. Games and giveaways will also take place. Who: Novi, Northville, South Lyon and other local high school students are welcome to attend. When: 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 17. Where: Oak Pointe Church, 50200 W. 10 Mile Rd. Why: To get high school students pumped up about the Oct. 19 football matchup between Novi and Northville high schools. Also to give them a safe place to hang out and meet new people.



Oak Pointe Church's Jack Janigian is organizing a Novi/Northville Pep Rally for high school students on Oct. 17 that will feature the Northville drum line, the Novi pom team, free tailgating and a speech from Detroit Lions' quarterback Jon Kitna.

Boy Scout Troop awarded Scouting's highest honor at Eagle Scout Court of Honor

Members of Boy Scout Troop 179 were recently awarded Scouting's highest honor at an Eagle Scout Court of Honor ceremony held at the Troop's sponsoring organization, First Presbyterian Church of Farmington Hills.

Kristy and David Martyn Eagle Project: Created and installed a wired and wireless LAN throughout the First Presbyterian Church of Farmington Hills. Martyn is currently a senior at Farmington High School, and is playing his second season on the Varsity Football team. He is looking forward to college next year, and is hoping to attend either Michigan State University or Central Michigan University.

Nazaroff Eagle Project: Built a portable feeding house for sheep for the MSU Tulligale Farm. Nazaroff was a member of the band and played football at Walled Lake Western High School. He also enjoys Ultimate Frisbee with his friends and is a member of the Walled Lake Western German Club. He hopes to attend Central Michigan University.

Kiel John Martyn School: Senior, Farmington High School. Residence: Farmington Hills. Age: 17. Parents: Kristy and David Martyn.

Kyle Thomas Nazaroff School: Senior, Walled Lake Western High School. Residence: Deanna and Norman. Age: 17. Parents: Deanna and Norman.

Eric Michael Vorenberg School: Freshman, University of Michigan (Graduate of North Farmington High School). Residence: Farmington Hills. Age: 18. Parents: Barb and Thomas Vorenberg. Eagle Project: Raised funds, purchased and built benches and planters for a garden at the Friendship Circle of West Bloomfield. Vorenberg is enrolled at the University of Michigan where he is studying political science, concentrating on public policy and U.S. politics, and business administration. He is also enrolled in the Air Force ROTC program offered at U of M.

Wenfuhrer has held many positions of leadership in Scouting. He started out as the Assistant Patrol Leader for the Eagle patrol under Chad Al-Dairy and from there he became the Patrol Leader. There was never a time in Wenfuhrer's Scouting career that he did not hold a leadership position which included: Assistant Patrol Leader, Patrol Leader, Instructor, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, Senior Patrol Leader and Junior Assistant Scoutmaster. In 2004 he received the Troop 179 Leader of the Year Award. Wenfuhrer started college this fall at the University of Michigan. -Submitted to the Novi News

Large advertisement for 'Heslop's' restaurant featuring '20% OFF Most Items' and 'Specializing Exclusively in the Treatment of Varicose and Spider Veins'. Includes details about Jeffrey H. Miller, M.D. and 'EXPERIENCE THE EASE of DREAM DINNERS'.



# HORSING AROUND

## Equestrians reign in eighth consecutive season

By Chris Jackett  
STAFF WRITER

Novi High School's equestrian team has risen to the challenge of another successful competitive season this year.

The Wildcats completed their eighth season as a varsity team with 221 points, claiming third place in District I-A. An over-powered Milford team won the division and South Lyon knocked Novi out of second place at the third and final meet.

Novi's team was plagued with two injuries. Howell and Walled Lake Northern rounded out the division that included teams with 10 or more equestrians.

"We were really strong for the first and second meet. We weren't as strong at the third meet, but everything went wrong that could've," said junior Jennifer Jocz. "We were up 15-plus points on South Lyon for second place after the second meet and lost by about 20."

Six schools made up Division B and 10 made up Division C in the non-Kensington Valley Conference spot. Milford and Howell each had teams in all three divisions, and South Lyon also had a team in Division B.

"Milford has a strong team with talented horses and riders," said Novi head coach Nancy Burka. "It's a very unique sport. Meets are kind of like an open show with saddle, hunt, western and gymkhana events. There's 17 different events starting at 8 a.m. and usually finishing around 6 or 7 p.m."

The three meets in September all took place at Milford's Huron Valley Equestrian Center, next to Milford High School. Burka said each event is made up of about 200 horses from all 21 District I teams. She also said there used to be a meet in Fowlerville, but the events have grown too large for that space.



Novi High School junior and equestrian team member Jennifer Jocz turns her horse Taxi while in competition.

### Building bonds

Jocz said although there may be scary incidents involved with the sport, she and McKinley have been friends and riding partners since fifth grade when they both fell in love with equestrianism.

"You get to do things and compete in events you've never done before," Jocz said. "You're working directly with a non-human partner, so you can't communicate with them in a human way. You're working with an animal a lot more powerful than you could ever be. It's kind of alien — their world and your world. Their fears and thoughts are more directed at responses back to you."

Burka said there is a lot to learn about other living creatures before getting into the sport. The team puts in lots of extra hours year-round training for their season.

"Because we live in Novi, none of us have our own ranch. Everyone leases or boards a horse and rides them several times a week. We visit each other's barns and build team camaraderie with a dinner meeting before every meet so everyone understands the lineup," Burka said. "The season is short, but intense. They train year-round at their own individual barns. They have to be able to perform very specific maneuvers with the horse. Our riders did very well with that."

The team was first formed eight years ago when Kellyn Burka, Nancy's daughter, a Michigan State University student and current assistant coach, convinced the district to start one.

"My daughter had an unending love and devotion to equine," Nancy Burka said. "She started riding from 7-8. We got her four lessons for her birthday and she never stopped."

Novi News staff writer Chris Jackett can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 122 or cjackett@gannett.com.

### Seasonal victory

Members of the Novi High School equestrian team are proud of their efforts this year.

"It was a very exciting season because we did so well," said Burka, who noted the team's best events were the fences, jumping and other hunt seat events.

Senior second-year captains Chelsea Rozek and Megan Young, along with juniors Jocz, Alison McKinley and Gabby Pollock, led the Wildcats through much of the season.

"Our two seniors did very well in hunt seats, especially fences. We have two more juniors (Pollock and Jocz) who were our most versatile riders," Burka said. "Gabby did a particularly good job this year because she shared a horse with her sister, Whitney. Gabby brought a second horse to do western and gymkhana."

As the season progressed, the team did run into some road blocks that kept crucial points off the score sheet.

