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IN THE PAPER TODAY

COMMUNITY LIFE

Making a choice: At one time, a child's education started with kindergarten, but these days youngsters are getting their first taste of education at preschools. And choosing the right one can be a daunting task for parents./B1

ENTERTAINMENT

Music: Singer Alberta Adams: "Born With the Blues."/E1

Comedy: Men and women are different, and comedian Rob Becker, who makes "Defending the Caveman" his business, knows why./E1

REAL ESTATE

Lots of winners: Commercial development provides benefits for many people in many ways./F1

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High school location draws flak

SCHOOL BOND

BY TONY BRUSCATO
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If there was any doubt before Tuesday night's Plymouth-Canton school board meeting where the new high school will be constructed, there is no more.

Despite calls by several teachers to build the new high school near the two existing buildings on what is known as The Park, at Joy and Canton Center roads, all six trustees who attended the meeting said it's time to move on and give the voters what was promised in the March 1997 bond elec-

Please see HIGH SCHOOL, A2

Social studies now part of MEAP

■ Fifth- and eighth-graders will be tested on social studies knowledge for the first time. As with other new tests, scores may be lower in the first year, Plymouth-Canton school officials believe.

BY TONY BRUSCATO
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Plymouth-Canton fifth- and eighth-grade students will find something new when they take the state MEAP tests during the next three weeks.

A new social studies test has been added to go along with science and writing.

"The purpose of social studies instruction is to develop responsible citizens," said Penny Joy, curriculum coordinator for the district. "The MEAP tests ask students about things they need to know to be responsible citizens."

Students will be asked both multiple choice and short essay questions on history, civics, economics and geography.

Joy said part of the test will include a section on inquiry and decision making.

"Students will read data, and then rely on previous knowledge of social studies and a core democratic value to take a position and defend it," she said. "The core democratic value has to do with rights and privileges of Americans. Something from the Declaration of Independence, the U.S. Constitution, or court findings, for example."

Plymouth-Canton administrators aren't looking for high test scores for the social studies section this first year.

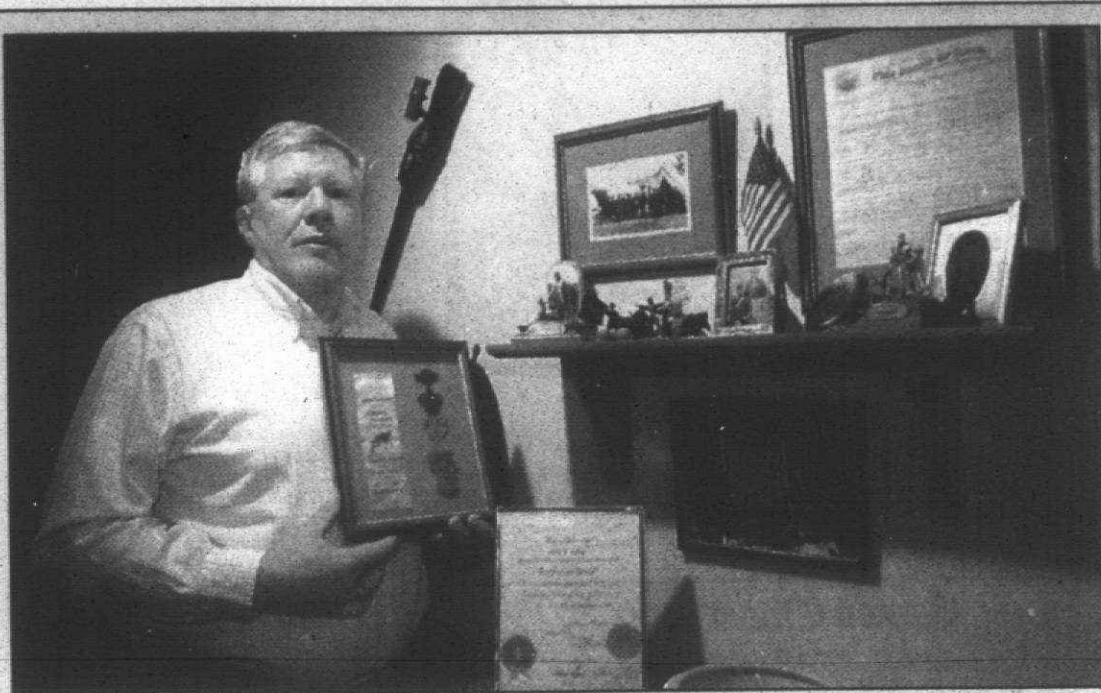
"Scores will probably follow the pattern we've seen in the past," said Joy. "When science first came out, the scores weren't strong. But, they've consistently gone up. It's not because we didn't know the material, but because we didn't know the format of the test."

Verna Anible, director of instruction for Plymouth-Canton, said it's been a two-year period in changing the social studies curriculum taught by teachers.

"It takes that amount of time to change a curriculum, which has to be done from kindergarten through 12th grade," said Anible. "We're aligning our social studies curriculum to meet the state guidelines, but there hasn't been enough time to make complete adjustments before the MEAP test came out."

After students take the new social studies MEAP test, Anible said there will be constant

Please see MEAP, A2



STAFF PHOTOS BY PAUL HIRSCHMANN

Keys to history: Dave Curtis of Canton shows off some of the Civil War memorabilia he has collected. Curtis has started an "adopt-a-soldier" campaign to purchase war pension records that provide clues to early Canton residents. Below, Curtis and his wife, Ronni, pose in war-era garb.

A civil action

War pension records provide a glimpse into Canton history

BY SCOTT DANIEL
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Fighting governmental bureaucracy is never easy.

Canton resident George Comer, a war veteran, found out the hard way. In trying to appeal a denied pension increase, he wrote directly to a Washington, D.C., department head.

He explained his difficulty in getting to Ann Arbor for a hearing on the matter. He added that a pension board brushed his case off after only a few minutes.

"I wish to say that I am dissatisfied with the last examination before the Ann Arbor board," Comer wrote.

His complaints, of course, fell on deaf ears.

A recent case, you ask? No, the year was 1899 and George Comer was a veteran of the Civil War.

Comer is just one of 86 township soldiers who served the Union during the nation's bloodiest conflict from 1861-65.



It's through pension records, such as Comer's, that the Canton Historical Society is researching the men. Society member David Curtis said lots of information exists about the soldiers, but acquiring it comes at a cost.

Complete pension files on each soldier, which are stored at the National Archives in Washing-

ton, D.C., cost about \$45 on average.

The records are valuable because they're often full of personal information about the men. Births, deaths, marriages, places of residence and Civil War battle details are typical, Curtis said.

"This is probably the best method I know to learn about the early residents of Canton," he added.

Thus far, the historical society has raised \$300 with the program. The society currently has complete pension records for 34 of the 86 soldiers.

It'll take several thousand more dollars to complete the work, said Curtis.

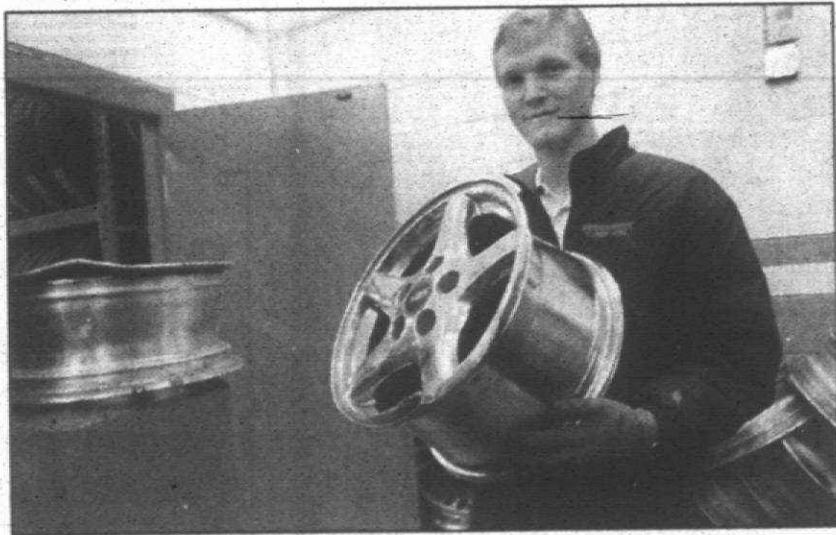
For \$25, those wishing to adopt a Civil War soldier get 10 to 15 select pages of the pension file. National Archives workers pick which pages are sent.

"They do a pretty good job on the whole," Curtis said.

Once records come back, Curtis

Please see CIVIL WAR, A3

Canton commute: A real bump and grind



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HIRSCHMANN

Rough ride: David Kesling, assistant manager at the Ford Road Discount Tire store, shows off two rims Tuesday that were bent due to potholes. A stack of about 50 rims that have similar damage is visible behind Kesling.

BY LILLY EVANS
STAFF WRITER

If you've had vehicle damage from a pothole in the past few weeks, you're not alone.

The manager of Discount Tire on Ford Road, Jeff Vonvoightlander, said about half his business this time of year is cars that come in with wheel damage from potholes.

"We see it all the time, it's unreal. A lot of bent wheels, some we can straighten out and some we have to order new wheels for," Vonvoightlander said.

John Roach, Wayne County Department of Public Services spokesman, said the county road crews work daily to improve the roads in Canton.

"We have crews out daily that patch less hazardous holes and we reserve our pothole hotline for hazardous holes. We send somebody out right away for anything potentially damaging to vehicles," Roach said.

Roach said out of 150 county vehicles, 15 to 20 are in Canton daily repairing roads, including general

POTHOLE WATCH

repairs, smoothing out ruts and sanding icy gravel roads. The crews often go over the roads several times a season as the need for repairs reappear.

Roach said Canton is average when it comes to potholes.

"Canton is on par with other communities that have had roads fixed and have roads that need to be repaired," Roach said.

Canton's worst road problem isn't potholes, Roach said. It is the need to widen roads to loosen up the traffic congestion, which can be a more costly problem since it costs five times more to widen a road than resurface it, he added.

Wayne County service records indicate out of 267 Canton general service calls the Wayne County road crew hotline received since January 1998, 79 of them were concerning potholes.

Vonvoightlander said proper tire

Please see POTHOLES, A4

Postal Service to close Harvard Square branch

BY SCOTT DANIEL
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Canton residents hoping to mail a package at the U.S. Postal Service's Sheldon Road facility will be out of luck after tomorrow.

The branch will close its doors for good at 5 p.m. According to spokeswoman Diane Pritchard, the closing was originally planned for last month.

"We made a decision to keep it open through the holidays as a courtesy to our customers," she added.

Located in the North Harvard Square just north of Ford Road, the facility first opened in 1983. Its days became numbered when the township's first official post office opened last September on Canton Center Road.

"We opened it with the idea that the Sheldon facility would close," Pritchard commented. "There is no budget to sup-

port it."

Canton residents aren't thrilled with the move, however.

"I've grown use to this location," said Tad Kajder, "so it will be somewhat of an inconvenience."

Chris Johnson just moved to the township a few months ago. He didn't like the idea of driving farther for service.

"It will be inconvenient," Johnson said.

Diana Lince, a St. Clair Shores resident who works in Canton, agreed. Not being entirely familiar with the township, she said she'll probably wait until she gets home to do her business from now on.

"It's too far off the beaten track," Lince said of the new post office.

Besides economics, Pritchard said it didn't make sense logistically to keep

Please see BRANCH CLOSING, A4



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CARRIER OF THE MONTH: CANTON

KELSEY LINCOLN
Kelsey Lincoln, 10, delivers the Canton Observer in the Redford Villa subdivision. She has been delivering the Observer since December 1997.

The Erikson Elementary School fifth-grader's favorite subjects are writing and reading. Her hobbies include swimming for Marlin Aquatic of Michigan, collecting rocks and Beanie Babies, and riding her bike. She achieved a YMCA zone cut in the 50-yard breaststroke, she was selected as a peer mediator, she has achieved state titles in both the YMCA and USS swimming, she will also be going to France in an exchange program this year.

Kelsey wants to continue to swim and have a possible scholarship for college. She would like to become an ornithologist. Meeting people is what Kelsey enjoys most about her route.



Kelsey Lincoln

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High school from page A1

"It was very clear what the proposition was in every piece of literature that went out," said trustee Judy Mardigan, who led the building level campaigns for the bond proposal. "My concern is that next time we need to have a bond for buses... if we change what we're going to do, are the voters going to approve buses for us?"

"We cannot continue to bicker publicly or privately about this issue," added trustee Roland Thomas. "Let's build the best facility for children and their education, regardless of where it is."

"We need to get on with this," added Mike Maloney, school board president. "We need to work together to come up with the best facility we can for children."

The chairwoman of the steering committee, which conducted public forums before the bond vote made it well-known she would only support the school if it's kept at Beck and Joy.

"If the school board changes what we told the voters, I will be the first one to make a public fuss that the Plymouth-Canton school district has not honored the wishes of this community."

and the people that voted," said Susan Kopinski of Canton, in a prepared letter to the school board.

English teacher Cyndi Burnstein, science instructor Harry Greanya and parent JoAnn Lamm tried to convince the board that quality, equity and flexibility of education would be affected if a third high school is built away from the present high schools.

"I don't see any reason why equity of program can't be provided at Joy and Beck," added John Filios, a steering committee member. "In our discussions, people did not want their students immediately adjacent to the other two."

And if the new school isn't constructed at Joy and Beck, it may be stuck in litigation for a long time, according to one attorney who addressed the board.

"If you go back on your promise to the electorate and change the location, I think we're not ever going to have a new high school," said Mark Slavens of Canton. "As little validity as the lawsuit that's going through the courts now has, I think you've got some real problems with breach of contract."

Stressing positive is key to MEAP

BY TONY BRUSCATO
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Students in the Plymouth-Canton school district have begun the Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) tests.

Fourth- and seventh-grade students are taking the reading and math MEAP tests. Fifth- and eighth-graders have a new social studies test to go along with science and writing.

Testing began this week, and will continue through the week of Feb. 16. Each elementary and middle school building in the district is allowed to set up a schedule for the tests during the three-week window given by the state.

"When you look at our scores, they are going up," said Verna Anible, director of instruction. "We get some fluctuations, like the stock market. But if you look at the trend over time, the scores are going up."

"What you don't want to do is panic and react to a slight drop, or assume everything is fine

■ 'If you look at the trend over time, the scores are going up.'

Verna Anible
—director of instruction

when they go up," she added. "We just have to keep working on curriculum and strengthening it over time."

Anible is offering a few tips for parents as they help students prepare for the tests.

On top of the list is making sure students get a good night's rest and have a well-balanced breakfast.

In order to ease the anxieties about taking the MEAP tests, Anible suggests reassuring and encouraging children, while expressing confidence in their ability.

And, above all, tell them not to worry about the tests, but just do their best.

Parents who have questions or want more information about MEAP testing should contact their child's school.

MEAP from page A1

modification of the curriculum to help meet the MEAP objectives.

"I think the new test will be good because social studies is such an important part in developing good citizens," said Anible.

Sarah Yentz, a social studies teacher at Pioneer Middle School, sees social studies getting more attention as a result of the MEAP tests.

"I've always pushed economics, but it's not something that is found in all Michigan textbooks," said Yentz. "How-

ever, it soon will be because of the MEAP."

Yentz is also concerned about the low scores that are expected the first time around, but is confident they will go up in time.

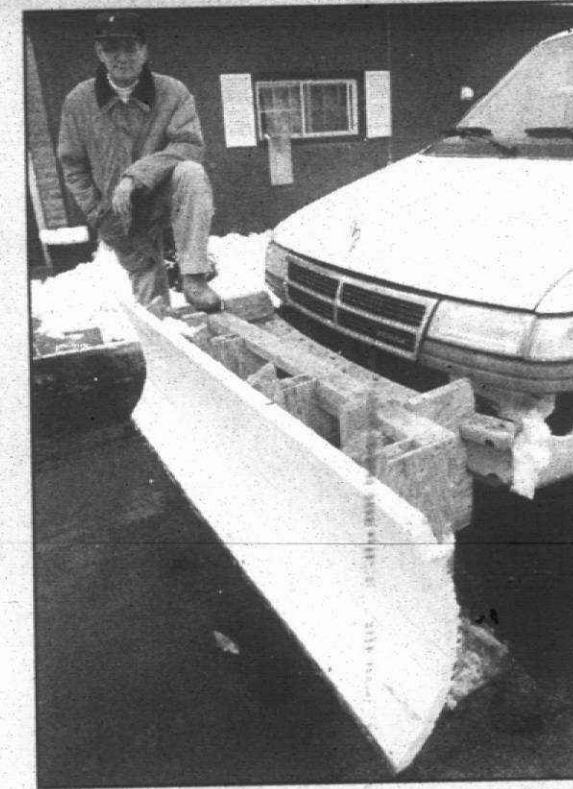
She also shares another thought.

"The new social studies test will mean three MEAP tests for students in the eighth grade," said Yentz. "By the time they've suffered through three MEAP tests in three weeks, they are pretty much burned out."

Peter's Polish Plow



Inventive fellow: Peter Siarke plows his driveway on Ford Road in Canton Monday with a homemade snowplow that he fashioned from 2-by-4s. Siarke, an architect who refers to himself as a "Polish Inventor," is always looking for an easier way to do things and to save a buck, according to Joyce Crawford, his wife. Siarke has also made good use this winter of a homemade roof rake to clear snow from his roof. He created the rake by attaching a piece of wood to the end of a hoe and then duct-taped the handle of the hoe to an extension pole.



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HUBSCHMANN

Gambling tickets dropped; officer could face discipline

BY SCOTT DANIEL
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Loitering charges against a veteran Canton police officer have been dropped.

According to Royal Oak police Chief Mel Johnson, misdemeanor citations against all 369 people ticketed Jan. 17 at the Royal Oak Music Theatre for gambling on football were dismissed late Tuesday afternoon.

An investigation of the incident isn't over, he added.

"We wanted to focus our resources on the people that threw the party and the actual gamblers," Johnson said.

Dismissing the charges also avoided any possible double jeopardy claims if felony charges are filed later, he said.

"It turned out to be a more complex investigation than we thought it would be," Johnson added.

The Canton officer, who has more than a decade with the department, could still face charges, he said.

Royal Oak police and the

■ 'It turned out to be a more complex investigation than we thought it would be. We wanted to focus our resources on the people that threw the party and the actual gamblers.'

Mel Johnson
—Royal Oak police chief

South Oakland Narcotics Intelligence Consortium (SONIC) are currently investigating the incident. Johnson gave no timeline as to any further charges being filed.

A series of tips to Farmington Hills police led to a raid of the music theater. Officers from Royal Oak, Farmington Hills and Oakland County Sheriff departments carried out the raid, which resulted in 13 arrests and more 300 tickets being issued.

In all, police seized more than \$221,000 in cash in the betting operation that involved football cards. People bet \$500 on a square with \$100,000 payoffs, police said.

Those ticketed were cited for

frequenting a place of illegal gambling. The misdemeanor carried a \$500 fine and/or 90 days in jail.

Canton police's internal investigation of its officer is expected to wrap up by tomorrow or early next week, Public Safety Director John Santomauro said.

"It's still possible that there may have been a violation of our rules and regulations," he said in regards to the misdemeanor charge being dropped.

Santomauro doesn't believe any further criminal action will be taken against his officer.

"He wasn't involved with any of the gambling," he said.

Results of the internal investigation will be made public, Santomauro added.

Valentine events set for Canton

Grab your little Valentine and dance the night away at the daddy/daughter or the mother/son Valentine dances in Canton.

Summit on the Park is sponsoring a daddy/daughter dance (daughter, granddaughter, niece, family friend) from 7-9 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Feb. 12-13, at Summit on the Park. Music and refreshments will be provided and a keepsake photo will be available at an additional cost. Advanced tickets sales are now through Feb. 5 at Summit on the Park. Tickets will not be available at the door. The fee will be \$13 per couple and \$7 for each additional child. For

■ Mother/son and daddy/daughter dances are scheduled for Feb. 6, 12 and 13.

more information, call (734) 397-5110.

St. Thomas a' Becket athletic committee will be sponsoring a son/daughter dance and the Canton K of C will be sponsoring their 8th annual daddy/daughter dance.

The daddy/daughter dance, for valentines from 3-13 years old, will be 7-9 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 12. There will be music, refresh-

ments, a corsage, and a special gift. Admission is \$12 a couple, or \$15 if dad has two dates.

The mother/son (or grandmas, godmothers, aunts, etc.) dance will be from 7-9 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 6. There will be corsages, refreshments, a D.J. and keep-sake photos. Admission is \$7.

Both church dances will be held at St. Thomas a' Becket on Lilley south of Cherry Hill Roads and are not limited to church members. For more information on the mother/son dance call for information on the daddy/daughter dance, call (734) 397-1359.

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Did You Know?
■ Friday, Jan. 29, is Fun at Work Day? Plan an activity that will result in fun and laughter at your work environment.
■ The Beatles' last public appearance was 30 years ago on Jan. 30, 1969? The show took place on the roof of their Apple Studios in London, England, but was interrupted by police after they received complaints from the neighbors about the noise.
■ February is Library Lovers Month? A monthlong celebration of school, public and private libraries of all types, and a time for everyone to recognize the value of libraries and to work to assure that the nation's libraries will continue to serve.
■ Approximately 2.5 million weddings are celebrated in the U.S. each year?

Heard any good books lately?
Here are some new talking books available at the Canton Public Library:
■ "When the Wind Blows"

Web Watch
Check out these new Web sites:
■ <http://www.ofcs.org>
■ <http://www.netradio.net>
■ <http://www.mayors.org>

Top novels of the 20th century
Here are some selections from the list that are available at the Canton Public Library:
■ "In Our Time" by Ernest Hemingway
■ "The Autobiography of Alice B. Toklas" by Gertrude Stein
■ "The Maltese Falcon" by Dashiell Hammett
■ "The Wide Sargasso Sea" by Jean Rhys
■ "The Naked and the Dead" by Norman Mailer

Hot topic of the week
Tuesday, Feb. 2, marks Groundhog Day. An old belief that if the sun shines or if the groundhog (Punxsutawney Phil) sees his shadow when he emerges on this day, six weeks of winter will ensue. Tradition is said to have been established by early German settlers. The official trek, which began in 1887, is followed by a weather prediction for the next six weeks. (Phil made his dramatic film debut with Bill Murray in "Groundhog Day.")

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Civil War from page A1

transcribes them. He said it's necessary because of terminology used.

"They use abbreviations that the average person may not know," said Curtis. "GSW is common. It means 'gunshot wound.'"

Copies then go to the adopting person and the historical society. People from as far away as California have adopted soldiers, Curtis said.

"It's tax-deductible," he said of the adoption.

Such complete records of pensions were kept because of their importance to the veterans and, in many cases, their widows.

Size of the pension varied greatly from case to case, Curtis said. Some veterans received as little as \$6 per month while others got as much as \$60.

"In a lot of the documents they're really fighting to get the

pension," Curtis said. The money was sometimes a sole means of survival for widows, he added.

"I found that when a soldier died," Curtis said, "within two weeks the widow was applying for a pension. It must have been very important to them."

Widows often enlisted the help of their husband's commanding officer to get the pension.

Clara E. Bartlett, 23 years old in 1864, had Michigan infantry 24th regiment Capt. John Witherspoon write on her behalf.

"I John Witherspoon, on honor, certify that I was personally acquainted with deceased Corp. John A. Bartlett of my Company 'C', 24th Michigan, Volunteers and that he came to his death as follows:

"While his Company and Regiment were engaging the enemy in the Wilderness, Virginia, on

the 5th day of May 1864, the deceased received a musket ball in his body. He fell into the hands of the enemy, and died in the Wilderness, Virginia, May 9th, 1864, of wounds."

Finding such information about the Civil War veterans takes a lot of patience. But it's been a part of Curtis' life since the early 1980s.

Doing this type of painstaking research made history "come alive" for him, he said. Along the way, Curtis discovered that three great-grandfathers fought in the Civil War.

The longtime Canton resident thinks school children might get more out of history if it was made more relevant to them.

"I think they should try to bring it down to a personal level," he added. "I think it would be more interesting for students."



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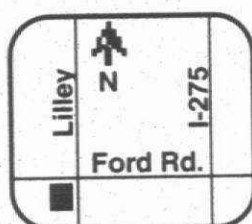
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Public hearing to focus on state environment laws

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER
kabramczyk@ec.homecomm.net

If you have any concerns with state environmental laws and policies, the Department of Environmental Quality wants to hear from you as it launches its annual round of statewide public hearings in Livonia on Feb. 23.

Russell Harding, DEQ's director, and leaders of the department's nine divisions will visit Kresge Hall at Madonna University, 36300 Schoolcraft, to share information and solicit comments from the public on environmental matters.

In a prepared statement, Harding said addressing today's environmental challenges "demands an active, informed citizenry."

"We found that many of our greatest achievements come

about when the public and private sectors join forces," Harding said. "Government does not have all of the answers."

"That's why it is important for the DEQ management team to gauge the practical impacts of Michigan's environmental policies. And the best way is for us to get out into the communities and let residents express their views firsthand."

The forum will be divided into

two parts. The department's top decision makers will be available 4-6 p.m. for informal one-on-one discussions with interested residents. From 6-7 p.m., the department will conduct a formal meeting at which residents can offer questions or comments to the entire DEQ management team.

Among those attending will be the leaders of the DEQ's nine divisions, including air quality, drinking water and radiological

protection, environmental assistance, environmental response, geological survey, land and water management, surface water quality, storage tank and waste management.

Many western Wayne County residents already deal with the DEQ out of its Livonia district office on Seven Mile just west of I-275, so many DEQ officials from that office also will be in attendance.

Ken Silfven, DEQ spokesman, said the department encourages citizen input.

"Many policies are made in Lansing, and sometimes we need to get out of town and get feedback to see how they're working," Silfven said.

Residents also can obtain information on the DEQ and reports from its Web site at www.deq.state.mi.us.

Madonna will host open house

Madonna University in Livonia is holding an open house for prospective students 1-4 p.m. Saturday, March 20, in the Take 5 Lounge on campus.

Those attending will tour the campus, meet with faculty, staff and students, and learn more about the more than 50 career-oriented programs offered during the day, evenings and weekends. Information on financial aid and scholarships will be available and transfer students are encouraged to bring their transcripts. Refreshments will be provided.

Madonna University offers day and evening classes and a variety of alternative course delivery system, students are able to fit college into their busy lives. For information, call Madonna University's Admissions Office at (734) 432-5339 or e-mail: muinfo@smtp.munet.edu

Quality

from page A5

Phil Sanzika, of the Oakland County Drain Commissioner's office, said the court has helped facilitate the program, but the involvement of the court "is not as needed as it has been in the past."

Gary Fujita, assistant director of the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department's waste water operations, said Detroit will not file for the stormwater permit. Under a separate program Detroit must deal with combined sewer overflows which combine storm and sanitary sewers and empty into the Rouge after a rainstorm. Retention basins have been built in Detroit, but more are needed.

"We are not aware of separate stormwater discharges," Fujita said.

Paul Tate, executive director of the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, said he was "amazed" at the way communities worked together without a supervising body.

Peter Swenson, a representative of the Environmental Protection Agency on the committee, said the EPA would examine the permit applications "to see if holes needed to be filled."

