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Novi News

THURSDAY January 15, 2009

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Frankly speaking



PHOTO BY JOHN HEIDER/NOVI NEWS

Keiko Otaka, right, shares some food with fellow English Conversation Group attendee Junko Inwzuka. The group meets at the Novi library.

Novi library offers friendly environment for English learners

BY KELLY MURAD
STAFF WRITER

On a recent Tuesday afternoon, a group of 12 women from Mexico, Germany, China and Japan, gathered at the Novi Public Library, as they do almost every week, to talk.

Warm greetings were shared as attendees of the English Conversation Group entered the meeting room and took a seat at the round-style table.

"It can get pretty loud in here," said Sheila Wojciechowski, the group's volunteer literacy tutor. "Sometimes we have six people, but we've had up to 24-26 people."

The informal conversation group is offered at the library almost every Tuesday for anyone looking to improve their English-speaking skills.

ENGLISH CONVERSATION GROUP

Noon to 1 p.m. Tuesday
Jan. 20, Feb. 3, Feb. 10, March 3,
March 10, March 17
Novi Public Library
45245 W. 10 Mile
(248) 349-0720
www.novilibrary.org

"This isn't an English grammar class, they can get that elsewhere in Novi," Wojciechowski said. "We just provide a safe environment for people to talk. The point is to build their confidence."

Like many of the participants, Keiko Otaka and Lidia Madrigal attend the weekly session, while their children are in school, to practice speaking English, and

more importantly, to socialize. "We learn English in our country, but it's kind of from the book. We need to talk," said Otaka, whose husband's job brought them to the United States from Japan about two years ago.

Wojciechowski begins each session with group discussions of current news and events. "I like to let everyone else handle the conversation because it's not for me. I already know how to speak English," she said.

"Our topics are everything from books and movies to what's happening in the news and around the world."

Following the group discussion Wojciechowski plans a small vocabulary exercise and teaches the group commonly-used idioms and slang.

Please see **GROUP, A6**

Novi students promote diversity with MLK remembrance event

BY VICTORIA MITCHELL
STAFF WRITER

When Treesa Antony moved to Novi four years ago from India, she had no idea her role model would be a man born 80 years ago with a dream.

Upon her arrival, the Novi High School senior quickly learned the valuable message Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. spread throughout America.

"What he has done has made me believe what the true American spirit is," Antony said.

She recently won the school's Martin Luther King Jr. oratorical contest and will be reading her winning essay Monday at the Novi Community Schools district's Unity in the Community event, celebrating the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. inside the Fuerst Auditorium.

"I thought I would never get a better opportunity to express my thoughts," Antony said.

Novi High School freshman Katie Seelenbinder will also be reading from her winning essay. She wrote about Dr. King's six pillars of nonviolence taken from the King Center in Atlanta.

She was moved by what she learned of his life.

UNITY IN THE COMMUNITY

Event celebrating the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 19
Fuerst Farm Auditorium inside Novi High School, 24062 Taft Road
For more information or to sponsor next year's event, contact Corey T. Nuckolls at knuckolls@novi.k12.mi.us.

"The fact he was willing to put himself in front of others and take the consequences for his actions," Seelenbinder said she was most impressed by.

THE EVENT

The third annual MLK event is presented by the Novi High School Students Promoting Unity and Diversity group.

The 7 p.m. free program at the school will feature nationally-recognized speaker Dr. Lee Meadows, author, columnist and professor of business management at Walsh College. Novi High School student groups will also perform including the choir, jazz ensemble and the newly formed, Unspeakable Prints Step team,

Please see **EVENT, A4**



PHOTO BY JOHN HEIDER/NOVI NEWS

Members of Novi High School Students Promoting Unity and Diversity shake hands. From left: Yunbo Nie, Jill Passanante, Treesa Antony, Katie Seelenbinder, William Newkirk and (teacher) Corey Nuckolls. Seelenbinder wrote an essay on Dr. Martin Luther King's nonviolent philosophy that will be presented at the Novi Community School's MLK day 7 p.m. Jan. 19 at Novi High School's Fuerst Auditorium.

Search continues for suspects firing BBs at Novi school buses

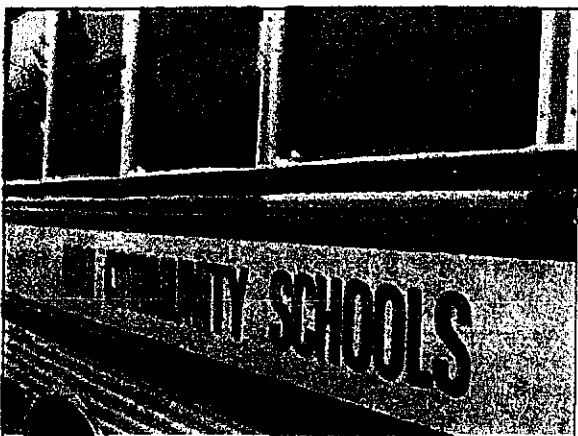


PHOTO BY JOHN HEIDER/NOVI NEWS

A Novi school bus at the district's transportation garage on 11 Mile Road.

BY KELLY MURAD
STAFF WRITER

Novi police continue their search for those responsible for shooting BBs at five schools buses last week.

"I believe this is some young men who believed they were committing a prank, and in fact they were committing a felonious assault," said Novi Police Chief David Molloy. "I believe this is an isolated incident. There has been no (reports) of regional or statewide incidents."

The occupied buses received minor damage and no one was injured. Preliminary reports indicate passengers in a gold

sport utility vehicle may be responsible for the incident.

Police received a call at about 2:40 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 8, that five buses were struck by BBs or pellets while traveling south on Wixom Road from 11 Mile, after departing from Novi Middle School.

"Absolutely no one was injured in any of these attempts," said Molloy, explaining the majority of the damage was to the exterior of the school bus windows, with one instance of glass breaking on the interior. "My understanding is that these buses do have shatter-proof windows."

The Novi Community Schools district's transportation system

was operating as usual the next morning.

"We continue to take it very seriously. Certainly, with incidents like this, communication is key," Molloy said.

Superintendent Peter Dion said he was in constant contact with Molloy to make sure dismissal of the elementary schools was safe and for up-to-the-minute updates.

"I feel very confident things are in hand," Dion said last Thursday night.

Local area police agencies in the tri-county (Wayne, Oakland, Macomb) region were notified via the Law Enforcement Information Network (LEIN)

and the Oakland County chopper was used in the search for the SUV.

According to Novi police reports, a number of vehicle windows were damaged with similar objects in the area of Island Lake subdivision between Jan. 4-8.

Anyone with information regarding the incident should contact Novi police detective Sgt. Matt Conquest at (248) 347-0530 or via e-mail at mconquest@cityofnovi.org.