"At the second meet, one horse injured itself in its stall. It kicked off a shoe and tore ligaments. Kelly (Savelle) went out



Novi High School sophomore and equestrian team member Alison McKinley prepares her horse, Buddy, for a September competition.



Novi High School junior and equestrian team member Stephanie Schultz rides her horse, Jake.



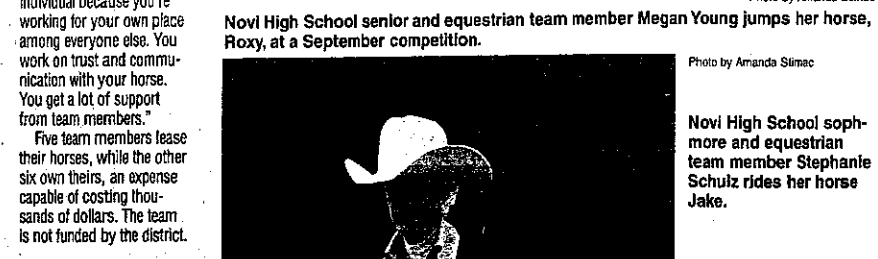
Novi High School sophomore and equestrian team member Erin Collin saddles up her horse Shilo.

### Equestrian enterprise

Seven of the 11 Novi High School equestrian team members keep their horses at Willowbrook on the South Lyon and Plymouth border. Two other riders keep their horses at Wildwind in South Lyon and the other two keep their horses in Monroe and Brighton.

"(At the barns,) you play with speed, work on turns and work on trust with the horses. Hunter style is where you are judged on the horses and equitation judges the rider. It's like figure skating is to ice hockey," Novi High School junior Jennifer Jocz said. "It's a team sport, but it's very individual because you're working for your own place among everyone else. You work on trust and communication with your horse. You get a lot of support from team members."

Five team members lease their horses, while the other six own theirs, an expense capable of costing thousands of dollars. The team is not funded by the district.



Novi High School senior and equestrian team member Megan Young jumps her horse, Roxy, at a September competition.



Novi High School sophomore and equestrian team member Stephanie Schultz rides her horse Jake.

GOT A STORY IDEA? Contact the Novi News to spread the word about what's going on in Novi.

Victoria Mitchell, editor  
(248) 349-1700, ext. 102  
vmitchell@gannett.com

## MY ENTERTAINMENT

### Author Jordan Rubin discusses a heavy problem at Novi visit

By Chris Jackett  
STAFF WRITER

Weight. At some point, it's an issue for just about everyone. It's one thing many people don't know much about while also having so much information readily available on the subject. It's something that could be on the rise or decline and many people just let it run wild if running were even involved at all.

Jordan Rubin, a New York Times best-selling author of numerous weight-related books, will be at Better Health Market in Novi on Saturday to discuss his newest book, "Achieving Your Perfect Weight."

He will have presentations at noon and 3 p.m. Space is limited to 250 people per presentation and reservations are requested at (248) 735-8100.

The author recently published the first volume of a new health magazine, "Extraordinary Health," which features an adapted excerpt from his book and an article by Dawn Thorpe Jarvis analyzing why many Americans are considered overweight.



Novi News staff writer Chris Jackett can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 122 or cjackett@gannett.com.

### Oyster festival at Gus O'Connor's

The Southeast Michigan Oyster Festival fundraiser to benefit the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, Michigan Chapter will take place noon-11 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 13 at Gus O'Connor's in Novi.

Festival-goers can enjoy Celtic music, Irish bands and dancers, a kids zone, an oyster eating contest and oysters aplenty.

Revelers will indulge in smoked salmon on homemade brown bread, steaming seafood chowder, decadent desserts, creamy Guinness, tasty Bushmills and Bailey's combinations.

"In Ireland, it is considered best to eat oysters raw, accompanied by brown bread and a pint of Guinness," said Ed Smith, restaurant co-owner. "We feel it's actually better when you have oysters, brown bread, Guinness and are helping a good cause at the same time."

The oyster has played a prominent role in history. In the 19th century, oysters were a dietary staple and major source of international commerce for the New York seaport. When the Dutch purchased Manhattan Island, they also bought Oyster Island, today known as Ellis Island. In 1895, residents of New York City spent more money on oysters than butcher's meat. By 1896, the oyster industry took off in San Francisco when they were served in the fashionable parlors of the Palace Hotel.

The Southeast Michigan Oyster Festival features musical performances by Laila Al Saadi, Finavara's Wren, Lady Sunshine and the X Band, and blues legend James Montgomery.

Laila Al Saadi has been a staple in the Detroit music scene for nearly 15 years. Her last original recording was "The Sound of My Soul" with blues greats such as Buddy Guy, Luther Allison, and Son Seals. She has earned the unofficial title of Detroit's premier singer and guitarist and was recently crowned "King of the Blues" by Guitar Center for the northern region, making him one of the four best blues guitarists in the county.

Lady Sunshine has a deep soulful flavor. Her rhythm and horns section (The X Band) have earned the group "Best Blues Band in Washtenaw County" honors two years running (Current Magazine), as well as second place honors in the International Blues Challenge ('05 Memphis, TN).

James Montgomery has honed his diverse recording skills with such artists as B.B. King, Buddy Guy, John Lee Hooker and Kid Rock. Frontoing his energetic band of 30 years, Montgomery is a native Detroit resident and performing with two of the original Mitch Ryder and the Detroit Wheels members.

Finavara's Wren is a six-piece, Detroit Irish band that plays invigorating Irish, Scottish and Celtic-American folk music. Members are active and teach at the Detroit IMA (Irish Music Association) the local branch of Conhaltas.

The festival also includes a silent auction of winter sports gear, satellite television systems, sports memorabilia and trips; opportunity to meet Leukemia & Lymphoma Society Team in Training members and a chance to win other great prizes.

This is a limited capacity event. Advance purchase is recommended. Tickets to the event are \$10 per adult, \$5 for ages 5-12, under 5 is free.

For information on the event or to purchase tickets, contact Greg Miller (734) 368-3405 or visit [www.guinnessfestival.com](http://www.guinnessfestival.com).

Gus O'Connor's is located at 42875 Grand River Avenue in Novi's Main Street area.

Submitted to the Novi News.