Runoff

from page A5

the authority that may not be necessary."

Kurt Heise, administrative assistant in Dearborn Heights, which is part of a watershed group with Garden City and Westland and part of Livonia, wondered why Dearborn Heights spent millions to control its combined sewer overflows, yet Detroit did not control its share of combined sanitary and storm sewers that empty into the Rouge. Now Dearborn Heights must apply for the stormwater permit, but Detroit is not required, Heise pointed out.

McCracken said Detroit has "very few" stormwater discharges. "There is no legal requirement (to apply) at this point, but we expect it will be required in Phase II," McCracken said.

"Based on what we heard from the judge, I think it is a wise thing to apply. We want people to monitor their coverage in permits. We think it's a good deal for everyone."

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Variety marks S'craft's community classes

Schoolcraft College Community Education Services offers a variety of classes to beat the winter blahs. CES class offerings include:

■ **Introduction to Feng Shui:** This four-week class examines the ancient practice of energy balancing in the physical space in which we live, thereby removing blocks in our life conditions. It begins at 6 p.m. Monday, Feb. 1. Fee is \$65.

■ **Private Pilot Ground School:** This 12-week class is a basic aviation ground school where participants learn the necessary knowledge and skills needed by private pilots in operations, procedures and regulations. It meets Tuesdays and Thursdays, beginning Feb. 2, and the fee is \$170.

■ **Quality Standards-Construction:** This one-day seminar provides an overview of the history and evolution of the ISO 9000 Quality Standard and how it applies to the construction industry. It meets 8 a.m. to noon Wednesday, Feb. 3. Fee is \$95.

■ **Leases and Lease Clauses:** This one-day seminar provides information on everything land-

lords need to know to protect their property with effective, legal and thorough lease clauses. The class meets 6-10 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 3. Fee is \$50.

■ **Entrepreneurship: Do I Have What It Takes to Make it Big?** An in-class examination of personality, lifestyle and perseverance will help potential entrepreneurs learn what it takes to start their own business. This one-day seminar meets at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 3. Fee is \$39.

■ **Effective Page Layout Using PageMaker:** This eight-week class examines the concepts of visual communication for promotional materials such as brochures and flyers using PageMaker 6.5. The class meets at 8 p.m. beginning Thursday, Feb. 4, for \$162.

■ **Sports Safety Training:** Aimed at nurses, this course presents basic first aid skills for athletic injuries and sports-related injury-prevention techniques. The one-day class meets at 9 a.m. Friday, Feb. 5, for \$83.

■ **Airplane Instrument Ground School:** This 12-week class prepares students to take the Federal Aviation Adminis-

tration Instrument written examination. Students must hold a current Private Pilot Rating. The class begins at 9 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 6. The fee is \$170.

■ **Think Trim:** In this alternative to dieting, participants learn to develop a moderate approach to eating and exercise and acquire skills to stay motivated for a lifetime. The one-day session meets at 9 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 6, for \$57.

For information on these or other CES classes, call 734-462-4448.

Go to the Registration Center in the McDowell Center between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday, Feb. 1-3, to register for classes.

Other events at Schoolcraft include:

■ **Middle School College Night:** Ten colleges, including Schoolcraft, will present information on their programs and courses of study for eighth graders and their parents. The public can drop into Room 200 of the McDowell Center any time between 4-8 p.m.

■ **Women's and Men's Basketball Games** - Watch the nation-

ally ranked men's team play at 7:30 p.m. or cheer on the women's team at 5:30 p.m.

■ **Grazing Night:** Enjoy a variety of dishes prepared by students in the nationally known culinary arts department, mingle in the culinary arts kitchen and meet Master Chef Jeffrey Gabriel. The munching begins at 6:30 p.m., and the cost is \$15 per person. Call (734) 462-4423 for reservations.

■ **Red Cross Bloodmobile:** Help alleviate a national blood shortage by donating blood in the Waterman Center from 7:30 a.m. until 7:30 p.m.

■ **International Dinner:** Eat a five-course meal of authentic Mexican food prepared by second-year culinary students. Serving begins at 6:45 p.m. in the American Harvest Restaurant. The price is \$25.95 per person. Call (734) 462-4488 for reservations.

■ **The 26th annual Schoolcraft High School Girl's Volleyball Invitational tournament.** For information call (734) 462-4417. Schoolcraft College is at 18600 Haggerty, between Six Mile and Seven Mile, west of I-275.

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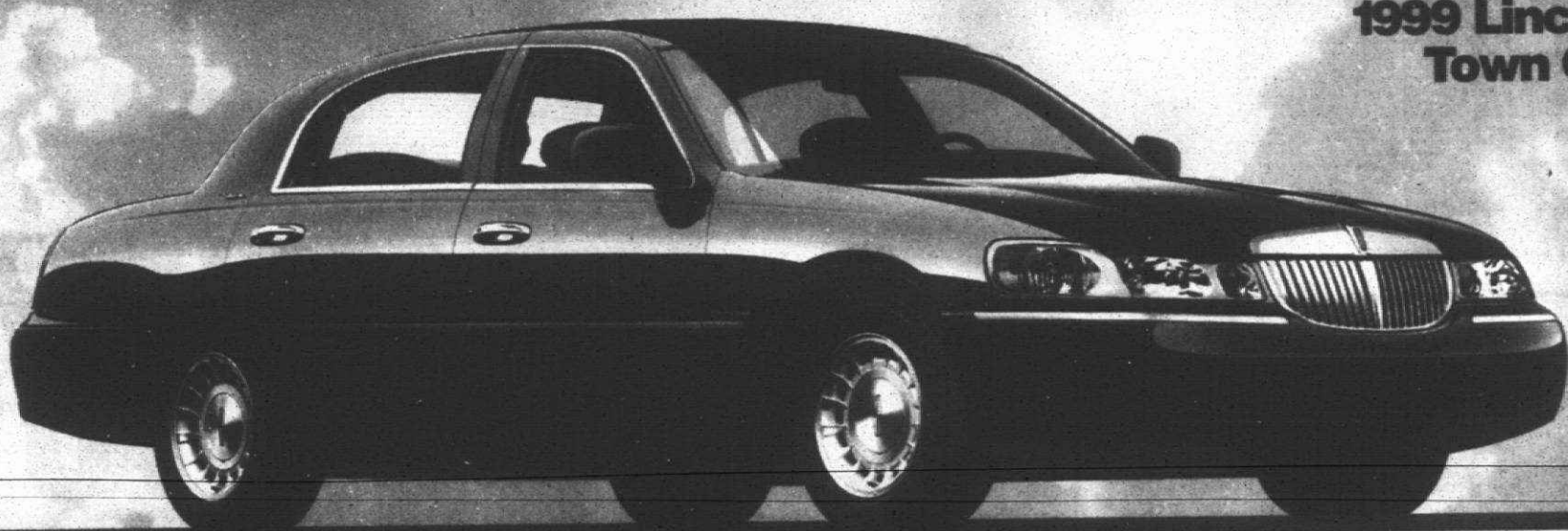
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Storage space needed for special wheelchairs

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI
SPECIAL WRITER

A recent *Life* magazine article about an 11-year-old Chinese girl who was able to attend school for the first time after receiving a wheelchair donated from Wheels for the World has generated many donations in metro-Detroit. The response has been so good that storage space is needed.

"You realize what a difference one of these chairs can make," said Farmington Hills resident Dorothy Pitsch, Wheels for the World metro-Detroit chairwoman.

After reading the story about Liu Quiaoling, local organizations, like Angela Hospice in Livonia, and families of loved ones who have died are calling Pitsch wanting to donate wheelchairs, walkers and aluminum crutches.

"We absolutely need all of the used, but serviceable wheelchairs that we can find," said Pitsch, adding that a representative from Children's Hospital also promised to send her used wheelchairs.

Storage space is needed until May for about 200 wheelchairs that will be delivered to Romania, Poland and Ghana.

Another chapter of Wheels for the World recently had a truck donated and that seems to be the most efficient solution, Pitsch said. Wheelchairs are stored in the truck and when it's filled a driver takes them to a Tennessee prison where inmates fix them before they're shipped to needy and handicapped people around the world.

"If I could get something like that it would be a blessing," Pitsch said. "But I'll take any kind of storage."

Currently, Pitsch is using garage and basement space donated by friends and family.

Wheels for the World is planning a two-week drive at the end of April to get as many wheelchairs as possible before her current load is shipped for repairs.

"These wheelchairs can't be used in the United States, because of the insurance liability," Pitsch added.

So far the organization has

placed 6,000 people in wheelchairs. Wheels for the World began in 1992 by Joni Eareckson Tada who lost the use of her arms and legs after diving accident at age 17. She went on to become an artist, author and song writer along with launching this international program opening doors of opportunity to other disabled people.

The organization is JAF (Joni and Friends) Wheels for the World. Meanwhile, the organization keeps growing with the help of people like Pitsch.

A series of situations, that Pitsch believes are acts of God, led her to the organization. Three months ago her nephew, Randy Pitsch, was asked if he would like to donate a couple of wheelchairs that had been stored in the warehouse of his family's company, Pitsch Demolition. The Wheels for the World representative had no idea that Randy is married to Mary Lou, who has limited use of her hands, but no use of her arms and legs.

Randy learned Wheels for the World needed a Detroit area representative to launch a wheelchair drive and the Grand Rapids resident called his favorite aunt.

Against all odds, Randy and Mary Lou had their first baby in 1997, said Pitsch, who uses Mary Lou and the baby in a poster to promote Wheels for the World.

Pitsch's first donation came from a Clinton Township couple after their 18-year-old son died. He suffered from a degenerative muscular disease and had been in a wheelchair since he was 18 months old. Every time the couple saw the empty chair it was stark reminder of their loss.

Since the wheelchair held such precious memories, the couple asked that it be kept somewhere special before it was shipped to another country. Pitsch got permission from Sister Mary Thomas to store it at the Monastery of the Blessed Sacrament in Farmington Hills.

"The parents brought the wheelchair to the monastery and



STAFF PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER

Storage: Jim Rapin and Dorothy Pitsch load a donated wheelchair into the back of Jim's truck. They will take it to whatever temporary storage they find.



Donation: Dorothy Pitsch and Jim Rapin tag a donated wheelchair.

met me there and Sister Mary Thomas saw that it was a small chair and she said it would be the perfect size for a nun who was suffering from polio and needed a wheelchair just that size," said Pitsch explaining that Sister Mary Thomas also donated three larger wheelchairs.

"I left the special wheelchair for their special nun and I took their three wheelchairs," Pitsch said.

Another woman, who never identified herself to Pitsch, called after reading the *Life* Magazine story. They met at

Meijer in Northville.

"The woman walked right up to me and she threw her arms around me and hugged me and said: 'Thank you so much for giving me this opportunity,'" Pitsch said.

Just as quickly the woman got into her car and drove off.

Meanwhile, Pitsch's great niece, Erica Bourgoin, president of Gamma Phi Beta at Oakland University in Rochester Hills, has promised that her sorority will collect wheelchairs and earn money for wheelchair parts and

shipping costs.

Pitsch's daughter, Michelle Dinardo, ran an ad asking for used wheelchairs in her church paper at Prince of Peace Catholic Church in West Bloomfield. The next day someone brought her a wheelchair. When Dinardo asked if the woman wanted a receipt for tax purposes, the woman said: "Oh, no, this isn't for a tax reduction, this is for God."

Anyone interested in donating wheelchairs or storage space should call Pitsch at (248) 661-3317.

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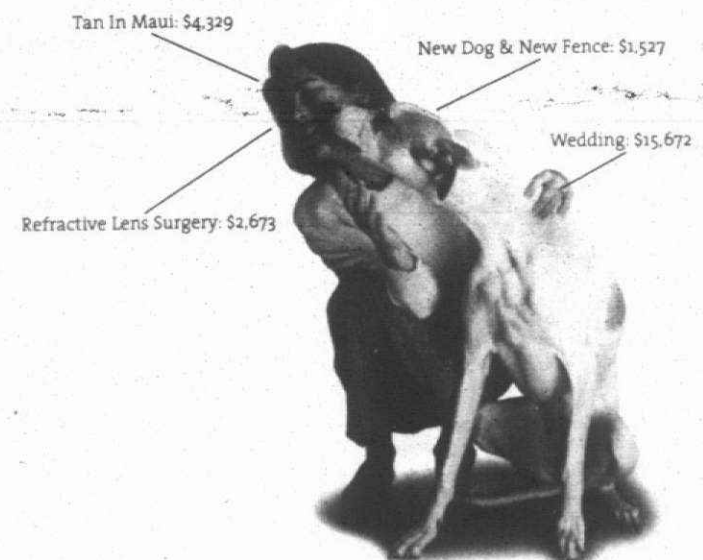


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A10(C)

The Observer & Eccentric THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 1999

OBITUARIES

LAWRENCE M. DECKER

A memorial service for Lawrence M. Decker, 55, of Plymouth will be held at a later date. Local arrangements were made by Janowiak Funeral Home, Geer-Logan Chapel, Ypsilanti.

He was born Dec. 21, 1943, in Detroit. He died Jan. 14 in Angela Hospice, Livonia. He was employed with the Ford Motor Co. (Sheldon Plant) for 27 years and a member of the Ford UAW Local # 845. He served for five years with the Marine Corps, including 2-1/2 years in Vietnam as a gunnery sergeant after which he was honorably discharged.

Survivors include one brother, Robert Decker of Ypsilanti; three sisters, Beth Engel of Hamburg, Helen Cummins of Farmington Hills, Deanna Shantz of Boulder, Colo.; 11 nieces and nephews. Memorials may be made to

Angela Hospice, 14100 Newburgh, Livonia, MI 48154. Attention: Sister Giovanni.

WILHELMINA KEE

Memorial services for Wilhelmina K. Kee, 94, of Fort Pierce, Fla. (formerly of Plymouth) will be held at a later date with the Rev. Dean Klump officiating. Burial will be in Parkview Memorial Cemetery, Livonia.

She was born July 16, 1904, in Gladstone. She died Dec. 27 in Fort Pierce, Fla. She was a homemaker.

Survivors include her son, Norman (Jean) Kee of Fort St. Lucie, Fla.; one grandson, David Kee of Florida; and three great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the First United Methodist Church of Plymouth.

HELEN D. WESNER

Services for Helen D. Wesner, 54, of Plymouth were Jan. 23 in

St. John Neumann Catholic Church with the Rev. George Charnley officiating. Burial was in Riverside Cemetery, Plymouth. Local arrangements were made by the Schrader-Howell Funeral Home, Plymouth.

She was born Aug. 26, 1944, in Hempstead, Long Island, N.Y. She died Jan. 21 in Plymouth. She was a homemaker and a mother. She also worked at Henderson Automotive in Canton; Helmeck Sales (with her husband) in Plymouth and J.Kennam Corp., in Southfield. She came to the Plymouth-Canton community 26 years ago.

She was a member of St. John Neumann Catholic Church in Canton. She was a member of the Washtenaw Women's League, The Polo Field Country Club, The Washtenaw Country Club and several Plymouth-Canton bridge groups. She loved to play bridge, golf and fish. She loved northern Michigan and particularly the Mackinac area. She enjoyed her children and grandchildren. One of her favorite activities was taking her grandchildren shopping.

Survivors include her hus-

band, Michael R. Wesner of Plymouth; four sons, John R. (Jacqueline) Stroh of Westlake, Ohio, James A. Stroh of Plymouth, Michael R. Wesner of Plymouth, Mark M. Wesner of Plymouth; her father, James H. (Kathleen) Murphy of Mt. Prospect, Ill.; three sisters, Patricia Johnston of Shady Hollow, Ill., Catherine (Dennis) LeBlanc of Lincolnshire, Ill., Maureen Murphy of Elmhurst, Ill.; one step-sister, Kathleen Cooper.

Memorials may be made to Arbor Hospice.

JAMES W. MITCHELL, JR.

Services for James W. Mitchell Jr., 81, of Tucson, Ariz. (formerly of Detroit and Plymouth) will be held at a later date in Oakview Cemetery, Royal Oak.

He was born March 10, 1917 in Pontiac. He died Jan. 11 in Tucson, Ariz. He was a graduate of Michigan State University. He was employed at the Ford Motor Co. for 40 years as a welding engineer. He did welding consulting in Brazil and Japan for the company. He had a life membership in the American Welding Society. After his retirement in 1987 he divided

his time between Onsted, Mich. and Tucson, Ariz. He was preceded in death by his wife, Margery. Survivors include two daughters, Joanne Mitchell of Santa Fe, N.M., Carolyn (Donald) Gill of Madison, Wis.; one son, James W. (Kathryn) Mitchell III of Livonia; three sisters; and three grandchildren, David, Julie, and Erin.

Memorials may be made to the Karmans Cancer Institute, 30484 23 Mile, New Baltimore, MI 48047.

HERMAE WILLIAMS

Services for Hermae Williams, 75, of Plymouth were Jan. 14 in the Verneulen Funeral Home, Plymouth, with the Rev. Leonard Partensky officiating. Burial was in Forest Lawn Cemetery, Detroit.

She was born Aug. 23, 1923, in Wayne. She was a nurse's aide. Survivors include her father, Herman Coon; four sons, Ronald Williams of Plymouth, Randy Williams of Boulder, Colo., Rodney Williams of Brighton; three sisters, Vordis Woolsey of South Lyon, Lexy Burns of Chesterfield Township, Trotts (Jim) Williams of Plymouth; three grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Memorials may be made to the donor of your choice.

DONALD E. KOEBEL

Services for Donald E. Koebel, 76, of Brighton were Jan. 22 in the Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington with Edward A. Beckstein officiating. Burial was in Acacia Park Cemetery, Beverly Hills.

He was born July 11, 1922, in Detroit. He died Jan. 19 in U of M Hospital. He was an electrician for the Local 58 International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers for over 30 years. He was a member of the Odd Fellows for 50 years and past Grand Patriarch and past department commander. He was in the Air

Force and served in World War II in the Korean conflict.

Survivors include his wife, Mickey Koebel; for sons, Donald (Rena) Koebel, Jr. of Plymouth, Harold (Linda) Koebel of Whitmore Lake, Kim (Patty) Koebel of Farmington Hills, Richard (Carol) Koebel of South Lyon; two daughters, Jan (Rick) Wild of Farmington, Karen Burke; one brother, Allan Koebel of Kentucky; 16 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the American Heart Association, 208 S. LaSalle St., Suite 900, Chicago, IL 60604-1197; or to the American Lung Association, 18860 W. 10 Mile, Southfield, MI 48075-2689.

BILL CAMPBELL

Services for Bill Campbell, formerly of Canton, were Jan. 23 in the Boyer Funeral Home, Bonne Terre, Mo.

He was born March 2, 1966, in Garden City. He died Jan. 20 in Bonne Terre, Mo. He graduated from Plymouth Canton High School in 1985.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Lois Jappell of Bonne Terre, Mo., and nephew, Steven Fisher of Plymouth. Survivors include his father, Fred Campbell of Plymouth; one brother, Kyle Campbell of Howell; one niece, Annie Campbell; one nephew, Tyler Campbell; and four sons, Mattie Eden, Verna Fisher, LuAnn Howard and Vira Jachovich.

Services for Carl Hoover of Taylor were Jan. 26 in the Neely-Turofski Funeral Home, Canton, with the Rev. Roy Forsyth officiating. She was born in Detroit. She died on Jan. 22 in Vencor Hospital, Lincoln Park. She was in the cleaning industry.

Survivors include her two daughters, Renee (Jerome) Williams, Kathy (Steve) Dent; one son, David; her mother, Jeanette Tremper; three grandchildren, Hannah, Jacob, J.J.; three sisters, Judith, Kay, Neva (Don) Callahan; and one brother, Richard Tremper.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR PROPOSALS
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON

Sealed proposals will be received by the Charter Township of Canton Engineering Services, 2nd Floor, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, MI 48188 until Friday, February 19, 1999. The proposals will be reviewed by Engineering Services for the following described project:

Appraisals for property along Beck Road from Cherry Hill to Ford Road. The appraisals will be performed for right-of-way needed for public paving, water main, and sanitary sewer improvements. The appraiser must be on the Michigan Department of Transportation approved appraisers list.

The Request for Proposal is available to pick up at Engineering Services at the address indicated above. If you want the Request for Proposal mailed, please call Engineering Services at (734) 397-5405.

The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

The Township reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON
PUBLIC HEARING
FY 1999 CDBG PROGRAM
ACTION PLAN

On Wednesday, February 17, at 3:00 p.m. in the third floor conference room, Township Administration Building, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, the Canton Community Development Block Grant Advisory Council will conduct a public hearing on the FY 1999 Canton Township Block Grant (CDBG) Program Action Plan. All interested citizens are invited to attend and comment on the FY 1999 CDBG Program, which will be funded at \$426,000. Project proposals to be discussed, among others, are: Public Service: First Step (\$50,000), HelpSource/Adult Day Care (\$5,000), The Salvation Army summer day camp, Growth Works, Volunteer Coordinator (\$6,500), and Wayne County Neighborhood Legal Services. (The total Public Service budget is \$63,500; amounts in parentheses are asked.) Housing rehabilitation: \$20,000. Human Services Center expansion: \$261,500. Program Administration: \$78,000. Canterbury Mews day building, handicap accessible assessment: \$3,000. Note: not all project proposals are necessarily listed; not all projects listed will necessarily be approved for FY 1999, nor will all projects accepted for funding necessarily be funded for the requested amounts. Final program decisions are made by the Board of Trustees. Written comments or requests for information should be directed to: Gerald Martin, Development Specialist, Resource Development Division, 1150 S. Canton Center Road, Canton, Michigan 48188, (734) 397-5417.

TERRY BENNETT, Clerk

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF PLYMOUTH
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1999
REQUEST FOR AN INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES
EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE FOR
SUPERIOR CONTROLS, INC.**

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: That a public hearing will be held on Tuesday, February 9, 1999, during a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Plymouth to consider a request from Superior Controls, Inc. for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate for a new facility, including the cost of machinery, equipment, furniture and fixtures, located at 14925 Gallion Drive, Parcel 3-B, Metro West Beck Road Industrial Park, Plymouth Township, County of Wayne, Michigan.

The request of Superior Controls, Inc. is on file in the Clerk's Office where it is available for public perusal from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Any Township resident or member of any taxing authority within the Township of Plymouth shall have the right to appear and be heard. Written comments directed to the Clerk and received prior to the meeting will be considered. Following the public hearing the Board of Trustees may consider the request.

The public hearing, commencing at 7:30 p.m., will be held in the Meeting Room at Plymouth Township Hall, 42350 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, Michigan 48170, on Tuesday, February 9, 1999, during the regularly scheduled Board of Trustees meeting. Telephone number 453-3840 X 224.

MARILYN MASSENGILL, CMC

Clerk, Charter Township of Plymouth
Published: January 28, 1999

Volunteers needed for foster care board

The State Court Administrative Office of the Michigan Supreme Court is seeking volunteers to serve on the Wayne County Foster Care Review Board.

The five-member board meets one day each month to review a representative sample of cases of children who have been removed from their homes and placed in foster care due to abuse or neglect. At these reviews, board members interview parents, foster parents, caseworkers, attorneys and other interested parties who may be involved in planning for the ward.

Advisory recommendations are formulated and mailed to the court, child welfare agency, prosecuting attorney, parents and other interested parties. The review insures that all agencies, including the court, have established a plan for the ward and progress is being made toward achieving permanency.

The review boards are comprised of citizens who reflect a broad cross-section of their communities. Minorities and men are especially encouraged to apply. The program is seeking volunteers who have demonstrated leadership in other settings. Employees of the Family Independence Agency, family court or private child placement agencies are prohibited by law to serve on foster care review boards.

The Michigan Legislature established the Foster Care Review Board program in 1984 in an effort to improve children's foster care programs through the state utilizing citizen review boards.

Each volunteer who is selected must attend a two-day orientation training in Southfield on March 25 and 26. Board members also attend yearly training. Training expenses are reimbursed.

Citizens interested in volunteering for the Wayne County Foster Care Review Board should call (517) 373-1956 for an application. The deadline for receiving applications is Jan. 31.

Wayne County has until Feb. 16 to respond to the appeal request. Kasiborski said the Michigan Supreme Court may not decide to hear the case for a year.

Kasiborski did not know what dollar amount should be levied on Wayne County, but believed Detroit was entitled to a range between \$115,000-\$125,000 in annual tax payments in 1987 dollars.

Detroit had argued that "res judicata" does not apply to Tax Tribunal decisions, but the appellate judges disagreed, calling the Tax Tribunal "quasi-judicial agency."

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Learn how to identify stars

Constellations like the Big Dipper, Little Dipper and Pegasus fill the night sky.

Learn how to identify these beautiful cosmic creations and other celestial star formations with guest astronomer Mike Bate 7-9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 29, at the Nankin Mills Interpretive Center in Westland.

Best, a planetarium demonstrator at the Vobrecht Planetarium in Southfield, has been an astronomy enthusiast for 50 years. Participants can expect an informative evening beginning with an indoor slide presentation and discussion followed by outdoor star viewing, weather permitting.

Hot cocoa will be available following the presentation. Best suited for ages 8 and above, the fee is \$1 per person and advance registration is required. The program has a limited number of seats. For information on this event or any other Wayne County Parks event, call (734) 261-1990.

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DDA job

Process should be an open one

Canton officials are doing their best to ensure that whoever is chosen as down-town and community development coordinator — a position directly tied to the township's Downtown Development Authority — can't be challenged on the basis of his/her fitness for the job. That's because the public won't have a clue as to the background and qualifications of the more than 40 applicants who expressed interest in the position when it was advertised late last year.

Whatever their intentions, we believe Supervisor Tom Yack's administration is taking the wrong approach on such a key appointment and has opted for a course of action that in the long run could undermine public confidence in local government.

The hiring process set up by the administration seems to change daily. It ignores the state's Open Meetings Act, which should apply to someone who will serve as a de facto DDA chief.

Officials have declined to release the names and resumes of seven finalists and won't hold public interviews with them. (The Observer has filed a Freedom of Information request seeking the names.) The final selection will be made by Yack (a DDA board member) and DDA Chairman Ralph Shufeldt, following a recommendation by a three-member committee reviewing the applicants. There will be no vote by the DDA board or township board confirming the selection.

Their justification: Because the job will include other duties, it is a township staff position, not a DDA post, and therefore opening up the hiring process to the public isn't required. The development coordinator will answer to the township supervisor and won't be a voting member of the DDA board, Yack says.

However, information provided by the township indicates the job will play a larger role on the DDA than officials are indicating. The job description says the position will provide "administrative support" to the DDA (among other responsibilities) and under a section titled "Examples of Work" it includes the following:

- Coordinates the work of the DDA, its board, committees and task forces;

■ Township officials apparently feel as long as they follow the letter of the law, they are fulfilling their duties. The Observer believes they are obligated to a higher standard.

- Assists in overseeing DDA operations and makes recommendation to the DDA board on issues related to DDA plans, short- and long-term;

- Confers with supervisor, DDA board, private property and business owners and township staff to resource issues related to Canton's DDA;

- Prepares agenda and back-up materials, record, prepare and maintains minutes of DDA board meetings;

- Maintains a variety of financial and statistical data and reports of the DDA as required. In addition, half the position's salary (expected to range from \$36,330 to \$42,300 annually) will be paid from DDA funds in the first year. The split will be adjusted on a yearly basis depending on how much of the workload is related to DDA duties.

