

Novi field hockey defeats top team from higher division - Sports, B1

THURSDAY
September 10,
2009

Hometown Weeklies

Volume 54
Number 16

75 CENTS

NOVI NEWS

online at hometownlife.com

Special
Section
inside

Victorian Festival



Novi Area Victorian Festival
Sept. 12-13, 2009, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Novi High School, 3000 W. 12 Mile Rd.
Novi, MI 48065
Admission: \$5.00 (includes parking)
Sponsor: Novi Area Chamber of Commerce

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9/10/09

NUTSHELL

JMG Dentistry celebrates 5th

Local area residents will join Dr. Justin Geller and his staff at JMG Dentistry in a re-grand opening celebration on Saturday, Sept. 12 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Guests can help themselves to appetizers, as well as cider and donuts, while they visit with the staff and take a tour of JMG Dentistry's state-of-the-art office. For the little ones, there will be balloons and face painting, and goodie bags will be given to all attendees.

JMG also will hold a raffle, with a grand prize of a \$250 gift certificate to Twelve Oaks Mall, a second prize of an electric toothbrush and five third prize prizes of a take home whitening kit. JMG is located at 31202 Novi Road.

Lotus goes Hollywood

Lotus Bank recently became the first Michigan-based bank to participate in and finance the State of Michigan's Film Production Incentive, which is designed to attract movie producers to produce their feature films and television programs in Michigan in order to create jobs and generate business for Michigan companies.

The first project that Lotus Bank is funding is "The Wannabes," a television comedy aimed at tween and teens currently being produced by Savvy Productions in Howell, Michigan. In the first phase of filming the production is spending millions of dollars in Michigan, including the hiring of 10 Michiganders serving as both cast and crew members.

The Novi-based community bank's officers spent months researching the Film Incentive Credit, meeting with tax and accounting professionals, film industry professionals, officials in the State's Department of Treasury and the Film Office.

Satish Jasti, president and CEO of Lotus Bank, said, "As a community bank dedicated to growing the state economy, we're proud to be the first Michigan-based bank to take advantage of this outstanding program that not only helps bring jobs to Michigan, but creates much needed income for the state as well."

Lotus Bank offers a full range of financial products and services to businesses and consumers and is headquartered at 44350 W. 12 Mile Road, Novi, Michigan 48065. Phone (248) 735-1000 or visit www.lotusbank.net.

Novi police unit to address frequent crimes

Officers will work in plain clothes, unmarked cars

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

The Novi Police Department will soon have a new way to find suspects and slow down the occurrence of select crimes in the area.

Through the creation of the Directed Patrol Unit, a three-person team of officers that will be dressed in plain clothes and drive unmarked vehicles, areas that have seen a bump in crime will have more saturated patrol. The goal is to address the problem and identify the individuals involved.

"It's a progressive tactic we can utilize that will have a great long-term impact on the community," said Novi Police Chief David Molloy. "The bottom line is it helps reduce crime."

Three officers, Mike Bender, Rachel Jones and Keith Sampsel, volunteered to be part of the unit, which was the result of a recommendation from a city organized consulting firm, ICMA. Molloy said the department has instituted a similar unit in the past that "turned out to be an effective group."

The officers started training Tuesday and will meet on a regular basis with the detective sergeant for assignments, strategy and intelligence sharing. The crimes that will be the primary focus will change depending on what is occurring in Novi and the effectiveness of the unit in combating those crimes. The main focus right now is larcenies from autos, followed by larcenies of wheels/rims and breaking and enterings.

Performance benchmarks have been put in place, including reducing those aforementioned crimes by 5 percent each.

The unit has a net zero effect on the police budget and the officers can be called off the unit to help other officers.

"In the event of an emergency they are working on the street and could still respond if the need arises," Molloy said.

DEPARTMENT LOOKS FOR ASSISTANT

Also included in the ICMA report was a recommendation to reorganize the department and create a second deputy police chief position and an additional lieutenant in the uniform division.

Molloy altered that plan by instead

DPU OFFICERS

• Mike Bender
• Rachel Jones
• Keith Sampsel

choosing to create an assistant chief position. The assistant chief would be responsible for all police operations, both uniform patrol and investigation, and report to the deputy police chief.

"This will allow us to have one individual in charge of all police operations," Molloy said.

The promotion was made available to department members ranked sergeant and above, and will not increase the number of full-time positions in the department. Once a successful candidate is selected there will be back-fill promotions to fill the slot.

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New fitness club preaches welcoming atmosphere

Class-centered facility has workouts in less than an hour

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

Abbey Ewald was in need of "an extra kick" to get her workout plan going.

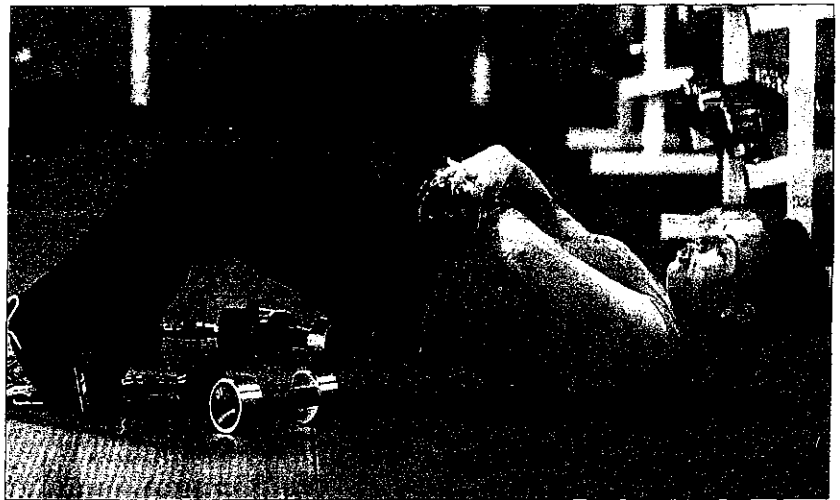
And since July when she was introduced to Seung-ni Fit Club, she has been hooked.

The new fitness club is a class-oriented facility with three specific classes that provide full-body workouts. When Ewald joined she also started the body challenge, which is an eight-week course focused on helping people lose weight by working out and eating healthy, and she is already reaping the benefits.

"Within two days I could see changes in my body, and muscles I thought I couldn't work I was working," she said. "They are really good at motivating you."

Owner Meghan Lawler said the classes are for anyone, regardless of fitness level, and the goal is to give people the best workout they can get.

The current classes are body sculpt, which intended to strengthen, tone and define muscles, kick boxing and plyo-pump, a combination of plyometric and body sculpt exercises in a circuit training format.



PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Owner and fitness instructor Meghan Lawler runs a noon-time "Lunch-Crunch" workout session at Novi's Seung-ni Fit Club on Grand River Avenue.

Each class is less than an hour.

There also is a lunch crunch class, which is 30 minutes long, for people looking for a mid-day workout.

"We don't want people to be slaves to the gym," Lawler said. "People are in and out in an hour and they know they have gotten a good workout."

The club is part of a franchise that has five other locations in Michigan. Lawler used to work at the club in Midland before opening the facility in Novi, and

DETAILS

Seung-ni Fit Club is located at 41430 Grand River Avenue. For more information or to sign up for a membership, visit www.seungni.com/fitness or call (248) 305-9002.

her biggest goal is making the club a place where everyone can feel comfortable working out.

The other instructors on staff range in age from 18 to 61 years old, and Lawler herself also heads some classes.



The new fitness center, Seung-ni Fit Club, runs a "lunch crunch" workout class for people looking for a mid-day workout.

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GANNETT

School district decides against broadcasting Obama's speech

Message will be reviewed, possibly shown later

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

Citing late notice and a busy first day of school, the Novi Community Schools district did not show President Barack Obama's speech to students on Tuesday.

"Today, President Obama addressed the students of the United States giving a message of welcoming students back to school, of working hard in school, of staying in school to achieve their present and future goals, and, of taking personal responsibility," said Peter Dion, superintendent. "This speech has been copied for teacher preparation and taped for



Dion

classroom viewing. Our staff has access to it through our technology department and will air the speech within the next few days in their classrooms. Staff will use their professional judgment as to when and how to incorporate this brief video into their classroom instruction notifying parents of that date and time. Using this process will allow the most students to view it and to enter into

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Road construction projects continue throughout Novi

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

The month of September is a busy time for road construction in Novi.

Construction was expected to begin on Novi Road between Grand River Avenue and Twelve Mile Road on Sept. 8, while several other projects are expected to be completed by the end of the month.

The Novi Road project is being handled by the Road Commission for Oakland County, and will close the road down to one lane of traffic in either direction. Motorists should expect major delays in that area.

The Michigan Department of Transportation Projects still ongoing include lane reduction to two lanes on westbound I-96 between I-275 and Novi Road, as well as the anticipated

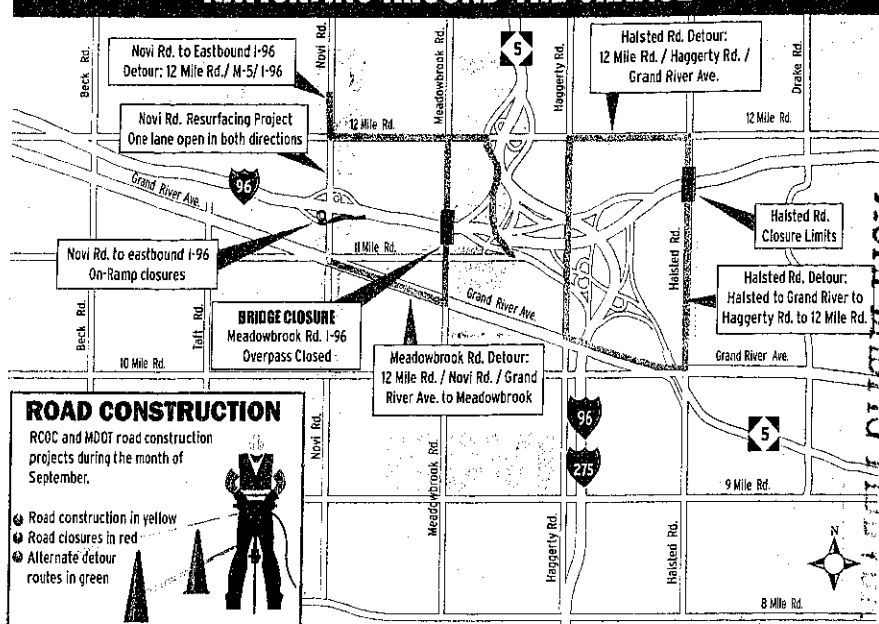
Sept. 19 reopening of the Meadowbrook Road bridge between Grand River Avenue and Twelve Mile Road.