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**LET'S TALK JEWELRY**  
WITH GARY S. WEINSTEIN GEMOLOGIST  
ON THE OTHER HAND!  
Since the time they were little girls, women have been educated to know that a diamond ring on the ring finger of the left hand trumpets a marriage engagement. More recently, women have come to realize that they do not have to wait for someone to give them a diamond ring, and they can purchase rings for themselves for no other reason than that they can. Diamond Ring Hand Rings are worn on the ring finger of the right hand to symbolize the strength and independence that define today's woman. Right hand rings speak directly to a woman's sense of style and taste, and these defining pieces of self-expression reveal how far women have come in their own right.  
The finger of diamond jewelry design today is extraordinary, from minimalist rings to three-stone pendants, from intricate earrings of fiery brilliance to simple yet simply beautiful studs. Whatever design your choice, when there is a diamond in your future, we hope you'll come see us at WEINSTEIN JEWELRY.  
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TALK ABOUT IT: Join in discussing our stories online via Story Chat at novinews.com

Victoria Mitchell, editor (248) 349-1700, ext. 102

Thursday, October 11, 2007 novinews.com (248) 349-9832

MY OPINION

Novi News

Victoria Mitchell EDITOR Richard Perlberg EXECUTIVE EDITOR Grace Perez Perry GENERAL MANAGER

International Fest is important hit for City

Last Saturday, the Novi High School homecoming parade wasn't the only fete in town. Parading through Main Street were the annual participants of the City of Novi International Festival.

Lansing Connection: Michigan must return to what made it great

The question I have asked myself over the last year was, "Will increasing taxes on individuals, families, seniors, and businesses help or hurt Michigan's struggling economy to recover from being in a one state recession?"

Bush Vetoes Child Health Care Bill

Recently President Bush vetoed the bill that would provide better health care for the children of this country.

New Library Vote

I encourage voters to support the upcoming Novi Library proposal on Tuesday, Nov. 6.

Novi Parks Thankful

The Novi Parks Department and the International Festival

LETTERS

have maximum impact on students and the community. How awesome is it that Taubman Centers, Inc. has donated \$30,000 for the 30-year anniversary of the Novi Public Library?

Emily Bank Novi Library Board Student Representative, Novi High School Sophomore Class President

Library Bond Proposal

Although Novi's library has served us well in the past, we need to accommodate the new technologies! We need more "quiet" spaces for children, especially those from grades 1-3.

Novi Parks Thankful

The Novi Parks Department and the International Festival

library's home page at http://novilibri.us and use the library services calculator to find out how much you spend annually on purchasing new books, CDs or magazines.

Laura Marie Casey Novi Library 2007

DeRoche Child-like

It was with great disgust I read the comments by State Representative Craig DeRoche in the article "Novi leader dejected by state budget."

Scott Daniel Novi

9 a.m.-2 p.m. or visit www.crosspointereads.org Sunday Worship TIME: 9 and 10:30 a.m.

Ward Evangelical Church LOCATION: 4000 Six Mile Rd., Northville CONTACT: (248) 374-5978 Sunday AM Women's Bible Study

TIME/DATE: 10:20-11:15 a.m. every Sunday through Dec. 30 LOCATION: Room A101-103 DETAILS: Karen

St. John Lutheran LOCATION: 23225 Gill Road, Farmington Hills CONTACT: (248) 474-0684 or visit www.stjohn-lutheran.com

St. John Lutheran LOCATION: 23225 Gill Road, Farmington Hills CONTACT: (248) 474-0684 or visit www.stjohn-lutheran.com

Universalist Unitarian Church of Farmington LOCATION: 25301 Halsted Rd., Farmington Hills CONTACT: (248) 318-8044 or www.uuofarmington.org

Faith Community Presbyterian LOCATION: 44400 W. 10 Mile CONTACT: (248) 493-2345 or visit www.faithcommunity.org

GracePointe Presbyterian CONTACT: Rev. Brian C. Sleeth, Pastor (248) 497-3178; www.gracepointepca.org; e-mail gracepointe@mac.com

The Baha'i Faith TIME/DATE: 11 a.m. last Saturday of every month LOCATION: 23803 Ripple Creek St., Novi

Orchard Hills Baptist Church LOCATION: 23465 Novi Rd. CONTACT: Pastor Jon Hix (248) 349-5665

First Presbyterian Church of Northville LOCATION: 200 E. Main St. CONTACT: (248) 349-0911 - Sunday Worship

TIME: 9:30 and 11 a.m. Single Place Ministries DETAILS: Thursday evenings: 7:30 p.m. social time; 7:45 p.m. opening; 8-9 p.m. program; \$5 CONTACT: (248) 349-0311 or visit www.singleplace.org

WOW Bible Studies TIME/DATE: 9:30-11:30 a.m. every Tuesday through Dec. 12 LOCATION: Chapel (NE corner of church)

St. John Lutheran LOCATION: 23225 Gill Road, Farmington Hills CONTACT: (248) 474-0684 or visit www.stjohn-lutheran.com

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every Monday through Nov. 5 DETAILS: Register online www.orchardhillsnovi.com CONTACT: Stephen E. Monette (248) 982-4558 or info@orchardhillsnovi.com

LOCATION: First, second and fourth Saturday, Big Apple Bagel Shop, 2334 Farmington Rd., Farmington; Third Saturday, Panera Bread Co., 34635 Grand River Ave., Farmington

St. John Lutheran LOCATION: 23225 Gill Road, Farmington Hills CONTACT: (248) 474-0684 or visit www.stjohn-lutheran.com

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First Presbyterian Church of Northville LOCATION: 200 E. Main St. CONTACT: (248) 349-0911 - Sunday Worship

Your Career as a Physical Therapist TIME/DATE: 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 29

Get Conditioned for Skiing TIME/DATE: 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 6

DMC Huron Valley-Sinal Hospital LOCATION: 1 William Carls Dr., Commerce CONTACT: (248) 937-3314

DMC Huron Valley-Sinal Hospital LOCATION: 1 William Carls Dr., Commerce CONTACT: (248) 937-3314

Universalist Unitarian Church of Farmington LOCATION: 25301 Halsted Rd., Farmington Hills CONTACT: (248) 318-8044 or www.uuofarmington.org

Faith Community Presbyterian LOCATION: 44400 W. 10 Mile CONTACT: (248) 493-2345 or visit www.faithcommunity.org

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Light Up a Life Dan Angeskof of Novi, and Northville residents Geri Beah, (seated) Carolyn DiComa and Tomi Bufo are members of the Light Up a Life Benefit Committee.

Gardeners of Northville and Novi DATE: second Tuesday of month through May TIME: 6:30 p.m. LOCATION: Rotates between Novi Civic Center and the Northville Library.

BORDERS BOOKS AND MUSIC 43075 Crescent Blvd., Novi CONTACT: (248) 347-0780 Book Signing with Deborah Norville TIME/DATE: 7 p.m. Tuesday, continued on 22A

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Tom Watkins: What now is beautiful, was once very ugly

Today, beautiful upscale condos and a new shopping plaza are going up to grace the west and east corners of Five Mile and Sheldon roads in Northville Township.