A \$1,000 reward is being offered through Crime Stoppers at (800) SPEAK-UP.

kmurad@gannett.com | (248) 349-1700, Ext. 263

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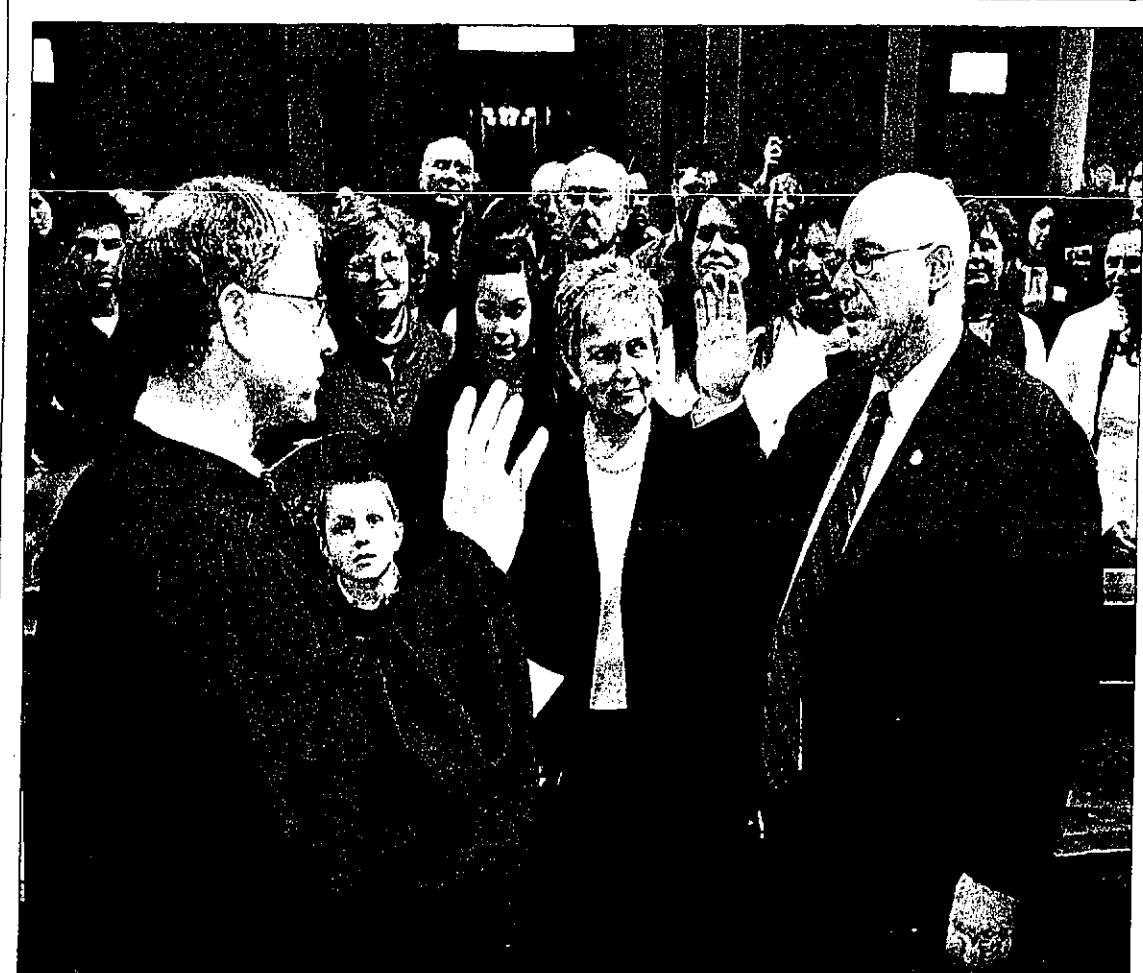
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Community bulletin board
Living, A8
Volume 53 Number 34



Swearing In

Novi resident Hugh Crawford began 2009 by taking the oath of office for state representative for the 38th District...

Residents weigh in on proposed Signature Park

Novi residents weighed in on the potential development of a Signature Park at the southwest corner of 11 Mile and Beck roads during the Novi Parks, Recreation and Forestry Commission meeting last Thursday.

The city acquired the 73-acre Bosco property from the Novi Community Schools district in November, as part of a land transfer agreement contingent upon a voter-approved bond slated for the spring.

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Novi City Council approves Walled Lake board

Novi City Council unanimously approved a resolution to establish a lake board at the special meeting Monday night. A similar resolution was approved by Walled Lake City Council in November.

Novi City Council unanimously approved a resolution to establish a lake board at the special meeting Monday night. A similar resolution was approved by Walled Lake City Council in November.

NOVI BRIEFLY

Martin Luther King Jr. Day City offices, the recycling center, senior center and library will be closed Monday in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Operations will resume Tuesday, Jan. 20.

Volunteers needed for city boards and commissions Novi City Council will be meeting to interview applicants for appointment to the Beautification Commission, Board of Review, Building Authority, Construction Board of Appeals, Economic Development Corporation, Historical Commission, Library Board, Planning Commission, Public Access Promotion Commission and the Stormwater Management and Watershed Stewardship Committee.

Glitter and Glam Novi Parks is hosting its annual Daddy Daughter Dance 7-9 p.m. Friday, Feb. 6 and Saturday Feb. 7 at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road. The event will feature the glitz and glamour of the red carpet, and include appetizers, desserts, swag bags and dancing. Photo packages are available for an additional fee.

State of the City The City of Novi, in partnership with the Novi Chamber of Commerce, will host the annual State of the City address and Luncheon 11:30 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 22 at Rock Financial Showplace, 46100 Grand River Avenue. Tickets are \$25 per person. Mayor David Landry will provide Novi citizens and business partners an opportunity to reflect on 2008 accomplishments and goals to strive toward in 2009.

One month free at Sports Club of Novi Anyone thinking about joining a health club can register for a free 30-day trial, no obligation membership at the Sports Club of Novi until Jan. 31. Located at 42500 Arena Drive, the fitness center includes cardio equipment with personal entertainment systems; resistance and free weights; and a group exercise studio and classes.

NOVI BRIEFLY

Winter Stonefly Search Volunteers are needed for the annual Rouge River Winter Stonefly Search, sponsored by Friends of the Rouge, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 24 at the Environmental Interpretive Center at the University of Michigan-Dearborn, located at 4901 Evergreen Road in Dearborn. Participants will help look for sensitive aquatic insects that indicate good water quality. Children and minors must be accompanied by an adult. Register by Jan. 16 by calling (313) 792-9621 or via e-mail at monitoring@therouge.org. For more information visit www.therouge.org.

Novi Theatres seeks director The Novi Theatres is seeking a director for "Grease." This is a paid position. The ideal candidate must be able to work with a choreographer and vocal director. Performances for "Grease" will be May 8-17. For more information contact Lauren Sorrentino at (248) 735-6515.

