

AT THE HOP!

Parkview celebrates 50th school day. Education, 8A.

Goodfellows hit the streets

Firefighters will be collecting donations for the Novi Goodfellows 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday throughout the city. The organization provides a holiday for area families in need.

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Novi News

1B

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2007

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VOLUME 52 #25 50 CENTS

Novi Property values decrease

■ Oakland County in decline

By Kelly Murad
STAFF WRITER

The Oakland County Equalization Division released a preliminary report last Thursday announcing a decrease in property

values throughout the county. Overall, the decrease would result in less tax revenue, therefore impacting local and county governments.

According to Novi City Manager Clay Pearson, one-third of Novi's general fund revenue is

continued on 4A

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

NOVI VOLLEYBALL: Making history at Final Four

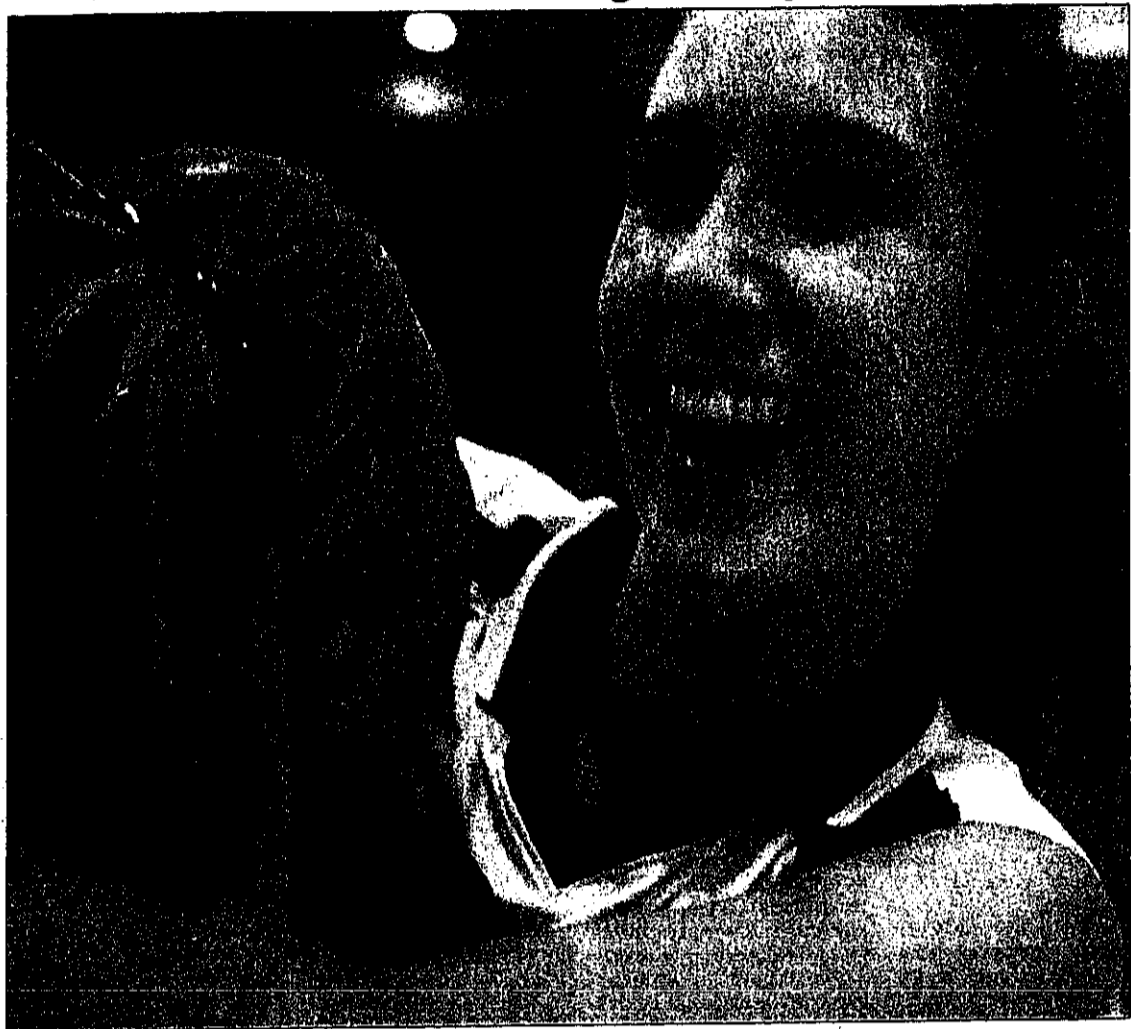


Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Novi's Stephanie Cripps shares a joyous hug with assistant coach Sarah Schmitt after the Wildcats' Tuesday night state quarterfinal playoff victory against Wyandotte Roosevelt. Novi won and advances to the state semifinals tonight in Battle Creek. For the full story, see page 7A.

School election reform proposed, opinions sought

By Chris Jackett
STAFF WRITER

The Novi Community Schools Board of Education is considering changing board member elections from May to November in an effort to save \$19,000 annually in district funds.

In order to go into affect in 2008, action must be taken at the

district's Dec. 6 meeting, the final gathering this year. A public hearing on Nov. 1 received no resident input.

But the Board will further discuss and allow public comment on the topic at tonight's 7 p.m. board meeting and will likely set the vote as an action item for the Dec. 6 meeting.

continued on 4A

Going green: City of Novi develops eco-friendly community

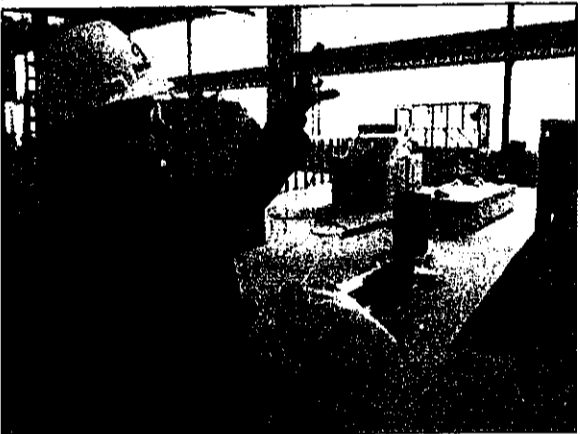


Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Fred McCoy, of JPRA Architects, points out some of the "greener" aspects of the firm's new headquarters.

By Kelly Murad
STAFF WRITER

JPRA Architects is creating a greener community for Novi. The Farmington Hills-based firm is in the process of re-locating its headquarters to 11 Mile and Meadowbrook roads.

The building, which is more than 30,000 square feet, is the first Leader in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) registered development in Novi.

According to the United States Green Building Council (USGBC), for a building to achieve LEED certification it must meet standards of the LEED Green Building Rating System, regarding sustainable site devel-

opment, water savings; energy efficiency, materials selection and indoor environmental quality.

"We've been a member of USGBC for three years and, as architects, we felt it was important for us to practice what we preach and reflect that in our new building," said Fred McCoy, principal and LEED-accredited professional for JPRA.

Some of the ways the firm is achieving LEED certification include implementing water efficient landscaping, stormwater management, waterless urinals, automatic blinds to lower the use of lights and high standards of energy efficiency.

According to future projections, McCoy said JPRA's energy

bill at the green building would be half of what it is now.

"You spend less money, long-term, on energy," he said.

Green Building 101

The city of Novi Economic Development Corporation partnered with Lawrence Technological University last Thursday to present "Green Building 101" to more than 50 people from Novi and its surrounding communities.

The seminar was presented by Professor Joseph Verysker and was geared toward the business community to introduce ways to develop and construct green, eco-friendly buildings.

Verysker is the associate dean for the Lawrence Technological University College of Architecture and Design and a certified LEED-credentialed professional.

"You can read about green building practically everyday," said Ara Topouzian, economic development director for the City of Novi. "I don't know if everybody knows what it means to go 'green'. This is an educational process."

Topouzian said Verysker spoke from experience and example, referring to the A. Alfred Taubman Student Services Center at Lawrence Tech, which is

continued on 4A

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NOVI WEEKEND PLANNER



FRIDAY

More than 1,000 animals including dogs, cats, birds, fish, llamas, reptiles, rats, alpacas, rabbits, miniature horses and goats will be on display from 1-9 p.m. at Rock Financial Showplace, 46100 Grand River Ave., for America's Pet Family Expo. Stage shows, competitions and demonstrations will be the center pieces of an event featuring animal experts, pet adoptions and thousands of pet products. The event also runs from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday. Admission is

\$10 ages 13-59, \$8 ages 60+, \$4 ages 6-12 and free for ages 5 and younger. Parking costs \$5. Call (800) 999-7295 or visit www.petexponovi.com for more information.

SATURDAY

Find Christmas at noon at Art Van Furniture, 27775 Novi Road, as a free children's reading of "Has Anyone Seen Christmas?" will take place in the Kid's Castles play area. Call (248) 348-8922 for more information.

SUNDAY

Take a hysterical look at dysfunctional families during the holiday season at 8 p.m. with "The Second City's Dysfunctional Holiday Revue" at The Second City, 42705 Grand River Ave. The show will take a comedic look at the holiday season. Tickets cost \$15 for each Sunday show. Other showtimes are 8 p.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays for \$15, 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. Fridays for \$20 and 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Saturdays for \$20. For more information or to order tickets, call (248) 348-4448 or visit www.secondcity.com.

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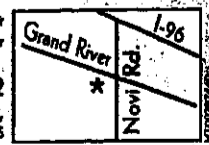
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Green Foundation aims to improve indoor air quality

By Chris Jackett
STAFF WRITER

Quality control

Dan Welch has years of experience in a variety of areas in the business world. Now, he can add founder of an environmental advocacy group to the list.

Welch, owner of DANWAY Home Inspections in Novi, started thinking more environmentally friendly within the last year. Four months ago, he started the Green Foundation, an organization branched off from DANWAY and geared toward improving environmental awareness and air quality.

"The two things with when you want to go green is air quality and energy efficiency," Welch said. "Indoor air becomes an issue. Indoor air is three to five times more polluted than outdoor air, by a national standard average. Kids average nine of 10 breathe indoors."

The Green Foundation has quickly become an advocate for cleaner air, as Welch has spoken with schools and businesses about improving air quality. Eventually, he would like to offer evaluation services for schools to see what can be done to improve indoor airflow.

"The concept we started (is) to certify that the air has been tested," Welch said. "It's a big project just getting off the ground."

"We want to see Michigan become the front-runner in setting protocols. Michigan can be a leader again, not in automobiles, but environmentally."

Welch has already recruited general organic cleaning services and bio-conscious companies to aid the Green Foundation's cause.

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



Welcome!
Julie Farkas, right, the new director of the Novi Public Library talks with the city's community relations manager Sheryl Walsh at an open house, welcoming Farkas into the community.

Going green: Novi develops eco-friendly city

continued from front

Known as the living laboratory for the study of renewable resources. "This starts at the basic root of building green. I think it's very timely, especially for a community that is still in the process of being developed," Topozian said.

Novi's Initiative

In January, Novi's City Council projected specific goals to encourage green building and development throughout the city.

"They wanted to be a community that values natural features," said Burt McBeth, deputy community development director for the City of Novi.

As a result, city staff members began researching green projects and policies of surrounding communities, along with conducting a cost/benefit analysis.

"Most communities did not have a policy in place, with the exception of Auburn Hills," McBeth said.

At the Sept. 24 city council meeting, staff introduced a resolution unanimously approved by council, to adopt green building policies, encouraging builders and developers to consider going green when doing projects.

"The benefit is it would help achieve council's goal of being an environmentally conscious community," McBeth said.

Novi News staff writer Kelly Mural can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 103 or kmural@gannett.com.

Oakland County in decline

continued from front

residential property values throughout Oakland County ranging from 46 percent in Sylvan Lake to 7.17 percent in Rochester, with Novi at 5.71 percent.

"Novi's kind of at the high-end of the pack," Crawford said. "We were told that municipalities that have had the most growth in past months and years are most affected than others."

"Novi had \$400 million worth of new construction last year," Crawford said.

According to Pearson, with growth occurring at a slower pace, the city has anticipated and planned for this.

"For existing residential property it will have an impact," said Pearson, noting this will not affect property taxes due in February. "It's a reminder to us to increase the tax base overall and increase diversity of the tax base."

With this being a preliminary report, Crawford believes the finance committee will be analyzing the budget more extensively during the next couple of months.

School election reform proposed, opinions sought

continued from front

Novi board member elections are currently held every year in May and board members serve four-year terms. The May election costs the district about \$19,000 each year in set-up and ballot printing fees.

"If it's not broken, don't fix it," said trustee George Korlandi, however noting spending \$19,000 on an election fewer than 100 residents have turned out for in the past is poor fiscal practice. "Right now, we're floating. At some time, (the state) could come down and tell us when to have it."

The change would save the district dollars through eliminating election expenses by adding the board election to an existing ballot. Even-numbered-year elections would align the elections and cost sharing with presidential and gubernatorial elections and give the board the option of moving to six-year terms. Odd-numbered-year elections would align with City of Novi elections and also allow the choice of four or six-year terms. Elections every year are also an option, and would allow the board to maintain the staggered election cycle currently in place, using four-year terms.

"My first blush is we ought to save \$19,000 and use it for the kids. I am in consensus that I don't think it's healthy to elect four people to a seven-person board at any one time," said Treasurer Ann Glubzinski, who also felt the switch to six-year terms would be OK. "People who run for four years are just as likely to stay in the city for six years. By the time you're trained two and a half years in, you're just getting ramped up."

Secretary Katie Raean, vice president Bruce Bagdady and trustee Bobbie Murphy said the six-year terms may be too long when considering a second term.

President Jeff Nielson said West Bloomfield just settled on six-year terms in even years, but they did not have the option of having it every year. He also noted West Bloomfield spent \$55,000 per election in comparison to Novi's \$19,000.

Another supported option under exploration includes moving the term dates from a June 30 completion to Dec. 31 completion, moving new terms' start from July 1 to Jan. 1.

REPORT CRIME:

Call (248) 348-7100 for non-emergencies in Novi

Victoria Mitchell, editor
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AMY PUBLIC SAFETY

Thursday, November 15, 2007
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Suspect robs gas station using toy gun

POLICE BRIEFS

According to city officials, just before 8 p.m. Nov. 6, the Novi Police Department responded to a 911 call regarding an armed robbery at the Sunoco gas station on Grand River Avenue, west of Novi Road.

The female suspect entered the store and showed the clerk a gun and a note demanding money, reports said.

Once the suspect received the money, she headed west in a white Pontiac, reports said.

According to a press release, a Novi police officer observed the suspected vehicle parked next to a gas pump at the Mobil gas station at Grand River Avenue and Wixom Road.

With the assistance of Wixom police officers, the suspect, Anna May Kwansy, 65, was arrested.

The officers on the scene recovered the weapon used in the robbery, which turned out to be a toy gun wrapped in electrical tape, reports said.

A mom, dad, two kids and father-in-law were in the home when the fire began, reports said.

The father was the last one out of the home and climbed out through a window, with the help of a neighbor, officials said.

There were no major injuries, the family was evacuated at a local hospital and treated for smoke inhalation and minor cuts.

Man dies after car strikes tree

A 21-year-old Detroit man died Monday when he lost control of his 1997 Honda Civic and ran off the roadway into a tree.

The man was traveling southbound on Harper Road south of Twelve Mile Road around 7:20 a.m. when, according to witnesses, he was passing a white SUV when it was struck by a northbound vehicle.

According to the report from the Oakland County Sheriff's Office Lyon Substation, the man attempted to get back into his lane, but lost control and left the roadway before hitting the tree.

He was trapped in his vehicle and removed from the car by members of the Novi Fire Department. The man was transported to Royal Oak Beaumont Hospital and was pronounced dead at 8:52 a.m. Alcohol does not appear to have been a factor, and the man was not wearing a seat belt.

The Crash Reconstruction Unit is still investigating the crash.

Golf clubs worth \$2,000 reported stolen from vehicle

At about 4:30 a.m. Nov. 6, two vehicles in the same neighborhood had windows smashed out, reports said.

The back window of a white 2007 GMC was smashed out while parked at a residence near Beck and Nine Mile roads, reports said.

According to the owner, his golf clubs, valued at \$2,000 were stolen from the vehicle.

The light brown and black Titleist bag was filled with Ping Eye 2 irons with Wynn grips, a Titleist driver, a Ping 3-wood, a Callaway fairway wood, a Scotty Cameron putter and two rare Cleveland copper beryllium wedges, reports said.

According to the officer, Play it Again Sports received a list of the stolen clubs and will notify the police if anyone brings them in.

The back window and two windows on the left side of a black 2008 Ford were smashed out while the vehicle was parked at a residence on Nine Mile Road and Beckingham Boulevard, reports said.

Although they were not able to recover the other two earnings, the officers found a marijuana pipe in

another pocket of the jacket, reports said.

According to Novi police officers, the pipe was placed into property to be destroyed, since the man did not have it on him upon their arrival.

According to a recent police report, a pre-paid Speedway gas card and \$3 in quarters were stolen from a vehicle between 11:30 p.m. Nov. 5 and 8 a.m. Nov. 6.

The victim left his 2004 Infiniti unlocked while parked overnight in his driveway near Meadowbrook and 13 Mile roads, reports said.

When the man entered his vehicle Nov. 6, he noticed the center glove box was open and his gas card and \$3 worth of quarters were missing, reports said.

According to the report, the man was able to cancel the Speedway card and transfer the \$400 balance to a new card.

No damage was done to the vehicle and no other items were missing, reports said.

The South Lyon Herald contributed to these reports.

Retail fraud at JCPenney

A man was arrested for retail fraud at JCPenney in Twelve Oaks Mall just after 8 p.m. Nov. 6, reports said.

According to the report, loss prevention officers observed the nervous male in the jewelry department via surveillance cameras.

The officers saw the man select two pairs of earrings and walk into the misses department where he removed the earrings from their cards, placed them in his pockets and discarded the backing cards in the pocket of a sweater on a display table, reports said.

Once the loss prevention officers brought the man inside, they found two of the four earrings in his jacket pocket.

Although they were not able to recover the other two earrings, the officers found a marijuana pipe in

Items taken from unlocked car

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The South Lyon Herald contributed to these reports.

Thrill Kill: Two teens charged with killing River Rouge man

By Pam Fleming
STAFF WRITER

Two Western Wayne teenagers may have given new meaning to the familiar phrase, "With friends like that, who needs enemies?"

Jean Pierre Oriewicz, 17, of Plymouth, and Alexander James Letkemann, 18, of Westland, were charged Monday in 34th District Court in Romulus with first-degree murder in the death of their friend, Daniel Sorensen, 26, of River Rouge.

Sorensen's body was found in Northville Township water and sewer workers at 9:32 a.m. Nov. 8 in an undeveloped subdivision at Ridge and Seven Mile roads.

The Wayne County Medical Examiner determined the cause of death late Nov. 9 as multiple stabings.

