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Photo by BRYAN MITCHELL

A tough call

Novi Arts Council photography contest judges Warren Ledger and Deborah Gowan look over the entries as they try to narrow down their selections. Novi News photographer Bryan Mitchell was also a judge in the contest. The Arts Council hosts the contest annually. The entries will be on display in the Novi Civic Center throughout the month of February. The names of the winners will be announced in a yet-to-be-scheduled banquet. For more information about the contest, call 347-0400.

Council plans to tighten its budgetary belt

By JAN JEFFRES
Staff Writer

Taxes will not be raised an average of \$30 per year to help Novi through its current budget crunch, the Novi City Council majority decided in a special meeting Thursday.

With the understanding that staff members will not be laid off, City Manager Edward Kriewall was sent back to implement the paring of \$144,000 from of this year's budget.

Novi is more than half way through fiscal year 1992/1993. The city faces entering the next fiscal year, 1993/1994, with \$400,000 less than it had at the beginning of this fiscal year.

A proposal from the city administration to help make good the loss — and avoid lay-offs — by tapping into money set aside in years past for park land purchases was protested by several parks and recreation commissioners. The council had \$144,000 on hold from the general fund to finance a purchase option and the first payment on park land at Napier and Nine Mile roads. Another \$188,000 in special 1985 mid-decade census funds had also been dedicated to park acquisition.

"My concern is they (residents) will say we've passed a bond issue, now they're going to do this thing. That would be a lie in taxation," Parks and Recreation Commissioner Robert Shaw said.

"I look at it on a federal level as using social security trust funds to try and balance the budget."

The council agreed, promising not to touch the \$188,000 but to use the park bond money, which is for land purchases, to buy the Napier Road site and keep the \$144,000 in the general fund.

Instead, the shortfall will likely be made up by dipping into the city's savings account, the fund balance.

Also questioned was the decision not to hold the session during the council's regular Monday meeting, which is televised.

"The citizens of this community deserve the opportunity to see the

■ **City Council members**
Thursday praised Novi department heads for the reductions each has proposed for this year's budget, but Finance Director Les Gibson cautioned that not all of this may be do-able. The story is on page 4A.

budget negotiations," Harry Avagian, president of the Lakes Area Residents Association (LARA), said. After the meeting, Shaw agreed that the whole debate should have been on Channel 13 for the citizens to witness: "I think they would have been impressed."

Inflation, decreased development and \$300,000 worth of successful appeals by tax-paying big businesses at the state Tax Tribunal are factors given for Novi's cash shortfall.

Novi has a \$12 million general fund budget.

Kriewall said that several years of keeping the general fund millage before the Truth in Taxation benchmark have eroded the city's ability to bounce back from the Tax Tribunal losses.

Novi is permitted by city charter to assess a 6.5 millage rate for the general fund. Last year, the council levied this at 4.37, the same rate as the year before.

Truth in Taxation is a state regulation which requires governments to roll back tax millage to offset increases in property tax values. A community may override Truth in Taxation after holding a public hearing.

"We've actually penalized ourselves by passing budgets below Truth in Taxation," Kriewall said. "When we've been running as tight as we have for the last couple of years, we cannot absorb the shock of the Tax Tribunal."

The administration's suggestion of a four-tenths of a mill levy to

Continued on 4

Plan wins approval over protests

By RANDY COBLE
Staff Writer

The Novi Planning Commission gave its blessing to a new subdivision design at its Jan. 20 meeting, despite recommendations to adjust its view of the adjusted lot size plan.

The commission voted to recommend that the City Council approve the conceptual adjusted lot size plan for Greenwood Oaks No. 4, a subdivision proposed for property near Beck and Ten Mile Roads. It is the fourth subdivision of that

name, all part of a single development.

About a dozen people who live in Greenwood Oaks Nos. 1-3 attended the meeting to express their disapproval of the option plan and of the way The Selective Group — the developing company — had dealt with them. A company later objected to the residents' characterizations of the situation.

"This compromise does not benefit the city and its residents," said Mark Barsamian.

He added that he thought subdivision builders take advantage of the option.

The minimum (allowable) lot size is the maximum size (to build) in the developer's eyes," said Barsamian.

"This developer sold me on a (large-lot) community," said one man who did not give his name. "You people are here to represent me, living here in Novi, not the multi-millionaire developer living outside of Novi."

The adjusted lot size option is a trade-off. A developer can make home lots smaller than city or

Continued on 3

Council approves phone tower

By JAN JEFFRES
Staff Writer

If you're tired of the voice on the other end fading in and out as you chat away on your mobile phone while cruising Interstate 96, improvements could be on the way.

The installation of a 180-foot tower owned by Detroit Cellular Telephone Company was recently approved by the Novi City Council.

The site selected is five industrially-zoned acres on the south side of Grand River Avenue between Beck and Wixom Road, behind the J. Kelly Company.

In applying for a variance for the tower, the company noted that customers frequently complain about service in this area, with customers receiving busy tones and poor quality calls. The new tower will aid capacity in central and northern Novi, especially along the freeway system.

Existing towers serving the area are now well over capacity, the firm contends.

Representing Detroit Cellular Telephone Company, attorney and engineer Jonathan Crane said that the unmanned tower will only be service twice a month and will generate no smoke, fumes or traffic.

Crane said that at the request of Novi's Zoning Board of Appeals, the tower will be built to withstand wind gusts of up to 100 miles per hour.

According to planning consultant Brandon Rogers said the new facility is higher than existing Ameritech and Cellular One towers in Novi, but that the structure will be painted to blend in with the sky and will serve a large area.

"It's a service to the community as well as the motoring public. This ordinance has been in place 10 or 12 years. I think it's out-of-date with the state-of-the-art," Rogers.

"If the tower falls, only 40 percent falls and then it implodes."

The city-approved variance allows the tower to be 120 feet higher than what local ordinances. Based on city requirements, 180 feet of setback would be needed, but only 123 feet is available.

"It doesn't seem to be near any residential area it could impact. This seems to be an excellent location for this tower," City Manager Edward Kriewall said.

The firm notes that it will be providing additional service to Novi by through towers planned for Commerce Township and Northville.

Rogers advised that the ordinance review committee look at the current requirements for towers, which are based on possibly outdated building standards which anticipated that towers would fall over sideways, rather than collapse inwards.

Police find pot, consider charges

By CRISTINA FERRIER
Staff Writer

Police officers with a search warrant burst into a home on Austin Street Jan. 19 and confiscated marijuana from a suspected dealer.

Officers from the Oakland County Narcotics Enforcement Team (NET) and the Novi Police Department found four people at home, but only one is suspected of dealing.

Officers discovered and confiscated approximately 46 grams of marijuana along with a scale and associated paraphernalia, as well as over \$250 cash.

NET Lt. Beth Moranty said that the amount of marijuana and the other items led officers to believe

the suspect was likely selling it out of the home.

There is no specific cut-off point in such a case that would make the difference between possession of marijuana for personal use or for sale.

"It's based on the prior experience of narcotics officers and prosecuting attorneys," Moranty said. "Most often, generally speaking, 46 grams would indicate the suspect is selling it."

Moranty said only one of the four residents of the home is suspected of selling marijuana. The others in the house may have been children, but Moranty was unable to confirm it.

No arrest had been made as of

Friday, but officers were making plans to seek criminal charges through the Oakland County Prosecutor's Office.

"Warrants are pending," said Moranty. "We're going to the prosecutor on Monday and a decision will be made then as to whether we will be making any arrests."

Moranty would not say what led NET officers to suspect the Austin Street home, adding that it could jeopardize other investigations currently underway. However, she said, this incident was not connected with any other suspected drug dealings in the Novi area.

A second search warrant led to another drug bust that same night on Woodland Place in the Country

Estates mobile home park in Lyon Township.

A separate crew of NET officers, assisted by Oakland County Sheriff's Deputies, searched the home and turned up approximately 1/2 pound of marijuana as well as 26 guns.

Novi Police said the guns included two semi-automatic machine guns, one assault rifle and one U21 pistol. The remaining weapons consisted of various semi-automatic pistols, rifles and shotguns.

Charges in that incident are also being sought through the Oakland County Prosecutor's Office.

Both cases remain under investigation by NET.

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WHAT'S
INSIDE?

Community Calendar

Today, February 1

Novi Adventurers: The Novi Adventurers first meeting of the year will be at 6:30 p.m. at the Tollgate Center.

City Council: The Novi City Council is scheduled to meet in regular session at 8 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Novi Civic Center.

Health tests: Community EMS will sponsor blood pressure testing and cholesterol testing in the Novi Civic Center from 7:30-9 p.m. in conjunction with the Novi City Council meeting.

Village Oaks PTO (VOICE): The will meet 7:30 p.m. in the Village Oaks School Library on Willowbrook Road.

Choir Boosters: The Novi High School Choir Boosters will meet at 7 p.m. in the high school library.

Tuesday, February 2

Chess Club: The Novi Chess Club will meet from 7-10 p.m. at the Novi Civic Center. There is no charge to attend and all players are welcome. For more information, call Tom Sawmiller, 344-9833 evenings after 6 p.m.

Novi Jaycees: The Novi Jaycees will hold a general membership meeting at 8 p.m. at the Jaycee House on Sixthgate.

Seniors meeting: The Novi Center Seniors will hold their general meeting at 11 a.m. in the Community Center of the Novi Civic Center.

Board of Appeals: The Novi Board of Appeals will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center.

Band rehearsal: The Novi Concert Band rehearses at 7:30 p.m. in the band room at Novi High School. For more information on the group, call manager Warren Ledger at 348-2955.

Amateur Radio Club: The Novi Amateur Radio Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. at the Novi Civic Center. Anyone interested in any aspect of amateur radio two-way communication is invited to attend.

Wednesday, February 3

Farming Workshop: Michigan State University Cooperative Extension Service is hosting a series of workshops for those interested in small-scale farming, 7-9 p.m., beginning today and ending on March 3. The series will be held at Tollgate Farm on Meadowbrook. Registration fee is \$10 per person. For more information, contact Chris Webster, Agriculture Agent, at 858-0887.

Good Morning, Novi: The Novi Chamber of Commerce breakfast series presents Councilwoman Nancy Cassels who will speak on issues, past and future, important to the Chamber, including signs, taxes, false alarms, growth and development at 7:30 a.m. at the Country Epicure Restaurant. Admission is \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members.

Athletic Boosters: The Novi High School Athletic Boosters Club will hold its monthly meeting at 7 p.m. in room 107 of the high school.

Planning Commission: The Novi Planning Commission will

meet in regular session at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Novi Civic Center.

Thursday, February 4

Novi schools: The Novi schools Board of Education will meet in regular session in the Educational Services Building.

L'il Abner: The classic musical of the doings in Dogpatch will be presented at Novi High School. Showtime is 8 p.m.

Friday, February 5

L'il Abner: The classic musical of the doings in Dogpatch will be presented at Novi High School. Showtime is 8 p.m.

Saturday, February 6

Softball Tournament: The Novi Jaycees will hold their annual softball tournament at Mr. B's.

L'il Abner: The classic musical of the doings in Dogpatch will be presented at Novi High School. Showtime is 8 p.m.

Sunday, February 7

Brunch at Brady's: The Women's Resource Center, Schoolcraft College, and Diamond Jim Brady's will host Brunch at Brady's. Scholarships for Women from 11:30-1:30 p.m. Proceeds will support scholarships for women who need assistance in meeting their educational goals. The cost is \$30. For more information call 348-5474 or 482-4443.

Monday, February 8

City Council: The Novi City Council will meet at 8 p.m. in the council chambers of the Novi Civic Center.