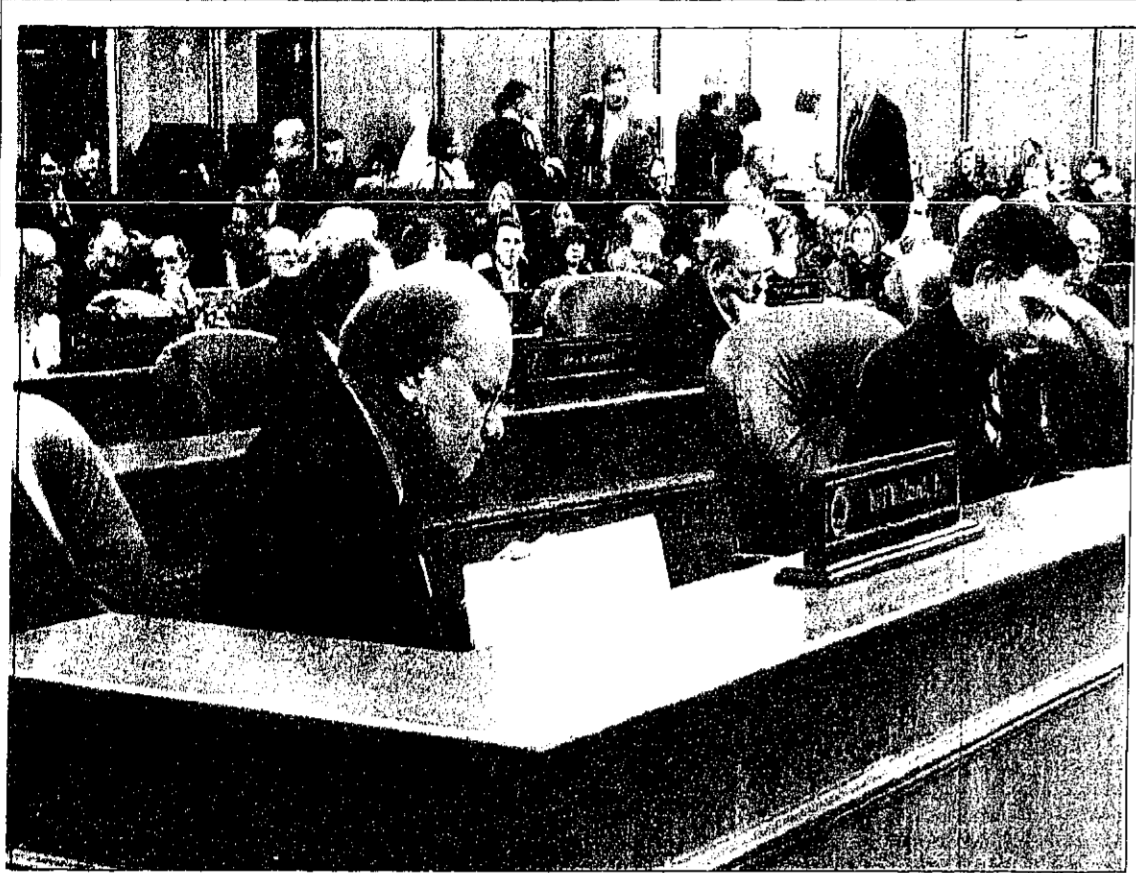
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Pictured left to right: Oakland County Board Chairman Bill Bullard, Jr., and Oakland County's newest Commissioner Kim T. Capello at the first meeting of the new year, which was held in the Board's Auditorium on Jan. 8 following the swearing-in ceremony.

ON CAMPUS

National Honor Phi Sigma Theta is proud to announce that Jenna Kuhn the daughter of Keith and Cindy Kuhn of Novi has recently become a member of Phi Sigma Theta National Honor Society at Michigan State University. Phi Sigma Theta is a national honor society dedicated to recognizing and rewarding academic achievement in undergraduates at institutions of higher learning. Dean's List • Olivet College announces

EVENT FROM PAGE A1

an offshoot of the diversity group. Students Promoting Unity and Diversity president Yumbo Nie has worked exhaustively with history teacher and group sponsor Corey T. Nuckolls to organize the program. "It is really important for people in the community to go to the event," Nie said. "The high school junior is passionate in his description of

how America was founded on diversity. "There is everyone immigrating here," he said. "Even the Indians... celebrating diversity is about celebrating our history." Group vice president Jill Passanante said Dr. King stands for improvement throughout the world, which should be celebrated. She greatly anticipates the evening. "I feel it shows how much Novi is improving," Passanante said. Nuckolls said the event continues to grow, gathering about 350 attendees last year. "Look how far we've come, this event will be held before the inauguration of the first black president," Nuckolls said. The program is open to the public and food will be served.

THE GROUP There are currently nearly 40 student members in the Novi High School Students Promoting Unity and Diversity group. "We are here to show race doesn't really matter," Passanante said. Nuckolls said although Students Promoting Unity and Diversity was officially recognized by the school as a group only three years ago, educators began pulling students together to support and promote diversity nine years ago. Current high school administrator Nicole Carter began the initiative with the help of a former colleague.

Carter said in the past, the students promoting diversity would travel to West Bloomfield to attend their MLK event and would ask why they couldn't have their own. After the district recognized the historic date by closing the school, the wheels started moving. "We made it a day on, not a day off," Carter said. "It is pretty remarkable to see something you put your heart and soul into." It is Nuckolls' hope for the group that it turns into a way of life. "Diversity is a 365-day a year way of life," he said. Nuckolls said he has seen great changes in the group and the high school student population since joining the district in 2001. "Our school is starting to reflect the diversity of the world," he said. "I hope someday our staff will reflect the changes as well." Nuckolls also hopes to see the MLK event grow, encompassing all facets of the community. He envisions city leaders involved, a march down 10 Mile and local businesses helping with the planning and expenses. "The sky is the limit," he said.

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KNOW THE SCORE check out the numbers in today's Sports section

CLASS NOTES

High School Daily Schedule Information

A decision on the proposed high school daily schedule for implementation in the 2009-10 school year has been delayed. The delay will allow time for further investigation and community involvement. To facilitate the process, community forums have been scheduled for 6:30 p.m. today and Monday, Jan. 26 at the Instructional Technology Center on Taft Road.

High School Curriculum Night

On Wednesday, Feb. 4, Novi High School will be holding its Curriculum Night-Open House for all parents and guardians wishing to meet the teachers and see the classrooms their students will be learning and growing in throughout the course of the second semester. The evening is designed to allow attendees to go through the entire class schedule for their child, and to be given brief overviews by the teachers regarding the curriculum taught in each of the classes. Curriculum Night will also provide course information relative to grading, curriculum, attendance and general classroom expectations. The event is not for individual parent-teacher conferences, as conferences will be held 5-8 p.m. March 18. The schedule for Curriculum Night is as follows:

7:25 p.m. Welcome, Fuest Auditorium 7:35-7:30 p.m. First Block 7:30-7:35 p.m. Hall Passing 7:35-7:50 p.m. Second Block 7:50-7:55 p.m. Hall Passing 7:55-8:10 p.m. Third Block 8:10-8:15 p.m. Hall Passing 8:15-8:30 p.m. Fourth Block 8:30-8:35 p.m. Hall Passing 8:35-8:45 p.m. Seminar 8:45 p.m. Dismissal Novi High School Winter Drumline

The Novi High School Winter Drumline is screening the popular documentary "From the 50 Yard Line" at the Novi High School Auditorium 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 31 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 1. Tickets are \$6. Filmmaker, Doug Lantz's award-winning film has been shown to audiences across the country and around the world. The film shows marching band as never seen before, complete with rewards of discipline, practice, the often-overlooked artistry, and the life changing effects of instrumental music education. All are welcome to attend. More information on the film is available at www.fromthe50yardline.com and the outreach site www.march-in-ausic.com. Proceeds will benefit the Novi High School Winter Drumline. Parent representative, Catherine Wall may be contacted at cwall@seglobal.net for local information.