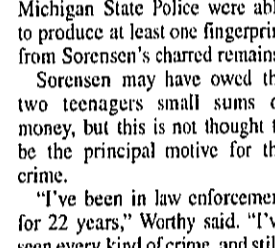
Could face life in prison

Worthy said police charged with first degree premeditated murder and felony murder, both of which carry mandatory sentences of life in prison, the two were charged with mutilation of a corpse, which carries a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison.

Letkemann, who lives with his parents in Westland, dropped out of Churchill High School in



Oriewicz



Letkemann

wrapped the body in a tarp, put it in a pickup truck, dumped the body in Northville Township and tossed the head in the River Rouge.

There was no evidence that a video recording was made of the killing.

The arrest warrant alleges that on Nov. 7 the two teenagers lured Sorensen to a house on the 8200 block of Holly Lane in Canton for the purpose of killing him.

The house belongs to Oriewicz's grandfather. Sorensen was supposedly led into the garage, where the killing took place.

Oriewicz and Letkemann allegedly used a blow torch to burn the body's hands and feet and then set it on fire in Northville Township. However, the Michigan State Police were able to produce at least one fingerprint from Sorensen's charred remains.

Sorensen may have owned the two teenagers small sums of money, but this is not thought to be the principal motive for the crime.

"I've been in law enforcement for 22 years," Worthy said. "I've seen every kind of crime, and still, the idea that there are people who would kill just for the thrill of it is bone chilling. The evidence police have gathered in this case suggests just that."

Investigators have worked tirelessly, virtually around the clock, gathering information, developing leads, collecting evidence, and executing search warrants," said John Worthy, director of public safety, Northville Township.

The investigation was led by Northville Township police, who found all persons responsible for the murder, Worthy said. "They started and coordinated the investigation, then turned over the case to the proper agencies where the murder occurred." Others who assisted in the investigation included Canton Township Police, Plymouth Township Police, the Michigan State Police and Wayne County Prosecutor's Office.

"Law enforcement was at its best. By putting the pieces together, we were able to determine who was responsible for this terrible act and where the death took place."

Concerning the cooperative law enforcement effort Worthy said, "We asked them to really investigate this case, and that's what was done. I'm really thankful to them for keeping to their word, working to pull this together and solving this case very quickly. Hats off to all of them. The work that they did on this case was 24/7."

Six conviction not related

Worthy said police and prosecutors are still puzzled why anyone would kill someone just for the thrill of it. She noted that the crime did not have any connection to the fact that Sorensen had a prior record for criminal sexual

conduct that took place in Illinois in 1998. The conviction was evidently a statutory indiscretion on Sorensen's part and occurred when he was 18 and the girl was 14.

"That does not have any bearing on this case whatsoever," Worthy said.

Letkemann has a previous record of minor in possession of alcohol.

Due to the complexity and numerous details that have arisen in the case, Worthy said no further information will be available until the preliminary examination scheduled for 8:30 a.m. Nov. 19.

Northville Record staff writer Pam Fleming can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105, or pfleming@gannett.com.

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LET'S TALK JEWELRY WITH GARY S. WEINSTEIN, GEMOLOGIST

IS BLUE YOUR FAVORITE COLOR?

If blue is your favorite color, you are probably already familiar with blue topaz. After all, this beautiful blue gemstone has been steadily climbing up the popularity ladder over the past few years. It comes in shades that vary from very light blue to sky blue to a nearly inky blue. Not only is this blue gemstone attractive, it is also very hard (8 on the Mohs scale), and is considerable clarity makes it a lovely choice in larger sizes treated with an emerald cut. That does not mean, however, that you will have to break the bank to purchase a large topaz stone. This exceedingly attractive colored gemstone is very affordable, which makes it suitable for matching pieces.

Throughout its history, topaz held the distinction of being the gemstone with the widest range of curative powers. Among other attributes, topaz was used to promote wisdom, which is probably why the custom in ancient times was to give topaz rings to lords of state, diplomats, and royalty. Today, blue topaz also solves the shopping dilemma by being a lovely gift, especially for those with a December birthday. Make a wise choice and see our selection of fine jewelry at WEINSTEIN JEWELERS OF NOVI, 4199 Grand River Ave., PH 248-347-0283. We're open Tues. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., Wed. 11 a.m. - 6 p.m., Thurs. & Fri. 10 a.m. - 8 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., closed Sunday & Monday. We are licensed by the city of Novi to offer loans on jewelry.

All customers bring in this article and your original appraisal from Weinstein Jewelers and receive a FREE Appraisal Update! *Valued at \$25.00

PS Blue topaz was once thought to calm hot tempers as well as make it warmer (invisible in a threatening situation).

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Victoria Mitchell
STAFF WRITER
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MY EDUCATION A+

Thursday, November 15, 2007
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Experience colonial Virginia and meet Thomas Jefferson

By Chris Jackett
STAFF WRITER

Thomas Jefferson in
Novi
Dec. 4 at Novi Meadows,
25549 Taft Road
8:30 a.m. & 9:30 a.m. for
Meadows students
7:30 p.m. for adults

Anonymous pays, at least for a
group of social studies teachers.
An anonymous donor sent Novi
Meadows teacher Gary Hurst to
the Colonial Williamsburg historical
re-enactment site in Virginia in
2006 and peers Carol Mulhall and
Amy Mardigan this past summer.
All three attended the week-long
Colonial Williamsburg Teacher
Institute educational program in
2006 and peers Carol Mulhall and
Amy Mardigan this past summer.
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Colonial Williamsburg Teacher
Institute educational program in
2006 and peers Carol Mulhall and
Amy Mardigan this past summer.

Jefferson, who wanted to move
the State Capitol from
Richmond, its
location since 1780.
Hurst heard directly from
Jefferson during his 2006 trip.
"Jefferson was really like it was
Thomas Jefferson talking to you,"
he said.
Other activities included checking
tobacco leaves in a plantation
field for bugs, preparing clay to
be made into bricks by stamping
around in it barefoot and leading a
town debate between colonists
about the possibility of a revolution.

"We had to participate in a
debate between those colonists
for a revolution and those who
were not. We had to study and
plan the night before," Mulhall
said, adding that the group was
split in the debate.
Mulhall was designated to
argue for revolution, while
Mardigan started off the loyalist
debate. "The vote for revolution
was unanimous," Mulhall said.
The anonymous donor paid all
expenses of the trip for all three
Meadows teachers. The flight,
institute, food, room and board
and spending allowance were all
supplied, and the teachers came
back with bags full of books and
compact discs full of educational
material for their students.

Williamsburg in Novi

The same anonymous donor is
now bringing Bill Barker, an actor
and historian who portrays



A trio of Novi Meadows teachers recently enjoyed trips, paid for by an anonymous donor, to Colonial Williamsburg, in Virginia to learn of the colonies' early history. From left are Amy Mardigan, Carol Mulhall and Gary Hurst. The same donor is paying for a Thomas Jefferson impersonator to visit Novi Meadows on Dec. 4.

Thomas Jefferson at Colonial
Williamsburg, to Novi on Dec. 4
for two day-long assemblies for
students and one evening assembly
for adults at Novi Meadows.
"Students will gain more
knowledge of the time period
and how he was instrumental in
writing the Declaration of

Independence and (learn about)
his presidency," Mulhall said. "I
hope the parents take away the
understanding of freedom. You
should never take it for granted."
Booked through Virginia-based
Arnett & Associates, "Jefferson"
will speak to Novi Meadows stu-

dents about fifth-grade appropriate
subjects at 8:30 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.
and a slightly different subject at
the 7:30 p.m. adult gathering.
"I hope they gain a little bit of
insight. They (Jefferson and other
colonial figures) were real people.
We hear names and don't
really associate it," Hurst said.

"As we get older, we tend to
understand things a little better.
They have more meaning for
them."
Novi News staff writer Chris
Jackett can be reached at (248)
349-1700, ext. 122 or
cjackett@gannett.com.

Making
History

Novi plays in
semifinals
tonight in
Battle Creek

By Jeff Theisen
SPORTS WRITER

Don't wake Novi volleyball
coach Julie Fisetto up. She is liv-
ing a wonderful dream with her
team's playoff run.
The Wildcats pushed into the
Final Four with a 3-1 win, 25-18,
23-25, 25-16, 25-17, against
Wyandotte on Tuesday in
Gibraltar.

"These guys, they're such a
complete package," Fisetto said.
"They're fired up. We never
looked back.
"We've been yelling state ever
since districts. That was our next
rock on the mountain. I am so
proud to be taking them there."

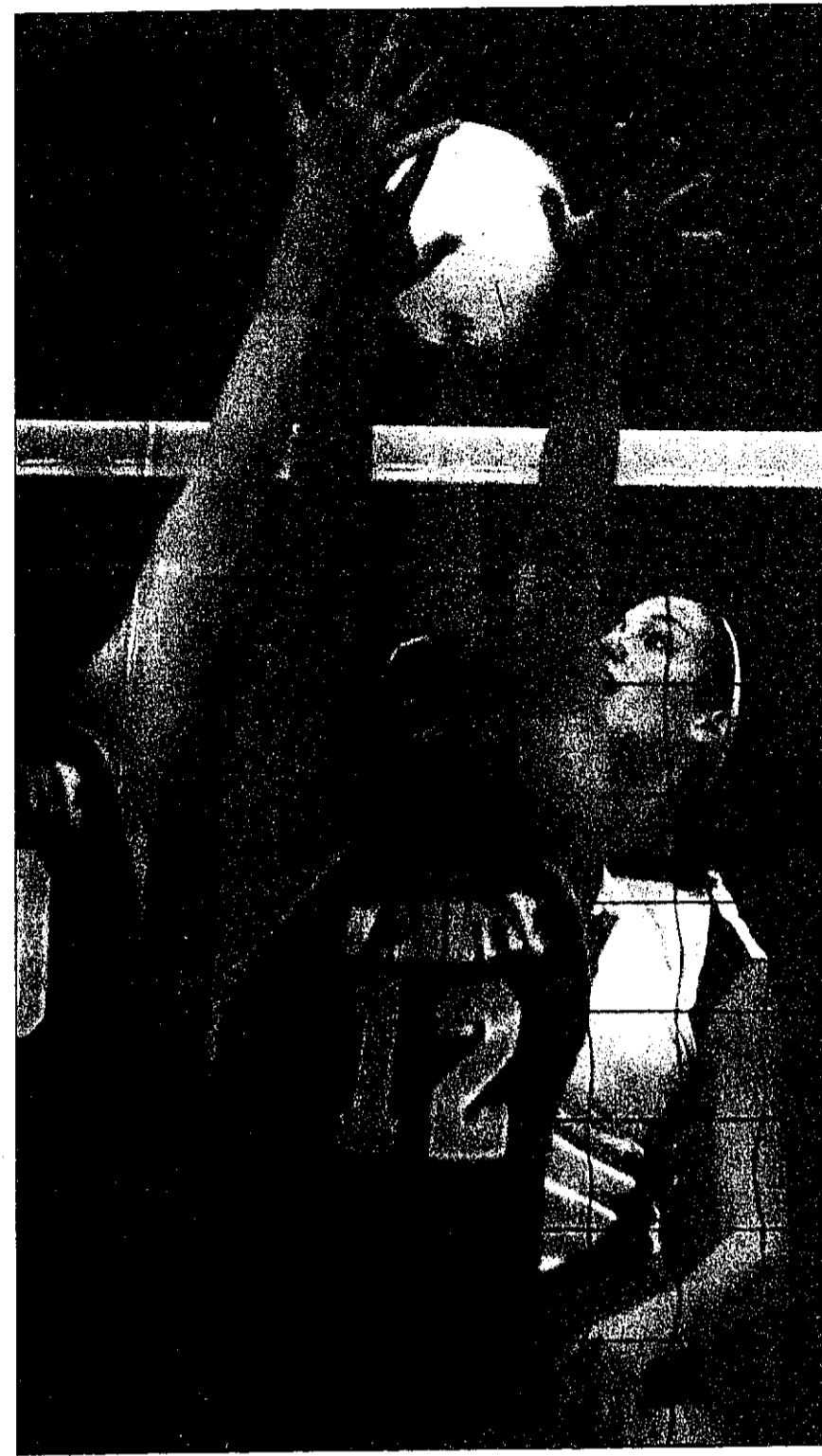
Novi raced out to a 17-5 lead in
the first game, setting the tone
early that the Wildcats weren't
just there to have a good time.
They were there to win.
Wyandotte fought back to make
it a game, but Novi won the open-
er 25-18. The Bears lone lead of
the game was 1-0. Novi held leads
of 6-2, 12-4 and 17-5, much to the
delight of the Wildcats faithful.
"Novi, which seemed the more
pumped-up team throughout the
match, knew they were on the
brink of putting away the Bears,
and they didn't let it get away.
Holding a 14-12 lead, Janer went
to the line and ripped off
three more service points for a
five-point lead.
After an exchange of sideouts,
Miller provided a dig that told the
story of how things were going
for the Wildcats. She dove to save
a Litteral spike, and the ball went
flying back over the net before
falling deep in the corner of the
Bears' side of the court.

rest of the defense were on their
game, keeping almost everything
off the floor.
"It's the best feeling ever.
Never did I think my senior year
was going to be in the final four,"
Miller said. "I know we can do it.
We can go the whole way."
Wyandotte showed why it
reached the elite eight in game
two. Both teams made runs, but the
Bears turned a 22-20 deficit into a
24-20 lead with Addison Sweeney
serving. After a sideout, Kaitlyn
Litteral knocked down a kill to win
the second game, 25-23.
With the match tied 1-1, Novi
won the third game three going to
be pivotal. Novi seized the
moment and again raced out to a
big lead.
Janer took the serve up 7-5 and
didn't stop until the Wildcats led
11-5. Robb put down a pair of
kills during the run. The lead grew
to 18-8, and the Wildcats eventu-
ally put it away, 25-16.

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pumped-up team throughout the
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a Litteral spike, and the ball went
flying back over the net before
falling deep in the corner of the
Bears' side of the court.

"I thought it was going out and
everyone started cheering. I
looked up and the ball was inside
the line," Miller said. "Sometimes
it just clicks."
The Novi bench erupted, and it
didn't stop until the Wildcats led
11-5. Robb put down a pair of
kills during the run. The lead grew
to 18-8, and the Wildcats eventu-
ally put it away, 25-16.

Hidreth served up a point for a
21-15 lead. After a couple of side-
out exchanges, Crisps served up
an ace for a 24-17 lead.
The final point, fittingly, came
from Janer, on a night that Fisetto
admitted was one of her best hit-
ting nights of the year.
"I just went up for it and held
nothing back really," Janer said. "I
feel really confident.



Novi's Paula Dietz spikes the ball over the net during the Wildcats' Tuesday night state quarterfinal playoff game against Wyandotte Roosevelt. Novi won and advances to the state semifinals tonight in Battle Creek.

Class
NOTES

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Roping
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moira.robinson@totmail.com.

Walled Lake Holiday Snow
Ball Dance

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Lake Northern High School,
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Commerce Township. The
evening will include dancing,
desserts and a photographer.
Formal dress attire is recom-
mended. The cost is \$15 for
adults ages 18 and older; \$12
for children ages 6-17; and free
for children five and younger. A \$40
Family Discount is available for
up to five people, any combina-
tion. Valet parking will be avail-
able for \$2. For a registration
form, log on to www.walled-
lake.k12.mi.us/pdf/HolidaySnow
Ball.pdf. Registration deadline
is Dec. 7. For more information
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SPOTLIGHT ON
ALLERGY & ASTHMA
Presented by
Michael S. Rowe, M.D., F.A.C.P., C.P.I.
HOW THE HOLIDAYS CAN AFFECT YOUR ALLERGIES
If you have allergies, you know that every
season brings its allergy challenges, and the
holidays are no different. Baking, candles,
cigarette smoke, and Christmas trees are just
some of the things you encounter during the
season that can make your allergies flare up.
Family and friends' pets or heavy perfumes
can also be bothersome. When you are head-
ing out for holiday visiting, be sure to bring
your allergy medications.
You may be aware of the allergens when
you travel, but think about your own home.
Keep your holiday decorations from the
backyard with most likely result in a lot of
dust spores, and Christmas trees usually
sit in wet bases, which can breed mold.
Keep your holiday decorations in sealed
plastic bags off the floor in a dry place to
avoid having them collect dust and mold.
The holidays present special problems for
allergy sufferers. Now is the time for proper
diagnosis and treatment. The doctor and
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Physical Therapy
Rehabilitation Update
by Dennis Engerer, P.T.
NOT THE WATERED-DOWN APPROACH
Moderate exercisers can usually
avoid becoming dehydrated by simply
drinking in accordance with their
thirst. However, if you are
overweight, over 65, tend to sweat
heavily, or exercise intensely, you may
need to make an extra effort to stay
properly hydrated, particularly when
exercising in heat. According to a
report by the American College of
Sports Medicine, the simplest way to
determine how much water you need is
to weigh yourself before and after a
typical workout. For each pound lost,
plan to drink about two additional
cups of water during or after your next
session. If you gained weight during
that workout, you drank too much,
which can disturb the body's sodium
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CELEBRATE: Let us tell everyone your big news: engagements, anniversaries, births, weddings...

MY NOVI PEOPLE

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

Thursday, November 15, 2007 www.novinews.com fax: (248) 349-9832

ENGAGEMENTS



Yaelke-Scavnick Dr. Gary and Judith Roman Scavnick of Troy announce the

engagement of their daughter Elizabeth Aracangela Francesca Scavnick of Troy to Neil Jason Yaelke of Farmington Hills, son of Dirk and Sandy Yaelke of Northville.

The bride-elect received a Presidential Scholar B.B.A. from Wayne State University and an MBA from the University of Michigan. She is currently employed as director of Interactive Solutions at Xede Consulting Group, Inc.

The groom-elect earned B.B.A. and MBA degrees from the University of Michigan and is currently director of Project Management at ePize, LLC.

A wedding is planned for Sept. 20, 2008 at St. George Cathedral in Southfield with a reception following at St. John's in Plymouth.



Pitcher-Mauren Mark and Janet Pitcher of Novi

announce the engagement of their daughter, Laura Fitcher Scavnick, to Marc Mauren, son of Rich and Linda Mauren of Riverview.

The bride-elect is a 1999 graduate of Novi High School and a 2003 graduate of Adrian College. She is currently employed at Auto Owners Insurance Company in Lansing as a senior actuarial technician.

The groom-elect is a 1997 graduate of Gabriel Richard High School and a 2001 graduate of Central Michigan University. He is currently employed as a systems administrator at Auto Owners Insurance Co. in Lansing.

A wedding is planned for Dec. 1, 2007.



Sestito-Kline Donald Kline and Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Campione of Novi announce the engagement of their daughter Heather Nicole Kline to Timothy Michael Sestito, son of

Peter and Julie Sestito and Gary and Kimberly Bulinski of Rome, N.Y.

The bride-elect is a 2002 graduate of Novi High School and 2006 graduate of Michigan State University, where she earned a degree in business. Currently she is a manager-in-training at Masco Contractor Services, Greenville, S.C.

