

THURSDAY
May 14
2009

Hometown Weeklies
Volume 53
Number 51
75 CENTS

NOVI NEWS

online at hometownlife.com



Special section inside today's newspaper

NOVI PUBLIC LIBRARY

NOVI NUTSHELL Perennial Exchange

The Beautification Commission holding its perennial exchange 9 a.m. to noon Saturday at ITC Community Sports Park, at Eight Mile and Napier roads. Anyone interested in attending the free event can divide their perennials and bring them to exchange for other plants. Call the Novi Parks Department at (248) 347-0400 for more information.

Camp Invention

Invest Now Kids and The Discover Program present Camp Invention coming to Novi Middle School 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. July 20-24. The popular summer camp is once again directed by Novi Middle School science teacher Seth Furlow. For more information, call (248) 449-1600 or e-mail sfurlow@novik12.mi.us.



Grease

This is the last weekend to catch the Novi Theatres' presentation of "Grease." Shows will take place 7:30 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday. Come rock around the clock with the cast of this iconic musical. Visit cityofnovi.org for more information.



Senior Expo

Celebrate senior life at the sixth annual Senior Expo from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday, May 19, in the VisiTech Center at Schoolcraft College. Look inside for our special section with information on more than 60 exhibitors, demonstrations, music and educational programs.



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Motherly Love

Second-grader Lauren Fadnell shares a book she made for her mother, Christina at a Mother's Day tea at Village Oaks Elementary School. Many classrooms at the school invited moms in so they could be celebrated on their special day.

Budget cuts approved by school board

High school schedule changes for class of 2011

BY VICTORIA MITCHELL
STAFF WRITER

During the Novi Community Schools district regular Board of Education meeting Thursday night, members approved nearly \$2 million in budget cuts and changes to the high school schedule for the 2010-11 school year.

The high school schedule change will move the campus from the 4x4 schedule it currently operates on to a six-period class day.

The request to change the high school's schedule came from the administration as a way to trim expenses from the district's 2009-10 budget. School administrators were also looking for a schedule that would better accommodate requirements of the Michigan High School Content Expectations.

Novi High School Principal John Lawrence supported the switch to the six-period class schedule, but said it would have been a struggle to implement.

Please see SCHOOLS, A3

Family-run sports bar perseveres in Novi

BY KELLY MURAD
STAFF WRITER

After more than 20 years in Novi, Mary Catherine Johnson, owner of Gatsby's Food & Spirits, believes perseverance is what has kept the business alive.

"You do what you have to do," she said, noting the 125-person restaurant, located on Grand River Avenue just west of Taft Road, has survived disruptive road construction projects, the economy and fire.

"I had a fire in 2001 and we were closed for seven weeks," Johnson said. "They had to gut it because there was a lot of smoke damage. My son and I worked day and night to get it back open."

Mary Catherine's son Joseph Johnson helps run the sports bar-style restaurant.

"I've been in this business since I was 7 years old," said Joseph, explaining prior to Gatsby's, his family owned other bars. "All I've ever done is be in a family business."

The family-run business attracts people of all ages, for lunch and dinner. "We have homemade soups and specials every day," said Mary Catherine,



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Gatsby's Food & Spirits owners Mary Catherine Johnson and her son, Joseph at the popular Grand River Avenue establishment.

adding they have ribs and fish fry on Fridays. "I have repeat customers, and a lot of people come from word of mouth.

Rock Financial's right across the street so I get a lot of new people from there." Gatsby's offers karaoke on

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"I always say I don't run that many specials because I haven't raised my prices in at least eight years," Joseph said. "I keep the prices low and fair."

Along with their low prices, Gatsby's small staff, of about 10 people, provides clients a friendly atmosphere.

"We know our customers by name," Mary Catherine said. "I think people feel comfortable here. I have one couple who met here and are now married."

Friends of Gatsby's are invited to join the crew for a bus trip to the Detroit Tigers game Tuesday, June 23. The bus can hold up to 55 people and the price is \$45 a person, which includes admission and transportation.

For more information contact Joseph Johnson at (248) 348-6999.

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Reducing our carbon footprint

BY KELLY MURAD
STAFF WRITER

As part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the City of Novi is eligible to receive \$533,100 for energy efficiency and conservation projects community-wide.

The city's "Green" venture team has identified a list of projects that meet the criteria outlined by the U.S. Department of Energy, for the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant program.

"Half a million dollars is a lot of money, but it can go quickly," said Assistant City Manager Pam Antil. "We don't know how quickly we will receive the funds, but the staff is projecting we will have our money by the end of the calendar year."

A proposed list of projects

was presented to the council at the last meeting, with the City's Department of Public Services facility on Delval Drive receiving the bulk of the funds.

"The DPS facility is our highest priority project we are recommending to the council because that building has a lot of entry and exits, and the system is pretty old and needs to be upgraded," Antil said.

Other proposed projects include energy efficiency retrofits at the police department and Civic Center; development of an energy efficiency and conservation strategy; and additional studies to develop a combined heat and power project on the Civic Center campus, look at the potential for using the Civic Center for a solar panel project and develop

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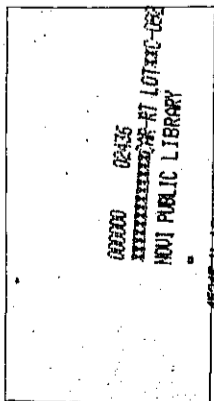
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- Developing/implementing an energy efficiency and conservation strategy;
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- Conducting residential and commercial building energy audits;
- Establishing financial incentive programs for energy efficiency improvements;
- Providing grants to nonprofit organizations to perform energy efficiency retrofits;
- Developing/implementing programs to conserve energy used in transportation;
- Developing and implementing building codes and inspection services to promote building energy efficiency.

Implementing energy distribution technologies;

- Developing public education programs to increase participation and efficiency rates for recycling programs;
- Purchasing/implementing technologies to reduce and capture methane and other greenhouse gases generated by landfills or similar sources;
- Installing light emitting diodes (LEDs);
- Developing, implementing and installing on any government building of on-site renewable energy technology that generates electricity from renewable resources such as solar and wind energy, fuel cells, and biomass.

ENERGY
FROM PAGE A1

a nonmotorized master plan of sidewalks, pathways and trails.

"We're also going to invest in some software that will track the data to show how much we've reduced the energy consumption and how much we've improved energy efficiency," Antil said.

One of the grant stipulations is that all projects must be able to be completed within 18 months of receiving the funds.

Antil anticipates the Novi City Council will adopt a resolution, and formally support the program and proposed projects at Monday's meeting. City staff will in turn begin the request for proposal process for developing an energy efficiency and conservation strategy, which is required by the Department of Energy.

"We really can't expend dollars until we actually give them the strategic sustainability plan," Antil said.

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Novi proposes \$30 million budget for 2009-10

BY KELLY MURAD
STAFF WRITER

A public hearing regarding the proposed 2009-10 City of Novi budget is scheduled to take place during the upcoming Monday regular council meeting.

Council members tentatively approved the \$30 million budget at a special meeting last month, pending Monday's public hearing and the May 5 special election millage proposal, which voters opposed.

"The budget was set up without any millage so there are no changes resulting from that (the special election)," said City Manager Clay Pearson.

The proposed budget projects a decrease in the City's two main sources of revenue — property taxes and state shared revenue — but maintains 17.6 percent in undesignated money in the general fund.