Novi High School Wind Ensemble The Novi High School Wind Ensemble will be performing a free preview concert this 7 p.m. today in the Novi High School auditorium. The concert is free and the public is invited. The Wind Ensemble will be performing music from their upcoming performance in Grand Rapids at the Michigan Music Conference 1 p.m. Jan. 23. Novi High School Jazz

Ski Equipment Wanted The Novi Meadows Outdoor Education program needs your help. If you have new or gently used cross-country ski equipment, consider donating it to Novi Meadows Outdoor Education. The program is looking to supply enough

CLASS NOTES

Ensemble

The Novi High School Jazz Ensemble will be performing at the "Unity in the Community Event" 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 26. The event is sponsored by Novi High School to celebrate the life of Martin Luther King, Jr. Many other groups will be performing this evening as well. The event is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served following the program.

Writing - It's Not Just For Kids Anymore

Writing is an essential life skill, and we want all Novi students to be successful writers. Mary Cooper, Novi's kindergarten-six writing specialist, will be hosting a special kindergarten and first grade parenting and child writing night. The purpose of attending Novi's Writing Night is to write with your child and to better understand what your young author experiences each day. Novi's Writing Night is free to all parents and children. There is limited space, so register soon through Novi's Community Education (248) 449-1206. The class will be hosted in the ITC Forum from 7-8 p.m. on Jan. 22. Grades two-four and five-six will be held at a later date.

Mad Hatter Tea Party

The Providence Center for the Healing Arts presents its Seventh Annual Mad Hatter Tea Party, a showing of original artwork featuring a spectacle of playful and imaginative teapots created by patients, families, staff, volunteers and community members. In addition to the teapots that were created in the Providence Healing Arts ceramics studio, this exhibit also features teapots made by Novi High School students. The Mad Hatter Tea Party has been an integral part of the ongoing partnership between Providence Park Hospital and the Novi Community School District for more than six years. The show will be on display Jan. 5-Feb. 28. The Nancy A. Fox Art Gallery is open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Save the Date

The Novi Educational Foundation's Green Gala is March 21 at the Roka Financial Showplace.

Raising Resilient Kids

Novi School District is pleased to present Raising Resilient Kids. The free workshop with parent Nancy Prisky will take place 7:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 27 inside the Community Education (ITC) - Forum. Has your child ever felt left out? Had challenges getting along with other kids? Been faced with other difficult situations? Conflict and emotional pain are a part of life and kids can actually become stronger from these experiences and better able to deal with them in the future. This is resilience - the ability to draw strength when bad things happen. Participation in this workshop will provide strategies to help children become more resilient.

Ski Equipment Wanted

The Novi Meadows Outdoor Education program needs your help. If you have new or gently used cross-country ski equipment, consider donating it to Novi Meadows Outdoor Education. The program is looking to supply enough

EDUCATION

equipment so it is able to take groups of 14-18 students cross-country skiing. Boots, skis and poles of all sizes will be accepted. All donations may be dropped off at Novi Meadows Fifth Grade office. Questions should be directed to principals David Ascher or Lisa Fenchel, or Gary Hurst, coordinator of Novi Meadows Outdoor Education program at (248) 449-1250. A receipt for tax purposes will be given for all donated equipment.

Walled Lake Schools Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration

The community is invited to attend the 10th annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration 5-8 p.m. Monday, Jan. 19 at Walled Lake Northern High School, 6000 Bogie Lake Road. The community event celebrates the message of peace, equality and unity Dr. King advocated for all people. This year's theme is "Poverty, Peace, Progress: Become an Agent of Change." Admission is free. For more information, call (248) 956-9492.

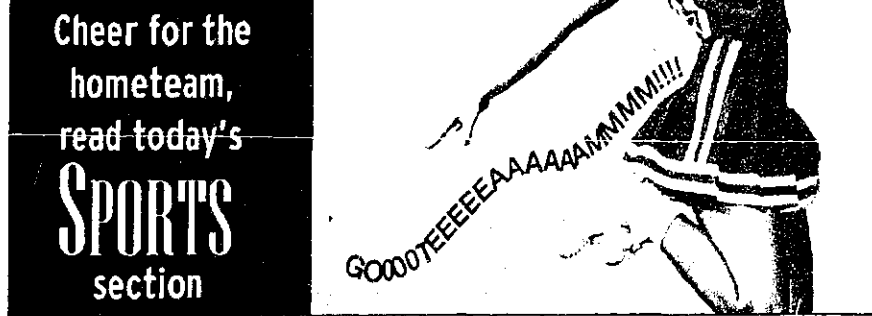


Schools raise \$1,500 Novi Youth Assistance director Kim Ziegler accepts a check for \$1,500 from Central Catholic students Nick Kristick and Nick Landry as Novi High School student Sara Snyder looks on. Both CC and Novi High School recently raised money to benefit Novi Youth Assistance to promote a positive impact in the community.

KNOW THE SCORE: Check out the numbers in today's Sports section

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Cheer for the hometeam, read today's SPORTS section



OBITUARIES

CHARLOTTE ELAINE BECK Age 60 of Highland Twp. passed away on January 2, 2009. Among her many life accomplishments, Charlotte was the Co-Founder of the Dursley Tri-Lakes Homeowners Assn., served as President of the Highland Twp. Library Board, and was a former State of Michigan Homemaker of the Year award recipient. Charlotte was also the award winning host of the craft show television show 'Ain't That Cute', and owner of the craft shop of the same name. She is preceded in death by her father Charles Sanford and is survived by her husband of 41 years, Robert; Children, Sandra Beck-Porter of Lawrenceville, GA; Michael Beck of Highland; Wendy Beck-Kreiser of Streamwood, IL; and Randall Beck of Highlands Ranch, CO; Grandchildren, Jessica Porter, Kindra Kreiser, Collin Beck, Matthew Kreiser and Sierra Kreiser; Mother, Ella Francis Venable of Zephyrhills, FL; Sister, Carol Madrox of Paducah, KY; Brother, Michael Sandel of Texas; As well as a great number of aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews. Charlotte was a native Texan and will be laid to rest in the cemetery during a private ceremony.

PATRICK W. PALMER Age 48, 1-11-09 Visitation 1-15, 2-9pm Phillips Funeral Home, Service Fri., 10:30am New Hudson United Methodist, Online Guestbook www.phillipsfuneral.com

LEONORA JUNE PARIS Age 87, passed away January 8, 2009. She was born on November 16, 1921, in Orléans Bottom, Ohio, to the late Ralph and Eva (Rascioli) Savaggi. On Sept. 27, 1947, she married Peter Paris. Mrs. Paris was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church, and a longtime resident of Colonial Acres. Leonora is survived by her two daughters: Patricia Paris of South Lyon and Janet (Frank) Lazajski of Canton, three grandchildren: Allison, Amy, and Andrea. Visitation was held Saturday and Sunday at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, South Lyon. A Funeral Mass was held on January 12, at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 5941 South Lyon. Memorial contributions may be made to Alzheimer's Association, 20300 Civic Center Dr., Ste 100, Southfield, MI 48076. Online guestbook www.phillipsfuneral.com