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HALLOWEEN IN GREENFIELD VILLAGE OCTOBER 22-24, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30. 800 hand-carved Jack-o'-lanterns light your way. Meet dozens of elaborately costumed magical and mysterious characters. Pass through 12 sweets and treats stations where goblins hand out goodies. Timed admission starting at 6:30pm. Order tickets online or call 313.982.6901. MEMBER TICKETS \$10. NONMEMBER TICKETS \$22. CHILDREN 2 years & younger are FREE. Advanced reservations recommended. WWW.THEHENRYFORD.ORG

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Huntington Bank A bank invested in people. With the opening of our new location on Ten Mile Road, there are now two Huntington locations in Novi to serve you. Now, for a limited time, when you open a new qualified product or service at either office, you'll receive a \$50 American Express GiftCard. And if you open a checking account, you'll also receive free checks for life. Step by either Huntington banking office in Novi for all the details.

continued from 21A

**Oct. 16**  
**DETAILS:** Inside Edition anchor and author, Deborah Norville, will be signing copies of her latest book "Thank You Power", a groundbreaking book that states gratitude is the key to unlocking your full life potential.

**ROCK FINANCIAL SHOWPLACE**

46100 Grand River Ave. Call (248) 348-5600 or visit <http://rockfinancialshowplace.com> for more information.

**Fall Remodeling & Design Expo**

**TIME/DATE:** 12-9 p.m. Oct. 12; 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Oct. 13; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Oct. 14

**DETAILS:** Admission for adults \$6, seniors \$5, children 12 and under are free; parking \$5. Includes Grammys Angels Arts, Crafts and More Show; also includes the Log Home and Timber Frame show, free.

**Michigan Women's Business Council**  
**TIME/DATE:** 8 a.m.-6 p.m.

Thursday and Friday, Oct. 18-19

**DETAILS:** 7th Annual Conference features first-class training, key-note speakers, power lunches and network opportunities; \$175 for members, \$200 for non-members includes all events and meals both days; complimentary parking.

**CONTACT:** Diana at (734) 667-1400 or visit [www.miced.org](http://www.miced.org)

**Michigan Christmas Show and Marketplace**

**TIME/DATE:** Nov. 29-Dec. 2  
**LOCATION:** 2nd annual show to feature designer Christmas Tree Lane, unique holiday gifts, arts and crafts, gourmet foods, stocking stuffers, festive holiday entertainment on Holiday Lights Stage; tickets \$10 each.

**CLASS REUNIONS**

**Detroit Mackenzie High School Class of 1957**

**DATE:** Friday Oct. 19  
**TIME:** 6:30 p.m. to midnight  
**LOCATION:** Radisson, 17123 N. Laurel Park Dr., Livonia  
**DETAILS:** The cost is \$75 per person. Mail M. vonGlahn, 20997 Chase Drive, Novi, MI

48375 for tickets; deadline is Sept. 30. Reunion committee is looking for classmates from the class of 1957.

**CONTACT:** June Class-Marj Storch at [marj.storch@sboglob-al.net](mailto:marj.storch@sboglob-al.net), Mary Middleton at [mvonglahn@aol.com](mailto:mvonglahn@aol.com), Susan (Simon) Geraci (248) 697-9429 or [vincegeraci@yahoo.com](mailto:vincegeraci@yahoo.com); January Class-Eleanor Locke at [eplocke@aol.com](mailto:eplocke@aol.com) or Dick Bebbington at [robbroseville@yahoo.com](mailto:robbroseville@yahoo.com).

**Plymouth High School Class of 1968**

**DETAILS:** The Class of 1968 is looking for classmates for their 40th Class Reunion to be held July 19, 2008 in Livonia. For more information, contact Janet (Sheedy) Johnston at (734) 437-3534 or e-mail to [phs40threunion@charter.net](mailto:phs40threunion@charter.net).

**REGIONAL**

**Sunday Youth Basketball League**

**DATE:** Every Sunday-Oct. 28  
**LOCATION:** Madonna University, 36600 Schoolcraft Rd., Livonia  
**DETAILS:** On Sunday Sept. 9, 10-12 year-olds report at 3

p.m.; 13-15 year-olds report at 5 p.m.; teams formed based on evaluation period the first day; each session consists of a skill building session and a league game; teams coached by Madonna University Men's Basketball Players; cost is \$100; to register contact Chuck Henry at (734) 398-5975 or (734-432-5591).

**Bowling for Bunnies: A Benefit for Midwest Rabbit Rescue**

**TIME/DATE:** 1-4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 13  
**LOCATION:** Clover Lanes, 28900 Schoolcraft Rd., Livonia  
**DETAILS:** Cost of \$16 per person includes three games of bowling, shoe/ball rental, pizza, pop and birthday cake to celebrate our second anniversary; advance tickets only; used cell phones collected during event; proceeds benefit 140 rescued rabbits at Midwest Rabbit Rescue.

**CONTACT:** Debbie at (248) 994-7509, e-mail to [Debbie@tinytreasures.net](mailto:Debbie@tinytreasures.net)

**Northville Library Foreign Film Series**

**TIME/DATE:** 6:30 p.m. Mondays

**LOCATION:** 212 W. Cady St., Northville, (248) 349-3020

**DETAILS:** Oct. 22 "Nobody Knows," Japanese; Nov. 19 "Salaam Bombay," Hindi; and Dec. 19 "The Sea Inside," Spanish. All films are free, ethnic treats provided; call library to make reservations.

**Northville Book Club**

**TIME/DATE:** 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 19  
**LOCATION:** Starbucks, 302 East Main St.  
**DETAILS:** "As I Lay Dying" by William Faulkner  
**CONTACT:** [northvillebookclub@gmail.com](mailto:northvillebookclub@gmail.com)

**City of Wixom**

**CONTACT:** Community Services Programs, 49045 Pontiac Trail, Wixom, (248) 624-2850

**Senior Ongoing Programs**

Some of these activities have a fee

Monday: 10-11 a.m. Exercise Class

Tuesday: 10 a.m.-noon Knit/Crochet and Sew Group; noon-2:30 p.m. Line Dancing

Wednesday: 10-11 a.m. Exercise Class

Second Monday: 11:30 a.m. Lunch Bunch

Second Tuesday: 10 a.m.

Senior Commission Second Thursday: 11:30 a.m.