The groom-elect is a 2002 graduate of Rome Free Academy. He is a professional hockey player under an NHL contract with the Edmonton Oilers. He currently plays for their American Hockey League affiliate, the Springfield Falcons of Springfield, Mass.

A July 2008 wedding is planned at St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church, Rome, N.Y. The couple will honeymoon in Mazatlan.



Juntunen-Parrish Tina and Thomas Parrish of

Novi announce the engagement of their daughter Christina M. Parrish to Cory L. Juntunen, son of Christine Young of Grand Rapids and Tom Juntunen of Minnesota.

The bride-elect is a 2000 graduate of Novi High School, and earned a bachelor of science and nursing from Grand Valley State University. She is currently employed by St. Mary's Hospital, Grand Rapids.

The groom-elect is a 1995 graduate of Jenison High School, Grand Rapids. Currently he is employed by UPS.

A wedding is planned for fall 2008.

OBITUARIES ADA JEWELL CRAWFORD Age 89, November 5, 2007. Beloved wife of Johnnie. Dear mother of Rita Strath and Keith (Sharon) Crawford. Loving grandmother of Julie, Eric and Whitney. Great-grandmother of Lucas and Isaac. Sister of Mary (Paul) McBroon. Funeral services were held November 8, 2007 at O'Brien Sullivan Funeral Home. Online sympathy www.obriensullivanfuneralhome.com

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OBITUARY POLICY The five 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. *Obituary 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. *Holiday deadlines are subject to change.

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BE SCENE IN NOVI

As a culmination to their geography unit, the fifth-grade students at Novi Meadows planned an exciting project involving a United States Map and lots of sugar cookie dough. The students worked in groups to decorate their cookies, making them look like raised relief maps. Candy kisses, chocolate chips, frosting and sprinkles made the good old U.S.A. a truly delicious place. When the maps were completed the students were able to enjoy the cookies of their labor.

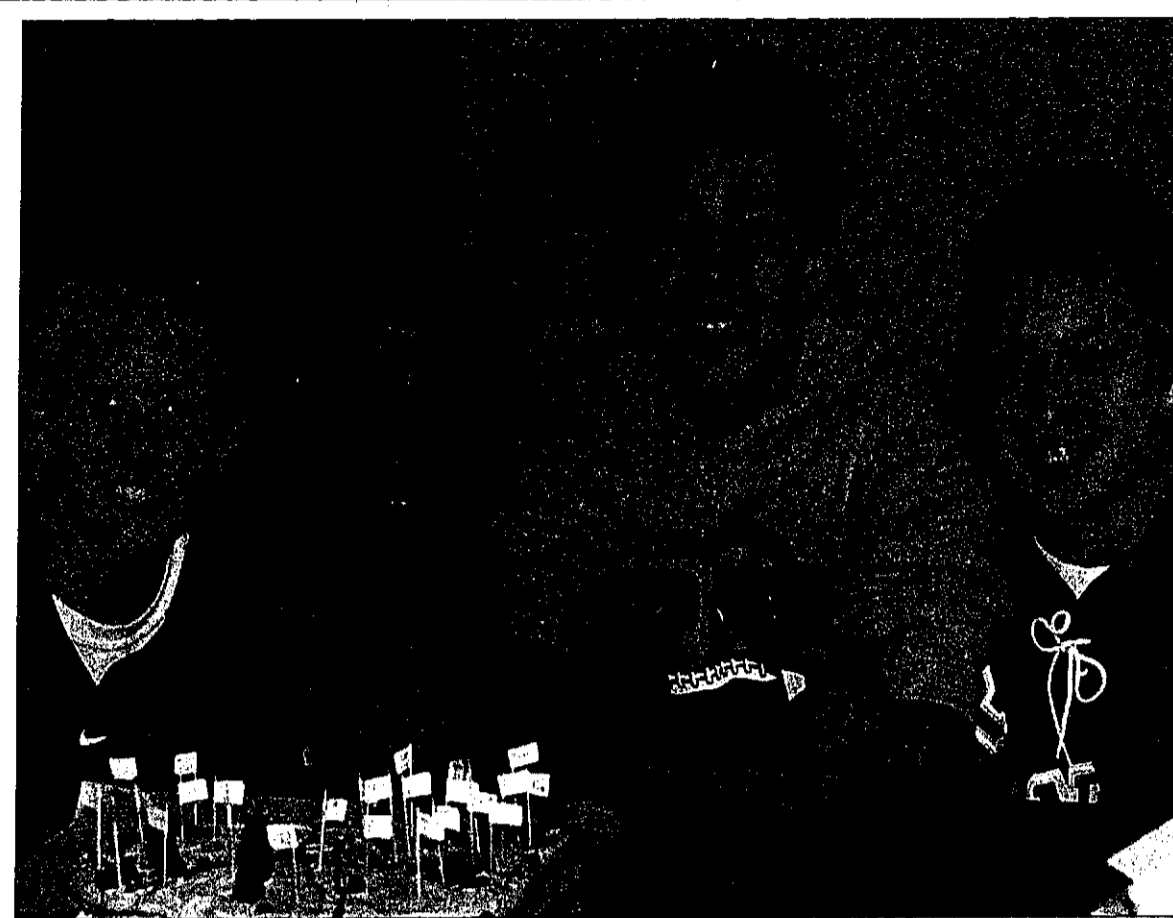
PHOTOS BY JANET FLORES



The United States of America: a truly delicious place.



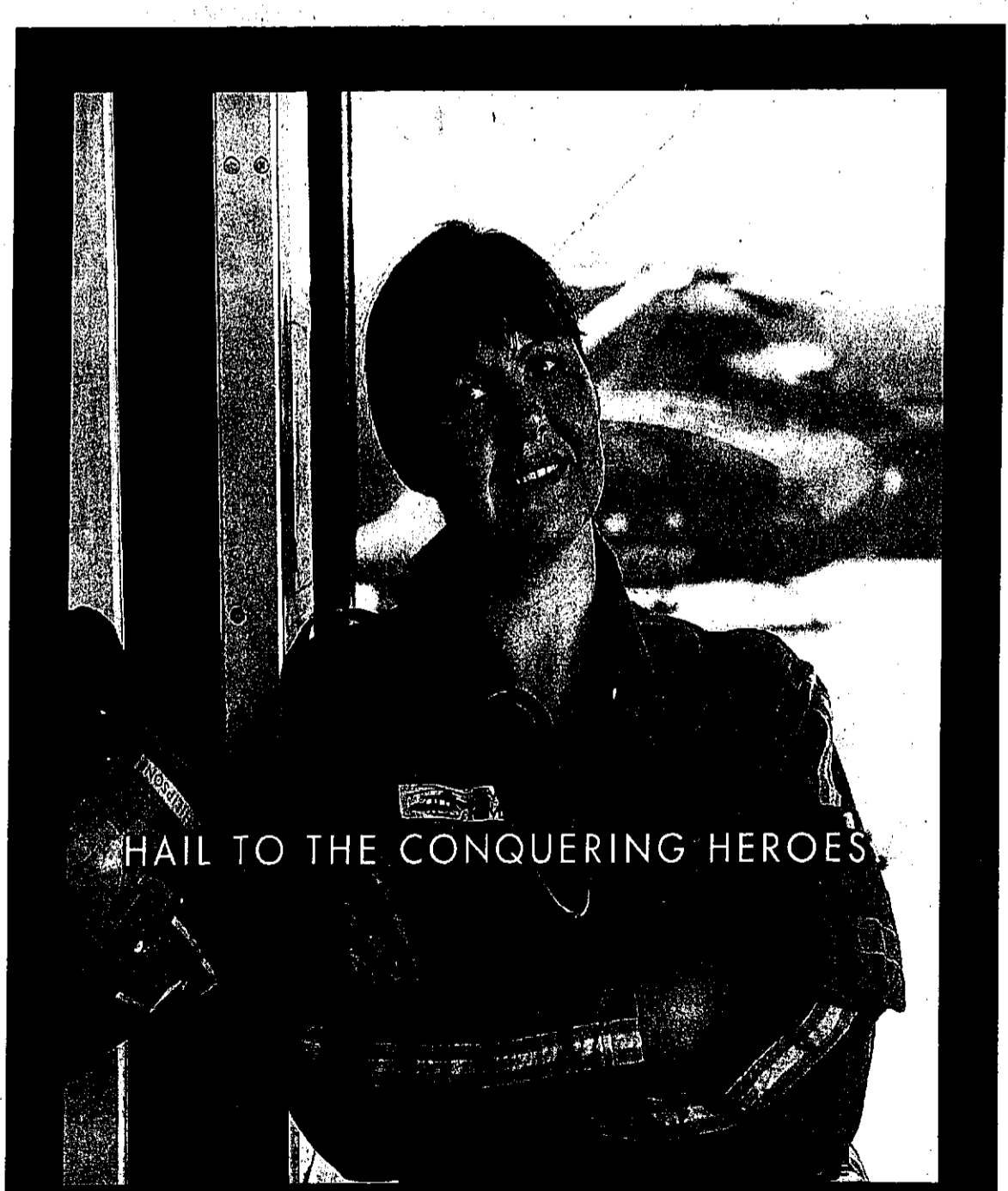
Novi Meadows student Nicholas Fadanelli enjoys his contribution to the fifth-grade class U.S. geography project.



Novi Meadows fifth-grade students Brad Dolinga, Tim Wang, Joey Vacca and Ryan Kobakof smile for the camera.



As a culmination to their geography unit, Emily Gray and Caitlyn Kucera decorate sugar cookies representing the United States.



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Victoria Mitchell, editor
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Thursday, November 15, 2007
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MY OPINION

PHOTO OF THE WEEK

Novi News

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

Editorial - Don't veer for deer

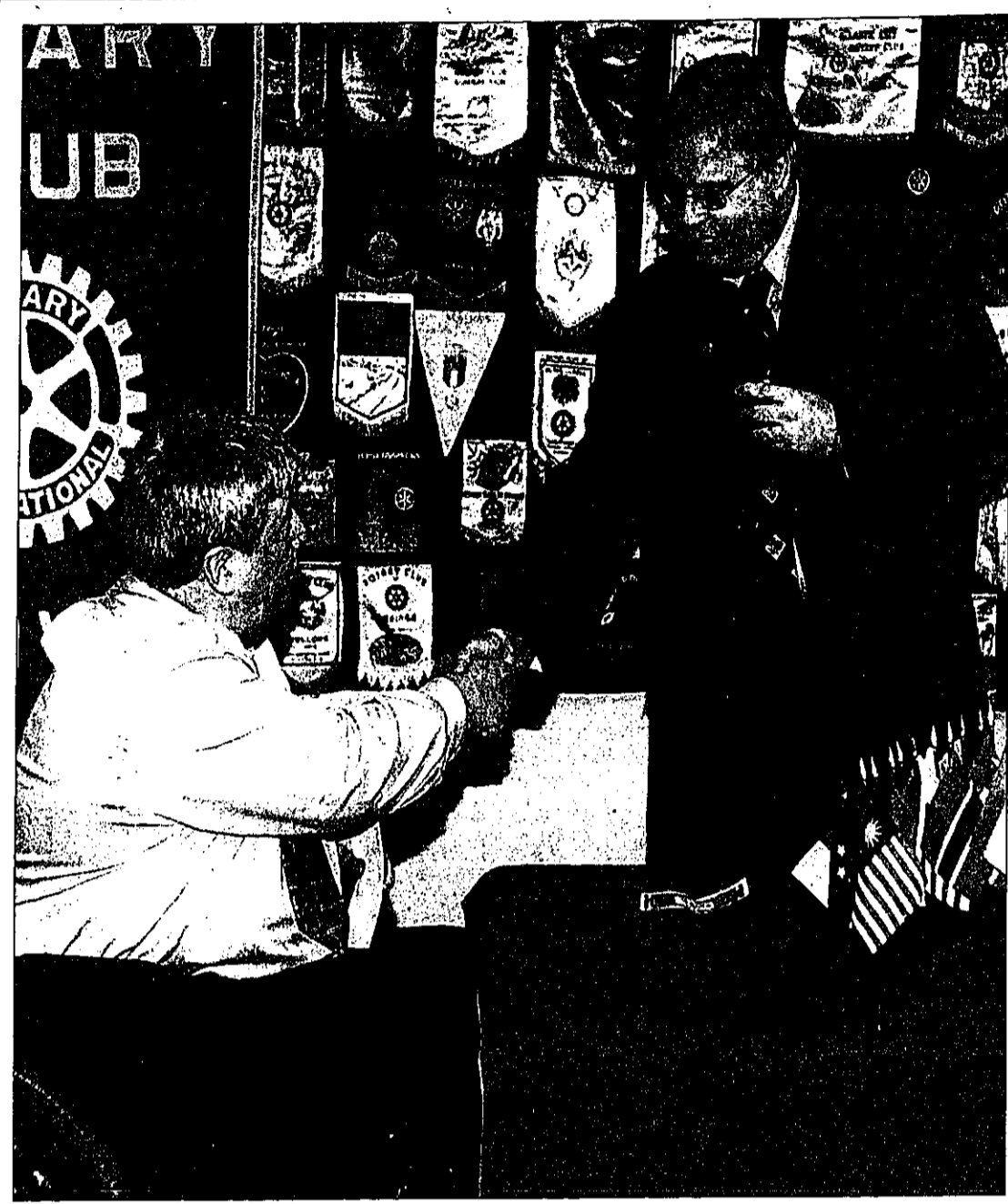
'Tis the season for car-deer crashes across Michigan, and local drivers should keep in mind that we're in one of the worst areas in the state for these types of accidents. There are a lot of deer out there and, this month especially, they're going to be on the run. These crashes can be expensive and sometimes deadly (12 people died last year in Michigan due to car-deer crashes), so it's worth your time to learn how you can improve your chances of not hitting a doe or buck.

There's a lot of good advice from the experts on how to avoid these crashes, but the best advice is this: If it's inevitable that you're going to hit a deer, just hit it. While swerving might be a driver's first instinct, it's vital that you "don't veer for deer."

With deer season upon us, the Michigan Deer Crash Coalition has provided tips to avoid a crash with one of the state's 1.75 million deer. First, if a crash is unavoidable, the coalition recommends the following:

- Do not swerve.
 - Brake firmly.
 - Grasp the steering wheel with both hands.
 - Come to a controlled stop.
 - Steer your vehicle well off the roadway.
- The coalition also suggests some ways to avoid the crash in the first place:

- Watch for deer, especially at dawn and dusk. They are most active at those times, especially during the fall mating season. In the spring, deer will move from cover to find food, and back to cover. Often they will feed along road easements, where grass greens up first.
- If you see one deer, approach cautiously, as there may be more out of sight.
- Deer often travel single file, so if you see one cross a road, chances are more are nearby waiting to cross, too. When startled by an approaching vehicle, they can panic and dart out from any direction without warning.
- Be alert all year, especially on two-lane roads. Watch for deer warning signs. They are placed at known deer-crossing areas and serve as a first alert that deer may be near.
- Slow down when traveling through deer population areas.



Saluting our Veterans
Novi Rotary's Tony Musu gives Michigan Paralyzed Veterans Association's Mike Harris a check for \$500 during a Veterans Day salute to service members. The check was from Rotary for the MPVA's general fund, which assists paralyzed veterans.

Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

JOIN IN: Discuss our stories online via Story Chat at novinews.com

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

COMMENTARY

Thursday, November 15, 2007
www.novinews.com
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PHIL POWER: New law more like Orwellian nightmare

What would you say if the Michigan Legislature passed and Gov. Jennifer Granholm signed into law a measure that:

- Authorized the state to pay up to \$10 million to hold Republican and Democratic primary elections in January.
- Ordered the Michigan Secretary of State to use this primary to develop — again, at public expense — a list of voters' party preferences, including names and addresses.

• Require this list to be kept secret — except that the taxpayers would turn it over for free only to the chairs of the Democratic and Republican parties for use in "supporting political party activities."

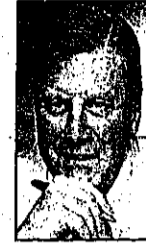
• Further, provided that any other use of these records — political, commercial, journalistic, academic, historical or scientific — by anyone else other than the two major political parties is a criminal violation of the law, subject to a \$1,000 fine and up to 93 days in jail?

Naturally — after you got your breath back — you'd say this was a plot right out of George Orwell's famous and terrifying novel "1984" which described political tyranny and the ultimate destruction of democracy.

Then you'd ask — or hopefully, scream — "Who in their right mind would ever imagine such a thing?"

• Surprise — all that really happened — and this year

Turns out (and I'm not making this up) this was exactly what was dreamed up by Mark Brewer, chair of the Michigan Democratic Party, and Saulius "Saul" Anuzis, his GOP counterpart. Sen. Michelle McManus, R-Traverse City, introduced the deal on July 6, 2007.



About Phil Power

Phil Power is a longtime observer of politics, economics and education issues in Michigan, and was a regent of the University of Michigan from 1987 to 1999. He is also president and founder of The Center for 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@tncmnet.com.

Her bill was speedily passed by both houses of the legislature (yes, the same folks that take a year to balance the budget) and signed into law by the governor.

You might fairly call that "politburo politics." And it was concocted by Michigan's hyper-partisan political parties in order to hold primary elections in January 2008 to pick their respective nominees for President.

It's a perfect example of the kind of unthinking partisan arrogance that's been going on in Lansing over the last several tumultuous and embarrassing months.

The result has, once again, ignored — or, frankly, shafted — the interests of 10 million Michigan citizens, and instead attempted to sacrifice them to the partisan agendas of both political parties.

This time, however, they didn't quite get away with it. Fortunately, a group of citizens sued. They were led by Mark Grebner, a very competent East Lansing political consultant who uses public records to compile and sell detailed voter lists.

The plaintiffs argued that the law meant publicly-funded resources would be given away for free exclusively to the political parties for their private use and profit. That they argued, was a violation of the Michigan Constitution. Last Wednesday, Ingham

County Circuit Judge William Collette agreed, striking down the law because it made public-gathered voter lists the secret and exclusive possession of both political parties. Collette ruled there was "clear injury" to the public and that turning over the voter lists to the parties was unconstitutional.

This unthinking partisan arrogance was not confined to drafting and passing the offending law. Eric Doster, a lawyer for the state Republican Party, argued in open court that primary elections are essentially private events, even if paid for by public money.

Presidential primary voter records are "not the state of Michigan's property. This is the party's property. These are our members," Doster said. Right. You get it. Public voter records are the party's property. Our voters, our votes, our members, our elections.

Certainly not the people's.

Somewhere, Orwell's Big Brother is smiling. No doubt Collette's decision will be appealed, maybe all the way to the Michigan Supreme Court.

GOP chair Anuzis called the ruling a "hiccup" and said he didn't think it would affect the primary. But at least he talked to the press. Repeated calls to Democratic chair Brewer and Sen. McManus were unanswered.

All that was a perfect demonstration of how much contempt the major parties have for the general public.