Ramp work in the area also is ongoing as the northbound Novi Road ramp to westbound I-96 will be closed on Sept. 12. However, two ramps will be open sometime this month as the northbound Novi Road entrance ramp to eastbound I-96 is expected to reopen Sept. 12 and the southbound Novi Road entrance ramp to eastbound I-96 is slated for a Sept. 30 reopening.

Also coming this fall is road rehabilitation projects on Nine Mile Road from Haggerty to Meadowbrook Road and on Meadowbrook Road from Eight Mile to Nine Mile Road. Both projects are due to start this month.

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NAVIGATING AROUND THE ORANGE



ROAD CONSTRUCTION

ROAD construction in yellow
ROAD closures in red
Alternate detour routes in green

SPEECH

FROM PAGE A1

appropriate dialogue with their teacher. If you have any questions about this viewing please talk with your child's teacher or the building principal.

Monique Beels, assistant superintendent of academic services said the president's speech is "a good message" and part of one the district gives to students every day.

"Basically it is just the timing of it. Teachers already

(had) their plans for Tuesday set and the first day of school is typically a busy day."

Beels said the school district received calls "both good and bad" in regards to showing the speech.

Novi Board of Education President Ann Glubzinski also pointed to poor timing as a reason why the speech was not shown, and said she believes the parents should have in say in what their child views.

"We want to give the public the choice whether or not they want to share it with their children," she said.

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Relational Church calls library home

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

Michael Zerkich has always pictured being part of a church that is extremely dedicated to improving the lives of the people in the community.

And after a vision he had through prayer, he was directed to take on such a venture out of his Novi home.

The Relational Church, of which Zerkich is the ordained pastor, started last September with one family besides his own, and has grown now to about 25 to 30 members.

Starting Sept. 13, the church also will be leaving his home and moving into the conference rooms at the Novi Library.

"Our focus is taking care of the needs of the people in Novi and the surrounding areas," Zerkich said. "We want to demonstrate our Christian walk by serving the community in a meaningful way."



The nondenominational Relational Church is small in size, but the member's activity level in the community is anything but small. The church helped out with a job fair in March, and is working with the Novi Chamber of Commerce and city and school officials to find places to help.

Zerkich does not take a salary to be the pastor, choosing to work for free so that all the money goes toward

"ministry and mission."
"I get paid in many other ways," he said.

The nondenominational church is small in size, but the member's activity level in the community is anything but small. The church helped out with a job fair in March, and is working with the Novi Chamber of Commerce and city and school officials to find places to help.

John Dechart and his wife, Marilee, met Zerkich a couple months ago when he stopped at Community Christ Church, home of Marilee's new Christian preschool. The two talked for a while and Zerkich invited the family to his home for a church service.

John said they were attracted to Zerkich and the church because the atmosphere is not "pretentious" and they shared a common ground with the other members.

"There is a unique connection with the people," he said. "A lot of times you go to a church with hundreds of people and you don't know anyone."

DETAILS

The Relational Church will meet every Sunday from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. and then break into small groups to have discussions on a variety of topics. For more information, visit www.TheRelationalChurch.org or call (248) 468-4565.

Here there is much more connectivity because of the smaller number of people."

Zerkich said while some churches are into how much money they make or how many people are in the congregation, the Relational Church is into how much they can do for the community.

"We want to motivate people and want them to reflect on what they learn and apply it in their lives," he said.

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Celebrate fall at annual fair

BY NATHAN MUELLER
STAFF WRITER

The annual Fall Fair at the Michigan State University Tollgate Education Center is a day jam-packed with events the entire family will enjoy.

But the fair-goers are not the only ones taking in the atmosphere the 160-acre farm off Meadowbrook Road provides. About 50 volunteers have spent the past several months preparing for the event, and their reward is seeing the smiles and hearing people gush over the beauty of the property.

"It's a gorgeous place and a great institution that is not utilized enough," said Dennis Rogers, co-chair of the fair. "What I have learned over the years is there is a genuine appreciation from people who attend and that is the thrill for me."

The free fair, which will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sept. 19, has been run at Tollgate for at least 10 years, growing in size each year. There are activities for everyone, young and old, and Roy Prentice, farm manager, said many people end up spending two-to-three hours at the center because there is so much to do.

Some of the activities include butterfly making, rock painting, hay rides, self-guided garden tours, fishing, live animals and appearances by the Novi police and fire departments.

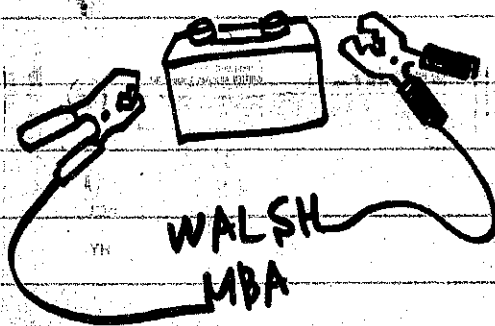
There also will be several presentations from nearby educational groups. The Howell Nature Center is bringing its birds of prey exhibit, the bat conservancy at Cranbrook Institute of Science is doing a bat show and another presenter has a reptile exhibit among other presentations.

Prentice said he hopes events like the Fall Fair raise awareness about the center, which is open free to the public six days a week. He also likes showing off the work of the volunteers.

"I get a lot of joy out of sharing the property with the community," he said. "The fair is something we do as a garden volunteer community to give something back to the local community and celebrate fall."

The MSU Tollgate Education Center is located at 28115 Meadowbrook Road. For more information, call (248) 347-3860 ext. 251.

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It's a good time for an MBA from Walsh, the area's only all-business college. Eleven areas of specialization include Accounting, Business IT, Economics, Finance, and a dual MBA/MS in Finance. A full MBA can also be earned online. Classes offered in Novi (Grand River & Meadowbrook Roads).

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FALL FAIR
The Fall Fair at MSU Tollgate Education Center is open to the public free of charge. The event runs from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sept. 19. The center is located at 28115 Meadowbrook Road.

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NEW PATIENTS

NEIGHBORS

Harwell's spirit strong despite cancer diagnosis

His voice was clear, his spirit strong, his words tinged with humor.

But legendary broadcaster Ernie Harwell had bracing news to deliver last Thursday: He has a tumor in the area of the bile duct. It is inoperable. Yet Harwell said he feels calm and prepared for what comes next.

"We don't know how long this lasts," Harwell said in a phone interview. "It could be a year, it could be much less than a year, much less than a half a year. Who knows?"

"Whatever's in store, I'm ready for a new adventure. That's the way I look at it."

Harwell, who gained an enormous following during 55 years as a major league baseball broadcaster — 42 of them with the Tigers — spent about a week in the hospital in mid-August with an obstructed bile duct, and tests revealed the tumor.

He is 91. Harwell, his family and doctors have decided against surgery or other treatment.

Asked what he wanted to have written about him, Harwell spoke about his fans and his faith.

GOOD WISHES FOR ERNIE
Cards or letters can be sent to: Ernie Harwell, c/o S. Gary Spicer, Attorney at Law, 16845 Kercheval Ave., Suite 5, Grosse Pointe, MI 48230.

"I don't want to make it too sweet because I don't want to get diabetes as well as this other stuff," he said, chuckling. Speaking of his many admirers across North America, Harwell added: "I'd like to thank them for their loyalty and support over the years. And their affection, which I don't know whether I deserve or not, but I accept it."

"And also, I think that when I heard the news, that I had this cancer, that I had a feeling of security and serenity ... but I had a feeling of acceptance because of my belief in Jesus and the Lord."

Harwell praised his family, his longtime adviser Gary Spicer, and his doctors and the medical staff in the Henry Ford Hospital system.

In a statement, Michael Workings, team physician for the Detroit Tigers and a Henry Ford Hospital family medicine physician who is part of Harwell's care team, said: "Mr. Harwell is a beloved and iconic figure who has touched so many lives across Michigan through his Hall of Fame broadcasting career and support in the community."

Since retiring in 2002, Harwell has remained busy, writing three books that have been published by the Free Press, releasing an audio scrapbook of his interviews and famous broadcast moments, and working as a health and fitness advocate for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan.

"Ernie has literally changed people's lives through his efforts to communicate about the benefits of healthy behavior, and we are grateful to him for that," said Blues President and Chief Executive Officer Daniel Lepp. "He has been an inspiration to all of us at the Blues who have the honor of knowing him."

Harwell said he plans to retire from his job with the Blues after he records two commercials next week. He plans to complete a fourth book of his columns, which have run for years in the Free Press sports section. The final column is scheduled to appear at the end of the month.

Harwell said he feels good but has been forced to cut back on his daily exercise routine. "I don't have any pain at the moment," he said. "Because I've lost weight, I can eat almost everything I wanted to. I've come back to my childhood with ice cream and all those good things."

Harwell said his wife, Lulu, remains strong and shares his belief in God. They celebrated their 68th wedding anniversary last Sunday.

"We walk hand in hand wherever we go," Harwell said. "We still love each other. She's the best thing that ever happened to me."

For the first time, his voice wavered, slightly.

By Bill McGraw | Detroit Free Press

NOVI IN THE SERVICE
Tyler A. Vincent has entered Basic Cadet Training at the U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colo., in preparation to enter the first academic year at the academy. The six-week, two-phased orientation program must be successfully completed by the cadets prior to entering their freshman year. The training prepares men and women to meet the rigorous mental and physical challenges experienced by new cadets.