DARYL LEE GALAZEN A resident of Milford, passed away on January 13, 2009. He was born on January 16, 1921, in Orléans Bottom, Ohio, to the late Ralph and Eva (Rascioli) Savaggi. On Sept. 27, 1947, she married Peter Paris. Mrs. Paris was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church, and a longtime resident of Colonial Acres. Leonora is survived by her two daughters: Patricia Paris of South Lyon and Janet (Frank) Lazajski of Canton, three grandchildren: Allison, Amy, and Andrea. Visitation was held Saturday and Sunday at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME, South Lyon. A Funeral Mass was held on January 12, at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 5941 South Lyon. Memorial contributions may be made to Alzheimer's Association, 20300 Civic Center Dr., Ste 100, Southfield, MI 48076. Online guestbook www.phillipsfuneral.com

LOUIS R. DIMITRY Age 103. Died January 6, 2009 at his residence in Northville. Mr. Dimitry owned the Dimitry & Moody Custom Tailor and Design Shop in Detroit, Michigan for 65 years prior to his retirement. Prior to moving to Northville, he was a 75 year resident of Grosse Pointe, Michigan. He was also a 50 year member of Rotary International and belonged to the Grosse Pointe Rotary Club and the Detroit Rotary Club. Mr. Dimitry is survived by his wife, Dorothy, the woman he was married to for 75 years; three children, Carol Pappas, Gary (Carol) Dimitry and Christopher (Cheryl) Dimitry; and eight grandchildren. Services for Mr. Dimitry were held at St. Thomas Orthodox Church followed by interment at Rural Hill Cemetery in Northville. Memorial contributions to St. Thomas Church would be appreciated. Arrangements were for the Northrop-Sassaman Funeral Home.

ROY W. FOGLE Age 81, of White Lake, formerly of White Lake and West Bloomfield, died on Thursday, January 8, 2009 in the care of his family at Beaumont Hospice in Royal Oak. Born in Detroit on June 15, 1927, the son of Harry and Maude (Bupp) Fogle, Roy graduated from Milford High School in 1945. Following high school, he enlisted in the US Army, serving with military intelligence in Germany during World War II. After his honorable discharge, Roy met and married Patricia Couture and also began his career with General Motors at the Proving Ground in Milford. During the Korean War, Roy was reactivated by the US Army; thereafter he returned to the General Motors Proving Grounds where he worked until his retirement in 1982. Roy was an active, long time member of the Union Lake Baptist Church. He was also active in the community, serving with many associations, which included the White Lake School Board. Sports were a passion that he passed on to his children and grandchildren. He served as a coach on many of his children's teams. In later years he was his grandchildren's biggest fan. Roy loved to help people. Everyone knew if something needed fixing all they had to do was call Roy ("Mr. Fix It"). In addition to Patricia, his beloved wife of 60 years, he is survived by his loving children: Stephen (Christina) Fogle, Gregory Fogle, Suzanne (Vernon) McKeever, Delynn (Timothy) Dindoff; 14 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren; brother Lawrence (Dorothy) Fogle many loving extended family members and dear friends. He was preceded in death by his brother George (Vivian) Fogle. Funeral Services were held at Beran Baptist Church in Livonia on Monday, January 12, 2009, with Pastor Terry McIntosh officiating. Burial took place at Oak Grove Cemetery, Milford. Those planning an expression of sympathy are asked to consider William Beaumont Hospital or the American Heart Association. For further information, please phone Lynch & Sons, Milford, 248.584.6645 or visit www.LynchFuneralDirectors.com

MARION N. HUDSON Age 88. Of Hillman, formerly of Milford. Passed away January 10, 2009 at Medfield of Hillman. She was born March 15, 1920 in Milford to Rufus and Carrie (West) Darlington. Mrs. Hudson is survived by three children, Lawrence & Penny of Gaysburg, PA, Margie & Robert Sproule of Hillman, and Jeanette & Joseph Caswell of Milford; 10 grandchildren; 16 great grandchildren; two great-great grandchildren; one sister, Thelma Blanche. She was preceded in death by her husband, Garner; granddaughters, Bobby Miller; brother, Vern Darlington; sister, Dorman; and her Cremation arrangements in care of Beck Funeral Home, Per Mrs. Hudson's request, there will be no public viewing or service. Inurnment will take place in Oak Grove Cemetery in Milford at a later date. www.beckfuneralhome.org

ANN MARIE MARKSTROM Age 45. Died January 5, 2009 unexpectedly at her home in Commerce Township. Born in Muskegon, Ann spent her childhood in Northville, graduating from Northville High School before earning an Engineering Degree from Michigan State University. Her most enjoyable years were spent while working at Shell Oil in Bakersfield, California. Ann is survived by her parents Frank and Madeleine (Krem) Drew, grand-mother Ethel Spoykowski, nephew Christopher Lepisto and niece Samantha Drew, plus a number of aunts and uncles. Services were held at the Northrop-Sassaman Funeral Home followed by burial at Rural Hill Cemetery.

SHANNON GABER SILVERTHORN Of White Lake. Unexpectedly January 9, 2009. Age 31. Dear Wife of Michael. Unexpectedly January 9, 2009. She was born on January 11, 1978. Surviving are her sons, Michael (Kathy) and Robert (Susan), her daughter, Julie (Timothy) Mackay, and her daughter, Lauren (Lorraine). Also surviving are his grandchildren: Michael, Jacqueline, Robert, Mary, Andrea, Christopher, Steven, Emily, and his great-grandchildren: Michael, Katie and Nicholas. Also surviving Michael is his friend and the center of his love and affection Maryanne Gorski. Brother of Jane (the late Joseph) Pace. Services for Shannon will be held at Holy Family Church, Novi. Burial was at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Southfield. Donations may be made to the Muscular Dystrophy Association in honor of his grandchild Kellie Lorraine. On-line sympathy message at www.obitnewsullivanfuneralhome.com



The English Conversation Group meeting at the Novi Public Library on a recent Tuesday afternoon.

GROUP FROM PAGE A1 "It's hard sometimes when we can't understand," said Madrigal, whose husband's job moved them to the United States from Mexico five years ago. The group session ends with partner exercises centered on everyday conversations. "We spend a considerable time role-playing conversations, as we might have with a doctor or a teacher," said Mary Storch, head of specialized services for the Novi Library. Madrigal said she has taken numerous English-speaking classes, but was never able to practice her conversation skills as much as she does with this group.

Volunteer opportunities: Sheila Wojciechowski has been a Novi library volunteer since the inception of the English Conversation Group in October 2007, but she will be saying goodbye in March. Now the library is seeking a replacement English conversation group leader, as well as additional volunteers to assist with the program. "Novi did not have a conversation group here at the library and it's pretty important in this community because we have everyday conversations. Adults representing all levels of English-speaking skills are welcome to attend. 'Everybody has several different levels, but we don't have much trouble understanding,' said Otake, who finds hearing what people are saying the most difficult part of the English language. "It's a fun time."

NOVI POLICE BRIEFS Shooter targets vehicles A number of reports were made in reference to vehicle windows damaged in the area of Island Lake subdivision between Jan. 4-8. According to police reports, BBs, paintballs or other blunt objects are the suspected cause of damage. There are no suspects or witnesses at this time. Between 6:45 p.m. Jan. 5 and 6:30 a.m. Jan. 6, an unknown suspect shot the rear, driver-side window of a Chevy Impala with what appears to be a BB, reports said. The vehicle was parked on Victoria Road, near 12 Mile and Napier roads, at the time of the incident. The rear, driver-side window of a Ford Focus, parked in front of a residence on Island Lake Drive, was broken between 8 p.m. Jan. 4 and 8 a.m. Jan. 5, reports said. It appeared that an object was shot at the window and the pink splattered paint indicated a paintball, police said.

