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Novi, Michigan

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Look inside for your
GREEN SHEET
Classifieds
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INSIDE



Healthy lifestyle

Looking for an extra push to keep that New Year's weight loss resolution going? The Sports Club of Novi offers some answers.
— Page 7A

MARKETPLACE

Celebrating 25 years

Sheehan's On The Green. This year will mark their 25th year in business for the neighborhood pub next to the Oasis Golf Dome.
— Page 19A

SPORTS



Total dominance

The Novi Wildcat hockey team continues to dominate opponents as the team continues its successful KVC season, which is drawing to a close.
— Page 1B

W.L. SPORTS



On a streak

Warriors win their sixth straight, defeating Livonia Churchill 82-67
— Page 4B

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Closed for business

Financial woes forces Vic's Market to shut doors

By Diane Dempsey Deel and Victoria Sadlocha
STAFF WRITERS

Vic's World Class Market closed its doors to the public, Friday, sending the city scrambling to collect outstanding taxes, leaving long-time customers perplexed and placing another black mark across Novi's downtown development.

Would-be customers to the popular market were greeted with a seizure notice on the door this week. Another sign urged store patrons to visit the Bloomfield Hills and Beverly Hills locations.

Jennifer Dunagan of Action Properties, the firm that owns the Vic's property, did not return repeated telephone messages by press time.

The seizure notice, which was posted by the Oakland County treasurer, showed store owners owed the city \$36,905.37 for winter 2001 taxes and 2002 winter and summer taxes.

City of Novi assistant treasurer, Bev Valente, said the city learned the market was going out of busi-

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Vic's Market closed its doors to the public last Friday.



Novi Middle School students board Bus #97 for their Friday afternoon ride home.

Driving with care

Novi bus drivers focus on safety of students

Novi Schools' bus driver Owen Hawkes popped the hood on the district's brand new Thomas Built school bus. The white light from his flashlight pierced the morning darkness and wandered over the engine block, as he checked it for loose hoses and oil spots.

"You're just looking for something unusual," he said. Hawkes walked around his assigned bus, bouncing the butt of his flashlight off each tire and looking for anything out of the ordinary.

"I'd be devastated to have a kid get hurt," he said. The 10-year veteran bus driver mounted the steps of the classic yellow vehicle. He checked the air brakes. Moving air screamed from underneath. He stepped on the gas pedal and the engine jumped,

but the bus went nowhere. The flashers were next. Beams of red and yellow lit up the dark sky. Everything was in working order.

It was a little after 6 a.m., and Hawkes, manning school bus number 7, was ready to get the kids to their classrooms.

One after the other, the Novi Community School District fleet of busses roared out of the Transportation Center on 11 Mile Road, spreading out across town. The morning was completely underway now.

"Parents set their clocks to us," said Novi Schools' bus driver Kittle Johnson. "They can expect us there the same time everyday."

Bundled in winter jackets, scarves and gloves to

Continued on page 4

Story by Angelo Parlove - - - Photo by John Heider

Gun organization threatens lawsuit

By Victoria Sadlocha
STAFF WRITER

Members of the Michigan Coalition for Responsible Gun Owners are vehemently opposing the city's new gun control ordinance proposal and say a lawsuit against the City of Novi is a foreseeable possibility.

"We're sure the city wouldn't want to lose another lawsuit," said Ross Dykman, executive director of the Michigan Coalition for Responsible Gun Owners. Dykman believes Michigan Public Act 319 of 1990 also known

as the Preemption Statute prohibits the city from enacting the ordinance which would make it unlawful for anyone to bring a weapon into a City of Novi public building, the office of any public official or employee of the city or any building where a City of Novi public meeting is held.

According to documents provided by the more than 23,000 member organization whose mission is "to promote the responsible, legal ownership and usage of firearms through education and legislative action," PA 319 is "an act to prohibit local units of government

from imposing certain restrictions on the ownership, registration, purchase, sale, transfer, transportation or possession of pistols or other firearms, ammunition for pistols or other firearms or components of pistols or other firearms."

City officials state they may establish the ordinance because they are authorized to enact "general police powers laws and to adopt and enforce ordinances for the control and management of municipal property."

This statement was made in the

Continued on page 4

Who is the best?

Place your vote for the Novi News' 2002 People's Choice Awards

which local retail centers provide you with the best customer service. We call it, "People's Choice, 2002."

The ballot has arrived, and the voting is simple: one to a customer, and all the blanks you can fill.

Cast a ballot in one or all of the six available categories. Tell us who styles your hair to perfection, who grills your meal to palate-pleasing delight and who best insulates your office from administrative chaos.

Whether they are a food server, receptionist, banker, lawyer, elected official or firefighter, this is the

Forget the Internet. When it comes to casting a ballot, there's only one way to do it: with pen and paper.

With today's issue, the Novi News and Hometown Communications once again faithfully begins its four-week odyssey toward discovering which local restaurants you fancy best, which local shopkeepers you find the most endearing and

Continued on page 4

VOTE FOR THE BEST OF 2002

NOVI is filled with people and places that stand out from the crowd. We want to know what readers think is head-and-shoulders above the rest. Take a few moments to make your nominations for the Best of 2002.

WHICH RESTAURANT SERVES THE BEST FOOD TYPES	BEST SERVICE OUTLETS
Appetizer _____	Bank _____
Dessert _____	Gas Station _____
Sandwich _____	or Quick Mart _____
Main Dishes _____	Hair Salon _____
Salad _____	Insurance Agency _____
Soup _____	Internet Provider _____
Burger _____	Golf Course _____
Chicken _____	
Steak _____	BEST SERVICE PERSON
Sea Food _____	(Please include full name, business name & city)
Pizza _____	Bank Teller _____
French Fries _____	Barber _____
Ice Cream _____	Dentist _____
BEST SPECIALTY RESTAURANTS	Auto Dealership _____
Chinese Food _____	Doctor _____
Family Restaurant _____	Veterinarian _____
Fast Food Chain _____	Hair Stylist _____
Quality Dining _____	Waiter _____
Most Romantic _____	Waitress _____
Coffee Shop _____	Receptionist _____
Pub _____	Insurance Agent _____
Bakery _____	Chiropractor _____
Rock & Roll Bar _____	Pharmacist _____
BEST SHOPPING LOCATIONS	Florist _____
Appliances _____	Police Officer _____
Bargain _____	Jeweler _____
Strip Mall _____	Travel Agent _____
Video Store _____	Accountant _____
Hardware _____	Receptionist _____
Bookstore _____	Fast Food Employee _____
Men's Store _____	Librarian _____
Women's Store _____	Government _____
Shoe Store _____	Employee _____
Lawn Equipment _____	Elected Official _____
Specialty/Gift Shop _____	Firefighter _____
Pharmacy _____	Snow Remover _____
Furniture _____	Auto Service _____
Auto Parts _____	
Carpet _____	BEST MEDIA OUTLETS
Home Improvement _____	TV Station _____
or Lumber _____	News Reporter _____
Grocery _____	Radio Station _____
Music Store _____	Radio Personality _____
Auto Dealership _____	

CONTEST RULES

- Original newspaper entry blanks must be used. Photocopies or facsimiles cannot be accepted.
- All entries must include the entrant's name, address, daytime telephone number and signature. Incomplete entry blanks will not be counted.
- Employees and relatives of HomeTown Newspapers are not eligible to enter.
- All entries must be received no later than noon, March 15, 2002. Entries may also be dropped off in person at the offices of the Millford Times, Northville Record, Novi News or South Lyon Herald. Results of the polling will be announced in a special HomeTown Newspaper supplement.
- Nominations for categories must be located within the community served by your HomeTown Newspaper. Each community's winners will be recognized separately.
- Mailed entries should be sent to:

Novi News, c/o Bob Jackson, Editor, 104 W. Main, Northville, MI 48167

Name _____

Address _____

Daytime Phone Number _____

Signature _____

Please check which newspaper this entry blank is coming from:
 Millford Times/Huron Valley Times Northville Record
 Novi News/Lake Area Times South Lyon Herald

Engagements

Wes and Jean Smith of Novi announce the engagement of their daughter, Joanne Lee Smith, to Brian Robert Scoville, son of Robert and Rena Scoville of Commerce Township.

The bride-elect is a 1998 graduate of Novi High School and is currently attending Hillsdale College. The groom-elect, a Commerce Township resident, is currently attending Hillsdale College as well.

An Aug. 3 wedding is planned.

The bride-elect is a 1992 graduate of Novi High School and a graduate of Central Michigan University. She is employed as a kindergarten teacher in Boynton Beach, Fla. The groom-elect has completed his apprenticeship and currently works for I.E. Meyers (H&W Local No. 222) as a journeyman hurnman.

A July wedding is planned.

The groom-elect is also a 1994 graduate of Novi High School and a 1999 graduate of Michigan State University. He is employed by Dainger Chrysler.

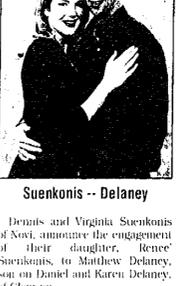
An April 13 wedding is planned.



Giehbrock-Bassett



Grigg-Martin



Suenkonis-Delaney

Gary and Donna Bassett of St. Louis, Missouri, of Novi, announce the engagement of their daughter, Dana Bassett, to Eric Giehbrock, son of John and Deborah Giehbrock of East Landenbelle, Fla.

Jerry and Deanna Martin of Novi, announce the engagement of their daughter, Julie Martin, to Tom Grigg, son of Marge Grigg, of Novi, and Don Grigg, of Huntington Lake.

Denise and Virginia Suenkonis of Novi, announce the engagement of their daughter, Renee Suenkonis, to Matthew Delaney, son of Daniel and Karen Delaney, of Livonia.

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Publication Number USPS 398220

The bride-elect is a 1994 graduate of Novi High School and a 1998 graduate of Central Michigan University. She is employed at St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center.

The groom-elect is a 1996 graduate of Western Michigan University. She is employed by Northville, Plymouth.

The bride-elect is a 1996 graduate of Novi High School and a 2000 graduate of Western Michigan University. She is employed by Northville, Plymouth.

The groom-elect is a 1996 graduate of Clawson High School and is currently employed as an electrician at T. Schwartz Electric, Inc.

Police department observes Child passenger safety week

By Victoria Sadlocha
STAFF WRITER

The Novi Police Department reminds all parents and caregivers in the community to place young children in child safety seats every time they ride in a car or truck.

The reminder was issued as part of the department's participation in "National Child Passenger Safety Week" occurring Feb. 10 through 16.

The reminder includes booster seats and seat belts for children who have outgrown a safety seat.

"Car accidents are the number one killer of children 15 and younger (through age 4)," said Sgt. Terry Whitfield of the Novi Police Department. "It is really overlooked. It takes more lives of children than anything else."

Members of the department said even though there has been great progress in protecting children riding in vehicles, more remains to be done.

Whitfield said traffic crashes have psychological repercussions too. He cited a study in the journal "Pediatrics" stating 25 percent of children suffering traffic-related injuries were diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder.

"This is a rate similar to that found among children exposed to violence," Whitfield said.

To combat this serious issue, Novi police suggest adults become

"Car accidents are the number one killer of children 15 years and younger. It is really overlooked. It takes more lives of children than anything else."

Terry Whitfield
Novi police officer

more familiar with car seat instructions and their vehicle owner's manual before installing safety and booster seats.

According to child safety guidelines, all children should go through three safety seat progressions before using only a seat belt.

Infants must always be placed in rear-facing seats until they are at least 1 and 20 pounds.

After reaching 20 pounds, children should be placed in forward-facing seats until reaching 40 pounds.

Finally, a booster seat should be used after the forward-facing seat

is outgrown until the child is at least 8 or taller than 4 feet 9 inches.

Whitfield said once a child reaches the seat-belt age, there are also safety requirements.

"Children 12 and younger should be buckled up in the back seat," he said. "The front seat is a more dangerous spot. Front air bags deployed in even minor fender-benders have seriously hurt and even killed some children."

Documents provided by the Novi Police Department stated children 2 through 5 who are placed in seat belts instead of child safety seats or booster seats are three-and-a-half times more likely to be significantly injured in a crash and four times more likely to receive a significant head injury.

In 2000, 56 percent of all children younger than 15 killed in crashes were completely unrestrained.

The Novi Police Department is also participating in "Operation ABC Mobilization" and "Click It or Ticket." These country-wide programs provide the assistance needed for local police departments to enforce seat belt and drinking and driving penalties.

Victoria Sadlocha is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105 or at vsadlocha@ht.homecomm.net.

Carlson to oppose Cassis in 15th District contest

By Victoria Sadlocha
STAFF WRITER

Commerce Township Democrat Sean Carlson formally announced last month his decision to run for State Senator competing for the seat against Novi Republican and current State House Rep. Nancy Cassis.

Carlson formally announced his candidacy for the Senate's 15th District at the eighth annual "United We Walk" event in West Bloomfield which he attended with his wife Nicole and daughter Leana.



Sean Carlson

During the announcement, Carlson said he decided to run because now is the time to bring a no-nonsense business approach to government.

"This is about tolling up the sleeves," Carlson said. "It is not about being a democrat or a republican."

Carlson, 32, plans on accomplishing this by improving the quality of life in Michigan while providing trustworthy leadership through his commitment to fight for Michigan families and taxpayers.

"One of the things I'm talking about is \$59 million of unmet scholarship cuts," Carlson said. "I want to put that back into the package."

He also promises to take action against double-digit insurance premiums, out-of-control prescription drug costs and rising college tuition.

"Prescription drug reform is especially needed for senior citizens," Carlson said. "Most are on a fixed income."

If elected, Carlson said he will look out for those on fixed incomes and believes there are short-term and long-term solutions for fixing our health care system.

As a short-term solution, he proposes to make changes to the state's Medicaid program having patients see physicians working out of offices instead of forcing them to utilize emergency rooms for health care needs - a more costly solution.

As a long-term solution, he feels Michigan needs to address the current nursing shortage. He proposes to look into new ways to create incentives for nurses.

Recently, the Commerce resident was awarded the Joint Services Medal of Honor for fighting against government waste, saving more than \$1.2 million at the Department of Defense Logistics Agency.

"We want to know money sent to the state government is used wisely," Carlson said.

The candidate believes more money needs to be directed towards roads.

"We have to expect roads to last longer," he said.

Describing his style as "fiscally responsible," the current Pepsi Bottling Group employee and labor relations manager said he has spent the last decade slashing millions of dollars of wasteful government spending while serving in the U.S. Air Force.

Carlson's military career began at 17 when he enlisted in the Michigan Army National Guard.

Two years later, he enrolled and completed the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps at Michigan State University before being commissioned as a Lt. in the U.S. Air Force in 1992.

After being admitted to law school, he continued his military service by joining the U.S. Air Force Reserves and is currently a Capt., reporting for reserve duty at the Department of Defense Logistics Agency in Columbus, Ohio.

Carlson received a bachelor's in business from Michigan State University and later returned receiving a dual degree in Law and a master's in Labor Relations.

Although District 15 is traditionally known as a Republican district, the current manager feels positive citing the area's support of U.S. Sen. Carl Levin and former Attorney General Frank Kelly as evidence.

The 15th District consists of part of the City of Northville, Novi Township, the City of Novi, Walled Lake, Wixom, South Lyon, Lyon Township, the Village of Milford and Milford Township, Orchard Lake, Wolverine Lake and the townships of West Bloomfield, Commerce, White Lake, Highland, Rose and Holly.

Victoria Sadlocha is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105 or at vsadlocha@ht.homecomm.net.

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April 15

Tax time is a great time to think about a **State Farm Individual Retirement Annuity.**

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Twelve Oaks/Novi 248.344.7080

Gun group threatens Novi officials with lawsuit

Continued from page 1

draft document of the ordinance and attributes authorization to Article 7, Section 22 of the Michigan Constitution, MCL 117.1 of the Home Rule Cities Act and Chapter 2, Section 21 of the Novi City Charter.

Jan. 28 city council meeting, Novi City Attorney Gerald Fisher did warn members of the council the ordinance could be challenged. The lone dissenter, council member Craig DeRoche, said he voted against the ordinance for two reasons.

For starters, the Novi council member said taking away constitutional rights is never appropriate. "Novi has a history of taking away constitutional rights," DeRoche said, citing ordinances involving guidelines as to what size American flags residents may fly as an example.

Amendment Rights? DeRoche also felt placing a sign in front of city hall letting people know guns are not allowed is not enough. "We're taking away someone's freedom without adding any additional security," he said.

DeRoche said if the city is serious about preventing crime against public officials, penalties should be involved or the city should look into an employee security system utilizing identification cards.

During the meeting, Novi Mayor Richard J. Clark and council member David Landry, both jumped to the defense of the ordinance and made it clear there is no place for guns at city functions and said they both heavily supported its adoption.

Novi city officials cancel contract for new fire station

By Victoria Sadlocha

After months of questionable financing and tort-like progress, city officials dismissed James Chen's construction company from the Novi Fire Station No. 4 and naming other project.

According to a documents made available to the Novi News, Liberty Mutual investigators believe the first payment by the city to Greystone was not used to pay subcontractors and suppliers - the payment's intended purpose.