Phase one involves personal in-processing, orientation, and training in the fundamentals of being a cadet. Cadet trainees are prepared to adjust from civilian to military life and disciplines, and learn proper wear of the uniform, saluting policies and procedures, drill and ceremony, marching, and living quarters standards.

During phase two, cadets train outdoors living in tents while learning to function in field conditions. Cadets apply and practice team work, cohesion and learn to deal with physically and mentally demanding situations.

They complete the obstacle, confidence, assault, and leadership courses, and participate in a rescue mission termed Operation Warrior.

He is the son of Michael and Shona Vincent of Novi and is a 2009 graduate of Novi High School.

Marine Corps Pvt. Corey T. Bergin, son of Marianne and stepson of George Phillips of Novi, recently completed 12 weeks of basic training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, S.C. designed to challenge new Marine recruits both physically and mentally.

Bergin and fellow recruits began their training at 6 a.m., by running three miles and performing physical conditioning program. Bergin spent numerous hours in classroom and field assignments which included learning first aid, uniform regulations, combat water survival, marksmanship, hand-to-hand combat and assorted weapons training. They performed close order drill and operated as a small infantry unit during field training.

Bergin and fellow recruits ended the training phase with The Crucible, a 51-hour, team evolution culminating in an emotional ceremony in which recruits are presented the Marine Corps emblem and addressed as "Marines" for the first time in their careers.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Teen arraigned in Wixom beating death

A man police believe bludgeoned another man with a golf club is to face charges in the incident.

Robert Lloyd Lowry, 18, of White Lake Township, was arraigned last week in 92-1 District Court in Novi on charges of second degree with an alternative of involuntary manslaughter in the death of Justin Hussin, 18, of Wixom. If convicted, Lowry faces life in prison.

He was to be back in court Sept. 9 for a pre-examination conference.

Hussin died Sept. 1 during a brawl between teens from Wixom and White Lake.

Police have said Lowry hit Hussin in the back of the head with a golf club in a Wixom neighborhood. The two were among as many as 10 - from two groups - who police said showed up to settle a dispute. Most were ages 17 and 18.

Police have said that a texting spat between two of the guys - one from each group - started before the brawl. One text, Det. Sgt. Gary Hamlin said during the hearing, said: "I will smash you."

Someone from the Wixom group texted to someone from the White Lake crew that they meet in front of an address on Bell Coney, off of Potter, Hamlin said. He said the White Lake group indicated that they had a gun, so the teens from Wixom showed up with golf clubs and at least one baseball bat, which Hamlin said witnesses said Hussin was carrying.

Here's what Hamlin said happened next:

As the teens converged on the neighborhood about 3 a.m., a resident heard arguing and the scuffle and called 911.



Lowry

Two teens - neither Hussin nor Lowry - started pushing each other. One dropped his golf club and Lowry picked it up.

"Now I've got a club," witnesses reported Lowry said.

Lowry swung and hit Hussin above his left ear. Some told police Hussin had the baseball bat at his side, others said he had dropped it before being struck.

The man making the 911 call told dispatchers he heard a loud thud, "like something was hit with an object."

The White Lake teens left the scene in a vehicle.

Police arrived and found Hussin lying on the ground, "bleeding profusely." He died at the scene. Lowry was later arrested in White Lake.

In court today, before Judge Dennis Powers, Lowry stood mute as a plea of not guilty was entered on his behalf.

"Sir, do you want to retain your own attorney or do you want a court appointed attorney?" Powers asked.

Lowry looked at his mother, sitting in the front row of the courtroom. She mouthed, "court appointed."

"Court appointed," Lowry said to Powers.

Lowry is being held in the Oakland County Jail on a \$250,000 cash surety bond.

If he is released, Powers said Lowry must be put on a GPS tether.

Lowry's mother and others there to support him declined to comment after the hearing.

By Gina Damron | Detroit Free Press

Drunk driver caught with marijuana

A 20-year-old man was arrested around 2 a.m. on Sept. 2 for operating while intoxicated and possession of marijuana after being pulled over on M-5 south of Fourteen Mile Road.

According to the police report, a Novi police officer saw the driver on a red motorcycle pass him at a high rate of speed. The radar detector showed a reading of 107 miles per hour in an area where the posted speed limit is 55 mph.

The initial officer, along with another officer, caught up to the driver and when they approached him could smell a strong odor of intoxicants.

The driver failed field sobriety tests and a preliminary breath test registered a blood alcohol content of .12 percent. The limit for adult drivers in Michigan is .08 percent.

Also during the stop, the second officer asked if there was anything illegal in the backpack the man was wearing and he told police he had marijuana in it.

The man was issued a citation for both crimes and transported to the Novi Police Department.

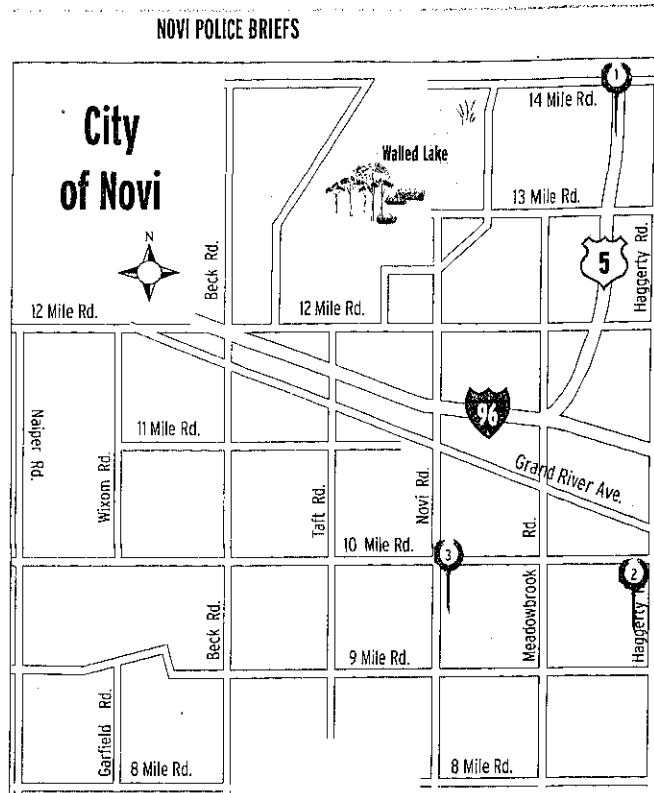
Cadillac found on stones

Four wheels and tires were stolen off a Cadillac CTS between the hours of midnight and 6 a.m. on Sept. 6 while parked at a residence on Country Lane.

The unknown suspects put landscape stones under the vehicle and left it that way once the wheels were removed. There were no fingerprints or other evidence on the scene that could be collected.

All residents in the area were advised to report any suspicious activity or vehicles, and there will be extra patrol in the area.

Compiled by staff writer Nathan Mueller



Car broken into at Sports Club

A white GMC Yukon was broken into and items were stolen from it between the hours of 7:55 p.m. and 10:20 p.m. on Sept. 3 while it was parked in the parking lot at the Sports Club of Novi.

The vehicle was backed into a parking spot on the east side of the building and the rear driver's side window was broken out to give access to the vehicle.

Stolen from the SUV were a pair of sunglasses and the in-dash navigational system. Police have no suspects at this time.

Compiled by staff writer Nathan Mueller

NOVI NEWSMAKERS

Schultz honored

Secret Wardle has been ranked as having the No. 1 Municipal Law Department in the State of Michigan by Best Lawyers in America, a resource for locating outstanding attorneys who specialize in specific practice areas. Four Secret Wardle Partners have been notified of their inclusion in the 2010 edition. Those named best in the category of Municipal Law included Thomas R. Schultz, attorney for the cities of Novi and Farmington.



Schultz

ENGAGEMENT

Kozma & Chandler

Novi residents Rachel Marie Kozma and Chase Douglas Chandler are engaged to be married.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of John and Wendy Kozma of Novi. She is a 2007 graduate of Michigan State University, earning a bachelor of science degree from the School of Nursing. She is a registered nurse at Henry Ford Hospital.

The groom-elect is the son of Carl and Sally Chandler of Novi. He received his bachelor's degree from Albion College in 2006, attended Oakland University and earned his master's degree in accounting in 2009. He is a certified public accountant with Ernst and Young.

The couple are planning a Sept. 19 wedding at the First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth with a reception at the Inn at St. John's.



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It's Your Business...

How to Protect Your Business with Agreements Not to Compete

A client calls, frantic. He is an automotive supplier specializing in plastic injection molded parts, and his top salesman quit in a dispute over his pay. The client is worried the salesman may try to take his customers.

The salesman signed an agreement not to compete which prohibits him from working as a salesman for another automotive supplier anywhere in the U.S. for a period of five years. The client wants to make sure it will be enforceable.

While it is true that covenants not to compete are enforceable in Michigan, they are enforceable only to protect reasonable competitive business interests, and only if they are reasonable in duration, geographical area and the type of employment or line of business.

An agreement that prohibits the salesman from working for any automotive supplier is probably too broad. If the company's primary business is plastic injection molded parts, its reasonable competitive business interests would likely be similarly limited to that business. The covenant may be found to be unreasonable and unenforceable as to other types of automotive suppliers, such as suppliers of metal stamped parts.

Whether the entire United States is a reasonable geographic scope would depend largely upon where business is actually conducted and where the customers are located. If the business and customers are limited to Michigan, it may be unreasonable to impose a covenant not to compete throughout the entire United States.

A term of five years is probably excessive and unenforceable. A reasonable term for prohibiting an employee from competing would be one sufficient for the company to take reasonable efforts to solidify its relationships with its customers and suppliers. One or two years may be enforceable, but five years is probably not.

There are no hard and fast rules for any of these factors. Reasonableness will depend upon the facts and circumstances of each case, and ultimately will be up to a court to decide.

What about using the company's customer lists, contact information, sales data, cost data and other strategic information? This type of information, if properly treated as confidential, is proprietary information that belongs to the company. Like any other asset, an employee has no right to take such information, whether to use it to compete with the company, or for any other purpose. A court would readily issue an order to protect this type of proprietary information.