"Given the economy and given some other unknowns, we made the decision to budget for about \$600,000 worth of items, but hold off on executing them until the last half of next fiscal year," Pearson said.

Although some council members previously voiced concern about the current economic climate, Pearson said administration has been conservative, responsive and responsible with the city's finances.

The Novi City Council is expected to vote on the proposed budget Monday.

The budget reflects a reduction in staff, but the human resources director, Tina Gronlund-Fox, said the 12 positions were eliminated in 2008-09 through attrition and layoffs.

"This proposed budget is not proposing any additional layoffs, other than the ones that already took place in this fiscal year," she said.

For more information or to view the proposed budget, visit the City's Web site at www.cityofnovi.org.

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SCHOOLS
FROM PAGE A1

He said the process includes requesting that the Michigan Education Association examines reopening their contract. The MEA would then give its recommendation. At that time, the NEA can accept or reject the MEA's opinion.

Brenner said a long list of items with suggestions for budget cuts was submitted to district administrators. On the list was offering early retirement incentives, which he believes could save the district between \$600,000 and \$1 million in the next couple of years.

He said exploring this option is a solution seen more commonly today, including in the auto industry.

Board members have expressed opposition to the idea, stating they feel it is not necessary to offer money to create a solution.

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Mothering Memories
Irene Wojno (left) and Mary Mason enjoy a chat at last week's Mother's Day celebration at the Novi Senior Center. The event featured a tea and dessert and speakers offered some wonderful praises for mothers. Both Wojno and Mason are great-grandmothers.

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Commissioner Capello: Alcohol played a role in doing 'something stupid'

Novi woman
arraigned May 8 for
indecent exposure



Kim Capello

Two days after Kim Capello, Oakland County Commissioner, R-Novi, and former Novi mayor pro tem, pleaded guilty May 5 to indecent exposure in the 22-District Court, he issued the following statement through The Rossmat Group, a public relations firm based in Lansing.

"I want to thank all of my friends, family, neighbors and constituents whose unwavering support during this difficult time has been a blessing for my family, and served to remind me that we are all human, and that none of us are beyond

making mistakes. And, in case there was any doubt, I proved that three weeks ago, and I take full responsibility for my actions.

While I do not agree or concur with the media-reported facts and events that took place on the night of my indiscretion, to contest the matter would have resulted in prolonging my family's suffering. I may have won the battle in court, but lost the war. My decision to admit responsibility was driven by my concern for my family.

However, mistakes were made. Unfortunately, as an elected official, my mistakes have unavoidably made their way into the public arena, which has profoundly impacted my wife and three children. As

"I don't see this as a jailable offense. I'll treat it like any other case."

JUDGE DENNIS POWERS, 22-D District Court

a result, and as a family, we are doing much soul-searching, crying, sharing and healing. This is a very difficult time for us, but we all are committed to getting through it - as a family.

It's bad enough to do something stupid, I did it in a way that shamed my family, my friends and colleagues here on the commission. For that, I deeply apologize to each and every one of you. I'm embarrassed and ashamed and sincerely apologize for the impact my mistake has had on my family, my constituents, my fellow county commissioners and those who have placed their trust in me.

I wish it were otherwise, but clearly alcohol played a role in

poor decision-making on my part. There is no question that had alcohol not been involved, I would have made different, smarter choices.

In closing, I would ask that all members of the media respect my family's privacy as we work through this very, very difficult time. Thank you, and God bless."

Novi resident Sheila Grogan, 37, was arraigned Friday, May 8 in front of Magistrate Judith Holtz on charges of indecent exposure in the incident with Capello. She is scheduled to appear in front of Judge Powers for a pre-trial exam 8:30 a.m. June 1.

Capello, 56, pleaded in front of Judge Dennis Powers. Judges Brian MacKenzie and Robert Bondy had disqualified themselves from the case. Powers served as an Oakland County commissioner from 1992-1998. Indecent exposure is a misdemeanor carrying penalties

up to 93 days in jail and a \$500 fine. Capello is scheduled to be sentenced June 3.

"I don't see this as a jailable offense," Powers told the Detroit Free Press. "I'll treat it like any other case."

Indecent exposure could be anything from urinating in public to lewd indecency, said Tom Lindberg, Novi's deputy police chief. "This was a very appropriate charge for the circumstance."

According to the police report, filed by Officer Hailey Paris of the Novi Police Department, Capello and Grogan were engaged in a consensual sex act on a sidewalk off Pennsylvania Avenue, just south of The Post Bar, around 2 a.m. on April 18.

Two days later, the Novi resident who made the original complaint that night told police during a follow-up interview that there have been similar problems in the past with

people engaging in sexual acts in that residential complex. He expressed concern that, with his residence being in close proximity with area bars, his family is exposed to these types of incidents.

In November, Capello was elected Oakland County Commissioner, 9th District, which serves the cities of Novi and Northville as well as Novi Township. His term expires Dec. 31, 2010. His committee assignments as commissioner include: General Government, member; Human Resources, vice chairman; Planning & Building, member; Zoning, member; Risk Management and Safety, member; and Criminal Justice Coordinating, member.

According to the county's Web site, Capello is a practicing attorney of 33 years who shares a small office in Novi with his wife of 21 years, Jodi. They have three children.

NOVI BRIEFLY

Candidates for city offices

Candidates may file for the office of mayor or city council beginning tomorrow through 4 p.m. Friday, June 5.

There are four seats open in the November election, including mayor, which is a two-year term, and three council seats, which are each four-year terms.

Candidates must be qualified and registered electors of the City of Novi prior to the last day for filing petitions for office and shall not have been found guilty of a felony.

Anyone interested may find the necessary information and forms at the City Clerk's office, located inside the Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road or by visiting www.cityofnovi.org.

The primary election date is Tuesday, Aug. 4 and the general election date is Tuesday, Nov. 3.

Join Novi's annual Memorial Day Parade and celebration

from 10 a.m.-noon Monday, May 25, as a participant or spectator. All Veterans, bands, scout troops, kids, business and other civic organizations are invited to be a part of the event. Form a group or create a float to march proudly through Novi, showcasing community pride.

The parade will begin at 10 Mile Road and Karim Boulevard and travel west along 10 Mile to the Novi Civic Center. At the conclusion of the parade, a ceremonial presentation will be held honoring Veterans. The celebration includes food from local restaurants and activities for children such as crafts and an inflatable bounce.

For information, contact the Novi Parks office at (248) 347-4000.

River Day

The annual River Day event is 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, June 6 at Rotary Park, located near Nine Mile and Novi roads.

Every year on the first Saturday in June, volunteers converge on various sites throughout the Rouge River watershed to plant flowers, place wood chips, pick-up litter, pull garlic mustard and clear walking trails. Anyone interested in participating can call the Novi Parks office at (248) 347-0400 to register. All volunteers will receive a picnic lunch at noon.

Free entry at County parks

Oakland County Parks is celebrating Family Appreciation Day by offering free entry at six locations Saturday, May 16.

Park entry will be free at Addison Oaks in Leonard; Highland Oaks in Highland; Independence Oaks in Clarkston; Lyon Oaks in Wixom; Orion Oaks in Orion Township; and Rose Oaks in Rose Township.

For more information and maps, visit www.oakgov.com/parksrec.