The DDA is a public body as defined by the Open Meetings Act. Its purpose is to oversee a state-designated district within Canton where certain tax revenues are used exclusively for improvements within the district. The law states that "all interviews by a public body for employment or appointment to a public office shall be held in an open meeting."

The township has sidestepped this provision by using a three-person hiring committee outside the DDA board to handle the interviews and make the recommendation.

We believe this kind of hiring practice sets a dangerous precedent for future boards. We encourage the township not to get on this slippery slope.

Township officials apparently feel as long as they follow the letter of the law, they are fulfilling their duties.

The Observer believes they are obligated to a higher standard — one that won't short-change the public on its right to know as part of the process.

In praise of school trustees

Although January 1999 will be best remembered for snow, it's also School Board Recognition Month in Michigan.

We take this time to honor the men and women who invest countless hours making difficult decisions about budgets, personnel, curriculum and other matters which affect parents, students, teachers and taxpayers.

This year's theme, "Building Better Futures for Children and Communities," is an appropriate one because a good education is key to building good citizens and good communities.

We salute the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools board members Michael Maloney, Carrie Blamer, Susan Davis, Elizabeth Givens, Judy Mardigan, Darwin Watts and Roland Thomas; Van Buren Public Schools board members Karl Gorham, David Peer, Ralph Nodwell, Martha Toth, Susan Ward Callahan, Vesta Losen and Thomas Bowles; and Wayne-Westland Community Schools board members David R. Cox, Robin L. Moore, Martha Pitsenberger, David James, Mathew M. McCusker, Teresa Robbins, and Ed Turner.

Serving as a public school trustee is a tremendous commitment. A four-year term requires lots of time, preparation and patience in balancing local needs and wants against state financial realities.

As Michigan Gov. John Engler noted in his proclamation marking January as the special month to honor school board members "the competitiveness of Michigan's economy and the character of our society depend to a great extent on the quality of instruction offered in Michigan's schools."

School board members are watching carefully to make sure public schools deliver on their duty to taxpayers.

As school boards throughout the nation join in School Board Recognition Month, a national observance co-sponsored by the National School Boards Association and the Michigan Association of School Boards, take time to say thanks — in a public way — to the public school board members in our town. They are working hard to improve public education — the cornerstone of our democratic society.

■ Are "they" those who don't view the public schools in a historical context, as the major

ARKIE HUDKINS



LETTERS

Appalled by conduct

I would like to make a statement on the article of Jan. 17 that states Plymouth-Canton Schools settles out of court.

Let me start by saying that I am outraged, mad, disgusted, and ashamed that Errol Goldman, second in command of our school, has done it again. I am a taxpayer and a Plymouth-Canton school parent. I am outraged that I try my best along with my wife to teach my children not to discriminate against anyone and to be fair to all people. Here goes Errol Goldman throwing mud on all our hard work.

This man is required in his job description to set and be an example of high standards of moral conduct to all students and employees of the Plymouth-Canton School District. He has not only shamed us by breaking the rules but has caused the taxpayers to pay a \$50,000 fine. This conduct is not acceptable.

I do not believe that it is the intention of the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education to discriminate against anyone; but I do believe that it is their elected duty and obligation to see that this kind of conduct is not demonstrated by any employee of the Plymouth-Canton Schools. This includes Errol Goldman and others in the administration that feel that they are untouchable by the rules of moral conduct.

This is not the only time that Errol Goldman has caused us great embarrassment. I do not feel comfortable having a person in that high (prestigious) and very important position who exhibits blatant disrespect for the high moral standards of education.

I am sure that most Plymouth-Canton parents will agree that this conduct should not go unnoticed by the board of education, and that the board will come down hard on this type of conduct. I urge the parents of the Plymouth-Canton community and all the taxpayers to call the members of the board of education and express how they feel about Errol Goldman's conduct and that they take harsh action against him, and I don't mean a letter in his file.

Dan Stengle
Plymouth

'They' can be a danger

A response to the reader who commented on Tim Richard's article of Jan. 7 ("State aid to private schools involves propaganda use"): Yes, let's talk about who "they" are, the "they" who want public tax money to fund public schools.

■ Are "they" those who don't view the public schools in a historical context, as the major

factor in creating the "melting pot" that this country was in the past and must continue to be if it is to survive?

■ Are "they" those who don't appreciate and probably would not acknowledge the benefits we reap today from the public education that has been provided to all over the last 100 years or more?

■ Are "they" those who don't have the foresight to see the dire results for this nation if we become more and more divided, intolerant, selfish and polarized?

■ Are "they" those who, rather than pitch in and help "fix" the public schools — where they need fixing — take cheap shots at perceived ills?

■ Are "they" those who are so obtuse that they do not acknowledge that the public schools take responsibility for and accept the resulting consequences that the private schools can and do avoid?

■ Are "they" those who are so selfish and narrow-minded that they don't know how important it is that all children be taught to understand and relate to those who are disabled?

■ Are "they" those elitists who "home school" their children, holding them aloof and isolated from their fellow citizens?

■ Are "they" those who have the economic means and intellectual abilities to benefit this country with their input but who, instead, turn their actions inward to personal benefit with no care for the good of society as a whole? We propose that:

■ "They" are individuals whose emphasis and motivation are centered around "I," not "we."

■ "They" are those who do not realize the importance and benefits of the "community school," especially now, at a time when society has largely evolved from rural to urban and will further become more dehumanized as we retreat from each other into the world of cyberspace.

■ "They" are people who have never had the joy of a lifelong friendship with a person of a different ethnic, religious or economic background that began when "we went to school together."

■ "They" are those who spew propaganda in order to destroy the public schools, thus further widening the economic and social gap between the "haves" and the "have nots."

"They" are a danger to our country. If the "grand experiment" — this nation — is to survive, "we the people" must find ways to preserve and nurture our public schools. They are the basic strength of this "one nation, indivisible."

Mr. and Mrs. R.J. Davis
Livonia

Canton Observer

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SUSAN ROSEN, MANAGING EDITOR, OBSERVER NEWSPAPERS, 734-953-2149
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LARRY GEDER, CIRCULATION MANAGER, 734-953-2234
STEVEN K. POPE, VICE-PRESIDENT/GENERAL MANAGER, 734-953-2252
RICK FIORELLI, MARKETING DIRECTOR, 734-953-2150

HOMETOWN COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK, INC.

PHILIP POWER, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD JEANNE TOWAR, VICE PRESIDENT/EDITORIAL RICHARD AGUIAN, PRESIDENT

OUR MISSION: "Because we publish community newspapers, we think about community journalism in a fundamentally different way than our bigger competition. They consider themselves to be independent from the stories and communities they cover, swooping in to write the unusual or sensational and then dashing off to cover something else. We regard ourselves as both accurate journalists and as caring citizens of the communities where we work."

— Philip Power

POINTS OF VIEW

Breast cancer patients get help in sharing, caring

I was conscious, almost self-conscious, as I met with Frannie Greenebaum, Maggie Griner and Nina Machus, that so far I have escaped the disease women fear most.

That disease is breast cancer and all three are breast cancer survivors.

Nina, a Birmingham resident, was diagnosed six years ago; Frannie, from Bloomfield Township, three years ago; and Maggie, also of Bloomfield Township, two years ago.

And as each experienced the initial terror, the decisions, the surgery, the radiation and/or chemotherapy, she had the support of other breast cancer survivors.

They want that and more for all of us — whether we have breast cancer, are concerned for a friend or family member who has it, or live in fear of its tentacles.

Tentacles so strong and widespread as to strike one of nine women in the

United States who reach age 85. Tentacles so menacing that women with a family history or other high risk factors may voluntarily undergo mastectomies to stay out of its clutches.

"Everyone in one way or another is connected to someone who has had breast cancer," Frannie said. So the three have helped form Sharing & Caring, a new, volunteer organization affiliated with William Beaumont Hospital, but open to all breast cancer patients and survivors, their family and friends.

A weekly support group will take place at The Community House in downtown Birmingham. So will its first special event, "Life After Breast Cancer," on Saturday, Feb. 6.

That all-day program features experts from the Harvard School of Public Health, The University of Texas Health Science Center, the Annie Appleseed Project in New York



JUDITH DONER BERNE

City and The Cleveland Clinic. Topics include: current treatments, risk factors, hormone replacement therapy, Tamoxifen and SERMS for prevention and treatment, alternative medical therapies, and breast cancer and sexuality.

Then, from 7-9 p.m. beginning Thursday, Feb. 11 — and every Thursday after that with the exception of Thanksgiving — a medical profession-

al or other expert along with survivors will gather informally to offer information and resources and answer questions.

The three women are convinced from their own experiences that an away-from-the-hospital support group is important to help women through diagnosis and recovery and, what becomes a lifelong journey with breast cancer.

"I was lucky enough to have a little support group of three women," Nina explained. Sadly, one just died. That was Joan Emde of Bloomfield Hills, who pioneered a support group for breast cancer patients at Beaumont when she was diagnosed 15 years ago. Her cancer recurred in 1993.

"Before Joan, we just whispered about it (breast cancer)," Maggie said. "She was just a light bulb in a room," Nina seconded. "It's ironic that she died just before this was happening."

All three credit Joan with laying the groundwork for, program director Dr. John Ingold for producing, and former Ford Motor Co. CEO Donald Peterson and his wife, Joanne, a breast cancer survivor, for funding.

But its success also will be up to those who seek its services and then offer theirs. It has volunteer opportunities for every skill and interest.

Although the workshop, which requires advance registration, is nearly at its 370-person capacity, Maggie said, "We have no idea how many will show up" for the support group sessions. They are optimistic. For those who are recovering, "It's an opportunity to give back. It's part of the healing process," according to Maggie.

Judith Doner Berne is a former managing editor at the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. You can get more information on Sharing & Caring by calling (888) 527-8582.

Raising the minimum wage: Move has historical precedent

Listening to House Democratic leaders in Lansing talk about raising minimum wages, I was reminded of the Roman Emperor Diocletian.

The Dems want to raise the minimum wage by law from the current \$5.15 an hour by \$1 to \$6.15 by next Jan. 1. Their proposed constitutional amendment, if approved by voters, would tie the minimum wage to the Detroit consumer price index with annual adjustments.

They expect to lift hundreds of thousands out of poverty. Of course, they wouldn't need state money to do it. Employers would cheerfully pay higher wages, but the Lansing politicians would get the credit.

The Democrats' faith in government is touching, like that of a child mover who believes the Blue Fairy can wave her magic wand and bring the drowned Pinocchio to life.

As leader Mike Hanley, D-Saginaw, explained it, the state's magic wand would work like this:

No longer would a higher price tag mean less consumption (or less demand for labor). The new wage rates would put more money in the pockets of the poor, who would then spend it and stimulate the economy. "It's a job creator," said Hanley.

Move over, Adam Smith and all the economics professors in the realm. Michigan is about to repeal the Law of Supply and Demand.

Explaining how the last minimum wage increase worked, the Democrats engaged in some verbal sleight-of-hand. Total Michigan employment rose from 4,684,000 in September of 1997 when the \$5.15 rate came in to 4,937,000 in November of 1998, they said.

They don't say the minimum wage caused it. But you are supposed to



TIM RICHARD

leap to that conclusion.

Well, the state's economy was exuberant anyway. "A rising tide raises all ships," as the market economists say.

"Most evidence indicates there will certainly be job losses," predicted Robert Klein, vice president and senior economist at Public Sector Consultants in Lansing.

Rep. Kwame Kilpatrick, D-Detroit,

says a state wage hike will chiefly help cooks, child care workers and nursing home workers. Their bosses serve a local economy and won't skedaddle to Indiana or Arkansas to beat the minimum wage.

Unfortunately, the health care industry isn't exactly prosperous. Health caregivers are under enormous pressure from insurers to hold down costs. A state-enforced wage hike likely could backfire on the workers it's supposed to help.

Michigan has tinkered before with governmental help for the poor. Remember when Michigan regulated the daylight out of Friendly Bob Adams and the small loan companies? Where are the storefront small loan companies today? They're offering loans if you mortgage your house.

This problem of raising wages has to be approached gingerly, especially when government is asking someone else to pay the wages.

A compassionate, caring, warm-and-fuzzy government has tried wage floor and price controls for many centuries. At the outset, I mentioned Diocletian (284-313), one of the most powerful Roman emperors.

In general history, Diocletian is known for the last and bloodiest persecution of Christians. In economic history, he is known for the first effort to impose price controls on food, military stores and wages. The penalties were death or deportation. Both persecution and price controls were spectacularly unsuccessful.

It's touching to witness the House Democrats' effort to enshrine their 1999 Edict of Diocletian in the Michigan Constitution.

Tim Richard reports on the local implications of state and regional events. His voice mail number is (734) 953-2047, Ext. 1881.

School reform tops agendas

Remember the old adage about the risks of wishing for something so hard that you actually get it?

The current flurry of talk by our leaders about how something has to be done about the schools might turn out to be a case in point.

President Clinton got a big hand last week when he used much of the State of the Union speech to propose various ways to improve pupil performance in the public schools.

And Gov. John Engler's State of the State speech, set for 7 p.m. Thursday, is aimed directly at failing school districts like Detroit, Michigan's largest district, with 180,000 students. Engler wants legislation passed to empower mayors to toss out elected school boards and replace them with appointed bodies with power to hire executives, shut down persistently bad schools, set curriculum and fire some staff.

Engler cited the success achieved by Chicago schools, once dubbed the worst in the nation, where Mayor Richard Daley was given similar power four years ago. The results — improved test scores and graduation rates and a dramatic drop in numbers of "failing" schools — were hailed by U.S. Education Secretary Richard Riley as a "national model" for school improvement.

Even Detroit Mayor Dennis Archer last month scolded the 11-member elected Detroit Board of Education, calling for the board to improve things or "get out of the way."

For years, Archer has been working behind the scenes to try to get the Detroit school board to quit paying attention to the perks of office (per-meeting fees, drivers and decorating schemes have been high board priorities) and micromanaging the district by protecting friends and relations on the payroll. Archer ally Bill Beckham, president of New Detroit, also has been quietly putting pressure on the board and is reported to be willing to buy into a Chicago-style reform plan.

Predictably, Detroit board members do not appear enthused at the prospect of going gently into that dark night. Member Alonzo Bates, for example, accused Engler of hiding behind Archer in trying to take away the Detroit school system from black people, questioning whether "a person from Beal City" (Engler's hometown) "knows about Detroit schools."

I suspect that kind of carping is likely to have had its day. Most folks — including many parents of kids in failing schools — are fed up with all the finger-pointing and foot-dragging. With everybody on board from the president to the governor to the mayor, the train is leaving the station. And the issue for many who are part of the present system is to figure out whether it's



PHILIP POWER

better to be on the train than on the track.

What is not clear to me, at least, is just how merely the act of a school takeover will in itself necessarily improve things in poor schools.

At the end of the day, good schools require a limited number of essential things:

■ Good teachers with the ability to manage their classrooms. If a takeover doesn't find a way to get rid of poor teachers and increase the authority of good teachers, it likely won't make much difference.

■ Good principals with the power to run their buildings. A takeover has to be structured so as to allow poor principals to be moved out and to give good principals the authority to manage their buildings, which involves the ability to fire underperforming staff.

■ High standards. Any takeover worth its salt must empower a school district to end social promotion of failing students from grade to grade and to make poor teachers accountable for poor performance by their students.

■ Good measurement. If a takeover doesn't require every pupil to undergo assessment of academic performance, all the high standards in the world will be window dressing.

■ Parental involvement. All the experts are in agreement. Without involved parents, kids are very unlikely to excel in school. Merely taking over a school system doesn't by itself get parents involved.

School takeovers as a reform mechanism may turn out to be a good idea. The evidence from Chicago seems impressive.

But I'm always suspicious of some idea that gets such wide acceptance and is so easy to propose that it looks like the silver bullet du jour. Before we start rushing off to pass legislation to promote school takeovers, we'd better be sure that we have a clear idea of just how they are going to work in practice.

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. 1880, or by e-mail at ppower@eonline.com.

COMMUNITY VOICE

QUESTION:
Who do you think will win the Super Bowl this Sunday?



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Plymouth



Steve Shorman
Ann Arbor



Ken Agius
Trenton



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Local reps assigned House committee posts

When Rep. Chuck Perricone, R-Kalamazoo, ran for speaker of the Michigan House, he promised to spread around the big jobs. Perricone built up such a head of steam that he forced a Grand Rapids candidate to quit the race.

Last week Perricone announced committee assignments for Republicans, who will hold 58-52 control of the House. Perricone cut the number of committees from 28 to 22 for more focused operations, splitting up the work of the old Judiciary Committee. Many of the new committees are two-pronged, hence the "&" in the name.

Here's how area Republicans fared:

Nancy Cassis, R- Novi - She landed a major plum, chair of Tax Policy. Top item on the GOP agenda this year is paring the 4.4 percent personal income tax to 3.9 over five years. She carried the ball for the GOP when it was the minority party in 1997-8 and is a Perricone favorite. She also has seats on Energy & Technology, Family & Children Services, and Senior Health.

Gerald Law, R-Plymouth - One of the House's senior members, he wasn't term-limited last year because of a break in service. Law will chair the Health Policy Committee. He will have seats on Gaming & Casino Oversight, Insurance & Financial Services, and Family & Civil Law.

Bruce Patterson, R-Canton - The former Wayne County commissioner will be vice chair of Constitutional Law & Ethics. He'll have seats on Tax Policy and Conservation & Outdoor Recreation.

Andrew Raczkowski, R-Farmington Hills - Riding high in his second term, he's majority floor leader, in effect the traffic cop of the House agenda. He'll chair the House Oversight & Operations Committee, an internal job, and be a member of Employment Relations, Training & Safety and Health Policy.

Laura Toy, R-Livonia - She landed on Appropriations, the budget committee, her first term. She will be vice chair of the capital outlay subcommittee (handling the new Hall of Justice project,



Rep. Gerald Law



Rep. Bruce Patterson



Rep. Laura Toy



Rep. Bob Brown



Rep. Eileen DeHart



Rep. Tom Kelly

among others); vice chair of welfare; and a member of judiciary, handling the court budget. She's a former Schoolcraft College trustee, Livonia council member and city treasurer.

Democrats

Here is how area Democrats fared:

Bob Brown, D-Dearborn Heights - He survived the Republican tide last Nov. 3 but will have a reduced role: Energy & Technology, Insurance & Financial Services. (He's off Conservation.)

Eileen DeHart, D-Westland - She was speaker pro tem last year and would have been in a position of leadership had Democrats retained the House. Now she'll be on House Oversight & Operations (internally important) and Senior Health, Security & Retirement as minority vice chair.

Tom Kelly, D-Wayne - In his third term, he'll stay on Appropriations, the budget committee. Democrats didn't have their subcommittee assignments at press time.

Ruth Ann Jamnick, D-Ypsilanti - Succeeding the prolific Kirk Profit, she's a former township treasurer and landed on Tax Policy and Transportation. Her district includes northern Washtenaw County, bordering South Lyon, and she may face major reapportionment changes.

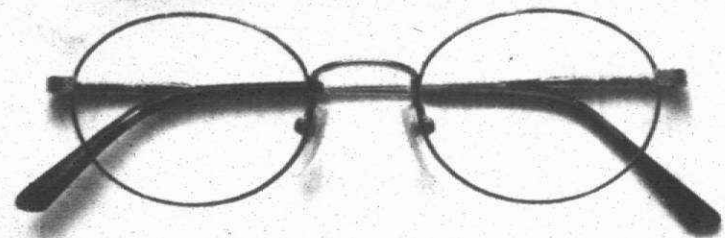
Madonna University sponsors blood drive

The American Red Cross will be accepting blood donations 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 9, and 2-8 p.m. Wednesday, Feb.

10, in Madonna University's Science Wing. Eligible donors must be at least 17 years old. Walk-in

donors also are welcome. To make an appointment, call the Office of Student Life at (734) 432-5428.

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COMMON SENSORS



JACQUE MARTIN-DOWNS

This angel came dressed as a student

Were you able to discover an angel on your path over the holidays? I was. He stumbled right over me and I immediately knew it. Only he came in the form of a middle schooler. I'll call him Simon.

Simon joined a team of volunteers one morning as we put on a pancake breakfast fund-raiser. It was apparent that he was enveloped in shyness, as maybe many angels are, while he stood against the wall with his head down, wondering what was going to be expected of him.

We began to delegate responsibilities and Simon ended up hanging around Santa, who was seated in his giant red chair graciously receiving munchkins.

It was then that Simon noticed the big glitch. The photographer who was to click pics with a Polaroid had discovered her camera was on the blink. As she rushed out to the store in search of a camera battery, something happened.

Santa called me over and told me that Simon had an idea. I approached him to see him talking a mile a minute. This was not the shy, reclusive Simon who I'd met only a short time ago.

"Ya know," he said, "I've been watching the lady try to get the camera to work and I think I know what's wrong with it."

He obviously didn't think it was a battery problem. With a deep breath and a silent prayer, I allowed Simon to take over as photographer.

If you know Polaroids, those little

■ Out of the corner of my eye, I watched as the little angel worked his magic over in the corner.

stinkers have the ability to give you instant gratification or a sense of failure when the picture doesn't turn out, so I had my fingers crossed, knowing that in a minute or two we'd know whether Simon was onto something ... and indeed he was. Pictures were coming out of the camera with clarity and great color. I was delighted; Simon was glowing. If I'm not mistaken, I saw his wings.

I checked back a little later to see if he needed any help gluing the pictures into little cardboard frames. He shot back, "No, I've got everything under control."

I walked away, knowing full well he was right.

The rest of the morning moved along flawlessly. Mayors, judges, state representatives, school board and city council members worked the tables literally and figuratively. All of the volunteers helped raise more than \$1,500 for the food bank. We were very pleased with the number of people who joined us for the breakfast to support such a worthy cause.

Out of the corner of my eye, I watched as the little angel worked his magic over in the corner. I heard him comment to someone that he thought he might be a photographer when he grew up. I could certainly see why.

Afterwards, as Simon and I were walking out of the building together, I told him I wouldn't mind giving him a ride home so that I could come to the door and tell his mom what a star he had been.

He liked the idea and added: "Ya know, I think I would like to contribute to the food bank, too. This looks like a good thing. So when we get to my house, I'll give you some money."

What he didn't know was that I was the winner that day as I watched the transformation from a shy, uncomfortable boy to an angel. He earned his wings, and I just hope that nobody ever clips them.

Jacquie Martin-Downs is the coordinator of the Family Resource Center in Westland and has a private counseling practice.



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

Togetherness: Terri Fata takes time to play a game with her 4-year-old daughter, Kristi, before class begins at Holy Trinity Tiny Tots Preschool in Livonia.

Let learning begin in preschool

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI
SPECIAL WRITER

Letting go of your child that first time at preschool is a milestone often marking the first steps away from mom and dad.

After a lot of time and research, Kendra and Michael Weiss found a preschool for their daughter, Shelby. But it wasn't easy.

"It's a little gut-wrenching," the Livonia mother said. "As a new mom, you want to make the right decisions."

In September, when Shelby begins attending Holy Trinity Tiny Tots Preschool in Livonia, it will be the first time the Weisses have left her with someone other than family or "very, very close friends," Weiss explained. Shelby will be 3 when she starts school.

"It's up to the parent to research it enough to make sure they'll take care of their child - taking them to the bathroom and understanding their needs," Weiss said.

A one-way glass window that allows parents to observe their children while they are in class without

being detected was a big drawing card for Tiny Tots, she added.

The anxiety that sometimes comes with placing a child in a preschool program is common, especially for parents who are doing it for the first time. In many ways, parents have to make a bigger adjustment to the change than their children.

One of the reasons Terri Fata chose Tiny Tots for her 4-year-old daughter, Kristi, was that she likes the high teacher-child ratio in the classrooms. There are six children to every adult at Tiny Tots, which is a higher ratio than what is required.

The State of Michigan Department of Consumer and Industry Services Bureau of Regulatory Services mandates child care centers provide one adult for every 10 children in classrooms with 2 1/2-3-year-olds. One adult must be present for every 12 children in classrooms with 4-5-year-olds, according to Joseph Webster, bureau director.

Time to interact

Children have more time to interact with adults when there are more

adults available, explained Barbara Morrison, Tiny Tots director. If there's more time for the children to interact with adults, there's more time for the adults to provide a loving atmosphere.

Fata's anxiety levels about sending Kristi to preschool were lower than other first-time moms, because her older daughter, Nicolette, 6, also attended Tiny Tots. The Westland mom said she looked for programs that concentrated on play time and socialization skills and not so much on the academics.

"It's important to me that there's a lot of caring," Fata added.

Parents who screen preschools sometimes have specific questions and know what they want. Others have an instinctual feeling about the surroundings. Fata, for instance, said that as soon as she walked into Tiny Tots, she immediately liked the atmosphere and the teachers.

Michelle Mullins, director of Beginners Inn in Canton, recommends that parents look for cleanliness in the schools. And be sure the teachers can relate well with the children.

"I have found that teachers can have all the degrees in the world, but if they can't key down to the children, they won't have their interest," Mullins said. "If they can't be at the children's level, the children aren't going to benefit."

An open-door policy also lets parents know that the preschool has nothing to hide and seeing the same teachers and aides on a regular basis makes everyone feel more at ease, Morrison added.

"There's a secure feeling that a child has when they're in the same routine and environment every day," Morrison said. "There's familiar faces they look forward to each time they say good-bye to mom. If there is a lot of turnover (among staff), that would be a red flag for parents."

Evaluating programs

Parents should also evaluate whether the program focuses on socialization and kindergarten readiness skills and which area they want to emphasize, according to Dr. Bess Kypros, Madonna University director

Please see **PRESCHOOL, B3**

Guides for finding the right program



The National Association for the Education of Young Children recommends visiting several different preschools in your area to determine what kind of programs are available.

And first impressions are important, according to Parent Soup Education Central. Look for ample amounts of active learning, such as outdoor playing games as well as quiet learning, such as reading stories or doing puzzles.

Here's a checklist of some of the questions that

group recommends asking caregivers:

- Do children receive the individual attention, warmth and understanding that you would like for your child?
- Are the children happy and playing with each other? Do they talk to each other and to adults?
- Do caregivers recognize when a child is sad or upset or excited? Do they refrain from embarrassing a child?
- Is discipline handled in a positive way?
- Do the caregivers participate in training opportunities in child care/child development?

■ Are the indoor and outdoor spaces for children safe and free of hazards? Look for things like protected stairways and windows, safety caps on electrical outlets and a fenced-in outdoor space that is free of debris.

■ Are heavy pieces of furniture, such as storage shelves and bookcases, secure and stable so that they cannot tip over?

■ Are toys and equipment clean and in good repair?

■ Are there written procedures for securing

Please see **GUIDES, B3**

Preschools offer parents plenty of choices

Preschools come in all shapes and sizes, so to speak, and can be found through western Wayne County.

Many are cooperatives and depend on parents to operate. Some are affiliated with established schools and others are based in centers that also offer day care.