The performance bond guarantees completion of the project. Representatives from Liberty Mutual advised Clay Pearson, Novi assistant city manager for Development Services they had several options to carry out the completion of the project.

Novi Middle School students head for their buses in the east-end parking lot last Friday afternoon.

beat the cold weather, students awaited their morning ride - like clockwork - on sidewalks and driveways throughout Novi.

Novi Middle School students head for their buses in the east-end parking lot last Friday afternoon.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Buses: drivers focus on kids' safety

Continued from page 1

beat the cold weather, students awaited their morning ride - like clockwork - on sidewalks and driveways throughout Novi.

"I was born to be a bus driver and be around kids," said Johnson, opening the bus door for a handful of students headed to Novi Meadows.

The roads stay the same, its names never change. But the job is a new beginning each day for Johnson.

At her last morning stop, bus driver Sue Coolman looked in her overhead mirror, watching the kids find their seats on the crowded bus before heading off for their final destination - Novi Woods Elementary.

"You're dealing with different drivers on the road everyday. It's always an adventure; you don't know what's going to happen next," said Johnson, a 13-year veteran driver who navigates more than 80 miles of Novi streets each school day.

Novi Middle School students head for their buses in the east-end parking lot last Friday afternoon.

Novi Middle School students head for their buses in the east-end parking lot last Friday afternoon.

Novi Middle School students head for their buses in the east-end parking lot last Friday afternoon.

Novi High School honor roll students

11th Grade: Abel, Megan; Adler, Lauren; Adler, Natasha; Ahmed, Ahmad; Ales, Kathleen; Anderson, Melissa; Andrews, Jessica; Anglin, Edwin; Atkins, Ashley; Aukito, Amy; Baxter, Erica; Blane, Benjamin; Aubrey, Benton; David, Bibik; Paul M. Black, Matthew; Booth, Erica; Brashko, Andrea; Bourci, George; Bowdell, Jr., Jeffrey; Britten, Matthew J.; Burchard, Angela; Burkhardt, Amelia; Burrows, Julie L.; Burkha, Kellyn; Carosell, Joseph; Chandler, Chase; Chimenti, Erica; Chapp, Jessica; Churilla, Joshua Co. Fran; Nathaniel; Poon; Coles, Brent; Collins, Justin; Corti, Crystal; Cressman, Michael; Crotol, Lindsey; Cymar, Anna; Davis, Christopher; DeGrego, Keri; DeRis, Jeffrey; Dominick, Rebecca; Dumbrigue, Melehor; Echols, Jonathan; Elfring, Kiley; Elhage, Chad; Emmesker, Matthew; Enmest, Shelby; Enderfen, Kevin; Faysal, James; Flennoy, Grant; Fraser, Kristen; Frask, Gabriela; Garcia, Kaelyn; Gardella, Howard; Garnham, Megan; Gensu, Jordan; Getis, Jennifer; Gonzalez, Hilary; Goodman, Sara; Grode, Angylene; Guffey, Darren; Hagan, Christina; Haggerty, Matthew; Hamer, Kristin; Hamilton, Richard; Hanlon, Steven; Harsha-Strong, Alex; Hallett, Lauren; Haug, Matthew; Hayes, Anise; Hearn, Craig; Hebert, Matthew; Hicks, Dana; Hildebr, Christina; Hobart, Kendall; Hogan, Conor; Hong, Hye; Jean

Hornshaw, Phillip; Howell, Lindsay; Humphrey, Bernard; Hunt, Andrew; Hurwitz, Nicholas; Hurvill, Joshua; Janik, Karen; Jilg, Kimberly; Kade, Joshua; Karas, Michael; Kashat, Georgia; Basil; Kawaguchi, Mariko; Kazanis, Alexander K.; Kelley, Samantha; Kelly, Tiffany; Kensis, Megan; Kern, Kristen; Koch, Melanie; Concepcion Kohls, Kara; Kono, Tae; Korby, Michael; Kossik, Elizabeth; Kozma, Rachel; Kratoavac, Anesa; Ruhn, Jessica; Kurnick, Matthew; Lai, Judy; Lampinen, Genna; Laskowski, Andrew; Lensis, Valdis; Lewis, Christopher; Lewis, Nicole; Lilly, Kevin; Lin, Dennis; Lin, Robin; Lin, Thomas; Lokar, Brandy; Longo, Laura; Loper, Matthew; Machtsak, Stuart; John; Mainella, Nicholas; Marks, Michelle; Marlett, Lauren; Matsura, Kiori; Matsura, Kumiko; McClintche, Sean; McDougal, Anna; McEneaney, Meghan; Miyashita, Takaron; Modick, Emily; Murray, John; Murray, Matthew

Nath, Sandya; Neville, Brittany; Niun, Jessica; O'Bravo, Evan; O'Neil, Ashley; Ochoa, Daniel; Ornekim, Lisa; Oshima, Shoko; Paretta, Jaelyn; Pasquerelli, Daniel; Patel, Bhavvota; Perras, Jared; Pheiffer, Kellie; Phillips, Kimberly; Poole, Dayna; Poprawsky, Nicholas; Powell, Lauren; Provost, Christopher; Quammen, Steven; Radharaman, Asha; Rainko, Emily; Ray, Dong; Retmann, Scott; Rice, Andrea; Ridley, Matthew; Robertson, Ian; Rose, Benjamin; Sabo, Jackilyn; Santos, Edward; Saraiya, Amar; Sass, Brittany; Savers, Amy; Saylor, Cassidy; Schmitt, Angela; Schmitt, Nina; Shah, Swati; Sherna, Christopher; Shroder, Shannon; Slavin, Michelle; Smith, Amanda; Smith, Ashley; Snavely, Brandon; Snow, Bethany; Southworth, Adam; Sovran, Amy; Elizabeth; Steele, Bradley; Steer, Caroline; Stone, Kimberly; Sturgis, Jennifer; Taniel, Daniel; Thomas, Gina; Marie

Thomson, Jennifer; Timar, Kerri; Tolbert, Steven; Tran, Cindy; Trudeau, Marie; Turley, Lauren; Tyler, Jack; Uehara, Yukari; Urso, Monica; Uttenreiter, Ashley; Vadula, Megha; Vaidyapari, Prakash; Rathina; VanNortwick, Matthew; Vulaj, Lisa; Whikehart, Rebecca; Willing, Robert; Willis, Rena; Joy; Wineka, Julie; Winkel, Matthew; Wisniewski, Laura; Wlechowski, Stephanie; Wolowicz, Margo; Wong, Nan; Xiao, Luke; Yamamoto, Eri; Yoda, Tashwan; Zheng, Alice; Zonia, Stefan; 12th Grade; Aldrich, David; Alton, John; Anderson, Ryan; Arora, Vinay; Bagdady, Justin; Barrett, Brittany; Bateman, Jon; Bates, Ryan; Baly, Nicole; Baum, Melissa; Beach, Lindsey; Bear, Kendall; Becker, Andrew; Bennett, Francesca; Benson, Erin; Joyce; Berard, Steven; Bethune, Laura; Bindu, Daniela; Block, Lindsay; Boyle, Sarah; Arlean; Brandau, Lauren; Brennan, Lauren

Broadwell, Jennifer; Bruch, Lindsey; Brodfuehrer, Marcus; Bunge, Danielle V.; Burk, Alexander; Blake; Burwald, Derek; Caswright, Lesley; Suzanna; Chang, Stella; Kao; Chang, Justina; Chupinsky, Erin; Clani, David; Paul; Cleveland, Michelle; Coleman, Kimberly; Copp, Carrie; Cosnitan, Andrew; Cox, Neil; Crawford, Michael; Criesman, Megan; Cross, Emily; Dalton, James; Davis, Brandon; Dean, Elizabeth; Decker, Carmen; Nicole; Dedeker, Ann; DeFran, Andrew; Depa, Christopher; DiRocco, Madeline; Donini, Matteo; Doppke, Morgan; Dougherty, Sean; Doyle, Brian; Doyle, Kelli; Drolshagen, Claire; Dunwell, Jeffrey; Dowonowski, Sara; Ehlers, Sean; Esper, Melissa; Feinstein, Dan A.; Fennelly, Tina; Ferris, Jessica; Filipowicz, Marta; Frank, Kelly; Galvis, Diana; Gazley, Marissa; Gee, Amanda; Giadroski, Danielle; Goebel, Paul; Gold, Natalie; Goodman, Megan; Goodman, Ryan P.; Gorman, Matthew; Gouba, Marie; Graziano, Derek; Grech, Rebecca; Jane; Grech, Robert; Grunich, Margaret; Haberman, Adam; Hagan, Jessica; Hardikar, Ashwini; Hardy, Allen; Harrell, Robert; Hawke, Kimberly; Ruth; Hawke, Roberta; Lynne; Heinowski, Matthew; Hendricks, Michael; Hilbert, Elizabeth; Holden, Michael D.; Holmes, Erin; Holt, Sarah; Hountalas, Chris; Hughes, Caitlin; Marie; Hundiak, Gregory; Dennis



File photo by JOHN HEIDER

Vic's Market closes due to financial woes

Continued from page 1

ness on Friday, Feb. 8. At that time she sent out a property tax collection notice to make sure the city received personal property taxes owed by Action Properties.

The notice was removed Tuesday afternoon by Oakland County treasury agent Christopher Van Mill after owners paid their taxes.

Nine tenants of buildings 200 and 300 are currently in a court-room battle over common area maintenance fees with part owner and managing partner of Evergreen III James Chen.

The closing of the market, which represents Phase 1 of the 63.35 acre Main Street project, comes at a time of continuing problems associated with the downtown development.

be developed increasing traffic to their businesses which is yet to happen.

Another lawsuit, filed by real estate developer John Bernard, was also filed stating Chen owed him money for allegedly helping him bail out the troubled Main Street project in 1998.

"It's very disappointing," said Laura Lorenzo, Novi city council member.

"Who knows if [the Main Street project] will ever be completed," Lorenzo said she has been very supportive of the project from the beginning and is troubled by its stalled status.

"The biggest issue is someone filling Vic's shoes," she said. Lorenzo would like to see another grocery store fill the space.

The spacious store offered a non-traditional selection of merchandise including exotic and everyday produce, an assortment of fresh fish and seafood and specialized baked goods.

vic's World Class Market, the anchor of Main Street, was opened about eight years ago by Vic Ventimiglia.

The spacious store offered a non-traditional selection of merchandise including exotic and everyday produce, an assortment of fresh fish and seafood and specialized baked goods.

Novi High School announces Junior, Senior honor roll students

Continued from page 2

Hur, Michael; Kuratubuo, Mihoko; Kurtz, Derek; Kwang, Tracy; Lawrence, Ellen; Lee, Jiwon; Morpheus, Katie; Muldoon, James; Najjar, Jennifer; Nakamura, Kaori; Naqi, Jameel; Nicholas, Matthew; Nimer, Scott; Nyberg, Sven; Erik; O'Connor, Sara; O'Keefe, Stephen; Oates, Brian; Oliveira, Alexandra; Ong, Brian; Overfield, Robert; Paldan, Jesse; Palmarchuk, Stephanie; Paquette, Geoffrey; Patel, Tanya; Kupiz, Jennifer; Kuratubuo, Mihoko; Kurtz, Derek; Kwang, Tracy; Lawrence, Ellen; Lee, Jiwon; Morpheus, Katie; Muldoon, James; Najjar, Jennifer; Nakamura, Kaori; Naqi, Jameel; Nicholas, Matthew; Nimer, Scott; Nyberg, Sven; Erik; O'Connor, Sara; O'Keefe, Stephen; Oates, Brian; Oliveira, Alexandra; Ong, Brian; Overfield, Robert; Paldan, Jesse; Palmarchuk, Stephanie; Paquette, Geoffrey; Patel, Tanya; Moblo, Jordan; Mochimaru, Chihiro; Mohr, Tyler; Monti, Blake; Moore, Timothy; Morpheus, Katie; Muldoon, James; Najjar, Jennifer; Nakamura, Kaori; Naqi, Jameel; Nicholas, Matthew; Nimer, Scott; Nyberg, Sven; Erik; O'Connor, Sara; O'Keefe, Stephen; Oates, Brian; Oliveira, Alexandra; Ong, Brian; Overfield, Robert; Paldan, Jesse; Palmarchuk, Stephanie; Paquette, Geoffrey; Patel, Tanya; Path, Daniel; Perry, Christopher; Peurson, Matthew; Phillips, Rachel; Pierce, Megan; Pitcher, Adam; Poremba, Jason; Pratt, Brandon; Preston, David; Puro, Adam; Qasqargis, Sylvia; Ikhlas; Quenneville, Michelle; Radhamohan, Ranjan; Ragsdale, Matthew; Rangarajan, Sowky; Raudszus, Stephen; James; Ray, Jacob; Regan, Stephanie; Reid, Erin; Reiter, Corey; Robertson, Erin; Roemer, Melissa; Rose, Katherine; Sabel, Jaime; Saiffard, Kirk; Sanchez, Monique N.; Sanson, Adam; Savikas, David; Alphonssas; Sayre, Roxanne; Schlenke, Joseph; Schneider, Eric; Schonbach, Ryan; Albert; Schram, James; Schroeder, Bailey; Schuyten, Phillip; Shaik, Niraj; Shih, Jaseung; Shively, Theodore; Shubert, Rebecca; Simkins, Carmen; Rose; Simpson, Robert; Tindall, Christopher; Tuller, Christopher; Tuttle, Alissa; Merol; Tyler, Blair; VanTassel, Ryan; Varshtey, Prantithi; Vehlwald, Michael; Vermeulen, Carolyn; Vigna, Christine; Volkner, Sierra; Vultaggio, Amy; Nicole; Walker, Ashley; Warner, Jennifer; Warner, Rebecca; Lee; Weiss, Laurel; Wilson, Sarah; Will, Matthew; Scott; Winkolmann, Kristen; Wisniewski, Joseph; Yoo, Juilwan; Young, Ian; Zhao, Nancy; Zurbrugg, Carla



Celebration of Roses

Roses-West Rose Society of Novi hosted the Immediate Past president of the American Rose Society, Jim Herin, M.D., and his wife Anne, from Marion, Ohio, last week. The meeting was the kick-off program for "2002 The Year of the Rose" at the Novi Civic Center.

Get your vote in for annual contest

Continued from page 1

There are only a few simple rules for our annual contest. Chief amongst which is: we ask that your selections be confined to the Novi and Walled Lake area.

Orchard Grove Community Church. Chris Cramer, Pastor. Sunday, 9:30 A.M. & 11:15 A.M. Wednesday, 7:00 P.M. Located in OLD ORCHARD THEATRE 28123 Orchard Lake Road Farmington Hills 248-324-1700 www.orchardgrove.org

NOVI TOWN CENTER 8. MOVIE GUIDE. 12th Grade; Aldrich, David; Alton, John; Anderson, Ryan; Arora, Vinay; Bagdady, Justin; Barrett, Brittany; Bateman, Jon; Bates, Ryan; Baly, Nicole; Baum, Melissa; Beach, Lindsey; Bear, Kendall; Becker, Andrew; Bennett, Francesca; Benson, Erin; Joyce; Berard, Steven; Bethune, Laura; Bindu, Daniela; Block, Lindsay; Boyle, Sarah; Arlean; Brandau, Lauren; Brennan, Lauren

Continued on page 5

Valentine's Savings All Week, Feb. 14-21. 50% Off All Dry Cleaning. No coupon needed. Open 7 Days a week 7 to 7. Novi Rd. Laundromat & Dry Cleaners. 1069 Novi Rd. Between 8 & 9 Mile. Across from Guemseys. (248) 349-8120

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Police News

West Side Story Scene one

Reminding a scene out of "West Side Story" a resident reported a knife tussle in the 1500 block of Fair. Novi police received a call Feb. 2 at about 2 a.m. from a 40-year-old woman living on the Novi street.

The woman told police there had been a fight and someone was stabbed with a knife. After arriving at the house, police were greeted by a 19-year-old male with scratches on his face and an inch-long open gash on his left wrist.

The 1941 officer he thought he

heard something outside of the trailer so he went outside with two other males to investigate. The reported victim said he heard a hissing noise before noticing the back left tire of his van was going flat. The 19-year-old and the other two males involved then told police someone came at them with knives in their hands and sprayed them with water.

Police were told the weapons looked like regular kitchen knives with long blades. The cut man said he was almost stabbed in the head. A description was given to Novi police who went to the 1400 block of Gardner to do follow-up interviews. The case remains open.

West Side Story scene two

Three days after the reported knife, Novi police returned to the 1500 block of Ocker at 1:30 a.m. after receiving a breaking and entering call.

An officer responded to a different house on the block from the previous call where a 19-year-old female told him someone broke into her dwelling. The resident said when she arrived home that morning, she noticed her door was open. After entering she saw several items were missing from her entertainment center.

The officer noted in his report there were dents in the main door, but no damage to the door frame. The female said when she left her residence the night before the door was locked. The victim said a Sony PlayStation valued at \$250 and seven games also valued at \$250 including Driver 2 and Need For Speed were stolen. The officer did not find any evidence and the case remains open.

A weak bladder?

Novi police received an eyeeful after catching a man urinating in the parking lot of JW's Sports Club on Novi Road.

