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NOVI NEWS

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Soul-moving music

St. Catherine of Siena Academy will present Eric Genius in concert from 7-9 tonight.

The school is located at 28200 Napier Road, Wixom.

This is a free will event; donations will be accepted.

Genius travels the world, presenting concerts which showcase his much-celebrated, original compositions. Genius has produced four CDs of his original work and is currently writing a Broadway musical.

Please RSVP to johnston@saintcatherinesacademy.org or (248) 946-4858.



Genius

Lego League

Novi First Lego League is having a qualifying tournament on from 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 20 at Novi Middle School (11 Mile and Wixom roads). There will be 26 teams from the tri-county area participating. The teams consist of 9-14 year olds. This event, free to the public is hosted by Frog Force, team 503. Its website is www.frogforce503.org.

Retirement living

Erickson Living, the manager of Fox Run in Novi, from 1-3 p.m. today is leveraging one of the world's largest social networking and microblogging services (Twitter) to join in a conversation with the adult children of seniors who are looking for important information about retirement living for their parents.

Anyone planning on joining this discussion has the option of submitting their questions in advance at @ddunne1.

Two teens arrested in gun incidents

Novi police continue to investigate, identify additional suspects

By Nathan Mueller
Staff Writer

Two teenagers were arrested and other suspects are still being investigated by Novi police following a pair of gun-related incidents Saturday afternoon at the Pavilion Court Apartments and Twelve Oaks Mall.

Mashal Franchot Thomas, 17, and Mario Atlanta Williams, 18, were both arrested Saturday and arraigned Monday afternoon. Thomas is facing a felony charge of carrying a concealed weapon and misdemeanor charges of brandishing a firearm in public and reckless use of a firearm, while Williams faces a felony charge of carrying a concealed weapon. The felony charges are punishable by five years in prison and/or a \$2,500 fine. According to Novi Deputy

Police Chief Tom Lindberg, police were called to the apartment complex at Nine Mile and Haggerty roads around 3 p.m. Saturday on a report of shots fired. When they arrived, Williams and Thomas were not at the scene, but witnesses said Thomas fired his gun into the air during a conflict with about five people. Police did recover



Thomas



Williams

er 9mm bullet casings at the scene. While officers were finishing their investigation, dispatch received several calls about a fight between eight people in the upper level area of Macy's at Twelve Oaks Mall, and one of the men, Williams, had a gun in his belt. According to Lindberg, witnesses said he never pulled the gun out and shots were never fired.

Please see TEENS, A2

Mayor Gatt



City of Novi Director of Communications Sheryl Walsh pins a flower on the lapel of Mayor-elect Bob Gatt before his official swearing-in during the Nov. 14 city council meeting. Gatt, whose wife, Susie, is seen in the middle, won the Nov. 8 election and succeeds David Landry.

Man's best friend

Flower shop dog Sammy remembered in hearts of many

By Nathan Mueller
Staff Writer

Golden retrievers are, by nature, friendly dogs.

But Donna and Larry Podpora's golden retriever, Sammy, took friendliness to a whole new level. Sammy, who was with the Podporas since he

was six weeks old, including while they worked at their Novi flower shop, died Nov. 6 at the age of 9 years.

A sandwich board sign outside of Donna and Larry's Flowers on Novi Road pays tribute to the dog who endeared himself to many customers

over the years. Since his death, many people have stopped in to give the Podporas a hug and write about Sammy in a memory book.

"He loved his customers because they were like his friends," Larry said.

Please see SAMMY, A2

Veterans get needed help from court

Program focuses on keeping service members out of jail

By Nathan Mueller
Staff Writer

Kurt Mosher and 10 other military veterans no longer have to walk around feeling sorry for themselves.

They are now graduates. And not graduates of school or boot camp, but of a program that has helped them put their lives back together — the S2-1 District Court Veterans Court.

"If I had done this when I was 20, I would have been a lot smarter man," Mosher said of his experience. "It got me the help I needed."

The Veterans Court, started by S2-1 District Court Judge Bri-

an MacKenzie in 2009, aims to keep veterans out of jail for nonviolent offenses by entering them in a specialized program that also includes the help of the Veterans Administration.

The court held its graduation ceremony Nov. 7 at the Novi Civic Center, recognizing 11 men for completing the program.

MacKenzie said many of the veterans are combat veterans who have come back from military service with "invisible wounds" such as post traumatic stress disorder, a traumatic brain injury or oth-

Please see COURT, A2



Probation Officer Mike McGlown shakes hands with Vietnam veteran Kurt Mosher at the Veterans Court graduation ceremony on Nov. 7 at the Novi Civic Center.

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PLYMOUTH CANTON NORTHVILLE NOVI



JOHN HEIDER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Donna and Larry Podgora pictured with their well-known flower shop dog Sammy, who died Nov. 6 at the age of 9 after a bout with cancer.

SAMMY

Continued from page A1
ry said. "He immediately just took to people. And when he put his head on their laps, you could see their heart just melt." Sammy had been a staple at the flower shop since he was a puppy and made it a point to greet customers at the door when they entered and walk them out when they left. Larry said he also was able to recognize people's voices when they came to the store, and he could tell if they needed cheering up.
"He was able to dry some tears and put smiles on faces," Larry said. Alan Brewer and his wife, Sally, wrote in the memory book, "God has used you to show us how to love, give and be happy and thankful for what we have." Alan said Sammy was one of those once-in-a-lifetime animals like Lassie and Benji.
"Sammy just seemed to have the ability to sense people and he would bring joy and happiness to them," Alan said. "He was like an angel from

heaven."
Mary Beth Dawson used to bring Sammy treats on her visit to the flower shop. Every time she showed up, Sammy put his head in her purse looking for more.
"I'm going to miss him," she said. "He was awesome. A perfect flower shop dog, just an angel."
Bill Ward, a package carrier in the area, has come across many dogs in his line of work, but none like Sammy. He said Sammy would have been his favorite if he didn't have a dog of his own.
"Sammy was one of the best dogs you could ever meet, and he is going to be missed," he said. Sammy's toys are still piled up in the store, and the Podgoras are asking people to stop in and write their favorite memory in his book.
Donna said going to work every day feels more like a job now without Sammy there.
"It's like something is missing, and we know it's him," she said.
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COURT

Continued from page A1

er ailment related to the brain and they self-medicate in the form of alcohol or drugs. That then often leads to criminal problems.

The court helps them cope with their problems and get help from a support network of other veterans who become mentors.

"The result is we are able to do really amazing things in terms of two very important things," MacKenzie said. "One, we make sure the community is safe. And two, we get these individuals who volunteer for their country back to being the people they were when they volunteered."

Moshier, who served in Vietnam, said if he didn't get help from the court he would still be "angry and full of rage."
"Now I am much more peaceful and much more calm," he said, noting that he has started mentoring kids and is volunteering with the Veterans Court.

The Veterans Court has admitted 41 veterans into the program, graduating 17 with only four failures. Also, no one who has graduated from the program has been re-arrested.
Dean Hayden, a former U.S. Marine who was arrested for drunken driving, said initially he was reluctant about the program, but found it has given him "the opportunity to get my life back."

Hayden said he was able to get benefits from the VA he didn't know he had, and has a different outlook on life.
"Personally, I think I would still be drinking," he said. "I would have ended up repeating what



PHOTOS BY CAL STONE
Probation officer Michael McGlown speaks at the Veterans Court graduation held Nov. 7 at the Novi Civic Center. The court aims to keep veterans out of jail for nonviolent offenses through a supervised counseling and mentor program.



Probation officer Mike McGlown shakes hands with U.S. Marine veteran Dean Hayden at the Veterans Court graduation ceremony Nov. 7 at the Novi Civic Center.

I did."
MacKenzie said they rolled out the Veterans Court slowly at first to be able to handle any issues, but now they're taking all

the veterans that come to court.
"It's a wonderful feeling," he said of seeing the veterans graduate. "At the Monday night graduation,

you couldn't be human if you didn't feel what was going on in that room."
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TEENS

Continued from page A1

Police arrived in time to stop the car Williams was riding in on the Ring Road outside the mall and take him into custody. During that time, police put out an alert for Thomas, and he was found by Inkster Police at a business in that city. He was then turned over to Novi.
Lindberg said the people involved had a relationship of some sort, but police are still trying to figure out what triggered the altercations.

"We have further investigation that is ongoing as we speak for some of the others involved," he said Tuesday afternoon.

Anyone with additional information is asked to call the Novi Police Department at (248) 348-7100.

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Novi mom creates new look flashcards

You'll Flip cards are content driven, durable

By Nathan Mueller
Staff Writer

The flash cards were piling up and Jackie Stassinopoulos felt like she was always playing catch-up when it came to helping her two sons prepare for school.

And then one day an idea came to her. She still was going to use flash cards, but wanted to cre-

ate them in a way that would correlate directly with what her sons were learning in school and be able to withstand considerable wear and tear.

It was then that You'll Flip flashcards were formed, and Stassinopoulos' life has been forever changed.

"It hit me that I was not the only parent suffering like this," she said. "And I



PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
"You'll Flip" flashcard book creator Jackie Stassinopoulos sits down in her Novi home with her kids Peter, 7, Jonathan, 6, and husband John as the kids pour over some of her academic skills-building products.

thought if I'm struggling and can help others, that's great. It has helped me tremendously."

The Novi mother met with teachers and curriculum consultants to design the cards that are currently available for kindergarten through fourth graders. The flashcards cover everything from number recognition and colors for young chil-

dren to contraction and subtraction and homophones, multiplication, division and geometry for older students.

Stassinopoulos said she has one child who is a very visual learner and another who understands things from the get-go; the cards have been well-

received by them.
"I love the fact they are eager to do them," she said.

Jamie Young, a mother of a Deerfield Elementary student, said she was in the same boat as Stassinopoulos when it came to flash cards, and since purchasing the cards it has made review-

DETAILS

For more information or to order a You'll Flip, visit www.youllflipbooks.com or call (248) 635-4547.

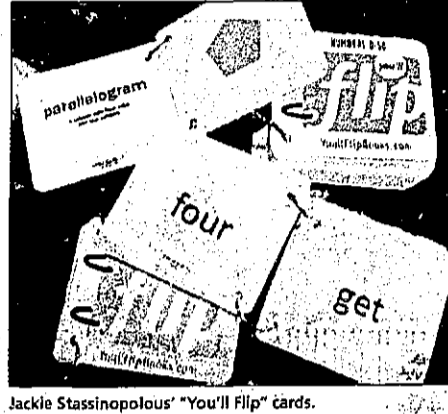
ing school work easier. Her son uses the cards on the football field, in the car and at the dinner table.

"It's fun to him because of the cards," she said. "He can use the dry erase pen and do it on his own, and he's much more receptive to doing these flash cards as opposed to the homemade ones."

"It just has made things so much easier for me and him."
Stassinopoulos is working on creating flash cards for grades fifth through eighth, and also plans to make them in different languages.

A portion of the proceeds from the cards will go toward supplying underprivileged schools with You'll Flips, and parents also can donate them back to their schools when done with them.

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Jackie Stassinopoulos' "You'll Flip" cards.

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Prepare for the future by focusing on the present

By Steve Matthews
Guest Columnist



Steve Matthews

In 1975, I was a sophomore in college and I remember sitting in my friend's dorm room while he showed me his latest gadget — a cassette tape recorder and player. He said it was the wave of the future, and I, who owned the ever-reliable eight-track tape recorder and player, told him he was crazy. I knew cassettes would never take over the world.