Bingo Fourth Thursday: 10-11:30 a.m. Blood Pressure

Oakland Press Food Drive

**TIME/DATE:** 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. through Oct. 12

**LOCATION:** City Hall, Community Services

**DETAILS:** Help fight hunger, bring your non-perishable food to be distributed to Oakland County residents in need.

**Teen Advisory Committee**

**DATE:** Tuesday, Oct. 16 Hot Dog Cook-out, Nov. 20 and Dec. 18

**TIME:** 3:30-5 p.m.

**LOCATION:** Gibson Park Teen Center, 49805 Pontiac Trail

**DETAILS:** For ages 13-18; bring a friend and join the fun; monthly meetings to plan activities, special teen events and community service projects.

**6th Annual Monster Mash**

**TIME/DATE:** 6-8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 19

**DETAILS:** Come dressed to give the crowd a chuckle or scare, DJ will play the latest knock dead hits; cost is \$8 per person for ages 2 and up; pizza dinner and treats; bring your camera; must pre-register by 3 p.m. on Oct. 18.

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**Plymouth Community Veterans Memorial Park**

The Plymouth Community Veterans Memorial Park Committee wishes to thank the Plymouth community for your support of the Veterans Park. We especially want to thank each and every one of you who purchased either an engraved gray Veterans paver or an engraved red commemorative paver. Pavers are now being installed twice yearly, in the Spring before Memorial Day (end of May) and in the Fall before Veterans Day (November 11). It takes about 45 days to process and produce engraved pavers. To guarantee that your paver will be installed at one of those times, it is necessary that your order for a paver be received at least 60 days prior to an installation date.

Thank you for your ongoing support. The city provided the park land but the establishment of the park was done solely with private contributions. Ordinary park maintenance is done by the city as is done for all other city parks. Your help is still needed to sustain and maintain the Plymouth Community Veterans Memorial Park. Through the engraved paver program we hope to raise additional funds to make additional improvements in the park such as replacing the badly deteriorating stone wall in the rear of the park and other future needs as they arise. To do this we want to establish a perpetual maintenance fund that will guarantee a pristine park into the future. Order forms may be downloaded from our website at <http://www.plymouthlibrary.org/pcvmpe> or you can pick up an order form at Plymouth City Hall, Plymouth Historical Museum and many businesses around town or in the park itself. This is a wonderful holiday gift for your beloved veteran. Remember, your purchase is tax deductible.

*Our hope is that you see this park as a focus of community pride.*

In order for us to verify your inscription, please complete all information including your phone number.

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment**  
 Indicate paver selection below.  
 4"x8" paver quantity ordered \_\_\_\_\_ at \$100 = \_\_\_\_\_  
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Cash or Money Order  
 Check (Please make payable to CANTON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION write "Plymouth Veterans Park" on memo line)  
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**Veterans Only Pavers**  
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**SPORTS GALLERY: VOLLEYBALL**

PAGE 5B

**MY NOVI SPORTS**

**Shamrocks look to secure playoff spot**

SPORTS, 3B

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2007 • WWW.NOVINNEWS.COM • SPORTS SUBMISSIONS: JTHEISEN@GANNETT.COM • PAGE 1B

**SPORTS SPOTLIGHT: VOLLEYBALL**

STORY CHAT: WHAT DO YOU THINK? TELL US AT WWW.NOVINNEWS.COM

**Wildcats making all the right moves**

Change in philosophies pays off for Novi

By Jeff Thelsen  
 SPORTS WRITER

A change of seasons and a change of style has resulted in a breakthrough start for the Novi volleyball team.

The Wildcats have ripped off 18 of 19 possible wins to start the year, and have gone undefeated through the first half of the KVC schedule.

The new philosophy is quite simple — play smarter, not harder.

"Between the two seasons, in our short offseason, we've changed the way we played volleyball," Novi head coach Julie Fisette said. "We're working on the fact that there is 900 square feet on the other side of the court. In order to score, you just have to get the ball to fall."

"It doesn't matter how fast it gets there. It doesn't matter how pretty it gets there. It just needs to get there."

One of the major adjustments is not trying to pound the ball on every attempt. Not every pass is set up for a slamming spike.

"We've got things we call yes and no swings," Fisette said. "If they're not prepared to hit the ball, if they screwed up their approach, if they just don't see the ball is set exactly where they need it, they'll swing off. Their off swing will go to a particular spot on the floor that we've picked out pregame."

"If that's not a hittable ball and you're whaling at it with all your might because people are screaming, 'Kill it,' then you're not going to get that ball over the net, hence, you are going to lose a point."

But Fisette also said, when it's time to put down the hammer, swing for the fences.

"If everything is perfect and you feel it, you just hit it as hard as you can. It's a kill ball," Fisette said.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Novi teammates Stephanie Cripps, left, and Paige Janer go up for a block as their Wildcat volleyball team hosts Brighton.

See VOLLEYBALL, 5B

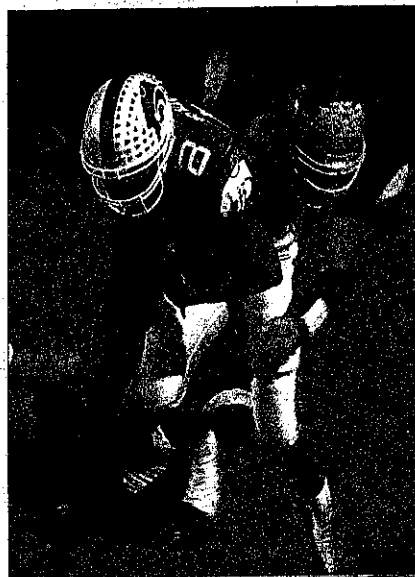


Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Brandon Bradford runs after catching one of his eight passes Friday in a 24-7 win against South Lyon.

**Home sweet homecoming**

Wildcats secure playoff spot, stay on top for KVC title

By Patrick Pinter  
 SPORTS WRITER

Friday night's football game between Novi and South Lyon was supposed to be a battle between two ranked teams in Division 1, with the winner in prime position to take the Kensington Valley Conference title.

Well, that battle turned out to be more of a one-sided show. The Wildcats (6-1 overall, 5-1 KVC) picked up a 24-7 win on homecoming over South Lyon (3-2 overall, 4-2 KVC) Friday night at Novi High School.

"We knew the league would yield one loss for most teams so after the Millford game we knew we had to go out and do our job," Novi coach Tab Kellepourey

See FOOTBALL, 5B

**CC flattens Divine Child defense**

Shamrocks race out to 35-0 lead by halftime

By Jeff Thelsen  
 SPORTS WRITER

After completing three straight weeks of the hardest teams on the schedule, Catholic Central head coach Tom Mach was worried about how his team would come out against Divine Child.

A 35-0 halftime lead quickly erased any of those fears as the Shamrocks went on to win 48-14.