Library Board: The Novi Library Board will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Novi library building.

Health tests: Community EMS will sponsor blood pressure testing and cholesterol testing in the Novi Civic Center from 7:30-9 p.m. in conjunction with the Novi City Council meeting.

Tuesday, February 9

Chess Club: The Novi Chess Club will meet from 7-10 p.m. at the Novi Civic Center. There is no charge to attend and all players are welcome. For more information, call Tom Sawmiller, 344-9833 evenings after 6 p.m.

Band rehearsal: The Novi Concert Band rehearses at 7:30 p.m. in the band room at Novi High School. For more information on the group, call manager Warren Ledger at 348-2955.

Camera Club: The Novi Camera Club meets at 7:30 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center. For more information, call Hugh Crawford at 349-5079.

Wednesday, February 10

Youth Baseball: The board of directors of Novi Youth Baseball

meets at 7 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center. The meeting is open to the public.

Lions Club: The Novi Lions Club will meet at Kim's Gardens at 6:30 p.m. for dinner followed by a meeting.

Seniors potluck: The Novi Senior Citizens will gather at noon in the Novi Civic Center for their monthly potluck luncheon.

SPARK: The Society for the Preservation of American Racing Knowledge, the all-volunteer support organization for the Motorsports Hall of Fame of America, meets at 7 p.m. at the Novi Expo Center. The meeting is open to anyone interested in supporting the Hall of Fame and Museum.

Thursday, February 11

Orchard Hills PTO: The Orchard Hills Elementary School PTO will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the library.

Historical Commission: The Novi Historical Commission will meet at 7:30 p.m. at the Novi Civic Center in the Manager's Conference Room (2nd floor).

Parks meeting: The Novi Parks and Recreation Commission will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center.

Monday, February 15

Arts Council: The Novi Arts Council Executive Board will meet at 6:30 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center.

City Council: The Novi City Council is scheduled to meet in regular session at 8 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Novi Civic Center.

Health tests: Community EMS will sponsor blood pressure testing and cholesterol testing in the Novi Civic Center from 7:30-9 p.m. in conjunction with the Novi City Council meeting.

Tuesday, February 16

Garden Club: The Novi Garden Club will meet at 1 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center.

Band rehearsal: The Novi Concert Band rehearses at 7:30 p.m. in the band room at Novi High School. For more information on the group, call manager Warren Ledger at 348-2955.

Wednesday, February 17

Planning Commission: The Novi Planning Commission will meet in regular session in the Council Chambers of the Novi Civic Center.

Thursday, February 18

Novi schools: The Novi schools Board of Education will meet in regular session at 7:30 p.m. in the Educational Services Building.

Tuesday, February 23

Youth Assistance: Novi Youth Assistance board will meet at 7 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center.

Winning awards is the easy part

Life would be a breeze, if all we had to do was impress the judges of excellence in journalism contests. The Novi News has won 12 state and national awards for outstanding community journalism this year. In addition to earning the General Excellence Award from the Michigan Press Association, your hometown newspaper has also won two national awards from the National Newspaper Association and two more from Suburban Newspapers of America. The toughest judges of all, however, are you — our readers. Our secret to success? Give the people of Novi the type of paper they have come to expect, and impressing the judges will be easy.

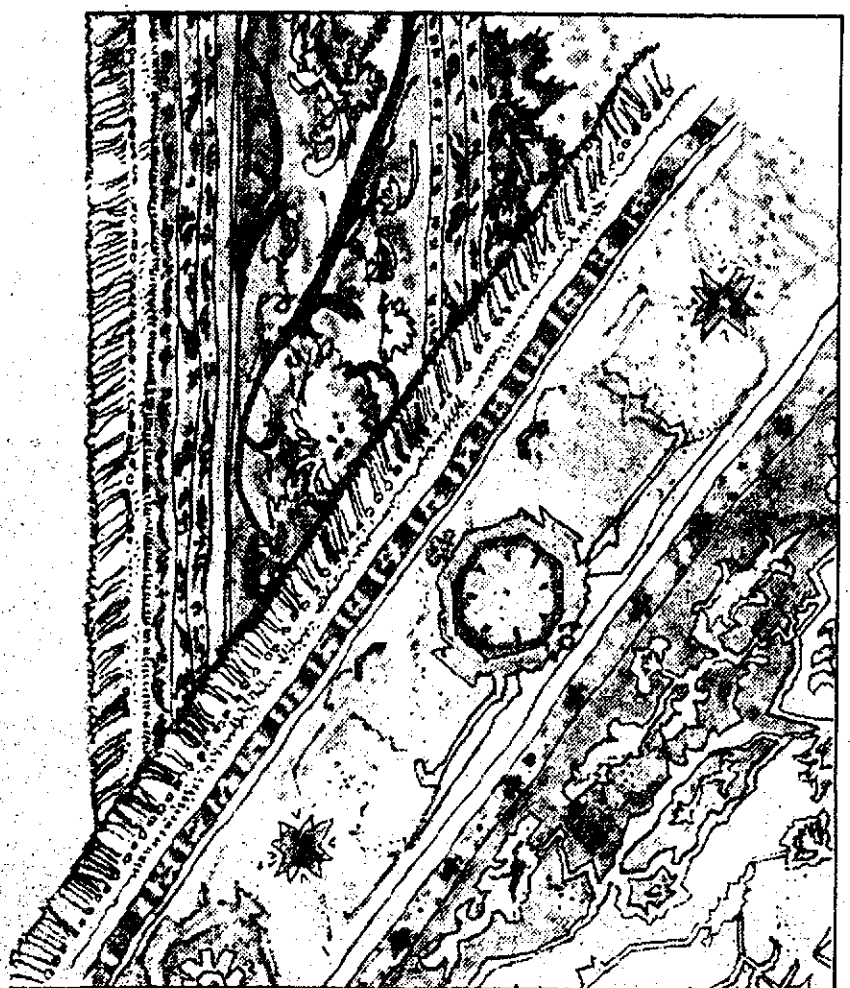
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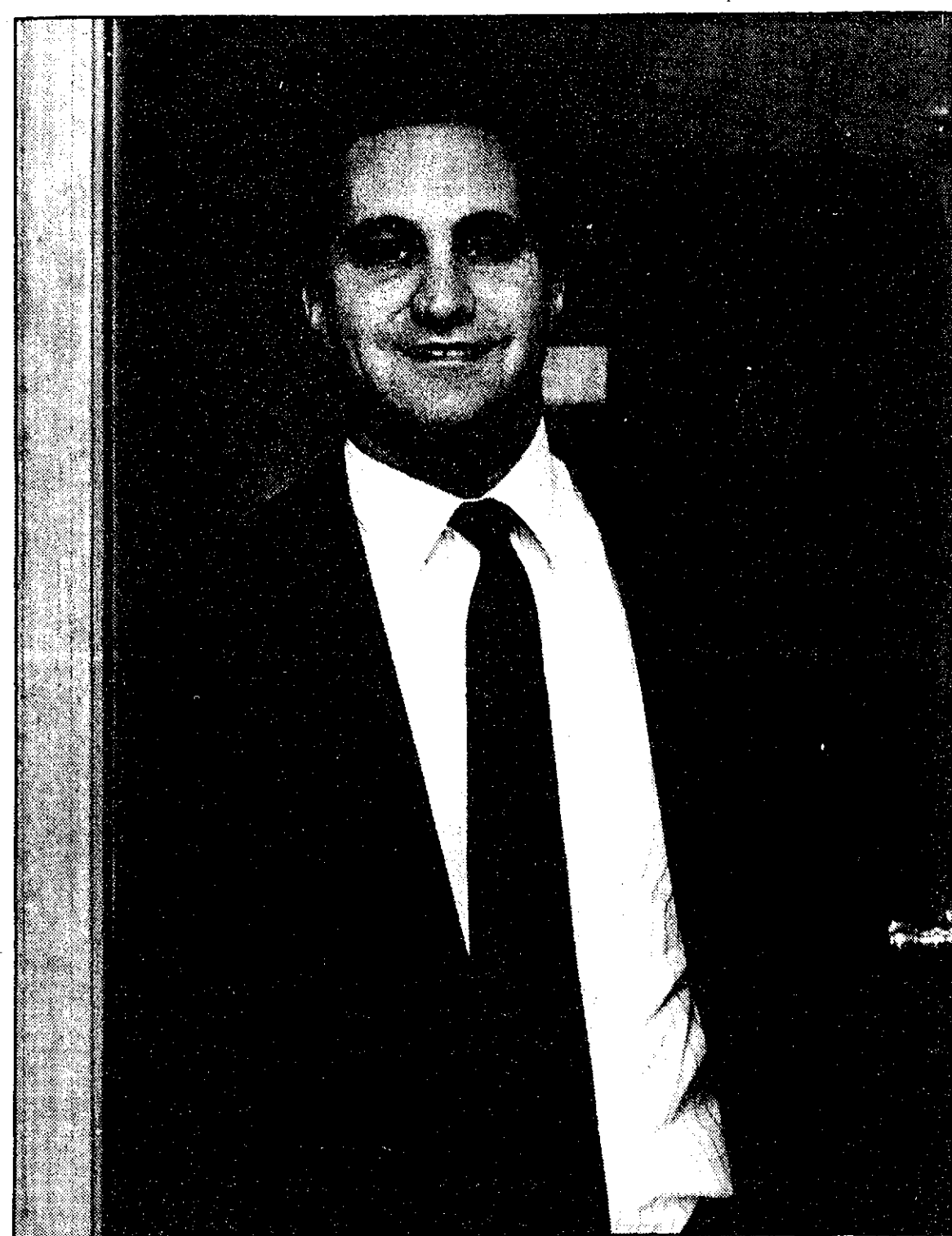
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New Novi Chamber of Commerce President J.R. Atiyeh.

Photo by BRYAN MITCHELL

Chamber chair calls for commercial growth

By CRISTINA FERRIER
Staff Writer

The Novi Chamber of Commerce's new chairman of the board, J.R. Atiyeh, predicts 1993 will be a good year for commercial development.

"1993 will be a slow to moderate growth year for the economy," he said. "In Novi, that means more commercial growth, besides the residential growth. Commercial growth had nearly stopped; it had really slowed down."

Atiyeh, a certified financial planner, is president of Financial Planning and Investment.

"Houses are still being built in Novi, but it's very important that we develop a 50-50 balance of residential and commercial property."

"That balance, he explained, would create a good tax base. It doesn't mean a business for every house; rather, it means large commercial developments in addition to smaller businesses."

"Anything different than a 50-50 balance and the residents start paying too much of the tax base on their own," Atiyeh said.

At this point in Novi's history, residential development is exceeding business development. But Atiyeh foresees change, and expects the city planners to move toward the 50-50 balance.

He used Twelve Oaks Mall as an example of large commercial development that pays a significant part of Novi's tax base.

"Twelve Oaks Mall pays around a half-million (per year) in taxes," he said. "Yet it has its own police and rubbish removal. It doesn't use many of the city services that residential property owners use every day."

"You hear people say no more commercial," but we've got to have it."

Atiyeh said one of the chambers' major functions should be to act as a voice for commercial business in Novi.

Commercial businesses are not allowed to vote," he said. "The guy who owns Twelve Oaks Mall doesn't get to vote for the Novi City Council. We want to be a more active voice for the business owners of Novi."

The chamber has several projects currently underway, among which are improvements to the Grand River corridor; a Convention and Visitors Bureau working closely with the Novi Expo Center; and Partnerships in Education, which combines business with education.

"The Convention and Visitors Bureau is designed to attract convention business to the city, which will help our hotels and restaurants," Atiyeh said.