In 1977, Ken Olson, one of the co-founders of Digital Equipment, said, in an off-handed sort of way, "There is no reason anyone would want a computer in their home." While it is assumed he was talking about the big, clunky computers available in 1977, it is interesting to look back now and see that if he was predicting the future his power of prediction was quite limited.

Those of us who look ahead now and worry about the future wish we could know what will happen, but unfortunately, we don't quite know what to make of the future.

I was reading a book recently and I stumbled upon this quote: "The trouble with our times is that the future is not what

it used to be." I am not sure the future was ever very certain but it does seem that today things are changing very quickly. And that worries me. I worry because I am responsible for making sure the students in our care are prepared for the world in which they will live. I worry because I want to make sure we are doing the right things in our district to prepare our students for the future.

How is the world changing? In 10 years it is predicted that the number one English speaking country in the world will be... China. Who would have predicted that 60 years ago? Or 40 years ago? Or 20 years ago?

How is the world changing? The U.S. Department of Labor estimates that today's learners will have 10-14 jobs by their 38th birthday.

While I cannot know the future, I can focus on

what happens now. Our commitment in the Novi Community School District is to make sure our students have the skills and knowledge to navigate whatever the future may bring. That requires that we raise our expectations for every student in our district.

No longer can we be satisfied that only a certain percentage of our students achieve at a high level. Now we must work to ensure that all students challenge themselves. We must work to ensure that all teachers have the knowledge and skills to support every student in their class. We can no longer afford to let students fall through the cracks.

Just as my eight-track tape player is a thing of the past, I hope that we can put in the past our conceptions of who will succeed and who will fail. Everyone in our district must work smarter to ensure that every student has a chance to be successful.

Steve Matthews is the superintendent of the Novi Community Schools District. He can be reached at smatthews@novi.k12.mi.us; (248) 437-1204; www.twitter.com/docsmatthews; or www.novisuperintendent.blogspot.com.

No more bullies



PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Novi Middle School students (above) Tiffany Bui, left, and Masi McEroy, both seventh-graders, play a game during lunch hour Oct. 20. Jake Kawwas wore a pink hat (left), donning the color along with other students that day, to show their support for ending bullying during Nov. 17's recognition of National Bullying Prevention Day.

SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE EVENTS

Renowned cellist and pianist perform Friday

In the second installment of Schoolcraft College's 2011-12 Friday Evening Music Series, cellist Robert deMaine and pianist Pauline Martin will perform at 8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 18 in the Presentation Room of the VisTaTech Center, located on the college's main campus in Livonia, Haggerty Road between 6 and 7 Mile roads.

Praised by The New York Times as "an artist who makes one hang on every note," deMaine has distinguished himself as one of the finest musicians of his generation, having performed to critical acclaim as soloist, recitalist, recording artist, and chamber musician throughout the world.

Martin continues to earn world-class recognition for her solo and chamber music performances and recordings. She has appeared as soloist with numerous orchestras, including the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, the New American Chamber Orchestra, Orchestra London Canada and others, and appears regularly with the Detroit Chamber Winds and Strings.

The pair will perform Prokofiev's Sonata in C Major, Op. 119; Five Fantasy Pieces for cello and piano, Op. 102, by Schumann; and other works by Beethoven, Grieg and Vivaldi.

Tickets are \$20 per person, \$10 for students. To order tickets visit www.schoolcraft.edu or for more information on this or any of Schoolcraft College's other music programs visit www.schoolcraft.edu/music or call the Music Office at (734) 462-4403.

The Friday Evening Music Series is sponsored by the Schoolcraft College Foundation and the Music Department, bringing world-renowned musicians to the Schoolcraft College campus. Two other performances round out the 2011-12 Friday Evening Music Series including Tribute to the Andrews Sisters on March 23, and pianist Lori Sims on April 20.

'Two Spirits' screening exploring Native American culture

The college will host a special screening at 11:30 a.m. Monday, Nov. 21 of "Two Spirits" in the VisTaTech Center on the college's main campus in Livonia. The movie presentation and discussion are free and open to the public.

"Two Spirits" interweaves the tragic story of a mother's loss of her son with a revealing look at a time when the world wasn't simply divided into male and female and many Native American cultures held places of honor for people of integrated genders.

Fred Martinez was nádleehí, a male-bodied person with a feminine nature, a special gift according to his ancient Navajo culture. But the place where two discriminations meet is a dangerous place to live, and Fred became one of the youngest hate-crime victims in

modern history when he was brutally murdered at 16 years of age. Between tradition and controversy, sex and spirit, and freedom and fear, lives the truth — the bravest choice you can make is to be yourself.

Shannon Martin is the director of The Ziihwing Center, a distinctive treasure created to provide an enriched, diversified and culturally relevant educational experience which promotes the society's belief that the culture, diversity and spirit of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan and other Great Lakes Anishinabek must be recognized, perpetuated, communicated and supported. She is a member of the Three Fires Midewiwin Society (original Anishinabe way of life) and carries a Second Degree in Midewiwin teachings.

The movie and discussion are co-sponsored by Schoolcraft College's Bridging Barriers group and the Focus Series: North America of the Schoolcraft College International Institute, and made possible by a grant from the Schoolcraft College Foundation.

Schoolcraft hosts three opportunities to explore the Inuit experience

The book "The Long Exile" by Melanie McGrath, and the movie "Nanook of the North" are the focus of Pageturners book club's November selections, exploring issues affecting North America's native Inuit nation during the last half of the 20th century. Pageturners is a student-led book discussion group of Schoolcraft College.

In 1952, the Canadian government forcibly relocated three dozen Inuit from their flourishing home on the Hudson Bay to the barren, arctic landscape of Ellesmere Island, the most northerly landmass on the planet.

Among the group was Josephine Flaherty, the unrecognized, half Inuit son of filmmaker Robert Flaherty, director of "Nanook of the North". In a narrative rich with human drama, Melanie McGrath follows three generations of the Flaherty family — Robert, Josephine, and Josephine's daughters — to bring this extraordinary tale of deception and harsh deprivation to life.

"Nanook of the North" will be shown and discussed at 1 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 17 in the Forum Building. All of these sessions will be held on Schoolcraft College's main campus in Livonia.

"The Long Exile" is available from the Schoolcraft College Bookstore at a significant discount. The book discussions, and movie screening and discussion are free and open to the public. For more information about Pageturners' future book selections and discussions, visit <http://sites.google.com/site/scpageturners>.

Schoolcraft College is a public, two-year college offering classes at the main campus in Livonia; at the Radcliff Center in Garden City; and online at www.schoolcraft.edu.

Book fair



JOHN HEIDER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Ryan Simpson (above), a Novi Meadows fifth-grader, enjoys the school's Scholastic book fair Nov. 1. The fair, lasting three days, took place in the school's ITC center and gave kids the opportunity to peruse and purchase fiction and non fiction works. Novi Meadows fifth-grader Ben Paxton (below) checks out some book potentials during the book fair.



JOHN HEIDER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

'The Phantom' coming to Walled Lake Western

The Walled Lake Western High School theater will be inhabited by "The Phantom of the Opera" this fall when students perform this winner of seven 1988 Tony Awards, including Best Musical.

Andrew Lloyd Webber's mesmerizing score along with jaw-dropping scenery and breathtaking special effects, magically combine to bring this tragic love story to life on Nov. 18, and 19 at 7:30 p.m. and on Nov. 20 at 2 p.m. "This demanding musical will have a performance company of over 125 students, guided by over 25 adult professionals. The full-length production will involve numerous special effects, including the famous chandelier that rises from the stage in

the opening scene," said Gregory Cleveland, Walled Lake Western's choir director and producer of the musical.

Tickets can be purchased online at <http://www.walledlakewestern.com> or by phone at (248) 956-4625. Ticket prices range from \$18-20 for adults and \$14-16 for students and seniors. Discount tickets are also available for groups of 20 or more.

Walled Lake Western High School is located in Walled Lake, at 600 Beek Road, between Maple and Pontiac Trail roads.

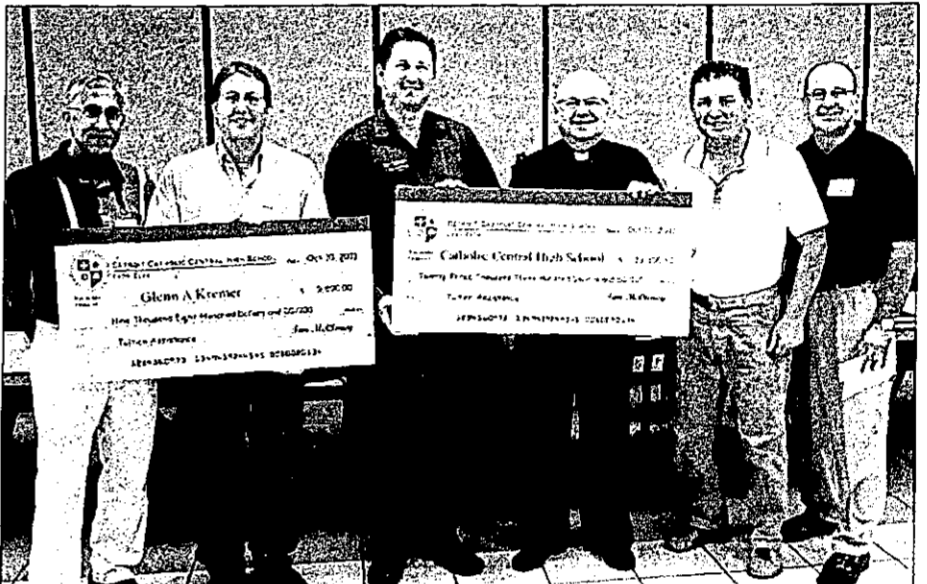
(... awkward pause)
Do you ever wish you had said something? Wish you could go back in time and tell someone how you really felt about something, even though it may have you made look

like a freak? Do you ever wish that or things weren't different, that people weren't afraid to speak their minds?

The Novi High School social issue group — (... awkward pause) — puts on shows for each class senior, junior, sophomore and freshman, and for the general public throughout the year. Talking about the issues that everyone knows about but they are just too scared to actually say, their goal is to provide thought provoking theatre. They tackle issues that students face day to day: too much school work, pressure from parents, and friends/peer pressure.

The troupe will be having their second performance of the 2011-12 school year at 7 p.m. Dec. 1 in the Black Box of the High School for \$2 admission.

CC Dads' Club winners



Catholic Dads' Club congratulates Glenn Kremer, of Plymouth, as the first place winner, winning a year's tuition, in the 2011 Tuition Assistance Raffle. Other winners were Jeff Doyle winning a half-year's tuition; Grayson Arnold winning a quarter-year's tuition; and Charles Widmaier and Kevin Ford each winning \$1,000. Catholic Dads' Club raised over \$45,000 with net proceeds of \$23,300 going to tuition assistance needs at the school. Shown (from left) are Ford, Kremer, Tim McCloy, Father Ranalletti, Doyle and Rick Bloomfield. "I have never won anything before," said Kremer. "This is very exciting." Fr. Ranalletti stated how much he appreciated the work of the Dads' Club and that the money will go to help others at the school who are struggling with their tuition.

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Family the focus of new hair salon

By Nathan Mueller
Staff Writer

It's all about family at Novi's newest full-service hair salon, Elle Studio. Co-owned by siblings Marina Bojaj and Gjon Camaj, the salon was designed to make customers feel like they never left home.