"It was one of those games where you thought you should win, but you never really know until you get there how everyone is going to play," Mach said. "Our kids came to play, and they did a real good job in the first half."

"They did a real good job in winning and then coming back and playing hard. In our league, you've got to stay up every week." The ground game was working, and once that's happening, it usually means good things for the Shamrocks.

Cory Amble started the scoring with a 2-yard run with 7:21 left in the first quarter.

Scott Kovanda hauled in a 22-yard scoring reception off a running-back pass from Anthony Capatina with 2:45 left in the first.

Amble added another 2-yard score with two seconds left in the opening quarter for a commanding 21-0 lead heading into the second quarter.

Capatina scored from 12 yards out with 3:37 left in the half, and Joe Kinville put the Shamrocks up 35-0 with a 1-yard plunge with 18 seconds left in the half.

"Anthony Capatina was our biggest ground gainer," Mach said. "He ran very well, and he threw a touchdown pass. Scott

Kovanda caught the touchdown pass.

"Cory Amble ran well, and I thought our defense set the tone in the first quarter."

John Mizzi scored on a 29-yard run in the third, and Mike Mamut scored to finish off the Shamrock scoring in the fourth.

Divine Child scored a touchdown in the opening minute of the fourth and in the final minute of the game.

Catholic Central won the rushing battle, racking up 365 yards to

See SHAMROCKS, 3B

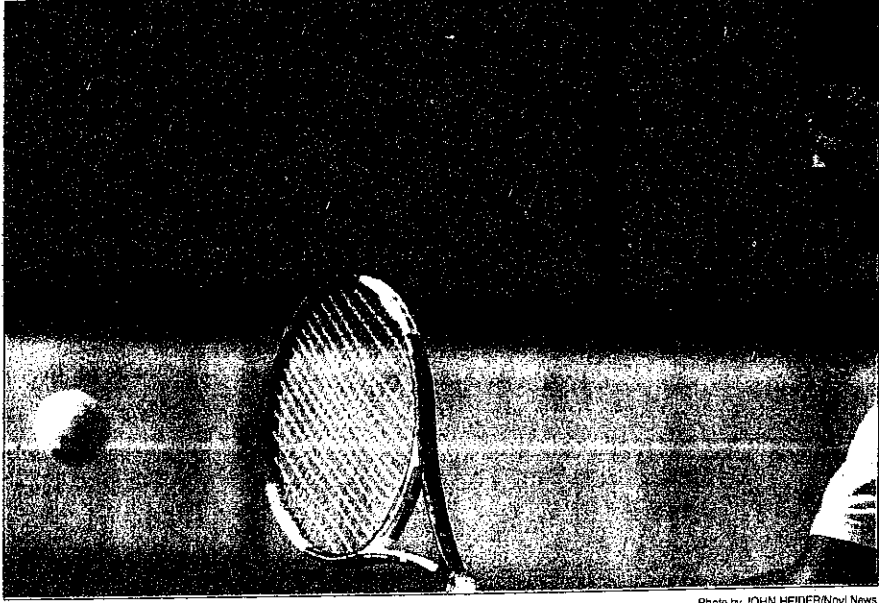


Submitted by Dennis Barnes

Jack Daykin (12) follows the block of Konrad Borkowski (66) against Divine Child.

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Novi's Goutham Kondapi hits a forehand during the Wildcats' visit to Greenhills School.

# Swinging into regionals

## Novi hosts postseason tournament

By Jeff Theisen  
SPORTS WRITER

After blazing through the conference tourney, Novi tennis switches focus to putting it all on the line at the regional meet. The Wildcats will host the 11-team regional, with play beginning 8:30 a.m. Friday at both the middle school and high school courts.

The mission is quite simple, finish in the top two for a guaranteed spot or try to scratch out 18 points to advance.

Last year, Novi accomplished the feat, winning the regional with Catholic Central finishing second. Northville achieved the 18 points and also advanced with Brighton

scoring 17 and just missing the cut.

If all plays out as expected, the same four teams will be in the hunt this year.

CC, Brighton and Northville are going to be a factor," Novi head coach Jim Hanson said. "We're going to have to play our best tennis of the year to get out of there."

"We need that mentality to play one match at a time and not look ahead. It comes down to who plays best on a given day."

The Wildcats' strength has been its depth all year. They may not be overwhelming at any one flight, but they are good in all of them.

Mani Mahadevan leads the singles crew at No. 1. The rest of the singles include Goutham Kondapi at No. 2, Ryan Bell in the third spot and Carson Crandell at No. 4.

Having a strong doubles team allows other strong players to play doubles, and that has paid off big time for Novi.

Justin Farooq and Ameya Sohani head the No. 1 team. Ryan Goodman and Jason Hsu play No. 2. Tim Oh and Greg Richard team up for No. 3. Nathan Farooq and Vishnu Venugopal make up the No. 4 team.

Hanson said playing at home won't create a big advantage for the Wildcats. The biggest bonus for Novi heading into the postseason is the difficult schedule they took on throughout the season.

"We've played top-10 competition all year long," he said. "The competition isn't going to be any better than what we've played."

"If we play to our capabilities, we'll be fine."

Hanson stresses never giving up to his players. He also expects the team to have competitive practices leading up to the regional.

"That's the time you correct mistakes, when you practice," he said. "You are going to play like you practice."

**KVC domination**

Novi blazed through the league tournament, winning every flight. Mahadevan won the final in three sets, 6-2, 5-7, 6-3 against Joel Parish of Brighton.

Kondapi won 6-0, 6-0; Bell 0-6, 6-0, 6-4; and Crandell 6-0, 6-1 in the finals.

In doubles play, Justin Farooq and Sohani won 6-3, 6-3; Goodman and Hsu won 6-2, 6-0; Oh and Richard won 6-1, 6-3; and Nathan Farooq and Venugopal won 6-1, 6-1.

At No. 5 doubles, Derek Richard and Brent Womack won 6-0, 6-3.

"We played the way we're capable of playing," Hanson said. "It was a good win."

Brighton finished second, and South Lyon was third in the overall league standings.

Jeff Theisen can be reached at [jtheisen@gannett.com](mailto:jtheisen@gannett.com) or at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104.

# Playoff spot on the line

## CC faces 0-7 U-D Jesuit

By Jeff Theisen  
SPORTS WRITER

The Shamrocks (5-2, 2-2) will close out play before playing in the Prep Bowl with a road game at U-D Jesuit.

Though the Cubs (0-7) possess some talented players, they just haven't been able to put it together for four quarters.

U-D Jesuit has given up more than 40 points in the last four games and scored a season-high 21 points in the season opener.

"They do have some very good athletes," Mach said. "If you don't put it together in our league, you get beat."