"The next time a convention was held at the Expo Center, Big Boy ran out of food two times," he said. "It was a Monday night. They never run out of food on a Monday. And the Olive Garden sold 400 more dinners than usual that just gives you an idea of the impact of money being spent due to the Expo Center."

Atiyeh said most local residents born and raised in Novi are often a tourist destination on its own. Many people from smaller communities outside the Detroit area have been known to travel to Novi to spend a weekend shopping.

"I never thought of it, but it's a big deal to come here and shop," he said. "You and I, if we want to go to the mall, just hop over there. But people in, say, Alma drive a long way to shop here."

Improvements to the Grand River Corridor are the project of business owners on that street who have named themselves the Grand River

Avenue Association.

"Their goal is to carry out a plan presented to the city council last November," Atiyeh said. "They are trying to get better lighting, sidewalks, shrubs and maybe an annual clean-up day and some sidewalk sales."

One of the upcoming Partnerships in Education events is a career day scheduled for March, which the chamber hopes will expose local high school students to some of the realities of the business world.

"Our goal is to put business as more of a part of the educational process," Atiyeh explained. "We want kids to have more of an idea of reality. I think there should be a personal finance class taught at the middle school level."

"Do you know how many marriages would stay together if people had a better idea of how to handle their finances?"

A big challenge for 1993, Atiyeh said, will be the development of more parking space in Novi, especially around the Expo Center as more and more conventions move from Detroit locations to Novi.

Finances within the chamber itself are in good shape, he said. A balanced budget amendment is currently under discussion for the organization, though its details are small. "We have hardly any debt," Atiyeh said. "The only debt we have is our copy machine, and we'll be having an auction in March that will raise extra money."

Finally, he said, he hopes that in 1993 the chamber will combine efforts with the city council to help all local residents and business owners. "We are not here to antagonize and intimidate the city council," he said. "We are here to work with them. That is so much more important."

Planners budget for city survey, town center study

By RANDY COBLE
Staff Writer

The Novi Planning Commission took a look at its 1993 workload and proposed budget Jan. 20.

The City Council has the final say over the commission's budget, and will begin the budgeting process for the next fiscal year, which begins July 1.

Commissioners have set a number of tasks for the coming year, and are considering accomplishing them

with a proposed budget of \$142,400. The commission budgeted \$35,000 in retainer fees for planning consultant Brandon Rogers in the coming year. The planning consultant firm of Birchler/Arroyo Associates will also receive a retainer fee — \$17,020 — for its regular work, as well as a \$20,000 retainer for a proposed traffic study.

The amount budgeted for consultant services in the coming year totals some \$72,020.

Administrative commission functions will cost an estimated \$15,800. These include commissioners' expenses for attending professional conferences and workshops (\$6,500) and work related to amending the city's zoning map (\$6,000). Administrative expenses also include \$2,000 for printing and publishing of relevant documents.

Also included is \$700 for membership fees to professional organizations and \$600 for subscriptions to planning-related magazines and other periodicals.

Some \$7,500 will go for a study of city traffic patterns and needs from city residents is also on the planning agenda. Some \$12,000 will be spent as part of that process for consultant fees incurred in preparing such things as reports.

About \$2,230 will go for writing and printing a natural resources design plan guidebook. The book will help develop policies on how Novi's natural resources will be treated, and to continue work on the city's land

greenway path system. A program of continuing to give

and receive information to and from city residents is also on the planning agenda. Some \$12,000 will be spent as part of that process for consultant fees incurred in preparing such things as reports.

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greenway path system. A program of continuing to give

Neighbors protest lot sizes

Continued from Page 1

distance normally allows in return for preserving environmentally sensitive areas.

The option plan, which requires council approval, must better preserve those areas than a conventional layout plan would, which benefits city residents. The benefit to the developer is that can more smaller-size lot homes can fit into a subdivision.

In the Greenwood Oaks case, however, the number of lots remains the same in both plans, but three more acres of woodlands and wetlands will be preserved. Lot sizes, though, have been reduced by as much as 7,100 square feet.

The conventional plan for the 42.5-acre site includes 46 lots, each at least 21,700 square feet in size. The option plan preserves about three more acres of woodlands and wetlands, but keeps the number of lots at 46 total. Lot sizes diminish, however, to a minimum of 14,625 square feet.

Why is the developer submitting the smaller-lot plan? Mike Horowitz

of The Selective Group said that the company's motive was environmental — the plan will save trees.

He objected to the "impression of broken promises" that he said some residents and commissioners had implied. Horowitz defended the company's record, saying that it had been fair.

Planning Consultant Brandon Rogers recommended approval of the option plan.

"The area saved in the adjusted lot size (plan) is the best area of woodlands on this site," said Rogers. "This area has a high wildlife value and functions as a buffer and screen to the residential lots to the south and west of this site."

Two commissioners felt the benefits of the plan didn't offset the price nearby residents and the city would pay.

"Oliver Wendell Holmes said that the life of the law is not logic but experience," said Commissioner Richard Clark. "And experience is teaching us that something's different in reality than in the law."

Clark said the homeowners in Greenwood Oaks were promised that

the entire development would consist of lots that were at least half-acre size.

He suggested that the city might consider getting legal agreements done with developers and that they be held to the requirements. You live by your promises."

Commissioner Robert Taub felt the ordinance itself created the problem.

"What we've done is to create a strong incentive to not present your best conventional layout so it compares poorly with the adjusted lot size plan," said Taub.

When he suggested changing that aspect of the adjusted lot size ordinance, he received a round of applause from Greenwood Oaks residents in attendance — a very unusual event for a planning commission meeting.

But the voices that mattered most were those of the commission. In the end, the motion to recommend approval of the plan passed 5-2, with Clark and Taub voting no.

The matter now moves onto the City Council, which will have the final say.

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See Front Page of Today's Creative Dining Section

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Teen missing with stepdad's gun

A Novi man reported Jan. 26 that his stepson had been missing since the previous day, and that his gun was also missing from his home.

Police withheld the identity of the man and the missing boy, who is a ninth grader at Walled Lake Western High School.

The man told police that on Jan. 25 he received a call from an Oakland County Sheriff's Deputy, who told him he had spoken to the missing teen over a firearms discharge complaint.

The teen was supposed to go straight home after speaking with the deputy, but did not return. He also had not appeared in school.

Further information on the case was unavailable at press time.

CHILD NEGLECT: Novi police are investigating a woman who may have charges of child neglect for leaving her two small children alone in her car outside Twelve Oaks Mall.

The children were found wandering around the mall alone, police said. Approximately 45 minutes after the children were discovered, the

Police News

mother appeared at Twelve Oaks security looking for them.

She told police that she came to the mall to pick up one item, and since her children were sleeping she decided to leave them in the car. She said she didn't realize she would be gone that long.

Police checked the woman's record and found it clear. They released the children to her custody, but told her they were forwarding the case to the Oakland County Prosecutor's office for possible criminal charges.

At that point the woman reportedly became very angry, and began yelling at the officers for "picking on good people, not on welfare."

Officers warned her to settle down or else they would call Oakland County Child Protective Services immediately. She reportedly calmed down, took the children and left.

ASSAULT AND BATTERY: Novi police questioned a Novi High School student Jan. 27 in connection with an assault and battery complaint.

The suspect reportedly pushed another student after an argument in school, then pushed a teacher and ran away.

LARCENY: Employees at Allor Manufacturing on Grand River reported Jan. 27 that someone apparently drove a large vehicle around to the back of their building and stole a large amount of steel stored there.

The incident occurred some time over the previous weekend. There are currently no suspects or witnesses.

HARASSMENT: A Twelve Oaks security officer contacted Novi Police Jan. 28 in connection with alleged harassment of his girlfriend at the mall.

The girlfriend told police that she stopped by the mall to visit her former place of business and, as she was standing near the mall entrance, she looked over and saw the security guard's former girlfriend laughing at her and making faces.

She told police this was an ongoing problem.

SHOPLIFTING: Novi police arrested a shoplifting suspect at Kohl's Department Store on West Oaks Drive Jan. 28.

The suspect reportedly took several items from Kohl's, put them in an empty bag, and left without paying. He also allegedly picked up several other items and returned them for cash refunds.

During the arrest, police found three small plastic bags of marijuana hidden in his clothing.

Citizens with information about the above incidents are urged to call the Novi Police Tip Line at 349-6887.

Novi Briefs

Oratorical Contest: The Novi Optimist Club is sponsoring its annual Oratorical Contest on Thursday, March 4, at 7:30 p.m. in the Novi Civic Center council chambers. This year's topic is "I Can Make a Difference." All young people who had not reached their 16th birthday prior to Jan. 1, 1993, are invited to compete for prizes. A \$200 U.S. Savings Bond will be awarded to the first place winner, a \$100 Savings Bond will go to the second place runner up, and \$50 Savings Bond will be awarded to the third place contestant.

Chartered in 1989, the Novi Optimist Club's motto is "Friend of Youth." Currently, the 49 member club meets at 8:30 a.m. in the Novi Civic Center. The club president for 1992-93 is Donald Ponto. For more information regarding the oratorical contest, call Ponto at 348-7445, Karen MacKenzie at 349-8398, or Ruth Vigna at 344-8300.

Grand River Avenue Association: All property owners and business operators along Grand River Avenue are being invited to attend a meeting Tuesday, Feb. 9, at 7 p.m. at the Novi Expo Center to review, discuss and possibly adopt the proposed by-laws for the Grand River Avenue Association. For more information, call Mike Csapo at 347-0475.

L/I Abner, lotta fun: The talented bunch out at Novi High School will perform the hilarious musical *L/I Abner* on Feb. 4, 5 and 6. Showtime will be 8 p.m., and tickets are \$5 pre-sale, \$5.50 at the door and \$3.50 for senior citizens and children under 12.

The classic tale of the doings in Dogpatch features a student cast that includes Greg Fortner, Betsy Becker, Shane Vogel, Tracey Ford, Tom Hanton, Carrie Wickert, Robert Godowski, Greg Mackay, Matt Wickert, Joe Leahy, Kristeen Pate, Liz Whittenburg, Chrissy Charbonneau, Julie Ziegler, Rebecca Pylar, Corey Davis, John Streit, James McLellan, Vince Meehan, Cyrus Mistry, Chad Darling, Anthony Dixon, Chris Nelson, Dan Smoliga and Mike Barrel.

Making History: The Novi Historical Society invites the public to a special presentation by Novi librarian Barbara Louie on her new book, *No, VI On the Trail on Friday*, Feb. 5 at 2 p.m. The session will be held at the restored Novi Township Hall, next to the library on Ten Mile Road.

Louie's work is the first published book of Novi history.

Refreshments will be served. To reserve a place, call society president Kathy Mutch at 349-6774.

CPR Classes: Community EMS, the ambulance service which serves the Novi area, will host a variety of CPR classes at its Life Support Training Institute, 25400 W. Eight Mile Road in Southfield. Adult CPR will be given on Feb. 4 at 9 a.m. and from 6-10 p.m. The Basic Life Support/CPR Course C will be at 9 a.m. on Feb. 19. A first aid class will also be given on Feb. 23 at 9 a.m.

Classes are open to everyone. For information and registration call 344-1990.

Uniforms for da band: Uniforms are in short supply for all the Novi High School bands — marching, symphony, jazz and concert. Former band students can help, however.

Some past members may have forgotten to return all or part of their uniforms. By taking time to return them, you can help out this year's band students. Meadowbrook Cleaners, located in the Novi-Ten Shopping Center (Meadowbrook and Ten Mile Roads), will accept all band uniforms. People who want to return them need only to drop them off there during business hours — no questions asked.