And on many days it's as if the brother and sister never left home with parents and other family members stopping in on a regular basis.

"It's all about making people feel comfortable," Camaj said. "There is no snootiness, and you feel

like you are walking into your house.

"It's house-meets-salon, and it's very family-oriented."

The salon, located in the City Center Plaza on Novi Road, opened about two months ago. Bojaj and Camaj worked together at another salon in Novi for the last five years before deciding to step out on their own.

They said the people in Novi and the city itself made them want to start their business here.

"It's a great opportunity for us and something we have been ready to do for a couple years now," Bojaj

said. "To have a place of our own is amazing."

The salon services include hair, makeup, brow arching and Novalash, which are eyelash extensions. Both owners also are stylists who work directly with the customers.

Bojaj said the motto is "beauty as is."

"We want people feeling beautiful and the best they can," she said.

For more information and pricing, visit the salon's website at www.ellestudio Novi.com or call (248) 380-3113.

nmueller@annett.com
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Gjon Camaj and sister Marina Bojaj recently opened their first salon Elle Studio in the City Center Plaza on Novi Road. The two have been working together for the last five years before deciding to start their own business.

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NOVI POLICE BRIEFS

Man caught driving with drugs

Novi police arrested a man on Oct. 28 in the area of Novi Road and I-96 for operating under the presence of drugs and possession of marijuana after he was initially stopped for driving with his headlights off.

According to the police report, the officer could smell the odor of marijuana when he approached the car, and the driver admitted to having the drug in his glove box. He said he had a medical marijuana card but did not have it on him.

The suspect failed field sobriety tests and during a search of the car the officer found a jar containing 26.8 grams of marijuana as well as half-smoked joints.

The driver was arrested and transported to the Novi Police Department where he submitted to a blood test. The case has been forwarded to the prosecutor's office for review.

Drunk caught driving for fourth time

A drunk driver was stopped by police on Oct. 29 for the fourth time for drunk driving after driving erratically near Grand River Avenue and Main Street.

According to the police report, an officer saw the vehicle turn onto Grand River, leaving the roadway and nearly spinning out before the officer initiated a traffic stop.

The driver admitted to drinking "too much," and failed field sobriety tests. A preliminary breath test registered a blood alcohol content of .24 percent. The legal limit in Michigan for adult drivers is .08 percent.

He was arrested and transported to the Novi Police Department before having breathing problems. He was then taken to Providence Park Hospital in Novi and then back to the department.

The suspect was arraigned on a charge of operating while intoxicated third offense and has a court date set. He was released after posting bond.

Woman has purse stolen

A woman had her purse stolen off a table at The Liquor Store in Novi around midnight on Oct. 23. According to the police report, the woman set her purse down and left it briefly. When she returned it was gone.

The purse contained her driver's license, iPhone and debit card. Two charges had been made on the card that night before she was able to close it.

Police have no suspects.

Drunk driver causes accident

A 21-year-old woman was arrested for drunk driving after she rear-ended a car on Nov. 5 in the area of Grand River Avenue and Main Street.

According to the police report, an officer in the area was on patrol when he saw a woman inspecting her vehicle and the car behind it.

The officer approached the suspect and she said she did not remember what happened and was confused. She admitted to drinking and failed field sobriety tests.

A preliminary breath test registered a blood alcohol content of .24 percent. The legal limit for adult drivers in Michigan is .08 percent.

She was transported to the police department where she was issued a citation for operating while intoxicated and released after posting bond and when sober.

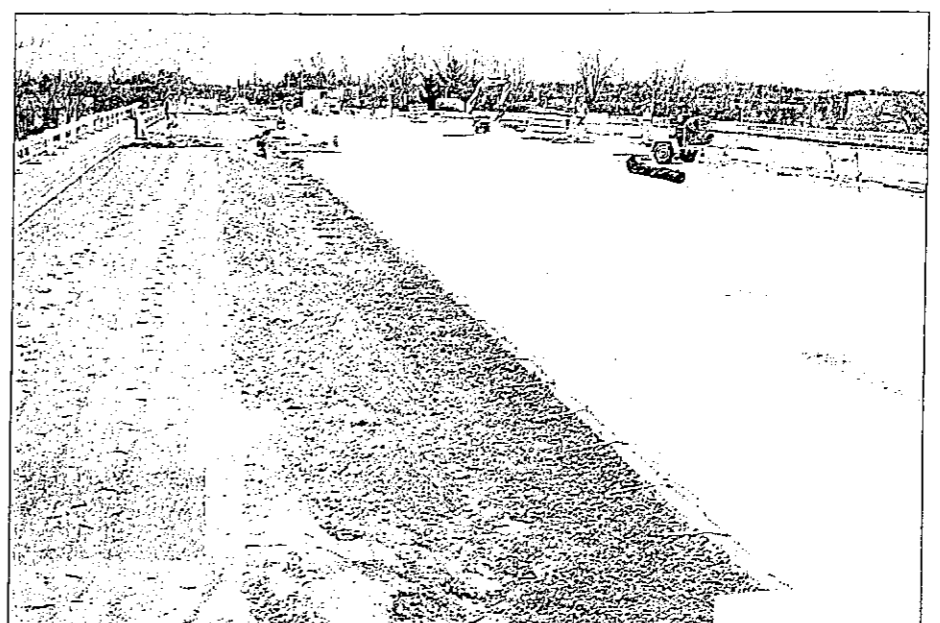
Suspects vandalize Novi Town Center

Novi police are on extra patrol at the Novi Town Center after unknown suspects spray painted the word 'Crook' on a brick column, sign and utility box at the shopping center sometime between Nov. 4-7.

According to the police report, the operations supervisor at the center said he was able to clean up some of the damage but not all of it.

The report also says management believes the incidents may have been the result of upcoming union trouble regarding the construction of Walmart as the company is known for using non-union labor and been criticized in the past for unfair employment practices.

Almost ready



The Novi Road Link project approaches its end as contractors begin to pour the final stretch of concrete for its sidewalk path. The road is slated to be re-opened by late November. The road connecting Novi between 10 Mile and Grand River's been closed since early June of this year.

OAKLAND COUNTY ROAD PROJECTS UPDATE

The following projects may cause traffic delays on Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC) roads. It is RCOC's goal to conduct road improvement projects in a way that interferes with traffic as little as possible. This list includes both Road Commission projects and projects conducted by others, under permit, on roads under the jurisdiction of the Road Commission.

Novi Road between 10 Mile and Grand River Avenue; Novi

Project: This section of Novi Road is closed to through traffic through approximately Dec. 1 while RCOC widens and reconstructs the road to five lanes including constructing a bridge over the railroad tracks. The detour route for through traffic during the closure is 10 Mile Road to Meadowbrook Road to Grand River Avenue and back to Novi Road and vice versa. Access to businesses within the project area will be maintained at all times during the project.

Completion Date: approximately Dec. 1

Eight Mile Road, Dixboro Road to Pontiac Trail; Lyon Township/ Salem Township border

Project: This section of Eight Mile is closed to through traffic while RCOC paves the gravel road. The road will remain closed to through traffic until the project steps for the winter in late November. Work will then resume in April 2012. The detour route during the closure is Pontiac Trail to Nine Mile to Dixboro and back to Eight Mile and vice versa.

Completion Date: June 2012

Recently completed:

- RCOC has opened the new roundabout at Pontiac Trail and M-5 in Commerce Township.
- Milford Twp. has completed most of the work on the widening and improving of Millford Road at Dawson Road in the township, and all lanes are open.
- Consumers Energy has completed its gas line inspection on Eight Mile Road between Chubb Road and Currie Road in Lyon Twp. and the road has been re-opened.

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VOICES & VIEWS:
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hometownlife.com

Talkin' turkey



Chiragh Qureshi helps his daughter Anika, 3, with a Thanksgiving-themed crafts project on Nov. 5 at the Novi Public Library.

CALENDAR

Continued from page A13

Time/Date: 7-8:30 p.m.
Thursday, Nov. 17

Details: Join us for all things "Twilight" as we prepare for the "Breaking Dawn, Part 1" movie to come out at midnight. This party will feature food, games and fun and will hopefully be as memorable as the first part of the final installment of the Stephenie Meyer series. For grades 7-12. Registration is required.

Fantastic Fall Book Sale

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Saturday, Nov. 19

Details: A great selection of gently loved books will be on sale, just in time for your book shelf or for holiday giving. Drop in and see what the Friends' Book Nook has to offer.

Open Office Hours in the Local History Room

Time/Date: noon-2 p.m.
Monday, Nov. 21

Details: On the first and third Mondays of each month, a member of the Novi Historical Commission will hold office hours in the Local History Room to help researchers use its many resources.

E-Mail Instruction for Seniors

Time/Date: 10:30-11 a.m. or 11-11:30 a.m., Tuesday, Nov. 22

Details: This session provides personal instruction by a librarian on e-mail basics such as how to create an e-mail account and how to type and send a message. If time allows, creating folders and an address book will be discussed.

Help for Families From Oakland Livingston Human Services Agency

Time/Date: 11 a.m.-2 p.m.
Tuesdays, Nov. 22

Details: Need help with transportation, food, health, support services, child care education, finances or housing? Through Dec. 27, residents can drop in and meet with an OLHSA staff member at the library.

Can We Talk About Books?

Time/Date: 5-5:45 p.m.
Tuesday, Nov. 22

Details: A chance for those in grades 3-4 to hear about the latest books and to tell us about their favorite book. Bring in your book to show us, and we'll send you home with a list of new books you'll love to read.

Kiddie Karaoke

Time/Date: 11 a.m.-noon
Friday, Nov. 25

Details: Unleash the inner singer in yourself! Belt out one of your favorite songs or sing one of ours. For ages 4-8 years.

Novi Writers' Group

Time/Date: 10 a.m.-noon
Saturday, Nov. 26

Details: Writers' groups can be a great way to make connections in the writing and publishing world and to get critiques that will improve your skills as a writer. Come to the Library for an inspirational environment where you can create and share ideas. This group is facilitated by local writer Kathy Mutch.

Movie Break

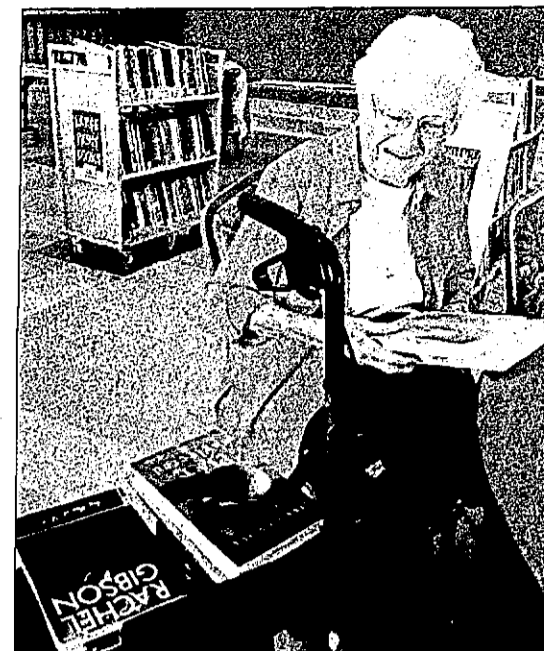
Time/Date: 1-3 p.m.
Saturday, Nov. 26

Details: Tired of shopping after-Thanksgiving sales? Recharge with a movie at NPL. We'll be showing the classic "Charlotte's Web," sure to be a hit with all ages.