Members of the Novi Adult Education ESL Book Club recently finished "Twilight" by Stephanie Meyer. This is the first novel the Novi ladies read in English. They enjoyed the book and the movie, and will be continuing with the Spring Book Club reading "The Moon" the second book in the series. The students spent three months, even having classes over winter and spring breaks, reading the book. The vocabulary, idioms and slang were a challenge for them, but in the end, they understood the book and story line. Photographed are: Front row, Sophia Ramirez, Hiroko Maeumura and Yuko Tsuchi. Back row: Yoko Yoshimura, Jennifer Kerbrat (ESL Teacher) Ami Kotera and Michiko Shibata. Not photographed: Kiyoko Takeuchi.

Page Turners

Members of the Novi Adult Education ESL Book Club recently finished "Twilight" by Stephanie Meyer. This is the first novel the Novi ladies read in English. They enjoyed the book and the movie, and will be continuing with the Spring Book Club reading "The Moon" the second book in the series. The students spent three months, even having classes over winter and spring breaks, reading the book. The vocabulary, idioms and slang were a challenge for them, but in the end, they understood the book and story line. Photographed are: Front row, Sophia Ramirez, Hiroko Maeumura and Yuko Tsuchi. Back row: Yoko Yoshimura, Jennifer Kerbrat (ESL Teacher) Ami Kotera and Michiko Shibata. Not photographed: Kiyoko Takeuchi.



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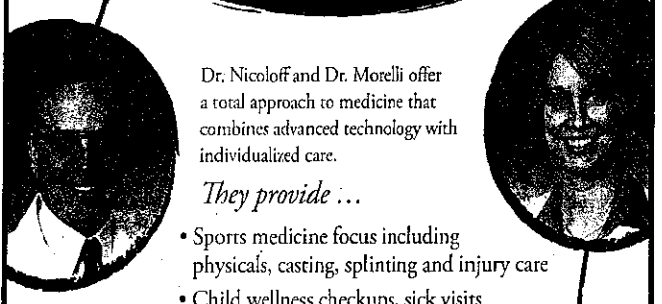


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ON CAMPUS

DEAN'S LIST

Northwood University
The Northwood University Dean's List for the winter term 2008 includes the following Nov students...

GRADUATION

Grand Valley State University
Samantha Bourque '09 graduate of Nov, has been named to the dean's list at Grand Valley State University...

HONORS

Olivet College
Olivet College recognized the best of its student body at the annual Honors Convocation held Wednesday, April 15...

Michigan State University

Michigan State University Board of Trustees honored 15 students for academic excellence during the April 24 board meeting...

Western Michigan University

Western Michigan University Madeleine Bein of Novi received the Francis L. Noble Prize for Excellence in French...

Bill would give taxes to next auto show locale

Senators plan to introduce a bill this week that would transfer hotel/motel and liquor taxes collected for Cobo Center to a convention center...

But at just more than 300,000 square feet of exhibition space, there are significant hurdles...

Cooper-Standard Automotive's Kunshan, China plant wins Ford Motor Co. Supplier Quality Award

Cooper-Standard Automotive's Kunshan, China facility recently received Ford Motor Co.'s distinguished Q1 Award, which recognizes preferred suppliers...

Investing lessons from the vineyards

As an investor, you can get plenty of advice from financial experts on the evening news or cable financial shows...

Free concert to return to Northville Downs

Four tribute bands take stage Saturday, May 23

For those planning to stick around the Detroit area over the upcoming Memorial Day weekend, Northville Downs race track will be the site of another free concert...

Graphic for 'The Concert' at Northville Downs, featuring 'The Concert' logo and details about the event on May 23, 2009.

OBITUARIES

BERNICE C. BAUR
Age 94, of Milford, May 8, 2009. Wife of the late Vern Baur (d. 1999). Survived by her beloved daughters...

ROBERT DAVID BARBER
Age 79, died May 9, 2009. Visitation Thursday, May 14 from 1-4 & 5-8 p.m., with the funeral service at 7:00 p.m. at PHILLIPS FUNERAL HOME...

MYRA J. GIBSON
Age 85, of West Chester, PA, formerly of Northville, passed away May 10, 2009. Graveside service Sat. 5/16/2009 11 a.m. at Rural Hill Cemetery...

EVELYN I. NATZEL
Age 75, of Novi, passed away May 10, 2009, at home surrounded by her loving family. She was born November 27, 1932 in Detroit, MI...

JACK A. REISS
Age 91, died peacefully on Friday, May 8, 2009 at Kingston Care Center, Fort Wayne, IN. Born March 20, 1918 in New York City...

Paying Tribute to the Life of Your Loved One. Advertisement for funeral services.

Cheer for the hometeam, read today's SPORTS section. Advertisement for the sports section.

Your Invitation to Worship

Grid of church listings for various locations including Brighton, Milford, Novi, Farmington Hills, Highland, New Hudson, Northville, Livonia, and South Lyon.

EDUCATION

Novi teachers make a difference

While most view summer vacations as a chance to relax at the family cabin or travel to exotic destinations, Novi Meadows Elementary School teachers Jody Payne, Tom Michalski and Cary Grimm will be spending their summer working with Russian orphans, embarking on an incredible journey to help bring laughter and bare necessities to nearly 200 forgotten Russian children.

The Kostroma Kids Program, part of Ascend Russian Orphan Aid Foundation, has been living in and working at Russian orphanages since 2004.

Started by Payne after his first orphanage visit in 2004, it has expanded to include three orphanages. Michalski joined the program in 2008.

Grimm will be working with them this summer for his first time.

The charity program is funded through individual and group donations, and the amount of money raised deter-

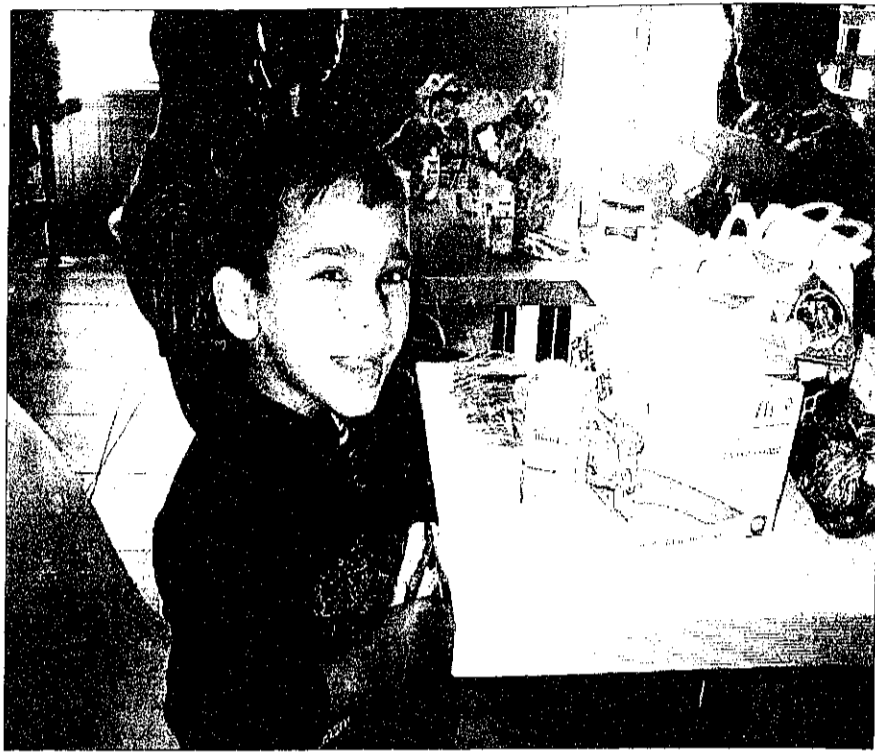
mines the number of programs and the number of orphans that can be included.