Uncooperative while intoxicated A man was arrested for operating while intoxicated at about 2:20 a.m. Jan. 4, near 12 Mile Road and Cabaret Drive, reports said. An officer initiated a traffic stop after observing a grey Chevrolet Caprice swerving and traveling at a speed of 25 mph in a 45 mph zone. According to reports, the driver was slurring his speech, swaying and lost his balance during the field sobriety tests. He refused a preliminary breath test and was arrested, reports said. While seated in the patrol car, the man pulled his cuffs behind his arm behind and got his pants caught under his knees. Once the officer re-cuffed the man and began transporting him to the Novi Police Department, he attempted to make himself vomit and then said he couldn't breathe, reports said. Police called Community Emergency Medical Services, but when they arrived at the police department the man said he did not want medical treatment and that he was just messing around. The man was uncooperative and using foul language, reports said. When asked again, he agreed to a breath test which registered his blood alcohol concentration at .21 percent.

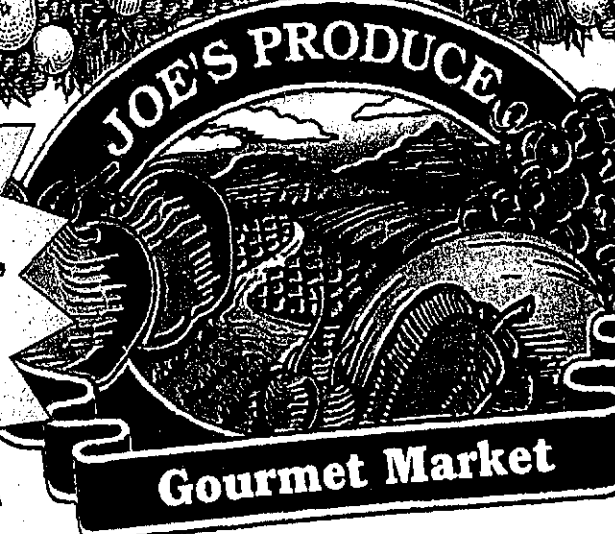
Novi man dies following head-on collision Police have identified the 79-year-old Novi man killed when his vehicle collided head-on with a semi after driving the wrong way on Interstate 96 as Guerdon Hicks. Michigan State Police said Hicks died just after 10:30 p.m. Friday at Sparrow Hospital in Lansing from injuries he suffered earlier that day. Police said Hicks was traveling westbound on eastbound I-96 near M-59 shortly after 9:30 p.m. Friday when his vehicle hit a semi head-on. The truck jack-knifed and then rolled. It was not immediately known how long the man had been traveling the wrong way on the expressway or whether he had a medical condition, such as dementia, that contributed to his driving behavior. Police said the man was not wearing his seat belt and alcohol is not believed to be a factor in the accident, which remains under investigation. Daily Press & Argus reporters Leah Boyd and Lisa Rose Church contributed to this report.

Got Game? Yep, got scores, too. Includes an image of a basketball player and the text 'Check Today's SPORTS section'.

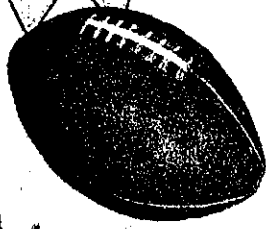
- Church events listings for various denominations including First Presbyterian Church of Northville, Oak Pointe Church, Farmington Hills, Highland, New Hudson, Northville, Livonia, and others. Each listing includes location, time, and contact information.

Large advertisement titled 'Your Invitation to Worship' featuring a central image of a church interior and text promoting a directory of churches. It includes contact information for Donna Hart at 734-582-8342 and a website dchar@dnp.com.

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Joe's Specials! Healthy Ones Honey Ham, Honey Turkey or Oven Turkey \$5.99 lb.

Dietz & Watson Buffalo Style Chicken or Pastrami \$7.99 lb.

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Ottone Balbera Piedmonte '05 \$9.99 ea.

Wildhurst Vineyards Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon Lake County '05 \$11.99

Gabbiano Chianti & Pinot Grigio \$9.99 ea.

4 Bears Chardonnay Central Coast California '05 \$10.99

Leerdammer Swiss Cheese \$9.99 lb.

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Buffalo Chicken Pasta Salad \$4.99 lb.

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SPORTS

B (11)

Thursday, January 15, 2009

Community Weeklies

www.hometownlife.com

CC's Gatt leads All-Area soccer squad

Novi's Gauruder, Brockman earn First Team honors

BY MIKE ROSENBAUM
STAFF WRITER

Area soccer teams take note — Catholic Central's Josh Gatt may play with a senior's smarts and skill, but you haven't seen the last of him. Just a junior, Gatt led the Shamrocks in goals (14) and assists (10) this season while earning almost every honor a player can gain. The Shamrocks scored 43 goals this year, and Gatt was directly responsible for 24 of them.

"Josh is a scoring machine," CC head coach Joe Nora said. "He can flat out finish. He always has been able to put the ball in the net."

This year he really raised his game to the next level. He showed an amazing ability to defend, to organize the team and to be an affective leader.

He was an All-State Dream Team selection, gained All-Region and All-District honors and was selected First Team All-Catholic for the second-consecutive season.

A member of the Under-18 national team, Gatt is the All-Area Soccer Player of the Year.

"What's great about Josh is he just wants to be part of the team, and he has a very strong will to win and get better every day," Nora said. "He does all this with a huge smile on his face everyday. He loves the game and loves to compete."

ALL-AREA FIRST TEAM

The All-Area team was selected by a consensus of the area's coaches. Northville coaches did not respond to requests for information.

Remaining All-Area forwards include Novi's Garrett Gauruder, a three-year starter who scored 11 goals and added three assists last season, during which he also played midfield and defense. He was a Third Team All-State choice and a First Team All-KLAA selection.

Lakeland's Trevor Stevens netted 14 goals to set a new single-season school record. He was voted the team's top offensive player and earned All-District and All-KLAA honors.

Northville's Alex Marilley was an All-KLAA and Honorable Mention All-State selection.

Fellow Mustang Latif Alashe leads the midfield contingent. He was an All-State Dream Team and All-KLAA selection this season.

Other midfielders include Lakeland's Bryan Bouck. The Eagles' captain scored eight goals and was voted the team's Most Valuable Player. He earned Honorable Mention All-State notice along with



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Please see **ALL-AREA, B3**

Catholic Central's Josh Gatt is the All-Area Player of the Year.

Quick starts lead to two victories in Upper Peninsula

BY JEFF THEISEN
SPORTS WRITER

The Novi hockey team completed its annual trek to the Upper Peninsula with great results. The Wildcats improved to 9-3-1 with wins against Calumet (Jan. 9) and Houghton (Jan. 10).

NOVI 4, CALUMET 2

Novi scored all four of its goals in the opening period.

Tyler Manning lit the lamp with 9:33 left, followed by Tyler Perpich at 7:39, Manning again at 5:14 and Erik Aepebacher with 4:02 left.

Nolan Valleau and Nick Hansen each picked up a pair of assists during the scoring frenzy. Calumet stopped the tie with a goal in the second and another in the third.