Lego Club

Time/Date: 6-6:45 p.m.
Monday, Nov. 28

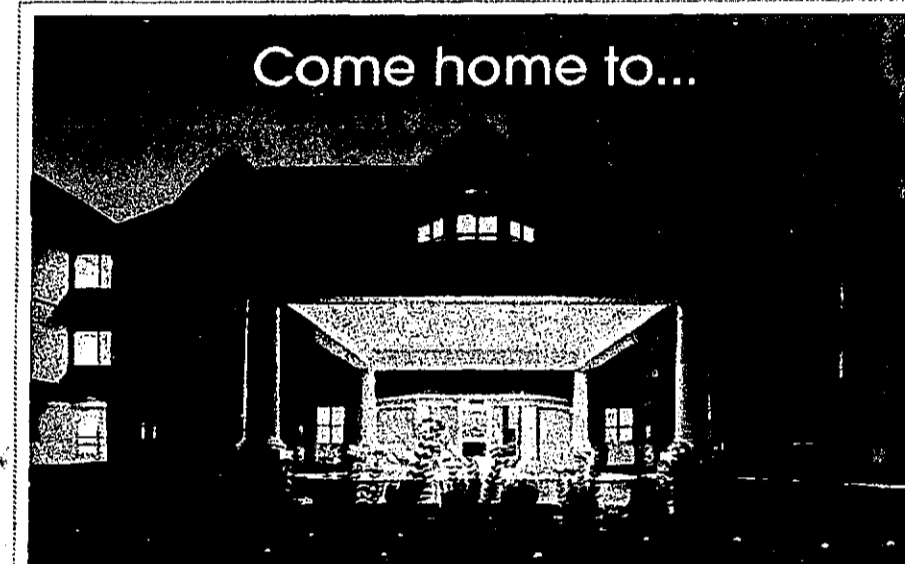
Details: Join us once a month for Lego show-and-



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Book mobile

Novi Mead-owbrook Commons resident Laurretta Heagy gathers up a few books at the senior center on Nov. 15 during a visit by the Novi Public Library's Bookmobile. The Bookmobile visits the senior complex on Mead-owbrook the third Tuesday of each month at 10:30 a.m., and brings a variety of books for residents to check out and then check out.



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Day of Play



Members of the Rochester Soccer Club (left) enjoy dancing to a DJ during the Sept. 24 "Day of Play" event at Novi's Twelve Mile Crossing at Fountain Walk. Members include: Zoe Schultz, Jess DeClercq, Rosella Lochirco, Taylor Paradossi, Abby DeVilling, Morgan O'Neill, and Olivia Argeros. The Day of Play event featured games of soccer, football, archery and other activities to encourage kids to get up off the couch and have fun. Sam's Club of Novi employee Drake Totty (right) introduces Jacob Sanchez, 7, to an archery game.



PHOTOS BY JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

NOVI NEWS BRIEFS

'Removing the Mysteries of Probate Court'

On Thursday, Nov. 17, at the Waterford Senior Center at 3621 Pontiac Lake Road in Waterford, the Citizen's Alliance of the Oakland County Probate and Circuit Courts will conduct a free seminar from 1-3:30 p.m. explaining the Probate Court's role in wills, estates, trusts, guardianships, and conservatorships. Entitled "Removing the Mysteries of Probate Court," the seminar will provide attendees with information on the advantages and disadvantages of "avoiding probate," when and how to use a will, trust and/or Power of Attorney, how to begin probate proceedings, and when to consider use of guardianships and conservatorships. Panelists will include Probate Register Jill Koney Daly from the Oakland County Probate Court, Senior Fiduciary Officer Teresa Sullivan from JPMorgan Chase Bank, and private practice attorney Michael Fraleigh from The Fraleigh Law Firm, PLLC. Materials will be available on trusts,

estates, and the legal rights of senior citizens. Adequate time will be available for questions. To register, contact the Waterford Senior Center at (248) 682-9450.

Busch's, Boosters team up
Busch's grocery store donations to the Novi Athletic Boosters (NAB) have included water to the concession stands for several years and resources for the TasteFest event this year. Now, the NAB is going to return the favor during "Busch's Season of Sharing" - a time to come together as a community and help ensure those in need will not have to go without food - from 3:30-8 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. weekends through Nov. 23. The NAB is encouraging athletic teams and student organizations to sponsor a day during these times as well as staff their respective day with volunteers. The student and student athlete volunteer hours are able to be used toward National Honor Society hours. As folks shop at Busch's during these times, they can help give back to those in need with their kind donations.

That's spooky



JOHN HEIDER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Richard Reising (above) smiles and clowning around during the Novi Senior Center's Halloween "Spooktacular" Oct. 31. The luncheon time gathering featured a variety of costumes, contests, lunch with friends and musical entertainer Mike Krieger (below), who entertains the gathering.



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Novi author hosts fourth annual Girls' Night Out Book Signing

Novi author Dana Corbit knows how important a "girls night out" can be for busy moms. As the mother of three active teenage daughters, Corbit craved a fun night out and kept that in mind when she approached Michael Waltersdorf, co-owner of the Novi Biggy Coffee, about promoting her releases. That was four years and dozens of Wild Zebra and Butter Bear coffee drinks ago.



Nussio

This year the fourth annual Girls' Night Out Book Signing will be 7-10 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 29, at Biggy, 43346 Grand River Avenue (northeast corner of Novi Road). Guests are invited to spend a few hours sipping cappuccinos, espressos or decaf lattes with friends while discussing books. Although promoted as a Girls' Night Out, the signing is a public event, open to readers of all ages and genders.

"I have as much fun at this event as any of those who attend each year," said Corbit, who is also known in the community by her married name, Dana Nussio. "I started out by inviting my friends and asking them to invite their other friends. Now I get to spend time with people I haven't seen in a while and make new friends, all while doing a little promotion for my career. Then if I happen to sell a few books, even better."

Corbit, who is also an award-winning journalist, enjoys hosting the annual event at Biggy. She has supported her career by carrying her books among its regular merchandise. Literacy is a corporate initiative of Biggy Coffee, headquartered in Lansing. "Coffee shops like Biggy have always been great but have become even more dear to the community with the loss of independent bookstores and even big-box bookstores like Borders," Corbit said. "They're comfortable, warm places to escape with a good book and a hot chocolate or latte."

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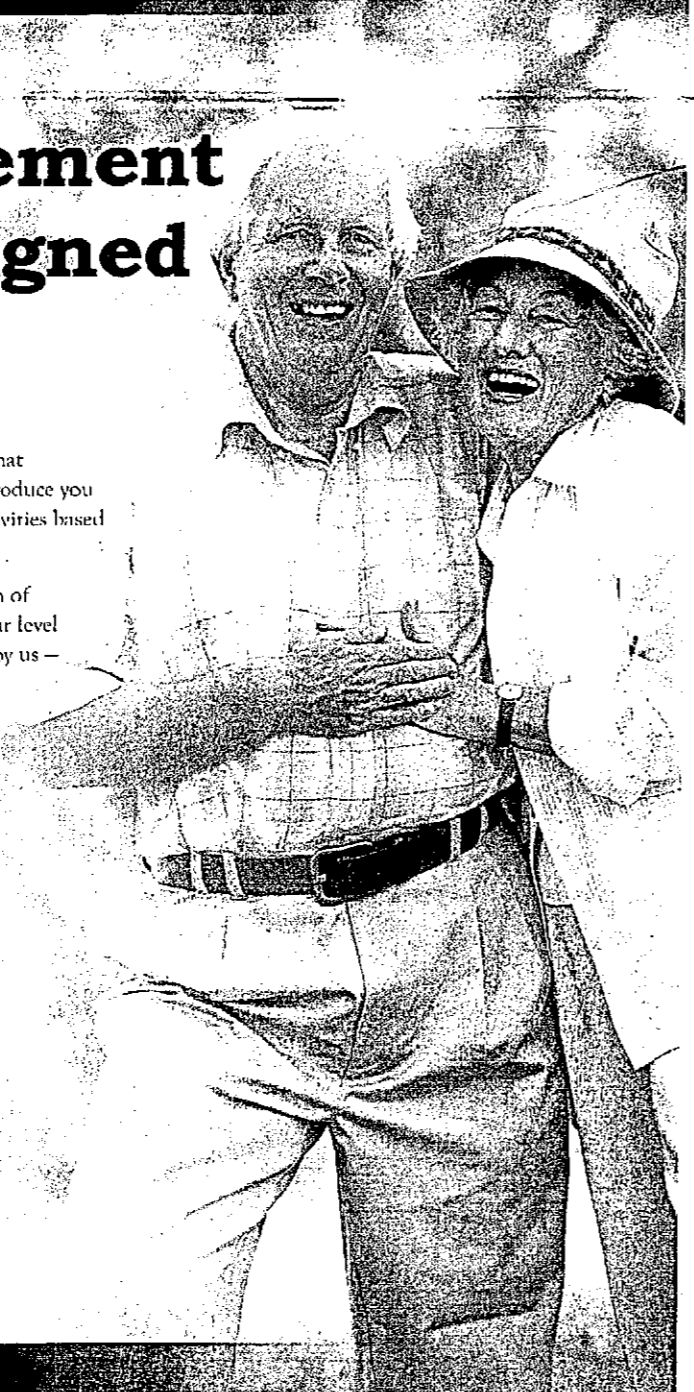
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SPORTS

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CC's Kyle Cooper passes to Mike Racey.

Shamrock defense suffocates Pioneer

By Jeff Theisen
Sports writer

CC 21, ANN ARBOR PIONEER 0

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AAP	0	0	0	0	0
CC	7	7	7	0	21

Catholic Central football prides itself on two things, playing a suffocating defense and pounding the ball on offense.

Saturday's 21-0 blanking of Ann Arbor Pioneer was a perfect example of what the Shamrocks are all about to wrap up the regional title at home.

"The core of our program is defense," said CC head coach Tom Mach. "We think championships in the end are won with defense. We're very happy that we're able to do that."

Pioneer star running back Drake Johnson was the main focus for the Shamrock defense. He put up huge numbers throughout the season but was held to just 44 yards on 16 carries, playing both running back and some quarterback.

"The boys played well, they really did," said Shamrock defensive coach Dan Anderson. "With a great running back like Drake Johnson, you've got to concentrate on him. We talked all week about gang tackling and getting to the ball. I thought all 11 kids came and got to the ball as quick as they could. It was a great team effort."

Ann Arbor Pioneer (9-3) lost its starting quarterback early

of the drive on the ground in seven plays.

The second half was a mirror of the first. The Shamrock defense locked down Johnson and the Pioneers didn't have a second option to turn to.

Following a three-and-out by Pioneer to open the second half, the Shamrocks took complete command with the final scoring drive of the game.

Bock turned in a big punt return to set up shop at the Pioneer 30. Four plays later, Darkangelo scored untouched from the nine for a 21-0 lead.

"You never feel comfortable in a playoff game. The team we were playing has won seven games in a row," said Mach. "One run by the running back could've put them at 14-7 and now you're in a game that's altogether different. I never felt good until we were at 21. I felt better."

Pioneer never reached mid-field throughout the game and would manage just two first downs in the second half.