Debaters head to state: The Novi High School varsity debate team will compete in the Michigan Interscholastic Forensic Association state finals on Feb. 4-6. The event will be held at the Novi Hilton, and marks Novi's return to the finals after a seven-year drought.

Captains Randall Julp, James Kovacs, Alan Stevens and Brendan Best will lead the Wildcat debaters, and the public is welcome. Team coaches include Kathleen Pasquantonio and Cheryl Gazlay.

A capital performance: The Novi Singers, an 18-member student group that is part of the Novi High School choir, may have the chance to represent Michigan in Washington, D.C., when they perform during a celebration commemorating the bicentennial anniversary of the U.S. Capitol building.

The group received their invitation this month, and is looking for the green light from the board of education. The board expressed strong support for the May 7-9 trip to Washington, funded by private donations.

Members requested that the group present their formal plan, including a schedule and financing information, at the board's next meeting on Feb. 4.

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council is accepting applications for appointment to the Library Board and Alternates to the Board of Review. Interested citizens may inquire at the office of the City Clerk for applications or additional information. The deadline for receiving applications is February 15th. If you are unable to meet the deadline, please contact the Clerk.

GERALDINE STIPP, CITY CLERK 347-0456 (2-1-93 NR, NN)

THE NOVI NEWS

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the NOVI NEWS

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Opinions

As We See It

Chief has a good idea for new interview room

If you've ever been the victim of a traumatic crime — sexual assault, child molestation, child abuse, spousal abuse, outright rape — then you can probably appreciate the need in Novi for a special facility where police can interview victims, one which has a non-threatening and non-hostile atmosphere, as Police Chief Doug Shaeffer has recently proposed.

If not ... well, count your blessings.

Shaeffer wants to set up a room in the Novi police department headquarters building that would have a living room quality about it, a room with a couch, overstuffed chairs, lamp-type lighting, wallpaper or at least a pleasant paint color, and pictures on the walls.

The room would be separate from the rest of the police department offices, with their desks, straight-backed chairs, sparse decoration and fluorescent lighting. In other words, he wants it to be inviting and relaxing for those who must use it.

The room would be an interview room where victims of especially traumatic crimes could tell their stories to police in relative comfort.

Reporting such a crime can often be as traumatic for the victim as the attack itself. Not only do they have to give repeated descriptions of the incident for police investigators, detectives and prosecutors — even before they face a judge and jury — they will also often have to undergo medical examination as well.

Shaeffer is proposing to locate the room off the lobby or in another location of the police station where the victim would not have to walk through the interior work area of the department, where the victim would not have to feel as if he or she is being looked at. Such a room, would help victims to feel more secure.

The room could also include stuff animals and teddy bears for child victims and discreet recording equipment that would not intimidate the victim during the interview.

Those who get a sense of security from having a burglar alarm and yet do not want to pay out large sums if the system sometimes goes off accidentally can now rest easy.

The Novi City Council recently took action to reduce the fines to be charged when burglar alarm systems in the city turn in false alarms to the Novi Police Department.

Where previously, a false alarm would result in a \$50 fine the very first time, owners of alarm systems can now have up to as many as three false alarms within a 12 month period without incurring costs. Under the old version of the ordinance, the fines would quickly escalate to \$500 on the fourth false alarm, but now the law won't fine owners that much until they've reached the seventh false alarm.

It's a good compromise. On the one hand, the eased restrictions give a bit more leeway to the home and business owners who must rely on burglar alarms. At the same, the remaining fines still provide an incentive to the owners of these systems to keep them in good

We'd like to see the police undertake a similar program with the alarm systems it is concerned with. Testing those systems and for problems ahead of time might just save everyone, police department and alarm system owners alike, a lot of headaches.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

This newspaper welcomes letters to the editor. We ask, however, that they be issue-oriented, confined to 400 words and that they contain the signature, address, and telephone number of the writer. The writer's name may be withheld from publication if the writer fears bodily harm, severe persecution, or the loss of his or her job. The writer requesting anonymity must explain his or her circumstances. Submit letters for consideration by 4 p.m. Monday for that Thursday's paper. We reserve the right to edit letters for brevity, clarity, libel, and taste.

The week prior to an election, this newspaper will not accept letters to the editor that open up new issues. Only responses to already published issues will be accepted, with this newspaper being the final arbiter. This policy is an attempt to be fair to all concerned.

Submit letters to: Editor, The Northville Record, 104 W. Main, Northville, MI 48167.



Phil Jerome

ing the interview.

The cost of such a room would run around \$4,200-\$4,500. Shaeffer says that if he could raise only a part of that sum, he would start by furnishing the room for the victim and add the recording equipment when the funds become available.

Shaeffer has approached several local service organizations, in the hopes of gaining support, and the Novi Jaycees have already started providing teddy bears for child victims.

It is not an entirely new idea. Other departments have created similar facilities to take the stress of reporting traumatic crimes off the victim. Among the most notable, and one which has met with great success, is a similar program now being operated under the auspices of the Oakland County Prosecutor's Office.

It's a worthwhile idea. And a pretty inexpensive one. If the city government cannot afford the cost itself, it seems likely that service organizations could get behind the idea and bring it to fruition with a relatively small investment of time and effort.

We applaud Shaeffer and the police department for proposing the idea. We urge the city government and the community to get behind it.

By making it easier for victims of such crimes to tell their stories, perhaps we can encourage more to come forward and help minimize this type of criminal activity in the Novi community. And that, no doubt, will help Novi to become a better community overall.

Alarm rules revised

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A tougher look at education



Phil Jerome

I thought the lead on the lead story in last Thursday's edition of *The Novi News* was first rate. The lead story, in case you forgot, was about a new requirement which takes effect in 1994. In essence, the requirement states that all graduating students must achieve a state-mandated score on the Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) in order to receive a state-certified diploma.

It's part of a program to upgrade the quality of education in this state by trying to make sure high school diplomas mean more than they do today ... trying to make sure high school diplomas carry some implied guarantee that the graduate has attained certifiable skill levels in math, reading and science.

But back to the lead I liked so much. In writing the story about the performance of Novi High School students on the 1992 MEAP, Staff Writer Randy Coble wrote the following lead: "Almost one-fifth of the Novi school district's 11th graders are currently ineligible to receive a state-endorsed diploma when they graduate next year."

Got that, folks? One-fifth. Twenty percent. Now let's move on to the second paragraph of Randy's story: "More than 40 percent of tenth graders — the class of 1995 — are ineligible."

I don't know about you, but to me those are pretty startling figures. Twenty percent of this year's junior class and 40 percent of this year's sophomore class would not receive state-certified diplomas if those requirements which take effect in 1994 were in place today.

And, quite frankly, the standards that must be reached to attain a satisfactory score on the MEAP test are not that difficult.

And this is Novi. Novi! The place where many of you out there moved because of the quality of the school district. The place which a few years ago was cited in *The Wall Street Journal* as having one of the top 10 public school systems in the nation.

So why does Randy Coble's eye-opening lead on the MEAP story make me so happy? Why would I call it a "first rate" lead?

It's certainly not because I want to belittle or deride the Novi schools. I personally believe that Novi does indeed have a very good school district.

And I also believe that our hometown newspaper has a certain responsibility to promote those things in the community which are good.

But the other side of the coin is that for many years I have believed that school districts — yes, even Novi — have been so busy patting themselves on the back that they have failed to look at themselves as critically as they must to insure continued improvement and movement toward excellence.

I believe that school districts have been guilty of painting far too rosy a picture of themselves. And I believe that newspapers — all newspapers — have been guilty of letting things get away with it ... guilty of looking at school districts through rose-colored glasses.

Does this mean I want *The Novi News* to start emphasizing the negative in its reporting on schools? Absolutely not.

What it does mean is that I want this paper to look at things objectively ... to avoid the trap of painting too rosy a picture. Only then, I believe, can we help focus attention on how to take something good and make it better.

Phil Jerome is the Executive Editor of *The Novi News*.

In passing

By Hal Gould

A fisher on Walled Lake patiently waits for "the big one" to come by.

"Waiting for Mr. Good Bite"

Some art can surprise you

Blair Bowman is a man who reacts well under pressure.

Bowman, president of the Novi Expo Center, was taking visitors on a tour of the facility two weeks ago. He's proud of the place, and has a right to be. He showed them all the Expo Center had to offer — and then some.

Bowman and one of his guests happened upon auditions being held by The Novi Players theater troupe. The Players were looking for cast members for their new play, *Extremities*.

The play deals with the agonizing subject of rape, and how one woman deals with her savage attacker. Bowman came into the theater just as the director had two auditioners acting out the rape scene itself.

He was understandably caught off-guard, given the positions the actor and actress had taken and the script's graphic language. He recovered after a moment, though, when one person went over to explain what was happening.

Watching it all, I felt for the guy. You could just see it: "Here's the main hall, and over there are our offices, and through here ... oh, my. Care to see the water fountain?"

Although they stayed only a couple of minutes, I'll bet he hasn't forgotten it — and neither has anyone else there. Besides his consideration in letting The Players use part of the Expo Center, Bowman gave us a chance to laugh a little while dealing with a very unfunny topic like rape. I think everyone there appreciated it.

I got the part of the rapist, by the way. (And to think my

high school guidance counselor said I'd never amount to anything.)

Well, my secret's out. Besides being the sophisticated, cosmopolitan, semi-skilled journalistic type — a Renaissance man in the Italian 16th century sense of the word — I'm also an actor. It is my life's ambition to pursue that dream, as the oh-so-patient members of the editorial staff here have heard time and time again.

Consequently, when The Novi Players held auditions for *Extremities*, I was there. (A mere three hours, mind you, after driving straight through to Northville from New Orleans, where I saw a fellow reporter — and good friend — cross over into the land of matrimony.)

This play demands a lot from both those who perform it and those who watch it. Witnessing the degradation of another human being, even on a stage, is not an easy experience — much less playing the role of the animal who conducts the attack.

But I think The Players should be congratulated. Beyond merely entertaining art — including theater — should provoke thought. This play can and should get folks talking about a topic on which there's been too much silence. Show dates for the play are March 26-28 and April 2-4. In answer to your unspoken question: yes, this is a naked appeal for you to attend.

It's not my ego — OK, it's not ALL my ego. The Players is a Novi organization, and it lives or dies by community support.

"Artists must be sacrificed to their art," wrote Ralph Waldo Emerson. "Like the bees, they must put their lives into the stinging they give."

However, innocent bystanders — like Expo Center presidents — sometimes get stung as well, don't they?

Randy Coble is a Staff Writer with *The Novi News*.

Tax hike gets council thumbs down

Continued from Page 1

bring the city \$400,000 — a \$30 tax increase for the owner of a \$150,000 home — did not win the needed support of five council members.

Saying absolutely not to any tax hike above Truth in Taxation were Council Members Tim Pope, Carl Mason and Nancy Cassis.

"I think we should do this budget as hard as we can. This is not a climate to go above Truth in Taxation," Pope said.

Council Member Robert Schmid was absent.

"I'm not in favor of going above Truth in Taxation because we just got hit twice in the two millages (school district and parks bond). The residents were very generous. To go in now and say we're going to raise your taxes, that's a triple whammy," Council Member Joseph Toth said.

"The assessments have gone up seven percent and I know the school district isn't going to give any of that back."

Toth said later he'd consider a "responsible request" to rise above the Truth in Taxation, but that he doesn't like the idea.

Mayor Pro Tem Hugh Crawford sided with Toth and Mayor Matt Quinn in agreeing to take a look at an administration-proposed budget above Truth in Taxation.