Preschools which responded to the Observer's request for information include:

■ **Fun Factory Preschool, 45201 N. Territorial, Plymouth, (734) 254-0054.**

Hours are 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday-Friday for 3-5-year-olds. Dynamic activity-based and developmentally appropriate activities, with 30-minute music special on Fridays. Class size is 16-24 children, with degreed teachers. Costs are \$85,

\$115 and \$165 per month.

■ **Little Tots, 49821 W. Five Mile, Plymouth, (734) 420-9026.**

Hours are 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday for ages 3 months to 5 years. The program is play based and encourages development of the whole child. The enrollment fee is \$65.

■ **Little Tots of Plymouth, 12401 Ridge Road, Plymouth, (734) 459-9494.**

Hours are 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday for ages 12 months to 5 years. The program is play-based and encourages development of the whole child. It is committed to a partnership between the home and the center in which there is ongoing communication for the benefit of the child. The enrollment fee is \$65.

■ **Red Bell Preschool, 44661 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, (734) 459-5520.**

Hours are 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. for children ages 2½-12. Family owned since 1957, it offers preschool/day care, before and after school care, service for six schools and a summer camp.

■ **Country Corners, 10980 Ford, Superior Township, (734) 482-5095.**

Hours are 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday-Friday for children ages 2½-5. The program is taught by certified teachers and features small class sizes, computers and farm animals. The enrollment fee is \$35.

■ **Rainbow Rascals Learning Center, 47300 Port, Plymouth, (734) 455-2761.**

Please see **DIRECTORY, B3**

B3(CP)

The Observer & Eccentric! THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 1999

Directory from page B1

Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday for children ages 6 weeks to prekindergarten. The program is a hands-on and developmentally appropriate. The staff/child ratio is 1:4 with a maximum of eight children in the class, 1:4 for toddlers with a maximum of 12 in the class and 1:10 for preschool and pre-kindergarten. There is a \$50 registration fee and security deposit required.

■ **Kindermusik at Village Music, 130 E. Liberty, Plymouth, (734) 354-9825.**

Kindermusik is a family-oriented educational experience of singing, movement, social and listening skills, and more. Classes (45 minutes to one hour one day per week) are available for newborns through children age 7. Tuition ranges from \$110 to \$135 plus material fees.

■ **Plymouth Christian Preschool, a division of Plymouth Christian Academy, 43065 Joy Road, Canton, (734) 459-3505, Ext. 124 (preschool and elementary) or Ext. 120 (early childhood coordinator's office).**

Programs are available for children ages 3-5 and provide hands-on learning in a loving Christian environment. A half-day preschool program - Tuesday and Thursday for 3-year-olds and Monday, Wednesday and Friday for 4-year-olds - is available, however, no extended day care is available on site.

Preschool classes are 8:10-4:45 a.m. or 11:40 a.m. to 2:25 p.m. Beginning for children who turn 5 during the summer or fall and aren't developmentally ready for a full kindergarten program meets 11:30 a.m. to 2:25 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

Enrollment fees are \$20 for preschool and \$25 for kindergarten.

■ **Plymouth-Canton Montessori, 45245 Joy Road, Canton, (734) 459-1550.**

Hours are 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday year-round for children ages 2½-6. The school offers a Montessori preschool with full day care. Instruction includes French and music, with field trips and in-house pro-

grams as extras.

■ **Academic Gardens, 104 N. Main St., Plymouth, (734) 453-7744.**

Hours are 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday with structured preschool programs 8:30-11:30 a.m. daily for 3- and 4-year-olds, kindergarten and beginning. Parents can choose from two-five-day programs. Saturday family field trips and family meetings are optional. Registration fee is \$50 plus a deposit of one week's tuition.

■ **P.C.E.P. Kiddie Kampus, Plymouth-Canton High School, 8415 Canton Center Road, Canton, (734) 416-2937.**

The program is for 4-year-olds (as of Dec. 1). Two-hour morning and afternoon sessions are available three days a week and there is one three-day-a-week session.

The curriculum is designed as a positive, prekindergarten experience and recognizes the child as a person. High school students enrolled in early childhood classes assist certified elementary teachers. The program is open to Plymouth-Canton residents.

■ **Rosey's Romper Room, 5840 Canton Center Road, Canton, (734) 416-1580.**

Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday for children ages 6 weeks to 12. The center offers child care, preschool, latch key and a private kindergarten (class size of 15). Enrollment fee is \$40.

■ **Suburban Children's Cop Nursery, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia, (734) 421-6169.**

Hours are 8:15 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday September through May. Classes have one teacher, one teacher's aide and four adults. Class sizes are 12 children for 2-year-old program (parents attend each class), 18 children for 3-year-old class and 21 children for 4-year-old class. There is a \$20 registration fee, \$2 application fee and \$21 (age 2), \$35 (age 3) and \$48 (age 4) monthly fees. An open house will be held 6-7 p.m. Wednesday, March 31.

■ **St. Paul's Preschool, St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 27475 Five Mile, Livonia, (734) 422-1470.**

Classes for 4-year-olds are 9:15-11:45 a.m. or 12:15-2:45 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday and 9:15-11:45 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday for 3-year-olds. A 3-4-year-old class is 12:15-2:45 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday children must be 3 years old by Dec. 1 of the current year or age 4 between July 1 and Dec. 1 of the current year and previously enrolled in a preschool program. There is a \$25 nonrefundable

enrollment fee required at registration and an annual \$25 special programs fee.

The preschool is a ministry to young children and encourages growth in the physical, emotional, intellectual, social and spiritual areas. There is a maximum of 20 children per class.

■ **Holy Trinity Tiny Tots Preschool, 39020 Five Mile, Livonia, (734) 464-0211.**

An open house will be held 3:30-5:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 4. Registration for 3- and 4-year-old children for the 1999-2000 school year will be 9 a.m. to noon Monday, March 1.

■ **Mother Hubbard Nursery School, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 16360 Hubbard, Livonia, (734) 421-8487.**

Hours are 9:15-11:30 a.m. Monday and Wednesday for 4-year-olds and 9:15-11:15 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday for 3-year-olds. Class size is limited to 22 students for 4-year-old program and 18 student for 3-year-

old program. Program includes science, art, mathematics, large and small muscle centers, indoor and outdoor play and snacks. The school is currently accepting applications for the 1999-2000 school year. An open house will be held 6:30-8 p.m. Monday, Feb. 15.

■ **Christ Our Savior Early Childhood, 14175 Farmington Road, Livonia, (734) 513-8413.**

Hours are 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday for children ages 18 months to 8 years. Full and half-day toddler care for 18 months-3-year-olds is available Monday-Friday, preschool (mixed age classes and must be toilet-trained) 8:30-11:30 a.m. Monday-Friday for children ages 3-5 and day care 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday for toddlers and preschoolers (children enrolled in day care attend preschool in the mornings). A kindergarten program will be offered in the fall.

The Christian program (religion is taught) helps children

learn and provides lots of hands-on experience. There is a \$35 nonrefundable registration fee and \$40 nonrefundable materials fee. Toddler fees are \$32 per day or \$17 per half day, weekly preschool fees are \$180 per month (five days), \$144 (four days), \$108 (three days) and \$72 (two days). Day care fees are \$123.75 per week, \$27.50 per full day, \$15 per half day and \$3.50 per hour drop-in rate.

■ **Livonia Cooperative Learning Tree Child Care Center, 9501 Henry Ruff, Livonia, (734) 525-5767.**

Hours are 7 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Monday-Friday for children ages 6 weeks to 13. Nationally accredited, the center offers a school atmosphere with separate classrooms, large, enclosed playgrounds, before and after school program with transportation, low child-staff ratio and all-inclusive no additional fees for home-cooked meals, field trips or transportation. Enrollment fee is \$45.

■ **Jeff and Carrie Lewis of Wayne announce the birth of Breanna Lynn Oct. 9 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. She joins two brothers, Brandon, 4, and Kayleigh Joan, 3. Grandparents are Mary Lou Walker, Curt Walker, Mary Lewis and Barry Lewis, all of Westland.**

■ **Ben and Diane Porritt of Plymouth announce the births of Sierra Joy and Mariah Kim Oct. 30 at Providence Hospital in Southfield. They join sisters Brianna Jill, 6, and Kayleigh Joan, 1. Grandparents are Douglas and Ann Harvey of Rockford and Anna Porritt of Alto, Mich.**

■ **Frank and Suzanne Ciesley of Livonia announce the birth of Aaron Christian Michael Oct. 11 at St. Mary Hospital in Livonia. He joins a brother, Ryan, 15, and a sister, Lauren, 11. Grandparents are Al and Jean Meredith of Northville and Muriel Ciesley of Dearborn. Great-grandmother is Derna Zeppa of Redford.**

■ **Travis Merritt Sr. and Stacie Smith of Westland announce the births of Lyla Marie and Lucas Orion Merritt Oct. 19 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. They join a brother, Travis Jr., 16 months. Grandparents are Keith and Sandy Merritt of Maysville, Ky., and Judy Hayward of Westland.**

■ **Rachel Kirby of Westland announces the birth of Alexys Raquel Oct. 8 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. Grandparents are Robert and Sandy Kirby and Pamela Marsh, all of Dearborn.**

■ **Jason and Nikki Saal of Chesapeake, Va., formerly of Westland, announce the birth of Madison Taylor Aug. 27 at Oakwood Hospital in Dearborn. Grandparents are Dave and Kathy Kirby of Westland and Bob and Lynne Saal of Sterling Heights. Great-grandmothers are Della Zebrowski of Bad Axe, Mich., and Helen Merta of Trenton.**

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Temple Baptist offers concerts, conferences, Vox Cafe

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER
smason@oe.com

You could say "the joint is jumpin'" when talking about upcoming events at Temple Baptist Church. Friday night's performance by Bryan Duncan is just the start of what will be a busy few months at the Plymouth Township church.

This is the fourth time Duncan has performed at Temple Baptist. His last was with Crystal Lewis and Anointed as part of the Big Voice Tour. He will perform at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 29, at the church, 49555 N. Ter-

ritorial Road.

"Bryan has the sweetest voice," said Wayne Kurtycz, who does singles and outreach events at the church. "He has a very soulful style and is a very accomplished artist with lots of hits and awards."

A founding member of the "70s

"Jesus Music" group Sweet Comfort Band, Duncan became a mainstay on contemporary Christian radio's pioneer stations with his unique vocal styling.

When the group disbanded in 1984, he established himself as one of Christian music's most talented vocalists, releasing nine solo projects that have yielded more than a dozen number one hits. His 10th solo project is "Blue Skies" on Myrrh.

He has captured six Dove Award nominations - Male Vocalist of the Year in 1994, 1995 and 1996, Contemporary Album of the Year and Recorded Music Packaging of the Year, both in 1995 for "Slow Revival."

He also was Christian Research Report's Male Vocalist of the Year and Album of the Year ("Mercy") in 1993.

Coming to town on Saturday, Feb. 13, will be Mark Lowry and



Bryan Duncan

Anthony Burger for a 7 p.m. concert at Temple. Kurtycz describes Lowry as the premier Christian comedian, while Burger is "the foremost piano player."

"He has amazing talent," said Kurtycz of Burger. "You can't sit down when he's done. You want to stand up and applaud the guy."



Mark Lowry

His fingers are on fire."

A young start

Lowry got his break at age 10 while on a family vacation in Nashville during the National Quartet Convention. A friend arranged a spot on a show for him and after singing one song,

he landed a recording contract. He went on to record two albums, including one backed by the London Symphony Orchestra.

In 1988, he landed a spot on the Christian Artists Music Seminar in Estes Park, Colo., where Bill Gaither and representatives of Word Records saw his performance and each made him an offer. He accepted both.

He joined the Gaither Vocal Band and signed a solo recording contract with Word. His Word debut, "For The First Time on Planet Earth," was released in 1988.

"He's been here at Temple as a solo act and with Bill Gaither," said Kurtycz. "He's the premier Christian comedian and extremely funny."

Tickets for the two concerts can be purchased by credit card by calling Tickets Plus at (800) 585-3737 or at 9:30 and 11:15

a.m. Sundays and 7 p.m. Wednesdays at the Temple Baptist Bookstore in the church, North Territorial Road west of Ridge Road.

Also coming in February is Elisabeth Elliott who will conduct a seminar 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 20, at the church. One of Christendom's most able and articulate writers, Elliott will talk about the omnipotence of love in her seminar for both men and women.

Married three times and widowed twice, Elliott is the author of "Liberty of Obedience," "How to Overcome Loneliness," "Quest for Love" and "The Mark of a Man."

"Any time she comes to town, it's a big thing," said Kurtycz. "She's a successful author and speaker. Many people know her name because of her late husband."

Please see TEMPLE, B7

NEW VOICES

Donald French Jr. and Katie Dest of Wayne announce the birth of Dylan Robert Sept. 30 at the Birthing Center of Garden City Hospital. Grandparents are Paul and Debra Dest of Westland, Roberta Leadbetter of Canton and Donald French of Wayne.

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■ **Joshua and Amy Begarowicz of Belleville announce the birth**

CALENDAR

YOUR GUIDE TO EVENTS IN AND AROUND CANTON

WEEKEND

SINGLES' EVENTS

Single Place holds a walk in the park 10 a.m. every Saturday at Heritage Park, Farmington Road between 10 Mile and 11 Mile in Farmington Hills.

Single Place holds the following social events every Sunday: worship 11 a.m. at First Presbyterian Church Sanctuary; brunch 12:30 p.m. at Northville Crossing Restaurant.

8900 Northville Road, Northville; coffee and cards 5 p.m. at Tuscan Cafe, 150 E. Center, Northville.

Suburban Singles holds a single mingle dance 8 p.m. every Wednesday in the Bonnie Brook Country Club, on Telegraph south of Eight Mile, Redford.

Proper attire, no jeans. Ages 21 and up. Admission \$4, \$3 before 8:30 p.m.

For more information, call (313) 842-0443.

Suburban Singles holds an after-dinner dance 7-11 p.m. every Sunday in the Bonnie Brook Country Club, on Telegraph, south of Eight Mile, Redford.

Proper attire, no jeans. Ages 21 and up. Admission \$4, \$3 before 8:30 p.m.

For more information, call (313) 842-7422.

COSTUME BALL

German-American Club of Plymouth is sponsoring a "Fashing" party (costume ball) 7:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 30, in the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer, Plymouth. Admission is \$6.50 per person. Dance to music by Enziah. German food and drink will be available. Prizes for costumes and door prizes will also be presented.

For more information, call (313) 842-7422.

AROUND TOWN

DADDY-DAUGHTER DANCE

Celebrate Valentine's Day by attending the Canton Knights of Columbus eighth annual Daddy-Daughter Valentine's Dance 7-9 p.m. Friday, Feb. 12, in the St. Thomas a Becket Family Life Center, 555 Lilley, Canton. This night will feature danceable music, a flower corsage, refreshments and a unique gift so dad and his date will remember the evening. The cost is \$12 per couple or \$15 for dad and two dates. If dad has more than one date, an older brother, uncle, or grandpa are invited so each girl can have a partner. Dads and girls ages 3-13 are invited. Tickets will be available after all Masses in St. Thomas a Becket or by calling Ralph at (248) 344-1856 or Mary at (313) 397-1359. Space is limited.

MARDI GRAS

Celebrate the end of winter and the coming of spring in New Orleans-style at a gala Mardi Gras celebration 1 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 14, in the Waterman Campus, Schoolcraft College. Join fellow revelers as they dine on a traditional New Orleans meal, listen to the Scool Jazz Singers' mellow tones and dance to music of Tom

SAUNDERS AND THE DETROIT ALL-STARS

Schoolcraft College's voice ensemble, Scool Jazz and Scool Jazz Prime, will harmonize on jazz standards and the Detroit All-Stars will inspire dancers. Tickets are \$30 a person, and may be ordered contacting the Marketing and Development Office at (734) 462-4417. Visa, MasterCard or Discover cards are accepted. Proceeds support student scholarships.

USED BOOK SALE

The Friends of the Canton Public Library group is holding its annual romance used book sale 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 13, and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 14, in the library's meeting room. The cost for each book will be 25 or 50 cents. Added this year will be a special section for mystery lovers. Proceeds from sale help support library programs such as Story Wanderers. For more information, call (734) 397-0999.

TUTOR TRAINING

Community Literary Council is sponsoring tutor training 6:30-9 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 3, and 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 6, in Tonda Elementary School, Canton. Training is free. Reservations, (734) 416-4906.

PARENT-TODDLER CLASSES

Winter Me and My Shadow classes begin this month at New Morning School in Plymouth Township. The introductory class is for 2 and 4-year-olds and their parents. Classes meet once a week. There are openings in the Monday or Wednesday night classes. Classes meet 6:15-7:15 p.m. This class provides a special one-on-one time for the parent and child. The parent and child will participate in music and finger-playing activities, art and readiness projects, snack and story time, all centered around a weekly theme. For more information or to register, call New Morning School, (734) 420-3331.

POSITIVE DISCIPLINE

Oakwood Healthcare System is sponsoring a "Positive Discipline" class 7-8 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 10, in Plymouth Canton High School, 8415 Canton Center Road, Canton. Learn alternatives to punishment and new skills to develop self-discipline, responsibility, mutual respect, and more. This class is free of charge. For more information, or for registration, call (734) 416-2937.

PLYMOUTH YMCA

The Plymouth Community Family YMCA is offering classes for preschool-age children through adult. Classes include: Active Older Adults (ages 55 and up), Water Exercise, Youth and Girls' Basketball, Youth Instructional League, Youth Instructional Floor Hockey League, Youth Instructional Indoor Soccer League for ages 5-12, Bumper Bowling for ages 4-6, Flute Classes for

beginning through advanced.

Youth Golf Lessons for ages 5-11, Introductory Dance for ages 5-8, Ballet & Jazz Combination, ages 8-10, Karate for male and female, ages 8 through adult, Driver's Education, Bumble Bee Indoor Soccer for ages 4-5, Y Hooks and Y Pucks for ages 4-5, Yoga classes for teen to adult novice or advanced practitioner, Step & Sculpt Fitness Class, and Aquatics classes for ages 6 months through 12 years. The YMCA is also offering a Basketball Travel League for ages 9-10, 12, and 13-15 years of age plus a Hockey Travel League for ages 9-12. Call Plymouth Community YMCA at (734) 453-2904 for further information or to register with Visa or MasterCard.

MENTAL HEALTH

The Plymouth Community Family YMCA is accepting registrations for classes. The classes are youth travel basketball league for grades three-eight, girls' league for grades three-six, introductory dance, ages 5-8; creative movement for preschoolers, ages 3-5; active older adult water exercise, youth travel floor hockey for ages 9-12, and step aerobics fitness class and aquatics. For more information, call the Plymouth YMCA at (734) 453-2904.

YOUTH SOCCER

The city of Plymouth Recreation Department will be taking spring youth soccer registration the entire month of January at the recreation office, during business hours, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. The city of Plymouth Recreation Department is in the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer. All registrations require a birth certificate. The fee for 6-, 7- and 8-year-olds is \$40 for city of Plymouth residents and \$60 for nonresidents. For children 9 and older, cost is \$45 for city of Plymouth residents and \$75 for nonresidents. For more information, call 455-6620.

THRIFT SHOP

The Thrift Shop, located on 494 N. Mill, Plymouth, sponsored by the Presbyterian Church's women's club is open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays and noon to 4 p.m. Saturdays.

CHORUS

The County Connection Chorus of Sweet Adelines international is looking for women who love to sing. The group of 30 women sing a cappella music barbershop style and have begun preparations for annual competition in May. Rehearsals are 7 p.m. every Tuesday in the UAW Local 898 at 8975 Textile, Ypsilanti. For more information, call Paula at (734) 416-6105, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays.

HEAD START PROGRAM

Applications are now being taken for the remainder of this school year and next year. Children ages 3 or 4 by Dec. 1. Residents of Plymouth-Canton School District and Northville residents who live in Wayne County are eligible. Children may be eligible if family income is limited, is a foster child, or a child with a disability (certified state guidelines). To register, call Jan Metzner at (734) 416-6105, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays.

HEALTH FACILITIES

The Schoolcraft College Sunday Health Club charges \$4 a visit. Individual membership fee is \$32. Family membership is \$70 for 13 weeks of unstructured activity in a fully equipped physical education facility. Club members can use three gyms, six racquetball courts, weight machines, the pool and the sauna. An adult must accompany children under 16, and nonswimmers must be 45 inches tall at the shoulder to use the pool. The Health Club continues until March 28. For more information, call Continuing Education Services Physical Fitness at (734) 462-4413.

ARTS COUNCIL

The Plymouth Community Arts Council has a full winter schedule of classes and workshops for all ages: sculpture, watercolor, dance, decorative painting, pottery, film appreciation, drawing and sketching, children's theater, paper art, creative writing, live model drawing session, batik, art lectures, yoga, tai chi, etc. For a complete schedule or for more information, call (734) 416-4278.

GRIEF RECOVERY

Grief Recovery is a five-week program designed to help grieving people find hope and healing through group interaction. The program is 7-9 p.m. Thursdays, Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25, and March 4, in the Vermeulen Funeral Home, 46401 W. Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth Township. This will be an opportunity to learn the characteristics of grief, to share feelings and to receive support from others who have experienced similar losses. A professional facilitator will lead the group. Enrollment is limited to 20 participants; registration is required. The program is open to the community without charge. For more information or for registration, call (734) 459-2250.

KIWANIS

Plymouth-Canton Morning Kwanias has 7 a.m. Tuesday breakfasts at the Water Club Grill, Ann Arbor Road, east of I-275 in Plymouth Township. For more information, call (734) 453-1373.

MEDILIDGE GROUP

The Medilodge Group Inc. has made available to local clubs and organizations a representative for assisted living, long-term care, services available, reimbursement under Medicare and other topics. If interested, call the administrator or admission director at West Trail Nursing Center at (734) 453-3983.

ADULT DAY CARE

Adult Day Care is a weekday program, open 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., serving senior citizens who need some assistance but don't need to be in a nursing home. Professionals assist with the restroom, medications and offer a hot lunch. Transportation and financial assistance are available. For more information, call the Plymouth site at (734) 451-1455 or the Livonia site at (734) 591-2216.

SUPPORT GROUPS

Starting Over is a group for widowed men and women younger than 45. Meetings are held the first and third Tuesday of the month at Plymouth Church of Christ. For more information, call (734) 662-5999.

Resident gets new title



State post: Jacqueline Steed of Canton has been named head of the Office of Human Resources for the state Unemployment Agency. Prior to her appointment, Steed had been the UA's director of Equal Opportunity. A state government employee for the past 18 years, Steed had worked as Equal Opportunity director for the Michigan Department of Mental Health, before joining the Unemployment Agency in 1995.

ment is in the Plymouth Cultural Center, 525 Farmer. All registrations require a birth certificate. The fee for 6-, 7- and 8-year-olds is \$40 for city of Plymouth residents and \$60 for nonresidents. For children 9 and older, cost is \$45 for city of Plymouth residents and \$75 for nonresidents. For more information, call 455-6620.

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CAMPUS NOTES

To submit your academic honor or graduation announcements to Campus Notes, send the material, printed or typewritten, to: Campus Notes, Plymouth-Canton Observer, 794 S. Main, Plymouth, Mich. 48170.

ALPHA CHI

Plymouth resident and William Tyndale College junior Catherine Billington was inducted into Alpha Chi, a coeducational society whose purpose is to promote academic excellence and exemplary character among college and university students and to honor those who achieve such distinction. Billington was among 10 students honored.

GRADUATES

Amy Lyn Furmanek of Plymouth Township received her bachelor of science degree from Western Michigan University during the December commencement. Furmanek graduated cum laude and her active role in the National Honor Society and her active role in the forensics team tournaments won her several awards and achievements. While maintaining her studies, Furmanek also volunteered her time to counsel rape victims. She is the daughter of Richard and Del Furmanek and a graduate of Plymouth Canton High School.

SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENT

Canton residents Roxanne Delozier, Christine Gerak and Patricia O'Rourke and Plymouth residents Ryan Bayer, Marilee Brindamour and Carol Stone were among 63 students who were honored at Madonna University's School of Business annual Honors Convocation for High Achievement. This honor is given to students who have completed a minimum of 30 semester hours in Madonna University, and 15 hours within their major with a GPA of 3.5 or above.

GERALD R. FORD INSTITUTE

Albion College student Molly Strand is a new member of the Gerald R. Ford Institute for Public Service. The Ford Institute is designed to give exceptional students a chance to broaden their education through concentrated study.



Hayes-Wyniarsky

Christine Wyniarsky and Benjamin David Hayes were married Oct. 9 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Ukrainian Catholic Church. The Rev. John Lazar officiated.

The bride is the daughter of George and Patricia Wyniarsky of Westland. The groom is the son of Kathleen Hayes of Westland and Lennis Hayes of Fenton.

Keller-Thomas

Robert and Mary Jo Keller of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Dana Louise, to Matthew James Thomas, the son of Larry and Donna Thomas of Westland.

The bride-to-be is a 1990 graduate of Livonia Churchill High School, a 1994 graduate of Missouri Valley College with a bachelor of science degree and a 1998 graduate of Michigan State University with a master's degree. She expects to earn an educational specialist degree from Oakland University in August 1999. She is employed as an elementary instructor in West Bloomfield.

Her fiancé is a 1990 graduate of Livonia Churchill High School, a 1994 graduate of the University of Michigan and a 1997 graduate of the University of Michigan Law School. He is employed as an attorney with Jenner and Block of Chicago, Ill. A July wedding is planned at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church.

Partain-Monan

Mr. and Mrs. John Partain of Plymouth announce the engagement of their daughter, Allison Leigh, to Michael Patrick Monan, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Monan of Batavia, Ill.

The bride-to-be is a 1993 graduate of Plymouth Salem High School and a 1997 graduate of the University of Michigan with a bachelor of fine arts degree.

Smalley-Cervantes

Bruce and Mary Ellen Marti of Canton announce the engagement of their daughter, Sharon Lynn Smalley, to Rudy David Cervantes, the son of Rudy and Louella Cervantes of Canton.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Trenton High School, Western Michigan University with a bachelor of science degree in biomedical science and Madonna

University with bachelor of science degree in nursing. She is employed by St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor as a registered nurse.

Her fiancé is a graduate of Plymouth Canton High School. He served four years in the U.S. Air Force. He is employed by Ford Motor Co.

An August wedding is planned in St. Edith Catholic Church in Livonia.



A place to Deliver
...Over and Over Again.

Whether you are preparing for the birth of your first child or your third, the OB/GYN physicians and nurses at Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center - Wayne will provide specialized and attentive care.

From reproductive medicine and family planning services to nutrition guides, childbirth classes and early parenting workshops, Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center provides quality care and convenient resources to help keep you and your baby healthy and strong.

To make an appointment with an Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center doctor, call 800-543-WELL.



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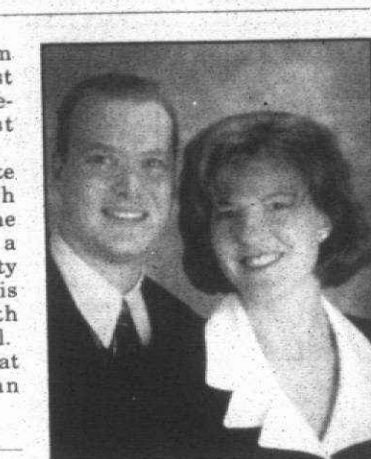
Oakwood Hospital
Annapolis Center - Wayne

Oakwood & You

WEDDINGS AND ENGAGEMENTS

The bride is a 1994 graduate of Westland John Glenn High School and a 1996 graduate of Henry Ford Community College. She is currently enrolled at Eastern Michigan University. She is employed by Childtime Children's Center and the Wayne-Westland Community Schools.