Michael Pesendorfer stopped 16 of 18 shots for the win.

NOVI 5, HOUGHTON 1

The Wildcats again came out on fire early, racing out to a 3-0 lead by the end of the first period.

Valleau found the back of the net just 46 seconds in. Kyle Masarczyk was next midway through the period, and Taylor Howell put the Cats up 3-0 with 3:24 left in the first.

Perpich added a goal in the second, and Valleau netted another in the third to cap the scoring.

The Wildcat power play was on fire, accounting for four of the five goals.

Pesendorfer stopped 18 of 19 shots for the win.

jtheisen@gannett.com (248) 349-1700, ext. 228



PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Novi hockey team swept both games during its annual trip to the Upper Peninsula.

Home Owners Do You Know... HOW TO PROTECT YOUR FAMILY HEALTH IN YOUR HOME?

RADON - A SILENT KILLER Home Owners are Urged To Test Homes for Radon, the Second Leading Cause of Lung Cancer.

Novi Michigan - Pillar To Post is working with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in a nationwide campaign to educate Americans about the dangers of radon exposure and to encourage them to take action to protect their homes and families.

In our community, Randall Patterson of Pillar To Post is conducting Radon Testing for homes for the National Radon Action Awareness Program.

Radon is present at elevated levels in many of South East Michigan homes (info available from your state radon office). Radon is a naturally occurring, invisible, odorless, tasteless gas that is dispersed in outdoor air, but which can reach harmful levels when trapped in buildings. Scientists have long been concerned about the health risks of radon, but never before has there been such overwhelming proof that exposure to elevated levels of radon causes lung cancer in humans.

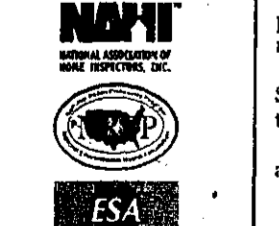
The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency estimates that radon is responsible for more than 24,000 lung cancer deaths per year. Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the U.S., after smoking, and the leading cause of lung cancer among non-smokers. However, because you can't see or smell radon, people tend to downplay the health effects and ignore the possibility that there might be a silent killer in their homes.

Testing homes for elevated levels of radon is simple and inexpensive. Pillar To Post offers a Continuous Radon Monitor (CRM) Report that provides an hour by hour measurement of the level of radon in your home. Radon problems can be fixed by certified contractors for a cost similar to that of many common home repairs such as painting or having a new water heater installed.

Randall Patterson of Pillar To Post urges all Southeast Michigan residents to take action during this year's National Radon Action Awareness Program, by testing their homes for levels of radon. Radon poses a serious threat to our community's health but there is a straightforward solution. For more information on radon, radon testing and mitigation, call Randall Patterson at Pillar To Post, (248) 755-3422 or visit our Web site at www.PTPost.com/westlanddivision or visit EPA's National Radon Action Month Web site at www.epa.gov/radon/nr

Elevated levels of radon can be fixed. Don't allow levels of radon to be a health concern for your family.

Radon Can Be Reduced to Safe Levels In Your Home! Call us to have your home tested for elevated levels of Radon to ensure your family's health and protection. We provide professional home inspections and home environmental testing services for Radon, Mold, Pest, Water, Air, and Water Quality Testing.



Radon is a Certified Home & Environmental Inspector with Pillar To Post serving Western Oakland and Livingston Counties.



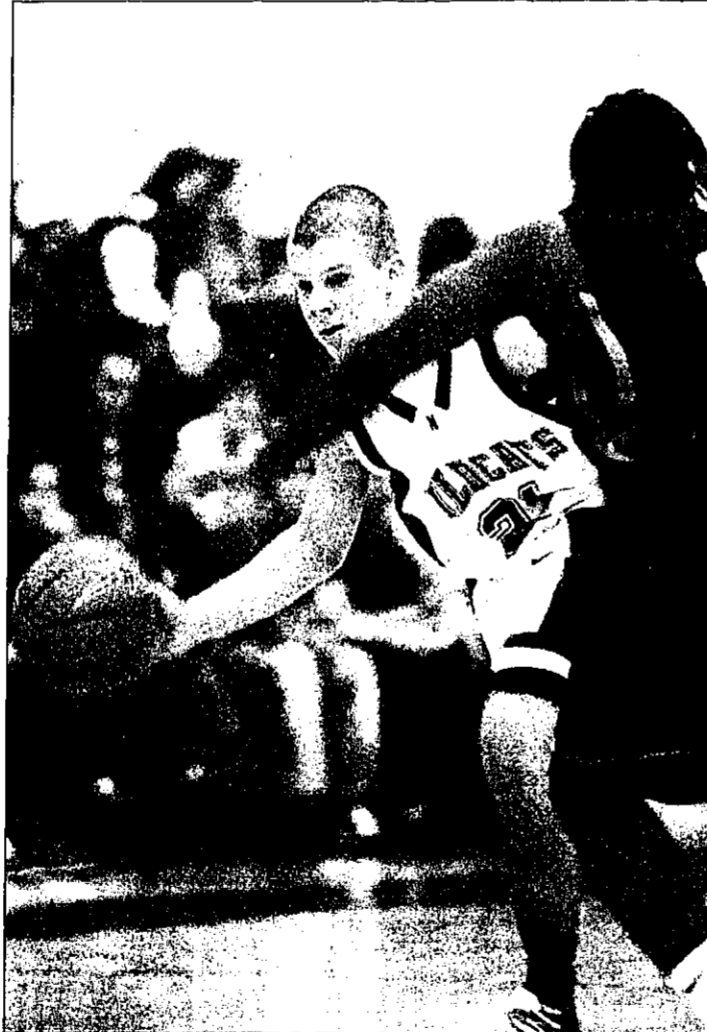
Wildcat Chris Bellamy plays close defense against Walled Lake Northern's Brandon Alexander in Tuesday night's home game.

Cats stumbled out of the gate in '09



A quintet of Wildcats hits the floor in a game against Walled Lake Northern. From left: Tyler Wenson, Brad Kotlyb, Chris Bellamy, Nick Brockman and Brandon Bryant.

BY JEFF THEISEN, SPORTS WRITER
The new year did not start as planned for the Wildcats. A wild ending results in Novi's first loss, 66-64, at John Glenn and Brandon Bryant each contributed eight points. Samer Ozeir led Novi with eight rebounds and two blocks. Chris Bellamy hit a three-pointer, and Jeremy Mims stole the inbound and hit the bucket to pull within one. A steal followed by a Bellamy layup put the Wildcats up 64-63 with just more than 30 seconds to play. John Glenn took the lead on Jon Swaggery's only basket of the game to regain the lead. Bellamy's driving shot did not fall and the Cats were forced to foul.



Novi's Brad Kotlyb brings the ball up court against Walled Lake Northern.

Wildcat girls basketball off to strong start in 2009

BY JEFF THEISEN, SPORTS WRITER
Caroline Johnson accounted for almost half of Novi's 36 points in Friday's 36-31 win against Plymouth. Johnson scored a game-high 16 points, on a night when the Novi offense was almost nonexistent in the first half. The game was tied at 10

after the first quarter, but the Wildcats (4-2) were held scoreless in the second quarter and trailed by seven at the break. Novi's defense came alive in the second half, holding Plymouth (3-3) to just three points in the third, cutting the lead to 20-19 heading into the final quarter. The Wildcat offense came alive in the fourth, almost doubling its total through the first three quarters with 17 points. Novi was strong at the free throw line, making eight of nine on the night. **NOVI 55, JOHN GLENN 28** The Novi girls were sparked by the return of Caroline Johnson. She pitched in 11 points to help lead the offense. Jessica Cingel Glenn 69-9 and beat Plymouth 36-28, improving to 6-0.