"It may very well be irresponsible of us not to go above Truth in Taxation. I don't think that's a sacred cow. I don't want to pay more taxes than anybody else, but we've constantly eroded our base," he said, adding that in past years the city had gone above by two-tenths of a mill, it wouldn't be "hurting now."

City department heads were asked to reduce their current budgets this year by six percent, but some say the only way this can be accomplished is by staff layoffs.

"By looking at these cuts, I don't think we can come up with \$148,000 but it may be reasonable to say maybe we can go into next budget year \$70,000 less than this year," Quinn said.

"I personally will look very hard at those figures. I don't think there's a problem going above Truth in Taxation by four-tenths mill if it brings in \$400,000 to \$500,000."

Inflation is expected to go up about three percent and construction figures this year are not expected to be as high as in the previous year, Finance Director Les Gibson told the council. Novi is likely to realize \$50 million in new growth, leading to a \$200,000 increase revenue in 1993-94.

"When you say it's a cut, it's actually a decrease in the increase," Pope said.

Monetarily, Novi is not in dire condition. The city's auditing firm, Plante & Moran, said this fall that the fiscal year 1991-92, which ended June 30, showed Novi's financial health was well-toned. The city ended that year with a fund balance of \$2.3 million, or 22 percent of the revenues.

Novi typically aims for a 10 to 15 percent fund balance. Fiscal year 1991-92 saw the city's revenues increase by 11 percent and its spending reduced by 8 percent.

The auditors estimated that in fiscal year 1992-93, which Novi is now in, expenditures were likely to be up by 10 percent and the revenues were apt to climb by just over two percent.

They advised that the balance be drawn back to 12 percent, or \$1.4 million.

Quinn pointed out Thursday there might be no reason not to drain that down to eight or nine percent. A healthy fund balance is considered attractive to financial rating agencies such as Standard & Poor's and when city bonds are up for sale, high ratings mean low interest.

The final \$6 million in 1990 road improvement bonds and the \$9.9 million in park land bonds are scheduled to be marketed in the near future.

"Once we sell the bonds, we won't have to sell any for a long time. Is there a real need to maintain a ten percent fund balance? If it's nine percent, so what? Then we have something to work with," the mayor said.

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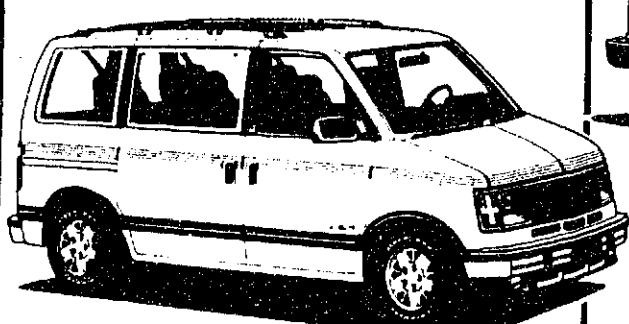
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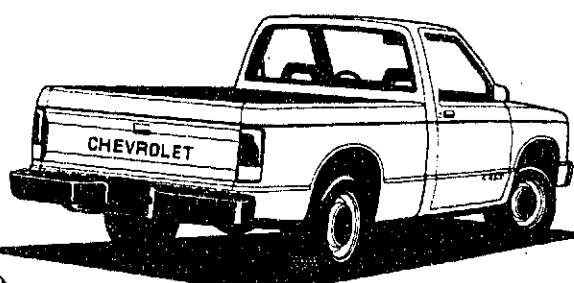
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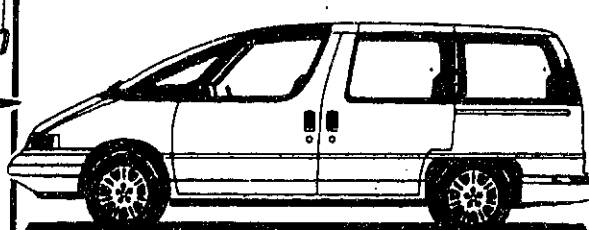
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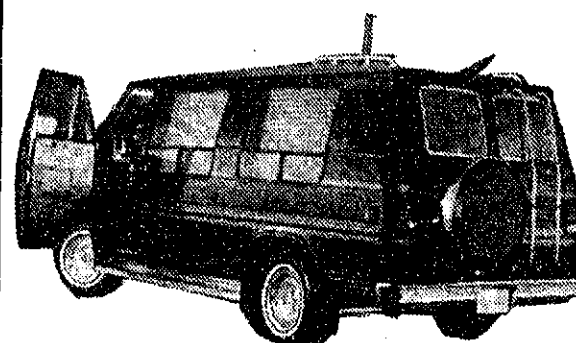
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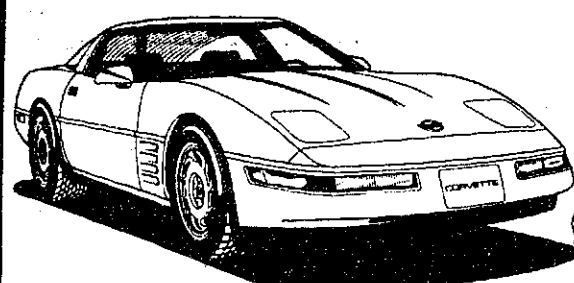
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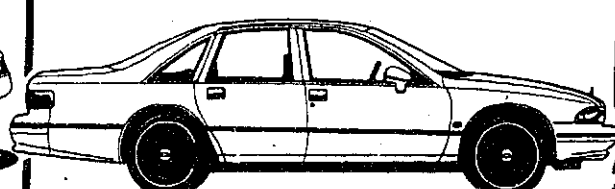
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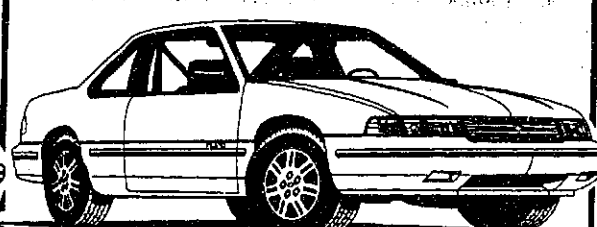
8 cyl., auto, full power. #3016.



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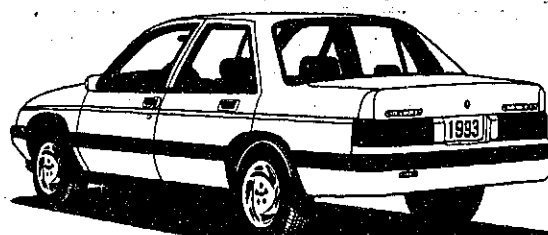
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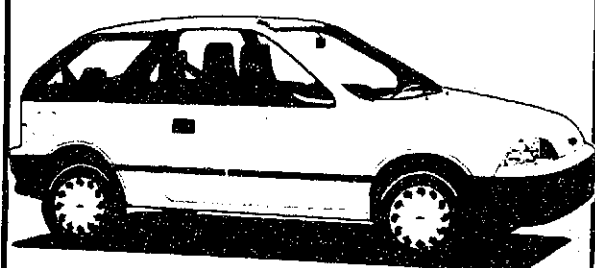
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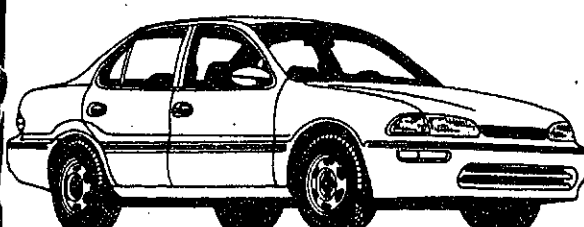
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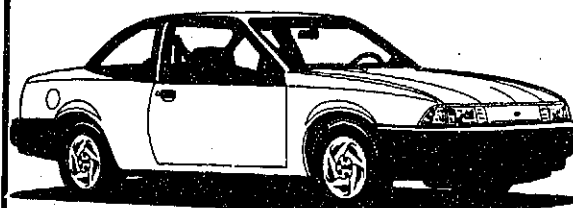
Power locks, auto, air, tach, int. wipers. #3122



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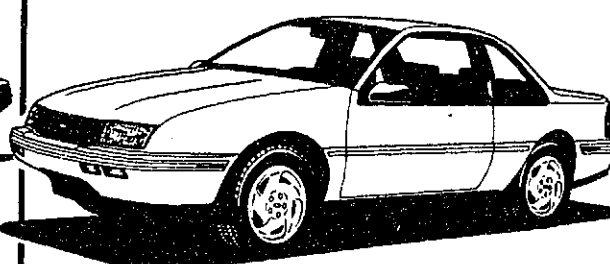
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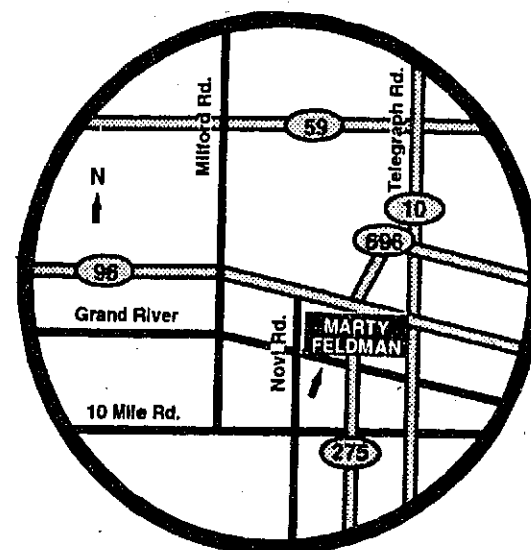
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Novi



GEO

Mon. & Thur. 9-9
Tues., Wed., Fri. 9-6
Saturday 10-3



Lois Thieleke/Home Economist

Why shy away from fabulous, fun avocado?

Avocados are often given a bad rap and frequently put in the "foods to avoid" category. They are the only other commonly eaten vegetable besides olives that are high in calories and fat. It's true that a half a medium size avocado contains approximately 150 calories with 88 percent of these calories coming from 15 grams of fat. Don't panic, more than two-thirds of the fat is monounsaturated, the same type of fat that is in olive oil, the "good" kind!

This strange fruit contains no less than 11 vitamins, 14 minerals and protein. Nutritionally the avocado is high in potassium, ounce for ounce containing 60 percent more potassium than bananas. Avocados are good sources of vitamin A and thiamine and fair sources of vitamin C and E, niacin, iron, phosphorus and fiber. An avocado is about 75 percent water and easy to digest. They are nutrient rich, low in sodium and sugar and cholesterol-free (all fruits are anyhow) but this does not mean you should eat a whole avocado daily. What it does mean is that you can enjoy them frequently without guilt.

This strange exotic fruit is a native of Central America but now grown in California and Florida. California's crop peaks during spring and summer while Florida's is from August through October, but they are available year round. The two varieties available here have a smooth green skin or a thick, leathery, pebbly skin that turns dark green to a purple black as it ripens.

Like the banana, the avocado is never allowed to mature on the tree, generally you buy them under-ripe and ripen them yourself. Plan your purchase ahead so there is time for them to ripen for several days. You can hasten the ripening process by putting them in a paper bag.

Choose avocados that are heavy, without dark, sunken or bruised spots. Take the avocado in your hand and just apply gentle pressure, if the fruit yields slightly, it is ready to eat that day. At home you can use a toothpick to test for ripeness. Poke the toothpick in the stem end and if it's eating ripe the tooth pick will glide to the core. The full distinctive flavor of an avocado does not develop until the fruit has softened.