The officer was in the parking lot preparing to leave from a previous call Feb. 4 at 12:30 a.m. when he noticed the urinating man. As the officer approached the 39-year-old Illinois resident, he turned and zipped up his pants. A puddle of fresh urine was on the ground in the lot at the man's feet and the officer noted in his report "the urine was still visibly wet despite the below freezing temperature."

The patrolman asked him why he thought he could urinate in public and the man replied, "are you going to arrest me?" The officer

arrested him. According to the report, the man appeared highly intoxicated. The out-of-state man resisted being arrested so the officer told him he could go to the station the easy way or the hard way. The 39-year-old replied, "I'll take the hard way." Assisting officers arrived at the scene and the man was taken into custody.

While at the station he refused a preliminary breath test and fingerprinting before being placed in a cell where he became physically ill. According to the report, after the effects of the alcohol wore off, the man became cooperative and took the health test registering a .12.

Police seek stalker

By Victoria Sadlocha

The Novi Police Department continues to patrol city schools while helping neighboring police departments search for a man suspected of asking children for oral sex.

Although there have been no reports of the suspect in Novi, Detective Sgt. David Malby of the Novi Police Department said the force increased patrols of bus stops and school areas as a preventative measure.

"We want to be proactive in getting the information out there," Malby said.

In addition, Novi Police Department's South Oakland Narcotics Investigator Consortium team is also helping with the investigation.

Although the consortium is usually linked with eliminating the use and sale of narcotics, another component of the unit is to locate and eliminate in-progress crimes by utilizing a variety of surveillance methods.

Right now, the department is focused on making sure the wanted man does not confront any of Novi's school age residents.

Police describe the suspect as white with dark wavy hair and no facial hair or glasses.

The male is believed to be in the age range of 20 to 30 and was seen driving a dark blue or black sport utility vehicle.

The alleged stalker has approached children in Farmington Hills on more than one occasion and also has been spotted in Livonia.

Malby said in one Farmington Hills incident the suspect approached two girls, ages 7 and 8, and asked them for oral sex before driving away in the dark vehicle.

A man matching the same description entered Wooddale Elementary School in Farmington Hills and was wandering the halls before being approached by a secretary causing him to flee the grounds.

There have been no other incidents reported since the Wooddale incident, police said.

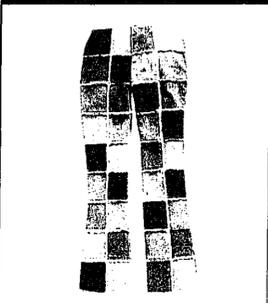
Anyone with information about the suspect is asked to contact the Novi Police Department.

Victoria Sadlocha is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 419-1700, ext. 105 or at vsadlocha@nl.homecom.net.

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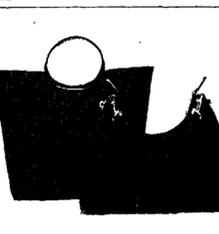
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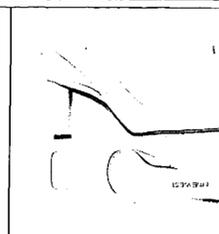
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By Victoria Sadlocha
STAFF WRITER

Looking for an extra push to keep that New Year's weight loss resolution going?

The Sports Club of Novi offers an answer through its nutrition and weight management program "The Finish Line" started late last year.

"There is no diet here," said Debbie Nuttle, certified nutrition specialist, nutrition management consultant and ACE personal trainer at The Sports Club of Novi. "The whole idea is educating people to eat right and make choices to live a more healthy lifestyle."

Staff at the club are excited about the program because of its unique ability of combining a nutrition analysis, custom menu plans and exercise expertise and facilities under one roof.

"It is a very comprehensive program," Nuttle said.

The process begins with a micro fitness test. The results provide information including heart rate,

"There is no diet here. The whole idea is educating people to eat right and make choices to live a more healthy lifestyle."

Debbie Nuttle
certified nutrition specialist

blood pressure, percentage of body fat, strength, flexibility and aerobic fitness level.

Health risks such as heart disease and stroke probability are also outlined in the results.

Clients are then asked to keep a food log for one week. After completing the log, a computer pro-

gram breaks down all food consumed providing a report listing diet deficiencies and excesses.

Nuttle said she had one client who complained of being tired all the time. After looking at the food log results, it was determined she had a caloric and vitamin B deficit which when corrected returned her energy to a normal level.

The food log is also used as a tool to incorporate foods client enjoy eating and do not want to completely remove from their diets.

"You can still have the foods you can't live without," Nuttle said. "I choose the foods they like to eat. You're also eating food you can buy in the grocery store."

After analyzing all the test results and personal information, Nuttle devises a highly individualized menu plan and exercise program.

"If I give them a diet they (clients) don't like, they won't stick to it," she said. "The motivation here becomes good health. It's about feeling better and ultimately having a better quality of life."

While a member of "The Finish Line," each enrollee receives a free membership to the fitness club to carry out the exercise portion of the program.

The certified trainer and specialist said some members see a difference in eight to 12 weeks and most are pleased to see their chronic sleepiness disappear and grumpiness turn to happiness.

The club is offering a free one-hour question and answer session 11 a.m. Feb. 23 for anyone interested in learning if the program is right for them.

Demonstrations will be offered, sample menu and exercise programs will be available and different programs will be explained including price outlines.

The Sports Club of Novi is located at 42500 Arena Drive. For more information, call (248) 735-8850 extension 4026.

Victoria Sadlocha is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105 or at vsadlocha@nl.homecom.net.

Novi Sports Club Certified Nutritional Analyst Debbie Nuttle, right, gauges the fitness of Kristine Elliot.

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11:00 AM - 10:00 PM

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COLLATERAL DAMAGE PG
12:30, 2:45, 4:55, 7:20

OHIO FAT LUR PG
11:00, 1:15, 3:30, 5:45, 8:00

A WALK TO REMEMBER PG-13
1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00

THE MOUNTAIN PRINCESS PG-13
12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 9:55

BLACK HAWK DOWN R
12:30, 4:30, 7:45, 9:45

BROWNS PG
12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

A BEAUTIFUL MIND (PG-13)
1:30, 4:30, 6:40, 9:20

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Schroeder named as 'Scholar' candidate

Stacy A. Schroeder, a graduating senior at Ladywood High School, has been named one of more than 2,600 candidates in the 2002 Presidential Scholars Program. The candidates were selected from nearly 2.8 million students expected to graduate from U.S. high schools in the year 2002.

Now in its 39th year, inclusion in the Presidential Scholars Program is one of the highest honors bestowed upon graduating high school seniors. Scholars are selected on the basis of superior academic and artistic achievements, leadership qualities, strong character and involvement in community and school activities.

The 2,600 candidates were selected for their exceptional performance on either the College Board SAT or the ACT Assessment. Further consideration is based on students' essays, self-assessments, descriptions of activities, school recommendations, and school transcripts. A distinguished panel of educators will review these submissions and select 500 semifinalists in early April.

The Commission on Presidential Scholars, a group of some 32 eminent citizens appointed by the President, will make final selection of the scholars. They will select one young man and woman from each state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and U.S. students living abroad; 15 students from the creative and performing arts. The U.S. Department of Education will announce the scholars in May.

Scholars will be invited to Washington, D.C., for several days in June to receive the Presidential Scholars medallion at a recognition ceremony and to participate in activities with their elected representatives, educators, and others in public life. Stacy is the daughter of Warren and Marie Schroeder of Novi.

Liao named Presidential Scholar candidate

By Angelo Parlove
STAFF WRITER

Novi High School senior Eric Liao continues a family tradition by being named a candidate in the 2002 Presidential Scholars program.

Liao was one of 2,600 high school seniors from across the U.S. selected for this program.

"This is the highest national honor any student can receive," said Novi High School counselor Kathy Scullen.

Presidential Scholar candidates are initially selected for their exceptional performance on the

College Board SAT and ACT Assessment tests.

"Eric is extremely hard working and a person you can always count on to get something done," said Scullen. "He is kind to his peers and has respect for his teachers."

A panel of educators will review the 2002 candidate's academic and artistic achievements, leadership qualities, character and involvement in their



Eric Liao

community and school, picking winners, selecting one young man and one young woman from each state, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, as well as 15 students at-large and up to 20 students from the creative and performing arts.

"It is slightly intimidating when you consider the history of it," Liao said.

The U.S. Department of Education will announce the top scholars in May.

Angelo Parlove is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 108 or at aparlove@nl.homecom.net.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

For information regarding rates call The Northville Record or Novi News (248)349-1700

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH 2455 W. 10 Mile Road Worship: 10:00 a.m. (All ages) Children's Church: 10:00 a.m. Pastor: Thomas F. Schroeder, Pastor - 349-0560	FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE 2001 W. 10 Mile Road Worship: 10:00 a.m. (All ages) Children's Church: 10:00 a.m. Pastor: Rev. Dr. Robert J. Smith, Pastor - 349-0560
CHURCH OF TODAY WEST (Unity) 2001 W. 10 Mile Road Worship: 10:00 a.m. (All ages) Children's Church: 10:00 a.m. Pastor: Rev. Dr. Robert J. Smith, Pastor - 349-0560	OUR LADY OF VICTORY CATHOLIC CHURCH 2001 W. 10 Mile Road Worship: 10:00 a.m. (All ages) Children's Church: 10:00 a.m. Pastor: Rev. Dr. Robert J. Smith, Pastor - 349-0560
NOVI UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 4175 W. 10 Mile Road Worship: 10:00 a.m. (All ages) Children's Church: 10:00 a.m. Pastor: Rev. Dr. Robert J. Smith, Pastor - 349-0560	ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN MISSOURI SYNOD 4175 W. 10 Mile Road Worship: 10:00 a.m. (All ages) Children's Church: 10:00 a.m. Pastor: Rev. Dr. Robert J. Smith, Pastor - 349-0560
MEADOWBROOK CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH 3035 W. 10 Mile Road Worship: 10:00 a.m. (All ages) Children's Church: 10:00 a.m. Pastor: Rev. Dr. Robert J. Smith, Pastor - 349-0560	FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE 3035 W. 10 Mile Road Worship: 10:00 a.m. (All ages) Children's Church: 10:00 a.m. Pastor: Rev. Dr. Robert J. Smith, Pastor - 349-0560
COMMUNITY UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH 125 S. Church St., Brighton Rev. Suzanne Paul, Minister (810) 225-2882	FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH NOVI 2001 W. 10 Mile Road Worship: 10:00 a.m. (All ages) Children's Church: 10:00 a.m. Pastor: Rev. Dr. Robert J. Smith, Pastor - 349-0560
ST. JAMES ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH NOVI 4037 W. 10 Mile Road Worship: 10:00 a.m. (All ages) Children's Church: 10:00 a.m. Pastor: Rev. Dr. Robert J. Smith, Pastor - 349-0560	FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF NORTHVILLE 2001 W. 10 Mile Road Worship: 10:00 a.m. (All ages) Children's Church: 10:00 a.m. Pastor: Rev. Dr. Robert J. Smith, Pastor - 349-0560
CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY 2850 W. 10 Mile Road Worship: 10:00 a.m. (All ages) Children's Church: 10:00 a.m. Pastor: Rev. Dr. Robert J. Smith, Pastor - 349-0560	FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE 2850 W. 10 Mile Road Worship: 10:00 a.m. (All ages) Children's Church: 10:00 a.m. Pastor: Rev. Dr. Robert J. Smith, Pastor - 349-0560
WORLDWIDE HARVEST CHURCH A Christian Family Church 2850 W. 10 Mile Road Worship: 10:00 a.m. (All ages) Children's Church: 10:00 a.m. Pastor: Rev. Dr. Robert J. Smith, Pastor - 349-0560	SPIRIT OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH E.L.C.A. 2850 W. 10 Mile Road Worship: 10:00 a.m. (All ages) Children's Church: 10:00 a.m. Pastor: Rev. Dr. Robert J. Smith, Pastor - 349-0560
FAITH COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 4410 W. 10 Mile Road Worship: 10:00 a.m. (All ages) Children's Church: 10:00 a.m. Pastor: Rev. Dr. Robert J. Smith, Pastor - 349-0560	OAK POINTE CHURCH Northville High School on 6 Mile Worship: 10:00 a.m. (All ages) Children's Church: 10:00 a.m. Pastor: Rev. Dr. Robert J. Smith, Pastor - 349-0560
OAKLAND BAPTIST CHURCH 2340 Beck Road Worship: 10:00 a.m. (All ages) Children's Church: 10:00 a.m. Pastor: Rev. Dr. Robert J. Smith, Pastor - 349-0560	Your Church Directory could be here!
CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS EPISCOPAL 10 Mile between Tott & Beck, Novi Worship: 10:00 a.m. (All ages) Children's Church: 10:00 a.m. Pastor: Rev. Dr. Robert J. Smith, Pastor - 349-0560	ST. ANNE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH (248) 624-3817 4300 W. 10 Mile Road Worship: 10:00 a.m. (All ages) Children's Church: 10:00 a.m. Pastor: Rev. Dr. Robert J. Smith, Pastor - 349-0560
IMMANUEL CHURCH Sundays at Hickory Woods Elementary 30655 Novi Rd. (Between 12 and 14 Mile Rd.) Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m.	WARD EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 4200 W. 10 Mile Road Worship: 10:00 a.m. (All ages) Children's Church: 10:00 a.m. Pastor: Rev. Dr. Robert J. Smith, Pastor - 349-0560

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ALEX'S SUPREME.....	.90	1.17	1.23	1.40
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BUCKET OF SPAGHETTI (Serves 4-6 People).....	10.38
RAVIOLI with MEAT SAUCE.....	4.67
RAVIOLI with MEATBALLS.....	5.76
RAVIOLI with MUSHROOM SAUCE.....	5.19
RAVIOLI with MEAT SAUCE, MEATBALLS & MUSHROOMS.....	6.23
LASAGNA.....	6.13
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CHICKEN DINNER.....	6.27
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Novi Briefs

WINTER PROPERTY TAX BILLS AND DOG LICENSES The Novi city treasury department reminds all residents winter 2001 property tax bills are due on or before Feb. 14 in order to avoid late payment penalties. Also, Oakland County dog licenses are available at the department located in the Novi Civic Center through May 31 without penalty. For more information on both, call (248) 347-0400.

DADDY-DAUGHTER DANCE The city of Novi Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department presents its Valentine's Daddy Daughter Dance 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 15 and Saturday, Feb. 16.

The special event held in the Novi Civic Center is offered to give dads an opportunity to spend quality evening with their special young ladies. Admission is \$7 for residents and \$8.40 for nonresidents. Only those with pre-purchased tickets will be allowed entrance into the event.

CITY OFFICES CLOSED: Novi city offices and recycling center will be closed Monday, Feb. 18 in observance of President's Day. All offices will re-open Tuesday, Feb. 19.

SENIORS & ADULTS FEBRUARY FUN: The City of Novi Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department is offering opportunities for seniors and adults to have fun this month. Tuesday, Feb. 26, Sam Smails will be performing 1 to 3 p.m. at the Novi Senior Center located in Meadowbrook Commons. The event is \$1 per person and includes music, refreshments and dancers. Thursday, Feb. 21, the Travel Club meets in the Senior Center at 9:20 a.m. In addition to learning about fun excursions from your company representatives, coffee, rolls, socializing and door prizes will be provided.

NOVI PUBLIC LIBRARY: The Friends of the Novi Public Library present "The Writing Life" 7 p.m. Feb. 20 at the Novi Public Library. During the free program, romance author Kathleen Naue will be talking about writing and publishing popular fiction. Naue has published four novels, three novellas and some numerous puzzles. Due to limited seating, reservations are required and may be made by calling (248) 349-0220. The Novi Public Library is located at 4522 E.W. 10 Mile Road.



Student Kristia Faraon makes a chocolate kiss rose.

Orchard Hills third-graders enjoy Valentine's celebration

By Angelo Parlove
STAFF WRITER

Last Friday, Melissa Mars' third-grade class at Orchard Hills Elementary in Novi celebrated the holiday of love - Valentine's Day.

"Valentine's Day is fun because you get candies like chocolate and suckers," said Orchard Hills third-grade student Amber Conley.

With many kids dressed in a festive red, the students enjoyed the afternoon — the last day of school before the district's teachers and students head off for a week-long mid-winter vacation — with fruit smoothies, Valentine's Day games and art projects.

"I think Valentine's Day is a good day because if you're embarrassed to ask a girl out, you can ask her out in a card," said Orchard Hills third-grader Daniel Burris.

The third-grade students moved from table to table in their classroom, tackling

different theme-related activities at each station.

At table one: the students played Valentine's Day Pictionary, drawing and guessing popular Feb. 14th sayings.

Table three: kids solved Valentine's Day word searches.

"If you have lots of little projects, the kids stayed engaged," Mars said. And at table five: everybody made decorative "I'm stuck on you" magnets for their parents and grandparents.

"Our teacher is good at giving us parties and doing crafts," said Orchard Hills third-grade student Lauren Ballard. The festivities ended with three blenders whipping up yogurt, fruit and juices into a holiday concoction for all.

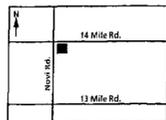
"The kids work hard and sometimes they deserve a reward," Mars said. "Kids are kids, and who doesn't like a party?"