The groom is a 1993 graduate of John Glenn High School. He is employed by Santeau Vaults Inc. in Livonia.



She is employed by Museum Works in Livonia.

Her fiancé is a graduate of Lumen Christi High School, a 1995 and 1997 graduate of the University of Michigan with a bachelor of science degree and master of science degree in computer engineering respectively. He is employed at Diamond Bullet Design of Ann Arbor.

An October wedding is planned.

University with bachelor of science degree in nursing. She is employed by St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor as a registered nurse.

Her fiancé is a graduate of Plymouth Canton High School. He served four years in the U.S. Air Force. He is employed by Ford Motor Co.

An August wedding is planned in St. Edith Catholic Church in Livonia.

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The bride asked Cindy Koslowski to serve as her maid of honor with Amy Marcoe and Barbara Wyniarsky as bridesmaids.

The groom asked Robert Swarthout to serve as best man with Sammy Hicks and Andrew Szornyi as groomsmen.

The couple received guests at the Hawthorne Valley Country Club before leaving on a honeymoon trip to Walt Disney World in Orlando, Fla. They are making their home in Wayne.

MID-WINTER TRACK LIGHTING SALE

GET ON TRACK with JUNO®

Don't miss it... **ADDITIONAL 10% OFF** our already 40-50% discounted prices!

SALE LASTS 10 DAYS ONLY!

LINEAR STRIP LIGHTING

JUNO® TRAC 12

- TRAC 12 is a versatile, modular Trac system which is simple to use and easy to install.
- TRAC 12 Linear Strip Lighting utilizes long life xenon wedge base or halogen capsule lamps to provide indirect, task and display lighting.
- Lamp holders may be spaced as required along the Trac to provide proper applications include: decorative cove lighting, under cabinet task lighting, shelf lighting, handrails, steps and kick spaces.

Lighting Fixtures, Lamps, Ceiling Fans, Mirrors, Art Work, Clocks for Every Decor

BROSE ELECTRICAL

Mon, Tues, Wed, Sat 9:30 - 6:00
Thurs, Fri 9:30 - 8:00

37400 W. Seven Mile Road • Livonia, MI 48152 • (734) 464-2211

Bavarian Village

Mid-Winter
SKI & SKIWEAR
SALE
Ends This Sunday

20 to 40% Off

STOREWIDE

Selected jackets, pants, suits, sweaters, fleece tops, bottoms, after ski boots, goggles, skis, boots, poles, bindings, cross country, snowboard, snowboard clothing and much more...

Shop Today • Savings in Every Department

Savings off retail • Immediate markdowns may have been taken

Bloomfield Hills	2540 WOODWARD at Square Lake Rd.	248-318-0803
Birmingham	101 TOWNSEND corner of Pierce	248-644-5950
Grosse Pointe	19435 MACK AVE. just North of Morris	313-885-0300
Ann Arbor	1336 WASHINGTON, West of U.S. 24	734-972-9240
Grand Rapids	NOVI TOWN CENTER S. OF I-96 on Novi Rd.	248-347-3323
Novi Open Sat. 'til 9	1216 S. GRATIOT 1/2 mile North of 16 Mile Rd.	810-463-3620
Mt. Clemens	26312 FORD RD. 1 1/2 miles W. of Telegraph	313-562-5560
Dearborn Heights	246 E. Saginaw at Abbott	517-337-9696
East Lansing	107 E. FRONT ST. (BaySide Entrance)	810-941-1999
Traverse City	3261 MILLER RD.	810-732-5560
Flint		

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Your Invitation to Worship

Mail Copy To: OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC NEWSPAPERS
36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150

FOR CHURCH PAGE CHANGES, PLEASE CALL MICHELLE ULFIC (734) 953-2160. THE FRIDAY BEFORE PUBLICATION.
FOR INFORMATION REGARDING ADVERTISING IN THIS DIRECTORY PLEASE CALL RICH VICULIN (734) 953-2069

BAPTIST

BETHEL BAPTIST TEMPLE
28475 W. Six Mile, Livonia
525-3664 or 261-9276

Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Family Hour 7:15 p.m.

January 31st
11:00 a.m. Guest Speaker
6:00 p.m. Guest Speaker

"A Church That's Concerned About People"

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH
5403 S. Wayne Rd., Wayne, MI
(between Michigan Ave. & Van Buren Rd.)
(734) 728-2180

Virgil Humes, Pastor

Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship 8:00 & 10:45 a.m.
Wednesday Prayer Service 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday Children, Youth & Adult Bible Study 7:00-8:00 p.m.

First General Baptist Church
42900 Cherry Hill-Canton, Michigan 48109
(near 21st & Oak Street) Lutheran Church

Sunday Worship 2:00 p.m.
For more information call:
Dr. Del Maca Church Planner (248) 672-9085 Mrs. Linda K. Maca Cantons School Teacher (734) 997-4798

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

Brightmoor Tabernacle
Assemblies of God • Calvin C. Ratz, pastor
26555 Franklin Rd., Southfield, MI (I-496 & Telegraph • West of Holiday Inn) • 352-0200
9:15 Family Sunday School Hour • Wednesday 7:00 p.m. "Family Night"

10:00 AM Pastor Calvin Ratz
6:30 PM Rev. George Dawiduk

24-Hour Prayer Line 248-512-6205

There Are No "Cookie Cutter" People
And we know it. It's not the goal of our church to crank out people who walk and talk alike. It is our goal to help individuals like you discover a richer and more meaningful spiritual life. Join us this Sunday. Because We Care.

Tri-City Christian Center
Michigan Ave. & Hannan Rd.
326-0330
Sunday 9 a.m., 11 a.m., 6 p.m.

CHURCHES OF THE NAZARENE

PLYMOUTH CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
4800 N. Ann Arbor Road (I-496 & I-96)
Sunday School - 9:45 A.M.
Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M.
Sunday Evening - 6:00 P.M.
Family Night - Wed. 7:00 P.M.
NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN: 485-3198

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

Agapé Family Worship Center
"A PRACTICAL CHURCH ON THE MOVE"

45081 Gadder Road, Canton, MI 48188
(734) 394-0357

New Service Times
Sunday Worship Services - 8:00 and 10:00 a.m.
Wednesday - Family Night - 7:00 p.m.

Agapé Christian Academy - K through 12

FULL GOSPEL CHURCH OF PLYMOUTH
291 E. SPRING ST.
2 Blocks N. of Main - 2 Blocks E. of 18th
SUNDAY: 10:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M. (Worship)
WEDNESDAY: 7:00 P.M. (Worship)
Prayer Service - 7:00 P.M. (Prayer)
Prayer Service - 7:00 P.M. (Prayer)

LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD

CHRIST OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH
Rev. Luther A. Werth, Sr. Pastor
Rev. Robert Bayer, Assist. Pastor
— Two locations to serve you —

LIVONIA
14175 Farmington Rd.
(N. of I-96)
Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
(313) 522-6830

CANTON
46001 Warren Road
(West of Canton Center)
Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School 10:45 a.m.
(313) 414-7422

Visit our Web Site at <http://www.coca.edu/~lmcoca>

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
20805 Midland, Livonia, MI 48150
Farmingdale Hills, Mich.

WORSHIP SERVICES
Sunday Morning 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening 7:00 p.m.
Bible Class & Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

Pastor John W. Meyer • 474-0675

HOSANNA-TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
9500 Livonia • So. Redford • 937-2424
Rev. Lawrence Witte

WORSHIP WITH US
Sunday Morning Worship 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 9:30 a.m.
Thursday Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.
Christian School: Kindergarten-8th Grade
937-2233

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSOURI SYNOD
2530 GRAND RIVER at BEECH DAILY
S22-228 REDFORDTWP.

Worship Service
9:15 & 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School
9:15 & 11:00 a.m.
Nursery Provided

Rev. Victor F. Halboch, Pastor
Rev. Timothy Halboch, Assoc. Pastor

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

Timothy Lutheran Church
8820 Wayne Rd. (Between Ann Arbor Trail & Joy Road)
Livonia • 427-2290
Rev. Carla Thompson Powell, Pastor
9:00 a.m. Adult & Children's Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Family Worship

NewLife Lutheran Church
Sunday Education - 9:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship - 10:00 a.m.
(with children's message/nursery)
Sunday Fellowship - 11:00 a.m.

Our Lady of Providence Chapel
1615 Beck Rd. (between 5 & 6 Mile Rds.)
Pastor Ken Roberts (ELCA)
734 / 459-8181

CATHOLIC

ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
Tradition of St. Peter X
Society of St. Peter X
2310 Joy Road • Redford, Michigan
5 Blocks E. of Telegraph • (313) 542-2121
Priest's Phone (810) 784-9511

MASS SCHEDULES:
First: 7:00 p.m.
First: 7:00 p.m.
First: 7:00 p.m.
First: 7:00 p.m.

Confessions Heard Prior to Each Mass

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL

1100 W. Pennington Ave.
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Rev. John J. Sullivan

Masses: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 A.M. • Sat. 5:00 P.M.
Sunday 8:00, 10:00 A.M. • 1:00 P.M.
5:00 P.M. Life Teen Mass

RESURRECTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

451-0444
REV. RICHARD A. PERRETO

Weekday Masses
Tuesday & Friday 8:30 a.m.
Saturday - 8:30 a.m.
Sunday - 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

WEEKEND LITURGY SCHEDULE
Sundays: 8:00, 9:30, 11:15 a.m.
1:00 & 5:30 p.m.

EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
10101 W. Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth
5 Miles W. of Shadon Rd.
From M-14 take Cotter Road S. on South
734-459-9550

Dr. Wm. C. Moore - Pastor
8:00 Prayer & Praise Service
9:30
Lifeline Contemporary Service
11:00 Traditional Service
SUNDAY SCHOOL (NURSERY PROVIDED)
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST SERVED
8:00 - 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School for All Ages

Risen Christ Lutheran
49250 Ann Arbor Road
(1 Mile West of Shadon)
Plymouth • 453-5252

Worship Service 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.
Family Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Pastor David Martin
Hugh McMillan, Lay Minister

ST. MICHAEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
3003 Hansen Rd., Wayne (corner of Greenwood & Hansen)
Livonia • 453-5252

Sunday Morning Worship Services
Traditional Services 8 & 11 a.m.
Contemporary Service 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School (Children & Adults) 9:30 & 11 a.m.
Monday Evening Service 7:00 p.m.
Rev. Dr. Robert J. Scholtz Rev. Marie Welhausen

ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN Church & School
5865 Venoy
Bk. N. of Ford Rd. Westland 422-0280

Divine Worship 8 & 11:00 A.M.
Bible Class & Sunday School 9:30 A.M.
Sunday Evening Service 7:00 P.M.
Gary D. Headstock, Administrative Pastor
Kurt E. Lambert, Assistant Pastor
Jeff Runyon, Principal D.C.E.

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
17910 Farmington Road • Livonia • 734-261-1360
May thru October • Monday Night Service • 7:00 p.m.
Sunday School & Bible Classes For All Ages 9:45 a.m.
8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Pastor: Dr. Robert J. Scholtz
Rev. Dr. Robert J. Scholtz

Lola Park Ev. Lutheran Church
14750 Kinloch • Redford Twp.
532-8655
Pastor Gregory Gibbons

Morning Worship 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School and Bible Class 9:45 a.m.
Now accepting applications for 1999-2000 school year.
WQV 1500 SUNDAY 10:30 A.M.

Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church (USA)
9601 Hubbard at W. Chicago, Livonia, MI
(between Michigan & Farmington Rd.)
(313) 422-0494

Worship Service & Sunday School
10:30 a.m.

We Welcome You To A Full Program Church
Rev. Richard P. Pines, Pastor
Rev. Ruth Bollinger, Associate Pastor
Visit our Website at <http://www.rosedalegardens.org>

UNITED METHODIST

ST. MATTHEW'S UNITED METHODIST
30000 Six Mile Rd. (E. of Farmington & Midland)
Cruck Sonquist, Pastor
Rev. Jean Love

Worship Services 10:15 A.M., 6:00 P.M.
Nursery Provided
Sunday School 9 A.M.
Office Hrs. 9-5

"Saturday at the Park"

Contemporary Worship
Saturday at 6:30 p.m.

First Church of Christ, Scientist, Plymouth
1100 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth, MI
Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School 10:45 a.m.

Wed. Evening Testimony Meeting 7:30 p.m.
Reading Room - 4:15-5:15 p.m.
Monday-Friday 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. • Thursday 7-9 p.m.

453-1676

NEWBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

36500 Ann Arbor Trail
between Wayne & Newburgh Rds.
422-0149

Worship Services & Sunday School
9:15 & 11:00 a.m.

January 31st
Rebels Speak
Newburg Youth Members

Contemporary Worship Praise Band-Drama
5:00 p.m.

Visit our website at <http://www.ajp-us.org/newburg>

Listings for the Religious News should be submitted in writing no later than noon Friday for the next Thursday's issue. They can be mailed to 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, or by fax at (734) 591-7279. For more information, call (734) 953-2131.

BLOOD DRIVE
St. Edith Parish will have a Red Cross blood drive 2-8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 29, in the church hall, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Walk-ins are welcome. For more information or to make a blood donation appointment, call the Christian Service Office at (734) 464-2027.

MARTIAL ARTS
Registration will be 6:45 p.m. Friday, Jan. 29, at Calvary Missionary Church, 29850 W. Six Mile, Livonia, for the Full Force Ministries' Champion Martial Arts Program. The program will be 7 p.m. Monday and Friday, beginning Feb. 1. A one-month, two-day-a-week trial membership is \$30 for beginners. Family discounts are available. The program has a motto of "helping others to reach their full potential and to be the best that they can be for God, themselves and others." Students learn the eight principles of the Black Belt: honesty, humility, loyalty, forgiveness, courtesy, self-control, courage and perseverance. For more information, call Full Force Ministries at (313) 581-5799.

WOMEN OF REDFORD
The Women of Redford at Redford at Redford Baptist Church is offering two Bible study groups, beginning Tuesday, Feb. 2, in the parlor of the church, 25295 Grand River, Redford. One group meets at 10 a.m. the other at 7 p.m. the first and third Tuesday of the month. The subject will be the book of Romans, and Rene Langley will be the leader. For more information, call the church office at (313) 533-2300.

WEIGH DOWN
The Livonia Church of Christ will begin a new session of the

band, Jim. A missionary to Ecuador and the Ecuadorian Indians, he was killed with five other missionaries. The very people who murdered him have since been reached by God." To register for the seminar, call (800) 361-0210.

Leadership conference
Likewise, the Purpose-Driven Church Conference Friday-Saturday, April 23-24, promises to be a popular event at Temple Baptist, according to Kurtzyk.

The Friday evening program will be "Transforming the Church" with the Rev. Brad Powell of Temple Baptist. Saturday's simulcast conference will feature Rick Warren, with special guest Max Lucado. Warren will help church leaders recognize the different levels of commitment in their churches and how to turn members from an audience into an "army."

In 1980, Warren and his wife moved to California to start a new church, Saddleback Church, started with seven people meeting in their home. Today, the Mission Viejo church has an average attendance of 14,000 people.

Lucado, senior pastor of Oak Hills Church of Christ in San Antonio, Texas, has authored

such books as "Six Hours One Friday" and "A Gentle Thunder."

"Rick Warren is the leading cutting-edge pastor in the country," said Kurtzyk. "Max is a pastor and an extremely well-known author."

For more information about the conference, call Temple Baptist at (734) 414-7777.

Also on the schedule is Temple's annual "Glory of Easter" drama which will be presented the last weekend in March and first weekend in April. A popular program, Kurtzyk expects the musical drama's six performers to attract some 15,000 people.

And for Generation Xers, the Vox Cafe will open its doors at 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 6, with the evening of music, videos and coffee starting at 7:30 p.m. Vox is free of charge and for young people born between 1964 and 1981.

The guest speaker will be Betty Ray, a Livonia Stevenson High School graduate, who will talk about issues relevant to today's generation from a biblical perspective.

"It's a fun time with relevant music," said Kurtzyk. "Vox attracts a couple hundred people and it's growing, all by word of mouth."

WOMEN'S BREAKAWAY
Canton's Calvary Baptist Church's Women's Ministries will host Women's Breakaway '99 Friday-Saturday, Feb. 5-6, at the Livonia Marriott Hotel, 17100 Laurel Park Drive, Livonia. Vicki Smith of Apple Valley,

Calif., will be the guest speaker for the program, designed to bring women of all ages together to encourage and strengthen their relationship with the Lord and each other.

The cost is \$60-118, depending on room occupancy, and includes hotel accommodations (double beds only), Friday evening snack, continental breakfast and lunch on Saturday and the seminar sessions.

For an informational brochure, call Calvary Baptist Church at (734) 455-0022.

BETHANY SUBURBAN WEST
Bethany Suburban West, a Catholic organization which provides spiritual, social and support assistance for divorced and separated Christians, will have a dance at 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 6, at St. Kenneth Catholic Church, Haggerty Road south of Plymouth Road, Plymouth Township. The charge will be \$8 and will include refreshments.

The group also meets regularly on Sundays for breakfast and Mass 10 a.m. at the Redford Inn, Five Mile west of Beech Daly, Redford, and 11:15 a.m. at St. Aidan's Church, 17500 Farmington Road, north of Six Mile, Livonia. Call Val at (734) 729-1974. It also meets for coffee and conversation 7 p.m. Tuesdays at Asch's Family Restaurant, 30471 Plymouth Road, Livonia, and for pinocchio 7 p.m. every other Friday.

SMOKE-FREE BINGO
St. Edith Catholic Church will offer smoke-free bingo 6:30 p.m. Sundays and Tuesdays, beginning in February, at the church, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. For more information, call (734) 464-1222 or (734) 464-1250.

ST. EDITH CATHOLIC CHURCH
St. Edith Catholic Church will host author and speaker Guy Doud 7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 8, at the church, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Doud's "Molder of Dreams" has been the No. 1 requested tape on the "Focus on the Family" radio show for several years. A donation of \$10 is suggested. For more information, call (734) 464-2027 or (734) 464-2020.

RELIGIOUS NEWS

Las Vegas Nights 7:30 p.m. to midnight Friday-Saturday, Feb. 5-6, at the church, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. Admission will be \$1 and maximum payout will be \$500. Proceeds will go to the church's general fund. For more information, call (734) 464-1222.

ST. THEODORE CHURCH'S MEN'S CLUB AND CONFRATERNITY OF CHRISTIAN WOMEN will have a Las Vegas Night 6 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Feb. 6, at the Parish Hall, 8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland. Admission will be \$2. There will be a 50/50 drawing every hour and beer, wine food and refreshments for a nominal charge. For more information, call (734) 425-4421.

ST. GENEVIEVE CATHOLIC CHURCH will have a Vegas Night 6 p.m. to midnight and Bingo 6-11 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 6, as part of its annual Parish Festival. The maximum payout will be \$500, and proceeds will go to the parish's general fund. For more information, call the church at (734) 427-5220.

SINGLE POINT
Single Point Ministries of Ward Presbyterian Church will host a concert by Glad 7:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 5, in the sanctuary of the church, 40000 W. Six Mile, Northville Township. The group

Worldwide Marriage Encounter offers a weekend experience for married couples to improve their communication skills, learn the value of intimacy and renew their love for each other Feb. 5-7 and March 19-21 at the St. John's Family Life Center, 44011 Five Mile, Plymouth Township. The registration fee is \$50. Call Bill and

Carol at (248) 528-2512 or Dan and Debbie at (810) 286-5524 or at www.fc.net/detroit/wmme.

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CHURCH WOMEN UNITED
Church Women United Metro Detroit-West will have its International Student Day carry-in casserole luncheon 12:15 p.m. Friday, Feb. 5, at Aldergate United Methodist Church, 10000 Beech Daly, Redford. International students will speak to participants about their homelands. There also will be speakers from Starfish Family Services and the women's group which provides Love Packs for displaced children. Participants should bring a casserole to feed three people and paper products for the First Step program. For reservations and child care, call Bonnie June Legge at (734) 464-7727 by Feb. 2.

ROAST BEEF DINNER
The United Methodist Men of the First United Methodist Church in Wayne will host a roast beef dinner 5-7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 5, in the fellowship hall of the church, 3 Town Square. Cost will be \$6 for adults, \$2.50 for children and \$15 for a family ticket (includes two adults and two children 12 years and under).

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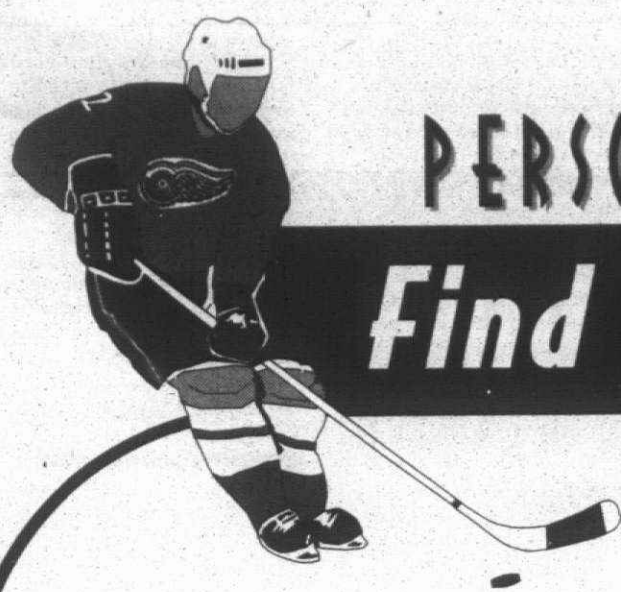
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Women Seeking Men

Ad of The Week

ALLURING BRUNETTE

Attractive, very fit, feisty, fun-to-be-with professional, 35, 5'5", 110lbs, seeks caring confident, stable, open-minded, honest and humorous man, 35-50. Hoping for mutually satisfying relationship. ☎2536

To place your own free ad, call 1-800-518-5445

MISSING INGREDIENT

DWF, 29, 5'4", HW proportionate, blonde/green, likes animals, snowmobiling and keeping active. Seeking handsome, fit S/DWM, 27-33, with similar interests, for friendship. possible LTR. ☎2537

UNCHAINED MELODY

Slim, attractive DWF, 51, N/S, seeks professional S/DWM, 50-60, 5'10", for C&W dancing, rollerblading, hanging out. Loveland area. ☎2534

STARTING OVER

Rubenesque SWF, a young 50, 5'5", autumn/green, N/S, N/D, seeks SWM, 40-60, N/S, for companionship. LTR. No games ☎2533

NO COUCH POTATOES

DWF, 33, 5'10", blonde/blue, slim, mother of three, smoker, social drinker, enjoys dancing, hockey, darts, star gazing, and travel. Seeking SWM, 32-42, with similar interests. HW proportionate, honest, faithful, trustworthy. ☎2410

SILLYHEART

Happiness makes life better. Funny, free-spirited, successful SWF, 30, 5'7", blonde/blue, two sons, seeks humorous, truthful, free-spirited SWM, 35-50, for eternal happiness and LTR. ☎2084

SOULMATE WANTED

Ambitious, athletic, attractive, college-educated, goal-oriented, optimistic SWFF, 31, 5'2", slender, red/green, N/S, enjoys music, movies, theater, dancing, biking, rollerblading, ice skating, skiing, cuddling. Seeking soulmate with similar background/interests, for friendship leading to future. ☎1814

WHAT A COMBINATION

Tall, thin, fiery-tempered SF, 30, blonde/blue. Passionate lover, great friend. Impressive to look at. Even better to converse and/or debate with. Did I mention confident? Call me. ☎1715

LET'S FLOW TOGETHER

This flirtatious blue-eyed blonde would love to take a ride in your truck. There is something about a man in a truck, 30-43, who loves kids, and is attractive and easy-going. ☎2455

A NEW BEGINNING

Widowed lady, young 63, blonde/blue, enjoys movies, theater, dining in/out, animals, walking, swimming. Free to spend time with loving, caring white gentleman. 60s. ☎1657

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STOP LOOKING

Cute SWF, 28, 5'1", brown/blue, seeks active SWM, 28-36, who enjoys music, animals, for possible LTR. No games, no lies or N/Ds. ☎2268

FLY ME TO THE MOON

Attractive SWFF, 30, social drinker, enjoys snowmobiling, sports, boating, travel. Seeking attractive, fit SWM, 28-35, for LTR. ☎2262

VERY EXOTIC

Very romantic, sincere, caring, fit, attractive, small SB, 150lbs, college graduate, enjoys working, outdoor activities, reading, going on outings. Seeking tall, very intelligent, marriage-minded SM, 28+, race unimportant, no games. ☎2174

WOMAN WITHOUT BAGGAGE

Attractive, fit, degreed, honest SWF, 30, 5'2", no dependents, rarely drinks, N/S, enjoys animals, sports, outdoors, humor, the zoo, romance. Seeking similar qualities in a SWM, 28-40, for LTR. ☎1193

ROMANCE, PASSION...