While covenants not to compete are sometimes used inappropriately, and therefore are held to be unenforceable, a properly drafted covenant is a valuable instrument to protect a company from unreasonable competition.

Bruce W. Haffey is a business and tax lawyer, has represented small businesses for nearly 30 years, and has negotiated and drafted countless agreements not to compete. Mr. Haffey is resident of Novi, and is a shareholder and member of the Board of Directors of Giannarco, Mullins & Horton, P.C. in Troy. If you have a legal question, feel free to contact him at (248) 457-7073 or mhaffey@bwhlaw.com

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Introduction to be given by Michigan State Senator, Nancy Cassis

Don't miss your chance to see Ed Slott, considered "the best" source for IRA advice by *The Wall Street Journal* and *"America's IRA Expert"* by Mutual Funds Magazine. Mr. Slott is one of the country's foremost experts in retirement planning and provides the most advanced education on IRAs in an informative yet entertaining manner.

This event is especially valuable for IRA owners with retirement assets valued at \$250,000 or greater, but is timely for anyone who is retired or is going to retire. You will learn:

- How to protect your nest egg from needless taxation
- Why you should NEVER leave money in a company plan after you retire
- How to leave what you don't spend to your heirs TAX-FREE, and more!

Date: September 16th, 2009
Time: Doors open at 6:00 p.m., the event begins at 6:30 p.m.
Location: Sheraton Hotel (Novi)
2111 Haggerty • Novi, MI 48375

This presentation is FREE, but seating is limited. Please call (800) 425-9402 to reserve your ticket today!

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Auto aids that can help senior drivers

Dear Savvy Senior,
I've heard that there are different gadgets or devices you can buy for your car that can help older drivers. I've lost a lot of flexibility over the years and have a hard time getting in and out of my car, and my wife struggles with arthritis in her hands which causes her some problems too. What's available that can help keep us mobile?
Stiff Driver

Dear Stiff,
There are lots of gadgets and devices on the market today that can help make driving easier and safer for seniors. Here's a breakdown of some popular budget-friendly products that can help with a variety of needs.

MOBILITY AND FLEXIBILITY

Each year in the U.S., an estimated 37,000 people age 65 and older are injured by simply entering or exiting their vehicle. If mobility problems or limited range of motion is hampering your ability to get in and out of your car, look over your shoulder to back-up or merge into traffic, or even reach for your seatbelt, here are some items that can help:

- **Handybar:** This is a portable support handle that inserts into the U-shaped striker plate on the door frame that helps with getting into and out of the vehicle.
- **Car Caddie:** This is another type of portable handle that hooks around the top of your door window frame giving you something to hold onto while getting out of the car.
- **Swivel seat cushion:** A round portable cushion that

SAVVY SENIOR

turns 360 degrees to help older drivers and passengers rotate their body into the car.

- **Panoramic (or wide-view) rear view mirror:** These attach to your existing rear view mirror to widen your rear visibility and eliminate blind spots so you can see traffic without significant neck or body rotation. It also helps during parking.
- **Convex (or wide-angle) side view mirrors:** These attach to the existing side view mirrors to improve side and rear vision.
- **Easy Reach Seat Belt Handle:** This is a six-inch extension handle that attaches to your seat belt to make it easier to reach.

ARTHRITIC HANDS

Drivers who have arthritic or weak hands may find the tasks of turning the ignition key to start the car, or twisting open the gas cap to fill up, difficult and painful. Items that can help include an "easy-to-grasp key holder," which is a small handle device that attaches to your car keys to provide additional leverage making it easier to turn the key in the ignition or door. And for help at the pump, a "gas cap turner" makes removing the gas cap a breeze. Another comfy add-on is a "steering wheel cover" that fits over your existing steering wheel to make it larger in size and easier to grip.

SENSITIVITY TO GLARE

Aging eyes almost always become more sensitive to glare. A fantastic item that

can help is the "Sun Zapper Glare Shield" - a device that clips right on to your existing sun visor to remove sun glare without obstructing vision. It also comes with a special sliding shield that lets you block extra-bright glare spots.

SMALL DRIVERS

Most seniors shrink a little as they get older (due to gravity and osteoporosis) and for those who were small to start with, it can be difficult seeing over the steering wheel, or reaching the pedals without being too close to the airbag. Solutions include getting an ergonomic (wedge-shaped) seat cushion that supports the back and elevates you a few extra inches to help you see. Or foot pedal extensions that allow you to reach the gas and brake pedals while keeping you 10-to-12-inches from the steering wheel. These cost around \$200 and need to be installed by a professional.

Shopping Tips: All of these items (except the foot pedal extensions) can be found online at a variety of locations. Some good shopping points include Amazon.com, Dynamic Living (888-940-0605; dynamic-living.com), ActiveForever (800-377-8033; activeforever.com) and AutoSport (800-953-0814; autosportcatalog.com).

Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit www.savvysenior.org. Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC Today show and author of "The Savvy Senior" book.

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CALENDAR

FROM PAGE A11

tional programs, an enhanced Web site, and involvement with local charities.

LOCATION: 41875 N. Mile Road, #201, Novi

CONTACT: For more information, call (248) 349-3743 or www.novi-chamber.com

Business to Business Breakfast

TIME/DATE: 8-9 a.m., Tuesday, Sept. 15

LOCATION: Dale Carnegie Training, 41650 Gardenbrook, Ste. 190, Novi

DETAILS: Join us for a light breakfast and networking; \$5 payable at door.

NOVI ROTARY CLUB

TIME/DATE: Noon every Thursday

LOCATION: Novi Methodist Church, 41671 W. 10 Mile Road

DETAILS: Lunch is \$10 at meeting. Visitors welcome. Check Web site for speaker information; novirotary.org.

ABWA

99 Ways to shop "Hi You Drop"

TIME/DATE: 5-9 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 9

LOCATION: DoubleTree Hotel, Novi

DETAILS: The Novi Oaks chapter of ABWA (American Business Women's Association) is hosting this event with many different vendors on site for an evening of shopping, networking and fun. Admission is 99 cents and includes light appetizers, while they last. A cash bar will also be available.

CONTACT: www.abwa-novi.org

Library Lines

NOVI PUBLIC LIBRARY LINES

LOCATION: 45245 W. Ten Mile Road

Library Hours

LOCATION: 45245 W. Ten Mile Road

HOURS: Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; Friday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday, 1 a.m.-5 p.m. (September-May)

DETAILS: Unless noted below, all programs take place at the Library.

CONTACT: (248) 349-0720

WEBSITE: www.novilibrary.org

Story Times: Please see the Library website or story time brochure for DETAILS.

Welcome Back to School Bash for Grades 9-12

DATE: Friday, Sept. 11

TIME: 3-4:30 p.m.

DETAILS: Stop by after school and celebrate the beginning of a new year. We will have video games, board games, and snacks! Also, learn about the chance to serve on the Teen Advisory Board.

Kiddie Crafts

DATE: Saturday, Sept. 12

TIME: 10:30-11 a.m.

DETAILS: Toddlers and preschoolers will have the opportunity to create a work of art using their imaginations and the supplies that we will provide. Each child must be accompanied by an adult helper. Registration is required.

Dining Etiquette for 8-14 yrs

DATE: Saturday, Sept. 12

TIME: 1-2:30 p.m.

DETAILS: Get a refresher on your table manners before the holidays arrive. Dessert will be served, please let us know if there are any food allergies when registering.

Monday Evening Book Discussion

DATE: Monday, Sept. 14

TIME: 7-8:30 p.m.

DETAILS: Join your Novi neighbors in a great discussion of *The Boy on the Bus* by Deborah Shapiro. Please register. Limited to 20 participants.

How to Write Your Life Story

DATE: Tuesday, Sept. 15

TIME: 6:30-8 p.m.

DETAILS: This is the beginning of a 6-session workshop with writing coach, G. Rose Tuley, for those who desire to write & reflect on their life, & put on paper (scrapbook or journal) their favorite memories and lessons learned in life. See our website for more DETAILS.

English Conversation Group

DATE: Wednesday, Sept. 16 and 23

TIME: 12 p.m.

DETAILS: Make friends while you practice your English pronunciation and conversation skills.

Library Board Meeting

DATE: Wednesday, Sept. 16

TIME: 7-9 p.m.

DETAILS: General meetings of the entire Library Board are usually held the third Wednesday of each month in the City Council Chambers at the Novi Civic Center. The public is welcome.

New World for Children and Adults with Dyslexia

DATE: Thursday, Sept. 17

TIME: 7-8 p.m.

DETAILS: Michigan Dyslexia Foundation will answer your questions and inform you of all the latest news about Dyslexia. Registration required.

Theatrical Make-Up Demonstration

DATE: Saturday, Sept. 19

TIME: 1-3 p.m.

DETAILS: In recognition of receiving the James C. Dance award, NPL will sponsor a theatrical makeup demonstration. Amber Marisa Cook from the Department of Theatre, Michigan State University, demonstrates techniques used to help "Tiech out" different character types. Registration required.

Eastern Market Program

DATE: Tuesday, Sept. 22

TIME: 1-2:30 p.m.

DETAILS: Join authors Lois Johnson and Margaret Thomas as they present a virtual tour of the country's largest, and Detroit's oldest, open air market sharing anecdotes and advice about produce selection and food preparation. Registration required.

All About E-Mail for Seniors

DATE: Wednesday, Sept. 23

TIME: 1-3 p.m.

DETAILS: Learn the basics of sending and receiving e-mail, and sign up for a free e-mail account. This class includes interactive discussion and hands-on practice. Register online, by calling 248-349-0720 or stop by our welcome desk.

Managing Unplanned Job Transitions

DATE: Wednesday, Sept. 23

TIME: 7-8:30 p.m.

DETAILS: Ronald E. Braugh and Thom Folino, Financial Advisors, will discuss ways of dealing with unexpected employment changes. Registration Required.

WIXOM PUBLIC LIBRARY

LOCATION: 49015 Pontiac Trail,

Wixom

HOURS: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday-Thursday; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday-Saturday; and 1-5 p.m., Sunday

CONTACT: (248) 624-2512 or visit wixomlibrary.org

Museum Adventure Pass

DETAILS: Card holders can check out free passes, for two to four people, to many area museums, cultural centers and historical sites. See detroitadventurepass.org for more information.