Angelo Parlove is a staff writer for the Novi News. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 108 or at aparlove@nl.home.com.net.

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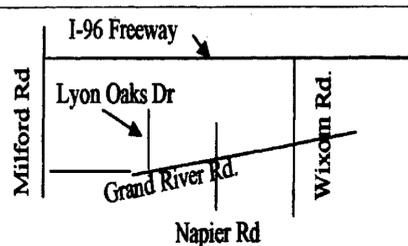
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Obituaries

Leta May Hollis

Leta M. Hollis of Northville died Feb. 10 at Charter House of Novi. She was 94.
Ms. Hollis was born March 27, 1907 in Corona to Floyd Cantley and Grace (Wood) Cantley. She later married Roy Hollis in 1943. He preceded Ms. Hollis in death in 1994. Ms. Hollis worked as a homemaker. Ms. Hollis is survived by her children, Jane (Richard) Hale of Novi and James (Leta) Hollis of Northville; one sister, four brothers, five grand-

children and four great-grandchildren. In addition to her husband, Ms. Hollis was preceded in death by five brothers and two sisters.

A memorial service for Ms. Hollis will be held today at Casterline Funeral Home in Northville. Rev. Jennifer Hixby of First United Methodist Church will officiate. Memorial contributions may be sent to the charity of choice.

David B. Severance

David Severance, formerly of

Northville, died Feb. 10 at his home in Grass Lake. He was 67.

In addition to his wife, Mr. Severance is survived by his daughter, Tina Severance of Grass Lake; and two grandchildren. Mr. Severance was preceded in death by his sister, Mary Stern.

A private funeral was held for Mr. Severance at Casterline Funeral Home of Northville. Interment will be at Rural Hill Cemetery in Northville. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Legion or the

Veterans of Foreign Wars.

John Anthony Fossano

John A. Fossano of the Northville area died Feb. 10 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital. He was 70.

In addition to his wife, Mr. Fossano is survived by his children.

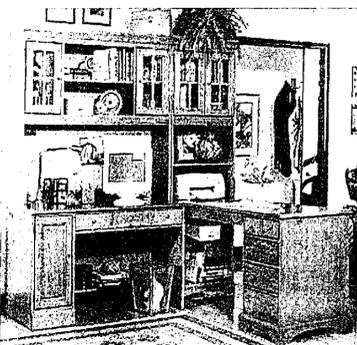
John A. Fossano, Jr. of South Lyon and Michael Fossano of Pinckney; and siblings Nick Fossano of Detroit, Carmella Gascon of Florida and Fran Purcell of South Lyon. Mr. Fossano was preceded in death by his brother, Rudy.

A memorial service for Mr.

Fossano will be held Feb. 19 at Gentili's Hole-In-The-Wall in Northville. Interment will be at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the National Kidney Foundation, 2350 S. Huron Parkway, Ann Arbor, Mich. 48104.

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12 Place Set	\$269.00	12 Place Set	\$269.00
12 Place Set	\$269.00	12 Place Set	\$269.00



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Sterling Heights, Lastlake Commons (588) 247-8111
Westland, Oakland Mall (734) 389-1131
West Bloomfield, Oakland Mall (248) 371-8000
Grand Rapids, Hickory Village Mall (616) 937-2143
Livonia, The Village (313) 437-8800
Okemos, Meridian Mall (517) 340-4088

Don't your employees deserve the security and peace-of-mind of Wayne County's HealthChoice?

With over 2,000 businesses and more than 21,000 members, Wayne County's HealthChoice is the fastest-growing health-care coverage in Michigan.

Not only because of its unmatched affordability - you and your employee each pay just \$43 a month* - but because of the exceptional quality of care HealthChoice provides.

"For the cost, we couldn't believe the coverage could be this good," said Juan Haygood, owner of Pete's True Value Hardware. "But it's true: HealthChoice is everything it says it is, and more."

Including coverage for doctor's visits, emergencies, hospitalization, even prescription benefits. From a choice of six excellent provider networks.

For you, the Wayne County business owner, that means attracting better employees and retaining your best workers. For your employees and their families, it's peace-of-mind, security, not having to worry about being able to afford health care when needed.

And if your business isn't in Wayne County... maybe it should be.

health CHOICE

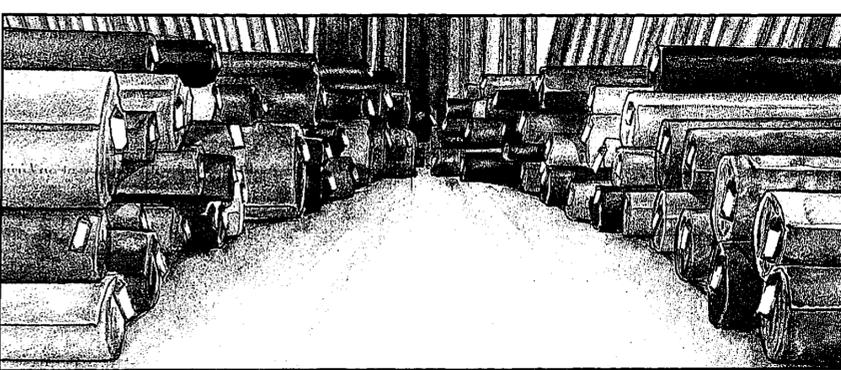
Healthcare Coverage that's Good for Business.
Call 1-800-WELL-NOW

* Single employee pays \$43/mo. and employer pays \$43/mo.; family coverage costs more. Call 1-800-WELL-NOW for more information.

All used auto show carpet will be on sale for \$.33 a square foot.

All new in stock carpet is 10% off!!!!!!

Padding on Sale!!!



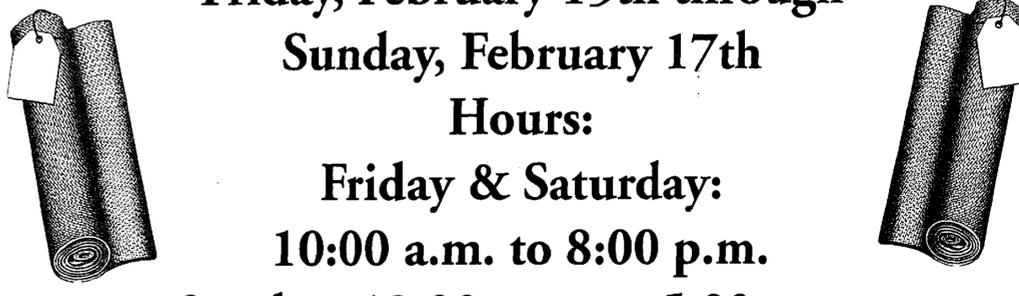
Sale Starts:

Friday, February 15th through Sunday, February 17th

Hours:

Friday & Saturday: 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Sunday: 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.



DONALD E. McNABB CARPET COMPANY

31250 S. Milford
Milford • (248) 437-8146
5 min. west of 12 Oaks Mall Exit 155 off I-96.

Novi financial trading firm forced to cease operations

By Victoria Sadlocha
STAFF WRITER

The National Futures Association closed operations of a Novi trading group last week while investors were left wondering what would happen to their money.

Last Wednesday, the president of the National Futures Association issued a "Market Responsibility Action" effective immediately to field James Sniely president of FutureWise Trading Group and Community Consultants International located in the Crystal Glen Office Center off of Lagrange Road between Eight and Nine Mile roads.

and misleading information to the National Futures Association claiming not to have customer accounts when it appeared to the association he did. Representatives also allege the entities may have converted customers' money and defrauded them.

The disciplinary action was effective immediately to protect the commodity futures markets, customers and National Futures Association members.

The development came as an overwhelming surprise to George Bzevo who invested \$4,000 with FutureWise about nine months ago.

Bzevo received an e-mail from the commodities brokerage house saying it was ceasing operations

and Sniely was required to provide copies of the action by overnight courier to all individuals and entities from whom all three entities received money for the represented purpose of investing such money.

The action will remain in effect until all three entities demonstrate to the satisfaction of the association they are in complete compliance with all association requirements.

Victoria Sadlocha is a staff writer for the Novi News. She can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 105 or at vsadlocha@homecomm.net.

NEW CLUB MEMBERS
WE PAY YOU TO PLAY

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JAN. 2ND - FEB. 28TH

While welcoming new Players Prestige members with an unbeatable offer, we're also offering a special reward to our existing members. From January 2nd through February 28th, 2002, when you play any denomination of roulette or craps, you will receive a 50% refund on your losses up to an amount of \$100.00 on your first deposit only. Loss is defined as the amount of bets wagered on the table amount of bets paid out including hand-paid bets.

For example, if you lose \$80.00, you will receive a refund check for 50%, or \$40.00.

Member's participation in Players Prestige Club is FREE. Depending upon your level of play, you may also earn points on to receive events and parties, and more. So, why not join our other members and enjoy all the Casino has to offer as a great way to play today!

Join today and take advantage of our "We Pay You To Play" offer! For more information and/or details, visit any Players Prestige Booth or call 1-800-991-7777.

MORE GREAT BENEFITS WHEN YOU JOIN OUR PLAYERS PRESTIGE CLUB!

CASINO WINDSOR
More of what you're looking for!

CITY OF NOVI
NOTICE OF ENACTMENT - ZONING MAP AMENDMENT 18.607
THE CITY OF NOVI ORDAINS:

Part I. That Ordinance No. 97-18, known as the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Novi is hereby amended as indicated on ZONING MAP NO. 18.607, attached hereto and made a part of this Ordinance.

Part II. CONFLICTING PROVISIONS REPEALED. Any Ordinance or parts of any Ordinance in conflict with any of the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

Part III. WHEN EFFECTIVE. The provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared to be necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety and is hereby ordered to take effect fifteen (15) days after final enactment. The effective date of this Ordinance is February 22, 2002.

To rezone a part of the West 1/2 of Section 1, T.1N., R.8E., City of Novi, Oakland County, Michigan, being parcels 22-01-300-001, -003, -007, -009 more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at a point on the West line of Section 1, said point being N03°28'39" W 60.01 feet from the SW corner of Section 1; thence continuing along the West line of Section 1, N03°28'39" W 2590.40 feet to the West 1/4 corner of Section 1; thence along said West line and the boundary of "The Maples of Novi, Maple Hills," Oakland County Condominium, Plat No. 827, N02°28'35" W 649.69 feet; thence continuing along the boundary of said "The Maples of Novi, Maple Hills," the following two courses, N87°21'41" E 662.69 feet and N03°11'07" W 2.24 feet; thence along the South boundary of "Hermit Farm", Oakland County Condominium Plat No. 912, N87°19'27" E 693.69 feet; thence S03°76'01" E 3236.69 feet to a point 70.00 feet North of the South line of Section 1 (nominal C.L. of Thirteen Mile Road); thence along the North line of Thirteen Mile Road the following two courses: S87°31'40" W 25.33 feet and S02°28'20" E 15.00 feet and S87°31'40" W 300.00 feet and N02°28'20" E 5.00 feet and S87°31'40" W 1050.40 feet to the point of beginning. Containing 102.81 acres.

FROM: R-1 RESIDENTIAL ACRES
TO: RM-1 LOW-DENSITY MULTIPLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT, WITH PD-1 OPTION.

ORDINANCE NO. 18.607
ZONING MAP AMENDMENT NO. 607
CITY OF NOVI, MICHIGAN

RICHARD J. CLARK, MAYOR
MARYANNE CORNELIUS, CITY CLERK

(2-14-02 NRNN 1095143)

Having knee or hip pain?

Attend a FREE seminar that will help you learn about your treatment options. Discussion will focus on the causes of your pain, medications, diet, exercise, surgical replacement, and other helpful information. Bring your friends and loved ones. And be ready to ask questions!

Wednesday, February 27, 10-11 am
Providence Med. Ctr.-Providence Park
47601 Grand River, Novi, MI.
Conference Room A
For directions: 248-465-4100

PROVIDENCE
Member of St. John's Health System

Joint Replacement Program

For more information or to register, call 248-483-8245.

REMEMBER, ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT FOREST FIRES.

Contribute to the American Red Cross Help Can't Wait 1-800-HELP NOW

NOTICE CITY OF NOVI REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY USE PERMIT TUP 02-002

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Parkway Construction is requesting a Temporary Use Permit to allow a temporary office trailer at 44275 Twelve Mile Road (Fourteen Walk) from the date of the meeting until June 1, 2002. A public hearing can be requested by any property owner of a structure located within 300 feet of the boundary of the property being considered for temporary use permit.

This request will be considered at 3:00 p.m. on February 20, 2002 at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 West Ten Mile Road. All written comments should be directed to the City of Novi Building Department and must be received prior to February 20, 2002.

SARAH MARCHIONI
TEMPORARY USE PERMIT SECRETARY
(2-14-02 NRNN 1095145)

NOTICE OF SPECIAL ASSESSMENT HEARING SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ROLL #161 WEST ELEVEN MILE SANITARY SEWER

TAKE NOTICE that the City Council of the City of Novi, Oakland County, Michigan, has determined it to be necessary to make the following described public improvement on the City of Novi:

The construction of approximately 535 linear feet of 2" force main sanitary sewer on the south side of Eleven Mile Road, in Section 20 which will provide a direct benefit to three properties.

The City Council has determined that all of the cost of the above described public improvement shall be assessed against the following described property abutting the above described improvement.

50-22-20-100-002 50-22-20-100-014 50-22-20-100-015

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the City Council has caused reports concerning said public improvement to be prepared, which reports include plans, profiles, specifications and estimates of cost of such public improvement, a description of the assessment district and other pertinent information and these reports are on file in the office of the City Clerk and are available for public examination.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the City Council will meet on Monday, February 25, 2002 at 7:30 o'clock p.m., prevailing Eastern Time, at the Novi Civic Center, 45175 West Ten Mile Road in the Council Chambers in the City of Novi for the purpose of hearing comments to the making of such public improvement.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that appearance and protest at such hearing is required in order to appeal the amount of the special assessment to the State Tax Tribunal. An appearance or protest may be made by an appearance at the Hearing to protest the Special Assessment or by filing an appearance and protest by letter.

THIS NOTICE is given by order of the City Council of the City of Novi, Oakland County, Michigan.

MARYANNE CORNELIUS, CITY CLERK
(2-14-02 NRNN 1095144)

NOTICE OF SPECIAL ASSESSMENT HEARING SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ROLL #163 PIONEER MEADOWS SUBDIVISION SIERRA DRIVE WATER MAIN

TAKE NOTICE that the City Council of the City of Novi, Oakland County, Michigan, has determined it to be necessary to make the following described public improvement on the City of Novi:

The construction of approximately 1,000 feet of 8" water main in Section 21 which will provide a direct benefit to properties on Sierra Drive and Strath Haven. These properties are located at the northern end of the Pioneer Meadows Subdivision.

The City Council has determined that all of the cost of the above described public improvement shall be assessed against the following described property abutting the above described improvement.

50-22-21-101-012 50-22-21-102-001 50-22-21-102-002 50-22-21-102-008
50-22-21-102-009 50-22-21-103-017 50-22-21-103-010 50-22-21-103-011
50-22-21-103-012 50-22-21-103-013 50-22-21-103-014 50-22-21-103-015
50-22-21-103-016

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the City Council has caused reports concerning said public improvement to be prepared, which reports include plans, profiles, specifications and estimates of cost of such public improvement, a description of the assessment district and other pertinent information, and these reports are on file in the office of the City Clerk and are available for public examination.

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THIS NOTICE is given by order of the City Council of the City of Novi, Oakland County, Michigan.

MARYANNE CORNELIUS, CITY CLERK
(2-14-02 NRNN 1095141)

Having knee or hip pain?

Attend a FREE seminar that will help you learn about your treatment options. Discussion will focus on the causes of your pain, medications, diet, exercise, surgical replacement, and other helpful information. Bring your friends and loved ones. And be ready to ask questions!

Wednesday, February 27, 10-11 am
Providence Med. Ctr.-Providence Park
47601 Grand River, Novi, MI.
Conference Room A
For directions: 248-465-4100

PROVIDENCE
Member of St. John's Health System

Joint Replacement Program

For more information or to register, call 248-483-8245.

REMEMBER, ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT FOREST FIRES.

Contribute to the American Red Cross Help Can't Wait 1-800-HELP NOW

CITY OF NOVI WOODLANDS REVIEW BOARD

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Woodlands Review Board, of the City of Novi, will hold a meeting on Thursday, February 21, 2002 at 4:30 PM at the City of Novi, Community Development Conference Room, Novi, Michigan to review the Woodlands Review Board Permit Application for, Jeff Fletcher/Maggie Meeker 48347 Nine Mile Rd. (Case # 02-01).

ALL INTERESTED PERSONS are invited to attend. Any written comments may be sent to the Department of Public Services, Attention: Woodland Review Board, 45175 West Ten Mile Road, Novi, Michigan 48375, until 3:00 PM, Thursday, Feb. 21, 2002.