Ripe avocados can be stored in the bottom of the refrigerator for several days. Take a sharp knife to slice around the outside length of the avocado, holding it with both hands, twist in opposite directions for a clean split. Remove the pit with a small rap of a knife blade against the pit and pull it out gently. Once cut in half, place the fruit face down in the palm of your hand and remove skin. The flesh will discolor rapidly when exposed to the air so sprinkle with citrus juice (lemon or lime) to prevent browning.

Whole, diced or sliced avocados do not freeze well, but can be refrigerated a short time. To store partially used avocados, rub the cut surface with lemon juice and cover tightly with plastic wrap or foil to prevent moisture loss, then refrigerate.

The real appeal of the avocado is its mellow, nutty taste and smooth texture. Culinary enthusiasts enjoy creating and using avocado recipes any time of year. Avocados are generally eaten raw but can be added to hot dishes at the very end of cooking. Overcooking will make an avocado bitter.

With the popularity of Mexican food avocados have come alive. Guacamole can be used as a dip or a garnish. Mashed seasoned avocado (guacamole) is great on the top of hamburgers, tacos, burritos, and tostitos. To make a quick version of guacamole use prepared canned salsa with the avocado, put it in the blender or

Continued on 2

For gourmets on the go

Delivery brings best to your door

By RICK BYRNE
Editor

It's deepest, darkest mid-winter in Michigan. It's cold, it's snowing, the car has a dead battery, and you just won't make it through the night unless you can wolf down a Plata Azul Especial from El Nibble Nook.

Who ya gonna call? Well, if you live in Novi (east of Novi Road) you can call Door 2 Door, the restaurant delivery service.

Door 2 Door has a direct line into 100 restaurants in the northern suburbs, and has just added a portion of Novi to its service area, along with 10 area restaurants.

Maybe you'd like some pastries from Sweet Lorraine's, or Thai food from the Bangkok Club or the ribs from E.G. Nick's. Whatever the case, you can order from Door 2 Door just by calling the number 288-FOOD.

The minute you place your order, your dinner is being cooked at the restaurant of your choice, ready to be picked up by Door 2 Door's uniformed driver and whisked to your home or office.

It's one of those ideas that somebody should have thought up ages ago. For Door 2 Door founder Kirk Scott, the idea for Door 2 Door started with a phone call in 1987, said Scott.

"I called a friend of mine out in California," he said. "He was a chef in L.A. and was affiliated with a similar service. But it was all done by phone and hand-written orders, with the drivers coming in the back door. He said it would be great if you could computerize it."

"So I took my background in computers, and being in Domino's backyard, I knew the power of deliveries. I founded Door 2 Door in 1988, and started delivering in 1989. It took me a year to write the software program."

Scott's partner is Norman Blemaster, a former consultant for Arthur Andersen with 25 years in the franchising business.

Blemaster points out that computerization gives Door 2 Door the ability to work in volume. The service now offers food from 100 restaurants and covers a 250-square-mile delivery area. Try doing that with hand-written notes and operators phoning in orders.

The computer eliminates the human element from the process. Here's how it works. When a call comes in to the 288-FOOD number, an operator is there to take the order. The operator works from a computer screen which displays the menu from the restaurant of your choice.

You get to see the menu, too. Door 2 Door distributes a quarterly Menu Guide free at each of the restaurants it serves. The Guide lists the menus of each of the 100 restaurants the company serves.

The operator then types in your order, calculates a price which includes the delivery charge and gives you an estimated time of arrival. The operator's computer has a direct modem line into each restaurant. By the time you hang up your phone, your order is already being printed out on a special fax machine in the restaurant's kitchen.

"When I first started this business, my goal was to deliver every order within 45 minutes," said Scott, adding that the majority of his orders take 45 minutes to an hour. "Now we've grown so much that we can't always do that. If it's rush hour, it'll be different. And if there's five inches of snow on the ground, we won't try to kid them. We'll tell them two hours right off the bat."

The funny thing is, people don't seem to mind. I'll lose only about 10 out of 200 orders that way. Most people will wait two hours for a good meal rather than go out in the snow. I think people know that they're not just calling Domino's, to whip out a pizza and fly one mile to deliver it."

Door 2 Door's delivery system works very similar to a radio-dispatched taxi service. Drivers are sent to certain segments of the company's delivery area, and will wait for a call on the two-way radio. Between runs, the driver will wait in his car in that area, like a taxi at a cab stand. Each car also has an on-board thermal carrier to keep orders warm.

The minimum delivery charge is \$2, plus 75 cents per mile from the restaurant to your door. The average delivery charge is about \$3.50 because, as Scott says, people tend to dine within their own communities, and will

order mainly from restaurants they're familiar with.

But there is no limit on how far a driver will travel within Door 2 Door's service area. If a customer in Novi wants to order from Mon Jin Lau in Troy, they're more than welcome to, though the delivery charge may run around \$10.

The delivery charge remains the same no matter how large your order. There's no minimum order either, which makes Door 2 Door popular with singles.

"You can order \$1,000 worth of food, and it's still a \$2 delivery charge. It's like instant catering," said Scott.

"The difference is that caterers cater from their kitchens, and they're an unknown. With us, you have 100 kitchens working for you. A hundred well-known kitchens."

"And it's a lot less expensive," Blemaster added. "And a lot of people don't know that if you eat your lunch in the office, you can write off 100 percent on your taxes. If you eat out, you can't."

Continued on 2



Photo by BRYAN MITCHELL

Todd Hemmi of Door 2 Door picks up a delivery at Ah Wok in Novi.

Chef Mary Brady

Winter days bring out long-cooking dishes



Sit-on-the-stove-all-day food. Better-the-second-day stuff. The cooking methods and the cuts of meat are what makes these dishes unique. Both dry and moist heat are applied to less tender, and thus, less expensive cuts of meat. These dishes are

often referred to as "peasant" dishes and traditionally have a robust, hearty flavor. Truly winter meals.

Combination methods are most often used for foods considered flavorful, but only after long cooking times. The first step in most cooking of this type is to sear the main item. This would not be the case in, say, chicken pot pie. Searing functions as a sealer for the meat's juices. As the protein touches the hot pan the surface is seared or closed, preventing any of the wonderful juices with all the flavor from escaping. When searing, always have a very hot pan and use a little bit of fat. Be careful of the splattering of fat that will pop out at you.

When braising, the item is then cooked in a liquid medium. Braising is used for the cuts of more exercised portions of an

animal or older, mature birds and fish. The main benefit is that the less tender cuts become tender as the liquid penetrates the tough connective tissues. A relatively small amount of liquid is needed in relation to the size of the main item. Stocks, vegetable juices and wine are examples of good braising liquids. Mixing and matching is permissible.

A bed of vegetables, called a mirepoix, is placed on the bottom of the pan first. This provides additional flavor and moisture to the product. Although braising has been a traditional cooking method for tough cuts, chefs today are using braising on delicate seafood and fish. It is important, in this case, to reduce the oven temperature, cook for a shorter period of time and decrease the amount of liquid.

Braising is a nice low-calorie cooking

technique. The steps to follow are:

- Sear the meat, remove from the pot and sweat a mirepoix of carrots, onion and celery at least. Add others as you see fit, add the cooking liquid, cover the pot and place it in a moderate oven until tender. The longer the item will need to be cooked the larger the cut of the vegetable should be. Tomatoes are often included in braises as they act as natural tenderizer.
- Add other vegetables to cook with the meat as it nears readiness.
- Save the liquid. Strain and thicken with arrowroot or cornstarch in a cold liquid or as a healthful alternative.
- Puree the mirepoix and return to the liquid.

Stewing is similar to braising and uses the same cuts of meat, but cut into bite size pieces. The technique is nearly identi-

cal also, with differences mainly apparent with the origin of the stew. For instance, a blanquette is a white stew made from white meat, veal or chicken, and is garnished with mushrooms and pearl onions. The sauce is thickened with egg yolks and heavy cream.

Bouillabaisse is a Mediterranean style fish stew. Fricassee is a white stew often boasting dumplings and goulash is a Hungarian stew seasoned and colored with paprika. Ragout, a French term for stew, literally translates as "restores the appetite."

Writing this article has gotten my taste-buds going. Gotta go. Stay warm.

Northville resident Mary Brady is a certified executive chef and co-owner of Diamond Jim Brady's restaurant in Novi.

The Refrigerator Door

KITCHEN GLAMOR CLASSES: Novi's Kitchen Glamor store hosts a series of drop-in classes Tuesdays at 1 and 7 p.m. during the next several weeks. The fee for most of the classes is \$3. With all of the classes, recipes are provided free, and there will be small portion tasting. Everyone is welcome.

Kitchen Glamor is located in the Novi Town Center. Call 380-8600 for more information.

THINK TRIM SEMINAR: Lorraine Stefano, founder and director of Think Trim, will present an alternative to dieting at Schoolcraft College from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 6 in the school's Liberal Arts Building. Think Trim helps participants set realistic goals, stay motivated, reduce self-defeating behavior, control inner battles over food and build on successes. The one-day seminar is \$45.

THE BRADY BRUNCH: Schoolcraft College's Women's Resource Center hosts "The Brady Brunch: Scholarships for Women," 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Sunday Feb. 7 at Diamond Jim Brady's in the Novi Town Center.

Chef Mary Brady, award-winning culinarian, co-owner of Diamond Jim Brady's and a Schoolcraft College instructor will create a sumptuous brunch. Proceeds will benefit scholarships for women who come to the women's resource center for educational assistance. Tickets are \$30 per person. Reservations required. Call 462-4443.

VALENTINE'S BRUNCH: Schoolcraft College's award-winning Culinary Arts Department will present a Valentine's Day champagne brunch from noon to 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 14, in the Waterman Campus Center. An extensive gourmet buffet will be served and entertainment will be provided.

Tickets are \$15 each. Visa, MasterCard, Discover and personal checks will be accepted. To reserve, call (313) 462-4417.

MARDI GRAS DINNER: Schoolcraft Community College in Livonia also has two special evenings planned. The college is presenting a Mardi Gras Celebration featuring the Red Garter Band and School Jazz, 7:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 19 and Saturday, Feb. 20 with New Orleans cuisine prepared by the award-winning culinary arts department. Tickets for this event are \$30 per person. The dinners will be in the Waterman Campus Center, 18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia. For information, call 462-4417.

ON THE LOVE TRAIN: The Michigan Star Clipper dinner train has prepared special Valentine's Day desserts, and can arrange flowers for your table if you wish. In addition, on each table will be a Sweetheart Love Ballot that will be filled out by each guest to tell how wonderful their mate is. The winner, to be announced within the next week, will receive a free reservation for a return trip on the Clipper.

STAR CLIPPER RIDES RAINBOWS: With any given reservation on the Michigan Star Clipper dinner train during the months of January, February or March, the reserve's name will be put on an honor roll list. This will automatically enable an oncology patient from Children's Hospital to ride the railroad in July for the Christmas in July celebration with Santa Claus. July train rides will be funded by the Coe Railroad, organized by the Rainbow Connection.

OLGA'S: Olga's Kitchen has decided to sell its popular salad dressing in 12.6-ounce bottles. For each bottle sold for \$3.29 in any of its restaurants, Olga's Kitchen will donate 25 cents to a local food bank in the Detroit metro area.

OLIVE OIL HOTLINE: If you've ever wondered about the "heart-healthy" benefits of olive oil, call the International Olive Oil Council hot line. The hot line is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, Eastern time, call 1-800-232-6548.