But though you may not immediately realize it, there's an issue at stake here that means a lot to ordinary folks: Suppose you see yourself as a determinedly independent crossover voter, sometimes voting for the Democrat, sometimes for the Republican. Under the new law, you'd be labeled as one or the other depending on which primary you voted in. Your vote would be accessible only to the political parties, who could then target or ignore you at their leisure, without you being able to do anything about it.

Or suppose you want to run for the legislature, but you're independent-minded, not always in lock-step with your party. If you want to reach the voters, the voter lists are a very useful tool.

But under the law just struck down, you'd never get to use them if the parties decided you were too much a troublemaker.

If you are concerned about losing your rights, or if you care about the impact of belligerent and self-absorbed political partisanship on Lansing's ability to lead Michigan out of the mess we're in, I'd urge you to watch this case closely.

And maybe raise holy hell.

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LETTERS

Moving gratitude

I am Chicago resident moving to Novi at the end of this month. I was impressed with the Novi residents who overwhelmingly passed the library ballot measure to build a better library. I believe a great library is one of the keys to a strong community.

This confirms my belief that I selected a terrific community for my new home. Thank you Novi residents.

Donna Steley
Chicago

Thrilled with Suppot

We are thrilled by the support shown for a new library. As senior citizens we are happy knowing Novi residents of all ages will benefit from having a new building. It is wonderful that the voters recognized the need for a new library and the positive effect this will have on our city and our property values. The next few months will be used by the expanded Building Authority to finalize plans and details for the new building. Hopefully the citizens of Novi will have an

What do you think?

We welcome your Letter to the Editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content.

- Mail: Novi News, Letters to the Editor, 104 W. Main Street, Suite 101, Northville, MI 48167
- Fax: (248) 349-9832
- E-mail: vemitchell@gannett.com
- Deadline: Letters must be received by 5 p.m. Monday to be published in the Thursday edition.

opportunity to submit some of our hopes and dreams for our new library.

Jim & Vicky McLean
Novi

For breaking news in Novi, click www.novinews.com

TOM WATKINS: Are Newspapers and Democracy Dying?

Our newspapers are dying across America and right here in Michigan. Does the death of newspapers equal the death of democracy? We are losing great newspaper writers to budget cuts and early and forced retirements. One has to wonder when the last quality writer will be asked to shut off the lights of once-proud newspapers that are protectors of our democracy.

If we lose America's newspapers will we also lose a vital institution necessary to protect our liberty?

It is sad. Sadder still is that few in the general public even seem to be taking notice of the loss of quality reporting across the state and nation.

The Washington Post, New York Times, Boston Globe, Los Angeles Times and Chicago Tribune reportedly have downsized their staffs. The Detroit News, Free Press and countless smaller papers across the state have as well.

This is an enormous blow to our collective freedom and our

democracy. The great news reporter, Walter Cronkite, remarked, "Freedom of the press is not just important to democracy; it is democracy."

How can we have "freedom of the press" when it appears to be a dying institution in America today?

In a democracy, we need journalists to hold the government accountable. An independent, experienced and competent press is vital to governmental transparency, integrity and a key check on unfettered government power.

Perhaps our third president, Thomas Jefferson, said it best when he declared, "Were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate for a moment to prefer the latter."

Quality journalism is getting the slow boil! What is happening to quality journalism in Michigan and

America is more like the old folk tale — if you throw a frog into a pot of boiling water, it will quickly hop out. But if you put a frog into a pot of cold water and raise the temperature ever so slowly, the gradual warming will make the frog doze happily as it is cooked to death.

No, no one is coming into our cities and small towns and shutting down the presses in one fell swoop; it is more insidious than that. It is the gradual killing off of talented, decent reporting. It is the loss of investigative reporting when a team of competent journalists dig deep into an issue and present the public with its findings.

Now that we have entered a turbulent and transformational, global, knowledge-based economy, we need quality news reporting more than ever. What we are getting is more "press release news" that seems to be spoon fed to some copy writer directly from the PR flacks from corporate and government entities.

"A good newspaper is a nation talking to itself!" — Arthur Miller

At a time when we need more information about what is going on in our nation's capitol, as well as the states' capitols, newspapers are eliminating staff as profit margins tighten and readership drops.

If you are a newspaper junkie, as am I, you must have noticed if you have read one paper, it seems as if you have read them all. The only thing that changes from one paper to the other appears to be the advertisements. The articles all seem to be the same — the same wire service telling us what is important to know.

This approach to news reporting seems very similar to what I am used to reading on my various trips to the People's Republic of China, where they have Xinhua News Agency, China's official news service — where one size has to fit all.

Newspapers are important institutions in safeguarding our democracy — but they are also



About Tom Watkins

Tom Watkins is a business and education consultant. He served as state superintendent of schools from 2001-2005. Read his internationally recognized report: The New Education (R)evolution at www.nacol.org. He can be reached at twatkins@aol.com.

newspapers are dying off? Will blogs, YouTube, e-mails, independent journalism funded by philanthropy, e-mails and text messaging fill the news gap? Are newspapers imploding and will the medium simply shifted to new venues that can and will serve our democratic values and the public good?

Do you get the same warm feeling starting the day with a good cup of coffee and your morning blog or YouTube?

The Times — and all the news that is fit to print — are a changin'! Change is inevitable, progress should not be optional.

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The list of member products and services has grown longer at Telcom Credit Union. In addition to its traditional winning lineup of individual financial services for their 41,000 member-owners, Telcom has introduced its Business Services Package as of November 1. The package includes a host of products and services designed specifically for the small business owner.

The Telcom Credit Union Business Services Package offers business loans up to \$5 million, business checking accounts, and business credit cards. The new package has been developed by Linda Daly, Business Services Manager. Linda said this new package "is designed to meet the financial needs of companies seeking low rates and minimal fees. Our new business products and services will help your company trim unnecessary expenses from your operating budget."

She pointed out one example of how the services within the Business Services Package are so important to small businesses who are looking to remain competitive while holding down costs. Telcom's merchant services provider makes credit card processing more economical, with lower fees that can save businesses up to 20 percent in annual costs. "Whether you own an existing business or a start-up, it is a good idea to do what you can to reduce costs," Linda added.

Linda added that another way businesses can reduce costs is by refinancing existing real estate and equipment loans, something that business owners have access to through the Business Services Package.

Telcom Credit Union is backing this new program with \$455 million in assets and over 71 years in the financial services business. Telcom's member-owners recently completed a survey showing a 95 percent satisfaction rate with Telcom.

Linda said she is excited to deliver these new services and "anxiously awaits the opportunity to help all members with their business needs."

For more information call Linda Daly at (248)-596-4466 or e-mail dalyl@telcomcu.com.

By John R. Hall



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Gardeners of Northville and Novi
TIME/DATE: 6:30 p.m. second Monday of month, Sept.-May
LOCATION: Rotates between Novi Civic Center and the Northville Library.
DETAILS: Visitors welcome.
CONTACT: (248) 231-2334 or visit www.gardenersnorthville-novi.org

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America's Family Pet Expo
TIME/DATE: 1-9 p.m. Friday, Nov. 16; 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 17; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 18
DETAILS: Admission \$4-10; parking \$5. Family fun including pet shows, products, experts and adoptions. Do not bring your pets.

Wayne Dyer
TIME/DATE: 2-7 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 18
DETAILS: Call (800) 654-5126 for information.

Antique Arms Show
TIME/DATE: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday Nov. 24; 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 25

Michigan Christmas Show and Marketplaces
TIME/DATE: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Thursday Nov. 29; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Friday Nov. 30 and Saturday, Dec. 1; 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 2
DETAILS: This is a perfect family outing: Trees, wreaths, music, entertainment, arts and crafts, shops, Santa, a playland for kids; tickets \$10 each at the door, \$8 in advance (sold at Meijer), parking is \$5.

Woodworking Show
TIME/DATE: Noon-7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 14; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 15; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 16
DETAILS: Try before you buy and save on tools, equipment and supplies; learn tips observing demonstrations here before starting your next project.

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
Community Mitten & Hat Drive
DETAILS: Public can drop off hats, mittens, gloves at Wixom Parks and Rec. counter by Dec. 13; benefits less fortunate people this winter season; sponsored by Wixom Teen Advisory Committee.

CLASS REUNIONS

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.

REGIONAL

"Get On The Bus" Fundraising Campaign
DETAILS: Goodwill Industries of Great Detroit, in partnership

with DDOT, WJR-AM and Fox 2, is sponsoring a campaign called "Get on the Bus". The public can donate towards the purchase of bus passes so that needy metro Detroiters can get to work; campaign runs until Nov. 15; donate by going to www.giveabuspass.org or calling (866) 593-9675.
CONTACT: www.goodwilldetroit.org

Special Community Thanksgiving Service
TIME/DATE: 7 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 18
LOCATION: Our Lady of Victory Church, 770 Thayer Blvd., Northville
DETAILS: This celebration combines the choir and clergy of Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church, First United Methodist Church of Northville and First Presbyterian Church of Northville.
CONTACT: (248) 349-2621

Livonia Youth Philharmonic of Michigan
DETAILS: Regional orchestra has openings in intermediate and advanced orchestras, also sax choir, for interested student musicians. Rehearsals take place at Churchill High School Saturday mornings. Contact Kathy Bilger at (734) 464-8704 or auditions@LYPM.org for more information.

Northville Library Foreign Film Series
TIME/DATE: 6:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 19 and Dec. 17
LOCATION: 212 W. Cady St., Northville, (248) 349-3020
DETAILS: Nov. 19 "Salaam Bombay," Hindi; and Dec. 17 "The Sea Inside," Spanish. All films are free, ethnic treats provided; call library to make reservations.

Jeff Daniels & Friends Holiday Concert
TIME/DATE: 8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 24
LOCATION: Michigan Theater, Ann Arbor
DETAILS: Concert features Michigan artists Seth Bernard & Daisy May, Jeremy Kittel Trio, Repercussions, Steppin In and Josh White, Jr. Tickets on sale at http://www.ticketmaster.com, the Michigan Union ticket office (734) 763-TKTS and all Ticketmaster outlets at \$27.50-\$75.

University Musical Society, University of Michigan
PERFORMANCE LOCATIONS: Hill Auditorium, 825 North University Ave.; Rackham Auditorium, 915 East Washington St.; Power Center, 121 Fletcher St.; Michigan Theater, 603 East Liberty St.
CONTACT: (734) 764-2538, (800) 221-1229 or visit www.ums.org.

The Talis Scholars
TIME/DATE: 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 6
LOCATION: St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, 2250 East Stadium Blvd., Ann Arbor
DETAILS: The Talis Scholars, leading practitioners of Renaissance sacred music, led by director Peter Phillips, will perform "Poetry in Music for the Virgin Mary"; tickets are \$45 for reserved seating, \$35 general admission and are available by calling (734) 764-2538 or visiting www.ums.org.

Send your calendar items to Novi News, 104 W. Main Street, Suite 101, Northville, MI 48167; fax to (248) 349-9832; or e-mail to venticelli@gannett.com.

LOCATION: Wixom Community Center
DETAILS: Fee for this event is canned food. Visit the Fire Department on Wixom Road or call (248) 624-1055 to register.

"My Home-My Future" Seminars

TIME/DATE: 6:30-8:45 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 16, 2008
LOCATION: Baldwin Public Library, 300 W. Merrill, Birmingham
DETAILS: The Oakland County Board of Commissioners is hosting a series of free seminars to help residents save homes from foreclosure; information presented by housing industry professionals and agencies; contact Oakland County Housing Counseling at (888) 350-0900, ext. 85402.

Schoolcraft College
LOCATION: Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty Road
CONTACT: For more information and to register call (734) 462-4438.

Divorce Support Group
TIME/DATE: 7-9 p.m. second and fourth Tuesday of month
LOCATION: Women's Resource Center, Room 225 McDowell Center
DETAILS: Open to anyone contemplating, in the process of or having difficulty adjusting to divorce; first meeting is group discussion, next meeting features speaker Cynthia Koppin, MA, LPC, LLP; no fee or registration required.

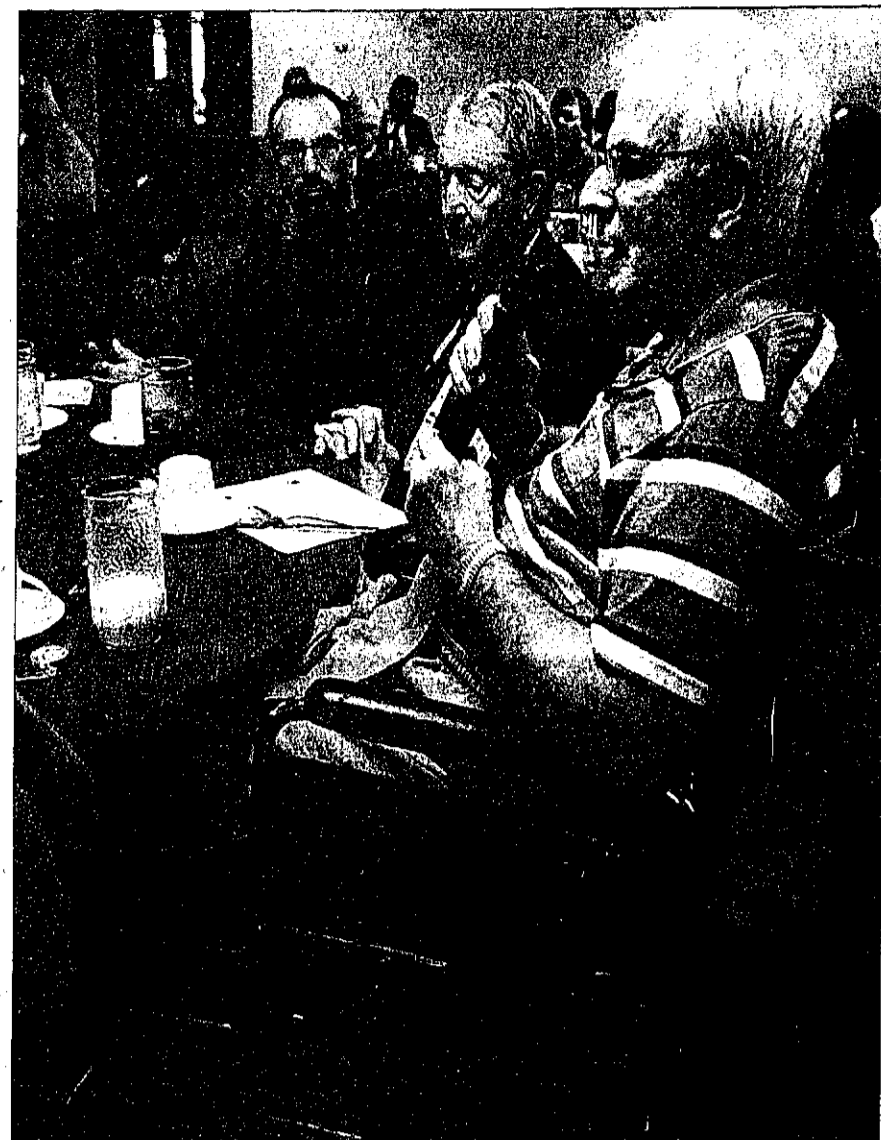
Women's Resource Center Fall Luncheon Series
TIME/DATE: 11:45 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 14
LOCATION: Schoolcraft College, VistaTech Center
DETAILS: On Friday Bill Peterson will present "Dancing with the Stars," dancing for fun and exercise, bring your dancing shoes; Oct. 26 Professor Michael Swope presents "The History of Television," Dec. 14, Professor Rodney Johnson presents "The Art of Welding," insights about welding as an art form; \$15 per luncheon; prepaid registration required, no tickets issued; limited seating.

Ask An Attorney
DATE: Second and third Monday of each month
DETAILS: Ask an attorney about divorce and family law; Sept.-May; walk-in, no fee; Call (734) 462-4443.

Money Matters in Divorce
DATE: Monday
DETAILS: Opportunity to ask a certified financial planner about the financial concerns related to divorce; Oct.-May; walk-in, no fee; Call (734) 462-4443.

University Musical Society, University of Michigan
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With Thanks
Novi resident and U.S. Navy veteran Coleman Riger, addresses the Novi Rotary luncheon last Tuesday. Rotary Club members invited many local veterans to their meeting to show appreciation for their service to the country.