Honesty and laughs are what I have to offer. Smart, beautiful, successful, well educated female, 30s. If you are a successful, kind, sincere doctor. You should call me. ☎2081

LET'S GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER

Attractive SWF, 35, 5'4", black/brown, thin to medium build, seeks attractive, tall, physically fit SWM, 30-40, enjoys the arts, movies, bookstores, road trips, working out, outdoor activities. Friends first. LTR. ☎2052

TEACH ME SOMETHING NEW

Attractive SWF, 27, N/S, social drinker, a little hairy, enjoys travel, movies, theater, more, seeks attractive financially/emotionally secure SWM, 28-38, N/S, with similar interests. ☎1967

SWF - BUILT TO LAST

1963 limited edition, Shapely, sporty model, enjoys romantic, monogamous excursions, or kicking back in neutral. Truck contains: tennis racket, books, CDs, yoga mat. Seeking ambitious SWM, to co-pilot across life's roads. ☎1718

BEST FRIEND

Attractive, easygoing, slender SWF, 42, 5'7", 135lbs, seeks educated, secure, humorous WM, 38-45, N/S, for life's adventures. North Oakland county. ☎2594

LEGGY

Slender, and stylish blue-eyed, honey blonde, 40s, 5'8", active, independent, Birmingham resident, looks 30s, intelligent, confident, gentleman, 52-65, wanting someone for cozy dinner dates and with good conversation. ☎2320

LOOKING FOR MR. RIGHT

Engaging SWF, 31, 5'7", medium build, dark/hazel, never married, two daughters (4 and 9), Seeking clean SWM, 25-35, for friendship, possible more. Must enjoy being around children and animals. ☎2456

BEST FRIEND AND MORE

College-educated, financially secure SWFF, 32, 5'4", 115lbs, N/S, never married, no kids, seeks sincere, marriage-minded, intelligent, college-educated, financially/emotionally secure gentleman for serious LTR. N/S, no kids preferred. ☎2452

READ THIS AD

SWF, 32, 5'7", brown/brown, full-figured, likes movies, reading, dancing, birds and writing letters. Seeking a SWM, 32-44, under 5'10" and 250lbs. N/S. ☎2358

5'7" AND PRETTY

Pretty, fun-loving, easygoing, brown-haired, green-eyed girl, 34, medium build, full-figured, would like to start exercising, enjoys many things in life. Seeking attractive SWM, financially/emotionally secure, HW proportionate, Dexter Pinchney Area. ☎1711

DOWN-TO-EARTH

Attractive, fit, fun-loving, outgoing SWFF, 27, enjoys traveling, working out, movies, Red Wings, quiet nights, much more. Seeking confident, average/active SWPM, 25-35, with sense of humor. ☎2086

SLEEPLESS IN LIVONIA

DWF, 27, 5'3", fun-loving, caring, loves movies, dining, bowling, Red Wings. Seeking a fun-loving, caring gentleman, 24-33, for a relationship. ☎1709

ANSWER MY AD

You'll be glad you did. Looking for educated, fun-loving, happening, N/S gent, 53-68, for wonderful times together. I'm adventurous, attractive, worldly, considerate, fit, smart, sincere. Please call ☎2443

CLASSY LADY

Blonde-haired, blue-eyed, petite SWF, 43, honest, sincere, enjoys dancing, traveling, dining, walks, romantic evenings at home, seeks gentleman, 30-50. ☎2322

LITTLE RED

Spontaneous SF, 53', 130lbs, red/green, smoker, looking for honest relationship with SM who doesn't want to play games. Dark eyes and long hair's plus. ☎2323

COULD CONNECT...

with tall, HW proportionate, sincere, ethical, nice-looking guy, 47+, who has plenty dark-haired SWFF, 40ish, 5'4", 115lbs, with varied interests, great legs and good heart, would like to talk with you. ☎2271

LET'S START WITH COFFEE

Widowed WF, 60, 5'1", blonde/blue, N/S, social drinker, financially/emotionally secure, enjoys dining in/out, theater, golf, playing cards. Seeking honest man, 56-64, with good sense of humor, to share the golden years with. ☎2500

MAKE BEAUTIFUL MUSIC

DWF, 44, financially secure, professional musician, sexy, classy, blonde/blue, romantic. Seeking an outgoing, secure, college-educated S/DWM, 35-50, passion for life, for a possible LTR. ☎1660

HUGGABLE AND LOVABLE

Attractive SF, 44, 5'3", blonde/blue, medium build, with passion for life, seeks kind-hearted SWPM, 40-55, with good sense of humor, who is ready to enjoy life. ☎2412

VINTAGE WINE

Visionary dreamer, optimist, music is sweeter shared, slim, blue-eyed, blonde, with distinctive qualities, 5'7", educated, nifty 50s and financially secure. Seeking active, gentleman who is sweet and warm, 40-60, ☎2089

RN SEEKS HEALTHY RELATIONS

Classy, slender, youthful, playful, intelligent, professional SWF, 5'4", dark/brown, homeowner, no dependents, N/S, social drinker, seeks educated PM, 45+, emotionally/financially secure. Let's meet for coffee and see what happens. ☎1469

FIRST TIME AD

DWF, 39, 5'2", 105lbs, blonde/blue, mother of one, enjoys movies, dining in/out, loves to laugh. Seeking attractive, humorous, loving, honest DWM, 38-42, with children/full head of hair, friendship first. LTR. ☎1897

TEDDY BEAR WANTED

SWF, blonde/green, 5'8", medical professional, looking for teddy bear 45+ with good communication skills who is an athletic event watcher, enjoys winter sports. Good sense of humor a must. ☎1804

YOU'VE GOT MAIL

Chemistry-seeker, attractive, family-oriented, emotionally/financially secure, blonde SF, 40, 5'8", with traditional values, good moral, enjoys nights out, quiet evenings at home. Seeking SM for friendship, possible LTR. ☎2414

HELLO, FRIEND

I'm pretty, slender, tall, very intelligent, refined, fun, smoker, 52. Seeking intelligent, tall, articulate, classy, confident gentleman, 52-65, wanting someone for cozy dinner dates and with good conversation. ☎2320

BLUE-EYED BLONDE

Fun-loving DWF, 44, blonde/blue, curly size 14, enjoys movies, dining, dancing, music. Seeking DWM, 40-55, financially stable, with similar interest. Friendship first, possible LTR. ☎2267

BEAUTIFUL NATURE LOVER

SWF, 44, 5'7", 134lbs, studying alternative medicine, into self growth, woods walking, singing, natural health, laughing, speaking truth, I'm spunky, enjoy, loving. Seeking N/S, soul connection SWM, 38-48. ☎9723

BLUE-EYED BLONDE

Young, attractive WF, 50, 5'7", medium build, seeks down-to-earth, romantic, commitment-minded WM, 45-60, for LTR. ☎2444

WAITING FOR LIGHTNING...

to strike! An appealing DWF, 50ish, seeks a gentleman, 50-61, to enjoy dancing, dining out, casual, and a good friendship leading to possible relationship. ☎2445

DRAWN TO WIDOWERS

Real, pretty, smart, attractive female, 51, red/blue, educated, values family, honesty, morals, dignity. Interests: sports, dining, gardening, reading, walks. Seeking family-oriented male. ☎2446

DELIGHTFUL AND DOWN-TO-EARTH

Catholic SWF, 38, 5'7", brown/brown, smoker, social drinker, mother of three, enjoys camping, fireplaces, dancing and dining. Seeking a Catholic SWM, 38-46, with a love for family lifestyle and partnership. All calls answered. ☎2448

SINGLE WHITE MAN

Independent SWF, 38, 5'3", 115lbs, smoker, N/D, enjoys the simple life, rock music, comedy clubs, movies, fitness, outdoors, hunting, fishing. Seeking confident, emotionally/financially stable SWM, 38-45, N/D, for LTR. ☎1802

PROVERBS 3:15

41, 5'8", 135lbs, N/S, non-drinker, Christian, brunette, seeks company of quality gentleman for sharing and caring. Bloomfield area. ☎1719

GREAT PERSON/FUN

Black female a young 50, affectionate, employed, N/S, social drinker, wide variety of interests. Seeking mature male, who's fun and affectionate, 45-64, N/S, with no hang ups. ☎1720

PRETTY BROWN-EYED ITALIAN

Outgoing single, 38, brown/blue, blonde, likes movies, the arts, dancing, long walks, good conversation. Seeking handsome male, dark hair/brown, 35-45, who is romantic, sincere, honest, with a sense of humor. ☎1721

STARGAZER

Shapely WF, 48, brunette, no dependents, seeks intelligent, educated WM, who enjoys looking at the stars, escaping on weekends, and lively conversation. Friends first. Rochester area. ☎1772

HONOR AND CHERISH

Never married, attractive, tall, sensitive, committed, Chris art SWPM, enjoys hiking, travel, s-n-ing, adventure, fun. Seeking attractive, slender, committed, never married SWCF, 30-40, for friendship, dating, possible LTR. ☎2539

SEEKS CONFIDENT, SECURE MAN

Pretty, classy, slim, secure, open, hip gal, 5'7", no children, seeks SWPM, average/active, trustworthy, emotionally/financially stable, fun, hip guy, 48-52, 5'8"-5'11". No games. You won't be disappointed. ☎2457

ITALIAN PRINCESS

Fun-loving SWF, 32, 5'8", brown/amber, seeks romantic, energetic, athletic, professional man, 25-35, 5'10", for possible serious relationship. ☎2451

OUTGOING FEMALE

Sensitive, social, sincere, humorous, loving, positive, upbeat SWF, 46, medium height/weight, seeks same in man. Call soon. ☎2139

NORTH OAKLAND AREA

Caring, personable, blonde, widowed WF, 55, 5'8", sense of humor, nice smile, seeks SM. As for looks, trust your instincts. Call me. First time ad. ☎2595

ONE-OF-KIND

Employed, educated BF, 50, 5'8", 147lbs, no dependents, seeks mature male, 45-55, settled but fun to be with. Must be romantic. No baggage. No hang-ups. N/S mandatory. ☎1836

SEEKING SENSE OF HUMOR

DWF, 43, humorous, outgoing, active, seeks fit SWF, N/S, employed, who likes children, outdoors, sports, for a possible LTR. ☎1998

GOOD THINGS/ SMALL PACKAGES

Well-packaged emotionally, spiritually and intellectually, petite, charming, outgoing, N/S, passionate about life, likes the subtle to outrageous. Seeking a SM for a monogamous relationship. ☎1987

TALL, ATTRACTIVE

DBF, 39, 5'8", enjoys dancing, jazz, affection. Seeking 50ish, 40+, who wants to start dating the physical for LTR. Serious replies only please! ☎1995

52 YEAR-OLD PROFESSIONAL

Pretty, successful, humorous, charming, interesting, giving female, 52, enjoys movies, plays, concerts, fine dining, cooking, boating, loves people. Seeking active, seeks fit SWF, "mission, pleasure, travel, friends and fun". All replies answered. ☎2543

GENTLY USED

Blonde lady, late 50s, 5'3", 125lbs, enjoys life. Seeking gentleman in successful, since 40+, who is fun, fun to start. possible LTR. ☎1896

SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT

SF, 36, loves animals, gardening, special sports, laughing, seeks a SWF, 30-40, who can start. possible LTR. ☎1896

PASSION FOR LIFE

Classy, spirited, poised DWF, 59, 5'2", seeks man of integrity, 58-65, N/S, romantic and trim, to share interests which include dancing, traveling, movies, dining out. For friendship, leading to LTR. ☎1908

ARE YOU READY TO SOAR...

on eagles wings? Do you believe all things are possible including finding that special someone? If you dare to believe God call and let's fly together. Seeking SBGM, 40-60. ☎1099

COFFEE, TEA, OR ME?

Tall, attractive lady, HW proportionate, with great sense of humor and lots of TLC to share. Seeking tall, intelligent, romantic, quality male, 55+, with high standards, who enjoys various activities. ☎9726

FIRST TIME AD

Attractive widowed BF, 41, 5'7", N/S, enjoys movies, concerts, dining, travel. Seeking honest, dependable BCM, 40-49, for friendship. ☎1821

SINGLE WHITE MAN

Independent SWF, 38, 5'3", 115lbs, smoker, N/D, enjoys the simple life, rock music, comedy clubs, movies, fitness, outdoors, hunting, fishing. Seeking confident, emotionally/financially stable SWM, 38-45, N/D, for LTR. ☎1802

PEACEFUL WARRIOR

Handsome, rugged, athletic, financially secure, trustworthy, gay SWM, 38, 6'1", 220lbs, has Herpes (wants to be honest), seeks old-fashioned, attractive girl. Children ok. Let's talk. ☎2454

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Attractive SWM, 36, 6'1", 190lbs, blonde/blue, professional, outgoing, enjoys dining out, movies, seeks an attractive SWF for dating, friendship, possible LTR. Garden City. ☎1534

HAPPY-GO-LUCKY

Sensitive, honest, 35 year-old SWM, who's athletic and outgoing, likes all outdoor and indoor activities. Seeking S/DWF, who is also sensitive and honest, with similar qualities for LTR. No baggage. ☎2441

SUN AND SAND

Very fit, slim, affectionate SWM, 54, 5'10", light brown/green, N/S, social drinker, bodybuilder, seeks thin, pretty, feminine SWF, 40s to 50s, into exercising, the sun, and more. ☎2593

SOMEONE SPECIAL

SWM, 28, 5'11", 200lbs, dark blonde/blue, likes long walks, cuddling, with someone special. Seeking SWF, 23-30, who likes the same and more, for relationship. ☎2502

SINCERE, EASYGOING

Handsome, degreed, humorous, reliable SWM, 40, 5'8", seeks slim, attractive SWF who enjoys theater, foreign films, symphony, cultural events, week end getaways, dining out, long walks, opera, romance. ☎1710

VERY ATTRACTIVE

SWM, 28, 5'11", 175lbs, brown/blue, very outgoing, professionally employed, seeks attractive SWF, 18-35, HW proportionate. Must be outgoing and enjoy sports. ☎1904

HAPPY NEW YEAR WITH YOU

Fit, handsome, honest, open-minded SWM, 35, 5'11", seeks like-minded SF, race open. Respond to this ad and make both our days...or more! ☎2085

SINGLE IN DETROIT

Honest, down-to-earth SBM, mid-30s, would like to meet special SB, 25-35, for friendship, possible relationship. I like movies, concerts, special times together. ☎1286

NEW TO REDFORD

Tall, affectionate, attractive SWM, 28, 6'5", 240lbs, brown/blue, nice physique, enjoys working out, cooking, outdoors, sports, movies, music. Seeking SWF, 21-35, looks unimportant, for companionship and fun times together. ☎2296

VERY PERSISTENT

Attractive, intelligent, financially/emotionally secure SBM, 37, 6'2", 215lbs, seeks an attractive, emotionally secure, open-minded, and confident SWF, 25+, 5'8", for LTR. ☎2453

YOUR SILENT WILL...

start my days, and fill my nights. SWM, father of one, 175lbs, active in shape, 30ish, to share laughter with. Must be honest, warm-hearted, love children. Novi area. ☎1568

WANTED: BEST FRIEND

DWPM, 37, 6'10", 170lbs, enjoys outdoors, and billing active. Seeking, honest, very giving, sincere, active, romantic, intelligent, spontaneous, communicative, humorous. Seeking attractive, multidimensional, slender soulmate. ☎1717

LOOKING AT YOU

Very caring, attractive, outgoing, giving SWM, 46, with a variety of interests, loves to be romantic and cook. Seeking same in petite SWF for friendship, maybe more. ☎9935

TALL AND ATTRACTIVE

Humorous, attractive SWM, 37, 6'4", seeks attractive SWF, 27-40, who enjoys comedies, dancing

OBSERVER SPORTS SCENE

Fishing trivia contest

Fishing enthusiasts, take note. Here's a chance to prove your superior fishing knowledge and win tickets to the 11th annual Greater Detroit Sportfishing and Travel Expo.

We'll hold a fishing trivia contest each Thursday in the Observer & Eccentric through Feb. 25. Answer the weekly trivia question correctly and have a chance to win four tickets to the Sportfishing and Travel Expo, which will be March 4-7 at the Palace of Auburn Hills. One weekly winner will be randomly selected from all the correct answers we receive. All entries for this week's question must be postmarked by Monday, Feb. 1.

This week's question is:

The biggest freshwater fish in the Great Lakes is the lake sturgeon. What is the weight of the current state record for lake sturgeon?

Send in the correct answer to: Fishing Trivia Contest, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009.

Sixers succeed

It featured everything a championship game should. And in the end, it was the Sixers who emerged with the title in the 7th-8th grade division of the Plymouth-Canton Junior Basketball Association, narrowly defeating the Celtics 61-60 in a game played earlier this month.

Members of the Sixers are David Hoskins, Mike Dendrinos, Rick Hensel, Mike Jones, Mike Lanier, Brian Neher, Brandon Reeves, Mike Savoni, Eric Vanston and Pat Zeman-ski. The team is coached by George Dendrinos and Daryl Hoskins.

Regional standout

The all-Mideast Region NCAA Division I men's soccer team has been announced, and Drew Drummond, a junior at Eastern Michigan and a Plymouth Salem graduate, was selected to the third team.

A midfielder, Drummond was awarded all-region honors for the second time.

CCJBBA Connie Mack

The Canton Community Junior Baseball and Softball Association is forming a Connie Mack team to play in the Southeast Michigan high school league.

The team will be open to residents in the Plymouth and Canton communities who are freshmen, sophomores and juniors this year.

For more information call coaches Mike Diedrich at (734) 394-0454 or Rich Shook at (734) 455-1984.

St. Edith football

Any boys entering the fourth through eighth grades in the fall who are parish members of St. Edith, St. Collette, St. Aidan, St. Kenneth or St. Maurice are eligible to play for the Livonia St. Edith football team. Registration is at 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 7 at the St. Edith gymnasium, on Newburgh just south of Five Mile.

For more information call Bill Hamilton at (734) 462-3917 or Brad Dickey at (313) 240-6130.

Soccer ref classes

A new soccer referee training class will be conducted in the AutoNation USA Community Room, located at 39600 Ford in Canton, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Jan. 30, Feb. 6, Feb. 13 and Feb. 20. You must be at least 12 years old to sign up. Class size is limited.

To register, send your name, social security number and a check for \$43 made payable to the Michigan Referee Committee, to 9115 Muirland Dr., Plymouth, MI, 48170. For further information, call (734) 454-7335.

The Plymouth Soccer Club will sponsor a class for anyone (12 to adult) interested in becoming a soccer referee. The program will consist of four Saturday classes (attendance at all four is mandatory): Feb. 13, Feb. 20, Feb. 27 and March 13, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. each day. All classes will be in the card meeting room at the Plymouth Cultural Center.

To register, send your name, address, phone number, birth date, social security number and a check for \$43 made payable to the Michigan Referee Committee, Inc., to Brian LaMasse, 238 Coronation Court, Canton, MI, 48188. There are no residency requirements.

For more information, call Brian LaMasse at (734) 397-8325.

Salem a no-show at Observerland



Plymouth Salem, the defending champion of the Observerland Tournament, won't repeat that feat. The reason: The Rocks committed to wrestling at a different tournament. That makes Catholic Central the odds-on favorite.

BY STEVE KOWALSKI
STAFF WRITER
skowalski@oe.homecomm.net

Farmington High wrestling coach Al Beyar isn't sure where his team will finish at Saturday's Observerland Meet, but he's sure of one thing.

When the action starts at 9 a.m. Saturday at Livonia Churchill, the Falcons will have the upper hand on at least one of the annual contenders.

"Plymouth Salem: We'll finish ahead

of them won't we?" Beyar said.

In any other year that's a bold prediction for the Falcons, who haven't placed first since winning the inaugural Observerland Meet in 1992 and have rarely finished ahead of the Rocks since.

But this year is different.

Salem, the defending Observerland champion, isn't participating because of a previous commitment to the Holt Tournament.

The two tournaments fall on the

same day for the first time since Salem coach Ron Krueger can remember. He picked Holt over the Observerland because he committed to Holt last spring.

"It's kind of a reciprocal thing," Krueger said. "They come to two of our tournaments every year and we go to theirs. All of a sudden they collided. If the same thing happens next year we'll explain to them 'Hey, we can't come back.'"

"We would rather be at Observerland this week, believe me. The last few years we didn't know if (the Observerland) would run or not. But we made a commitment at the end of last school year (with Holt) and had to stick with

Please see OBSERVERLAND, C4

What: Observerland Wrestling Meet

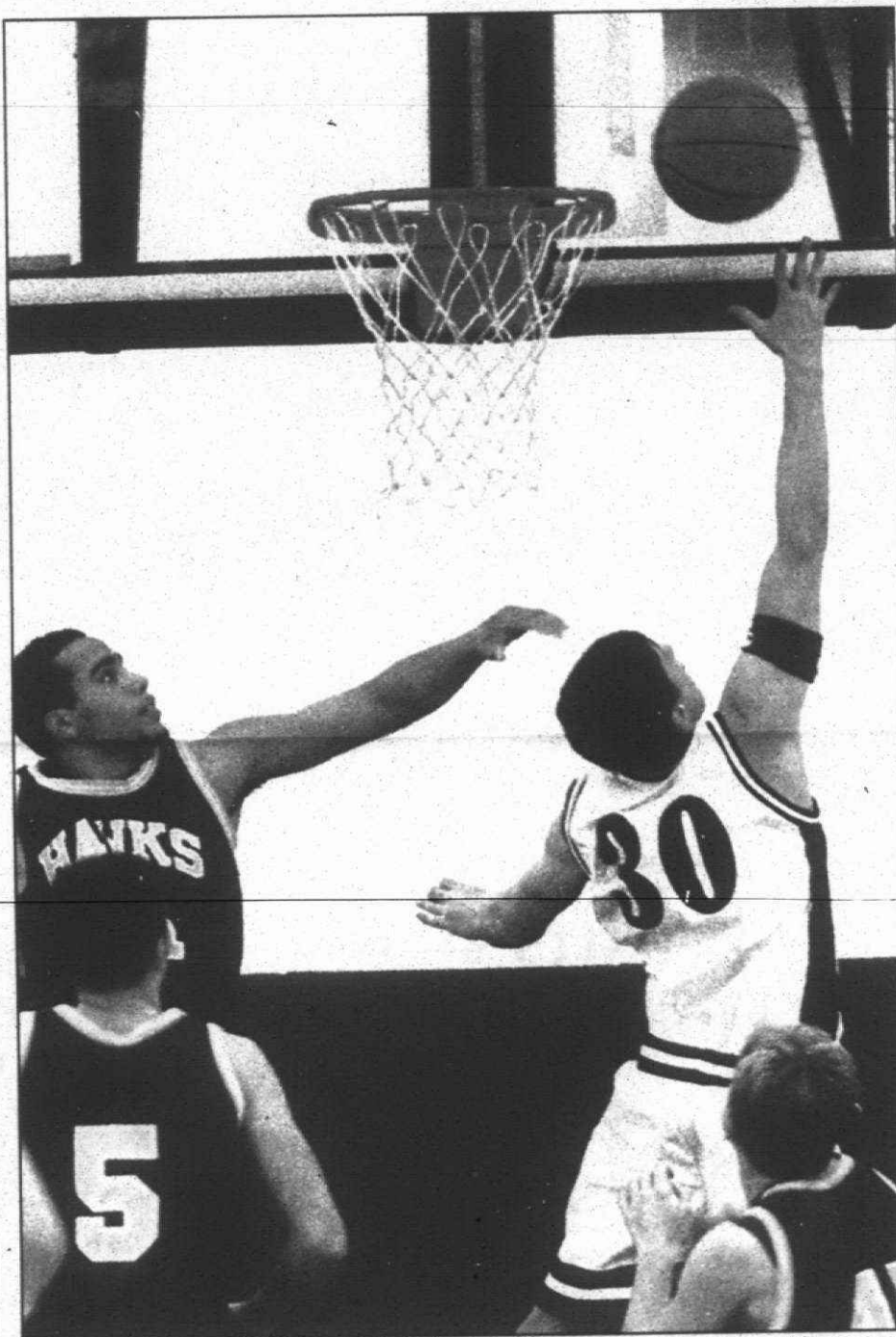
When: 9 a.m. Saturday (finals start at 6 p.m.)

Where: Livonia Churchill

Who: Livonia Stevenson, Livonia Churchill, Livonia Franklin, Livonia Clarenceville, Redford Thurston, Redford Union, Redford Catholic Central, Garden City, Farmington, Farmington Hills Harrison, North Farmington, Wayne Memorial, Westland John Glenn, Lutheran Westland, Plymouth Canton.

Defending champion: Plymouth Salem (not participating)

Admission: \$5 for adults, \$4 for students.



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURSCHEMANN

Up and in: Salem's Mike Korduba evades Harrison defenders to put a shot in off the glass. Korduba finished with six points as the Rocks pulled away from a halftime tie to win easily.

Rocks roll in 2nd half

BY RICHARD L. SHOOK
STAFF WRITER

Remember your Christmas tree lights? One goes out, you plug another in and they keep on blinking.

That's the Plymouth Salem boys basketball team.

From one season to the next and one quarter to the next. Stick a new kid in there and the system keeps right on working.

Plymouth Salem ran away from Farmington Hills Harrison, 63-47, in the second half Tuesday night to remain undefeated in 10 games this season. The Rocks are 4-0 in the Western Lakes Activities Association.

Eight Rocks scored in the game, half in double figures. Ten Hawks scored but only two were in double figures. Harrison is now 5-4 overall and 2-4 in the WLAA.

"They play that winning brand of basketball," Coach Mike Teachman of Harrison said. "And when the other team makes a mistake, they scarf it up."

"We're sputtering a bit once in a while," said Coach Bob Brodie of Salem, whose team was tied at the half, 23-23. "Harrison took us out of our offense early. They are a tough, physical team."

Salem came out in the second half and got the ball down low to center Tony Jancevski for a turnaround baseliner and a layup (off a nice feed by Adam Wilson) on the first two possessions to take a 27-23 lead.

Wilson knocked down a triple from the left wing and Harrison called timeout. The Hawks recovered with a Lemar Wilson

layup but the Rocks ran off the next nine in a row for a 41-25 lead.

Aaron Rypkowski hit a three, Wilson got a layup off a steal, Rob Jones made a layup off a turnover and Rypkowski sank two free throws.

"That third quarter spurt helped," Brodie said. "Our seniors stepped out. We played well on both ends of the floor. But Harrison fought back and made a run."

The Hawks scored 12 unanswered points and the third quarter ended on a Jones bucket with one second left that made it 43-37. Harrison cut the deficit to 47-43 with 5:57 left but a Rypkowski three-point play put the fire out.

"The did their stuff well," Teachman said. "We tend to do stuff that has proven not to be successful. Jump shot, jump shot, weak pass. You can't shoot jumpers all the time like that."

"We were hurrying everything we were doing. Then they went to a zone, packed it in, and beat us. We made way too many unforced errors."

Andrew Burt and Joe Hundley led Harrison with 10 points apiece but the next highest scorer was at six.

"Joe was a bright spot for us," Teachman said. "He came to play."

Wilson led Salem with 13 points, Jancevski and Rypkowski scored 12 apiece and Jones netted 11.

"We tend to become a spectator team, stand around and watch the guard," Teachman said. "Then when they went into their zone, we really stood

Please see SALEM HOOP, C3

COLLEGE HOOPS

Comeback lifts Ocelots to win over Wildcats

BY C.J. RISAK
STAFF WRITER
cjrisk@oe.homecomm.net

The game was over, and all that was left for the audience to offer was stunned silence and a few disbelieving smirks. The final outcome, after all, was completely improbable.

Or was it? As Schoolcraft College athletic director Ed Kavanaugh said moments after the Ocelots' comeback behind 78-76 men's basketball victory over Wayne County Community College Monday, "Never a doubt."

Kavanaugh was kidding. Everyone who witnessed the game doubted SC could stretch its win streak to 16-straight. After all, how many times can a team pull off something like this?

The answer for the Ocelots is

Please see COLLEGE, C5



C.J. RISAK

nothing unusual.

Last year was unusual.

A new coach was brought in: former SC standout and NJCAA All-American Carlos Briggs. The task confronting Briggs was enormous. The hopes for success — marginal, at best.

Imagine the surprise when the Ocelots went 24-7, finishing second in the Eastern Conference.

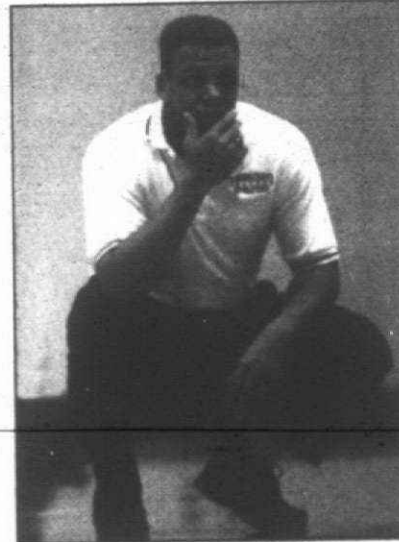
So was it just a blip in SC's long-standing history of failure? Was Briggs the real deal — or just lucky?