AMERICAN HARVEST OPEN: Schoolcraft College's American Harvest Restaurant is open for weekday lunches. The on-campus restaurant, which features gourmet specialties prepared by Schoolcraft's Master Chefs and Culinary Arts students, is open to the public from 11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Friday's meal is a buffet. Cost is \$8.25 per person. For more information, call 462-4488.

KNOW THE FOOD PYRAMID: Want to know what you should eat to stay healthy? "The Food Guide Pyramid," beyond the Basic Four, a new brochure, helps answer this question. The brochure condenses the information from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) booklet "The Food Guide Pyramid" and features the new food guide graphic on the elements of a healthy diet. The brochure was developed by the Food Marketing Institute in cooperation with the USDA. For a copy, send a check or money order for \$1 payable to the Superintendent of Documents, to Consumer Information Center, Department 159-Y, Pueblo, Colo. 81009.

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Culinary tour of Europe planned

Schoolcraft College announces its first culinary educational trip to France and Switzerland, March 5-14, 1993, to visit some of the finest restaurants, cooking schools and bakeries. To provide an exciting, quality learning experience, the trip has a limited enrollment of 25 people.

Highlights of this unique excursion include visits to Paris and Lyon, France, and Lausanne, Switzerland. The trip will be hosted by two certified master chefs from Schoolcraft's world renowned Culinary Arts Department, Jeff Gabriel and Leopold Schaeff.

Swiss-born Schaeff held apprenticeships in Switzerland and management positions in many Swiss gourmet restaurants. He became a Certified Executive Chef in 1976, and continued to hold Executive Chef and Manager positions for restaurants in Massachusetts, New York and Michigan.

He received his Master Chef Certificate in 1982, the highest achievement attainable by the American Culinary Federation (ACF). Schaeff was master chef at the Machus Red Fox Restaurant and has served as the President of the Michigan Chef de Cuisine Association for the last 3 years.

Chef Schaeff has won numerous awards and honors, including a gold medal and silver cup for Exhibition Platters at the Hotel and Restaurant International Exhibition in Holland, and first and second prize for his Classical Exhibit at the United Nations Dinner Exhibit in Rochester, New York.

He was inducted into the American Academy of Chefs Honor Society in 1981. Only 10 candidates are selected world-wide to be inducted into this society each year.

Detroit native Jeffrey Gabriel is the Director/Coordinator of the Schoolcraft College Culinary Arts Program and a Chef Instructor. Gabriel

started his culinary career in 1971, serving in the United States Navy aboard the U.S. Bryce Canyon as the ship's Pastry Chef and Galley Watch Captain.

From 1974-1975, Gabriel attended the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, NY, graduating with honors. In 1976, he joined the Detroit Athletic Club as Sous Chef and Chef Garde Manger.

From 1980 through 1989, he held executive chef positions at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club, Sugarloaf Resort, Odle Club on Harpers Island, and La-Becasse Restaurant in Glen Arbor. In the summers, Chef Gabriel serves as culinary partner to Chef Keith Famie, managing Les Auteurs Restaurant in Royal Oak.

Gabriel's achievements include: Certified Master Chef with the American Culinary Federation, membership in the Michigan Chef D'Cuisine Association and Founder of the Michigan Chefs Against Hunger Association.

He was captain of the United States 1988 Regional Culinary Team that competed in Frankfurt, Germany, winning a gold medal with distinction for Hot Foods, displayed cold. As a member of the 1984 United States Culinary Team, he won two more gold medals, one with distinction.

Overall, Gabriel has won over 10 gold medals in international and local competitions. He also owns the California Pasta Shops.

The cost of the trip is \$2,000, which includes airfare, hotels (based on double occupancy), continental breakfast, ground transfers and some meals.

To reserve your place, a \$50 refundable deposit can be given to the Schoolcraft College Cashier's office. For further information, contact Continuing Education Services at 462-4448.

Schoolcraft classes have openings

Schoolcraft College's award-winning culinary arts department is accepting registrations for the following courses:

• **Wines of the American West Coast, Feb. 8.** Did you know that there are over 700 wineries on the West coast which impact the variety of wines available? The number of new wineries, the planting of new grape varieties and experiments in blending are just a few of the elements affecting new wines.

Participate in comparative tastings of wines during this five-week course that meets on Mondays from 7 to 10:10 p.m. The fee is \$93.

• **Restaurant Supervision for Professional Development.** Designed for people in the foodservice industry, this ACF approved course reviews basic principles of management. Learn practical approaches to staffing, interviewing, training and managing in the workplace. Other topics covered include communication, team building, time management and management processes. The seven-week course will meet Monday afternoons from 1:30 to 4:30. The fee is \$150.

• **1992 Culinary Olympic Cooking Trends and Concepts, Feb. 9.** Join chefs Joseph Decker, Dan Hugelier and Kevin Goussard, members of the Gold Medal winning Michigan Culinary Team, to learn new concepts, ideas and trends in preparing common foods for the next decade. New thoughts on the basic fundamentals of cooking will also be discussed. The three-week ACF approved course will meet Tuesday evenings from 7 to 9:40. The fee is \$85.

• **A Taste of International Cuisine for the Home Cook, Feb. 11.** Learn how to prepare dishes from internationally renowned master Chef Leopold Schaeff. World famous recipes from various countries in Europe and the Far East will be demonstrated. Tastings of traditional specialties from the culinary capitals of the world will be offered. The five-week course will meet from 7 to 9:30 p.m. Thursdays. The fee is \$97.

• **Vegetarian Cuisine, Feb. 15.** Join certified Mas-

ter Chef Jeffrey Gabriel to learn the latest cooking techniques used to prepare tasteful and nutritious balanced vegetable dishes. A variety of dishes will be demonstrated using pasta, legumes, grains and potatoes along with preparation of soup stocks and appetizers. Recipes and tastings of dishes will be shared. The three-week course will meet Monday evenings from 7 to 9:40. The fee is \$85.

• **Successful Catering for the Entrepreneur, Feb. 17.** This course is designed for individuals interested in learning about or establishing their own catering business. Learn the fundamentals of running an entire operation. Topics will include menu planning, training staff to cater a party with greater ease, establishing your market, office management, off premises and on premises catering and more. The 10-week course will meet Wednesday evenings from 8 to 10. The fee is \$51.

To register or obtain further information, contact Continuing Education Services at 462-4448.

She's an advocate for the avocado

Continued from 1

food processor and process to desired consistency. Another popular Mexican avocado taste treat is gazpacho, a wholesome chilled soup.

Mash an avocado, add herbs and spread on garlic bread or corn on the cob instead of butter; this will make your mouth water. Halved avocados can be stuffed, and used as a salad or as a meal. Sliced avocados add a buttery texture and flavor to green salads, seafood salads or as an omelet filling. Pureed avocados can be added to a fruit-nut cake batter or made into a creamy soup.

To add a new dimension and new life to a brown bag lunch, fill a pita pocket with avocado cubes and marinated fresh veggies. For sandwich

avenue, peel and slice avocados and fresh tomatoes, add corned beef, ham or smoked salmon, or any cold cut and serve on a dark bread. Mash avocados, add spice, onion and/or garlic and spread on bread instead of mayonnaise or use as a spread on whole wheat crackers.

Freeze the pureed avocado for use in dips later. It's as simple as this: peel, seed and wash the pulp with a little lemon juice, mash, and freeze in an airtight container.

The best part is that you don't need a recipe for avocados. Avocados are versatile; they can be used in a fruit or vegetable recipe, add texture, color and add a great flavor to hot-hum meals, so enjoy this exotic fruit without guilt.

Delivery makes fine food into fast food

Continued from 1

Right now, though, the typical Door 2 Door customer is female, and is ordering from home for more than one person, said Scott. That may seem sexist, but really, he said, it's an example of changing times.

"The woman still seems to have in mind the biggest say in what dinner will be," he said. "But in a dual income family, if the guy doesn't cook and the woman does, he can't force her to cook a meal anymore."

Families with children will often call with orders just for the adults. The idea is that Mom and Dad can fix spaghetti-Os for dinner for the kids, send them to bed, and order sushi from Musashi for themselves. Everyone gets what

they want for dinner, without compromise. Singles and apartment dwellers are big customers, as are people whose mobility is diminished.

"We do a lot of deliveries to hospitals, blind people, bed-ridden people and handicapped people," Scott said.

With so many options available, Door 2 Door is sure to give pizza delivery options a run for their money.

"We have a real advantage in that pizza is one of the longest items to cook," said Scott. "It takes about 13 minutes to cook a pizza, but with ribs, you can walk in and out in a couple of minutes."

"I feel we're in competition with Domino's."

CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE 93-151.01

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Novi City Council has adopted Ordinance No. 93-151.01, an Ordinance to amend subsection 22-39(a) of the Novi Code of Ordinances to revise the charges for responses to excessive false alarms.

The provisions of this Ordinance shall become effective fifteen (15) days after its adoption. The Ordinance was adopted on January 25, 1993, and the effective date is February 9, 1993. A complete copy of the Ordinance is available for public use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk.

(2-1-93 NR, NN)

GERALDINE STIPP,
CITY CLERK

CITY OF NOVI

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Woodlands Review Board, of the City of Novi, will hold a meeting on Monday, February 8, 1993 at 3:30 p.m. in the Community Development Department, Novi City Offices, 45175 West Ten Mile Road, Novi, Michigan to review the Woodlands Review Board Permit Application for Lot 8, Briarwood Village North, 47311 Scenic Drive North, Novi, Michigan.

ALL INTERESTED PERSONS are invited to attend. Any written comments may be sent to the Department of Planning & Community Development, Attn: Gerrie Dent, 45175 West Ten Mile Road, Novi, Michigan 48375, until 3:00 p.m., Friday, February 5, 1993.

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the NOVI
NEWS

Sports

3B

MONDAY
February 1,
1993

Wildcats fall to Waterford Mott 77-55 at home

By SCOTT DANIEL
Sports Editor

They were supposed to bring good luck to the Novi High basketball team.

But if Tuesday night's 77-55 loss to Waterford Mott was any indication, the Wildcats should burn their solid green socks. According to Novi coach Bob Shoemaker, the Wildcats' stockings weren't to blame for the defeat.

"We just weren't sharp offensively or defensively," he said. "As good as we were against Brighton, we were bad against Mott."

The Corsairs jumped to a 21-5 lead after the first quarter and never looked back. Scott Goddard led the winners with 17 points, all in the second half, while Dave York continued his strong play of late for Novi with 20.

Shoemaker said it might be the last time his team wears the green socks.

"We'll get rid of them if we go into a losing streak," he joked.

Besides the matchup on the floor, the game featured a coaching battle between two of Michigan's best.

Waterford's Ralph Grubb and Shoemaker have nearly 700 state high school coaching victories between them and 50 years of experience. Grubb won numerous district titles at Pontiac Central while Shoemaker has won several state titles.

"Our teams have never played," Grubb pointed out before the game.

Until Tuesday.

Both schools started slowly in the first. Mott's Pat Nadeau broke the ice with a three-pointer at 6:15.

The visitors went on to take a 7-0 lead before York earned a three-point shot of his own with 3:35 left in the

period. Novi missed its first 10 shots from the floor.

Will Martin, who leads Oakland County in three-point baskets, took over for the Corsairs at that point. He connected on long bombs and slashing drives for 11 points in the period.

"We were a little slow," Shoemaker said of his team. "Perhaps the week's layoff hurt us a little bit."

Waterford led 27-7 in the second quarter before Novi could stage a modest rally.

York hit four straight free throws and added an underhanded scoop shot in traffic to cut the lead to 29-13.