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PHOTO GALLERIES: See more of photographer **John Heider's** work at www.novinews.com

Victoria Mitchell, editor
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MY NEIGHBORHOOD

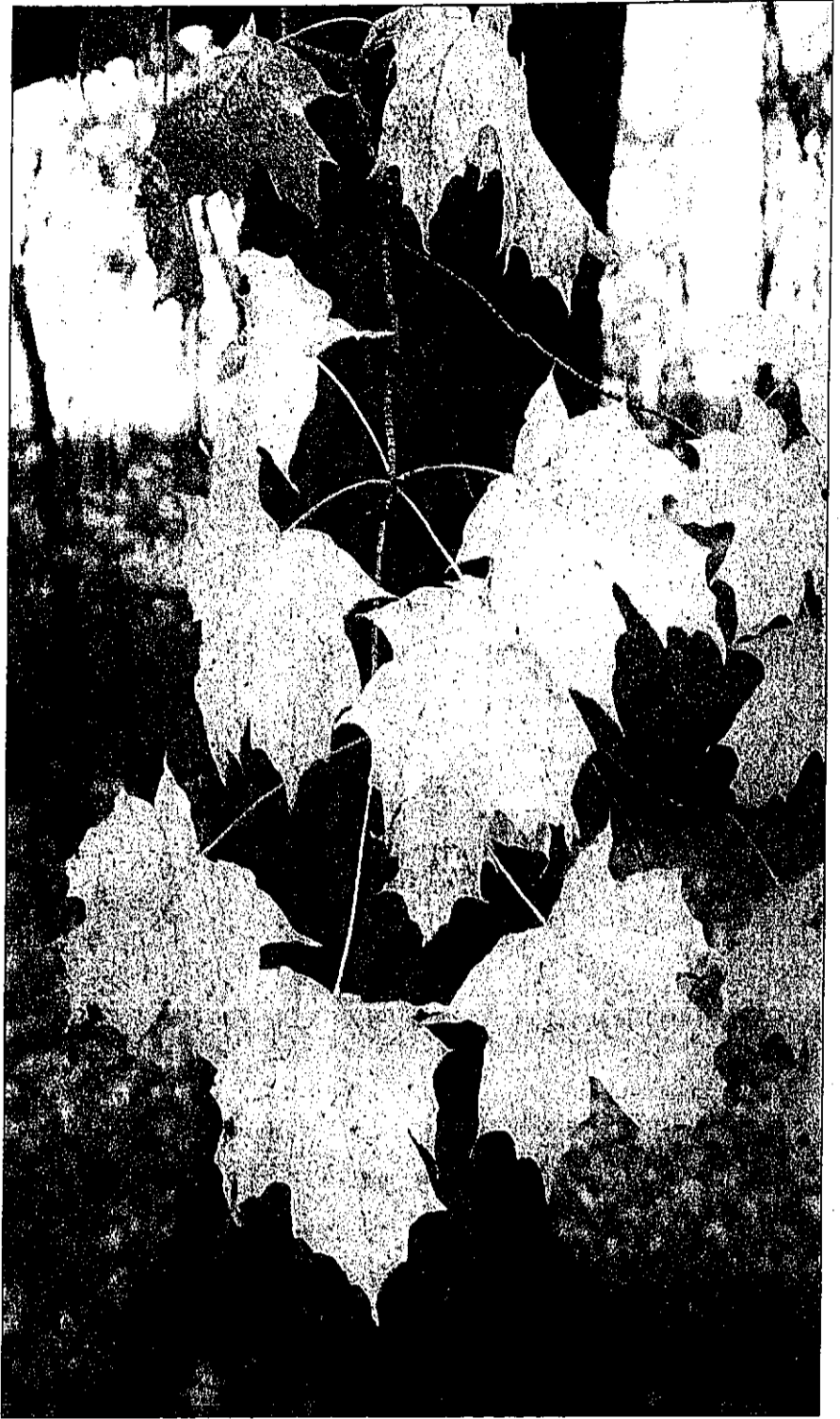
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Fall Beauty

PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER



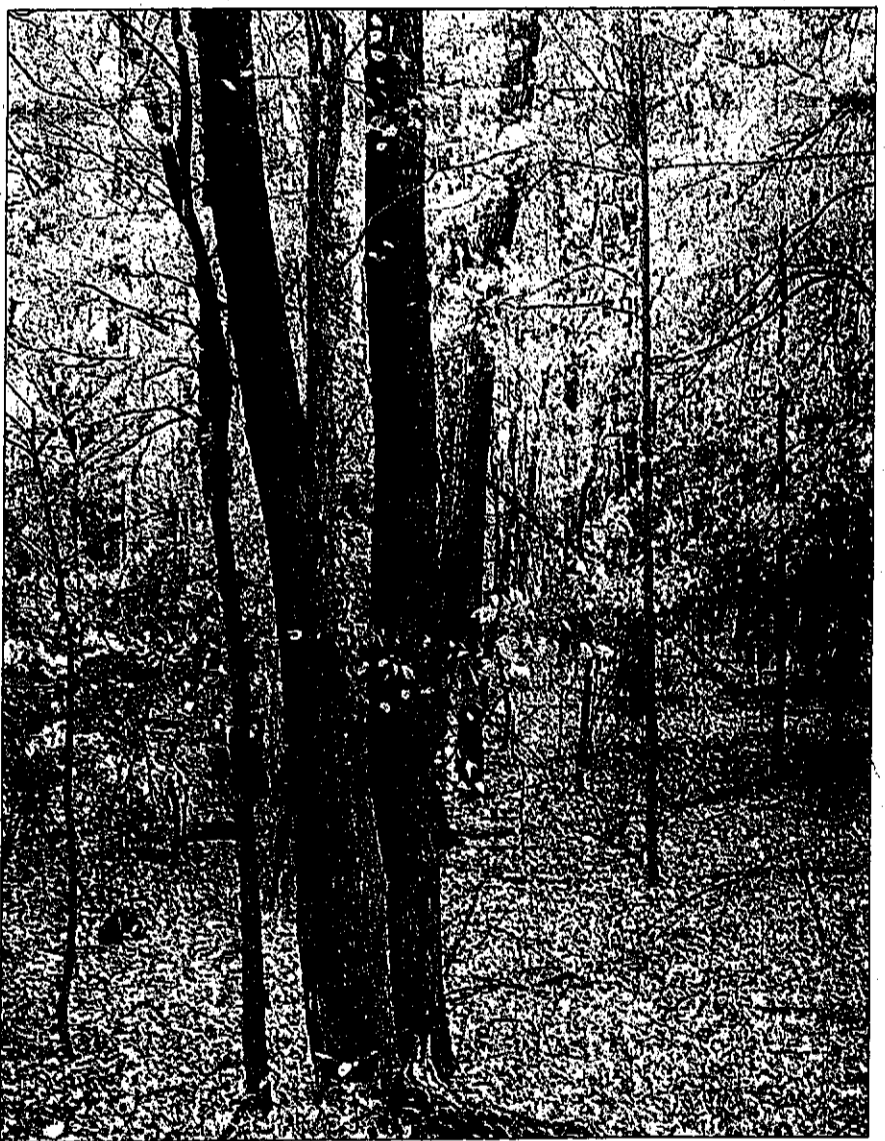
Trees of Nov's Lakeshore Park have almost completely dropped their leaves as an area near the park's northern entrance to the trail system shows.



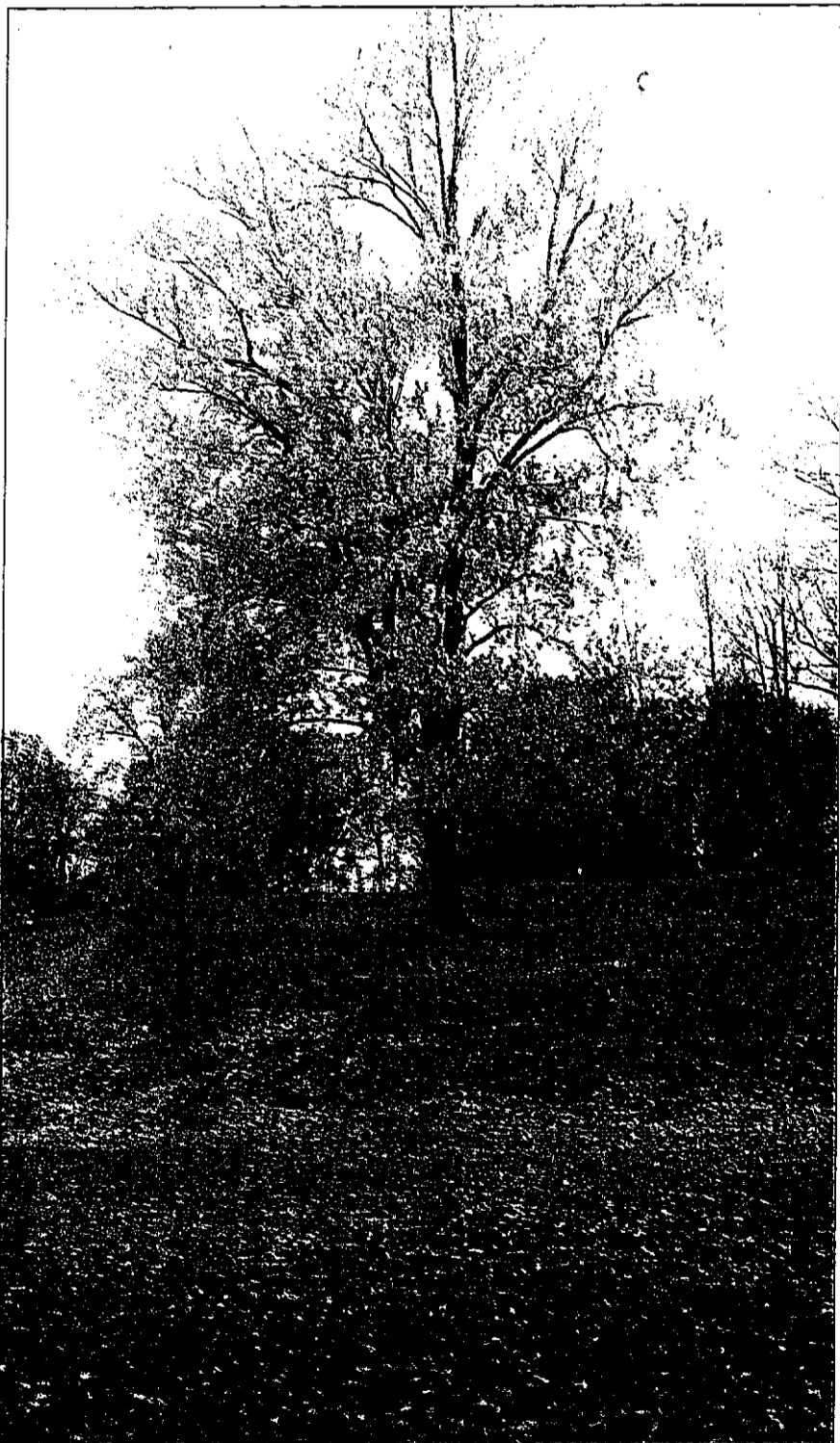
A few maple leaves dangle from a branch of a tree at Nov's Lakeshore Park.



A collection of leaves from basswood and maple trees litter the floor of the forest at Lakeshore Park.



A few trees in Nov's North Lakeshore Park still have their leaves, but as fall progresses, they'll have less and less.



A maple tree at Nov's Lakeshore Park is almost done dropping its leaves as the first week of November comes to a close.



A sugar maple is almost completely bare as its leaves have tumbled to the ground as fall progresses.

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Novi Bobcat cheer teams compete at 2007 Cheerfest, P. 3B



DUBE LEADS ALL-AREA TENNIS

PAGE 5B

My Novi Sports

Catholic Central faces Dakota Saturday

SPORTS, 4B

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 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

'Cats spike into Elite Eight



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Novi's Sarah Robb goes for a spike against Milford last Saturday afternoon.

Wildcats beat Milford to win regional trophy

By Jeff Thelsen
SPORTS WRITER

Michigan Class A volleyball will have a new state champion, and Novi is one of eight teams with a shot at it.

Milford knocked off last year's state champion, Livonia Churchill, in the first match of

Saturday's regional at Novi.

The Wildcats survived a five-game match against Mercy, setting up an all-KVC final.

Milford won the first game 25-22, but Novi came back and won the next three games 25-21, 26-24, 25-14, setting off a wild celebration that left Wildcat head coach Julie Fisette

in tears of joy.

"I played at this level many, many moons ago, and I've always wanted to take a team there," Fisette said. "This is the team that I've always said could take me there."

See VOLLEYBALL, 2B



Photo submitted by Dennis Barnes

Catholic Central's Joe Kinville scores the final touchdown in a 21-7 victory against Holt on Friday.

Second half comeback

Shamrocks rally to score 21-unanswered points in win

By Jeff Thelsen
SPORTS WRITER

Catholic Central put it all together in the second half against Holt and left town with a 21-7 victory, capturing a regional trophy.

The Shamrocks (10-2) struggled with mistakes in the first half, turning the ball over three times and committing drive-ending penalties. Holt (11-1) led 7-0 at the break.

It took just one offensive play to see the second half would be different. Anthony Capatina busted a 58-yard run to the Rams' 1-yard line.

Joe Kinville punched it in from there, and momentum was on the Shamrock sideline the rest of the night.

"That was huge. Up until that point, we were struggling offensively," said Shamrock head coach Tom Mach, referring to his assistant coaches. "Anthony Capatina made a great run. He had a couple of nice blocks that sprung him, and he made a great run down to the 1. Then we put it in."

The extra-point attempt was

blocked, but it wouldn't matter.

Taking the lead

Cory Amble put the Shamrocks in front for good with an 11-yard, crushing touchdown run. He appeared stopped around the 10 before breaking through a group of tacklers. Two more tacklers awaited Amble at

See SHAMROCKS, 5B



Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Novi High School's 200 meter medley team: Ashley Bush, Dana Hapanowicz, Meredith Cote and Kerry Abel.

Wildcats ready for state meet

Novi beaming with confidence after winning KVC meet

By Jeff Thelsen
SPORTS WRITER

Novi isn't going to state just to enjoy the sights and sounds. The Wildcats are going to make a splash.

After claiming the final KVC title, head coach Scott Teeters can't wait to take his group to the final meet of the year Saturday at

Eastern Michigan University.

"The fearless attitude at the KVC, I want to see them take that same attitude to the state meet," Novi head coach Scott Teeters said. "We've had a lot going right for us this year, and I just want to see it finish out."

Leading the pack to the state meet is Kerry Abel, the school record holder in the 200 freestyle.

Also joining in on the fun are Meredith Cote, Becca Berman, Dana Hapanowicz, Ashley Bush, Mary Anolick and Madalyn Duha.

The dive team is also sending three to state — Valarie Ziegler, Joselyn Odom and Emily Dempsey.

The Wildcat medley relay should be one of the top prospects for Novi. They set the all-time KVC record earlier this year.

Expectations

"I think we're capable of the top-half dozen. Top five or six would be awesome," Teeters said. "Fourth through eighth is a close group of teams."

"If we don't go top 10 I would be disappointed."

Besides where the team finishes, Teeters wants to see his team competing with the heavy hitters.

"I kind of want them to go and show up and thinking like they are

one of the teams to watch for in the future," Teeters said. "Everyone knows Pioneer is going to go and race."

"At this point of the season, it's not about worrying about getting a best time. You just have to go in there and race. You've got to swim to win."

Teeters said he wants to build a program similar to Ann Arbor Pioneer. He knows it won't happen in a year, but he wants to see progress each year until the Wildcats are a team someone else wants to be like.

See SWIMMING, 3B

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Wildcats win regional title

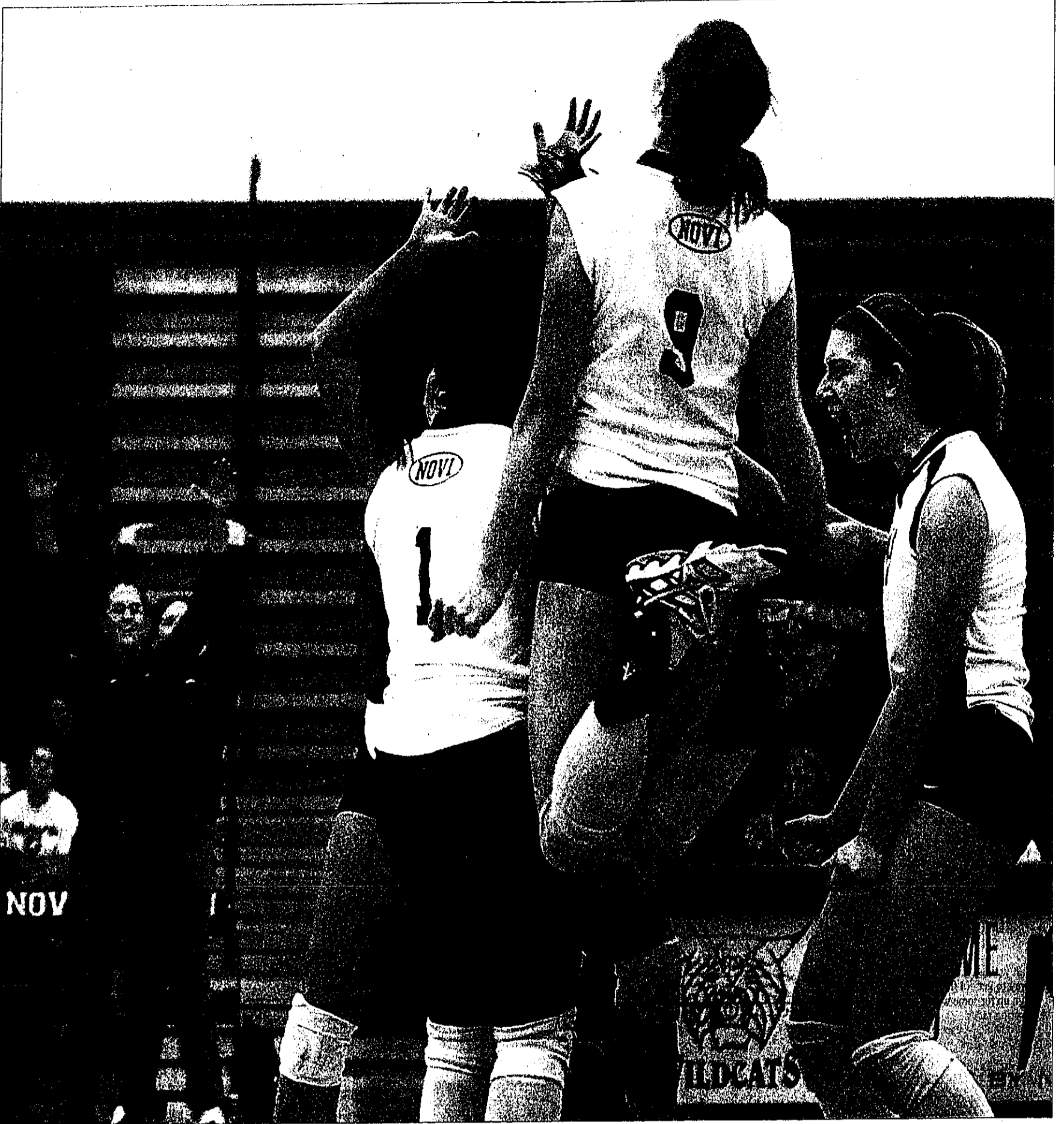


Photo by JOHN HEIDER/Novi News

Novi's Kim Hildreth, center, leaps in the air as the Wildcats begin to celebrate their regional Class A volleyball championship last Saturday afternoon. Forward Stephanie Cripps, right, and coach Julie Fisette, left with arms raised, enjoy the victory as well.

Novi beats KVC rival Milford 3-1 in final

continued from front

"They've got it all, and they use it all. There's not one Division 1 athlete. We've got a bunch of great athletes."

Milford's 6-foot-4, heavy-hitting Karilyn Schultz provided most of the Maverick offense, but Stephanie Cripps was up to the task for Novi, recording 50 kills and eight blocks between the two matches.

"It was amazing," Cripps said. "I am so happy right now that I can't even describe it. This is the furthest a Novi team has ever got, and we hope to keep going further."

"Wow, what a day." The day started with the Milford upset. Churchill dominated the first game 25-13 before the Mavericks rallied to win the next two, 25-21, 27-25. But Churchill wasn't going out without a fight, and pushed the match to five games with a 26-24 win. Milford stayed in front for most of the final game, and won 15-13.

Vs. Mercy

Novi took the court next, and appeared as though they were going to roll into the finals. The Wildcats topped Mercy 25-18, 25-21 in the first two games before dropping the next two 25-18, 25-19.

The Wildcats jumped ahead 6-2 in the race to 15 and eventually won 15-10 to advance.

"I think at times we get ahead and maybe thinking about the next step before finishing the job at hand," Fisette said. "They came back and got the job done in the end, which is all that counts."

Vs. Milford

The Mavericks didn't let sitting a match affect them at all. They came firing out of the gate, taking



Stephanie Cripps, left, and Julia Thomas go up for a block against Milford.

an 8-4 and 13-7 lead before winning 25-22 in game one.

Milford came charging out again in the second game, leading 6-3 and 12-8 before Novi turned the tables. The Wildcats ripped off seven of the next eight points for a 15-13 lead. Milford came right back with an 18-15 lead, but Novi had one more rally left.

Paige Janer (22 kills, 53 digs on the day) served up three points. Haley Miller (74 digs) served up another and Kim Hildreth (70

assists, 16 kills, five aces) provided a couple of more as Novi took a 24-21 lead. Cripps finished the game off with a kill, and Novi pulled even and was just beginning to grab the momentum.