ROBIN KUMMER
CITY OF NOVI
NOVI PARKS & RECREATION AND FORESTRY
(2-14-02 NRNN 1095145)

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CITY OF NOVI NOTICE OF ENACTMENT - ZONING MAP AMENDMENT 18.608
THE CITY OF NOVI ORDAINS:

Part I. That Ordinance No. 97-18, known as the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Novi is hereby amended as indicated on ZONING MAP NO. 18.608, attached hereto and made a part of this Ordinance.

Part II. CONFLICTING PROVISIONS REPEALED. Any Ordinance or parts of any Ordinance in conflict with any of the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

Part III. WHEN EFFECTIVE. The provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared to be necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety and is hereby ordered to take effect fifteen (15) days after final enactment. The effective date of this Ordinance is August 28, 2001.

To rezone a part of the NE 1/4 of Section 20 T.1N., R.8E., City of Novi, Oakland County, Michigan, being parcel 22-20-200-003 more particularly described as follows: The Southeast 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 20, excluding there from a triangular parcel off the Northwest corner of said parcel being 22.5 feet on the North side and 22.5 feet on the West side, Containing 39.99 acres.

ORDINANCE NO. 18.608
ZONING MAP AMENDMENT NO. 608
CITY OF NOVI, MICHIGAN
ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL AUGUST 13, 2001
FROM: R-1 RESIDENTIAL ACRES
TO: R-1 ONE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT

RICHARD J. CLARK, MAYOR
MARYANNE CORNELIUS, CITY CLERK
(2-14-02 NRNN 1095139)

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By and By

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Valentine's Weekend Special!

Thurs. Feb. 14th thru Sunday, Feb. 17th

Prime Rib Your Choice! **Grilled Salmon**

USDA choice prime rib of beef aged 21 days. Slow roasted with fresh garlic and our signature seasoning.

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\$15.99 Per Person

Fresh Atlantic cut salmon. Seasoned and grilled to order.

Choice of Potato Salad Dessert

"Real Food and Real Value." And we guarantee it!

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Auburn Hills 248.373.5050

Canton 734.981.6595
Livonia 734.462.3650
Novi 248.380.2600

Sterling Heights 810.566.9597
Troy 248.952.5801

Sandstone hearing scheduled

Members of the Novi city council postponed their approval of the settlement agreement between the city and Sandstone Associates, last week, after a close to two-hour Executive Session held before the regular Feb. 4 council meeting.

Mayor Richard Clark then announced that approval of the agreement would be removed from the agenda and that an Executive Session followed by special council tax levies regarding the settlement is scheduled for 9 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 23.

A 1999 Oakland County Circuit Court judgment in favor of Sandstone is estimated at more than \$70 million.

The city proposed a settlement offer to Sandstone late last year. Part of the agreement includes giving Sandstone acreage of North Novi Park which was the subject of a lawsuit brought against the city by the organization Friends of Novi Parks. The distinction of park land pertaining to the land offered to Sandstone was recently removed from the city's master plan by members of the Novi Planning Commission to ensure the deal is legal.

Novi students display award-winning art

Classroom efforts turned into an award-winning public exhibition this month for some Novi High School artists.

The Novi students are displaying some of their visual arts projects at the Southeastern Michigan Scholastic Art Awards 2002 Regional Exhibition at the Summit Place Mall in Waterford, which runs through Feb. 23.

"It was an impressive display for high school students," said Novi High School art teacher Erin Wooten. "It was well above the high school level."

Participating schools from Oakland and Wayne Counties submitted over 5,700 pieces of student art for consideration, with the regional exhibit boasting the top 950 projects.

"It was nice to see what styles people were doing our age," said Novi High School art student Megan Crissman.

Four building Novi artists took home top awards in the event, including Meg Ggurich, who won a Gold Key and three Silver Key awards for painting and drawing. "It is a real honor to win a Gold Key award," said Novi High School art teacher Gary Boyer.

Nick Hurwath won a Gold Key award, as well, for drawing, a project which took him 55 hours to complete. "The award justifies the work," Hurwath said.

Furthermore, both Caroline Hu and David Slangerman won Silver Key awards for drawing.

"The award is something tangible to hold in your hands, and just words," Hu said.

Overall, the Novi High School is displaying more than 30 pieces of art in the regional exhibition.

"Our students particularly excel in drawing," Wooten said. "They have good line techniques and advanced composition."

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"THIS MAN AGAINST THE SYSTEM STORY IS AS INSPIRATIONAL AS THEY COME."
Julia D'Amico/MARIE CLAIRE

DEI'ZEL WASHINGTON JOHNNY

ROBERT DUVAL JAMZ NOVO ANNE HECHT KIMBERLY YELSE RAVLIOTTA

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BIRMINGHAM PALMALLIUM 12	MJR SOUTHGATE 20	SHOWCASE FONTIC 6 1/2
SHOWCASE STEELING HIDEOUTS	SHOWCASE WESTLAND	STAR FAIRLANE 21
STAR GRATIOT	STAR GREAT LAKES CROSSING	STAR JOHN R
STAR LINCOLN PARK	STAR ROCHESTER	STAR SOUTHFIELD
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AMC FORUM 30	AMC LIVONIA 20	AMC WOODLAND
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STAR FAIRLANE	STAR GRANTWOOD 21 1/2 MB	STAR GREAT LAKES CROSSING
STAR JOHN R AT 14 MILE	STAR ROCHESTER HILLS	STAR SOUTHFIELD
STAR TAYLOR	UA COMMERCE STADIUM	UA WEST RIVER
LPTOWN PALMALLIUM 12	UA COMMERCE STADIUM	UA WEST RIVER

PETER PAN IN DISNEY'S RETURN TO NEVER LAND

AN ALL-NEW ADVENTURE ONLY IN THEATRES

Buy "Peter Pan Special Edition" on DVD or video and get a complimentary child ticket to see "Return to Never Land" at participating theaters in U.S. and Canada, February 15, 2002, through March 31, 2002.

STARTS FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15

AMC FORUM 30	AMC LIVONIA 20	AMC WOODLAND
MJR SOUTHGATE 20	NDU TOWN CENTER 8	SHOWCASE WESTLAND
STAR FAIRLANE	STAR GRANTWOOD 21 1/2 MB	STAR GREAT LAKES CROSSING
STAR JOHN R AT 14 MILE	STAR ROCHESTER HILLS	STAR SOUTHFIELD
STAR TAYLOR	UA COMMERCE STADIUM	UA WEST RIVER
LPTOWN PALMALLIUM 12	UA COMMERCE STADIUM	UA WEST RIVER

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Valentine's Weekend Special!

Thurs. Feb. 14th thru Sunday, Feb. 17th

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\$15.99 Per Person

Fresh Atlantic cut salmon. Seasoned and grilled to order.

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"Real Food and Real Value." And we guarantee it!

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Auburn Hills 248.373.5050

Canton 734.981.6595
Livonia 734.462.3650
Novi 248.380.2600

Sterling Heights 810.566.9597
Troy 248.952.5801

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Novi News

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Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the home towns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.

Where was oversight for station project?

The Novi city council finally stepped up to the plate and put an end to the debacle we've come to know as construction of Fire Station No. 4.

The council, with administrative staff's full blessing, relieved James Chen's construction company of its contract to build the much-needed fire station and training center, which is located at Wixom and Ten Mile roads.

Now the city is scrambling to secure a replacement contractor by Feb. 25 and have the \$1.9 million project finished by the end of August, a four full months after the originally scheduled completion date.

And while we certainly applaud the city's action in this regard, we just can't help but wonder what the heck took so long for city officials to do anything about the floundering project. The problems associated with this project certainly didn't just capture the attention of officials over the past couple weeks.

Or did it? Didn't city officials realize that Greystone, with the project deadline fast approaching, was only a third of the way complete with the fire station and training center? If they did, they certainly didn't seem to be in any hurry to get Greystone moving at a faster

pace. If they didn't, then we certainly have some criticisms for city officials.

Like, where was the oversight for this project?

Seriously speaking, doesn't the city monitor the contracts it lets? Isn't there any way of checking to make sure the contractor is actually doing what he or she was hired to do? Who would be the person accountable to those taxpayer dollars?

Just in case you forgot, there were \$1.9 million of those dollars that we awarded Mr. Chen.

Yes, the project was funded by bonds, and yes, there is financial protection to taxpayers to ensure they get their money's worth. But we just have to believe that city administrators and elected officials are being diligent in making sure that we receive the best for our dollar — even if it is being awarded to the lowest bidder.

We're also hoping this situation was just an exception, and that city officials will be much more diligent in the future as they monitor the progress, or lack thereof, of the projects they commission on our behalf.

After all, isn't that what we pay them to do?

GOVERNMENT

Per reader request, we have compiled a list so you can get in touch with your local and regional senators and representatives. Their addresses allow you as readers to voice your concerns directly, and allows them to better represent their districts. If you feel we have missed anyone, contact us at (248) 349-1700, ext. 113.

Michigan Senate

Local office:
30633 Northwestern Hwy. #100
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248)-851-1366

Bill Bullard Jr. (R-Highland)
State Capitol
P.O. Box 30036
Lansing, MI 48909-7536
(888)-736-2855
senbullard@senate.state.mi.us

Michigan House of Representatives

Nancy Cassis (R-Novi)
State Capitol
P.O. Box 30014
Lansing, MI
(888)-38-NANCY
ncassis@house.state.mi.us

County Commission

Hugh Crawford (R-Novi)
1200 North Telegraph
Pontiac, MI 48341
(248)-349-5079
hughcrawford@msn.com

United States Congress

Joe Knollenberg (R-Blomfield)
2349 Rayburn House Office
Building, Washington D.C.
(202) 225-5802

Nancy Dingeldey (R-Wixom)
2220 Euna Road
Wixom, MI 48393
(248)-669-5921
dingeldeyn@co.oakland.mi.us



After the fall
Chris Sandberg (Quentin, at right) and Ryan Bates (Father) and other cast members perform Arthur Miller's *After the Fall* last Thursday night for their friends and parents. The play was to be performed at a regional competition this past weekend after earning recognition in local performances.

Olympics: no time to watch it all

It's February again, as it is every year at this time, and Michiganders are beset with the same quandary as they are every second or fourth annum: No, not a potential IRS audit for deducted losses in the office NCAA tournament pool, but the Winter Olympics!

Yes, the Winter Olympics poses a bit of a problem for you average sports fan; it presents in living color hundreds of hours of coverage and pontification of sports that vast majority of us have absolutely no interest or skill in.



John Heider

Sure, you've got your basic skiing and skating. Most can relate to those sports or at the least suffering a career-ending injury in one of them. (Notice someone in a full-leg immobilizer in January? They probably didn't rupture all their knees' ligaments and tendons playing co-ed volleyball. The ol' Double Diamond 'Suicide Run' at Schuss and Ski 'em.)

The Olympics in Salt Lake City will provide more sports the average viewer has no comprehension of or realistically interest in: The luge, the two-man bobsled, the four-man bobsled, speed skating, suit skiing, snow boarding, curling, pair ice "dancing," the biathlon, and precision team skating for Mormon Tabernacle Choir. (Alright, I made that last one up.)

I mean, the Biathlon? For God's sake who invented this nutty sport? Guys skiing through the woods as fast as they can with guns on their backs, stopping to shoot at targets, skiing more, nearly passing out from exhaustion, followed by more shooting.

I don't know about you, but the last time I saw guys racing through the woods in winter and shooting stuff as they went along I called the cops! To heck with all those elitist, curdly dinky sports! I hereby nominate the following events to be added to the next Winter Olympics, events that your average Mr. and Mrs. John Q. Smith Michigan resident can relate to.

The icy patch-of-sidewalk slip-n-fall. This is an event one to train for and an event most Michigan residents know all too well. Contestants must navigate a 50 meter stretch of frozen-sidewalk in less than three minutes. Disqualifications for those who crawl.

Medals will be awarded for the following: Gold, three months of in-hospital traction for partial paralysis/skull concussion; Silver, no less than ten visits to an orthopedic surgeon; Bronze, three days off work and the need for six bottles of anti-inflammatories.

Getting your foot in and out of a pair of rental ice skates. This is a real toughie. Not for wimps or the weak of heart. Putting on a pair of rental skates has brought many adults to their knees wincing in confusion and consternation.

During this event no outside human or mechanical leveraging assistance will be allowed. Gold, awarded for those actually able to get their skates on before the two-hour public skate is over; Silver, for those who suffer severe foot-ankle circulation problems upon removal of skates requiring three

months of physical therapy; Bronze, for skaters who simply give up in abject frustration and savagely chew the skates' laces off with their teeth.

The downhill sledging 'wipe out.' Known to most Michigan residents as yet another one of the state's seasonal rites of passage, the wipeout has throughout the years separated the men from the boys, the women from the girls and the plaintiffs from the defendants in the inevitable civil suits that follow.

Sledging craft will be selected by an IOC committee for their inherent instability. Top-heavy participants will only be allowed to compete as their wife-only make better replay footage. Medals will be awarded by Mrs. Barbara Bush whose 1997 sledging accident led to a broken leg.

Sledging wipe out medals: Gold, given for bone fractures, torn tendons and eye-catching, bone-jarring cartwheels done during down-hill decent; Silver, for sledgers who wipe out just as they've reached terminal velocity at bottom of hill and whose craft disintegrate upon crashing; Bronze, for sledgers who "eat the snow," their wipe outs not pain-causing, but leaving them face-down in a snowbank with a mouthful of the white stuff.

Now these are winter sports I can get behind. Months of rigorous training, the never-ending search for corporate sponsorship and drug screens? Not needed. Put me in, coach! I can do 'em all!

John Heider is a photographer for the Novi News, Northville Record, and Lake Area Times. He may be reached at (248) 349-1700 ext 106, or by e-mail at jheider@ht.hometown.net.

LETTERS

Soon all the marbles will be put into play

To the editor:
It is a new time, a new era. Whatever we as Americans decide is the efficacious thing to do, we need to ignore any contrary suggestions in behavior made by "friendly states" and the leftists among us. It isn't far out to think that all the marbles may soon be put in play, that our culture, our nation, our world, may be targets for prime assaults on civilization, ending all the good and all the progress made by good and industrious peoples of the world.

Sounds like Rep. Cassis is on the side of taxpayers, right? Wrong. When the bill was taken up on Dec. 12, Rep. Cassis voted to keep this outrageous perk. Rep. Cassis decided using state airplanes for her personal use was "inappropriate" only after taxpayers caught wind of the scheme and newspapers started calling. I would like to remind Rep. Cassis that character describes how you behave when no one is looking.

Neil Goodbread

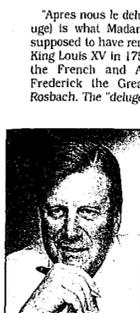
Cassis' voting for plane inappropriate

To the editor:
First they give themselves a whopping 38-percent pay increase.

Mario Facione

OTHER OPINIONS

Is Engler budget a booby trap?



Phil Power

After 12 years in office, the governor has had plenty of time to learn about all the nooks and crannies in the state's financial accounting system. He sure used them all this time around!

One hopes the school aid fund, which depends on a combination of property, sales and income taxes, will recover as the Michigan economy improves after the recession. But the general fund depends on income and business taxes, which typically lag after a recession. And changes in the federal estate tax will cost the state more than \$50 million in 2003, not to mention the cuts in money for road construction that President Bush wants in his own federal budget.

The worry is that Michigan's recovery from the recession will be low and slow, especially given weakness in the automobile industry and in manufacturing generally. The hope is that there won't be a big, unexpected emergency that requires big time state spending.

In any event, I expect the Republican-dominated state legislature to pass the Engler budget with a minimum of fuss, thereby preserving the governor's legacy as a tax cutter and budget balancer.

But in the back of my mind is another more cynical and utterly unimprovable suspicion. Could it be that in preparing his last budget, Gov. Engler has all but written off the chances a Republican will be elected his successor? Otherwise, why prepare a budget that so recklessly risks pushing off the awful day of financial reckoning onto the administration of some Democratic governor?

Over the years, many outgoing governors and presidents have delighted in laying booby traps for their unwary successors, and Engler — always shrewd and partisan — just might be looking forward to a last laugh.

Phil Power is chairman of HomeTown Communications Network Inc., the company that owns this newspaper. He welcomes your comments, either by voice mail at (734) 953-2047, ext. 1890, or by e-mail at ppower@hometown.net.

Another contingency fund, around \$250 million for Medicaid, will be cut in half, with the balance used for other purposes.

The state's rainy day fund, which had a \$1.3 billion balance just two years ago, will be drained to just above \$250 million. Anything less would have caused an automatic halt to the cuts in the state's single business tax, something tax-cutter Engler doesn't want on his record as he leaves office.

The \$35 million originally budgeted to pay for the Build Michigan road bonds will go instead to fund the Department of Transportation. But the general fund budget submitted last week by Gov. John Engler.

There are so many accounting tricks, fund transfers and accelerated tax payments involved in concocting a "balanced" budget for fiscal 2003 that I pity the poor slob who has to face the deluge of red ink and balance the state's books in 2004.

Consider: o Property tax collections for 2003 get a one-time acceleration to get per-pupil K-12 spending up to \$6,700. By the time the tax bills hit next July, this November's elections will be but a memory.

The state school aid fund looks as though it's getting a 12 percent increase, mainly because Engler's budget credits to it federal payments that usually go to the Department of Education.

o Around \$80 million in an unemployment compensation contingency fund will

get transferred to the schools.