The students at Novi Meadows have been raising money through individual donations and a returnable bottle drive, and they have raised more than \$3,000.

The program provides a chance for the orphans to experience things that most children here take for granted, such as going to an amusement park, ice skating, bowling and taking a boat ride. The children also get to go shopping for new clothing and school supplies for their first time.

Additional information can be found on the orphanage program's Web site at www.geocities.com/kostromakids, including information on how to make a tax deductible donation online or by check.

One hundred percent of all donations go directly into the program since the charity and the program are run entirely by volunteers.



Novi Meadows Elementary School teachers Jody Payne, Tom Michalski and Cary Grimm will be spending their summer working with Russian orphans, like Yasha photographed at McDonald's, embarking on a journey to help bring laughter and bare necessities to nearly 200 forgotten Russian children.

CLASS NOTES

NHS Band

Congratulations to the Novi High School band program students and directors for their success at the recent MSBOA State Festival held at the school May 1-2. The Concert Band, Symphony Band and Wind Ensemble all earned superior Division 1 ratings for their performances. The Novi

High School Band Boosters is extremely proud of its student musicians as they continue to distinguish themselves as one of the top band programs in Michigan.

Camp Invention

Invest now kids and The Discover Program present Camp Invention coming to Novi Middle School 9 a.m.

to 3:30 p.m. July 20-24. The summer camp will include the themes of Viking Treasure Trek: The Quest Begins, Comic Book Science: Flashback and Jill, LandSled X-Treme, I Can Invent: Fantasy Inventions & Complicated Machines II and Recess Remix. The popular program is once again being directed by Novi Middle School science teacher Seth Farrow.

The base price is \$220, but if you register three or more siblings, receive \$40 off the base price. Daily snacks and a Camp Invention T-shirt will be provided. For more information, call (248) 449-1600 or e-mail stfarrow@novi.k12.mi.us.

Summer Child C.A.R.E.

Looking for a positive, enriching, educational summer full of adventure and fun? Join the Novi Community Education summer C.A.R.E. program for preschool to middle-school aged children. Activities are age appropriate for the development of the students, and will include: field trips, crafts, science experiments, sports, games and more. Lunch and snacks are included in the daily fee.

Summer Care is 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. June 24 through Aug. 26 at the district's Instructional Technology Center on Taft Road. Registration packets with fees and scheduling information can be found at www.novi.k12.mi.us or call (248) 449-1713. All students need to be registered and scheduled by May 15 for the month of June.



PHOTOS BY JOHN HARBER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Perfect Promenade

Novi High School students arrive for their 2009 prom at Novi's Rock Financial Showplace May 2.



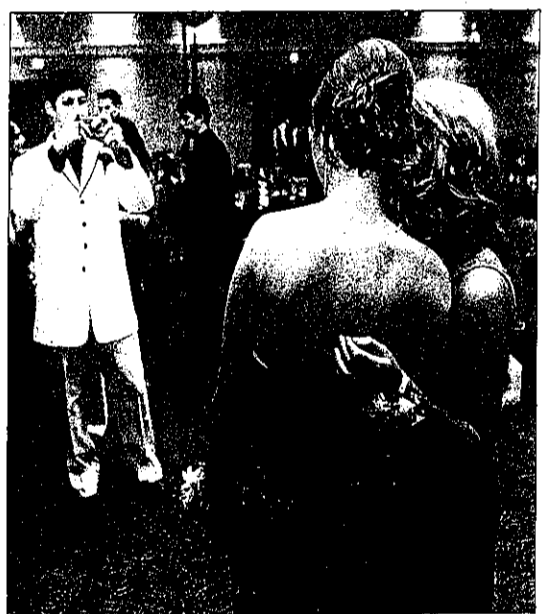
Novi High School 2009 prom attendees begin to find their tables at the Rock Financial Showplace.



Alessandro Doniri and Debolina Ghosh make their way into the Novi High prom May 2.

Entering hand-in-hand, a couple makes its way to the 2009 Novi High School prom.

Novi High School friends Carly Briehs, Karley Valentine and Danielle Sheppard have their photo taken at the prom.



Sophomores Alyssa Miller and Courtney Kramer are double-teamed by photographers.

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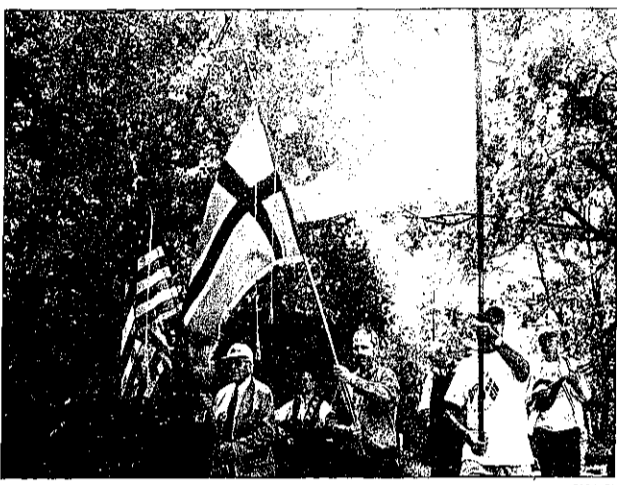
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Informal Introduction

Novi Woods student Michelle Liu pets a chinchilla during a recent visit by Science Alive to the school. Students learned about and received a close-up look of a number of creatures including an anteater, a monitor lizard and the chinchilla, which kids learned comes from the Andean mountains of South America - hence its warm coat of white fur.

JOHN HENDERSON/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Grand Celebration

Flag bearers Thad Aardal of Redford, left, Tor-Eddie Fosshakk of Novi and Erik Cudahan of Northville lead the parade celebrating Norwegian Constitution Day at the Swedish Club in Farmington Hills. All friends of Norway are invited to join in the gala celebration of one of Norway's most significant holidays, Norway's Constitution Day, at the Swedish Club in Farmington Hills 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, May 16. The free public event will include Scandinavian folk music, a parade, children's games, the traditional codfish toss, special foods, and the wearing of the national costume, the Norwegian bunad. For more information, call (248) 302-2222.



Mary Gibbs of Redford plays Kara Donovan, beamsman of the Osiris, in the locally made fan-based film series "Star Trek: Osiris," which premiered online April 18. The professional actress and Redford Union High School graduate will join fellow castmates to greet fans and screen a multi-media presentation of the pilot episode "Eclipse" at this weekend's Motor City Comic Con, May 15-17 at Rock Financial Showplace in Novi.