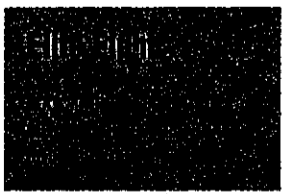
The Wildcats took the turn of coming out of the gates quick, grabbing leads of 7-3, 12-7 and 17-9. But the Mavericks fought all the way back to a 24-23 lead. Instead of folding, Novi won the game behind three straight Cripps kills for a 26-24 victory.

"That was huge. At that point, the whole match could've gone either way," said Fisette about coming back to win the game after losing a big lead. "It's a momentum breaker either way. When you can pull off something like that, you go into that next game a little more confident."

Novi put itself in great position to advance during the middle stages of the final game. Leading 10-6, Hildreth took to the service



The Novi Wildcats show off their Novi regional trophy after ousting Farmington Hills Mercy and Milford High school in playoff volleyball. Novi's one of the final eight class A teams still playing for a state championship.



line and didn't stop until the Wildcats led 19-6. Cripps had a pair of blocks. Jacqueline Longe had a pair of kills and Hildreth had a couple of aces during the run.

"It was really exciting," Hildreth said. "I could taste victory. We had been up and down all day, but that last game we just kicked their butts."

"Our coach started crying, and we were just flipping out. That's like the best feeling I've ever had in my life."

Stress turned to smiles as the Wildcats knew they were just a few points away from doing

something no other Novi team has done. The teams traded points before, fittingly, Cripps put away the final kill, sparking a celebration of new territory for the Wildcats.

"I always tell them that if they smile, the world smiles with them," Fisette said. "They seized the moment right from the start of that game."

"That first serve when (Milford's Emily Brandt) hit it out, I said '24 more,' and started counting down. I started counting down with Lauren Farley — 24 more, 23 more. How many more Lauren? The girls started counting down. They got that confidence. It was awesome."

Novi reached the final eight with the win. They played Tuesday against Wyandotte. If the Wildcats won, they will play 7:15 tonight at Kellogg Arena in Battle Creek.

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Final four showdown

By Jeff Theisen
SPORTS WRITER

Catholic Central's run through the playoffs has now reached the final four.

Next up, 12:00 Macomb Dakota 1 p.m. Saturday at Troy Athens.

The Cougars have put up impressive numbers on both sides of the ball all year. Their average score in the nine-game regular season was 36-9, with four of the opponents qualifying for the playoffs.

Dakota has had little trouble in the playoffs, blasting Macomb 42-16, Cheyenne Valley 24-6 and Lake Orion 26-14 last week in the quarterfinals.

"They have a good football team that has good size up front," Catholic Central head coach Tom Mach said. "They run a spread offense with two real good receivers. Their quarterback is real good."

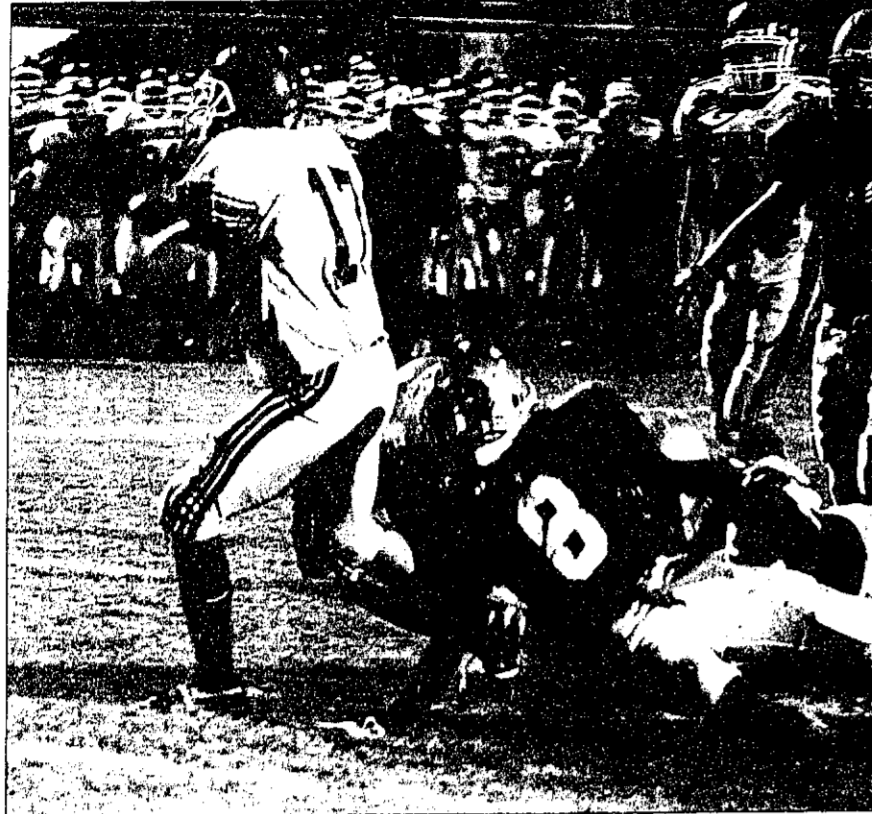
"They put a lot of pressure on you with both the run and pass. They're almost a 50-50 run and pass."

Regardless of what Dakota brings, Mach knows his team can't afford to make the mistakes that killed the offense in the first half against Holt.

"These final games come down to a couple of things -- one of them is who wants it the most," Mach said. "Who is just talking about it and who wants it."

"The other one is eliminating mistakes. You can't hurt yourself. At this point, there are only four teams left, and they are all good football teams. It comes down to who makes the plays when the plays have to be made and who is consistent and doesn't hurt themselves with penalties, fumbles and interceptions."

But Mach was proud of the way his team dealt with the adversity



Cory Amble fights off a couple of Holt defenders on his way to a 10-yard touchdown.

and put Holt away in the second half.

"Our players have a deep belief in themselves," he said. "A couple of bad drives are not going to stop them from excelling later in the game."

Enjoying the moment

Mach has said all season that this team put in the work in the offseason, and it's paying off with a deep run into the playoffs.

"It's been a great time," Mach said. "All of our coaches have

made the comment that this is one of the best groups that they've ever coached. I would agree with that. They're a very hard-working team. They're willing to work as hard as they have to work to get their goals."

"Along the way, I think they really enjoy the game of football. Being around the kids is fun."

CC faithful

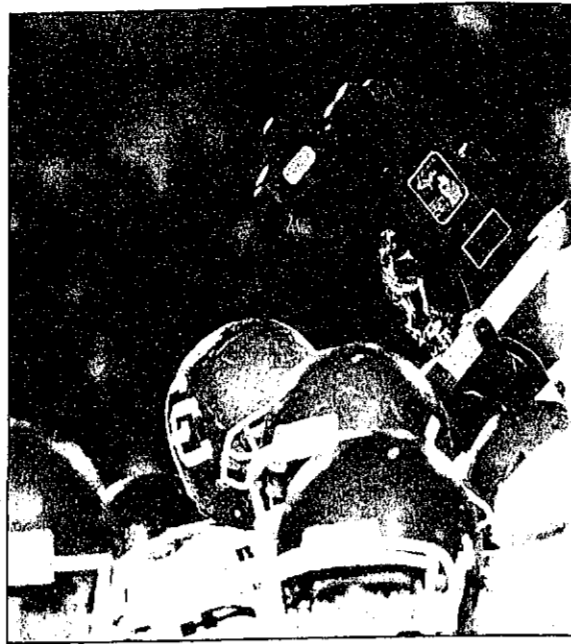
After sending five busloads of students to last week's game that

was more than an hour away, Mach hopes to see more of the same Saturday.

"Everybody in the school has caught the fever of the playoffs," Mach said. "I think it speaks volumes for our student body."

"Everybody at CC is for each other, and I think that kind of proves it right there. I think good things happen when you get that support."

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



The Shamrocks head off the field with their new piece of hardware.



Cory Amble heads upfield Friday against Holt.



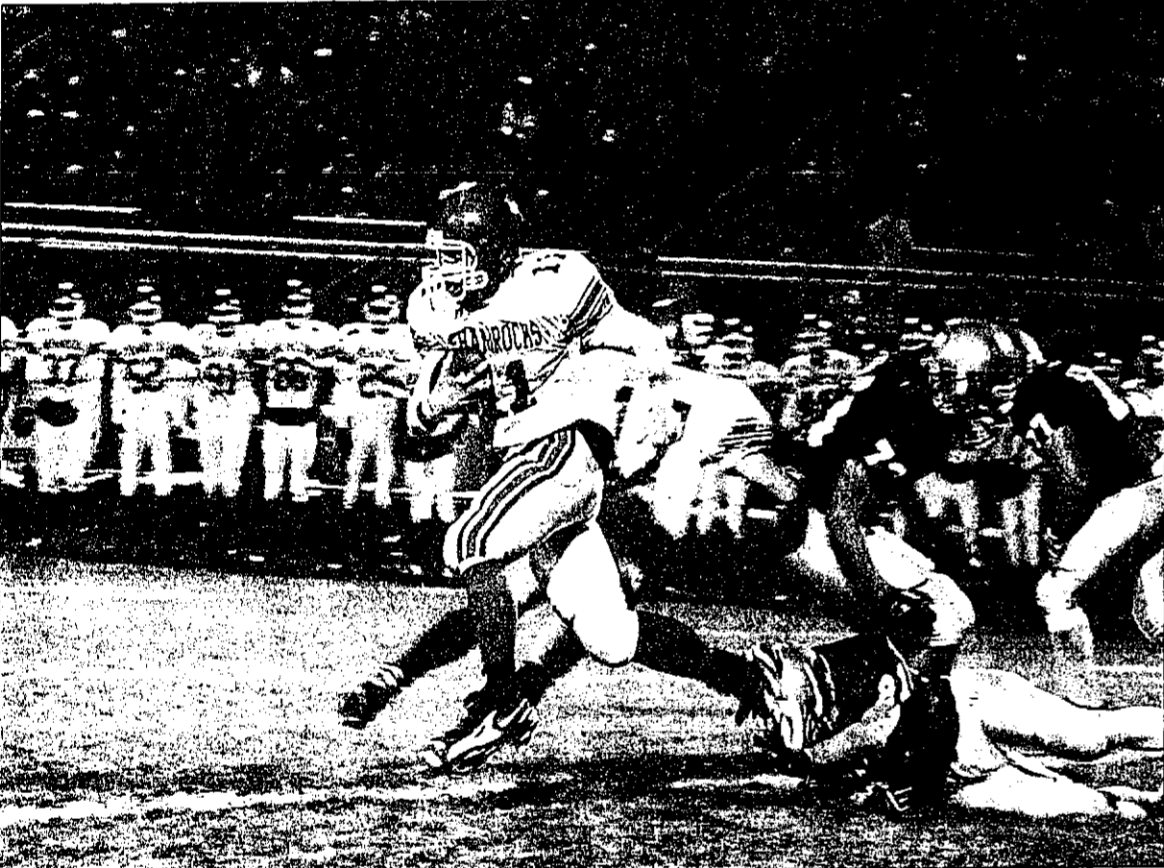
Catholic Central defenders stand over their sack victim Friday against Holt.



Anthony Capatina fights for yards.



Novi's Mike Martin, left, and Kevin Longe celebrate a sack.



Ryan Houska takes off with the ball Friday against Holt.



The Shamrocks enter the field Friday against Holt.

Freshman Dubé wins state title

By Jeff Theisen
SPORTS WRITER

Catholic Central freshman Joseph Dubé made the biggest splash possible in his first year of high school play -- he won a state title.

No. 3 seeded Dubé rolled through the state bracket, knocking off the No. 1 and No. 2 seeds in the semis and finals.

"Joe in my opinion is the Roger Federer of tennis," Catholic Central head coach Joe Stafford said. "He never gets too up, and he never gets too down. He's very relaxed under pressure. You never see him sweat."

"It's pretty remarkable that someone can have that kind of poise as a freshman. He played some incredible tennis."

Stafford describes Dubé as a counter-punch specialist, but that isn't the only style he can play.

"When the going gets tough, he can go into his all-court game where he starts attacking and coming to the net," Stafford said. "He's an all-round player, but by nature he's a counter puncher."

His toughest stretch at state came against Rye Dushane, the No. 1 seed from Holland West Ottawa. Dubé was down 3-0 before turning things around and winning 6-3, 2-6, 6-4 on his way to the title.

"He just notched it up another gear and started to attack. He stayed so relaxed, yet so aggressive," Stafford said. "If you want to beat him, you have to take it to him because he's not going to give anything away."

Stafford said as good as Dubé's play is, his sportsmanship is just as good.

"Even better than his play and his state championship, he's just a fine example for Catholic Central in how to conduct yourself out on the court," Stafford said. "You never hear him scream. You never hear him yell. He's just always

All-Area Tennis

Player of the Year — Joseph Dubé, Catholic Central freshman

First Team
Mani Mahadevan, Novi junior
Goutham Kondapi, Novi junior
Justin Ferooq, Novi junior
Ameya Sohani, Novi junior
Tim Oh, Novi junior
Greg Richard, Novi freshman
Jack Snyder, Catholic Central junior

Second Team
Steve Strycharz, Catholic Central senior
Mike Ayoub, Catholic Central senior
Derek Turowski, Catholic Central junior
Young Tae Kim, Catholic Central sophomore

Honorable Mention
Melvin Joseph, Northville so.
Lee Schechter, Northville junior
Phil Irvine, Northville senior
Andy Mills, Northville senior
Graham McHenry, Northville sophomore
Dan Adriansen, Lakeland junior
Mike Detizio, South Lyon so.

Second Team
Ryan Bell, Novi junior

Mahadevan had the task of playing No. 1 singles for the Novi. He managed an 18-10 record, despite playing a schedule that included most of the top teams in the state.

All-Area First Team

The Novi area is well represented on the All-Area First Team. For the Wildcats, Mani Mahadevan, Goutham Kondapi, Justin Ferooq, Ameya Sohani and Tim Oh and Greg Richard make the list.

Representing Catholic Central are Jack Snyder, Steve Strycharz, Mike Ayoub, Derek Turowski and Young Tae Kim.

Carson Crandell, Novi junior
Ryan Goodman, Novi senior
Jason Hsu, Novi senior
Vishnu Venugopal, Novi so.
Nathan Ferooq, Novi freshman
Patrick Bowers, Catholic Central sophomore

Nick Petrucci, Catholic Central sophomore
Brandon Kosinski, Catholic Central freshman
Tim Wasielewski, Northville sophomore
Steve Irvine, Northville so.
Mike Hagan, Northville junior
Dan Mills, Northville so.
Brian Lovett, Northville senior
Evan Gatz, Northville so.
Nick Kalweit, Northville so.
Joshua Woodhull, Lakeland senior

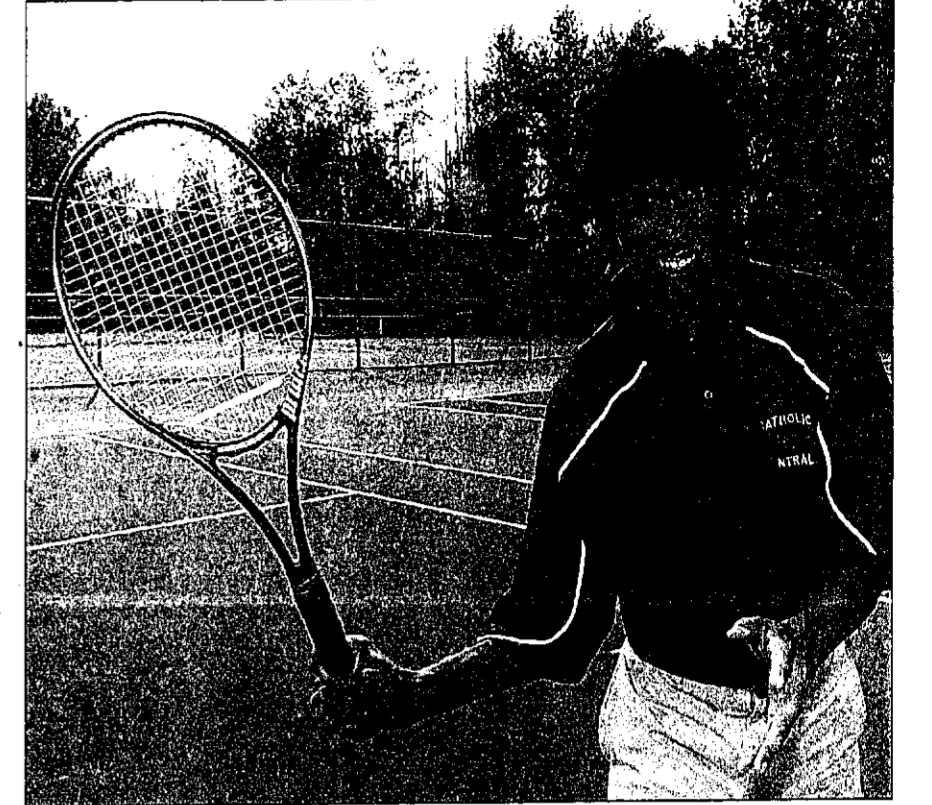
Daniel Brown, Lakeland senior
Brad Shubert, Milford, senior

Honorable Mention
Derek Richard, Novi junior
Brent Wornack, Novi junior
Derek Mumaw, Catholic Central freshman
Zachary Wisniewski, Catholic Central freshman
Sean O'Brien, South Lyon sr.
George Welmer, South Lyon jr.
Evan Honour, Milford, junior

Mahadevan had the task of playing No. 1 singles for the Novi. He managed an 18-10 record, despite playing a schedule that included most of the top teams in the state.

"Mani, Novi's top player, took advantage of the opportunity to compete against the best players in the state and had an outstanding year," Novi head coach Jim Hanson said. "He was a semifinalist at regionals and a semifinalist at state."

Kondapi played No. 2 singles



Catholic Central tennis standout Joseph Dubé is the All-Area tennis Player of the Year.

for the Wildcats and collected an 18-11 record.

"Goutham, a very consistent player with excellent groundstrokes, was the KVC champion at No. 2 singles," Hanson said. "He finished second at the regional to Dubé."

Ferooq and Sohani claimed a regional title before making a run at the state tournament.

"They really know how to play doubles," Stafford said. "They kind of peaked at the right time and had a great run at the state tournament, losing to the eventual state champions in the semis."

Also making the First Team are Northville's Melvin Joseph, Lee Schechter, Phil Irvine, Andy Mills and Graham McHenry, Lakeland's Dan Adriansen and South Lyon's Mike Detizio.

Second Team

Novi and Catholic Central also place several players on the All-Area Second Team.

For the Wildcats, Ryan Bell (23-8) and Carson Crandell (24-7) held the No. 3 and No. 4 singles spots, respectively. Jason Hsu and Ryan

Kim and Turowski played No. 1 doubles for the Shamrocks.

"They have really big serves and good groundstrokes," Stafford said. "I think they are going to be a force next season."

Ayoub and Strycharz captured a regional title before making a run at the state tournament.

"They really know how to play doubles," Stafford said. "They kind of peaked at the right time and had a great run at the state tournament, losing to the eventual state champions in the semis."