ESL Cafe

TIME/DATE: 3:30 p.m., every Thursday

DETAILS: Coffee and conversation. Improve your English speaking skills by speaking with people from other countries trying to improve their English. No tests; instructor help; free.

Seniors

NOVI SENIOR ACTIVITIES CENTER

LOCATION: Located in the Meadowbrook Commons Senior Center, 25075 Meadowbrook Road.

Wii Games

TIME/DATE: 1-3 p.m., Thursdays

DETAILS: Nintendo Wii is here! Using special motion-sensitive controllers your team can drive a race car, bowl a strike, hit a home run or serve up an ace in tennis with a flick of the wrist. What a great way to spend time with friends and have lots of good conversation while being active. No charge.

Blood Pressure Checks

TIME/DATE: 11-11:45 a.m., Wednesdays

DETAILS: Every Wednesday blood pressure checks are offered. Check yourself regularly and stay healthy. Your blood pressure record will be on file at the Senior Center so you can track your health. No charge.

Panera Bread

TIME/DATE: 8:15-9:30 a.m., Tuesdays

DETAILS: With thanks to Panera for a great partnership, every Tuesday is Panera Bread Day! Enjoy bagels, rolls, bread, sweets, coffee and conversation! No charge.

Bingo

TIME/DATE: 1-3 p.m., Tuesdays and Fridays

DETAILS: Try your luck and get those cards filled up. A great way to socialize and meet new people. \$50 per card at the door.

NEW: Gentle Yoga-Beginners

NEW: Gentle Yoga-Beginners. Total Body Sculpt Over 50, Pilates Over 50, Zumba Gold

TIME/DATE: Classes begin at end of September.

Book Discussion - "The Infidel"

AYAN HIRSI

TIME/DATE: 130-3 p.m., Thur, Sep 10

DETAILS: Increase cultural unity and enjoy the company of others, while reading and discussing a wide variety of titles from different authors. Group meets once a month at the Senior Center.

Estate Planning with Karen Stewart

TIME/DATE: 2-4 p.m., Mon, Sep 14

DETAILS: Karen Stewart, Estate Planning Attorney and Counselor offers free consultations that help to insure a sense of safety and security for you while planning for the future. Free 30 minute, no obligation consultations will allow you to ask questions about probate, wills, trust, etc. Call 248.347.0414 to make an appointment.

Bookmobile

TIME/DATE: 10:30-11:30 a.m., Tue, Sep 15

DETAILS: Stimulate your brain! Great selections of literature are brought to the center for your convenience. Large print books are also available. A great way to continue learning!

"Parkinson's" - Harry and Nancy Knitter & Susan Thorpe

TIME/DATE: 1-2 p.m., Wed, Sep 16

DETAILS: What is this disease, its symptoms and treatment? How can we assist ourselves or others who have this problem? No charge

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(adjacent to Twelve Oaks Mall)

CONTACT: (248) 735-1500 or e-mail waltwoodtwelveoaks@sigmail.com

Open House

TIME/DATE: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., daily

DETAILS: Join us for tours and refreshments.

FOX RUN

LOCATION: 41000 W. 13 Mile Road

DETAILS: More than 800 people live at Fox Run in Novi, an Erickson full-service retirement community that combines a vibrant maintenance-free, active lifestyle with an ever-expanding host of amenities, social activities and wellness and medical centers.

School & Government

Novi City Council Meeting

TIME/DATE: 7 p.m., first and third Monday of month

LOCATION: Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road

CONTACT: (248) 347-0470

Novi Youth Assistance General Citizens Meeting

TIME/DATE: 6 p.m., first Tuesday of each month

LOCATION: Novi Civic Center, 45175 W. 10 Mile Road

CONTACT: (248) 347-0410

Ongoing

AMERICAN LEGION POST 19 MONTHLY MEETING

TIME/DATE: 7:30 p.m., third Tuesday every month

LOCATION: Rock Financial Center, East Entrance, 46100 Grand River Avenue

DETAILS: Comrades and fellow veterans, join our monthly meetings. Attendance is needed to grow our Post. If you are not a member, consider joining.

CONTACT: Commander Dennis Strikulis (248) 378-7841, dstrikulis@twm1.com or Service Officer Paul Erickson (248) 344-7193, pnerick@aol.com.

Book between September 10 - 24, 2009 for Incredible Savings!

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<p>Explorer of the Seas®</p> <p>8-Night Eastern Caribbean</p> <p>Departing from Cape Liberty, Bayonne, New Jersey</p> <p>November 21, 2009</p> <p>Prices starting from: *566*</p>	<p>Independence of the Seas®</p> <p>6-Night Western/Eastern Caribbean</p> <p>Departing from Ft. Lauderdale, Florida</p> <p>December 20, 2009</p> <p>Prices starting from: *660*</p>

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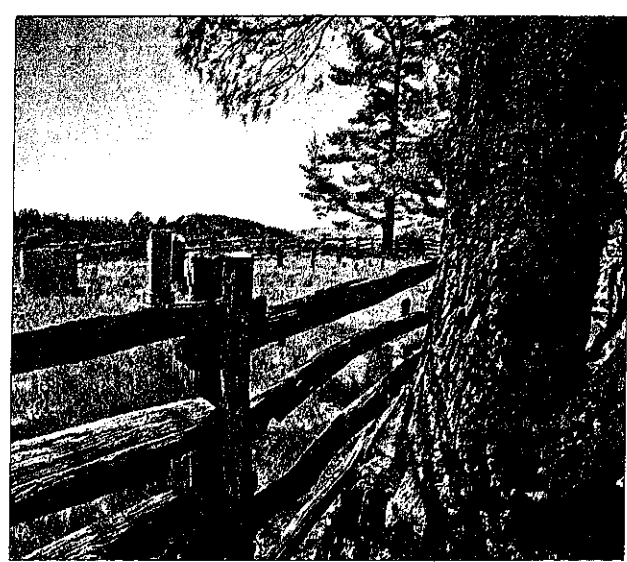
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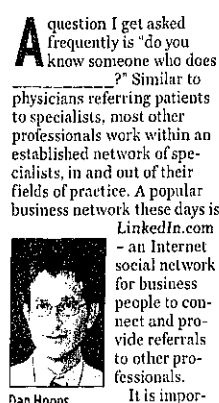


Camera Club exhibit

The Northville Art House and the Northville Camera Club are proud to present an exhibition highlighting photography with a Victorian twist. Also this month in the lower gallery, brought to you by the Art House Artists, is a collaboration of artists showing the diversity of talent at work at the Northville Art House. The exhibit will continue through Sept. 20 during the Art House Gallery hours (Thursdays-Sundays, 1-5 p.m.; First Fridays only, 1-9 p.m.). During Victorian Festival there will be extended hours to showcase this exhibit. The Art House will also be hosting Plain Air Artists who will be painting models dressed in Victorian attire in the Art House Gardens. Extended gallery and store hours are: Sept. 18, 1-5 p.m.; Sept. 19, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; and Sept. 20, noon-4 p.m. Artists will be painting outdoors on Saturday, Sept. 19, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. For additional information, call (248) 344-0497, or visit www.northvillearts.org. The Art House is located at 215 W. Cady Street and is a facility of the Northville Arts Commission. Admission to Art House shows is always free and open to the public.

Visit us online at hometownlife.com

The 'referral' networks



Dan Hoops

A question I get asked frequently is "do you know someone who does?" Similar to physicians referring patients to specialists, most other professionals work within an established network of specialists, in and out of their fields of practice. A popular business network these days is LinkedIn.com - an Internet social network for business people to connect and provide referrals to other professionals. It is important for professionals to know who they can trust to refer matters to and from whom to accept referrals. A professional without a good network of individuals that he or she has the highest level of confidence is at a major disadvantage in practicing their trade. This is the entire basis of these business referral networks, both on-line and with professional networking groups. For the most part, referrals from professionals (attorneys to accountants, financial advisors to attorneys) are absolutely necessary to maintain a professional practice. Most quality clients do not find professionals in the phone book. They are referred by the professional

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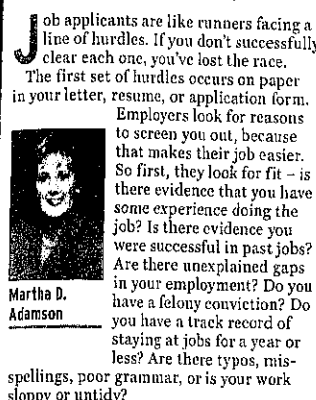
from someone who understands and appreciates the client's matter and "who is best for the job." In addition, most professionals prefer clients that are referred to them because these clients are "pre-screened" by the referral source. Blind phone calls or referrals by other clients are often treated as "hit or miss." You may ask yourself, "why am I being referred to this particular person?" Is someone being paid off because of this arrangement? Although some attorneys-to-attorney referrals can result in a "referral fee" being paid, the majority of referred legal matters are not handled with "referral fees." It is ethical in Michigan for an attorney to receive a referral fee under some circumstances. Referral fees, for example, are very common in matters involving personal injury and contingency fee lawsuits. Referral fees, however, are completely unethical in other states such as Colorado where such payments are considered "unearned fees" if the referring attorney has not performed any services. Cross-referral fees (e.g. insurance agent to attorney, attorney to financial advisor) are absolutely prohibited under the regulatory bodies that govern most professions (such as the AICPA that oversees public accountants or the Michigan Bar Association). If you are referred to a professional by another professional, I suggest you look for the following:

1. Is there a personal or only a professional relationship between the parties?
2. Can the referring party attest to this person's skills for the particular matter?
3. Was the referral by a formal introduction or simply a "mention my name?"
4. If any problems should arise with the referred professional, will you be able to call the referring professional to discuss those problems immediately?
5. If there is a serious problem with the matter, will the referring professional assist you or "cover for the referred professional?"