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Early collection scheme a tax increase?

It has been interesting to view the reaction to Gov. John Engler's proposal to boost school aid next year through an early-collection-for-one-mill-tax-out swap.

Critics like senate minority leader John Cherry (R-Clio) said Engler was "cooking the books." He accused the governor of "Arthur Andersen and Enron-like accounting schemes."

The nicest thing a Democrat said about the idea was that Engler was "lying to balance the budget through accounting gimmickry."

But it also takes in more than it gives back to taxpayers.

Where do those extra funds come from? Interest. The taxes collected six months early will create a pool of cash that will sit around somewhere until it is spent. If the money sits in the state's accounts, rather than in yours and mine, it will be reaping interest earnings on that cash during that time.

That's the tax hike. Engler will be getting the interest you and I would have made had we been able to keep our money in our own bank accounts.

Of course, I can call this a tax increase without putting my reputation on the line. I'm not one of those who has said all tax increases are by definition bad. Frankly, you get what you pay for, and if we want school aid to continue increasing as many of us do, then this may be the most painless way to do it.

But let's still call it for what it is. Back in the 1970s and '80s, in the days

of tax revolt and before Proposal A, Republicans thought early collections raised taxes. Back then, school districts made a number of attempts to move up their entire tax collection from December to July, and the GOP fought it saying it was a way of raising taxes.

It is not surprising that Engler and the GOP want to avoid calling this a hike. Engler's tax cut governor, after all. And in the past year, as the economy has been slowing down, Republicans have been very resistant to Democratic proposals to slow down anticipated tax cuts in the single business tax and the income tax.

But why don't the critics point it out for what it really is? For one, they want the extra cash too.

I also fear they may think this is a good opportunity for a trial run at summer tax collections. If the public in general doesn't recognize it as a tax increase, maybe they can get away with making the change permanent.

Mike Malott reports on the local implications of state and regional events. He can be reached by phone at (810) 227-0171 or by e-mail at mmalott@hometown.net.

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Law makes liability rational in flooding cases

By Mike Malott
HOMETOWN NEWS SERVICE

Until this year, when a city sewer system backed up into a homeowner's basement, the city was "strictly liable," that is, it had to pay for the damages.

That might sound like a good deal for homeowners, but it caused problems of its own. For one, municipal insurance companies "scooted" from the state, according to Chuck Hersey of the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments. Those that stayed stopped writing policies because "they could no longer manage the risk."

Municipal officials complained that awards handed out by the courts sometimes were so large they actually made it financially impossible to do the upgrades and repairs that might have prevented the flooding in the first place.

New legislation, Public Act 222, took effect at the start of the year that "recognizes the link between liability and responsibility," as Michigan Municipal League spokesperson Don Stypula put it. That means that if a backup's

"substantial proximate cause" was some defect in the city sewer system or the result of some neglected maintenance, the city will be responsible to pay. SEMCOG's Ted Starbuck explained, "And it should be," he said.

But if the cause is an unusually heavy rainstorm or a power outage that cripples a lift pump, it might not.

Since homeowners' protections are no longer absolute, they may want to add a flood insurance rider to their homeowner policies. Starbuck suggested. Such riders typically are inexpensive, he said.

One also, under the new law, are awards for "pain and suffering" or other non-economic damages. Attorney Ed Plato explained there have been some "runaway verdicts" in which flood victims won extraordinary awards from cities. He pointed to one case in which hundreds of owners, whose homes had an average value of \$60,000, won verdicts for \$150,000 each.

What people have to understand is that when someone is suing the city, it's the members of the community that are paying that expense," Ferndale DDPV Director Byron Photides said. "Someone is paying that expense and it's not me, it's not the government. It comes from the sewer rate."

So municipal officials, regional planners and area attorneys concluded the new law will be a "win-win" situation, "fair to both sides," when they gathered in downtown Detroit for a workshop Friday, Feb. 8, on how to comply with the new law on municipal liability for basement flooding. The seminar was sponsored by SEMCOG and the Municipal League.

The improvements homeowners will see as a result of the legislation include that it encourages municipalities to be responsive to their citizens, Starbuck explained. After a basement flooding incident, municipalities will be required to notify homeowners of how to make claims for the cost of repairs as well as what they have to do to preserve their legal rights.

A 90-day cooling off period is built into the law, intended to spur settlements rather than lawsuits. That means homeowners won't have to rush to court to pro-

That's the tax hike. Engler will be getting the interest you and I would have made had we been able to keep our money in our own bank accounts.

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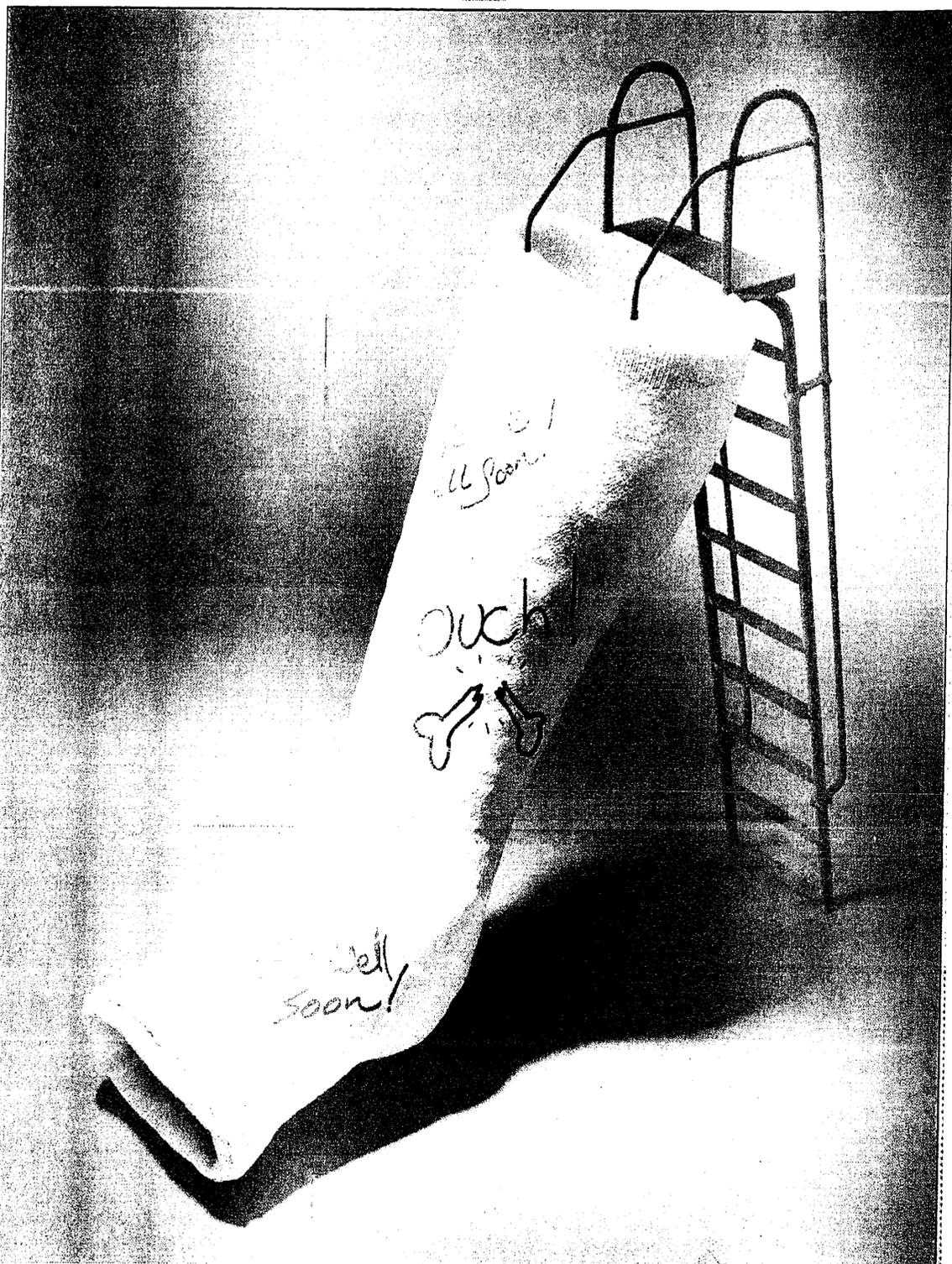
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REGIONAL MARKETPLACE

Page 19A

Thursday, February 14, 2002

Pub always warm and inviting

SHEEHAN'S

Sheehan's On the Green, an Irish Sports Pub, is centrally located at 39450 Five Mile east of Haggerty Road, and is quickly accessible to Northville, Livonia and Plymouth neighborhoods. Call (734) 420-0646 for more information. Available for groups and parties. Hours are from Monday through Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 12:30 a.m., Thursday and Friday from 11 a.m. to 2 a.m., Saturday from 11:30 to 2 a.m. and Sunday from noon to 10 p.m.

By Annette Jaworski
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

In today's ever-changing world, it's nice to know that some things will never change. Things like Sheehan's On the Green. This year will mark their 25th year in business for the neighborhood pub next to the Oasis Golf Dome.

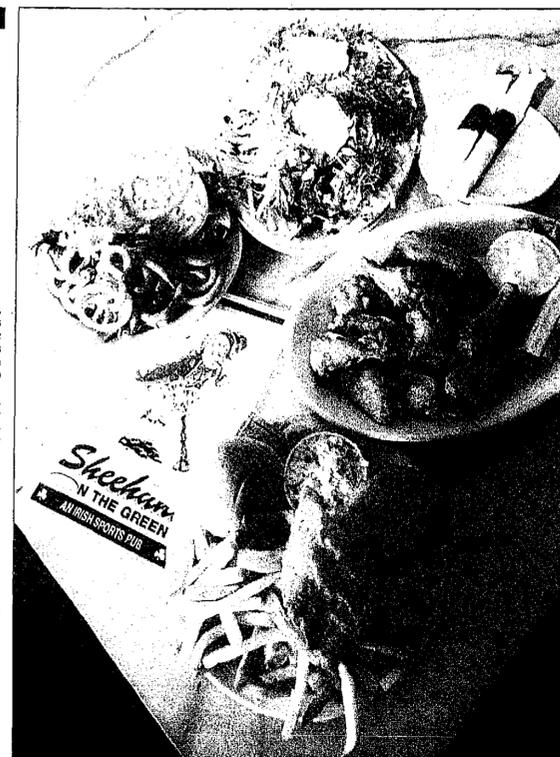
"It's evolved over the years, but yet we still maintain the same friendly atmosphere," comments Tim Sheehan. "We keep things like they are. People like it here because it's warm and inviting." The business is family owned, originally by father and son, Larry and Tom Sheehan, and now owned by brother, Tim Sheehan.

Indeed it's a mix of people you'll find coming through their doors, catering to an all around clientele. You can come here for a family dinner, a business lunch or to celebrate a Red Wing victory. It encompasses every age group. And many of the staff are long time employees, who remember their customer's names, too.

"You'd be surprised, we see some of the same families come here the same day of the week," said Sheehan.

Their food is one of the biggest attractions. Maybe it's because everything is prepared fresh on site, not pre-packaged. They build all of their own burgers and sandwiches on site. In fact, their burger has been voted #1 in many publications, says Sheehan. They offer fifteen different gourmet burgers. It's a half-pound of high quality ground sirloin, and a great deal with a variety of fixings priced from \$4.95 to \$5.95.

Sheehan says they aim to keep prices reasonable. The same cheeseburger will cost you \$3



Some of the more popular fare at Sheehan's on the Green on Five Mile Road near Haggerty. Photos by JOHN HEIDER

more down the road, he said. Friday Fish fries are popular as well, especially in the Lenten season.

Reasonable prices and generous portions keep the customers coming back to the tavern.

There's a wide variety of sandwiches as well, or soup and salad for the lunch crowd. Or try some of the munchies like Buffalo wings, nachos, Irish fries, onion rings and

A new menu will soon be coming up so look for new items including a 9-ounce sirloin steak and chicken tender salad.

Sheehan's has a special celebration planned for their 25th St. Patrick's Day. Since this year it's on a Sunday, they've got an entire weekend of fun planned. A performance by Irish bagpipers is just one of the surprises planned.

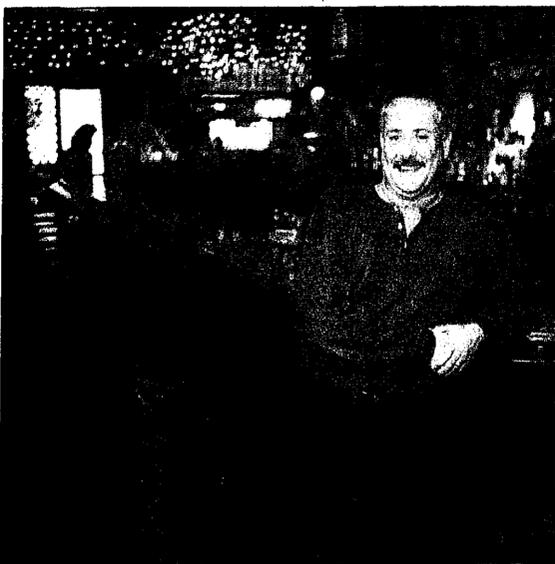
Sports play a big part of the action here, especially Red Wings hockey. It's a favorite hang out during playoffs, says Sheehan. They also sponsor local teams for adult men's and women's softball, children's hockey and men's hockey.

There's always a game going on, with ten regular television screens and one eight-foot screen for patrons to enjoy. You'll also find long board shuffleboard, darts and NTN, an interactive trivia game to add to the fun. Moosehead and the stuffed wild boar keep an eye on the score.

And of course, there's your favorite spirits, ten beers on tap including Guinness, Bass & Harp. There's a choice of 30 bottled beers and wine by the glass or carafe. Check out their many specials found throughout the week. Tuesday night is ladies night with \$1 off drinks and Wednesday is pitcher night, when pitchers are \$1.50. And, there are always the traditional happy hour - Monday through Friday, as well as game or team specials. The outdoor patio will be opening as weather permits. It makes a convenient stop after a visit to the Oasis Golf Center, which is immediately next door.

Although they plan to make some improvements, they still plan to keep their warm neighborhood pub feel.

"We've been here for 25 years, and we plan to be here for 25 more," said Sheehan.



Tim Sheehan welcomes customers to his Sheehan's on the Green off of Five Mile Road.

Effective networking only works if you make it happen

NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY

By Tim Kissman
SEAM DIRECTOR OF PUBLICATIONS



I brought together some experts to show small business owners how a tight-knit networking strategy can help increase sales.

I'd like to introduce Greg Henningway, Mitch Jordan and Keebler VanPeebles. Why don't we tell the readers what business you're in and how networking has helped you succeed.

First you, Greg.

"Aye, Tim. I'm a fisherman, from Liverpool, England, and if I didn't have me net I would starve."

Do you like to meet other fishermen, maybe make a tight connection, verbal contract, that sort of thing?

"Nay, I usually slip out in me dingy and fish at night. Night fishing is the best, Tim. Aye."

But, you use a net and that's why you're here, right?

"Aye, I brought it to show you." That explains the smell. Not quite what I had in mind. Maybe Mr. Jordan can shed some light on some networking techniques.

"I like to run a pick and roll, straight out of the south side of Eaton Rapids, honey. I can use the pick if I want to drive to the basket, or if the defense take away the lane, I can always fade back for a three. Either way, baby, it's twice time."

Twine time? "I'll tickle the net with the best jump shot in basketball. Stick on me too close, Butterball, and I'll shatter the backboard with a dunk."

Butterball? Who is Butterball?

"It's just an expression, dude. Chill out."

Fine. So you're a basketball player? Whatever. How about you Mr. Van Peebles? Tell me you're a businessperson, please.

"I am."

Good! And what is it that you do?

"I make nets."

Great! What kind of nets do you make?

"I made the nets that helped catch the dinosaurs in 'Jurassic Park: The Lost World.' It was really a challenge. I was in the third Jeep. See me? No. Anyway, I had to use a lot of netting and actually double-knot each of the different braids. I'm quite proud."

Did you do it by making friends with Steven Spielberg before the movie? Maybe at some sort of function, like a premiere event. I heard all the Hollywood types do business that way. Let's hear about that.

"No. His company called me and I came up with the net design."

That's not networking. "Aye, but I'd like to hear more about those nets. Would they catch bigger fish? I keep trying to use this little net to catch the big ones but they get away."

"Oh, I'm quite sure my double-knot system would hold a big fish. Unless you're going after whales, it'll hold."

"Aye, here's my card. Call me and we can do business." "Hey, man. Do you think that net will last longer than a week? I'm going through nets on my basket like tissue paper. They just don't hold up to my three-point rainmaker. I'm just that good, baby."

"I don't know about that, but I do know the double-knot system can hold a great deal of weight. I'm sure a basketball wouldn't even phase it."

"Great, man. Here's my card, give me a call and we'll talk."

"This is horrible. I thought you guys would show my readers how to network. Maybe give them a tip or two. Something. Anything."

"Sorry, mate. I have to go fishing. If you come up with something, call me. I'd be interested in hearing your thoughts, aye. Here's me card. Sorry I couldn't have been more help."