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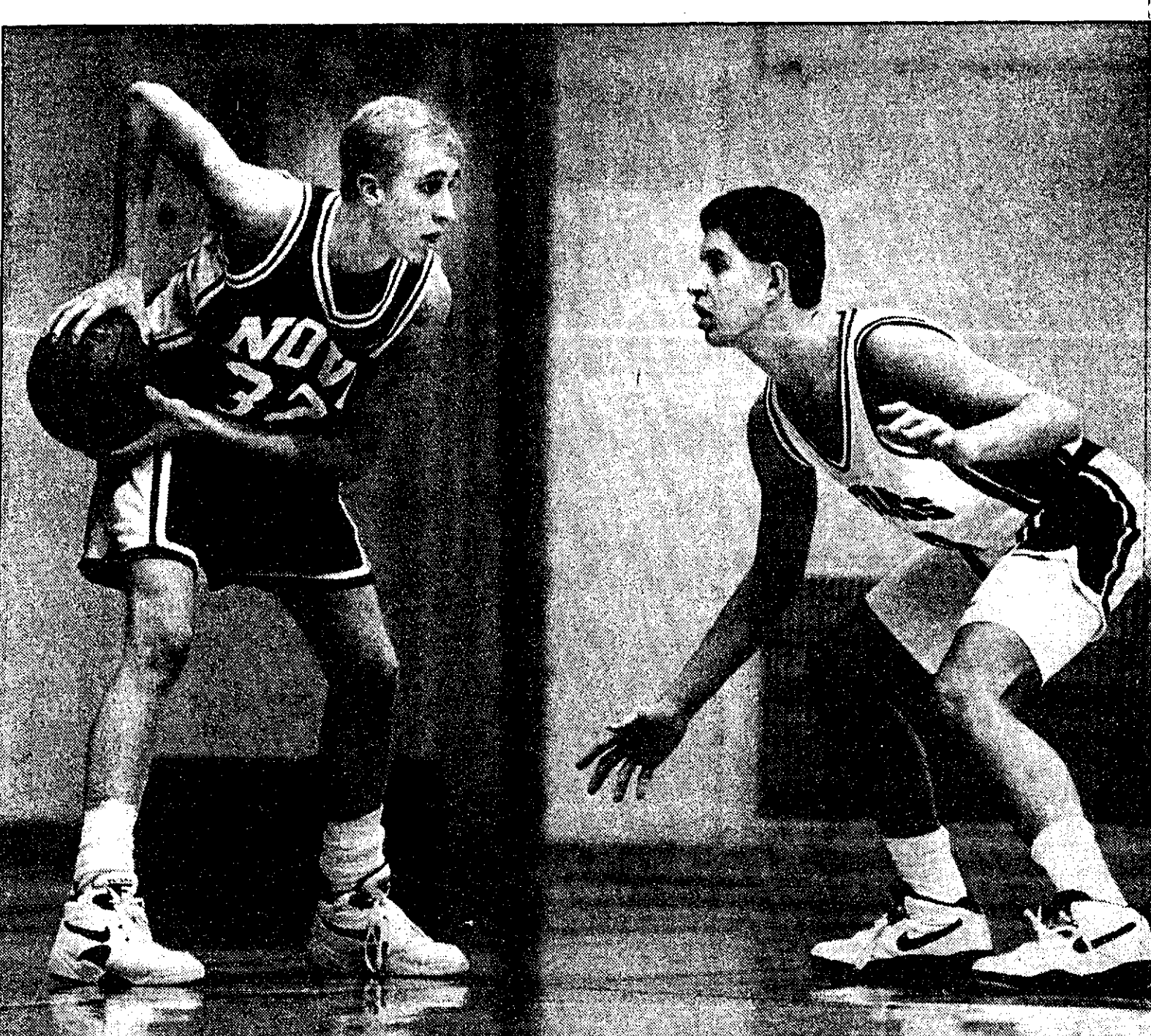


Photo by BRYAN MITCHELL

Senior Jeff Terski finished with 13 points for Novi Tuesday night.

TAKE VINCE AND LARRY'S CRASH COURSE IN SAFETY BELTS.

LESSON #1

"As you know, Larry, pretty soon all cars will come with automatic safety belts or air bags—and I don't mean your mother-in-law!"

"That's right, Vince, but these new automatic gizmos only do part of the job to keep you from being a windshield warrior. You've still got to make sure your safety belt is buckled up."

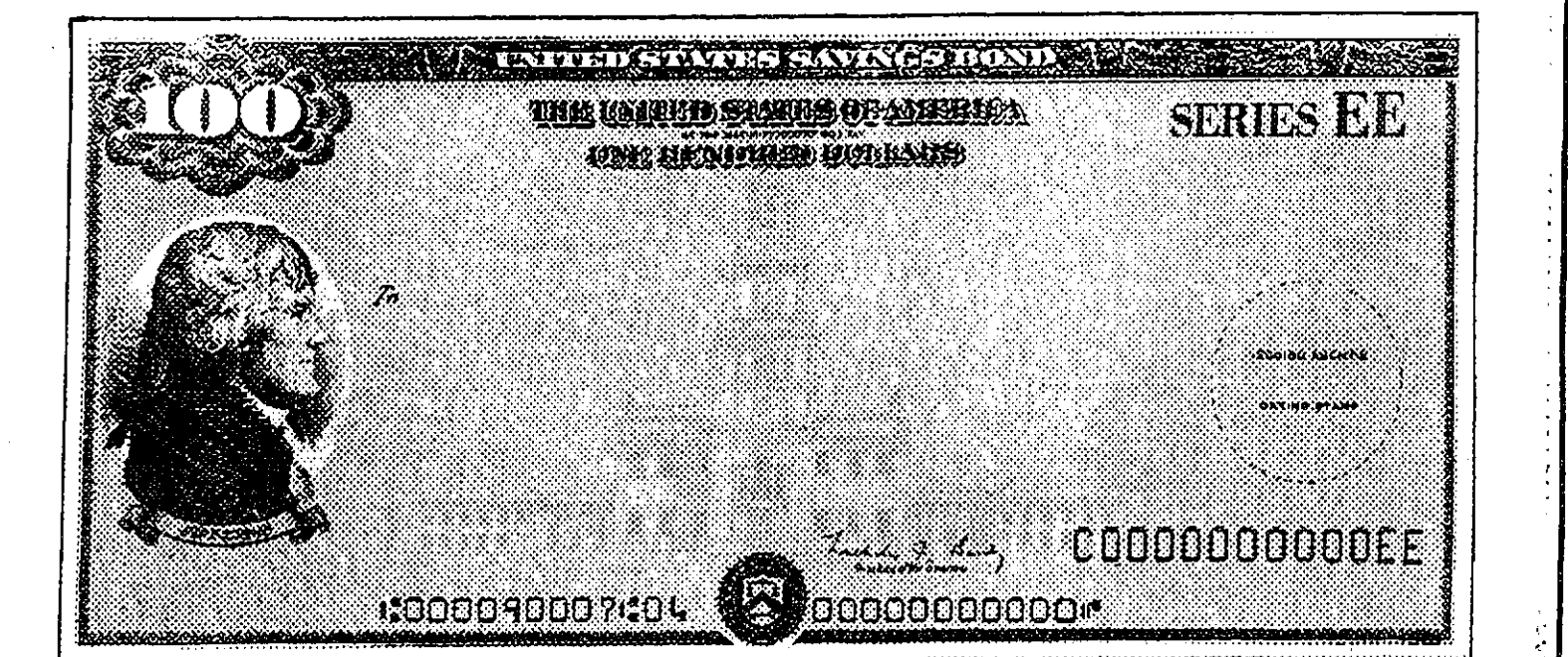
LESSON #2

"Larry, do you know what works best when they fit tightly?"

"My Uncle Bernie's false teeth."

"No Larry, safety belts. You've got to always make sure that yours is snug and that whatever safety belt system your car comes with is in a working order."

YOU COULD LEARN A LOT FROM A DUMMY. BUCKLE YOUR SAFETY BELT.



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1984 SKODA Super, new truck
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Call 5pm.

POLARIS Snowmobile
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Over \$1,000**

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1984 Ford F100 Super pickup. 302 V-6 Auto. With cap. Runs good. \$2,000 or \$3,000. (714)545-3213.

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1986 FORD RANGER STX. Loaded. \$1,000. or best offer. (319)871-9124.

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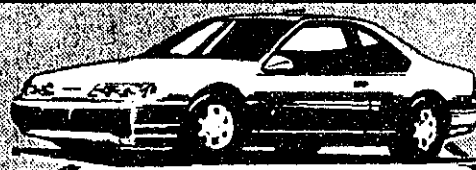
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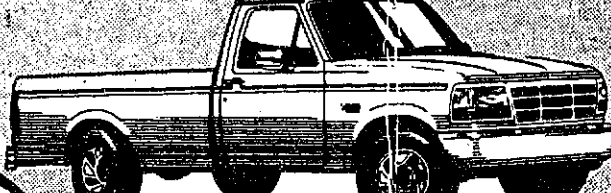
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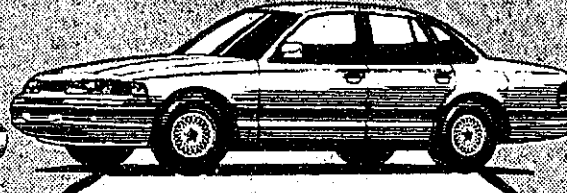
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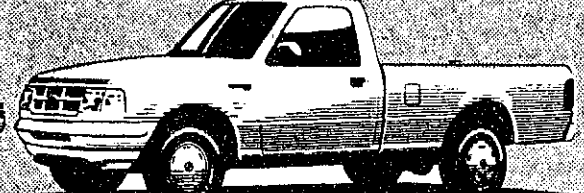
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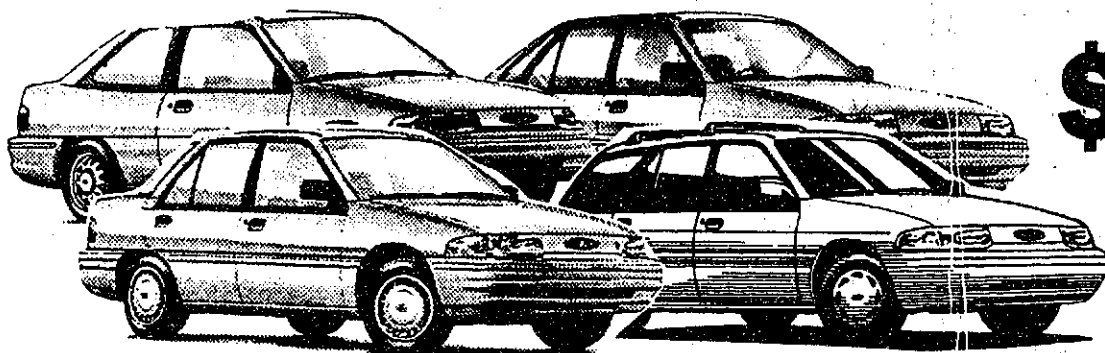
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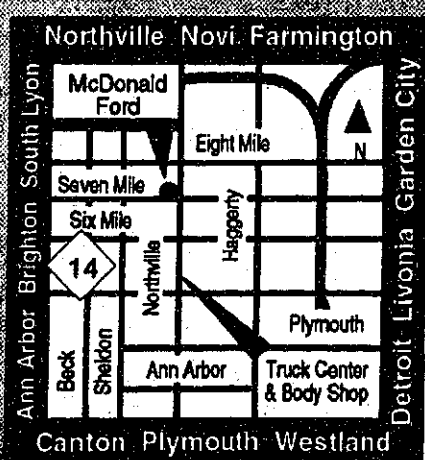
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