CC finished with 193 yards rushing on 53 attempts. Bock led with 77 yards on 12 carries. Darkangelo found the endzone twice and had 52 yards on 14 carries. Houle

Catholic Central took a 14-0 lead into the half, but it might as well as been 140. The Shamrocks held the ball for more than 18 of the 24 minutes in the first half. The CC offense churned out 125 yards on the ground and 33 through the air in the first half. Pioneer ran 11 plays and

gained just six yards with an interception to end the half.

Zach Bock finished off the drive with a four-yard pitch to the left. The drive ate up more than seven minutes.

Pioneer got a first down to start its opening drive, but it would turn out to be the only one of the half.

Things got so bad for the Ann Arbor offense later in the half that the Pioneers elected for a quick kick on third down when backed up to its own five.

The Shamrocks took over at the Pioneer 37 and used 10 plays to find pay dirt on a six-yard run by Anthony Darkangelo with 1:19 to play in the half. The big play of the drive was a five-yard run by David Houle on fourth and two at the Pioneer 17.

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ALL-AREA TENNIS

Gardiner on top of local tennis scene

By Chris Jackett
Correspondent

Northville junior Tyler Gardiner was dominant on the court this fall. He racked up a 32-1 record and won the Division I state title at one singles, not to mention KLAAs Kensington Conference and regional championships. Because of the area he played in, he had to defeat several of the state's top players throughout the season to remain on the winning path. In each instance, Gardiner rose to the occasion for victories and consequently earned the All-Area Player of the Year honor.

"Tyler is a special talent, but it is his heart and determination that separated him from the field this year," Northville coach Matt Stetson said. "In the semifinals and the finals of the state tournament, Tyler had to fight back in both matches to win. Over the course of the entire year (33 matches total), Tyler only dropped five sets and two of those sets were in epic three-hour matches in the state tournament (the semis and finals)."

FIRST TEAM

Kevin Renehan (South Lyon East Sr. 1S)

A 25-3 season led up to a Division III state title at one singles for South Lyon East senior Kevin Renehan. The Cougar lost a 6-3, 6-1 contest against Gardiner in what was a battle between two of the area's best players. Renehan's state title victory was over top-seed Sven Kranz of Detroit Country Day, who was leading 6-3, 5-5 before he had to retire, forfeiting the title match to second-seeded Renehan. He also earned the Division III Mr. Tennis nomination over Kranz, where each division nominates one student-athlete.

"Kevin is a great tennis player and also demonstrates a great work ethic," East coach Matthew Admire said. "He worked very hard to always improve his game. Moreover, Kevin is a true team player. He sought not only to improve his game, but also helped the other players improve their game. Kevin has a good attitude and is a class act both on and off the court. We will miss having him on the team next year."

Kevin Hodges & Willy Willson (Detroit Catholic Central Sr. 1D)

A 31-0 record that led to a state championship at one doubles sets the bar for doubles tandems where Detroit Catholic Central seniors Kevin Hodges and Willy Willson

Please see TENNIS, B2

Novi Youth Hockey Association recognizes Red Wing for local support

By Chris Jackett
Correspondent

Many people know that several Detroit Red Wings hockey players live in Novi. Not all know how involved some are in the community they live in.

The Novi Youth Hockey Association honored Novi resident Tomas Holmstrom, known as an offensive threat in the NHL and a pest to goaltenders throughout the league, earlier this month for his work with the local youth clubs.

Holmstrom was on hand at Novi Ice Arena Nov. 5 to receive the NYHA's fourth TopCat award.

"We honor these people in our community who have a history of supporting youth

hockey in our community," said NYHA's Michael Robinet. "Tomas has been giving of his time and talents."

Past TopCat awards recognized early association organizers Jim Lewis and Paul Flavin, as well as the founder of Novi Game Day, Bernie Crowley.

The NYHA was established in 1998 and has hosted the Game Day event for the past nine years. This year, more than 650 players on 40 different teams played 20 hockey games in a 15-hour time span.

"Game Day is a celebration of youth hockey in Novi," Robinet said. "It is the largest such event in the United States."

Please see HOLMSTROM, B3

Headed for state meet



CHRIS JACKETT

Nine Wildcat swimmers qualified for the Nov. 18-19 Division I state meet. Those bound for Ypsilanti are (back row, from left) senior Abby Hall, juniors Kara Berg, Kelsey Shurmer, Andrea VanderMey, Dana Morgan, (front row, from left) senior Amanda Guttman, juniors Janice Burnett, Maranda Buha and freshman Mallory Buha. The preliminary swims for the state meet begin noon Friday at Eastern Michigan University. Those advancing to the finals return noon Saturday.

TENNIS

Continued from page B1

were this season. The duo also took home All-State honors and every in-season tournament title along the way.

"Kevin and Willy were dominant all season long," CC coach Joe Stafford said. "They played were on a mission for an undefeated state championship season. They will be missed."

Michael Dubé (Detroit Catholic Central Sr. 1S) Making the jump to one singles this season, sophomore Michael Dubé led his Shamrocks squad to a third-place Division I finish as he bowed out in the semifinals with a 23-5 final record. Along the way, Dubé won four tournaments.

"Michael picked up right where his older brother, Joe, left off, anchoring the number one singles spot for us," Detroit Catholic Central coach Joe Stafford said. "Michael had a lot of big wins for us this year. Michael was a regional champion and Catholic League champion. He shows up everyday ready to play and he always gives a great effort."

Matt Hermiz & Gabe Apaza (Detroit Catholic Central Sr./Fr. 2D) As the top seed at two doubles entering the Division I state tournament, the Shamrocks' Matt Hermiz and Gabe Apaza didn't lose a match all season until they ran into Ann Arbor Huron in the finals. An untimely 7-5, 6-4 loss capped the senior/freshman duo's season with an 18-1 record and All-State honors.

"Matt and Gabe gave us a great number two doubles team," Detroit

Catholic Central coach Joe Stafford said. "Their games really complimented each other and they were like a one-doubles team playing two 'dubs.'"

Bill Bell & Jason Carless (Novi Sr./Jr. 1D) Novi's top doubles tandem of senior Bill Bell and junior Jason Carless were strong all season, going 23-4 before bowing out in a state semifinal against Detroit Catholic Central, who handed the Wildcats half of their four losses on the season. The other two losses came to the state champions from Ann Arbor Huron and a strong Bloomfield Hills Brother Rice duo.

"Bill Bell and Jason Carless combined their powerful ground strokes with an aggressive net game to become one of the top doubles teams in the state of Michigan," Novi coach Jim Hanson said. "Also recognized as All-State by the MHSSTA, Bell and Carless were only one of two teams to go three sets with the state champs from Catholic Central."

Eric Guindi (Detroit Catholic Central Sr. 2S) A senior Shamrock, Eric Guindi was a force all four years on varsity at Detroit Catholic Central. After winning the four singles and three singles state titles the past two seasons, Guindi couldn't continue the streak at two singles this season. He went 20-6 before losing to the eventual two singles state champion from unranked Bloomfield Hills Brother Rice during the semifinals of the Division I state meet.

"Eric had a tremendous career at CC," Shamrocks coach Joe Stafford said. "He always led by example and was a great captain for us this year." Michael Trupiano (Detroit Catholic Central Jr. 3S) Two years, two state titles. Detroit Catholic Central Michael Trupiano went 26-3 at three singles this fall en route to a state championship in his flight. As the two-seed in the Division I state tournament, Trupiano dispatched of the top seed from Ann Arbor Huron 6-1, 6-3 in the final.

"Michael won a second consecutive singles state championship this year," CC coach Joe Stafford said. "He continued to improve throughout the season and came always seem to play his best in the big matches."

Andrew Ying (Novi So. 4S) Novi sophomore Andrew Ying cruised to his state title at four singles with a 27-2. After winning the KLAA and regional titles, Ying knocked off one opponent after another before defeating Bloomfield Hills Brother Rice 6-0, 6-0 in the championship match. His two losses on the season came when he filled in at one singles against Division III state champion Kevin Renehan and against Brother Rice during the season when he had to retire from the match while leading 6-1, 4-0.

"Andrew Ying used his penetrating ground strokes, crisp volleys and booming overheads to dominate the competition in Division I," Novi coach Jim Hanson said. "Andrew played flawless tennis all year long and capped off an outstanding season by winning a state championship."

SECOND TEAM
Alex Kim (Lakeland So. 1S) White Lake Lakeland sophomore Alex Kim was victim to the tough region he played in. He finished the season 16-4 at one singles for the Eagles, but because his team didn't advance out of Regionals and he lost a regional semifinal to the eventual state champion, Kim never got a shot at the state meet. He lost twice to Tyler Gardiner and once to Division III state champion Kevin Renehan.

Tim Wang (Novi Fr. 1S) As Novi's young star, freshmen Tim Wang went



JOHN HEDER / NORTHVILLE RECORD

Northville junior Tyler Gardiner rose to the occasion for victories and consequently earned the All-Area Player of the Year honor.

15-6 in his debut season at ones singles for the Wildcats, earning All-State honors and leading Novi to a fourth-place finish at the state meet.

The senior Anthony Rossi gave several championship contenders a run for their money while going 16-11 at two singles. Rossi defeated eventual two singles state champion Gunnar Peery from Bloomfield Hills Brother Rice during the season, took Detroit Catholic Central's Eric Guindi to three sets and ended the season with a close 7-5, 6-4 loss to fourth-seeded Justin Hyman from Rochester Adams during the Division I state meet.

Tudor Bahmeta (South Lyon East Sr. 2S) A senior at South Lyon East, Tudor Bahmeta went 17-2 at two singles this fall before bowing out early in the Division III state tournament after winning the regional title in his flight. His only two losses were to seeded Thomas Bellio of St. Joseph in the state tournament and to Northville's Anthony Rossi during the season.

THE TEAMS

PLAYER OF THE YEAR
Tyler Gardiner (Northville, Jr. 1S)

FIRST TEAM
Kevin Renehan (South Lyon East Sr. 1S)
Kevin Hodges & Willy Wilkon (Detroit Catholic Central Sr. 1D)
Michael Dubé (Detroit Catholic Central Sr. 1S)
Matt Hermiz & Gabe Apaza (Detroit Catholic Central Sr./Fr. 2D)
Bill Bell & Jason Carless (Novi Sr./Jr. 1D)
Eric Guindi (Detroit Catholic Central Sr. 2S)
Michael Trupiano (Detroit Catholic Central Jr. 3S)
Andrew Ying (Novi So. 4S)

SECOND TEAM
Alex Kim (Lakeland So. 1S)
Tim Wang (Novi Fr. 1S)
Pavan Rao (Novi Jr. 2S)
Brandon Sanders & Nishant Kakar (Novi Sr./Jr. 2D)
Andre Liu (Novi Fr. 3S)
Anthony Rossi (Northville Sr. 2S)
Tudor Bahmeta (South Lyon East Sr. 2S)
Alexandre Garrigo (Lakeland Sr. 3S)

HONORABLE MENTION
Milford - Dylan Bastyr & Chris Cubel (Jr/Sr. 1D)
Northville - Nathan Albanelli (Jr. 3S), Matt Satterfield & Matt Evasic (Sr./Jr. 1D), Trevor Page & Brian Manney (Sr./Jr. 2D)
Novi - Andrew Cho & Michael Chang (Sr/So. 3D), Stephen Kovacinski & Jon Thompson (Sr./Jr. 4D), Shashank Chitta (Sr.)

Detroit Catholic Central's Michael Trupiano.