Those questions aren't being asked any longer. This season's 16-0 start has provided the answer.

How can this be? How can a team that languished for so many years in winless obscurity suddenly become a

What a turnaround!

SC cagers succeeding on and off the court



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURSCHEMANN

Quite a start: In his 18 months at SC, Carlos Briggs has posted a 40-7 record.

powerhouse, good enough to be ranked 13th in the NJCAA?

Briggs has answers to these ques-

tions. In fact, he's been studying the Coaches' Quotebook fervently, or so it would appear; he has all the proper replies, giving credit to everyone from administration officials like athletic director Ed Kavanaugh to trainer Kim Kotlewski.

It's all necessary, of course, if a coach wants to build a strong program. Briggs has followed the proper procedure in dishing out the praise. But don't misconstrue such actions — such accolades are not just for show. Others do deserve recognition.

They may not be responsible for what the players do on the court, but they play key roles in keeping them there.

Check this out: Not a single SC player was lost to academics at the January semester break. And although the 40 wins Briggs has posted in a season-and-a-half is impressive, keeping everyone eligible is even more amazing.

Remember: In the past decade, if the Ocelots lost two or three guys to grades at the break, it was actually a good year.

Now, such numbers are unacceptable.

Please see RISAK, C5

Whalers win 2 more on road



It was a weekend like any other for the Plymouth Whalers — two more road games, two more wins. The Whalers have played 26 of 46 games on the road thus far this season, and have fared well. Wins at Erie Friday and Saturday gave Plymouth the points lead in the Ontario Hockey League, with 75; Ottawa and Barrie both have better winning percentages, but have played fewer games.

Solid defensive play and an offense that features too many weapons for opponents to handle were both evident in the sweep of the Otters. In Friday's 5-3 victory, the Whalers spotted Erie second-period leads of 1-0 and 2-1 before taking command.

David Legwand played a pivotal role in the comeback, scoring two goals (giving him 24 for the season) and assisting on another. Jason Ward was another major factor; he scored the go-ahead goal 3:45 into the third period, then got an empty-netter to insure the victory with 30 seconds remaining. Ward also assisted on Legwand's first goal.

Goals by Eric Gooldy (his 15th), who had an assist as well, and Legwand's second of the game gave Plymouth a 3-2 lead going into the third period. Erie's Tyler Renette tied it 3:11 into the final period, but 34 seconds later Ward put Plymouth ahead to stay.

Rob Zepp turned away 27 Otter shots before giving way to Robert Holsinger (one goal allowed, nine saves) late in the second period. Corey Batten made 24 saves for Erie.

Saturday's rematch was close for only one period. Harold Druken's 43rd goal of the season just 3:07 into the game put Plymouth up 1-0; the Otters' Tim Connolly, however, tied it at 7:14 of the period with his 26th goal of the year.

Adam Colagiacomo then took command, scoring the go-ahead goal on a power play at 6:18 of the second period, then adding a second power-play goal at 2:28 of the third, giving him 27 for the season. He also assisted on Druken's goal. Druken assisted on Colagiacomo's first score.

Inbetween Colagiacomo's goals, Ward scored his 12th of the season, a short-handed marker at 13:33 of the second period.

Holsinger had 36 saves in earning the victory for Plymouth. Batten started for Erie and made 17 stops, allowing three goals, before being replaced midway through the second period by J.F. Ferras.

The two wins pushed the Whalers' record to 36-8-3 (75 points). Erie is 18-22-3 (39 points).

Shounieya leads Ambassadors

John Shounieya helped the Compuware Ambassadors win twice to maintain their lead in the North American Hockey League, and in so doing he earned NAHL player of the week honors.

Shounieya, from Bloomfield Hills, scored one goal and assisted on two others in the Ambassadors' 6-1 win over Danville last Friday at Compuware. At Cleveland Sunday, Shounieya added a goal and earned his first career win in an 8-2 victory. Shounieya's seven-point weekend gave him 19 goals and 39 assists for an NAHL-best 58 points.

Shounieya, who will attend the University of Michigan next fall, will play in the CCM/NAHL All-Star Game Feb. 6 in Grand Rapids.

Team	W	L	T	Pts.
East Division				
Ottawa 67's	35	6	3	73
Peterborough Petes	28	17	1	57
Belleville Bulls	24	17	6	54
Oshawa Generals	24	18	3	51
Kingston Frontenacs	14	30	2	30
Central Division				
Barrie Colts	34	7	4	72
North Bay Centennials	19	24	5	43
Sudbury Wolves	16	23	7	39
Toronto St. M. Majors	14	25	5	33
Miss. Ice Dogs	1	42	3	5
West Division				
Plymouth Whalers	36	8	3	75
Sarnia Sting	25	14	5	55
SSM Greyhounds	23	17	4	50
Erie Otters	20	25	2	42
Windsor Spitfires	13	28	5	31
Midwest Division				
Guelph Storm	29	15	2	60
Owen Sound Platers	26	17	5	57
Kitchener Rangers	18	27	3	39
Brantford Battalion	5	38	3	13

BEST BOYS SWIM TIMES

Following is a list of boys' Observant best swim times and diving scores. Coaches can report updates to Dan O'Meara by faxing information to (734) 591-7279 or calling (734) 953-2141.

200-YARD MEDLEY RELAY (state cut: 1:42.99)	James McPartlin (John Glenn) 2:07.36 Paul Perez (Salem) 2:09.59 Brett Maconis (Redford CC) 2:11.34 Mike Nemer (Stevenson) 2:11.54 Aaron Shepp (Salem) 2:12.05 Mike Maki (Stevenson) 2:12.11 Jim Gabriel (N. Farmington) 2:12.20 Brad Nilson (Canton) 2:12.80
50 FREESTYLE (state cut: 22.59)	Andrew Locke (Salem) 22.35 Matt Zaid (N. Farmington) 22.52 Keith Falk (Stevenson) 22.80 Joe Bubitz (Stevenson) 22.88 Kurtis Hornick (Canton) 23.00 James McPartlin (John Glenn) 23.00 Don LeClair (Canton) 23.09 Ryan Meekins (Redford CC) 23.38 Bill Randall (Churchill) 23.55 Chris Supplee (Franklin) 23.62
100 FREESTYLE (state cut: 1:49.39)	Keith Falk (Stevenson) 1:45.36 Ryan Meekins (Redford CC) 1:48.51 Joe Bubitz (Stevenson) 1:50.61 Don LeClair (Canton) 1:53.11 James McPartlin (John Glenn) 1:53.13 Kurtis Hornick (Canton) 1:53.30 Bill Randall (Churchill) 1:53.94 Brian Mertens (Salem) 1:54.89 Bryant Steele (Redford CC) 1:56.41 Justin Ketterer (Stevenson) 1:56.78
200 INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY (state cut: 2:03.99)	Keith Falk (Stevenson) 2:00.50 Joe Bubitz (Stevenson) 2:00.95

200 FREESTYLE RELAY (state cut: 1:31.99)	Jared Goldman (N. Farmington) 1:51.15 Jason Zykowski (Stevenson) 1:45.05 Plymouth Canton 1:32.80 Plymouth Canton 1:33.38 Livonia Stevenson 1:34.68 Redford Catholic Central 1:35.35 North Farmington 1:37.35
100 BUTTERFLY (state cut: 55.59)	James McPartlin (John Glenn) 54.55 Keith Falk (Stevenson) 54.99 Joe Bubitz (Stevenson) 55.51 Brett Maconis (Redford CC) 56.39 Paul Perez (Salem) 57.34 Kurtis Hornick (Canton) 57.45 Adam Farber (N. Farmington) 58.89 Mark Wachsberg (N. Farmington) 59.39 Josh Morgan (Garden City) 59.88 Bryant Steele (Redford CC) 1:00.71
100 BACKSTROKE (state cut: 56.39)	Joe Bubitz (Stevenson) 55.66 Jim Gabriel (N. Farmington) 57.95 Aaron Reeder (Canton) 58.06 James McPartlin (John Glenn) 58.42 Devlin Hopper (Farmington) 59.24 Matt Cassilas (Salem) 59.46 Justin Allen (Canton) 1:00.06 Adam Chasson (Wayne) 1:00.84 Brad Nilson (Canton) 1:01.36 Eric Lynn (Salem) 1:01.49
100 BREASTSTROKE (state cut: 1:03.19)	Adam Farber (N. Farmington) 1:03.71 Keith Falk (Stevenson) 1:03.76 Kevin VanTien (Stevenson) 1:06.14 Mike Nemer (Stevenson) 1:06.15 Josh Markou (Redford CC) 1:06.70 Aaron Shepp (Salem) 1:07.90 Sunny Webber (Wayne) 1:08.52 Jon Heiss (Canton) 1:08.90 Mike McCowan (Stevenson) 1:09.29 Jon Zaid (N. Farmington) 1:09.42
400 FREESTYLE RELAY (state cut: 3:23.05)	North Farmington 3:26.08 Livonia Stevenson 3:28.56 Plymouth Canton 3:32.75 Redford Catholic Central 3:33.49 Plymouth Canton 3:34.03

No new league planned

BASEBALL

The Plymouth Canton Baseball Federation has announced it will not begin operations and will join the Canton Community Junior Baseball and Softball Association this season.

"This is what we've been working for," CCJBSA President Harry Hill said. "This will benefit all the youngsters of the Plymouth and Canton communities."

As a result, the CCJBSA will conduct registration from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday in the Canton High School Cafeteria. The league, which will hold a second registration Feb. 13 at the same time and place, is also taking applications by mail.

League officials will be on hand to answer questions. A speedier sign-up is anticipated because the league is instituting a new system with more cashiers.

The rebel league complained of shortening game times, umpiring concerns and fundraising.

"We always address league problems between seasons and this winter is no different," Hill said. "We'll continue to serve our constituent communities as we have since 1969."

The CCJBSA hopes to announce the names of two umpires-in-chief in the near future. Game times have always

been subject to field and umpire availability.

The addition of the Canton Softball Center will give the league some 60-72 game dates. The CCJBSA is going to wait until registration is over to determine what realignment is needed.

The CCJBSA offers fund-raising on an optional basis, with proceeds budgeted for field improvement.

Boys and girls ages 7-18 (19 if still in high school) can sign up to play baseball and softball. Birth certificates are needed for first-time players.

Fees are \$75 for boys and girls ages 7-8; \$85 for girls 9-18; \$85 for boys 9-10; \$95 for boys 11-18 (19 if still in high school). There is a family limit of \$225 for non-travel players.

Those in the girls fast-pitch leagues and boys travel programs must sign up in person. Travel program fees are \$200 for girls 10-12, \$325 for girls 13-18 and \$325 for boys 11-18.

Those seeking information about girls programs should call Ray Barnes at 981-5170; boys programs call Rich Shook at 455-1984.

Chiefs collect 3rd straight

So far, so good.

Plymouth Canton opened its Western Lakes Activities Association basketball season with a lopsided loss at North Farmington. Since then, however, it's been all uphill for the Chiefs.

On Tuesday, they overcame a five-point deficit in the final four minutes with a 15-0 run to roll past host Farmington, 43-32.

The win was their third straight in league play, evening their overall record at 5-5 and making them 3-1 in the WLAA. Farmington fell to 3-6 overall, 0-3 in the conference.

"It was a hard-fought game," said Canton coach Dan Young. "We hung in there and made the plays when we had to. It was a nice win, a road win."

The Chiefs trailed 32-28 with less than four minutes left when they got it turned around. Joe Cortellini, who led them with 16 points, started it by nailing one of his four three-pointers in the game to trim the deficit to one.

The Canton defense took over after that. Jimmy Reddy got a steal, drove to the basket and was fouled, he hit both free throws to put the Chiefs ahead by a point.

Mike Major followed that with another steal and a basket. Major and Dan McLean made certain the Chiefs stayed in front, each going 4-for-4 from the line in the closing minutes. Canton was 10-for-10 at the stripe in the last quarter.

Jason Waidmann added 10 points for the Chiefs; Major had eight. Matt Mikel's 10 points topped the Falcons; Chad Seaborn

BASKETBALL

contributed nine.

Despite the league win streak — Canton also topped Westland John Glenn and Farmington Harrison — Young remained cautious with his optimism. "It's still early," he insisted. "We've still got a lot of work left to do."

PCA 57, Rooper 55 (OT): Maybe after Friday's lopsided, emotional win over Allen Park Inter-City Baptist Plymouth Christian Academy thought the road would be downhill in the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference.

Wrong. On Tuesday at Bloomfield Hills Rooper, the Eagles found themselves in a heckuva fight. It took strong play from Derric Isensee and Jordan Reese, timely scoring from Mike Huntsman, and a free throw from Evan Gaines to keep PCA unbeaten in the MIAC. The Eagles improved to 10-1 overall, 4-0 in the league. Rooper fell to 2-2 in the MIAC. "We didn't play poorly," said PCA coach Doug Taylor. "But I think there was a bit of a letdown after that big win last Friday."

Isensee was one of them. With 14 seconds left in regulation, he drove down the lane, then dished off to an unguarded Huntsman for the tying basket. In overtime, the game was tied at 55-all when Gaines stepped to the free-throw line.

Salem hoop from page C1

around. "They're not an impressive team physically. They're just impressive basketballly."

Salem plays octopus defense — like each player has eight hands and knows how to use them — and that kept Harrison from getting more than one shot at the basket per trip for most of the game.

Jancevski made a variety of shots from down low and up near the free throw line. Mike Korduba had six points and played a nice baseline game. Wilson made a pair of threes and distributed the ball well.

"I don't want a one-player or a two-player team," Brodie said. "If you're going to be a good team, all 12 guys have to contribute the best they can."

The Hawks played good defense and showed patience on offense for most of the game. Just not quite enough.

The Rocks just kept plugging new parts into the machine. And it kept running.

Northville 72, Stevenson 52: The Mustangs outscored the Spartans in every quarter to capture the WLAA contest.

It was 13-8 after one period, 31-21 at the half and 51-37 after three quarters.

Guard Brett Allen paced visiting Northville with 18 points while Travis Bliss and Marshall Knapp each hit 12. The bigger Mustangs went 18-for-26 from the free throw line. Stevenson hit 17-of-30 free throws. The Spartans were led

by Keshay McChristian, who had 14 points.

Stevenson (4-5) is now 1-3 in the WLAA while Northville (4-6) improved to 3-1.

N. Farmington 74, Franklin 20: In a WLAA game Tuesday, host North Farmington (8-1, 4-0) roared out to a 42-14 halftime lead and coasted past winless Livonia Franklin (0-9, 0-4).

Emir Medunjanin, a 6-6 junior, led the victorious Raiders with 20 points and 10 rebounds. Phil Wartha, a 6-foot junior guard, added 19 points and eight rebounds.

Brian Shulman, a 5-11 junior guard, contributed 11 points and five assists. Joe Ruggiero and Dustin Kuras each scored seven points for the Pats.

Shorthanded Rocks knock off John Glenn

VOLLEYBALL

Four players were out of the lineup for Plymouth Salem's volleyball team when it traveled to Westland John Glenn for a Western Lakes Activities Association match Monday, but it hardly made a difference.

Even with all the injuries and illnesses, the Rocks still romped past Glenn, 15-1, 15-1.

"John Glenn really didn't play that well," said Salem coach Tom Teeters. "But we did."

The win improved Salem's record to 22-5 overall, 2-1 in the WLAA. The Rocks fell to 3-9-3 overall, 0-2 in the WLAA.

Jill Dombrowski filled in for injured setter Laine Sterling (broken finger) and performed admirably, according to Teeters, collecting 14 assists to kills. "She did a great job," he said.

Everyone got into the act for the Rocks. Angie Stillman's seven kills led the team; Andrea Pruet added five, Amanda Suder had four, and Sara Jensen and Denise

Phillips had three apiece.

Erica Stein paced the defense with seven digs; Liz Giszicki added four. Aleksha Marquez was the top server with four aces.

The Rocks are idle this weekend, a break that comes at an opportune time, with their abundance of injuries and illnesses. They return to action Monday at Livonia Churchill.

PCA falls

Southfield Christian had a bit too much for Plymouth Christian Academy to overcome in a Michigan Independent Athletic Conference match Tuesday at PCA.

The loss left PCA at 4-6-1 overall, 1-2 in the MIAC.

Jenny Sutherland led the attack with six kills; she also had three blocks. Melissa Sawthrop collected 16 digs.

PCA hosts Bloomfield Hills Rooper at 7 p.m. tonight.

THE WEEK AHEAD

BOYS BASKETBALL Thursday, Jan. 28 Garden City at Lincoln Park, 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 29 Canton Agape at Westside, 6:30 p.m. Luth. W. at Luth. N. West, 7 p.m. Churchill at Harrison, 7 p.m. Canton at Franklin, 7 p.m. Stevenson at John Glenn, 7 p.m. Farmington at Salem, 7 p.m. W.L. Central at N. Farm., 7 p.m. Thurston at Melvindale, 7 p.m. Redford Union at Southgate, 7 p.m. Romulus at Wayne, 7 p.m. Borgess at Redford CC, 7:30 p.m. Livonia at St. Agatha, 7:30 p.m. Oakland Christian at PCA, 7:30 p.m. Huron Valley vs. Macomb Christian at Marshall Middle School, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 30 Harrison vs. Forest Hills Central at G.R. Van Andel Arena, 11:30 a.m.	MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL Saturday, Jan. 30 Aquinas at Madonna, 3 p.m. Macomb at Schoolcraft, 3 p.m. Oakland CC vs. Delta CC at Highland Lakes, 4 p.m. WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL Saturday, Jan. 30 Madonna at Aquinas, 1 p.m. Macomb at Schoolcraft, 1 p.m. Alpena at O.C.C. High Lakes, 2 p.m. ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE Friday, Jan. 29 Ply. Whalers vs. Ottawa at Compuware Arena, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 30 Ply. Whalers vs. S.S. Marie at Compuware Arena, 7:30 p.m. PREP HOCKEY Thursday, Jan. 28 Franklin vs. Stevenson at Edger Arena, 7 p.m. Redford Unified vs. Portage Ho.
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at Redford Ice Arena, 7:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 29 Stevenson vs. Farm. Unified at Edger Arena, 6 p.m. Redford Unified vs. W.L. Central at Lakeland Arena, 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 30 Franklin vs. W.L. Western at Lakeland Arena, 5:20 p.m. Redford CC vs. G.P. South at Redford Ice Arena, 8 p.m. GIRLS VOLLEYBALL Thursday, Jan. 28 Rooper at Ply. Christian, 7 p.m. Huron Valley at Franklin Rd., 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 29 Agape at Franklin Road, 5 p.m. Clarenceville at Liggitt, 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 30 Romulus Invitational, 8:30 a.m. U.M. Dearborn Tournament, 9 a.m. E. Kentwood Invitational, TBA. TBA — time to be announced.

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Wednesday, March 24, 1999
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Observer & Eccentric and HomeTown Newspapers Job Fair, September 1998

★ "Great Job! Well organized!"—Kohl's Department Store

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★ "Very organized and professional!"—Parisian Department Store

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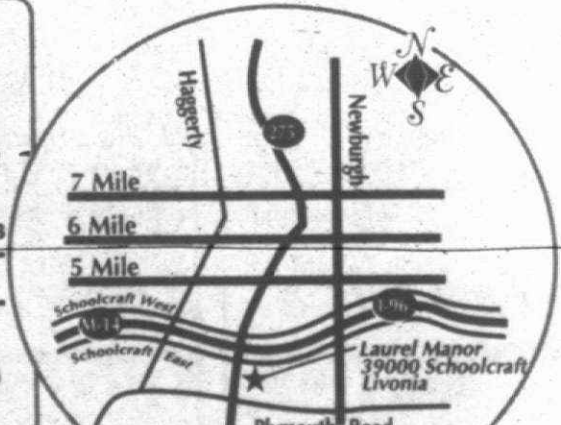
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HOME SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
SUN., FEB. 7	INDIANA	1:00PM	SUN. MAR. 21	UTAH	TBA
MON., FEB. 8	WASHINGTON	7:30PM	FRI., MAR. 26	MILWAUKEE	8:00PM
THUR., FEB. 11	ORLANDO	7:30PM	SUN. MAR. 28	SEATTLE	12:30PM
WED., FEB. 17	MIAMI	7:30PM	THUR., APR. 1	CHICAGO	7:30PM
TUE., FEB. 23	TORONTO	7:30PM	SAT., APR. 3	ORLANDO	7:30PM
WED., FEB. 24	CLEVELAND	7:30PM	BAD BOYS REUNION GAME		
FRI., FEB. 26	MIAMI	8:00PM	MON., APR. 5	INDIANA	8:00PM
SUN., FEB. 28	NEW YORK	TBA	WED., APR. 7	ATLANTA	7:30PM
MON., MAR. 8	WASHINGTON	8:00PM	MON., APR. 12	CHARLOTTE	7:30PM
FRI., MAR. 12	BOSTON				

CC aims for 3rd Observer title

If Redford Catholic Central can uphold its favored status and win Saturday's Observerland Meet, it will tie Livonia Stevenson for most championships: three.

Stevenson won in 1994, '95 and '97. CC won in '93 and '96. Farmington won the first Observerland Meet and Plymouth Salem took first place last year.

Depending on how the draw goes, there's an intriguing possible matchup in the heavyweight division between CC's Casey Rogowski and Redford

MAT NOTES

Thurston's Scott Genord.

The two are also top college football prospects as linebackers. Genord has already committed to Indiana University and Rogowski is headed to Central Michigan University.

The Observerland Meet was formed this decade in part to make it easier to pick members of the All-Area team at the end of the year.

With Plymouth Salem choosing to compete at the Holt Tour-

namment, held at the same time Saturday, some wonder if the Rocks' absence could make it tougher to pick this year's team.

Salem coach Ron Krueger hopes that's not the case. "Enough teams see each other, and we usually go by how kids finish in the state (meet) anyway," Krueger said. "I don't see it as a big problem, I hope."

The Observerland Meet was held at Garden City its first five months before being moved to Plymouth Salem in 1997 and Westland John Glenn last year.

Livonia Churchill is the third

site in three years and that's just the way it should be, according to Stevenson coach Don Berg.

The 1997 tourney was almost called off before Salem volunteered to host at the last minute. "It's unfortunate this tournament has had trouble finding a home some years," said Berg, whose gym is too small to host. "I think this tournament should have different sites, that's what makes it a true Observerland Tournament. It's a chore, but I think everybody ought to share that. The kids look forward to it."

Observerland from page C1

due to Clarenceville. They're tough in the upper weights. Clarenceville is hoping for its best finish ever and it's lineup is led by 189-pounder Walter Ragland, a senior, who hopes to get another shot at Livonia Franklin's Steve Myslinski, the likely No. 1 seed. They've split their two matches this year.

The Shamrocks have three state-champion caliber wrestlers in their lineup, led by defending Division I heavyweight champion Casey Rogowski, who hasn't lost a match since the 1996-97 season.

The Shamrocks also have the top-seeded wrestler in Observerland at 152 pounds, junior Mitch Hancock, and the top 215-pounder, senior Broc Naysmith. Naysmith's only loss in 23 matches is to a state-title contender Mike McGain of Clarkston. Hancock is 18-3 and Rogowski 24-0 with 22 pins.

Chris O'Hara (103), Sean Bell (140) and Ryan Zajdel (145) also figure to move through the bracket.

Teams can't judge the Shamrocks by their dual-meet record, which this year is 10-9 overall, because it's come against some stiff competition.

"We get ripped always during the season and about this time of year our kids always start coming around," said CC coach Mike Rodriguez, whose team was second last year. "I think we have an excellent chance."

Stevenson should be well represented in the lower weights, led by the area's top 103-pounder, senior Joe Moreau, with a 30-2 record.

Sophomore Imad Kharbush, with a 23-9 record, is the area's top-rated 135-pounder, and senior Dustin Obeid, at 19-7, is the No. 1 rated 125-pounder.

The lineup also includes senior Brian Barker, who is 19-4 and a semifinalist at the CC Invitational at 160, junior Mike Falzon, 21-10 at 135 and 140, and junior Josh Gunterman, 15-9 at 112.

"We've been very fortunate at the smaller weights," Stevenson coach Don Berg said. "We're going to give a run at it. Without Salem there, CC probably has the most experienced wrestlers. No one is going to touch the heavyweight (Rogowski), and Mitch at 152, I don't know if anyone will touch him either."

"And you have to give their referees calling a good game. Only three penalties were called. "We should send a tape to every official in the state and the same can be said for the Trenton game," St. John said. "Both games had absolutely outstanding officials."

Sophomore forward Rick Buttery's persistence in front of the Kentwood net led to the winning goal, assisted by Pat O'Dea and Ryan Yost with 2:36 left. An insurance goal by Brandon Kaleniecki, his second of the game, assisted by Todd Bentley and Keith Rowe, came with less than a minute left.

Kaleniecki opened the scoring for the Shamrocks with a goal at 2:37 of the second period, assisted by Holland and Rowe. The Shamrocks' second goal came by O'Dea, assisted by Joe Hillebrand and Buttery, at 11:39 of the second period.

St. John said the game was a virtual carbon copy of the Trenton game in terms of the

learning to play hockey in the defensive zone. So many forwards are great once they're north of the blue line, not very many know how to play effective defense. He's one of our very best forwards in the defensive zone."

Also earning praise from St. John was seldom-used sophomore goaltender Andy McCoy, who entered in the first period with junior Ben Dunne going to the bench with a stomach ache after making nine saves.

East Kentwood led 1-0 after one period and added another goal in the second period, which ended in a 2-2 tie.

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Ocelots stay perfect in league play; Crusaders tumble

Forget all the chill, snow and freezing rain — Schoolcraft's women's basketball team is hot.

The Ocelots took a 10-game winning streak into their Wednesday showdown for first place in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association's Eastern Conference at C.S. Mott in Flint.

Schoolcraft drilled Wayne County Community College, 85-55, Monday night to improve to 6-0 in the league after its 10th win in a row overall. The Ocelots are 14-3 overall and are ranked fourth in the NJCAA's Division II.

Schoolcraft took a 47-29 halftime lead

WOMEN'S HOOP

and maintained it the rest of the way. Samantha Theisen led the way with 19 points for the Ocelots; she also had six steals and five assists. Esther Ross scored 18 points and had five assists.

Stacy Carvin contributed 14 points and 13 rebounds with Jackie Kocis netting 12 points to go with 11 rebounds.

Joanna Menzie paced Wayne with 20 points. Wayne is now 1-6 in the Eastern Conference, 3-12 this season.

Last Saturday, the Lady Ocelots pulled away from a 43-41 halftime lead against visiting Alpena CC to post an 82-71 victory.

Kocis led SC with 18 points. Theisen added 17, Belinda Reid had 12 and Carvin scored 11.

The loss left Alpena with a 9-7 overall record, 4-3 in the conference.

Spring Arbor 86, Madonna 75: A hot-shooting Lady Crusader team stayed even with one of the NAIA's top squads through the opening half, but point pro-

duction and defense both sagged in the second as visiting Spring Arbor pulled away for the win.

Madonna slipped to 12-9 overall, 1-5 in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference. The Cougars are 18-2 overall, 5-0 in the WHAC.

The Crusaders led 39-38 at halftime, thanks to 15-of-24 (62.5 percent) shooting from the field. But Spring Arbor outscored them 48-36 in the second half to win going away.