"Yeah, Butterball. Call me if you have an idea. You're a good kid."

Really Mr. Jordan? Here's my card. I'll call you. I still don't see why you call me Butterball.

"And here's my card Mr. Kissman."

Thanks Mr. VanPeebles.

"I could use someone like you on my next venture."

Great. Here's my card.

Well, sorry readers, I thought I could show you how easy it was to network with other small business owners, but I guess I got the wrong kind of guests.

Tune in next week and maybe I'll get it right.

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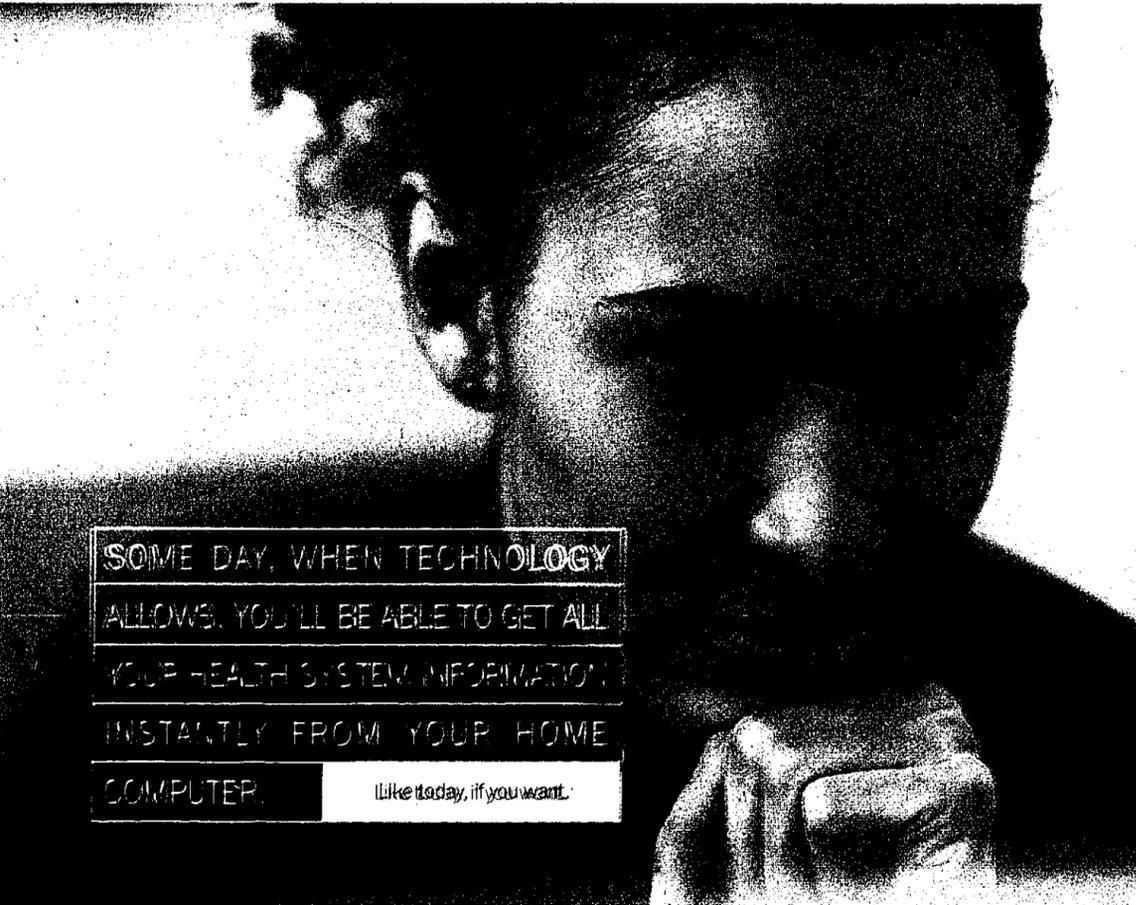
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Moblo eager for challenges

By Sara-Beth O'Connor
SPECIAL WRITER

When senior Jordan Moblo puts his mind to it he can do anything. For over ten years, and four of them during high school, Moblo has been swimming.

"This year Moblo has qualified to swim the 100 backstroke at the state meet to be held March 8-9.

"It had been my main goal," said Moblo, "it took a lot of pressure off me.

Moblo is no stranger to the state meet. He qualified last year with a relay team. This year, being his last to swim at states, he plans on doing his best.

Moblo's biggest supporters on his path to states are his family members, parents Rick and Teri Moblo and his sister Rachel Moblo.

"They put up with my grumpiness when I had early morning practice, helped with team dinners, and have gone to all of my meets," Moblo said.



Jordan Moblo

Along with being one of his biggest supporters, Moblo's dad is his role model. Rick Moblo has shown his son the ethics of working hard. Moblo's strongest trait is: when he is

Continued on 2

Spikers are ready

By Brian Doyle
SPECIAL WRITER

While the Novi Volleyball team may be a perfect 6-0 in the KVC, the team knows they still have a tough road ahead of them if they want to grab the top spot.

The three seniors on Novi's team, Brittany Barrett, Jaime Sabol and Carmen Simkins all are aware of the tough road ahead but think that it can be done.

"The team will have to beat Lakeland this week and then knock off South Lyon and Howell the next and finally beat Pinckney and a tough, currently unbeaten Milford team.

"That game will be especially big if we both remain undefeated," Simkins said.

The team has to beat four other teams before that can be accomplished.

"We have to take every game as serious as we would have Milford," Barrett said.

Obviously, Milford and Novi sitting a top the KVC will be battling in the KVC title game on February if both can remain undefeated to that point. However, reaching that level will be tough.

"They all are going to be tough games," Sabol said.

Continued on 2

KVC game may prove interesting

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

The Novi Wildcats hockey team will be taking to the ice against their old foe Howell in a battle that will reflect the ability and the determination of the teams in the Kensington Valley Conference.

Before I even understood the drive each of these teams bring to the ice, I knew the KVC was going to be full of tough hockey games and intense last-minute wins — this conference hasn't let me down yet.

In a game against Howell, the Wildcats, who always step up to the challenge, will be looking to notch yet another win and to keep their game at it's highest performance level.

The 'Cats, who have been recently ranked No. 2 in the state for their ability to play hockey, will have to make sure they don't look too far ahead — possibly at their match up

Continued on 3

GAME OF THE WEEK

**Novi
Wildcats
HOCKEY**
vs
Howell

Wednesday, February 20
7:00 p.m. at Novi Ice Arena



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Wildcat defensemen John Murray, left, and Justin Collins confer before a face-off in their zone during a late November home game.

Wildcat domination

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

The Novi Wildcats boys hockey team is not just trying to find ways to win — they are trying to find the most imaginative way of doing it.

The 'Cats made short work of the Milford Redskins 11-1 in a Kensington Valley Conference contest Feb. 6 and managed to earn the win in a fairly unique way. The 'Cats, who scored seven goals in one period, notched the win after going up 11-1 in the early minutes of the third period to seal the win on the new rule stating that once a team gains a 10-point advantage they are awarded the victory.

The game, which was stopped with 13 minutes, 10 seconds remaining in the third period on a goal from senior skater Fred Napier, found Robby Overfield leading the 'Cats with five points while Robert Vulaj and Brett Jaussi notched four points and Adam Haberman and Jordan Collins each scored three. Dan Morrison stayed steady in

the goal, holding the Redskins, with assistance from the Novi defensive crew, to just one goal.

The game started as John Murray scored with a swift goal in the first period on a pass from Vulaj and Robbie Harrell. Chaz Bulbuk and Harrell then added their own scores to help the Novi hockey team to a 3-0 advantage in the first period.

The second period found Haberman and Overfield each scoring two goals while Brett Jaussi, Vulaj and Garet Malott notched a goal apiece. Napier notched the final goal of the game at the 13:10 mark to put the cap on the scoring for the night and to seal the win.

Another bright point in the Novi hockey season came as the Michigan Coach's Association ranked the Novi Wildcats second in the state at the Division II level. The 'Cats, who are joined by area teams Brighton (ranked sixth in Division II) and Livonia Churchill (ranked eighth), are second only to Grosse Pointe North in Division II.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

The 2001-02 Wildcats line up on their blueline before a January tilt against the Mustangs.

The battle of first and second will indeed take place, and before the playoffs, Novi will take on the

icers from Grosse Pointe North Feb. 23 in a non-conference game.

Basketball team takes two losses

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

It just wasn't a good week to be a Wildcat basketball player.

The Novi cagers, led by coach Pat Schluter, took two losses in the Kensington Valley Conference as they fell to Lakeland 44-43 Feb. 9 after taking an overtime fall against the Howell Highlanders 61-56 Feb. 6.

The Novi Wildcats fell behind early in their contest against the Lakeland Eagles, trailing 24-15 at the half, and could not make a big enough comeback to get the win though they out shot their KVC opponents 12-6 in the third quarter and 16-14 in the fourth.

In the game of basketball, as the Wildcats showed in their loss, a nine-point deficit is sometimes more than too much to comeback against.



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Wildcat Angie Schmitt, left, jumps for joy and celebrates with teammate Jamie Jo Sabol.

Continued on 2

Wildcat volleyball team continues getting wins over KVC opponents

By Brian Doyle
SPECIAL WRITER

The Novi Volleyball team roasted the Hartland Eagles last week winning their first two games 15-1 and 15-9 to keep their perfect conference record in tact.

With that win, the team elevated their conference record to 6-0 and 8-0 in non-tournament matches. The JV and freshman teams also have undefeated conference records and the JV won the Novi Invitational tournament they hosted on Saturday.

Novi's varsity shut the Eagles down the first game and let them score only one point but did let the team score nine in the second game.

"Hartland's not a very accomplished team this year," Novi head coach Julie Fisetle said and also noted that the squad was trying some different things during their second game against the Eagles.

Novi did have some strong performers that game who helped the team beat the Eagles. Three non-

seniors, Kim Carczynski, Tina Hildreth and Angie Schmitt each made strong showings for Novi. Carczynski had three aces and three kills. Hildreth four aces, three kills and two blocks for the Wildcats. Schmitt had one ace, four kills and a block.

"Without the underclassmen I don't think we'd have much," one of Novi's three seniors, Jaime Sabol, said.

Senior setter Carmen Simkins had four aces and two kills and has been a consistent performer for the team all year.

"I don't think she's ever had an off day," Sabol said. Backing up Simkins, Gabby Frask also played well. She had three aces.

Although Novi has a solid core of consistent performers, Fisetle believes that she is deep almost everywhere.

"At any one time I have different starters," Fisetle said.

She also feels that those not starting can play well when needed.

"This year my bench is very

deep," she said.

The team has solid players in almost every position that can step in when they are called upon to perform. So far this season the team is on a strong streak.

"They've been playing very well," Fisetle said.

However, the team has some areas that they can improve on.

"It's more or less concentration stuff, improving consistency," Fisetle said.

Even with the recent success the varsity squad has been exposed to, the team still has a lot between them and a KVC championship. The team has five conference games left including Lakeland this week, South Lyon and Howell the following and Pinckney and Milford who is also currently undefeated the week of Feb. 25.

Brian Doyle is an intern for the Northville Record, Novi News and the Lake Area Times. Comments can be directed to the sports department at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104.

Moblo loves films

Continued from 1

because he is usually at the movie theaters on the weekends catching the latest flick. He even wrote reviews on movies for the high school newspaper.

The fourth five dollar letter in my mailbox is from the Moblo family. From a combination of having a job at the National Honor Society, Moblo said he was always an enthusiast. He has gradually become more outgoing in the duration of his four years of high school.

This past fall, Moblo hosted the biggest assembly Nov has ever had. The "Homecoming" pep assembly. Along with being the Master of Ceremonies, he produced the first ever Homecoming video. It featured each class separately dressed up for spirit days and building their floats for the competition between the classes. The tradition of having freshmen every time they are mentioned vanished for a moment as Moblo's video ended with all of the classes united as one. The school cheered for everyone involved in the spirit week competition. The student body was so enthusiastic about the video that almost everybody wanted to buy a copy.

Moblo enjoys making movies and watching them. Moblo knows everything about the latest movies

Next Level Athletes

The Next Level Athletes portion of the sports section is dedicated to the men and women who have taken the next step in their athletic careers. It is here that we can applaud them for their dedication and determination to succeeding in the sports they play.

Senior spikers gearing up for District tourney

Continued from 1

Among the three seniors, all were afraid of playing down to another team level and looking too far ahead.

"When we play pretty good competition we play at a high level," Barrett said. "We can't look past any team."

The players were worried that by focusing on a game that is weeks away they won't be prepared to play the teams they are facing that week. The team must stay hungry and not let their record or any other team's record

distance events for the Bulldogs. is a first-year college runner.

Hillary McCrumb, Freshman, Adrian College — Hillary McCrumb, a Northville High School graduate, is a member of the Adrian College women's track and field team. McCrumb, who went from black and orange at Northville to black and gold at Adrian, specializes in the long

Wild Stang gymnastics

By Brian Doyle
SPECIAL WRITER

For their last five conference dual meets the Novi-Northville WildStangs have not lost. After losing two early season matches to Hartland and Farmington, the team has found their groove and has been impossible to beat.

"We started off against the toughest teams," said coach Lindsay Schultz.

The team was also missing one of their strongest performers, Jennifer Sturgis. Since then the team hasn't stopped winning.

Most recently the Wild Stangs defeated Walled Lake to capture their fifth win in a row. The team took first in all four events and also won each of the events team.

The Wild Stangs finished the night with a score of 146.55 while Walled Lake scored just over 130.

"The girls are getting better and working together," Schultz said.

According to Schultz, the team's strongest events are the beam and the bars.

"Our beams are strong if we hit them and our bars have been very strong," Schultz said.

The team has a core of strong performers, but also a group of other girls that have also contributed. Consistently Lindsey Carlson, Andrea Ledbetter, Sturgis and Sara Wilchowski have been the team's best performers.

"Sturgis is strong on all four events," Schultz said and noted that Sturgis is usually her top

Cagers fall twice

Continued from 1

Nov's intimidating center, Janice Schram, led the Wildcat cagers with 11 points.

The Wildcats will return to action when they visit South Lyon tomorrow at 7 p.m. in a KVC contest before taking a trip to play the Hartland Eagles Feb. 19 at 7 p.m. in another KVC match up.

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Wild 'Stangs on right track for wins

By Brian Doyle
SPECIAL WRITER

For their last five conference dual meets the Novi-Northville WildStangs have not lost. After losing two early season matches to Hartland and Farmington, the team has found their groove and has been impossible to beat.

"We started off against the toughest teams," said coach Lindsay Schultz.

The team was also missing one of their strongest performers, Jennifer Sturgis. Since then the team hasn't stopped winning.

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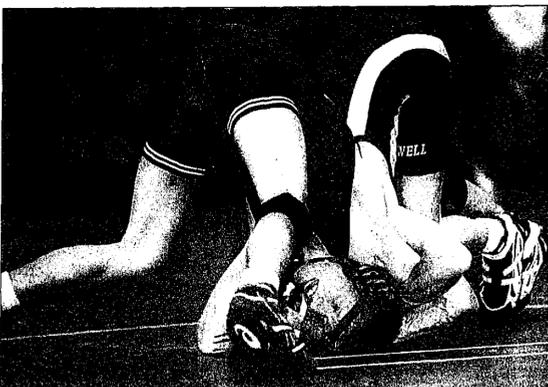
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"Sturgis is strong on all four events," Schultz said and noted that Sturgis is usually her top



Novi's Craig Hearn, left, takes on Howell's Dave Feeley in wrestling at 103 lbs.

Grapplers fall in KVC contests

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

The Novi Wildcats wrestling team is really starting to feel the burn of injuries.

The Cats, who have been plagued by injury in the last few weeks, not only felt the sting of injury, but the agony of defeats as well. The Novi grapplers took a loss to the fourth-ranked Hartland Eagles Feb. 7 37-33 as the Eagles took 8-of-14 matches.

Just two days later, the Wildcats took third in the Kensington Valley Conference Tournament with 153 points, finishing behind Hartland (241) and Howell (219).

The KVC Tournament had some high notes for the Wildcats

though, Novi wrestler Craig Hearn defeated Dave Feeley of Howell 5-2 in the 103-pound weight class, notching one of Novi's two KVC wins. The other came, not surprisingly, from Josh Churella as he beat Craig Zube from Howell 15-7 in the 125 weight class.

Novi also found J. R. Muldoon in the finals, but the 130-pounder fell to Chazz Tillman of Howell 12-6. Chris Stallard, a 145-pound wrestler from Novi, also fell in the finals. His loss came to Hartland's Brett McManaman 10-2.

Hartland 37, Novi 33

The Novi Wildcats were without three of their starters due to injury when they took on their KVC rival Hartland Feb. 7. The

"Cats followed the lead of Hearn as he recorded a pin in the contest.

Muldoon took a 12-4 win over the Eagle's Josh Kowal while Churella notched an 18-6 victory over Ryan Henderson.

Vince Sloan, who wrestles in the 171-pound weight class, recorded a 4-1 victory over Jeff Strong.

The loss dropped the Wildcats to 6-1 in dual meets this season while the Hartland Eagles remained undefeated in KVC.