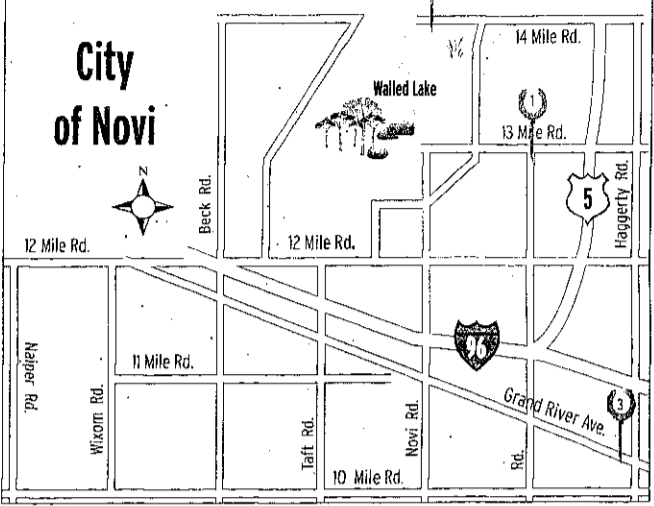
PUBLIC SAFETY

NOVI POLICE BRIEFS

Keyed Cadillac?
The driver's side of a white Cadillac CTS was scratched between 9:15 a.m. and 2:15 p.m. April 24, while parked in the lot of Meadowbrook Elementary school, near 13 Mile and Meadowbrook roads, reports said.
The complainant, who is an employee of the school, said she parked her vehicle in the front lot, and when she returned at the end of the day she noticed a single key scratch along the entire side of the car.
Police said the marks along the doors and quarter panels were scratched with an unknown object, possibly a key. There are no suspects or witnesses at this time, reports said.

Mailbox graffiti?
A resident of the Maples of Novi reported graffiti to a mailbox on Centennial Drive, near 14 Mile and Novi roads, between 8 p.m. May 4 and 10 a.m. May 5, reports said.
According to the complainant, the white mailbox, located at the corner of Centennial and Magnolia Court, was written on with black marker.
There are no suspects or witnesses at this time, but the complainant was making a report to the Maples of Novi Condominium Association, reports said.

Missing license plate
A license plate was reported missing from a vehicle parked at Adventure Scuba and Snorkel Center, located off Grand River Avenue, west of Haggerty Road, reports said.
The license plate was attached to a 12-foot enclosed utility trailer, which had been parked behind the business since October 2008, reports said.
The complainant was unable to locate the vehicle registration information or license plate number. There is nothing further at this time, reports said.



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Carrie Fisher, John Schneider headline Comic Con in Novi

Comic Con will gather comic book and multi media dealers from across the country beginning Friday, offering a vast variety of pop culture merchandise at the 20th Anniversary Motor City Comic Con at the Rock Financial Showplace in Novi.

More than 250 comic book creators, writers and artists will be on site at Comic Con, as well as more than 40 actors from the film, television and set-fi movie industry.

Twentieth Anniversary special guests include: Carrie Fisher, Star Wars' Princess Leia; Bruce Davison, X-Men; Julie Newmar, Catwoman from Batman TV show; Michael Hogan and Aaron Douglas, Battlestar Galactica; Doug Jones and Luke Goss, Hellboy 2; Kevin Nash and Tracy Brooks, T.N.A. Wrestling SuperStars; Joyce Dewitt, Priscilla Barnes and Richard Kline, Three's Company; and John Schneider and Catherine Bach, Dukes of Hazzard.

Also at Comic Con, there will be many popular comic book writers and artists, including Tim Bradstreet, Frank Brunner, Tommy Castillo, Dave Dorman, James O'Barra, Tom DeFalco, Mitchell Breitweiser, Russ Heath and many others.

Comic Con also welcomes featured Publisher, AVATAR PRESS to its first Motor City Comic Con.

Avatar will have Motor City Comic Con Exclusive Variant Covers of two of their most popular titles, available for purchase at the show.

New Baby Productions Special Motor City Comic Con versions of the Elemental Fources will also be available.

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CONTACT: (248) 912-0043 or visit our website
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LOCATION: 200 E. Main St.
CONTACT: (248) 349-0911 or visit firstpres-ville.org
Sunday Worship
TIME: 9:30 a.m.



PLAN FLEWING / NORTHVILLE RECORD

Happy 25th anniversary, Arbor Hospice

Arbor Hospice celebrated its 25th anniversary May 9 by having family members of former clients plant a perennial in their loved one's memory at Northville's Community Park on Beck Road north of Five Mile Road.

Happy 25th anniversary, Arbor Hospice

Arbor Hospice celebrated its 25th anniversary May 9 by having family members of former clients plant a perennial in their loved one's memory at Northville's Community Park on Beck Road north of Five Mile Road.

CHURCH

FROM PAGE A16

GRACEVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
LOCATION: The Novi Civic Center, Council Chambers
CONTACT: Rev. Brian C. Skeeth, Pastor (248) 497-3178 or gracepoint@emac.com and gracepoint.org

OUR SHEPHERD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
LOCATION: 1410 N. Center, above Tuttle's in Old Church Square, Northville
CONTACT: Pastor Bill Burke at (248) 927-0891

WORTHVILLE CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY
LOCATION: 4155 5th Mile Road
CONTACT: (248) 348-9030

OSBORNE HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH
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CONTACT: Pastor Jon Hill (248) 349-5665

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Gettin' wild

Mayberry State Park staff member Selena Browne passes by a nodding trillium along the park's path during a Spring Wildflower Walk held last Friday morning.

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SECHI RENOVATIONS advertisement: Design Center Hours: Mon - Fri 10 - 6 & Sat 10 - 4

SPINAL STENOSIS advertisement: Severe back, sciatica and leg pain guide that you should know about... available free

STAR TREK advertisement: THE BEST REVIEWED MOVIE BY THE YEAR IS THE #1 MOVIE IN AMERICA

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HERE'S TO THE CLASS OF 2009 Attention Parents, Grandparents and Friends! It seems like only yesterday you were sending your little ones off to kindergarten...

HomeTown SUPER COUPONS advertisement: Get up to \$1,200 off on air conditioning. Also includes ads for Penzance Salon & Spa and Benjamin Moore paint.

Cash 4 Gold advertisement: Gold is at record levels. Instant cash. Buy gold jewelry at record levels.

Midwest Gold Buyers advertisement: 734-604-CASH. Our professionals use the latest high tech testing equipment.

NEIGHBORS

Baseball icon inspires prayer breakfast crowd

Novi resident Ernie Harwell says faith brings peace, courage

BY GARY WINKELMAN
STAFF WRITER

A familiar voice had encouraging words for guests at this year's Rochester Area Prayer Breakfast.

Legendary Detroit Tigers radio announcer and Novi resident Ernie Harwell pitched a message of comfort and inspiration last Thursday to several hundred early-risers at Oakland University's Shotwell-Gustafson Pavilion.

"How wonderful it is to be here together and what a fine moment it is for me to be a part of this prayer breakfast," Harwell, 91, said, before quoting a Woody Allen line about how 95 percent of genius is just showing up.

"In other words, if you don't show up, nothing happens," Harwell said. "And I am so proud to see 900 people here today and it shows of Jesus in you to get up at 7 o'clock in the morning and be over here."

Lacing his remarks with gentle humor and vivid baseball memories, Harwell traced his path from a poor Georgia childhood to professional correspondent and broadcaster, giving God all the credit for his accomplishments. The pivotal moment in his past, he said, was attending a 1961 Easter Sunday church service during spring training in Florida when he "surrendered my life to Jesus Christ."

"And since then, my life has been different. I'm still a sinner (but) I'm a saved sinner. I take a step forward,

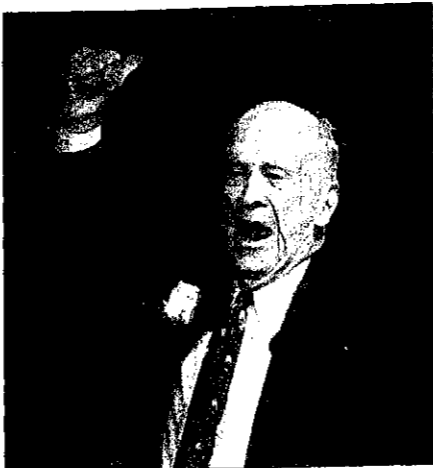
and a lot of time I take a step backward, but God is still with me," he said, made three "significant changes" in his life.