If the relationship between the professionals is purely personal, it is advisable to seek other names in the event the relationship runs sour. In many instances, it is highly recommended that a professional provide clients with the names of two to three professionals and allow the client to "interview" the candidate so they may hire the person with whom they feel most comfortable. (This is also advisable for the professional to avoid or limit any claims that could be made if the referral commits malpractice and the professional is sued for making a negligent referral). Finally, something that my father often discussed with us regarding referrals. If the referral does a lousy job and doesn't realize and rectify it, they need to understand that they're cut off the list. The reason being, any referral is a reflection of the professional making the referral. If the referral does a poor job, the person introducing the client to the professional has likewise done a poor job. Without trust in others, you can't have trust in yourself.

Daniel S. Hoops is an associate professor at Walsh Business College teaching undergraduate and graduate courses in the Business Law and Taxation Department. Hoops holds a master of laws degree in estate planning from the University of Miami School of Law, a juris doctor degree from the Michigan State University Detroit College of Law and a bachelor of musical arts degree from the University of Michigan. Hoops is a 1987 graduate of Novi High School. He can be reached at High College at (248) 323-1334 or dhoops@walshcollege.edu.

Are you getting screened out of job opportunities?



Martha D. Adamson

Job applicants are like runners facing a line of hurdles. If you don't successfully clear each one, you've lost the race. The first set of hurdles occurs on paper in your letter, resume, or application form. Employers look for reasons to screen you out, because that makes their job easier. So first, they look for fit - is there evidence that you have some experience doing the job? Is there evidence you were successful in past jobs? Are there unexplained gaps in your employment? Do you have a felony conviction? Do you have a track record of staying at jobs for a year or less? Are there typos, misspellings, poor grammar, or is your work sloppy or untidy?

The next set of hurdles may be with your e-mail or Internet search of your name. Is your e-mail address controversial or offensive? Is your e-mail message sloppy or full of misspellings and errors? If the employer does an Internet search of your name, or goes to

YOUR NEXT JOB

Facebook or another social networking site, will they find personal information that is controversial, unflattering or contradicts what you've said in your resume or application? If you have a phone conversation with the employer, do you appear to be unprepared, unsure of yourself, too nervous? Do you talk too loud, too soft, too quickly, too slowly? Do you sound unmotivated, uninterested, arrogant or angry? Are you rude or unprofessional? Are you eating, chewing gum, smoking or drinking or working on the computer during the call? Do you have an inappropriate or controversial voice mail message, or no way to leave a voice mail? At the in-person interview, do you arrive late? Look sloppy, too casual, too dressy or otherwise unprofessional? Does your appearance or personality seem a mismatch with the organization's and does it differ from what they expected based on your resume or previous conversation? Are you discourteous and disrespectful with anyone? Do you fail

to demonstrate interest in and knowledge of the organization and the job? Do you have distracting nervous habits? Do you speak negatively of past employers or coworkers? Are you unable to talk knowledgeably about your past work or the job you are applying for? Do you talk too much or too little during the interview? Do you fail to sell your skills and knowledge confidently and enthusiastically?

Finally, when checking your references, are they unable to talk knowledgeably about your recent activities and your ability to do the new job? Do they speak too carefully or say little about you as if they are hiding something? Do they share information about problems or concerns about you? Does the reference say inappropriate or rude things to the employer?

Wow! Such a long list of potential problems, but all of them can trip you up. Your job search success depends on managing all of these factors, though. Your paper trail, your interactions with people, your Internet trail all have to be carefully controlled and constantly monitored to make it to the finish line.

Martha D. Adamson is a consulting professional with a diverse background in Human Resource Management and Career Development. She is a Certified Career Development Facilitator, a Certified Career & Job Search Coach, and a Certified Professional Resume Writer. She is the co-author of Job Search Navigator, a workbook-style guide to assessing yourself and managing your job search (www.jobsearchnavigator.com) which was first published in 1999 by Prentice-Hall and revised and republished by Success Press in 2005. From 1993 to 1996, she authored a monthly column "Your Job Search" in the Saratoga Springs, N.Y. newspaper - The Saratogian.

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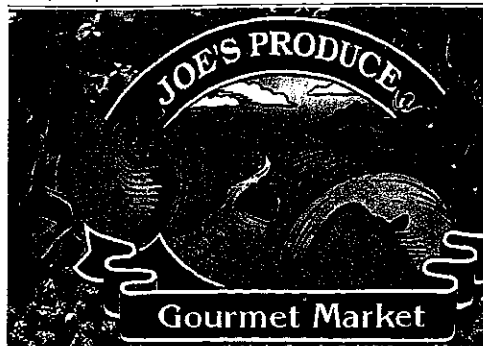
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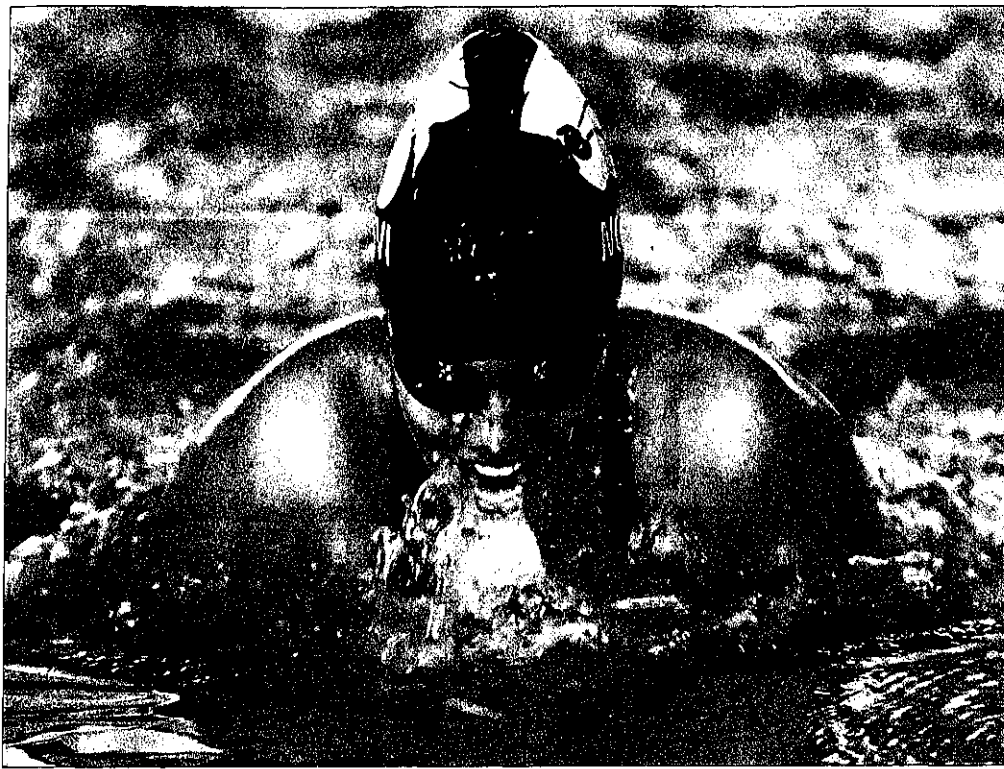
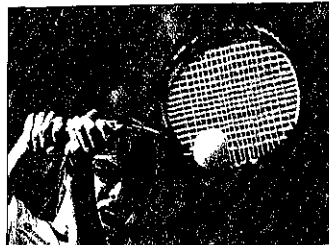
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PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Novi's Meredith Cote swims the breaststroke.

Novi tankers' youth shines in loss

■ Marian tops Wildcats 115-71

Although the contest was held in the water, it was a contest of inches in several events as Novi's girl's swim and dive team lost to Bloomfield Hills Marian 115-71 last Wednesday.

The point difference may suggest Marian (2-0) was largely in control, but the Wildcats (0-1) gave the two-time defending Division 3 state-champion Mustangs a tough time behind impressive swims from freshmen Andrea VanderMey, Maranda Buha and junior Becca Berman.

Novi took first place in the first event, the 200-yard medley relay Marian was favored to win. VanderMey, senior Meredith Cote, Berman and Buha finished in one minute and 51.89 seconds, edging out Marian's 1:52.62.

"That was the second fastest time we've ever done, behind last year's All-American time (1:49.25)," said coach Scott Teeters.

Although Novi started off on the right note, Marian earned enough points by taking second and third in the race to keep Novi's early lead close at 8-6.

"Marian doesn't race kids that don't swim year round and we don't have that luxury," Teeters said. "It was a tough meet. They were Division 3 state champs and moved up to Division 1 to get better competition."



Wildcat Abby Glenn.

Marian took first, third and fourth in the next race, the 200 freestyle, and never looked back after taking a 17-13 lead. Cote and freshman Kelsey Shurmur nearly took first and fourth though, falling just 0.06 and 0.16 seconds behind Marian's swimmers in those positions.

"We lost what seemed like every close race. We had a lot of kids with lifetime bests," Teeters said. "We lost 10-12 races by touches, by less than 20 (hundredths) of a second. We just need to learn how to close out our races."

Although Novi lost the meet by a similar score to last year's 120.5-65.5 loss, the Wildcats have plenty to be optimistic about.

After losing 12 graduates, Novi relied on several freshmen to fill

in the vacant roles, a task many did with flying colors. The meet score was closer than last season despite the team's youth and - for the first meet of the season, which also served as the first dual meet of many young swimmers' careers - the Wildcats saw their leaders of tomorrow taking the reins early.

VanderMey took first in the 200-yard individual medley in 2:13.63 and second in the 100-yard backstroke in 59.62, just 0.09 seconds behind the winner.

Buha and freshman Kara Berg took second and third in the 500-yard freestyle in 25.59 and 26.04 seconds, respectively. Buha and Berg also took second and fourth, respectively, in the 100-yard freestyle in 55.93 and 57.75 seconds.

Novi's 200-yard freestyle relay

ON TAP

The Wildcats now look ahead to Saturday's Laker Invitational 1 p.m. at West Bloomfield High School, where Novi will defend their 2008 title against West Bloomfield, Bloomfield Hills Lahser, Farmington, North Farmington and Farmington Hills Harrison.

team consisted of junior Madalyn Buha and freshmen, Shurmur, Berg and Maranda Buha. The quartet took second in the 200-yard freestyle relay in 1:45.91.