ALL-AREA

FROM PAGE B1
All-Region, All-District and All-KLAA honors. Bouch "had a great year as our playmaker in the middle," said Lakeland coach Mark Janssen. Novi's Nick Brockman was also an All-KLAA and Honorable Mention All-State choice. "He did a great job of contributing defensively and offensively as the game would allow," said Novi coach Brian O'Leary. Area defenders are led by Third Team All-State choice Nick Kristock of Catholic Central. A four-year starter, Kristock was a member of the Under-18 regional team, a two-time All-Catholic choice as well as earning All-District and All-Region honors. Kristock was "our leader on the field," said CC coach Joe Nora. South Lyon senior Adam Gentile was a strong two-way player who tallied 11 goals and eight assists this season. The four-year letterman is third on South Lyon's all-time list with 27 career goals and fourth in career points with 42. He earned All-KLAA and All-District honors this season and will play for Spring Arbor College. Honorable Mention All-State choice Nick Selabasi of Northville rounds out the defensive corps. Selabasi also gained All-KLAA honors this season. The All-Area goalkeeper is Brian Young of South Lyon. Young had eight shutouts and 148 saves playing in the tough KLAA Central Division this season, including a 17-save effort in a 1-1 tie with Northville plus 22 saves in a 2-1 loss to Livonia Stevenson. The four-year letterman played in 59 career varsity

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A FEEL-GOOD READ!

Resolve to take better care of yourself in the new year with a little help from our upcoming Health & Fitness pages. You'll find a variety of features written to help you achieve a sense of balance and well-being.

January 22nd, 2009:
• Update Your Smile
What are the hot new dental techniques?
• Health Benefits Of Massage
A relaxing method to relieve stress and pain.
• Fitness Accessories
The latest fitness and weight training accessories for in-home or at-work workouts.



January 29th, 2009:
• Change It Up
Small ways to make a difference in your health.
• Lo-cal Recipes
• Update Your Eyes
The latest in eye wear trends, from lenses to funky frames to Lasik and other procedures.

2008 ALL AREA BOYS SOCCER TEAM

Table listing Player, School, and Position for the 2008 All Area Boys Soccer Team.

HONORABLE MENTION

Catholic Central: Joe Bellino, Brandon Waterstradl; Lakeland: Matt Acitelli, Naveed Firoozgan, Matt Saliccioli; Milford: Steve Lovera, Drew Newell, Dylan Polcyn, Devon Rutas; Novi: Dan Kilger, Bobby Laski, Max Wujczyk; South Lyon: Curt Green; South Lyon East: Richard Kleitch, Brian McCrovy, Matt McClintock, Nolan Nunez, Andrew Rudd.

CC basketball stays red hot

BY JEFF THEISEN, SPORTS WRITER
The Shamrock basketball train keeps rolling with a 65-50 victory Tuesday night against Taylor Kennedy. CC (5-0) was paced by 28 points by Steve Harding. Tim Dezelski was next with 12. The Shamrocks tallied 17 points in each of the first two quarters for a 34-21 halftime

lead they wouldn't relinquish. Kennedy was also 4-0 heading into the game. **WRESTLING**
The Shamrocks lost a pair of close matches against Hudson and Dundee to start the new year at a tri-meet. Hudson beat CC 38-28, and Dundee edged the Shamrocks 32-30. Winning against Hudson were

Todd Melick at 133 pounds, Alec Mooradian at 112, Justin Melic at 119, Charlie Joseph at 125 and Kevin Sullivan at 140. Winning against Dundee were Mooradian, Trevor O'Connor at 152, Andy Erickson at 160, John Worth at 189, Mike Kinville at 215 and Andrew Johnson at 285. jtheisen@gannett.com (248) 349-1700, ext. 228

Novi cheer third at home meet

BY JEFF THEISEN, SPORTS WRITER
The Novi competitive cheer team finished third at its home meet Saturday. Utica Eisenhower won with 726.8902 points, followed by Troy High with 722.3936 and Novi with 710.828 in the seven-team field. Scores by round for the Wildcats were 211, 216.228 and 283.6 for a season-high total. The Wildcats are back in action 10 a.m. Saturday at Waydotted-Roosevelt High

in the giant slalom (29.43). The Novi girls also earned a split Monday against the same teams. The Wildcats beat West Bloomfield 14-23 but lost to Lakeland 17-19. In the win, Novi went 2-3-4 in the overall standings. Megan Burns was second with slalom and giant slalom combined time of 1:04.65, Danielle Fahome was third in 1:04.83 and Hailey Spillane was third in 1:05.02. jtheisen@gannett.com (248) 349-1700, ext. 228

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CC's Darnell scores all 3 to thwart Stevenson

BY BRAD EMONS
GANNETT NEWS SERVICE

Brent Darnell was the straw that stirred the drink in Novi-Detroit Catholic Central's come-from-behind 3-2 hockey win Friday night over host Livonia Stevenson in a game played at Edgar Arena.

The 6-foot, 180-pound junior forward, who has already committed to

Michigan State, scored all three goals, including two in the final period, to propel the state-ranked Shamrocks to victory.

CC is now 8-1-1 overall, while Stevenson falls to 5-4-1. Stevenson took a 2-1 lead into the final 15 minutes of action on a pair of second-period goals by Justin Shureb. The sophomore scored on a power-play at 2:26 from Cole

Rochowiak and Evan Malick followed by a nifty effort splitting a pair of CC defencemen at 12:43 off an assist from R.J. Kierdorf.

But Darnell, who scored the game's first goal (unassisted) at 12:24 of the opening period, evened the count at 2-all just 42 seconds into the third off assists from Steven Hensley and Tony Thomas.

Darnell then bagged the

game-winner with 9:12 remaining on a shot that carried off the inside post with assists going to Hensley and Ryan Obuchowski.

Stevenson head coach David Mitchell knows Darnell all too well. He was an assistant coach on a Compuware youth team where Darnell played as an 11- and 12-year-old.

"They (CC) are a solid and deep team, and Darnell is an

elite player who did what they needed him to do to win," Mitchell said. "He's a great hockey player."

Stevenson junior netminder Danny Sager stood out as he stopped 25-of-28 CC shots.

"Danny is a good, hard-working kid and it's good to see him play well against a strong and experienced team like CC," Mitchell said.

Despite the loss, Mitchell

was pleased with his team's play.

"I think we grew up tonight as a hockey team," he said. "I'm happy with the effort, not necessarily the outcome. We still have to work on consistency and we need to get better. That's been our motto since the beginning of the year."

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153-103

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These Games
Are Worth
8 Points Each!



Keith Lang
Tennyson
Chevrolet
8-8
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Pittsburgh

These Games
Are Worth
8 Points Each!



Bob Faust
Jack Demmer
Ford
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Are Worth
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Ronnie Williams
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Floors
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