"First, he put my priorities in order. Second, he has told me that no matter what happens, what problems arise, he is always with me. And third, he has given me a peace," Harwell said, following up with the Bible verse Matthew 6:33: "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you."

Christians have found out what a heaven is for. You have reached out and I urge you to keep reaching out," he said. "And if you were, like I used to be, a closet Christian who didn't know how to reach out, I ask you to pray to God to give you the strength to reach out and spread the great story of the love of Jesus throughout the world."

Thursday's event was the 28th annual Rochester Area Prayer Breakfast. It coincides with the National Day of Prayer and, according to organizers, is one of the largest gatherings of its kind in the country.

"It's so wonderful to see so many people in our community come together in prayer," said Jim Lomas, prayer breakfast chairman.



Beloved baseball broadcaster and Novi resident Ernie Harwell delivers an uplifting message to the sold-out crowd at last Thursday's Rochester Area Prayer Breakfast at the Shotwell-Gustafson Pavilion on the campus of Oakland University.

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With Monterey jack cheese. Accompanied with organic black beans and roasted salsa, avocado and sour cream. \$9

FIAMMA CHEESE TASTING
Handmade wood roasted Italian cheese from the country in Black Star Farms in Northern Michigan, mini baked bread and chef's choice cheese of the day. Accompanied with fresh flat breads, sun and tomato crackers. \$14

AHI TUNA (Shimizu Style)
Roasted with Asian spices, served raw. Accompanied with organic mango chutney, avocado mousse and wonton chips. \$12

SMOKED PLATE (Shimizu Style)
Prepared in house, pepper encrusted beef smoked sausage, cold smoked salmon, White fish and salmon pate. Served with additional accompaniments. \$19

EAST COAST JUMBO LUMP CRAB CAKE
Served with corn relish and whole grain mustard sauce. \$12

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CALAMARI (Shimizu Style)
San Marcos sauce with cherry peppers, grape tomatoes and Italian olive oil. Topped with tomato sauce and a hint of garlic. \$12

HOUSE MADE WILD MUSHROOM RAVIOLI
Topped with a Mozzarella and Parmesan sauce. \$9

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DINNER SALAD
House made dressing, chicken, cheese, olive oil, garlic, lemon juice, Parmesan cheese, croutons, served with house made dressing. \$6

CRIMSON ROASTED ORGANIC BEET SALAD
Mixed wild greens, roasted beets, cherry tomatoes, roasted almonds, pomegranate seeds and red wine, served with a lemon honey vinaigrette. \$10

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We special roast beef, topped with fresh house made dressing. \$10

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Ground organic grade tuna with Asian sesame and special sauce, mango avocado and regular bun with mayo dressing. Served on whole wheat bun. \$12

PIEDMONTSE BEEF BURGER
Beef Burger with grilled shishito, olive covered tomatoes, white cheddar. Topped with cheddar sauce. \$12

MEAT

PIEDMONTSE FILET MIGNON
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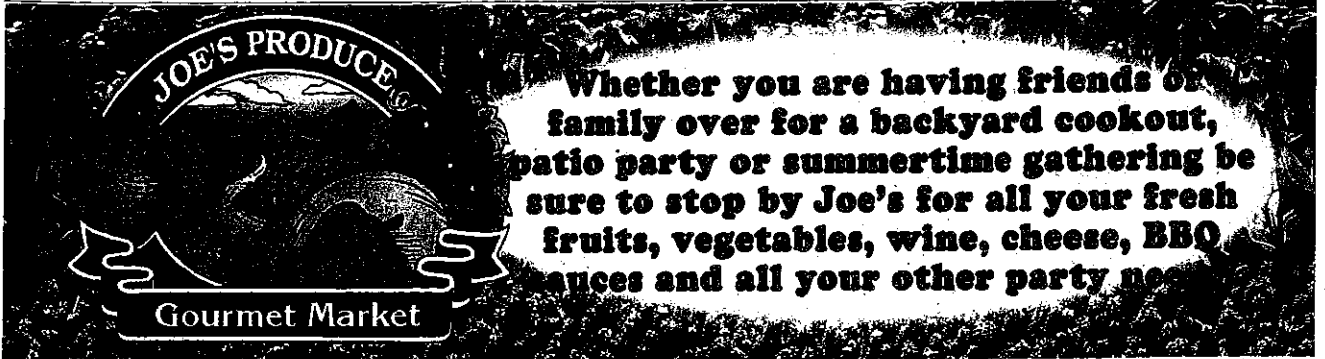
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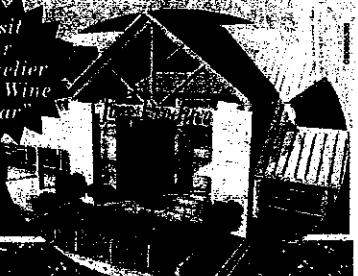
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THURSDAY
May 14
2009

SECTION B
(NN)

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LOCAL SPORTS

online at hometownlife.com

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Novi impressive
winners over
Plymouth - B3

MICROFILM COPY



Novi girls win KLAA Conference meet



Wildcat Katlyn Schelar launches herself into the long jump pit.

BY JEFF THEISEN
SPORTS WRITER

Novi placed athletes in the top eight in all but four events and had multiple placers in several events to win the KLAA Kensington Conference meet Saturday at South Lyon East.

The Wildcats won a pair of relays and got individual first-place finishes by Elle Robinson in the 3,200 meters and by Jasmine Ward in the 100 meters to lead the way.

"Winning the KLAA was an awesome feeling," said Novi head coach Marsha Reid. "Our kids have worked really hard and to see it all come together

was nice."

It was ultimately Novi's depth that proved to be the difference. As Ward won the 100 meters in 12.4, D'Maya Davis placed third in 12.69 to pick up valuable points.

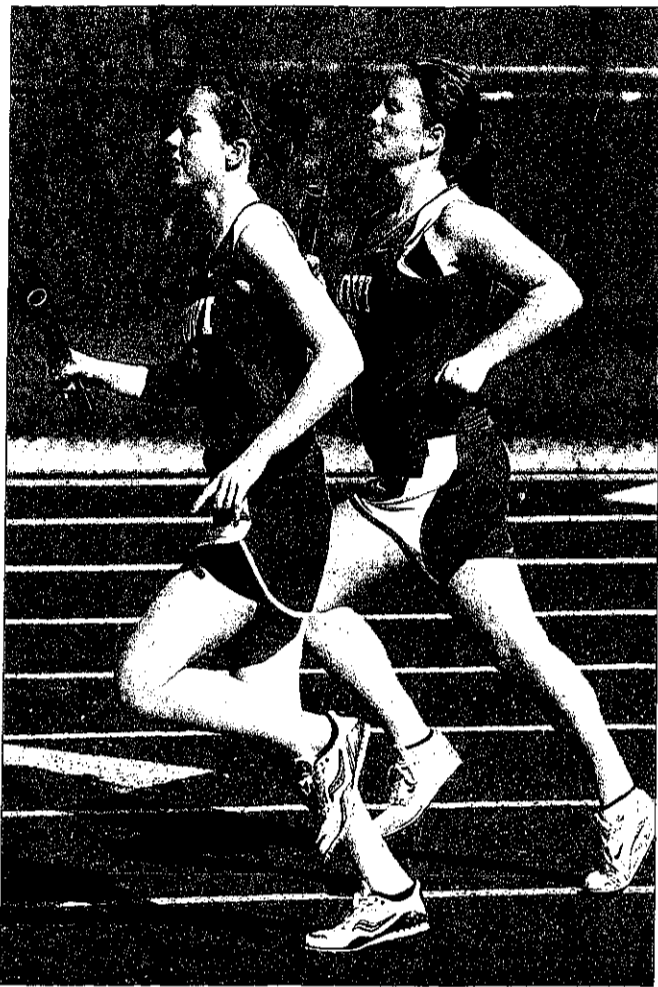
The two teamed up with Brittany Davis and Brienne Pieprzak to win the 4x100 relay in 51.88.