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

NOVI SPORTS BRIEFS

Metro hockey invite

The 10th annual Metro High School Invitational takes on a different look this season as the showcase event pits five high school hockey teams from the Kensington Lakes Activities Association against five rival teams from the Oakland Activities Association. Teams from each conference will play two teams from the other side and the conference with the best record overall will have bragging rights for the year. The Metro Invitational, which is hosted by the Novi Ice Arena, traditionally serves as a kick-off event for teams to start their hockey season.

The showcase gets underway at 4 p.m. Friday, Nov. 18 when South Lyon High School (KLAA) takes on Rochester United (OAA). Next up, is Livonia Stevenson (KLAA) vs. Farmington (OAA) at 5:30 p.m. Those are followed with games between Northville (KLAA) vs. Lake Orion (OAA) at 6 p.m.; Livonia Churchill (KLAA) vs. Clarkston (OAA) at 7:30 p.m.; and ending with Novi (KLAA) taking on the Farmington Hills Unified team made up of FH North and Harrison players (OAA) at 8:30 p.m.

The action continues at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 19 when Livonia Churchill (KLAA) plays Farmington (OAA). At 1:30 p.m., South Lyon (KLAA) meets the FH Unified team (OAA) and Livonia Stevenson (KLAA) takes on Lake Orion (OAA) at 4 p.m. The last two games of the showcase pit Novi (KLAA) against Clarkston at 6pm and wrap up with Northville (KLAA) vs. Rochester United (OAA) at 8:30 p.m.

At the conclusion of the Metro High School Invitational games an All Metro Team composed of three forwards,

two defensemen and one goalie will be announced to highlight the exceptional performance of the weekend's best players. The All Metro Team honorees will receive gift cards from HockeyDeals.com. All players will receive Metro Invitational T-shirts supplied by Contemporary Industries and will be fed throughout the weekend by Buffalo Wild Wings.

Metro passes are on sale at Novi Ice Arena for \$12 for adults and \$9 for kids (5-18 year olds) and seniors. Those who purchase Metro passes will have access to all 10 showcase games. One-day tickets will be sold at the door for \$7 for adults, \$5 for kids between 5-18 years old and senior citizens. Kids ages 5 and under will be admitted free. For more information or to obtain media credentials, call the Novi Ice Arena at (248) 347-1010.

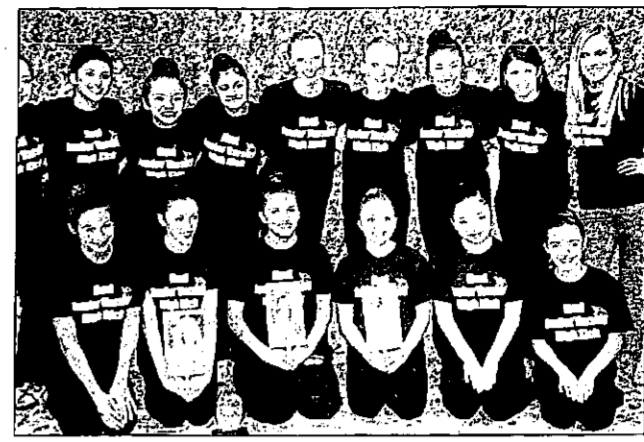
Hockey Team of the Week

The results are in and Play It Again Sports has its new winner for the Play It Again Sports Hockey Team of the Week contest. The Suburban Warriors out of the Suburban Ice Rink in Farmington Hills racked up the most votes and will now get to celebrate their win at their local Play It Again Sports store in Novi.

The Play It Again Sports Hockey Team of the Week Contest will continue through mid-December. Hockey players, coaches and parents can nominate their teams at www.playitagainsportsoftheweek.com. Teams only need to be nominated once. Team voting starts fresh every week, so teams are encouraged to vote often.

Now that the Warriors have won, the team will now be entered into a drawing for a grand prize - a chance to win tickets for the entire team to attend the CCHA College Hockey Championships taking place March 17 at Joe Louis Arena.

Highkick champs



The Mid American Pom Pon Highkick Competition was held at Eastern Michigan University on Nov. 6. The Novi JV pom team, performing to theme music of Peter Pan, out-kicked the competition to win first place. The team includes Coach Elyse Bartos, Captains Laura Baumgarten and Annie Segal, and Karla De La Cruz, Hannah Latham, Amy Liang, Olivia Ghannam, Anjali Joshi, Kelly Dubay, Yvanna Bordeau, Bailey Boyrck, Jessica Leone, Sara Lehman, Lexia Giragopian, Amy Cao, Michela Brant, Madison Cojoi and Michele Kearney. The varsity team also competed at this competition, coming in second place.

SHAMROCKS

Continued from page B1

pitched in 58 yards on 15 carries. Cooper finished 3-for-8 passing for 33 yards and ran five times for 10 yards. Pioneer finished with 35 total yards on 21 runs.

"These guys really like each other," said Mach. "They have great camarade-

rie. They're fun to be around. The coaching staff has had a great time with the kids this year. They believe in the concept of brotherhood, and they play for each other rather than play for themselves. They play for their school, the alumni and for the kids in the school. It makes them play a little harder every time they go out."

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CITY OF NOVI VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO SERVE ON CITY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Notice is given that the Novi City Council will be interviewing applicants for appointment to the Beautification Commission, Board of Review, Election Commission, Historical Commission, Housing & Community Development Advisory Committee, Library Board, Public Access Promotion Committee, and Zoning Board of Appeals.

If you are a registered voter and interested in volunteering to serve on a City Board or Commission, information about the various Boards and Commissions is available at www.cityofnovi.org or at the office of the City Clerk, 46175 West Tote Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375, (248)347-0466.

The deadline for filing an application (available on the website or at the City Clerk's office) is Tuesday, November 22, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. All applicants will be required to be present at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, November 28, 2011 in the Council Chambers to be interviewed by City Council. All City Council meetings are televised.

Maryonnie Cornelius, City Clerk

Published: November 17, 2011

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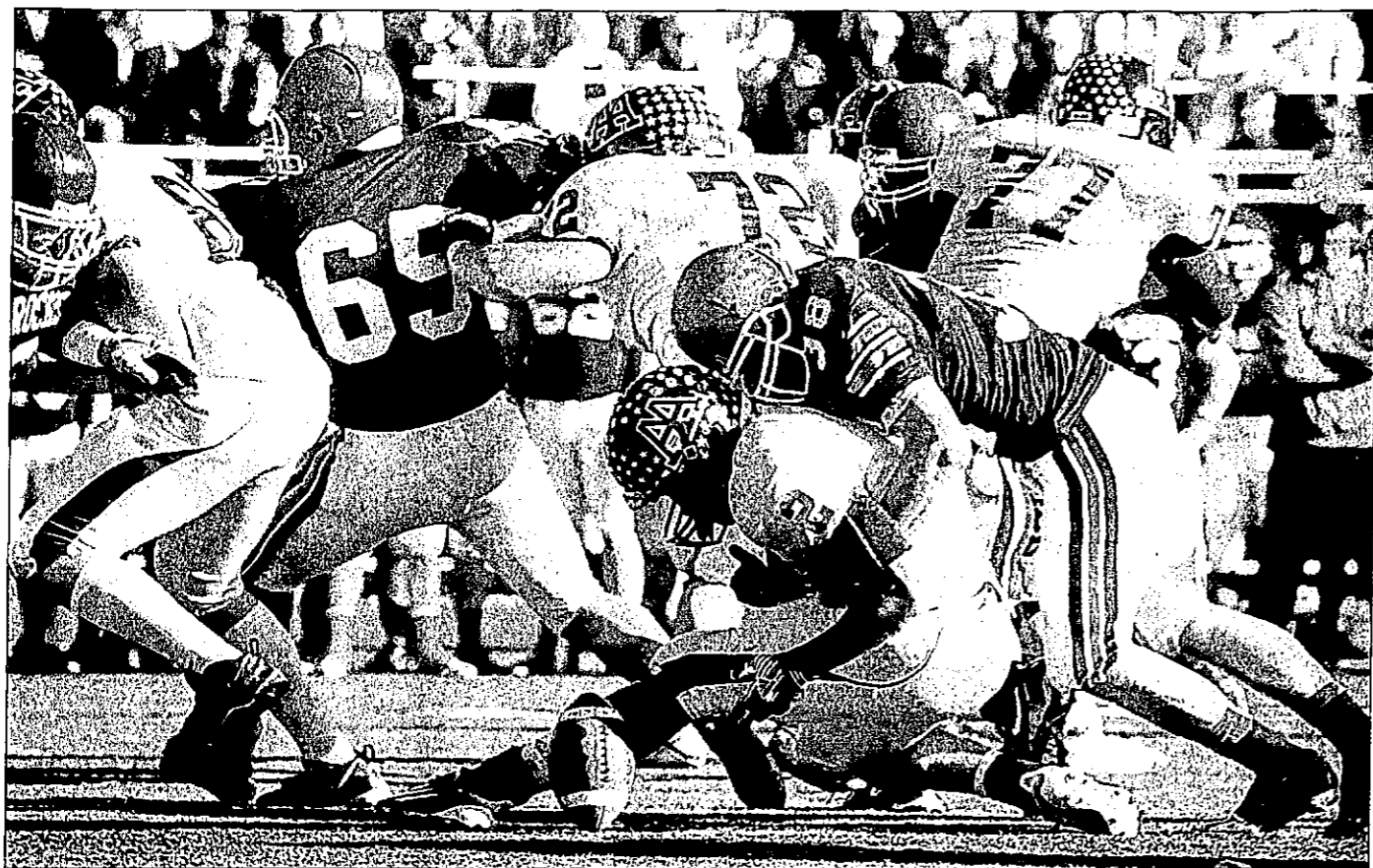
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Anthony Darkangelo (38) causes a fumble for Catholic Central.

Catholic Central to square off against tough Rockford team

Semifinal is rematch of 1998 state championship game

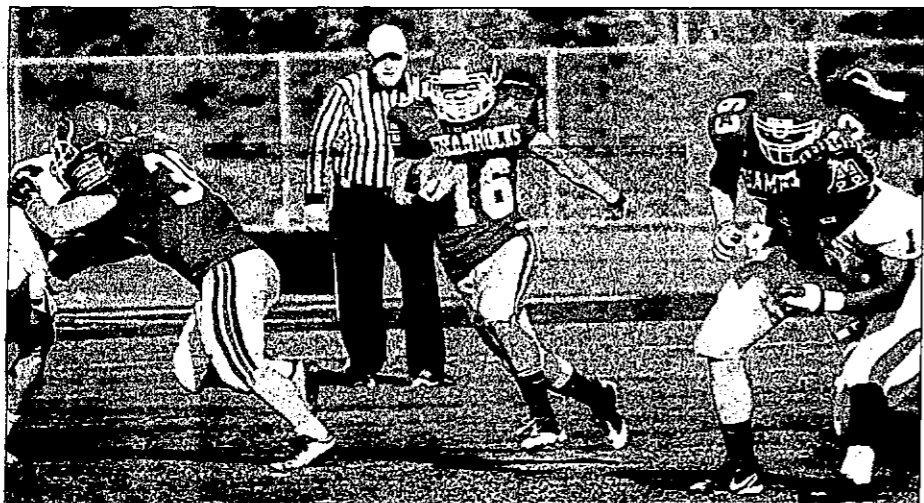
By Sam Eggleston
Correspondent

When the Detroit Catholic Central Shamrocks football team marches onto the field at Battle Creek Central High School Saturday at 1 p.m., it's going to be against a team coach Tom Mach remembers very well.