Also making the First Team are Northville's Melvin Joseph, Lee Schechter, Phil Irvine, Andy Mills and Graham McHenry, Lakeland's Dan Adriansen and South Lyon's Mike Detizio.

Honorable Mention

Receiving All-Area Honorable Mention honors are Novi's Derek Richard and Brent Wornack, Catholic Central's Derek Mumaw and Zachary Wisniewski, and South Lyon's Sean O'Brien and George Welmer and Milford's Evan Honour.

All-Area teams are nominated by coaches with final decisions being made by sports writers Jeff Theisen and Patrick Pinter.



Shamrock players bring the trophy over to celebrate with the CC fans.

Shamrocks turn up heat in second half

continued from front

the 5, but he powered through them on his way to the end zone.

After a penalty on the two-point conversion, Kinville scored on a run for a 14-7 lead with 8:35 left in the game.

In an ironic twist, it was the Shamrock passing game that put the game away. Quarterback Ryan Houska was intercepted on his only pass prior to finding Kinville wide open for a 35-yard touchdown with 4:11 left.

"I looked up and all I saw was (the lights)," Kinville said. "All of the sudden the ball hits my hands, and I carried it in like a loaf of bread. I didn't have it tucked away. But that's what it's all about, making plays."

"We talked about it at half-time that we have to come out and show them what CC football is all about."

Catholic Central's defense punished the Rams after they took a 7-0 lead. Holt collected seven first downs in the first half, but only three after half-time.

Chris Fischer, Kinville, Mike Martin, Dave Robinson and Shane Morris led the defensive charge. Fischer and Morris were in on 10 tackles each. Robinson was next with nine, and Kinville was in on eight. Martin provided a sack and five more tackles and repeatedly pressured Holt quarterback Mike Holleran.

"Our defense always finds a way to step up," Martin said. "We

always come together, and we know we can get the job done."

"I felt like Superman out there. I wasn't tired. I just kept going. Our whole defense was just clicking. It was perfect."

Stats

Holt finished 7-for-22 passing for 62 yards with one interception. They ran for 100 yards on 30 attempts.

"We were a little bit back on heels in the first quarter," Mach said. "After that, we got our confidence, and I think our defense played great."

"They're doing a fantastic job this year of keeping us in the ballgame."

The Shamrocks rolled up 208 rushing yards, with most of that coming in the second half.

Capatina led the attack with 134 yards on 21 attempts. Kinville had 64 yards on 15 attempts with one score and another through the air.

After the game, Mach enjoyed watching the Shamrock team celebrate with the massive amount of fans that traveled to the game.

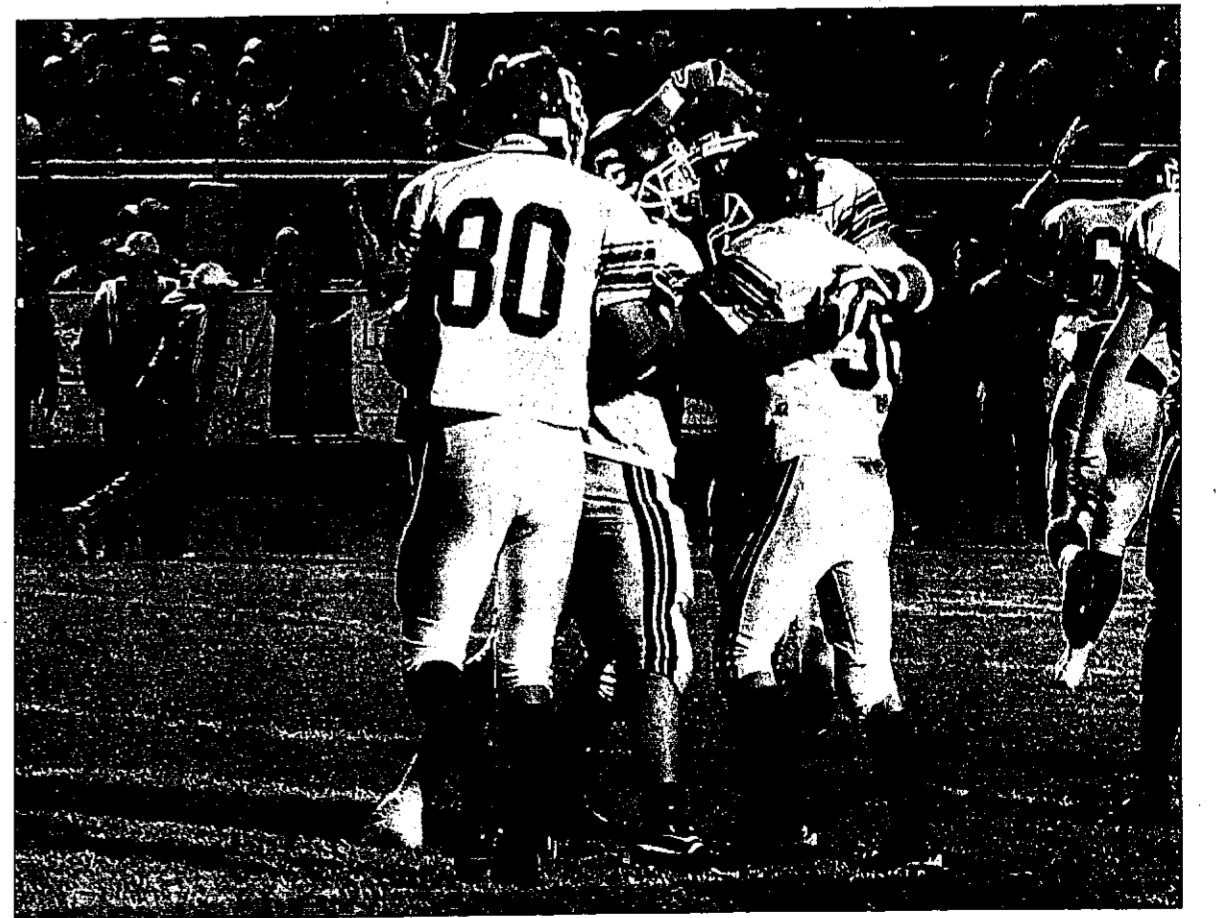
"That makes it all worthwhile right there, watching them be happy," he said. "They worked for it, and they deserve it."

"This has been a wonderful group to work with, and I'm real happy that they are successful."

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



The Shamrock defense stops Holt running back Antonio Todd for a loss during Friday's game.



Catholic Central players celebrate a touchdown during Friday's 21-7 win at Holt.

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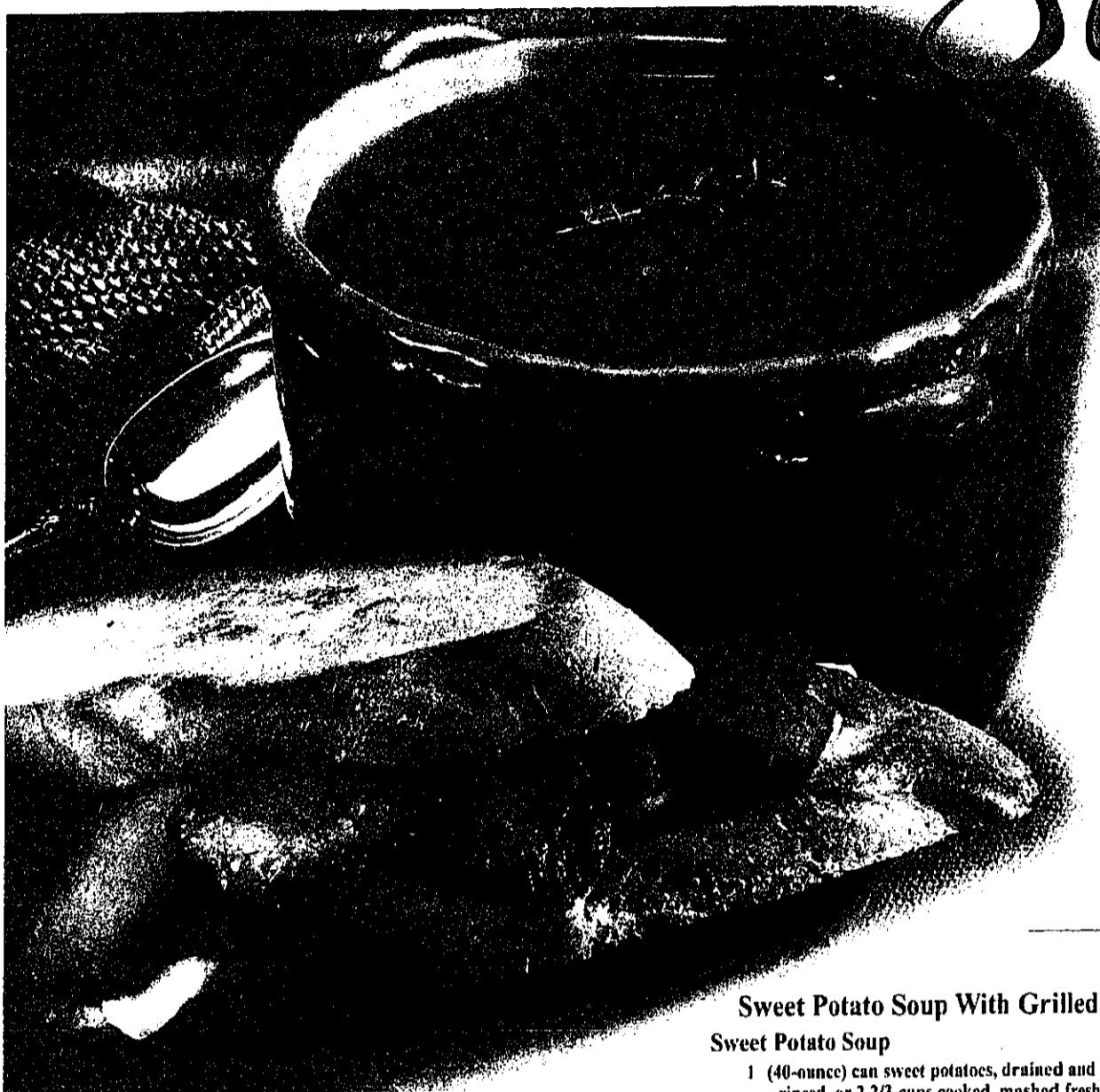
Victoria Mitchell
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MY FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Thursday, November 15, 2007
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CELEBRATE THE Season

WITH CREATIVE BEEF AND SWEET POTATO DISHES



FAMILY FEATURES

This fall, family and guests will cheer for meat and potatoes. But not your mother's ground round and potatoes — instead, get creative with lean, savory beef and tender, nutritious sweet potatoes. The rich, complex flavors of seared beef make a winning combination with the healthful sweetness of versatile sweet potatoes, while satisfying the seasonal shift toward delicious, filling comfort foods. Beef and sweet potatoes also score points for being easy to prepare. The recipes showcased here feature innovative takes on standards like soups, sandwiches and wraps. In the mood for soup and sandwiches? Creamy, starchy pureed sweet potato soup along with hearty grilled sirloin on a sliced baguette will certainly satisfy. Imagine a perfectly grilled filet served on a sweet potato biscuit, topped with roasted red peppers, portobellos, Monterey Jack cheese and bacon. Looking for something lighter? Think of the sweet-savory combination of lean sirloin, paired with a sweet potato, pear and apple slaw, rolled in a wrap. What are you waiting for? Invite some friends over and watch them become big fans of the new and improved meat and potatoes.

Sweet Potato Soup With Grilled Steak Sandwich

Sweet Potato Soup

- 1 (40-ounce) can sweet potatoes, drained and rinsed, or 2 2/3 cups cooked, mashed fresh sweet potatoes
- 4 cups beef broth
- 1 cup apple juice
- 1 apple, unpeeled, cored and quartered
- 3 tablespoons chopped sweet onion
- 1 clove garlic, peeled and sliced
- 4 bay leaves
- 3 sprigs fresh thyme, or 1/2 teaspoon dried thyme
- Salt and pepper to taste

- 1 (15-ounce) can sweet potatoes, drained and mashed, or 1 cup cooked, mashed fresh sweet potatoes
- 4 cups biscuit baking mix
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 3/4 cup skim milk
- 3 tablespoons margarine or butter, softened

1. Preheat oven to 450°F. In a bowl, mix sweet potatoes with baking mix and cinnamon. Add milk and margarine, stirring until blended.
2. Roll onto a floured surface to 1-inch thick. Cut with a 2-inch cutter or glass, and place on ungreased baking sheet. Bake 10 to 12 minutes, until golden brown. Serve hot.

Yields 20 to 24

Chef's tip: For a savory biscuit, omit cinnamon and add 1 tablespoon chopped parsley and 1 teaspoon seasoning salt.

Note: Leftover biscuits are ideal to serve the next day for breakfast.

Grilled Steak Sandwich

- 1 1/2 pounds *Certified Angus Beef* top sirloin steaks
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 16 French baguette slices, cut on the bias
- 1/2 cup unsalted butter, softened
- 1/2 cup roasted red peppers, sliced
- 4 ounces fresh mozzarella, sliced

1. Preheat grill to medium-high. Season top sirloin with salt and pepper, and grill to medium rare (140°F internal temperature) or desired doneness. Remove from heat, let rest 5 minutes and slice thin.
2. Butter one side of bread slices. Place four slices, butter-side down, in skillet over medium heat. Layer steak, peppers, mozzarella and another slice of bread on each. Toast sandwiches until golden brown, flipping once.

Serves 8
Nutritional Information per Serving: 571 Calories; 16g Fat; 8g Saturated Fat; 76mg Cholesterol; 75g Carbohydrate; 7g Dietary Fiber; 31g Protein; 1186mg Sodium; 32% daily value iron (based on 2,000-calorie diet).

Helpful Hints

Here are a few things to keep in mind when choosing beef and sweet potatoes for recipes.

Sweet Potatoes: What to Know

- Don't refrigerate uncooked fresh sweet potatoes. Store at 55 to 65°F.
- One 15-ounce can of sweet potatoes (yams) equals one cup fresh.
- Opt for sweet potatoes from Louisiana (canned or fresh). The state's unique climate and soil conditions are ideal for growing a naturally sweeter and more flavorful sweet potato.

Beef: What to Look For

- Many lean cuts of beef are available. Look for those with "round" or "loin" in the name, such as top sirloin or tenderloin.
- For the best results, start with the highest quality ingredients. Look for the *Certified Angus Beef* brand, which comes from the highly acclaimed Angus breed of cattle known for its flavorful meat. Only 8 percent of all U.S. beef can meet the brand's 10 strict quality specifications.

For more tasty recipes starring the *Certified Angus Beef* brand or Louisiana Sweet Potatoes, visit www.certifiedangusbeef.com and www.sweetpotato.org.

Sweet Potato Biscuit and Tenderloin Sandwich

- 1 pound *Certified Angus Beef* tenderloin steaks
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 2 portobello mushrooms, grilled and sliced thin
- 4 ounces shredded Monterey Jack cheese
- 4 sweet potato biscuits, sliced in half (see recipe)
- 4 slices center-cut bacon, cooked
- 1/4 cup roasted red pepper, sliced
- 1/4 cup spring mix salad greens
- 2 tablespoons light mayonnaise

1. Preheat grill to medium-high. Season filet with salt and pepper, and grill to medium rare (140°F internal temperature) or desired doneness. Remove steaks from grill, let rest 5 minutes and slice.
2. Preheat oven broiler. Arrange mushrooms on baking sheet in circles to fit biscuits. Sprinkle cheese evenly over mushrooms and broil 30 to 60 seconds, until cheese melts.
3. Assemble sandwiches by stacking steak on biscuit bottom and adding bacon, mushrooms and cheese, peppers, greens and biscuit tops spread with mayonnaise.

Serves 4

Nutritional Information per Serving: 455 Calories; 25g Fat; 10g Saturated Fat; 105mg Cholesterol; 20g Carbohydrate; 1g Dietary Fiber; 35g Protein; 673mg Sodium; 23% daily value iron (based on 2,000-calorie diet).

Nutritional Information per Serving for biscuit only: 115 Calories; 4g Fat; 0g Saturated Fat; 0mg Cholesterol; 17g Carbohydrate; 1g Dietary Fiber; 2g Protein; 261mg Sodium; 3% daily value iron (based on 2,000-calorie diet).

Recipe provided by *Certified Angus Beef* LLC and Louisiana Sweet Potato Commission

Steak Wrap With Sweet Potato Slaw

- 1 1/2 pounds *Certified Angus Beef* top sirloin steak
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon blackening spice
- 1 sweet potato, peeled and shredded
- 1/2 pear, unpeeled, cored and shredded
- 1/2 apple, unpeeled, cored and shredded
- 1 tablespoon apple juice
- 2 tablespoons mascarpone cheese
- 1 tablespoon light mayonnaise
- Freshly ground pepper, to taste
- 4 (8-inch) flour tortillas

1. Preheat grill to medium-high. Season top sirloin with salt and blackening spice. Grill to medium rare (140°F or 60°C internal temperature) or desired doneness. Remove from heat, let rest 5 minutes and slice thin.
2. In a bowl, combine sweet potato, pear, apple, juice, mascarpone and mayonnaise. Season with salt and pepper.
3. Place steak and slaw in tortilla, fold in one end and wrap.

Chef's tip: Sweet potato chips make an ideal garnish or side dish.

Serves 4

Nutritional Information per Serving: 502 Calories; 15g Fat; 4g Saturated Fat; 102mg Cholesterol; 52g Carbohydrate; 5g Dietary Fiber; 39g Protein; 718mg Sodium; 33% daily value iron (based on 2,000-calorie diet).

Recipe provided by *Certified Angus Beef* LLC and Louisiana Sweet Potato Commission



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REGIONAL MARKETPLACE

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Thursday, November 15, 2007

Home Owners Do You Know... How to Detect Sick House Syndrome?



WHAT CAUSES SICK HOUSE SYNDROME?

Sick House Syndrome occurs when a house can't "breathe". A home needs to breathe in order to rid itself of indoor pollutants. These pollutants result in poor indoor air quality - a "sick house." Inadequate ventilation allows pollutants to build up, causing potential health risks to the home's occupants. Young children, the elderly, and some chronically ill persons are most susceptible to the effects of Sick House Syndrome.

Common sources of indoor pollution include tobacco smoke, certain carpeting materials, furnaces which are operating with a dirty burn cycle, using fireplaces which are not properly vented, candles, pressed wood cabinets and household cleaning products. Moisture build-up, although not a pollutant itself, can also be harmful in a house as it can cause mildew and/or mold growth inside walls, crawlspaces, and other areas. The spores from the mold will be circulated through the air in the home by operating the furnace, air conditioner and ceiling fans.

HOW CAN INDOOR POLLUTION BE REDUCED?

Source control is usually the most effective way to improve indoor air quality. In some cases, eliminating the specific sources of indoor pollution - for example, removing older carpets, and repairing or maintaining furnaces - may be all that is necessary.