"They do a lot of things by spreading you out and using their athletes."

The Shamrocks have been headed in the exact opposite direction since knocking off Orchard Lake St. Mary's two weeks ago. Catholic Central came right back and dismantled Divine Child by 34 points.

Catholic Central will also be playing for a guaranteed playoff spot with its sixth victory.

"It's a game that I think we should come to play very hard," Mach said. "It's a game that could be our sixth victory, and if we win, would put us in the playoffs. It's a very important game for our league standing and it's important for playoff standings."

Confidence is re-instilled in the team, and Mach said the seniors have had a lot to do with that.

"They believe now that they can beat anybody," he said. "With



Catholic Central quarterback Ryan Houska heads upfield as Joe Kinville provides a block against a Divine Child defender.

the proper attitude, proper work and proper concentration, I think they can beat anybody. That's a great place to be."

With Brother Rice beating De La Salle last Friday, the Shamrocks' chances of playing in the championship game of the Prep Bowl are pretty minute.

Brother Rice would have to lose

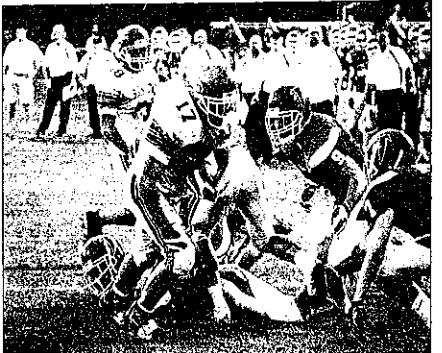
to Divine Child this weekend for the Shamrocks to have a chance.

The likely scenario sees Catholic Central facing the loser of the De La Salle vs. Orchard Lake St. Mary's contest.

Jeff Theisen can be reached at [jtheisen@gannett.com](mailto:jtheisen@gannett.com) or at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104.

## Saturday

Who: Catholic Central (5-2) vs. U-D Jesuit (0-7)  
Where: Ferndale HS  
When: 1 p.m.  
On the line: A guaranteed playoff spot for the Shamrocks.



Catholic Central's Cory Ambie heads across the goal line against U-D Jesuit.

## SHAMROCKS: Offense rolls

continued from front

43 for Divine Child. The Shamrocks did fumble four times but only lost the ball once.

The Shamrocks had 11 players carry the ball, with Capatina leading the way with 145 yards on 10 carries. Mach was next with 65 yards on four carries, and Jack Daykin provided 51 yards on four carries.

Divine Child went to the air, but with dire consequences. The Falcons completed 10 of 21 passes for 129 yards, but the Shamrocks intercepted the ball five times.

Ryan Houska, Daykin, Mei Fan, Steve Harding and Shane Morris provided the thefts.

Jeff Theisen can be reached at [jtheisen@gannett.com](mailto:jtheisen@gannett.com) or at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104.

Team	1	2	3	4	Total
CC	21	14	6	7	48
DC	0	0	0	14	14

Singer Kick  
CC — 18 Joe Kinville 1 run, Singer Kick  
Third quarter  
CC — John Nizzi 29 run, kick failed  
Fourth quarter  
DC — 11:04 Mitchell 1 run, kick good  
CC — 4:21 Mike Mamut 56 run, Singer kick  
DC — 14 Williams 8 pass from Mitchell, kick good  
Second quarter  
CC — 3:37 Capatina 12 run,

## Schedules

<b>Novi</b>	10/11 at Howell (Parker campus), 5 p.m. 10/16 at Lakeland, 5 p.m.	<b>Catholic Central</b>	10/11 vs. Harland, 7 p.m. 10/16 Districts at Howell, 7 p.m.
<b>Football</b>	10/12 at Hartland, 7 p.m.	<b>Swim and Dive</b>	10/11 vs. South Lyon, 6 p.m.
<b>Cross Country</b>	10/13 at Garfield Richard Invite, TBA 10/16 at Hartland, 4 p.m.	<b>Golf</b>	10/11 at Regionals (Oak Pointe GC in Brighton), TBA
<b>Tennis</b>	10/12 Regionals at home, 8:30 a.m.	<b>Cross Country</b>	10/13 at Sturgis HS Invite, Noon
<b>Volleyball</b>	(JV time listed, varsity follows)	<b>Tennis</b>	10/12 Regionals at Novi, 8:30 a.m.
		<b>Soccer</b>	10/16 Districts at Walled Lake Western, 7 p.m.

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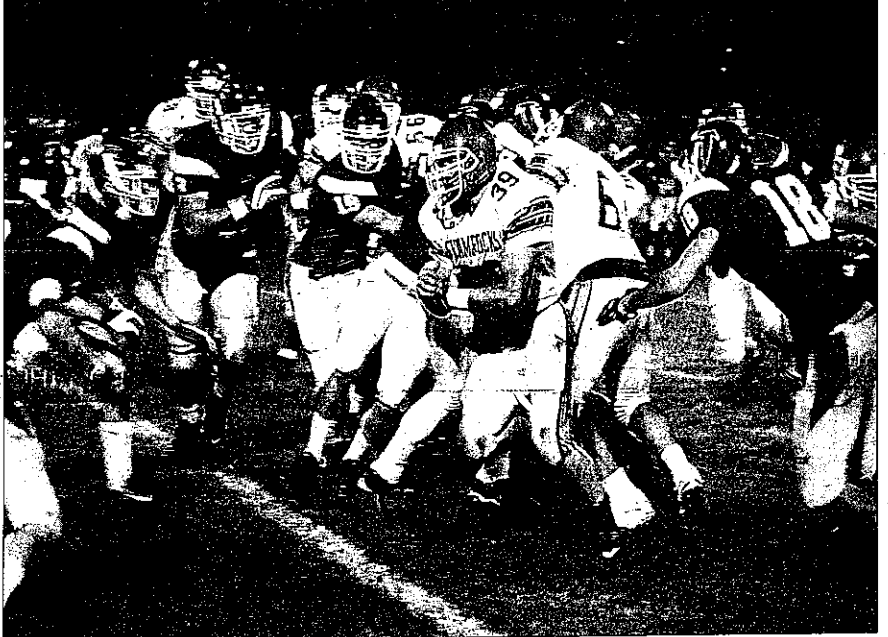
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Matt Orrico returns a 56-yard kickoff for the Shamrocks.



Niko Palazeti heads into a crowd of U-D Jesuit tacklers Saturday night.

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# REGIONAL MARKETPLACE

Page 6B

Thursday, October 11, 2007

## Life Insurance Should Be Part of Your Financial Plan

By Lisa Beyer  
State Farm® Agent

You may think you have a solid financial plan. The paycheck you bring home on a regular basis may be more than adequate to meet the immediate needs of your family. There may even be some left over for vacation, retirement or even college savings.