The Davis sisters combined with Pieprzak and Kelly McCloskey to win the 4x200 in 1:49.67.

Robinson cruised to victory in the two mile run, hitting the finish line in 11:35.09.

Robinson was on the

Please see **TRACK, B4**



Two Novi Wildcats compete in a relay race during a recent home meet against South Lyon. The Novi girls captured the Kensington Conference title Saturday at South Lyon East.

PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | NORTHVILLE RECORD

GAME WRAPS

NOVI TENNIS BEATS NORTHVILLE, SOUTH LYON

The Wildcats went 2-0 in league play last week, avenging their only league loss to Northville.

Novi won three of four matches that went to three sets for a 6-3 win against Northville on May 6.

In the earlier match, Novi swept the singles matches and lost all the doubles. The Wildcats again swept the singles with No. 1 Amanda Border, No. 2 Sara Carlson and No. 3 Abby Wang all winning in straight sets.

No. 4 Jennifer Felcher held off Erin Doud 6-1, 3-6, 6-1.

Novi got wins at No. 1 doubles with Lauren Felcher and Julia Thomas winning 6-4, 2-6, 6-2 and No. 2 doubles with Jenna Snyder and Megan Wenzl pulling off a 7-5, 5-7, 6-2 victory.

The win against South Lyon went smoother as Novi won all nine matches in straight sets.

Novi finished the Central 9-1.

NOVI SOCCER BEATS NORTHVILLE, TIES SALEM

The Wildcats' Morgan Halfey scored the lone goal as Novi knocked off rival Northville on May 5.

Last Thursday, Novi and Salem played to a scoreless tie. Gabby Gauruder earned the shutout in goal by making six saves for Novi (10-2-2, 6-1-1).

NORTHVILLE 10-10, NOVI 0-6

Novi softball struggled during a doubleheader with Novi on May 6. The Wildcats hit the ball much better in the second game, but still couldn't hold down the Mustang batters.

NOVI 4-13, JOHN GLENN 0-1

The Wildcats rebounded well with a doubleheader sweep against John Glenn softball.

SALEM 3, NOVI 1

Katie Enright tripled and knocked in a run, but it wasn't enough as Novi softball dropped a close one with Salem.

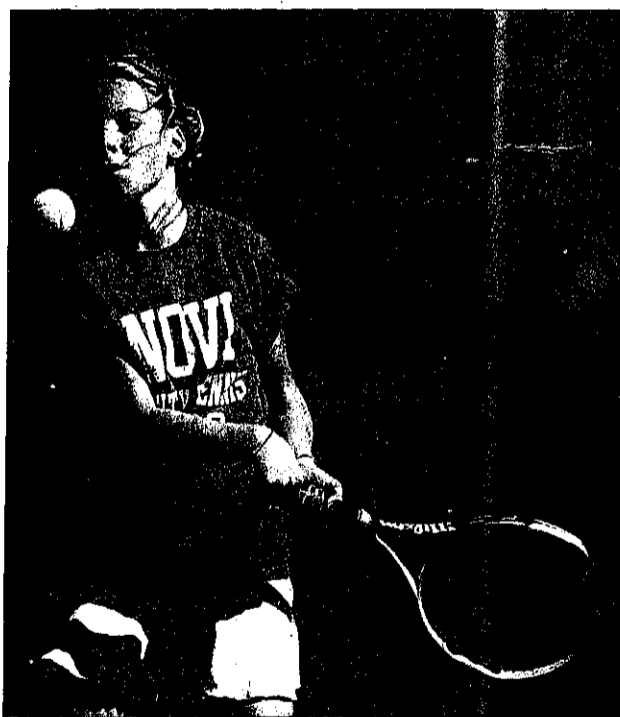
CC 2ND AT RIVER RAT INVITE

Saline won with 238 points, followed by CC with 190.33 and Ann Arbor Huron with 110.66 at the six-team invite.

Winning events for the Shamrocks were Scott Sansovich in the 110 hurdles (14.5), the 3,200 relay team (8:05.0), John-Paul Zebrowski in the 1,600 (4:31) with Austin Zebrowski in second (4:32), the 400 relay (44.5), Brendan Curran in the 200 (22.8), Ricardo Galindo in the 3,200 (9:43.3) and the 1,600 relay (3:27.1).

NOVI LACROSSE STARTS PLAYOFFS MAY 20

The Wildcats received a bye in the opening round of the playoffs. Novi will host the winner of Lake Orion and Waterford Mott 6:30 p.m. May 20.



NOVI'S SARA CARLSON LINES UP A SHOT. THE WILDCATS WILL LOOK AT REPEAT AS REGIONAL CHAMPS FRIDAY AT HOME.

NOVI'S SARA CARLSON LINES UP A SHOT. THE WILDCATS WILL LOOK AT REPEAT AS REGIONAL CHAMPS FRIDAY AT HOME.

Familiar foes to clash at regionals

BY JEFF THEISEN
SPORTS WRITER

Familiarity won't be a problem for Novi and Northville tennis at Friday's regional tournament.

The two have played each other twice during the regular season, crossed paths at a couple of tournaments and will face each other again Friday with the regional tournament title on the line.

Regardless of the winner, both teams are expected to advance to the State finals.

"They're a good team and we're a good team," said Novi head coach Jim Hanson. "We're both ranked in the state. It pretty much comes down to who plays the best on a given day."

Northville handed Novi its only loss in the Central Division, but the Wildcats avenged the loss with a 6-3 win May 6, with four matches going three sets and Novi winning three of them.

The two teams tied for the Central Division title with matching 9-1 records.

The Wildcats have a clear

advantage in singles, sweeping the Mustangs in both head-to-head matchups.

But Northville shows its depth by having an edge in doubles. During Northville's victory, the Mustangs swept all five doubles for a 5-4 win.

In the loss, Novi won a pair of three-sets for a 6-3 decision.

Novi features juniors Amanda Border and Sara Carlson at No. 1 and No. 2 singles, respectively. Freshman Abby Wang is playing at No. 3 singles and senior Jennifer Felcher returns to No. 4 singles.

For Northville, seniors Haley Johnston and Tanya Joseph hold the top singles spots with sophomore Joanne Weber at No. 3 and freshman Erin Doud at No. 4.

While Novi has ruled singles, Northville has had the edge in doubles.

Mustangs No. 1 tandem of Laura Taylor and Ursula Cauffel have gone 2-1 against Novi's Lauren Felcher and Julia Thomas.