Although Novi's youngest swimmers showed a lot of promise, some of the most experienced members also did well. Cote took second in the 100-yard breaststroke in 1:12.05 and teamed up with VanderMey, Shurmur and Berman to take second in the 400-yard freestyle relay in 3:50.02.

Berman also had an excellent individual showing, taking first place in two events, the 100-yard butterfly (59.77 seconds) and 500-yard freestyle (6:11.93).

"Rebecca Berman was excellent. To go 0:59 and 6:11, those are great swims," Teeters said. "(Marian) going one, two, three in diving, that obviously killed us. We have to step up for dual meets."

For full meet results, visit www.noviswim.com.

Chris Jackett is a freelance writer and former Novi News staff writer.

Tough as Diamond

■ Penalties, run game hurt Novi for a 20-6 loss in its 400th varsity game

The Novi Wildcats dropped to 0-2 after a disappointing 20-6 loss to Walled Lake Central (2-0). Unable to contain the Vikings' running game or counter their defensive adjustments, Novi is left on the outside, still looking for their first win of the season going into the third week.

Novi came out of the gate with energy Thursday night, geared up for their home opener, which served as the school's 400th varsity game since 1965 and Tab Kellepourey's 100th as Wildcats head coach since taking the reins in 2000.

The team's energy took a hit immediately as the Wildcats were penalized five yards for illegal procedure before they could complete their first play. One play later, Novi was penalized for a substitution infraction.

A big gain from RB Mike Brant followed, as the junior took a 39-yard run up the right side to the Vikings' 48-yard line.

Later that drive, on fourth and eight, senior QB Brandon Rydzewski completed an 18-yard pass to senior WR Justin Hopton on the left side of the end zone. The touchdown was called back however, as Hopton was called for pass interference as he pushed away from his Viking defender. Without the score, the Wildcats turned the ball over on downs after spending nearly six minutes on a 48-yard, 12-play drive.

"It was a very good call by the officials. That penalty was costly in terms of that. The penalties are the mistakes that can be corrected, that need to be corrected," Kellepourey said. "We have to improve the areas we have control over, which are mistakes and penalties."

The next three offensive series of the games were defensive showcases, as WLC's first two drives and Novi's second

Please see FOOTBALL, B4

ON TAP

Novi will look to get its first victory of the season on the road next week against a young South Lyon East team looking to avenge a 55-6 Week 2 loss at Hartland. The Wildcats travel down 10 Mile Road for a 7 p.m. Sept. 11 kickoff against the Cougars (0-2). Novi needs to go at least 6-1 to close out the season at 6-3 or 7-2 if the Wildcats hope to make the playoffs this season.

"Hartland has a really good team. South Lyon East really has been improved from last season. All their juniors are now seniors with experience," Kellepourey said. "Unfortunately for South Lyon East is they are really about 1,000 kids to our 1,900 kids. They can compete, but it'll take some greatness to do so." Novi's next home game is the TasteFest black-out game 7 p.m. Sept. 18 against Plymouth Salem. Patrons are encouraged to wear black clothing to the game.

Wildcats upend Edsel Ford

■ Novi field hockey defeats top team from higher division

Novi's field hockey program has made some great strides in its second season, a statement showcased as the Wildcats defeated Edsel Ford 2-0 Thursday.

With sun beating down on the girls at Novi's home grass, the top Division 4 team dictated pace for most of the game in defeating the top Division 3 team.

"We knew we needed to step up our game," said senior Amanda Pastoor. "I think the other team underestimated how we were going to do because we're a newer team."

Despite controlling the game's momentum and having several penalty corner hit opportunities, Novi couldn't get on the scoreboard.

After a timeout with about nine minutes remaining, junior Nikki Greenhalgh carried the ball upfield and passed it into the middle for a shot that beat the goalkeeper with a nutmeg, but was cleared away just in front of the goal line by a defender.

Failing to ease up, Novi earned a penalty corner

ON TAP

After opening Division 4 play at Regina last night, the Wildcats will travel to Ann Arbor today for a real test against Division 1 state champions Ann Arbor Pioneer. Novi then travels to Division 2 Ladywood in Livonia Monday. Both matches start at 4:30 p.m.

hit with about seven minutes left. Senior Trinity Louis received the ball at the top of the goal arch and slapped it in toward the goal, but a deflection caused it to skip toward the left of the net where sophomore Natalie Paul waited, hitting it in for the 1-0 lead.

"We played really hard and really as a team. We really just played 'til the end," Louis said. "I think we did really awesome. Even when times got rough, we played it out. We really just went it to win."

Novi's defense held up their end of the deal, keeping the Thunderbirds (0-3) off the board in the closing minutes.

"Right back Katlyn Shelar had an outstanding game," said coach Amy Kilgore. "Katie Safford registered her first shutout of the year."

With Edsel Ford pressuring on offense, Greenhalgh

Please see WILDCATS, B3



Novi's #6 in varsity field hockey.

JOHN HEIDER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Shamrocks smother West Bloomfield

■ 6-2 win keeps CC's No. 1 ranking intact

Detroit Catholic Central's tennis team is working hard to prove they earned their No. 1 ranking in the state of Michigan.

Their latest showcase of talent was during a dual meet against No. 9 ranked West Bloomfield, a team the Shamrocks smothered on their way to a 6-2 victory.

"I was really proud of the way we competed today," said head coach Joe Stafford.

ON TAP

The Shamrocks were slated to take on Ann Arbor Huron on Tuesday, which is after the sports pages go to press, and will compete in the Catholic League tournament at Brother Rice at 8 a.m. Saturday. The Catholic Central netters will then be on the road Tuesday, visiting Saline at 4:30 p.m.

"Everyone came to play right from the first point. I see a lot of improvement in our guys of late and our doubles are getting better."

The Shamrocks earned victories at first, third and fourth

singles as well as second, third and fourth doubles.

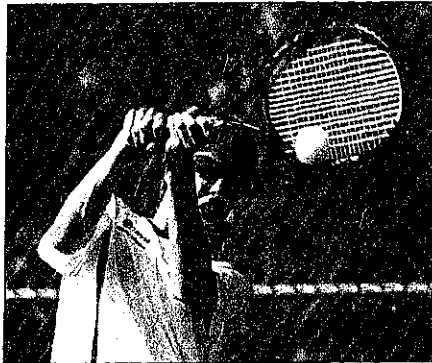
Joe Dube, Catholic Central's first singles all-star, earned a 6-2, 6-3 victory over West Bloomfield's Peter Rothstein to lead the way for the Shamrocks. Eric Guindi, who played a third singles for Catholic Central, swept Jordan Asker in a 6-0, 6-0 showing. At fourth singles, Willy Wilson defeated Jake Singer, 6-1, 6-0.

The doubles squads for the Shamrocks were just as convincing as the second doubles team of Brandon Kosinski and Zach Wisniewski defeated West Bloomfield's Matt Howell and Josh Dean, 6-3, 6-1. The third doubles team of Nick Petrucci and Robbie Guindi

dominated their foes, sweeping Jacob Sables and Stephan Hutecker, 6-0, 6-0, on their way to victory. The fourth doubles duo of Patrick Bowers and Ryan DeLacy defeated Daniel Portrey and Zach Lederman, 6-1, 6-0, in a convincing showcase of talent.

"West Bloomfield has a great tennis program," said Stafford. "We needed to be at our best to compete with them."

The only losses for the Shamrocks came at second singles and first doubles. Catholic Central's Kevin Hodges had his hands full with West Bloomfield's Andrew Cabn and fell, 6-0, 6-3. At first doubles, Shamrocks Yang Tae Kim and Derek Mumaw lost to



Catholic Central's No. 2-ranked player Kevin Hodges fights off a shot in his Sept. 1 tennis match at the Novi campus.

Ben Ellender and Eric Wu in a closely contested match, 6-4, 6-3.

Sam Eggleston is a freelance writer and former staff sports writer for the Northville Record and Novi News.

WILDCATS

FROM PAGE B1

got the ball with two minutes left and broke away up the right side to the end line before crossing it through the goal mouth to Pastor on the back left post, who scored on the play.

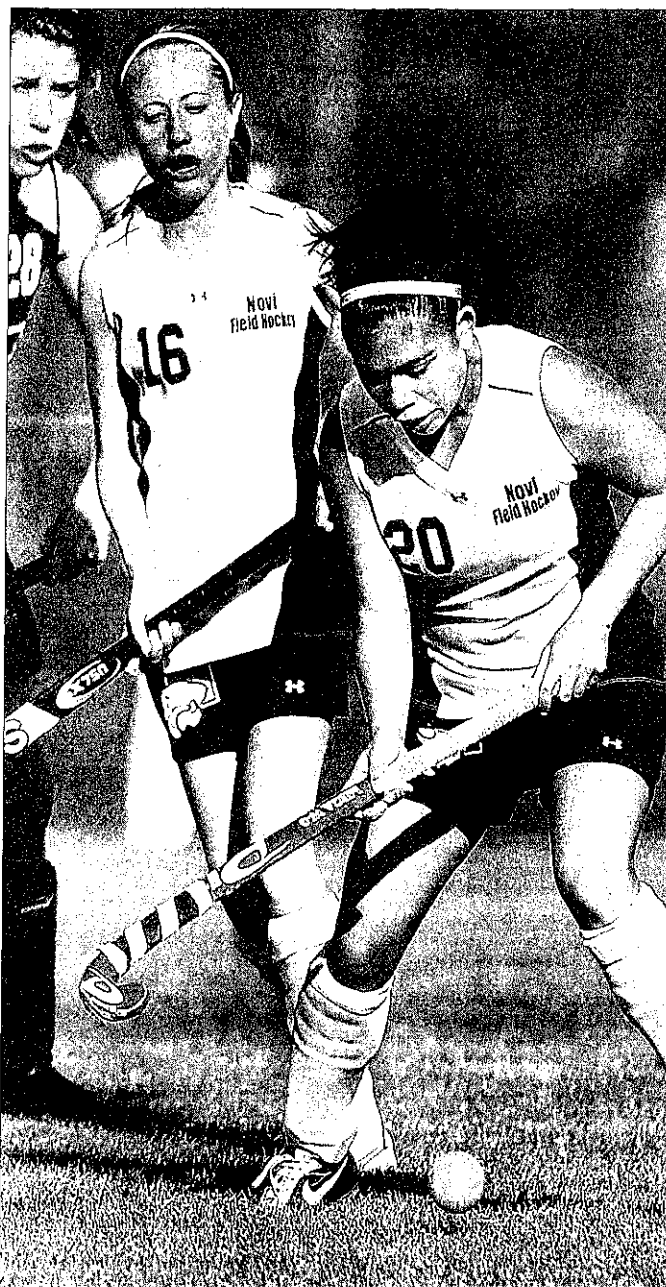
"After our first goal, we just kept going," Pastor said. "Nikki hit it to me and I tipped it in."