It was 1998 the last time the Shamrocks and the Rockford Rams squared off against one another. It just so happened it was in the Michigan High School Athletic Association Class AA state championship game at the Pontiac Silverdome.

That game was Rockford's first trip to the title tilt, but it wasn't Mach's nor his team's, and the Shamrocks prevailed, 27-23.

Both teams will enter this game with an 11-1 record. The Rams lost their first game of the season to Lowell, 28-7, but have marched through every opponent since. Lowell (11-1) is in the semifinals as well, but in Division II, and will play Walled Lake Western (11-1) at Central Michigan



CC's Zack Bock (16) finds a huge hole against Ann Arbor Pioneer last Saturday.

University Saturday.

The Shamrocks, on the other hand, took their first loss toward the end of the regular season against rival Orchard Lake St. Mary's, 14-13—a loss they averaged a week later in the Catholic High School League Championship game.

The two teams definitely play a different style of football. The Rams score points and lots of them, grabbing 34.58 points per game, including seven games this season in which they scored over 40 points. Their defense was pretty stingy, too, allowing just 14.92 points

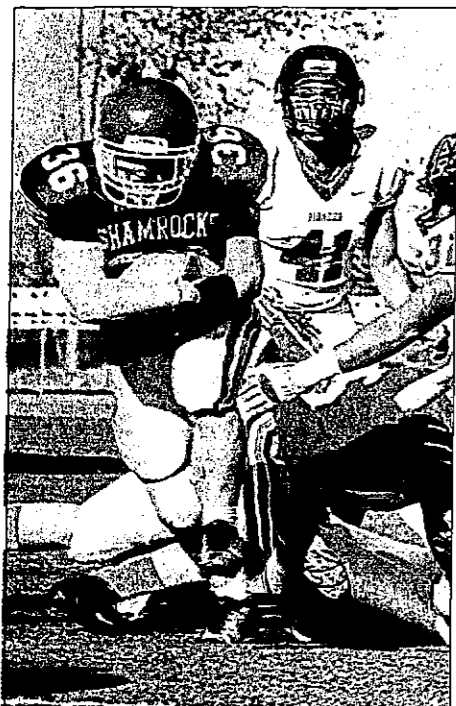
per game, including two shutouts and three others with 10 or fewer points scored against them. The Shamrocks don't worry so much about scoring a lot of points, though they have averaged an impressive 27.75 points per game, including four games with more

than 40 on the scoreboard in their favor. The key to Shamrocks tradition is stout defense, and this year's team is no different than the nine other Mach-coached teams that have brought home a state title. They have allowed just eight points per game, on average, to be scored

against them this year, including three shutouts and five games where they allowed 10 or fewer points. No matter which way you look at this game, one thing is for certain—it's going to be a fight right to the end. The coveted prize? A trip to the state finals next week.



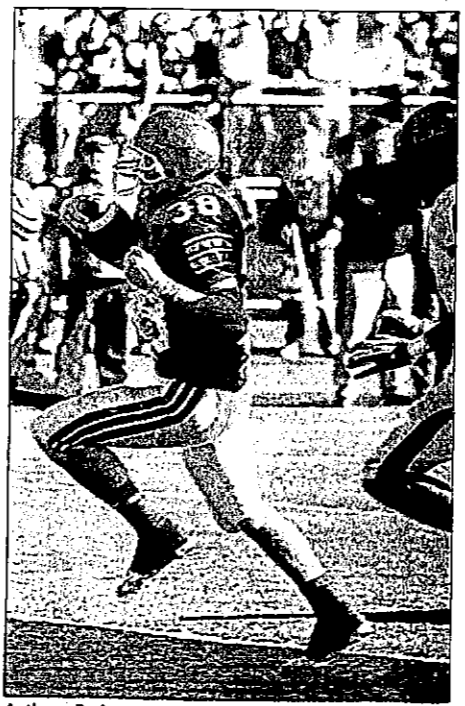
Aaron Hess (24) grabs the ball for a first half interception for the Shamrocks.



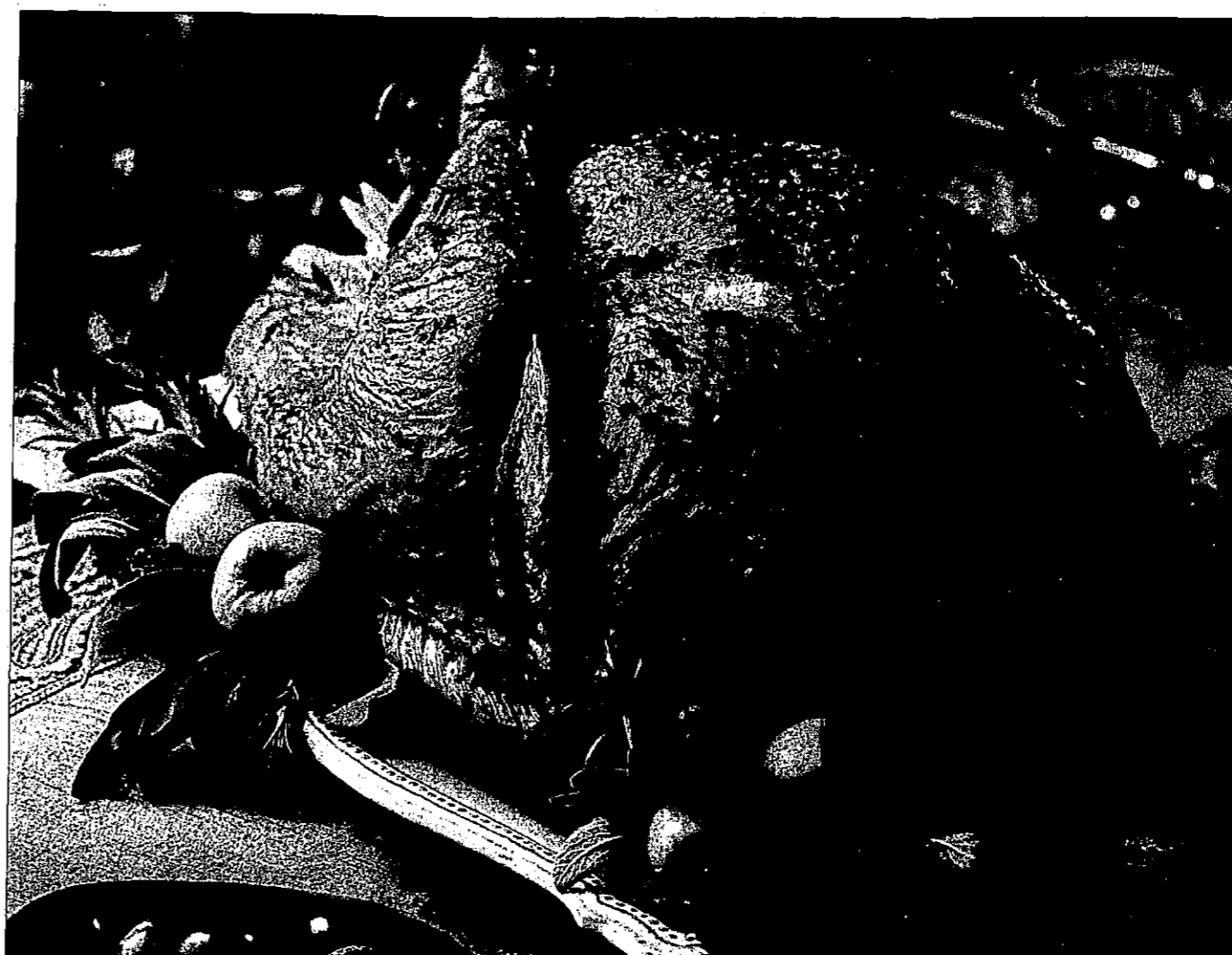
David Houle (36) drives through the Pioneer line.



CC's Matt Grodin (62), who has committed to play for University of Michigan next fall, wraps up fellow U-M commit Drake Johnson from AA Pioneer.



Anthony Darkangelo scores a touchdown in Catholic Central's win over Ann Arbor Pioneer Saturday.



An Unforgettable Feast

A TUSCAN-INSPIRED HOLIDAY MENU

This holiday, serve an inspired meal bursting with the rich flavors of Tuscany. With these recipes—a moist and tender turkey, along with savory sides—you can create an unforgettable experience with family and friends.

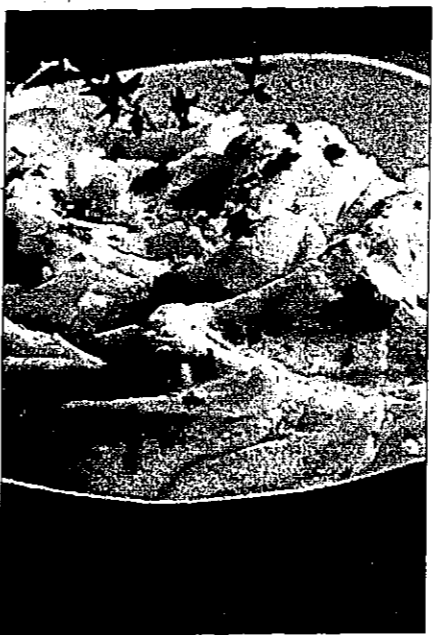
These Tuscan-inspired recipes from Carapelli Olive Oil will enhance and lighten up your holiday favorites with the distinctive taste of heart-healthy olive oil. Naturally cholesterol free, olive oil is a monounsaturated fat, which makes it a healthful substitute for butter, shortening and other oils.

Whether you are entertaining a large crowd or serving up a small family-style dinner, this Tuscan Roast Turkey will be the centerpiece of your holiday table. The juicy flavors and crisp, golden brown skin come from a Tuscan Herb Paste made with fresh herbs and a blend of olive oils.

After you've tried Olive Oil and Herb Mashed Potatoes, you may never want to go back to plain mashed potatoes again. The creamy texture and robust flavor are a perfect complement to the turkey.

For another amazing side dish, try sweet and salty Brussels Sprouts with Caramelized Onions and Prosciutto—it just might become the family's new favorite.

The rich taste of olive oil promises to elevate your holiday cooking to delicious works of art. For more recipes that will turn any meal into an unforgettable feast, visit www.carapelliusa.com.



Brussels Sprouts with Caramelized Onions and Prosciutto

Serves 12
2 pounds fresh Brussels sprouts, blanched, quartered
4 tablespoons Carapelli Premium 100% Italian Extra Virgin Olive Oil
1 onion, julienned
1½ ounces prosciutto, sliced into 3-inch strips
4 tablespoons white balsamic vinegar
Sea salt
Fresh cracked black pepper

Trim stem end of Brussels sprouts. Discard wilted outside leaves. Boil in salted water until cooked through (about 7 minutes) and just tender. Shock in ice water. Quarter the cooled sprouts.

In a large skillet over medium-high heat, caramelize onions in olive oil for 15 to 20 minutes, stirring frequently. Remove from pan. Place in bowl, mix with prosciutto.

In the same skillet, over high heat, lightly brown Brussels sprouts. Add onion-prosciutto mix, toss. Deglaze by adding white balsamic vinegar and scraping bottom of pan. Season with salt and pepper.

Olive Oil and Herb Mashed Potatoes

Serves 12
10 8-ounce potatoes, (about 5 pounds) peeled and cut in half
½ teaspoon white pepper
½ teaspoon kosher salt
½ cup Tuscan Herb Paste
½ cup Carapelli Premium 100% Italian Extra Virgin Olive Oil
1 cup heavy cream, warmed

Boil potatoes in salted water. When cooked tender, mash potatoes. Mix salt and pepper with Tuscan Herb Paste, olive oil and warm heavy cream. Fold into potatoes.