But what if you weren't there to provide for your family's needs? Would they continue to live in the home you shared? Would your children be able to attend the college of their choice?

These are important questions that must be considered. Finding the answers can start with visiting your insurance agent and discussing a life insurance policy that is appropriate for you and your family.

With the kids back in school, Fall is a good time for you to take a look at your existing coverage to see if it is adequate. If you don't have coverage, it is a good time to discuss the purchase of a policy.

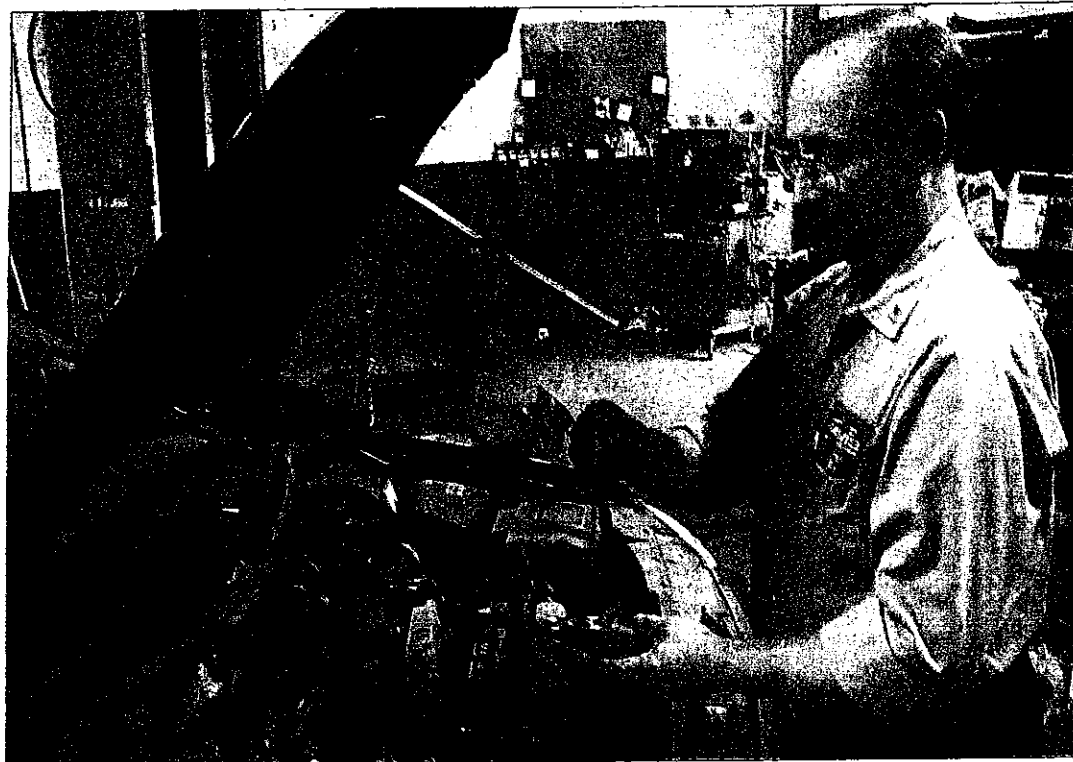
A primary purpose of a life insurance policy is to provide a dollar amount to the beneficiaries in the event of the death of the insured person. That death benefit can be used in any number of ways, whether for a mortgage, college education or regular income.

Life is full of many questions. Being sure that your financial plan includes an adequate amount of life insurance can help you answer at least one question, "What will happen to my family if I'm not around to provide for them?"

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Photos by JOHN R. HALL

Technician Jim Keith checks an auto at Davis Auto Care in Northville. October is the perfect time to bring in a vehicle to Jim's Oil Depot Quick Lube Center for an oil change that includes a 22-point vehicle checklist.

## Experience the reasons Northville's Davis Auto Care is winter's car solutions expert

By John R. Hall  
SPECIAL WRITER

With the approaching winter season, it is once again time for car and truck owners to take a close look at the vehicles that will keep them safe and warm and operating at maximum efficiency.

And keeping those vehicles in tip-top shape is the reason why Davis Auto Care of Northville has become the winter driving solutions expert. If you depend on your vehicle to run safely and efficiently throughout the year and particularly in winter, Davis Auto Care are three words you need to remember.

"We care about our customers," said owner Jim Davis. "And we want their vehicles to be kept in good running condition."

### WINTER DRIVING TIPS

For that reason, Davis and his experienced team of mechanics and customer service representatives have assembled some important information in a free brochure on winter driving tips. (Stop by Davis Auto Care and pick up your free copy!)

Some of the things that Davis wants vehicle owners to know include:

- Review needed, manufacturer recommended routine maintenance
- Check anti-freeze for freeze point and condition
- Check tires, both tread wear and pressure
- Inspect belts and hoses for wear
- Check windshield washer solvent and condition of wiper blades.
- Check exhaust system and related components
- Check brakes for wear

### OIL CHANGE PROGRAM

Most of these items are part of an overall 22-point checklist that Davis Auto Care includes with their oil changes at Jim's Oil Depot Quick Lube Center, which is part of the Davis family of businesses. The other business is the Ultimate

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Performing safety checks during an oil change at Jim's Oil Depot are, from left, technician Jeff Jacobson and manager Brian Roberts.

### REWARD POINTS

And speaking of rewards, Davis Auto Care also has a special program involving reward points. Each time a customer comes in for repairs or service, two percent or more of their total bill is applied toward reward points. These points can be used to get money off of future services, which could be very handy if winter road conditions put an alignment out of whack or damage a tire rim.

"If a customer has large repair jobs, they may get as much as \$100 off a future service," Davis said.

All of these services are just part of the overall business, a mission according to Davis.

"Our job is to fix cars," he said. "Our mission is to solve customer's problems." Solving problems starts with expert

care. The experienced crew at Davis Auto Care is what Davis calls his knowledgeable eyes who can give recommendations on proper car care and actually write prescriptions for suggested repairs. This way, owners are informed of what they need to do to keep their vehicles running — a way of preventing problems before they get worse.

and he wants Davis Auto Care to be the preferred specialist. He wants people to become regular customers, not just occasional ones.

That is why being the local shop that specializes in preventing winter vehicle breakdowns is a description that suits Jim Davis just fine.

Davis Auto Care is open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday and Thursday, and from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.

### REGULAR MAINTENANCE

Davis acknowledges that cars and trucks are built better today and parts last a lot longer. But he also noted that cars still need routine maintenance and repairs,

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