The victory put the Wildcats' record at 2-1-0, all against Division 3 opponents.

"It was very exciting. I feel like they did a great job, they really communicated. They moved the ball quickly and that was a good (accomplished goal of ours)," Kilgore said. "I hope to see the girls continue to try and improve (as a second-year team)."

"I expect that we'll keep trying hard and to improve. I just hope everyone has fun," Louis said.

Novi should expect a strong cure of junior varsity players to make the move to varsity in the next few seasons too, as the JV team defeated Edsel Ford 2-0 Tuesday.



GROSSE POINTE NORTH

Novi's varsity field squad earned their first victory of the season Sept. 1 against Grosse Pointe North (0-2) in a 1-0 contest.

Sophomore Natalie Paul scored with less than one minute remaining in the first half. Senior Trinity Louis assisted.

Novi kept the pressure on in the second half, but could not add to the lead. Team volunteer Tom Pollard said.

Senior Sam Johnston earned the shutout in goal, her first of the season, while Louis, senior Katlyn Shehar, junior Tia Farnon and sophomore Lauren Pollard anchored the defense.

Chris Jackett is a freelance writer and former staff writer for the Novi News.

Novi High School varsity field hockey at home on Sept. 4.

CC soccer boys earn victory, tie

It was a good week of soccer for the Catholic Central Shamrocks as they headed into Labor Day weekend last week.

The squad, coached by Joe Nora, earned a shutout victory over Notre Dame Prep and a tie against a strong Brother Rice squad.

"As our team improves throughout the season, we'll be able to sustain our style of play for a full game," said Nora. "It's very early still and I'm pleased with how our players are working and growing as a team."

Against Brother Rice last Friday, the Shamrocks earned a 0-0 tie against their Catholic League rivals.

While the Catholic Central offense created several chances for itself, they weren't able to find a way to get past the Warriors' goalkeeper. The same went for Brother Rice's offense, earning themselves some strong opportunities, only to be stonewalled by Shamrock goalie Alex Lang, who made six

ON TAP

The Shamrocks will be back on the pitch today at 7 p.m. when they visit the University of Detroit High School before hosting Detroit Country Day at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday.

How wasn't a problem two days prior when the Shamrocks dominated every facet of their game against Notre Dame Prep, earning a 9-0 shutout victory.

Josh Gatt and Ryan Majsek earned two goals each in the victory, while Jon Malackie, Brandon Hess, Billy Riga, Wes Harding and Brian Treanor each added one.

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Advertorial

TEE TIME

Your local golf guide

Should golfers with a USGA index post a score from an unrated tee?

By Doug Hendershot

With nearly 900 Golf Courses in Michigan, there is certainly a wide range of USGA golf course ratings to select from. The Golf Association of Michigan has the sole responsibility to rate golf courses throughout the entire State, including the Upper Peninsula and parts of Canada. The G.A.M. Staff, working with golf course management, agree on the number of tees to be rated by the course rating team. The rating team will rate tees for both Men and Women players. It is important to note, a tee that measures 3600 yards, will have a different USGA Course Rating and Slope for women vs. men from that same yardage.

Men and women playing from the same set of tees will have different ratings. Because the women's USGA Course Rating usually will be higher, women receive additional strokes equal to the difference between ratings, with 5 or greater rounded up. This is good reason to determine the proper number of tees needing a rate (more details on this matter later).

At this time I would like to touch upon situations when a course rating may not be available for a set of tees. This could be a case of a newly constructed set of tees, or tees not rated in the past, simply too long or short and were not available to men or women to play from previously.

The USGA has a very specific set of guidelines to cover requests to rate an unrated set of tees on a Rated Golf Course. Authorized golf associations issue a USGA Course Rating and Slope for the most commonly played sets of tees.

If a USGA Course Rating and Slope Rating from a selected set of tees is not available for the appropriate gender, the player may apply the following procedure on a temporary basis.

- Locate the nearest set of tees for the appropriate gender.
- Determine the yardage difference between the set of tees being played and the rated set of tees.
- Using the table found at usga.org, under the Handicapping tab, Section 5, Scores, find the ratings adjustments from unrated tees for Men and Women. Follow the directions found in the Key, next to these tables.

This method may be used if a player plays a combination of tees. The player first determines the total yardage played then applies the above procedure.

If the Committee in charge of a competition has a set of tees for a competition course, this procedure may be used. This procedure is not a substitute for a formal USGA Course Rating and Slope Rating.

So now that we know how to make the proper adjustments to post from unrated tees, let's not forget that this should only be used on a temporary basis. How do we get this new favorite tee rated, on a permanent basis? The answer to that question is really up to players, and local course management, with the help of the G.A.M.

G.A.M. receives many requests to rate additional sets of tees. These requests generally come from the Pro, or Superintendent, and can be based on the fact that players show an interest in trying a new look at their course. This is provided by playing their course at a new yardage, or even the popular combination of tees, using a blend of tees, that have different yardages. These are called combo tees.

G.A.M. rates courses a minimum of every ten years. This is necessary to keep a golf course current with the licensing standards set by the USGA.

Data sets of tees can be rated at this time, providing that the G.A.M. has the new tees on their schedule. The G.A.M. can also rate new tees and revamped tees at any time providing the request comes from local golf course management and is properly scheduled.

Doug Hendershot is the Director of Course Rating for the Golf Association of Michigan.

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PHOTOS BY MIKE HOGAN

(From left) Trainer Terry Poirier, Trainer Lisa Ryan, Trainer Charles Lacasse and Owner Boo Sadikot. Not pictured: Trainers Ken Jung and Brita Crawford.

BY MIKE HOGAN
SPECIAL WRITER

How do you measure your level of fitness? Do you measure your weight, your body fat percentage or your blood pressure, by how fast you can run a mile, or simply by how you look or feel? Whatever your definition of fitness, the professionals at Fitness Together and Elements Therapeutic Massage in Novi can help you reach your fitness goals by using a simple formula: one client, one trainer and one goal.

One-on-one Goals

Fitness Together is the industry's leader in one-on-one personal training. In addition to a personal trainer and a private training suite, clients receive a tailored workout routine and personalized nutritional advice from skilled coaches. Through resistance training, proper nutrition guidelines and a customized cardiovascular routine, clients are given all the tools and motivation needed to reach their fitness goals.

Fitness Together

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The Elements Therapeutic Massage Experience

While Fitness Together will motivate you to better yourself through exercise, Elements Therapeutic Massage will heal your body and soul on another level.

Massage therapy can provide relief to people of all ages and from all walks of life. It can address a variety of health conditions. The most prevalent of these conditions is stress-related tension, but massage can help with a number of conditions.

Therapeutic massage has proven beneficial for clients with autism, age-related disorders, eating disorders, sleep disorders, high blood pressure, diabetes, lower back pain, spinal cord injury, depression and more.

The Benefits of Massage

Elements Therapeutic Massage uses a number of massage techniques that allow the body to heal itself naturally. The approach is non-invasive and completely drug-free.

Massage helps by increasing circulation, which allows the body to pump more oxygen and nutrients into tissues and vital organs. Massage also stimulates the lymph system, which protects the body from toxic invaders.

Massage can also reduce spasms and cramping, increase joint flexibility, and even relieve pain for migraine sufferers.

Right now, potential clients of Elements Therapeutic Massage can receive a special bonus offer by sending the text 'ETM Novi' to 91924.

Get Results

Between Fitness Together and Elements Therapeutic Massage, Owner Boo Sadikot has been surrounded by great change. He says his customers remained focused on living healthier lives.

"We're so grateful that even through this tough economy, customers have remained so loyal," Sadikot said. "They truly are dedicated to their health and fitness goals."

"We're going to change how you move, change how you eat, change how you look and change how you feel."

— Boo Sadikot,
Fitness Together &
Elements Massage owner

Real Change

Fitness Together is many things, but it is not a gimmick. Gimmicks offer temporary results, but Owner Boo Sadikot of Fitness Together in Novi promises to change the way you live.

"We're going to change how you move, change how you eat, change how you look and change how you feel," Sadikot said.

For more than 20 years, Fitness Together has helped hundreds of thousands of clients around the world. Within their personal training studios, the Fitness Together staff can help men and women from ages 12 to 95 live a healthier life.

"Fitness Together is the gift I give myself," said client Peggy Shinkel, who was hard at work in the studio after a vacation. "This is not easy, but I feel great."

Elements
Therapeutic Massage
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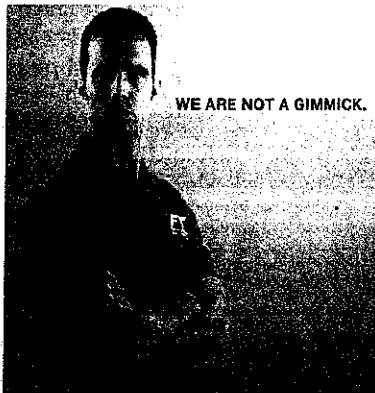
Elements Therapeutic Massage in Novi exudes a calm, healthy atmosphere.

New Location

This month, Fitness Together in Novi is moving to a brand new location at 24276 Novi Road in the Vantage Pointe Center. To mark the occasion, the staff will hold a special move-in celebration and open house Sept. 10 from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Visitors will be treated to food, drinks and body composition testing and nutritional information. There will also be drawings for prizes and complimentary chair massages.

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