Sam Eggleston is the sports writer for the Northville Record. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or at seggleston@hometownhome.com.net.

KVC is one tough conference

Continued from 1

against the No. 1 ranked team in Michigan, Grasse Pointe North, who they play Feb. 23 in Novi's final regular season game. I don't think this is going to prove to be too much of a problem for the Cats, especially with a guy like senior Adam Haberman waiting to step up after the head if you are a Novi fan with a far-off dreamy look in his eyes.

The Cats, who are coached by the Novi High School hockey guru Dan Phelps, will be looking to follow the lead of Haberman, Robby Overfield, Robbie Harrell, Chaz Bulbuk and Fred Napier as they hit the ice against the Highlanders. Along with these folks, the Wildcats will have the pleasure of introducing Howell to the skating and scoring abilities of the rest of the team. The remaining Novi skaters include Jordan and Justin Collins, Mario De Grazia, Bryan Ellis, John Jansen, Brett and Brian Hauss, Mike Karas, Ray Kennedy, Garrett Mallot, John Murray, Jared Perras, Ryan Schoenbach, Steve Stork and Robert Valaj. Oh yeah, I can't forget the guardians of the net — Trent Sisson and the ever-brick-wall-like Dan Morrison.

The Wildcats are looking very, very strong this season and have no immediate signs of slowing down any time soon. I am going to notch a mark in the win column for the boys in green and white — Novi 5, Howell 0.

Sam Eggleston is the sports writer for the Novi News and the Lake Area Times. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or at seggleston@hometownhome.com.net.

Sports Shorts

Wrestling tickets on sale

Fans wishing to purchase advance tickets for the Michigan High School Athletic Association's Lower Peninsula Individual Wrestling Finals scheduled for March 7-9 at the Palace of Auburn Hills, may do so by mailing their requests to the MHSAA offices, 1681 Randlewood, East Lansing, MI 48829-7392. All-tournament tickets for all five sessions are available for \$35 each, which includes parking at the Palace. All tickets will be mailed by Feb. 26. Those ordering tickets must indicate which division they prefer to watch, which will give them a seat directly in view of the mats for that competition. Single sessions tickets are \$8 and go on sale Feb. 19 at the Palace and at Ticketmaster outlets.

Mid-winter Workshops

Suburban Hockey will have three one-day, mid-winter workshops at the Suburban Training Center in Farmington Hills on Thursday, Feb. 14. The Defense, Quick N' Fast and Shoot To Score workshops are for players age 6 and up. The workshops will be two hours and each one is \$45 per player. For more information or to enroll, call Suburban Hockey at (248) 478-1600.

JV Scores

NOVI JV BASKETBALL

Overall Record: 13-1, KVC 9-0

The Novi JV boys' basketball team played its fourth straight road game last Friday night, but it didn't matter to the Wildcats. Novi JV remained undefeated in Kensington Valley Conference action when they defeated Hartland over Lakeland. The Wildcats got into early foul trouble, but the Eagles saw just how deep Novi JV is as the bench played a key part in the victory. Ryan Corte, Andy Krupansky, Joey Fratto and John Peters all had an outstanding game. Brad Simpson had 17 points for the Wildcats. Steve Gawronski and J.W. Woods each had 10 points.

Three nights earlier, the Wildcats traveled to Howell and blasted the Highlanders, 58-29. Novi JV had good production from many players on the night, as all team members saw action. Steve Gawronski tossed in 13 points, and Steve Jabbari had 10 points.

The Wildcats beat Hamtramck, 70-23, on Feb. 5. The Wildcats jumped out to an early lead and never trailed in the game. All the Novi players saw plenty of action on the night. Brad Simpson led Novi JV with 16 points. Mike Hart contributed 12 points, and Brad Chandler tossed in 10 points.

NOVI FRESHMEN-VOLLEYBALL

The Novi freshmen girls' volleyball team continued its undefeated season with KVC wins over Brighton and Hartland last week. They won both the Walled Lake Central Tournament on Jan. 26 and the Millard Invitational on Feb. 9. In the Millard league opponents, the Wildcats defeated Millard, in the semifinals, and Brighton in the championship round.

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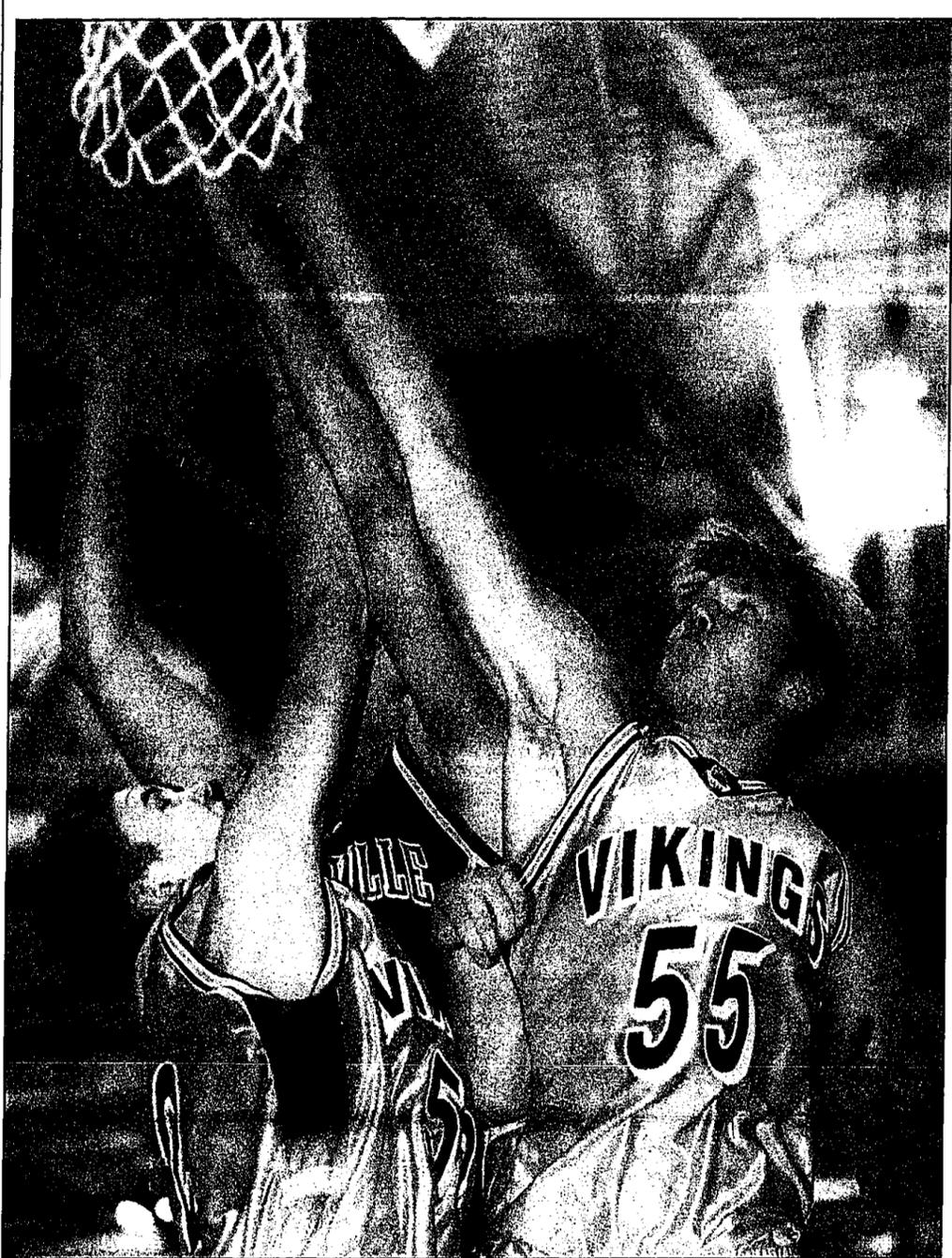


Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Central's Steve Rabish, left, and Erik Wilcox put the squeeze on Northville's Thomas Knapp for an offensive board during last week's game.

Vikings collect victory

Central cagers notch thrd win of the season

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

When a team is in a rebuilding year like the Walled Lake Central Vikings basketball season, players and coaches alike have to enjoy the little victories throughout the season.

The Vikings did indeed notch a victory, an especially sweet one since it came on Senior Night, as they topped the North Farmington Raiders 54-33 after losing to the Northville Mustangs 61-55 and to Westland John Glenn 63-57 — all of which were Western Lakes Activities Association contests.

"I think this shows how much this team has grown throughout this season," Vikings coach Bob Shoemaker said. "Our first seven games of the season were blowout losses. The last nine, we have won three and six of the seven have been decided by 10 points or less."

One of their three wins came against a struggling North Farmington team, but in the end a win is a win — especially on Senior Night.

"We started all three of our seniors," Shoemaker said. "One of them is pretty much our 13th man and he started with the understanding that if we needed to replace him we would."

The replacement, though it eventually came, was really not needed. The Vikings made short work of the Raiders in a game that could have easily found stellar sophomore guard Brandon Cassise scoring multitudes of points — instead, he scored 18.

"I kept him out quite a bit," Shoemaker said. "At the half we were up 27-11 and there was no

reason to keep Brandon in."

The Vikings move to pull their starters and their regular players found many of their players gathering points. Lemmie Plummer, a sophomore, scored six points, sophomore Jeremy Petty added two, senior Maxx Morris, who is starting to really come into his own, had five points, seven blocks and eight rebounds, senior Jaius Baird scored two, senior Erik Wilcox notched six and sophomore Trent Sizemore collected three in the winning effort.

Another big scorer for the Vikings was junior Jeff Matheny, who nailed 12 points to the scoreboard to assist in the victory.

"I couldn't be happier right now with the way the kids have been competing," Shoemaker said. "It is all about what you do with what you have. Some people have a very, very talented team and are not happy with them. I am happy with my team."

Shoemaker noted that his three seniors, Morris, Wilcox and Baird, are all very talented players with very bright futures.

"They are all members of the National Honor Society and all four-year honor students," he said. "They are really bright kids with a lot of options waiting for them."

With graduation finding only three seniors to leave this Vikings team, there will be lots of talent returning for next season.

"They give the same award for last place (in the league) as they do the second place," Shoemaker said. "The exact same award. Either you are winning championships or you are building for them. We are building for them. This is going to be a very, very

exciting team down the road."

Northville 61, WLC 55

The Walled Lake Central Vikings fell behind early in the contest and had to struggle to make a comeback by the fourth quarter — which they did. Heading into the halftime break, the Vikings trailed the Mustangs 33-17 and still trailed at the end of the third quarter, this time 47-29.

"We outscored them in the fourth, 26-14," Shoemaker said. "They had just two baskets and the rest were free throws in the fourth. We ended up going full-court man-to-man, which is something we don't do very often. It turned out to work pretty good."

Shoemaker and the coaching staff at Central don't call the full-court defense very often due to the young age and inexperience of the majority of their team.

"We don't call it a lot because of the youth of the team," Shoemaker said. "They are young and they are not very physically strong. We don't call it because we are trying to protect the kids."

Cassise continued his outstanding performance, adding 28 points in the game, with 12 coming in the fourth quarter.

"He's quite a player," Shoemaker said. "I have been coaching for a long time and he is the best passer I have ever seen. He is also the best scorer. I have had players who scored more points, but Brandon has the ability to score in more ways than any of them."

Shoemaker said that even though their opponents have heard enough of Cassise to

know they need to shut him down, they don't have the ability to do that. Cassise doesn't just pull up and shoot the jumper. No, he has the ability to take it inside, to score off the dribble, to go into the post and to bury the three. When all is said and done, he is all but unstoppable.

Along with Cassise, another high scorer was Morris. Morris, who poured in 11 points, has been a valuable asset to this team with his shooting ability and his board work. In his game against the Mustangs, Morris hauled down nine rebounds as well as three blocks.

"He is really coming into his own," Shoemaker said. "He has really started coming on for us and we have gotten better as a team because of it too."

John Glenn 63, WLC 57

The Vikings had a bit of a tough time with the Rockets of John Glenn, a first-ranked team in the WLAA, and could not hold on to beat the tough cage team. The Rockets led 20-12 after the first quarter, but Central narrowed the gap to 32-29 at the half.

"This was an interesting game," Shoemaker said. "They are a very physical team and we had some trouble matching up with them."

Cassise led the Vikings in the contest, gathering 26 points and six assists, while Morris poured in 14 points and 10 rebounds for the double-double.

Sam Eggleston is the sports writer for the Novi News and the Lake Area Times. He can be reached at (248) 349-1700, ext. 104 or at seggleston@ht.homecomm.net.

WLW spikers fall to Salem

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

Playing the best team in the conference is never easy — scoring into double digits against them is just as hard, if not harder.

The Walled Lake Western Warriors girls volleyball team felt the sting of a tough loss against the Plymouth Salem Rocks but managed to make a mark against them as the Warriors fell 15-10, 15-11 in a Western Lakes Activities Association contest.

"I think (the reason we lost) is because Salem is the best team in the league," Western head volleyball coach Fritz Tallian said. "They are 9-0 in the league right now and beat everyone that has played them."

Tallian noted that it was a mark of improvement for his struggling Warriors to score into double digits against the Rocks.

"I think it shows significant improvement from the beginning of the season," he said. "We scored into double figures against a very strong team. I think we did very well."

The Warriors benefited from Courtney Dye collecting four kills and seven service points while Stacey Pisha added four kills, Becky Whittle added six digs and Megan Sorenson had 10 assists in the contest.

The Warriors, who are 9-22-1 with the loss, will return to action when they take on John Glenn and Northville next week.

"Those two teams are our last

"I think (the reason we lost) is because Salem is the best team in the league. They are 9-0 in the league right now and beat everyone that has played them."

Fritz Tallian
WLW Volleyball coach

games," Tallian said. "I hope we are able to battle against them and maybe get a couple more wins. It will all depend on how well the girls play. We are looking forward to those two teams and having some pretty close matches."

Tallian noted that the most important things of the season is that the girls on the team have fun while staying competitive.

"I think they are having fun," he said. "I think that is what it is all about. They have to have fun and be very competitive also."

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Warriors are on winning rampage

By Sam Eggleston
SPORTS WRITER

The Walled Lake Western Warriors boys basketball team is redefining the word streak. Their win streak, which has climbed to six games, has no signs of slowing and neither do the Warriors.

The Western cagers, led by coach Rex Stanczak, added two more wins last week when they topped the Churchill Chargers 82-67 Feb. 7 in a Western Lakes Activities Association contest, after blasting the Farmington Falcons with a 62-29 loss Feb. 4 in another WLAA match up.

"Churchill's philosophy has always been to run with us and attack us," Stanczak said. "It is a pretty good strategy. With us, we press and fast break all the time. Most teams don't choose to do that with us and instead try to slow our tempo down. Churchill just ran with us and made it into a track meet for the entire game."

A track meet the Warriors came away with the gold medal in. The Chargers may have been able to keep up with the Warriors for a small amount of time, but, as with most teams Western faces, time was against them.

"We controlled the fourth quarter, but the score is not indicative of the rest of the game," Stanczak said. "For the first three quarters it was a close game."

The Warriors were leading by nine points at the half and at the end of the third quarter and, according to Stanczak, that was due to small flurries of point scoring at the end of those quarters.

"They played us pretty tough," Stanczak said of the Chargers.

The difference in the game came from three places for the Warriors. First, both Bryan Verdun and Chris Eagle scored 17 points to lead the Western cagers with David Zeitlin added 10 points. Secondly, the Warriors nailed 21-of-30 free throws compared to Churchill's 9-of-16. Finally, the ball handling.

Zeitlin, who Stanczak predicted was going to be one of the WLAA's top point guards this season, is living up to his billing for the Warriors. He added 11 assists in the contest, building up his unheard of nine assist average per game, while keeping his turnover total down to nil, an average of two per contest.

"He's just a tremendous guard," Stanczak said. "You don't see him show up as the leading scorer very often. Yeah, he has sometimes when his shot is really on, but he is the classic point guard. He is in control of this game."



Photo by JOHN HEIDER

Warrior Robert Zemple gets ready to drive to the hoop.

Stanczak also noted their was a fourth, less observed factor that plays into every contest the Warriors play.

"The underlying key for us is that we play nine guys," Stanczak said. "We play nine guys who get to play a lot. Sometimes the game will be fairly even through three and we end up controlling the fourth because our guys are fresh thanks to our bench."

The Warriors will return to action when they visit Northville tomorrow before playing Farmington Hills Harrison in a make-up game.

"Stevenson and Salem have both been beat," Stanczak said. "We are in a three-way tie for first in the division. If we win both of these games, we will win the division and have at least a share of the league title."

WLW 62, Farmington 29

There is very little that can be said about a contest that results in the loser watching the winner walk away with a 33-point victory.

When all is said and done though, the final truth is the Walled Lake Western Warriors were just too much for the Falcons to handle.

"It was really a simple matter of talent," Stanczak said of the contest. "They lost their top-eight players from last year, all seniors, and are struggling to rebuild."

The Warriors allowed every player on the 14-man roster to play nearly 12 minutes each in this contest with Eagle leading the charge with 14 points and six assists. Zeitlin gathered 11 points in the winning effort.