Please see **TENNIS, B4**

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May 9 at South Lyon East
TEAMS PARTICIPATING: 11 teams from 11 different schools...

KLAAR KENSINGTON CONFERENCE BOYS TRACK MEET

May 9 at South Lyon East
TEAMS PARTICIPATING: 11 teams from 11 different schools...

TRACK FROM PAGE B1

4x800 team which placed third (10:13.36) with Dayna Denoyer, Abby Chandler and Brooke McMahan.

The Wildcats were able to place three runners in the top seven in the 1,600 meters with Robinson placing fourth (5:26.84).

TRACK FROM PAGE B1

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Wildcat Kevin Kacan throws shot put during a home meet against South Lyon.

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Novi Strictly Business

IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Q&A

Flower shop is throwback to old mom-and-pop stores

1. Tell us about your business, including types of services and/or products you feature. Full service florist, weddings, funerals, everyday occasions...

2. How did you first decide to open your business? Twenty-five years ago we met on a blind date through a mutual friend...

3. How has the recent economy affected your business? We see a change in buying habits. More conservative. We've tried to help in that regard...

4. What makes your business unique? Our flower shop is truly a throwback to the old mom-and-pop stores...

5. How has it changed since you opened? The area has grown tremendously. Many of our customers now shop online...

6. Do you have a funny tidbit or story about your experience as a small business owner to share with our readers? We were putting the final touches on our shop a few days before we opened it...

BUSINESS MILESTONES

SPECIAL HAPPENINGS
Animal Emergency Center
Animal Emergency Center in Novi is hosting a Community Open House...

ANNOUNCEMENTS
Art Van Furniture
This year marks 50 years of business for Art Van Furniture...

word. "Although now deceased, she touched our hearts and we became fast friends...

9. What's in store for the future of your business? Now having the distinction of being the longest serving flower shop in Northville...

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CHAMBER CHAT
A Novi Chamber Business to Business Breakfast will take place 8-9 a.m. Wednesday, May 20 at Sports Club of Novi...

NEWSMAKERS
Dr. Norman Lynn, who practices in Novi, was included in the 2009 edition of Hour Magazine's list of Top Dentists...

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SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Dr. Koss (left) confers with Frances Pachota, RN, over a tablet computer. Koss and other Brighton Family Care Specialists physicians can access their patients' electronic medical records (EMR) instantly with this technology.

Brighton Family Care Specialists welcomes Marcus Koss, M.D.

Local family physician accepting patients new and old

BY ALISON BERGSHIEKER
ADVERTORIAL COORDINATOR

A good family physician will not only take care of your physical, mental and emotional health, he or she will become a trusted consultant for you and your family through all the stages of your life. With so many doctors to choose from, finding the right family physician can be a difficult choice to make.

Brighton Family Care Specialists is an IHA group practice located inside the Genoa Medical Center. Six licensed and board certified family physicians work cooperatively to provide the most up-to-date care in all areas of medicine. They are trained to treat and diagnose a wide spectrum of health problems.

Welcome Dr. Koss

Adding to its list of qualified family physicians, Brighton Family Care Specialists warmly welcomes Marcus Koss, M.D. to its staff.

Dr. Koss recently left a practice in the Northville area to join the team at Brighton Family Care Specialists, and is eager to accept new patients — as well as patients he served in the Northville-Novu area.

"This is a very beautiful area, and I'm really enjoying meeting new people," states Dr. Koss.

To accommodate patients with busy schedules, Dr. Koss is also available Monday and Wednesday until 7 p.m. One of the six physicians is available to see urgent-need patients on Saturday mornings.

"He is a welcomed addition to the practice," said Janice Queener, practice manager. "He is also accepting patients from all insurances and has really flexible office hours."

Dr. Koss graduated from medical school at Wayne State University in 1999 and completed his residency at Oakwood Hospital & Medical Center in 2002. He holds an American Board of Family Medicine certification and provides

care to patients of all ages, from newborns to seniors.

Dr. Koss also has an interest in sports medicine and is able to provide tips to athletes and treat sports-related injuries.

Health education and advancements

Dr. Koss finds great value in the relationship he develops with patients. He believes in empowering, educating and encouraging patients to become active participants in their own health care.

"I enjoy answering patient questions," Dr. Koss said. "I find that many patients are confused. I try to educate my patients through handouts and discussion to clarify concerns they may have."

Dr. Koss chose Family Medicine because he likes the variety it offers. "I can provide care for the entire family. There's a lot to be said for knowing the dynamics of a family and its affects on their health."

With the push by the Obama administration for new technology in health care, electronic medical records (EMR) are the wave of the future. Brighton Family Care Specialists are ahead of the game with a fully automated system. Dr. Koss and the other providers utilize a computerized system for all visit notes. Prescriptions are electronically delivered to pharmacies, eliminating the need for a paper script.

EMR also allows the physicians at Brighton Family Care Specialists to provide instant records, such as lab and X-ray reports to area health care systems including St. Joseph Mercy and University of Michigan hospitals.

"Using EMR, I can look up patient histories, conduct patient interviews, enter information and have instant access to my patients' records," Dr. Koss said.

Brighton Family Care Specialists also hosts a nurse triage system, where patients are instantly connected with a nurse who evaluates their needs.

"We give them appropriate advice on treatment right over the phone and clarify the level of care that they need," said Frances Pachota, RN.

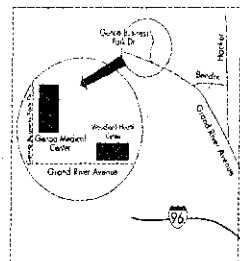
Other specialized services offered at the practice include "Planned Care Visits," where patients with diabetes are provided in-office consultations and scheduled follow-up phone visits to help manage their chronic condition.

Centrally located

Dr. Koss' practice is located in the Genoa Medical Center on Grand River Avenue, just a few miles west of US 23 off I-96. The practice conveniently shares space with a range of other medical specialists.

Within the Center, patients have access to experts in orthopedics, ophthalmology, otorhinolaryngology, gynecology and obstetrics, a fertility center, a pharmacy and even a café bistro. Also in the Center is a blood drawing facility and an imaging center to take needed X-rays. Patients find this helpful because they can get everything done in one visit. The Woodland Health Center is located just south of the building, and St. Joseph Mercy Livingston Hospital is a short distance away.

Brighton Family Care Specialists



Brighton Family Care Specialists is an IHA group practice. IHA is southeast Michigan's leading private practice, multiple specialty group with 150 physicians and 37 nurse practitioners, care for more than 250,000 patients throughout the Washtenaw, Livingston, Wayne, Jackson, Lenawée, Monroe, Ingham and Oakland counties.

Brighton Family Care Specialists is located at 2305 Genoa Business Park Drive, Ste. 200 in Brighton and can be reached at 810-494-6840.

Learn more about the practice at www.ihacares.com.



Dr. Koss examines a patient at Brighton Family Care Specialists. Koss recently left a practice in the Northville area and is eager to accept new patients — as well as patients from the Northville-Novu area.

Brighton Family Care Specialists



Brighton Family Care Specialists physicians and staff are dedicated to providing quality medical care for all of your family. From your newborn to your most senior members. Brighton Family Care Specialists are accepting new patients. To schedule an appointment call 810-494-6840.

Robert Adams, MD Alberto Nacif, MD Donna Vorias, MD
 Marcus Koss, MD Naomi Pearsall, MD Mark Zawis, MD

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