Tuscan Roast Turkey

Serves 16
1 16-pound young turkey
Kosher salt, to taste
1 cup Tuscan Herb Paste
1 teaspoon fennel seeds, crushed
2 teaspoons celery salt
3 fennel stalks with fronds, rough chopped
3 onions, large dice
1 stalk celery, small dice
2½ quarts chicken stock, divided
3 ounces all-purpose flour

Remove giblets from turkey's cavity, rinse cavity and pat dry, set aside. Season turkey inside and out with kosher salt.

Mix Tuscan Herb Paste with crushed fennel seeds and celery salt. Starting at the neck of the bird, slip your hand between the meat and the skin to loosen.

Rub half the paste mix under skin, and rub remaining paste inside the cavity and over the rest of the turkey.

Place two-thirds of the chopped onion and fennel stalks inside cavity. Truss bird. Place turkey in a roasting pan. Roast at 400°F for 30 minutes.

Reduce temperature to 325°F and continue cooking the turkey to an internal temperature of 160°F, approximately 2½ to 3 hours. Baste turkey often during cooking with juices from pan. If turkey begins to overbrown, cover it loosely with aluminum foil.

As turkey roasts, simmer giblets (neck, heart and gizzard), the other one-third of the fennel stalk, onion mix and diced celery in 1 quart chicken stock until tender, approximately 1½ hours.

When turkey is done, remove from roasting pan and set aside to rest. Degrease roasting pan, reserving 3 ounces of fat to make a roux.

Deglaze pan with a small amount of chicken stock. Transfer stock to a saucepot, and add remaining stock and broth from giblets. Bring to a simmer and degrease.

Make a blond roux with reserved fat and flour. Add roux to the liquid, whisking well to prevent lumps. Simmer 15 minutes. Strain gravy through a fine-meshed strainer. Adjust seasoning.

Tuscan Herb Paste

Yield: 2½ cups
1 tablespoon fresh basil
2 tablespoons fresh rosemary
½ packed cup fresh Italian parsley
1 tablespoon fresh thyme
2 tablespoons fresh sage
½ teaspoon crushed red pepper
½ cup Carapelli Extra Light in Taste Olive Oil
1 cup Carapelli Premium 100% Italian Extra Virgin Olive Oil

Blend herbs and crushed red pepper with light olive oil using a blender or food processor, then stir in extra virgin olive oil.

Serving Ideas: Rub under the skin of turkey for Tuscan Roast Turkey. Use to flavor vegetables for grilling and mushrooms for roasting.

— Family Features



Cranberry Oat Muffins

Cranberries

Sweet or savory, for any season

Whether you're looking to add something sweet to salads, baked goods or seasonal dishes, cranberries pack a lot of flavor, as well as important nutrients and antioxidants, and can be added to a variety of dishes, from muffins and cookies to salads and even quesadillas.

Due to their sweet taste, healthful benefits and versatility, cranberries continue to be increasingly popular. The tiny berry, one of only three fruits native to North America, is grown in several states around the country, but Wisconsin-based growers alone produce more than half of the world's entire supply of cranberries.

Cranberry Health Benefits

- These tasty berries score among the highest of all fruits in antioxidants, which may help support memory function, coordination, prevent certain types of cancer and ulcers, as well as a healthy immune system.
- Naturally-occurring hippuric acid provides antibacterial effects and other natural antibiotic ingredients.
- Though cranberries pack a lot of flavor, they're cholesterol free, fat free, low in sodium, and help maintain heart health.

For cranberry recipes, health facts and more, visit the Wisconsin State Cranberry Growers Association online at www.wiscran.org or on Facebook and Twitter.

Wilted Spinach Salad with Dried Cranberries, Pecans and Feta Cheese

Serves: 6
 1 small red onion, sliced vertically
 8 to 9 cups spinach leaves, washed and patted dry
 1/2 cup pecan pieces, toasted
 4 ounces feta cheese, crumbled
 1/2 cup sweetened-dried cranberries
 1 tablespoon mint leaves, chopped
 2 tablespoons sherry vinegar
 Pinch of salt
 6 tablespoons olive oil
 Black pepper, freshly ground

Quarter and thinly slice red onion. Place slices in cold water; soak for 30 minutes. Drain; pat dry. Place soaked onion slices, spinach, pecans, feta, cranberries, mint and vinegar in large mixing bowl. Toss together with large pinch of salt. In saucepan, heat olive oil to just below smoking. Pour hot oil over salad in bowl, tossing well. Taste and correct seasoning with salt, pepper and vinegar.



Wilted Spinach Salad with Dried Cranberries, Pecans and Feta Cheese

Turkey, Cranberry & Brie Quesadillas

Makes: 8 quesadillas
 Chive Topping
 1/2 cup sour cream, low fat
 1 ounce (1/2 cup) chives, thinly sliced
 1 teaspoon fresh garlic, minced
 1/2 teaspoon lemon juice
 1/2 teaspoon salt
 1/2 teaspoon cayenne pepper, ground
 Quesadillas
 2 cups Brie, rind removed
 8 8-inch flour tortillas, low fat
 1 pound turkey, cooked and shredded
 1 cup sweetened-dried cranberries
 1 cup walnuts, toasted and chopped
 1/2 cup chives, thinly sliced
 Preheat oven to 350°F.
 Chive Topping
 Purée topping ingredients in food processor until smooth. Refrigerate.

Spread 1/2 cup Brie over half of tortilla. Layer 1/2 cup turkey, 1/2 cup cranberries, 1 tablespoon walnuts and 1 tablespoon chives. Fold tortilla in half. Bake quesadillas on baking sheet 8 to 10 minutes until cheese is melted. Serve with chive topping.

— Family Features



Turkey, Cranberry & Brie Quesadillas



STORAGE TIPS FOR FRESH CRANBERRIES

Stocking up on fresh berries is easier than ever. Use these tips from Wisconsin's cranberry growers when storing this delicious berry.

- Remember fresh cranberries are only available seasonally October-December. However, the berries freeze well.
- Don't be afraid to freeze fresh cranberries up to a year. For maximum freshness, use a second airtight storage bag.
- If you're planning to freeze your cranberries, do not wash beforehand. Rather, wash upon thawing.



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Scoop is asking all of his friends both young and young at heart to help local areas most needy children this holiday season. Bring a new unwrapped gift to one of the office locations:
 101 N. Lafayette, South Lyon or 41304 Concept Drive, Plymouth

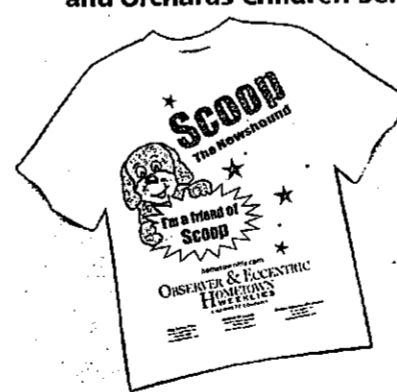
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Car Report

Advertising Feature

VOLKSWAGEN KEEPS ROLLING UP HUGE SALES INCREASES IN AMERICA THIS YEAR

By Dale Buss

The brand that might be taking biggest advantage of the challenges facing Toyota and Honda in the U.S. market isn't from Detroit - it's from Wolfsburg.

Volkswagen keeps rolling up huge sales increases in America this year, today reporting a whopping 40% jump in October sales over a year ago. In fact, on the last day of October, VW already surpassed its U.S. sales total of about 264,000 for all of 2010.

Sales for the entire U.S. auto industry in October strengthened modestly from September on a seasonally adjusted basis.

"We hit it out of the park" in October, Jonathan Browning, CEO of Volkswagen of America, commented on a call with reporters this morning. "Clearly it's an impact of having strong products in the marketplace offering great safety, quality and

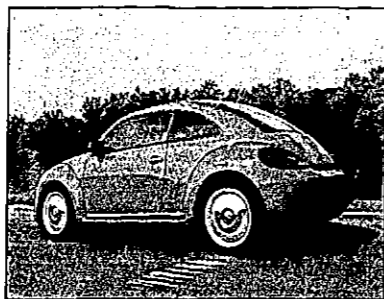
value." VW is "looking for over 300,000 sales" in 2012, he noted. "Clearly, as we see each of our new products establishing themselves in the market, it builds our confidence in terms of the progress we're making."

Browning declared that, "with all the right products in the heart of key segments, and now the most Insurance Institute for Highway Safety's (IIHS) top safety picks in the industry, our momentum continues as customers are increasingly recognizing and embracing the quality and value of our vehicles."

Routan is the latest Volkswagen to earn the IIHS designation for 2011, the highest possible from the non-profit safety-research organization. VW, with nine IIHS-approved models, now has brand leadership in that distinction for the entire U.S. auto market. The other VW models to receive the rating are Passat, CC, Jetta, Jetta



The Routan minivan is the latest VW to earn safety recognition.



Beetle is new with a more masculine profile.

SportWagen, Tiguan, Touareg, and four-door Golf and GTI.

Browning noted that VW achieved its sales gain despite beginning the month with a tight 31-day supply of vehicles, according to Autodata, while he said that Toyota, Honda and Nissan had 34, 34 and 38 days' supply available at the start of October. "We went into the month relatively lean on inventory yet managed to achieve tremendous growth and maintain our momentum," Browning said.

The best news for VW, however, is that its new-product pipeline is just now disgorging two new vehicles that it expects to be among its highest-volume U.S. models going forward. Its

brand-new, lower-priced, U.S.-built midsize sedan, Passat, sold more than 5,000 units last month, comprising the best sales for any month for the overhauled nameplate since December 2005. "Passat already has made some inroads in the mid-size sedan segment," Browning said.

The 2012 Beetle, also recast with more male-friendly styling and features, also has begun selling in volume. And the third leg of VW's stool of volume nameplates, Jetta, sold 9 percent more units in October than a year earlier. GTI sales increased by 33 percent and Golf sales by 34 percent. Sales of VW's Touareg and Tiguan SUVs also rose.

VW's Jetta compact sold 13,058 units, a 9-percent increase over a year ago. VW reported that its clean-diesel Turbo Diesel Injection models accounted for 21 percent of all of the brand's October sales, and are up 37 percent for the year-to-date. The company has been popularizing diesel with new models for three years now, especially its Jetta SportWagen model, which is 80 to 90 percent diesel sales. But Browning said that VW has experienced some short-term tightness in TDI supplies, especially of the SportWagen models, whose overall sales eased by 14 percent during October.

Meanwhile, Toyota and Honda continued to suffer in October, with a 4-percent sales decline and flat sales, respectively, compared with a year ago. Toyota continued to be dragged down from leftover supply problems because of the March natural disaster in Japan (and lower SUV and truck sales), while both Honda and Toyota are bracing for further huge North American productions cut in coming months because of the flooding of supply chains in Thailand.

Still, Browning insisted that VW isn't becoming overly opportunistic. "I wouldn't say we're making any adjustments" based on the continuing problems of its main Japanese rivals, he said. "We're plowing our own furrow in terms of our products and our go-to-market status. We're satisfied with the momentum we're building and we'll continue to do that. We'll manage the competitive environment as we go forward."



The new 2012 Passat could quickly become VW's highest-volume U.S. model.

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