For offending substances such as tobacco smoke, cleaning products, and moisture buildup, improving ventilation is a key means of decreasing indoor pollution. Many newer homes are so well insulated and sealed that only a very limited amount of fresh air can get in. Recommended and effective ventilation requires the home should have a complete air change every three hours. In this situation, using attic or window fans and opening windows (when weather permits) are easy and inexpensive ways to improve and increase ventilation.

More hazardous materials such as asbestos and lead do not normally cause problems if they are undisturbed, but these and other dangerous substances should be analyzed by having samples of the materials collected by a qualified technician, and have analysis by a Certified Lab to identify the type of material if unknown or to verify any health concerns. This will also help to identify if any action is required such as encapsulation, abatement or removal is warranted.



CALL US TO HAVE YOUR HOME CHECKED FOR PROPER VENTILATION AND FOR UNKNOWN ISSUES WHICH COULD CAUSE YOUR HOME TO HAVE SICK HOUSE SYNDROME.

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Gifts that will be remembered long after the 2007 holidays characterize the distinctive collections available at Rottermond Jewelers in Milford.

Dean and Cindi Rottermond have been enjoying business in the downtown area of Milford since 1984. They bring world renowned designers to the Milford area, such as Swarovski, Nancy B, Dianna Heiman, My Angel, Sara Blaine, Pandora, Hearts on Fire, Rolex and many more.

SPECIAL WRAPPING

Everyone knows that something special is wrapped in silver paper with the Rottermond ribbon. Not too many gifts leave the Rottermond store unwrapped during the holiday season.

"Our staff is most happy to be able to assist you in gift wrapping. Many times we have heard the comment 'as long as my present is wrapped in silver paper with a Rottermond bow, I know it is going to take my breath away,'" Cindi said.

PANDORA IS HERE

When asked to name one of the hottest jewelry items in the store, Cindi, without hesitation, replied, "Pandora."

The Pandora line is designed in Copenhagen, Denmark. It has a patented threaded system that allows each bead to move freely and rotate with the wrist, creating an eye-catching and stunning effect.

Each bracelet is as unique as the woman who wears it. The jewelry can change to fit your mood. The Pandora line has over 400 beads to help you create your own unique bracelet. Pandora releases new beads four times a year and Rottermond Jewelers has all the newest beads available.

"Many female clients buy beads as gifts for friends and for their relatives. The beads are so much fun and Pandora has an antimish suede travel box for storing the beads that you do not wish to wear on a particular day," Cindi said.

"You can view the entire Pandora collection at www.rottermond.com and make a wish list selection prior to coming into the store or just e-mail molly@rottermond.com, if you are busy," said Molly Haaseh, Rottermond's Pandora Jewelry specialist who is happy to add your items to your wish list.

The patented Pandora bracelet ranges in cost from \$27 for the basic sterling silver to \$840 for a solid 14k gold. The clips and beads range from \$20 to over \$500 each. Prices at Rottermond Jewelers range

ROTTERMOND JEWELERS

351 N. Main St.,
downtown Milford

Phone
(248) 685-1150

Web site
www.rottermond.com

from the affordable - such as Pandora, Sara Blaine or Swarovski to luxury lines - such as Gregg Ruth from Malibu, California.

"Ours are classic designs that can stand the test of time," Gregg Ruth said. "Our designs are more than ornamentation - they are a statement. An attitude. A lifestyle. Those who collect from our ever-expanding collections appreciate our timeless designs."

"We try to meet all your jewelry needs without having to travel a distance, whether you are buying a teacher's gift or an anniversary gift for your wife, we have selections from \$25 to \$430,000," Dean said.

"With the busy schedules of today, our goal is to provide excellent service to our clients," Dean said. "We will deliver that 'special' gift to you. It was just a month ago that I flew to Texas to deliver a very special ring to a long standing client."

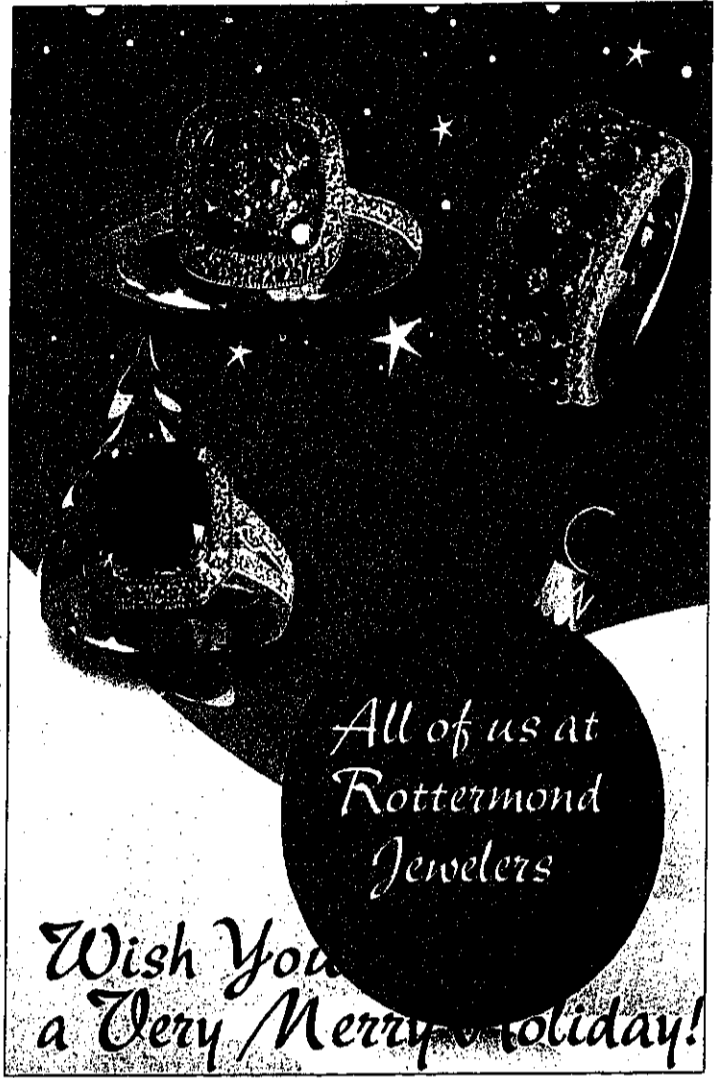
TYCOON CUT IS HERE

Another luxury line that is featured at Rottermond Jewelers is the patented Tycoon Cut diamond, considered by most to be a masterpiece of gemology, with nine crown facets that give the diamond significantly more brilliance. The Tycoon cut diamond is only offered at 30 independent jewelry stores nationwide and Rottermond is one of the authorized dealers.

"As a special offer, just try on a Tycoon Cut ring at Rottermond Jewelers now through Jan. 25, 2008, and your name will be entered in a special drawing with OPI nails to win a honeymoon to Fiji," Cindi said.

FRIENDLY SHOPPING

But the most memorable Rottermond experience comes from actually shopping in the store itself. Many times you are greet-



Submitted Photos

Rottermond Jewelers in Milford is ready to make your holiday shopping experience a pleasant one, with friendly customer service and exceptional jewelry from world renowned designers, such as, Swarovski, Nancy B, Dianna Heiman, My Angel, Sara Blaine, Pandora, Hearts on Fire, Rolex and many more, including the patented Tycoon Cut diamond. Let Rottermond ring in your New Year.

ed by the store mascot, Koa, a Portuguese Water Dog. When you come in, a sales professional offers you a bottled water or a cup of freshly brewed coffee and some cookies or some candies.

Besides the friendliness of the staff, each client benefits from the knowledge of the in-house gemologists and custom jewelry

designers who actually create custom pieces in Rottermond's in-house manufacturing facility. It's also the site of the store's on-the-premise repair shop, home of the area's only precision laser welder.

NOV. 23 SALE

This year the town of Milford is having a sale the day after Thanksgiving and Rottermond Jewelers is participating in this event. The store will open at 7 a.m. and offer 60 percent off selected jewelry items.

"This sale will replace our annual sale that we usually have in February, so come in to visit us. We will be here early," Dean said.

MEN'S NIGHT

One of the most sought after events of the year is the annual Men's Shopping Night on Dec. 13.

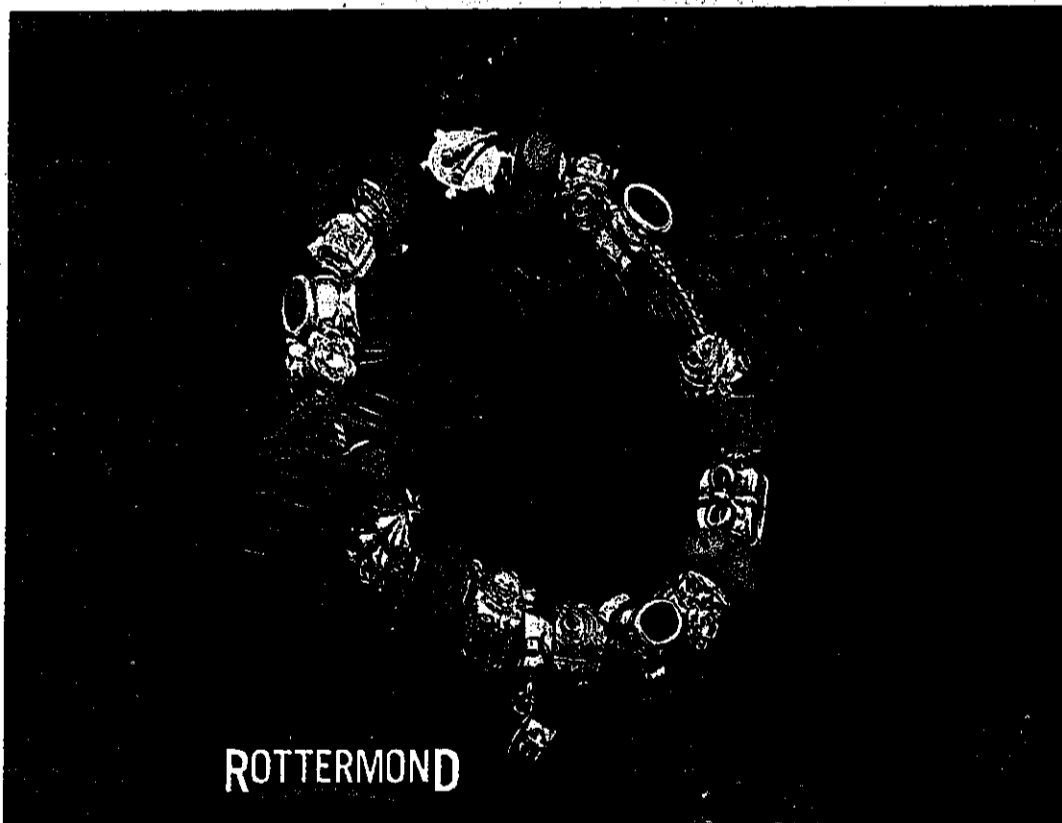
"Our female clients have been coming in all year adding their favorite selections to their Wish List, then we assist their husbands or boyfriends with wrapping up a special gift with our Rottermond gift wrapping," said Dean. "We share some good football moments on the plasma screens while enjoying some food and drinks - a great shopping experience of us guys."

SPECIAL FINANCING

And, from now until the year end, Rottermond has a special 12-month-same-as-cash financing.

While shopping this holiday season, visit Rottermond Jewelers at 351 N. Main St., in downtown Milford, where the streets are decorated like something out of a Charles Dickens' novel.

Visit Rottermond's Web site, www.rottermond.com, to obtain additional details, or to speak to someone personally, call (248) 685-1150.



Rottermond carries the much-sought-after Pandora beads and bracelets, including the newly released beads.

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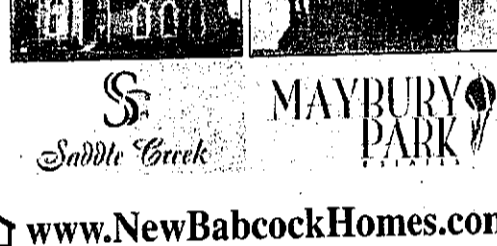
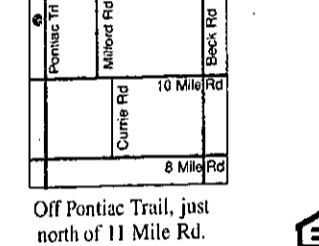
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<p>NORTHVILLE \$679,900 Stone elevation wide plank maple flrs, Fr w/ wall of windows, gmt kit w/ 42" cabs, gran & ss appls, 2 offices, 2 tier deck w/ stone patio, walk & porch! MLS# 27189512 248-347-3060</p>	<p>NOVI \$624,995 Lovely & Lively! Fin w/ incl GR w/ bar, stage, ex. rm, office, hm theater! BA, Fla rm c/cf kit. Paver patio w/ hot tub & multi-tier deck, 3 car gar & more. MLS# 27189884 248-347-3060</p>	<p>NORTHVILLE \$615,000 Northville Col. 4BR, 3.1BA backs to woods. Gourmet kit, open fr plan, mstr w/ glam bath, Jack & Jill, 2 Princess st. Special finance through SIRVA. MLS# 27189120 734-453-6800</p>	<p>NOVI \$570,000 Beautiful brick col on c/c setting. Upgraded kit w/ new appls & granite T/O. Jack & Jill BA. New mstr BA. New roof, fresh paint. Huge deck in backyard. MLS# 27198384 734-453-6800</p>	<p>FARMINGTON HILLS \$550,000 Incredible Views! Hwd flrs. Main BA w/ Steamers, Fin U/Wo Wlk. Gran Bar multi-tier Deck, 1st Fr Mstr Whty Dg. Kit w/ Corian Cntrs, 3.5 Car Gar & More. MLS# 27180174 248-347-3060</p>	<p>PLYMOUTH \$498,000 One Of Plymouth's Favorite Addresses. Light House Court. Unpredictable Fir Plan. Pella windows, New Efficient Furnace, Fab Fam Rm & Private Rear Yard. MLS# 27194148 734-453-6800</p>
<p>NOVI \$410,000 Wrap it up! 4 bdrm beauty w/ vaulted ceilings, hwd flrs, gourmet kitchen, fam rm w/ w/tp, library, 3 season sunroom w/ wrap around porch! finished walkout! MLS# 27195448 248-347-3060</p>	<p>MILFORD \$380,000 Custom Built Kit w/ Gran. Dual Fuel Cooking & Mixing Cook Top. Vaulted Gr & Fp. U Fin W/tp, 2nd Klt, Fp & 5th Bk. Multi-tier Deck w/ gazebo. 3 Car Gar. MLS# 27195537 248-347-3060</p>	<p>WIXOM \$349,900 Like New! HMD flrs in 2 story foyer, 1/2 ba & KIT. 9 clips on 1st flr, paver lined drive, deck w/ paver patio, birch cabs in KIT, 2 WIC in mstr & 1st flr Indry. MLS# 27190184 248-347-3060</p>	<p>NORTHVILLE \$339,900 Lg backyard! Deck w/ auto awning. Hwd flrs, anu/m Intercom, Fin LL w/ wet bar, ba, rec rm & office. Vaulted kit & gr, 2 skylights, 1st fr mstr & Indry. MLS# 27174836 248-347-3060</p>	<p>FARMINGTON HILLS \$324,900 Updated colonial! Remod kit w/ cherry cabs, gran cntrs, limestone flr, new furn. New paver patio, remod 1/2, main mstr ba, new stone FP in FR. P in bsm't. MLS# 27181853 247-347-3060</p>	<p>SOUTH LYON \$325,000 Beautiful 4 Br 2.1 Ba - Better Than New! Spacious Fir Plan W/ Many Features Incl Bay In Klt, 2 Story Fam Rm, Fir Office In Bsm't & fenced Inground Pool. MLS# 27168069 248-347-3060</p>
<p>PLYMOUTH \$324,900 Wow! Nature in the sub! Trees, pond, privacy comes w/ this 4 bedroom, 2.1 bath colonial home in Ridgewood Hills. 10+ for cleanliness & decor! MLS# 27192579 734-453-6800</p>	<p>CANTON \$309,999 4 BR, 2-1/2 BA in "Central Park". Light-bright kit w/ hwd flrs capps incl. FR w/ gas FP. Mstr w/ w/tp c/cg, huge WIC & fash bath. 9 ft c/cgs on 1st flr. MLS# 27195459 734-453-6800</p>	<p>WEST BLOOMFIELD \$299,900 Private Col-de-sac location, 2100 sq.ft., 3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, 1st floor master suite w/ luxury bath, 3+ car garage, finished basement. \$299,900. MLS# 27173670 248-360-1425</p>	<p>NORTHVILLE \$249,900 Northville col on cul-de-sac. Gourmet kit w/ cust cabs, tile splash. New appls, paint. Granite cntrs in bath. Dust hwd & tile flrs T/O. Landscaped. MLS# 27193845 734-453-6800</p>	<p>LIVONIA \$215,000 Over half acre of private land backing to ridge river. 4BR 2.1BA colonial b't in 2000. Maple kit, hwd flrs, mstr w/WIC, GR w/ gas FP. Some appls incl. MLS# 27197879 734-453-6800</p>	<p>LIVONIA \$199,900 Cape cod w/ w/tp, central c/cg, open fr plan, natural FP, new perrgo flr, bright & sunny kit, full deck off back. Assoc maintains grass & snow removal. MLS# 27194601 734-453-6800</p>
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<p>ROMULUS \$129,900 Newer condo w/ huge kit, luxury master sh w/ w/tp, BA, 1st flr Indry, att garage. Association deposit incl in price of home (\$500). MLS# 27193158 734-453-6800</p>	<p>PLYMOUTH \$125,000 Exceptional Townhouse Condo W/ P Fin LL. Lg Island KIT w/ Lg Pantry & Bkfst Nook, Pvl Deck. Mstr BR w/ Dressing Area, WIC, Klt Appls, Washer & Dryer. Spzy MLS# 27193700 248-347-3060</p>	<p>CANTON \$123,750 Chatterton Village condo backs to woods. Spec. kit- check w/ lts cabs & c-top space. All appls incl. Open GR w/ doorw/tp to patio, DR, att-gar, pool. MLS# 27196516 743-453-6800</p>	<p>GREEN OAK \$87,500 Lake access condo. Updated 04-maple kit w/ w/tp appls, bring, new paint & carpet T/O. Ceram tile in BA w/ vanity. Mstr w/ lrg closet. Enjoy the water! MLS# 27192798 734-453-6800</p>	<p>REDFORD \$85,000 Ranch w/ updates galore! Roof, w/ndw, carpet, paint, refri hwd, gas tp, lighting fut, furn, ceram kit & baths. Fin bsm't & 2-car gar. Fenced lot. MLS# 27192539 734-453-6800</p>	<p>LIVONIA \$1,300 Fantastic 2 Br Condo W/ year. Open Fir Plan, tp in LR, Att Appls Incl. Huge Mstr W/tp, Ceram, Fin LL-Study Or FR. 1.5 Mo Sec Deposit. No Smokers Or Pets. MLS# 27195547 248-347-3060</p>

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