Kathy Pangasinan paced the Madonna effort with 21 points, 10 rebounds and three steals; Lori Enfield added 14

points, Carissa Gizicki had 12 points and 10 assists, and Chris Dietrich contributed 10 points and three steals. However, the backcourt of Dietrich and Katie Cushman combined for just 10 points on 5-of-17 shooting, with four assists and 10 turnovers.

Spring Arbor was led by Courtney Thompson with 23 points and eight rebounds; Andrea VanderHorst with 20 points and five assists; Kristin Dankert with 15 points and six steals; and Penny Supiran with 12 points, six rebounds and four assists.

Risak from page C1

able. Like an Ocelot fast break, everything seems to be functioning smoothly academically. The team had a combined grade-point average of 2.6 in the first semester.

Can you imagine? In the past, if one player achieved such a "lofty" number, it was noteworthy.

"Education is first and foremost," Briggs explained. "If they work hard and pass their classes, it carries over to the court."

Attitude and discipline — bookends to the SC program. As coach, Briggs keeps close tabs on his players' academic progress. He uses all the tools available to him, from the Learning Assistance Center and the tutors provided to the daily study table.

And even if he does throw in a cliché or two to get his point across (what coach doesn't?), what Briggs won't do is play a dodge-and-delay game when it comes to academics or off-court activity. His approach is direct. No nonsense.

"We sit down with (players) at the start and go over it with them," Briggs said. "What their goals are, what they want to do. But we tell them, if they don't pass their classes, they won't go anywhere."

"We're teaching them life skills. In high school, some of these kids passed classes just so they could play."

Of course, saying all the right stuff is one thing. Making believers of everyone on a team is another.

Briggs sees that as a major obligation to his players. "That's my job, to move people along," he said. "That's success to me."

Four of his players from last year's team — Kevin Melson, Pete Males, Jose Bru and Emeke Okonkwo — have parlayed their accomplishments into chances to play at four-year schools. In return, that can only help Briggs sustain his own program.

"Work hard in life and you'll be successful," Briggs preaches.

Cliche or not, the message is getting through — on and off the court.

SPORTS NEWS

Madonna winners

Redford Thurston High product Brandy Malewski was named Most Valuable Player for the Madonna University women's volleyball team, which held its post-season awards banquet Sunday at Bushwood Golf Course.

Malewski, also named the team's top offensive player, propelling the Lady Crusaders to their second straight Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference crown and a 12-0 WHAC record.

Malewski, a junior, was also named NAIA All-America squad (second team).

Other team awards went to Livonia Ladywood's Marylu Hemme (Freshman of the Year), Stephanie Ubalde (Most Improved and Coaches Award), Jennifer Russell (Defensive Player of the Year and Miss Volley-

ball), Erin Cunningham (Coaches Award).

Russell and Rayne Vert, both seniors, were also honored for their careers and contributions to Madonna volleyball.

Setter Deanne Helsom and Vert were also named as NAIA All-America Scholar-Athletes.

Vert and Malewski earned selection to the All-NAIA Great Lakes Regional Team.

Soccer signup

The city of Plymouth's Recreation Department is taking registrations for spring youth soccer 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday all through January at the Recreation office (525 Farmer in the Plymouth Cultural Center).

For more information, call (734) 455-6620.

College from page C1

three of the last four.

"I'm getting old," second-year SC coach Carlos Briggs said. "If we've got nine lives, I'd say we used up three of them — in the last week."

Last Saturday, SC fought back to edge visiting Alpena CC 94-93 in overtime. And on Jan. 16, the Ocelots edged Henry Ford CC 79-78.

SC, ranked 13th in the NJCAA's Division I, improved to 16-0 overall and 6-0 in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association's Eastern Conference. Wayne CCC is 5-3 in the conference.

The final seconds of Monday's game produced a pair of heroes in dramatic circumstances. After the opening moments of the game, SC led just twice in the game: on a three-pointer by Derek McKelvey with 2:45 left to play, and on Dashawn Williams' two free throws with under a second remaining.

The lead provided by McKelvey's triple lasted 11 seconds; back-to-back threes by the Wildcats' Donald Tinsley and Marcus Clark gave Wayne CCC a 73-68 advantage with two minutes to play.

With under a minute left, the Wildcats still had a four-point lead (74-70). But faulty free-throw shooting down the stretch cost them; they made just 3-of-8 from the line in the final 1:06.

McKelvey, whose 20 points led the Ocelots, stepped to the front again in the game's closing seconds. David McGlowen's driving layup with 34 seconds left trimmed Wayne CCC's lead to

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74-72, with 30.77 to go, Sherman Williams made 1-of-2 free throws to increase the deficit to three.

Dashawn Williams missed a tying triple-try with 19 seconds remaining, but the Ocelots rebounded and called timeout with 14:31 seconds on the clock. The play was set up for McKelvey; he worked his way to the wing, and his off-balance three-pointer knotted it at 76.

The Wildcats were out of timeouts; they tried to quickly inbound the ball, but Dashawn Williams intercepted the pass and was intentionally fouled on his way to the basket. With .86 seconds showing, Williams nailed both free throws for the win. Williams finished with 13 points; Mike Murray had 15 and McGlowen scored 12.

Wayne CCC got 26 points from Bennie Theriot, 22 from Tinsley and 14 from Clark.

"As the Schoolcraft coach said, it's too bad someone had to lose that game," said Wildcat coach Rogerie Turner. "Our execution down the stretch wasn't good. I always tell these guys, there's no 'I' in team, and tonight they played like a team most of the time. Then all of a sudden, instead of running the offense they decided to take over and do it themselves."

"They guys just got to believe in each other and the plays down the stretch. But it's coming together. They're going to take this and learn from it."

Although SC wasn't particularly impressive in its performance, Briggs was happy with

the way team played largely without top-scorer Lamar Bigby. Averaging more than 18 points a game, Bigby scored just two in the first half and finished with six in limited playing time.

"He wouldn't run the plays, he wouldn't do what we asked," said Briggs in explaining Bigby's benching. "This showed him that we can play without him, and it showed the other guys they can win without him."

"We never quit. We played until the end. Fortunately, we got some big plays and hit some big shots."

Still, waiting until the final seconds to pull games out is playing with fire, and Briggs knows it. "We can't keep playing from behind," he said. "But I teach the guys that if they work together, they can overcome anything."

Maybe so, but remember: This Ocelot has just six lives left.

SC 94, Alpena CC 93 (OT): In a game between Eastern Conference unbeaten, SC prevailed — but not without a battle.

The Ocelots trailed in the waning seconds in both regulation and overtime, but still managed to pull out the win. Dashawn Williams paced SC with 19 points, six of those coming in OT; McKelvey added 17, Murray netted 14 and David Jarrett scored 11.

The Lumberjacks, who also lost Sunday at Henry Ford CC to fall to 6-2 in the conference (12-7 overall), got 22 points from Jamal Edwards, 19 from Jeremy

DeLaughter, 17 from Dennis Smolinski and 16 from Kevin Brown.

Alpena led 45-44 at the half; it was tied at 82-82 at the end of regulation.

Spring Arbor 71, Madonna 54: Madonna University played well at Spring Arbor College Saturday — for a half.

The Fighting Crusaders led 36-35 at the half after converting 14-of-30 floor shots (46.7 percent), including 6-of-12 three-pointers. But the Crusaders, with a roster trimmed to eight with academic losses and player defections, could not maintain the pace.

The Cougars outscored Madonna 36-18 in the second half, limiting the Crusaders to 6-of-26 shooting from the field (23.1 percent). They made just 1-of-12 threes in the second half.

The loss dropped Madonna to 5-14 overall, 1-4 in the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference. Spring Arbor is 5-18 overall, 2-4 in the WHAC.

The Crusaders got 20 points from Mike Massey; 15 points, nine rebounds and three assists from Jason Skoczylas; and 10 points and 10 boards from Mike Maryanski.

Spring Arbor was led by Bryan Gordon with 22 points and 12 rebounds and Chad Chadwell with 18 points.

Madonna was outrebounded 52-41, including a 22-10 Cougar advantage on the offensive boards, and had 14 turnovers compared to nine for Spring Arbor.

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CC standout commits to Central Michigan and football

BY STEVE KOWALSKI
STAFF WRITER
skowalski@oe.homedcomm.net

The Central Michigan University campus in Mount Pleasant is a couple hours away by car, but as far as Dennis and Kathy Rogowski are concerned, it's in their neighborhood.

Their son, Redford Catholic Central senior Casey Rogowski, made a verbal commitment Monday night to play football for CMU. In picking the Chippewas he turned down a scholarship offer from Miami (Fla.) and chose to quit waiting for an offer from Duke, where his high school teammate Nick Brzezinski had already committed.

CMU defensive coordinator Brian Van Gorder heard it from Rogowski first. Rogowski, 6-foot-3 and 235 pounds, is an all-state candidate in baseball and

RECRUITING

the defending Division I heavyweight champion in wrestling, but he's a football player first.

"Coach Van Gorder was happy, real happy," said Rogowski, who can sign a national letter of intent Wednesday, Feb. 3. "He told me I have the opportunity to come in and compete for a starting job as a freshman (at middle linebacker). He sees me calling the defense and maybe eventually being a captain. All of them are great coaches. It's a great place, nice campus. They said the team is really close. It's like a home away from home and the town is really into the school."

The apple doesn't fall far from the tree is the accurate way to describe the

relationship between Gasey and his father, a Redford Union schools teacher. And now that can be said literally and figuratively.

Rogowski made official visits to Miami and Duke.

"Miami was just too far away," the younger Rogowski said. "I had to wait for Duke. They said they were going to offer two others before me and if one didn't commit I'd get it. But I didn't want to risk waiting and then have Central give away my scholarship. I'm happy with the scholarship I have. Everyone at home is happy."

The Chippewas start the 1999 season with a Thursday night home game against Eastern Illinois followed by consecutive road games at Syracuse and Purdue before a home date with Mid-American Conference title contender Miami (Ohio). Miami finished 10-1 last

year, beating North Carolina along the way.

CMU, which finished 6-5 overall in 1998 under head coach Dick Flynn, plays at Michigan State in 2001.

When CC coach Tom Mach thinks of Rogowski, he thinks of one of his best players ever and the day in August when he broke his leg in a four-way scrimmage.

Rogowski came back in the fifth game and led the Shamrocks to their second-straight Class AA state championship.

"I think it's a great match," Mach said. "Central wanted him very badly and they showed that. I'm ecstatic for him because when I think about it I think back to the third play in the scrimmage. I think about where he was then and where he is now, and it's great."

Central recently renovated its 30,000 seat Kelly/Shorts Stadium and is adding an Indoor Athletic Complex that will be completed in March.

"Oh wow, it's awesome, top of the line," Rogowski said. "The weight room is huge."

Rogowski said he'll also have the opportunity to play baseball at Central. His teammates, Bob Malek and Anthony Tomey, have signed with Michigan State and Eastern Michigan, respectively, and will be regular opponents of CMU's.

"It'll be fun to see those guys, but weird playing on a different team," Rogowski said.

Rogowski, who has a 3.3 grade point average and got a 20 on his ACT, wants to be a teacher like his dad with an emphasis in physical education.

OUTDOORS CALENDAR

(To submit items for consideration in the Observer & Eccentric's Outdoor Calendar send information to: Outdoors, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009; fax information to (248) 644-1314 or send e-mail to bparker@oe.homedcomm.net)

SHOWS

CAMPER, TRAVEL & RV

The 16th annual Pontiac Silverdome Camper, Travel & RV Show runs through Jan. 31 at the Silverdome. The show features a full slate of seminars, previews of the latest RVs, travel trailers, campers and accessories, and representatives from vacation destinations and properties from throughout the Midwest and Canada. Show hours are 9-3:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday, Jan. 28 and 29; 11 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 30, and 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 31. Admission is \$6 adult, \$3 for children, and children under five will be admitted free.

BOAT SHOW

The annual Detroit Boat Show will be held Feb. 6-14 at Cobo Center, (800) 932-2628.

DEER AND TURKEY

The annual Michigan Deer and Turkey Spectacular will be held Feb. 12-14 at the Lansing Center, (800) 324-3337.

CAMPER AND RV

The annual Detroit Camper and RV Show will be held Feb. 13-23 at the Novi Expo Center.

BOAT, SPORT AND FISHING

The 16th annual Pontiac Silverdome Boat, Sport & Fishing Show will be held Feb. 17-21 at the Silverdome.

SPORTFISHING EXPO

The 10th annual Greater Detroit Sportfishing and Travel Expo will be held March 4-7 at the Palace of Auburn Hills. The show will feature a special appearance by national walleye angling champion Ted Takasaki on Friday, March 5. Other speakers of national renown scheduled to speak at the show include walleye pros Mike McClelland and Keith Kavajecz, bowhunting expert Chuck Adams, In-Fisherman Magazine editors Dave Csanda and Matt Straw, and Michigan's own Tom Huggler.

OUTDOORAMA

Outdoorama '99 Sport and Travel Show will be held Feb. 26-March 7 at the Novi Expo Center, (800) 777-6720.

CLASSES

FLY TYING

Paint Creek Outfitters in Rochester offers a variety of fly tying classes for beginners and advanced tyers. Call (248) 650-0440 for more information or to make a reservation for an upcoming class.

ACTIVITIES

SPORTING FLIES

The Paul H. Young Chapter of Trout Unlimited is hosting its 5th annual Sporting Flies Fundraising Challenge beginning at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 4, at the Southfield Civic Center. Individuals and teams can try their hand at casting to targets on an artificial stream. Admission is free and the cost to walk the course is \$5 per person. Proceeds from the event will be used by the Paul H. Young Chapter for stream restoration projects in Michigan. Call (248) 594-8283 for more information.

SKI/HIKE

Join members of the Southeast Michigan Group, Sierra Club on a hike/cross country ski tour of Indian Springs Metropark during this program, which begins

at 12:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 31. Call (248) 557-7768 for more information.

ISLAND LAKE HIKE

Join members of the Southeast Michigan Group, Sierra Club on a long (six-eight miles), fast-paced hike through the Island Lake Recreation Area on Sunday, Feb. 7. Interested participants should meet behind Oil Dispatch on the southwest corner of Middlebelt and I-96 in Livonia. Call (313) 584-5351 or (734) 421-4397 for more information.

SEASON/DATES

BOBCAT

Bobcat season runs through Feb. 16 in Clare, Crawford, Gladwin, Iosco, Kalkaska, Missaukee, Ogemaw, Osceola, Roscommon and Wexford counties and in Arenac County west of I-75 and north of M-61. The season runs through March 1 in the Upper Peninsula and in Alcona, Alpena, Antrim, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Emmet, Montmorency, Oscoda, Otsego, and Presque Isle counties in the northern Lower Peninsula.

CROW

The late crow season runs Feb. 1-March 31 in the Lower Peninsula.

COYOTE

Coyote season runs through April 15 statewide.

FOX

Gray and red fox season runs through March 1 statewide.

GOOSE

A special late Canada goose season runs through Feb. 7 in the southern Michigan Goose Management Unit. Check the 1998-99 Michigan Waterfowl Hunting Guide for specific boundaries.

RABBIT/HARE

Rabbit/hare season run through March 31 statewide.

STURGEON

Sturgeon spearing season is Feb. 1-28.

TURKEY

Feb. 1 is the deadline to apply for a spring wild turkey hunting

permit.

CLUBS

SOLAR

The School for Outdoor Leadership, Adventure and Recreation (SOLAR), a non-profit organization interested in promoting the appreciation of outdoor activities, meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month at the Colony Hall in Southfield. Call (248) 988-6658 for more information.

CLINTON VALLEY BASS

Clinton Valley Bass Anglers club is seeking new members (boaters and non-boaters are welcome.) The club meets monthly at Gander Mountain in Waterford. Call Mike Daly at (248) 666-8910 for more information.

METRO-WEST STEELHEADERS

Metro-West Steelheaders meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month in the cafeteria at Garden City High School. Call Dominic Liparoto at (248) 476-5027 for more information.

MICHIGAN FLY FISHING

The Michigan Fly Fishing Club meets at 7 p.m. the first and third Wednesdays of each month at Livonia Clarenceville Junior High School. Call (810) 478-1494 for more information.

FOUR SEASONS

The Four Seasons Fishing Club meets 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month at the Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, in Livonia. Visitors are invited and refreshments will be served. Call Jim Kudej at (734) 591-0843 for more information.

FISHING BUDDIES

Fishing Buddies Fishing Club meets the third Tuesday of each month in Rochester Hills. The meetings are open to all anglers (boaters and non-boaters). Call (248) 656-0556 for more information.

HURON VALLEY STEELHEADERS

The Huron Valley Steelheaders meets the third Thursday of each month at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 27600 Hall Rd., Flat Rock. Call Carroll White at

(734) 285-0843 for more information.

BASS ASSOCIATION

The Downriver Bass Association, a non-tournament bass club, meets at 6:30 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of every month at the Gander Mountain in Taylor. Call (734) 676-2863 for more information.

MEETINGS

NRC

The monthly meeting of the state Natural Resource Commission will be Wednesday and Thursday, Feb. 10-11, at the Lansing Center (Wednesday) and the Steven T. Mason Building (Thursday) in Lansing. Persons who wish to address the commission or persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation should contact Teresa Golden at (517) 373-2352 one week in advance.

ARCHERY

JUNIOR OLYMPICS

The Oakland County Sportsman Club in Clarkston offers a Junior Olympic Archery Development Program beginning at 1 p.m. on Sundays. Call (248) 623-0444 for more information.

JUNIOR ARCHERS

A weekly program for junior archers begins at 9 a.m. Saturdays at Detroit Archers in West Bloomfield. Call (248) 661-9610 or (313) 835-2110 for more information.

SHOOTING RANGES

BALD MOUNTAIN

Bald Mountain Recreation Area in Lake Orion has shotgun (skeet & trap, sporting clays, 5-stand), rifle, pistol, and archery shooting facilities. Range hours through Dec. 31 are 10 a.m. to sunset Saturdays, Sundays and Wednesdays. On Mondays and Tuesdays only the sporting clay course is open, noon to sunset. Bald Mountain is located at 1330

Greenshield Road, which is three miles north of the Palace of Auburn Hills off M-24. Call (248) 814-9193 for more information.

PONTIAC LAKE

Pontiac Lake Recreation Area in Waterford has rifle, pistol, shotgun, and archery ranges. Range hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesdays through Sundays. Pontiac Lake Recreation Area is located at 7800 Gale Road. Call (248) 666-1020 for more information.

ORTONVILLE RECREATION

Ortonville Recreation Area in Ortonville has rifle, pistol and shotgun shooting facilities. Range hours are noon to 5 p.m. Thursday through Sunday. The Ortonville Recreation Area is located at 5779 Hadley Road. Call (248) 693-6767 for more information.

METROPARKS

METROPARK REQUIREMENTS

Most Metropark programs are free while some require a nominal fee. Advanced registration and a motor vehicle permit are required for all programs. Call the respective parks toll free at the following numbers: Stony Creek, (800) 477-7756; Indian Springs, (800) 477-3192; Kensington, (800) 477-3178.

WINTER BIRDS

Bring your binocular and take a walk through the park in search of winter birds during this program, which begins at 10 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 30, at Kensington.

ICE FISHING FOR BEGINNERS

Learn the basics of ice fishing then wet a line in Kent Lake during this program, which begins at 1 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 31, at Kensington.

FULL MOON WALK

Learn about moon folklore and wildlife in the winter during a walk under the light of the full moon during this program, which begins at 7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 31, at Stony Creek.

1999 PERMITS

The 1999 Huron-Clinton Metroparks annual vehicle entry

permits and boat launching permits are on sale at all Metropark offices. Vehicle entry permits are \$15 (\$8 for senior citizens). The annual boat launching permits are \$18 (\$9 for senior citizens). Call (800) 47-PARKS for more information.

OAKLAND COUNTY PARKS

COUNTY PARK REQUIREMENTS

Advanced registration is required for all nature programs at Oakland County Parks. Call (810) 625-6473 to register or for more information.

BEGINNER WOODCARVING

Learn the basics of woodcarving while carving a small songbird figure during this program, which begins at 10 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 30, at Independence Oaks.

STARLIGHT SKI TOUR

Take an evening cross country ski tour during this program, which begins at 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 6, at Independence Oaks.

STATE PARKS

STATE PARK REQUIREMENTS

Maybury State Park, Proud Lake Recreation Area, Bald Mountain Recreation Area, Highland Recreation Area, and Island Lake Recreation Area offer nature interpretive programs throughout the year. A state park motor vehicle permit is required for entry into all state parks and state recreation areas. For registration and additional information on the programs at Maybury call (810) 349-8390. For programs at Bald Mountain, call (810) 693-6767. For programs at Proud Lake and Highland, call (810) 685-2433. For programs at Island Lake, call (810) 229-7067.

RIVER TRAIL SKI/HIKE

Take a naturalist-led cross country ski tour (weather permitting) or foot hike through Proud Lake Recreation area during this program, which begins at 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 30, at Proud Lake.

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- NiMH battery
3.2-hour talk time,
200-hour standby
- Caller ID compatible
(6160)

199⁹⁹



- Ti-mode: works almost
anywhere wireless service
is available
- 3.2-hour talk time,
200-hour standby
(6162)

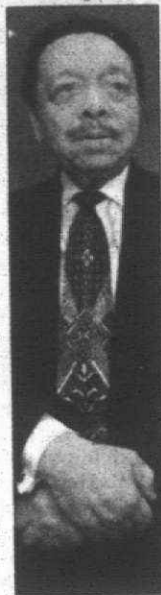
219⁹⁹

BEST
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Now that's a great idea!

THE WEEKEND

FRIDAY



Lucius Theus, Southfield's diplomat of the arts, invites you to a fine art auction, held in conjunction with Park West Gallery, to benefit the Southfield Federation for the Arts. 7 p.m. today, and Saturday, Jan. 30 at the Southfield Centre for the Arts, 24350 Southfield Road (south of 10 Mile Road). No charge for admission, call (248) 424-9022 for information.

SATURDAY



Margery Deutsch guest conducts the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra 8 p.m. at Plymouth Canton Little Theatre, 8415 N. Canton Center Road, (at Joy Road). Afterglow at the Willow Brook Inn, 44255 Warren Road, east of Sheldon Road, Canton. Tickets \$12 adults, \$10, seniors/college students, students K-12th grade free, call (734) 451-2112.

SUNDAY



The Second City-Detroit presents "Daimlers are a Girl's Best Friend," a fifth anniversary celebration show retrospective, 8 p.m. at the club, 2301 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Tickets \$10, call (313) 965-2222.

HOT TICKET



Harlem Globetrotters World Tour visits The Palace of Auburn Hills 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 30. Tickets \$18, \$15, \$13 and \$11.50. Call (248) 645-6666 to charge tickets, or (248) 377-0100 for information.

QUEEN OF DETROIT

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO
STAFF WRITER
cfuoco@oe.homecomm.net

Alberta Adams epitomizes the blues. Left on a doorstep by her alcoholic mother, Adams was forced to raise herself. Her four marriages were unhappy ones, but now she can't escape adulation. Sitting regally in Steve's Soul Food restaurant, Adams is approached by a woman in her 30s who overheard Adams recalling her career. "I didn't know you was a singer. I can hear it in your voice. You sound like Sarah Vaughan. I'm gettin' my book. I want my book autographed," she said. Returning from her car, the woman hands Adams a paperback book about a protein diet, and a pen. Superstitious, Adams asks her to lay the pen on the table.

WHO: Alberta Adams
WHAT: Along with Johnnie Bassett and the Blues Insurgents celebrates release of "Born With the Blues" (Cannonball Records)
WHEN: 9:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 29
WHERE: Music Menu, 511 Monroe St., in the Greek town area of Detroit.
HOW: Cover charge is \$5 for the 21 and older show. For more information, call (313) 964-6368. Cannonball records can be reached at <http://www.cannonball.com> or cbirecords@aol.com.

Other upcoming performances include:

- 9 p.m. Friday, Feb. 5, with the Blue Suit Blues Band at Sports Bar and Grill, 166 Maple, Wyandotte, (313) 285-5060
- 8 p.m. Saturday, March 13, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills, (248) 644-4800.

debut full-length CD, the appropriately titled "Born With the Blues," which Adams recorded with guitarist Johnnie Bassett and producer Ron Levy. She also appeared on "Blues Across America — The Detroit Scene," a compilation on Cannonball. When Adams, who is in her late 70s, is told she must be proud of her accomplishment, she replies, "Well, yes and no. I'm not big headed. I don't swell up. I'm proud of it." "Born With the Blues" shows the range of Adams' talents from the jazzy ballad "Searchin'" to the R&B-flavored "Goin' Home Tomorrow" to the rap of "Pair and a Spare."

Please see **BLUES**, E2

Born WITH THE Blues



Fifty-year career: Alberta Adams, who is in her late-70s, has been performing since she was 17. Now she is releasing her debut full-length CD, "Blue With the Blues" (Cannonball Records).

COMEDY

Comedian goes back to Stone Age for humor

CAVEMAN LOGIC ACCORDING TO ROB BECKER

"Defending the Caveman" starring creator Rob Becker opens Tuesday, Feb. 2 and continues through Sunday, Feb. 21 at the Fisher Theatre in Detroit. Performances 8 p.m. Wednesday-Friday; 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sunday. Tickets \$44.50, \$38.50 and \$34.50 available at the box office and Ticketmaster outlets. To charge tickets call (248) 645-6666, or information call (313) 872-1000.

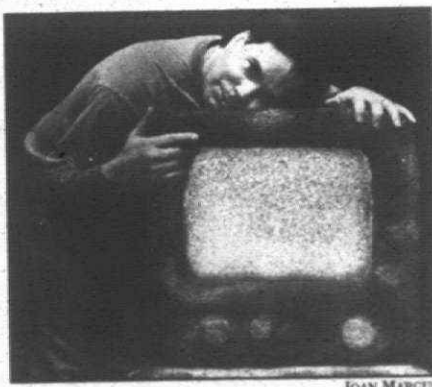
BY KEELY WYGONIK
STAFF WRITER
kwygonik@oe.homecomm.net

Men and women are different, and comedian Rob Becker who makes "Defending the Caveman" his business, knows why.

"Men are hunters. Women are gatherers," said Becker whose one man show "Defending the Caveman" opens Feb. 2 for a three-week run at the Fisher Theatre in Detroit. Because men are hunters they can only focus on one thing at a time. Women, because they are gatherers, can multi-task and do lots of things at one time.

Take driving for instance. "Men have a narrow focus," said Becker. "They don't talk, because they don't want to scare the animals. They lock in on their prey until it's dead. When men drive, they don't talk, they look straight ahead."

Women make men crazy when they drive. "Because women are gatherers they often take other women and small children along," he explained. "They maintain conversations because they want to keep



JOAN MARCUS

Direct from Broadway: Rob Becker wrote and stars in "Rob Becker's Defending the Caveman," an affectionate comedy about men and women.

track of the members in their group and scare away the animals."

Becker says he sees it all the time in morning traffic — "Women on their cellular phones, putting on makeup, making waffles on a hot plate on the seat next to them, making to-do lists — my wife sees drive time as a time to get things done."

Women are comfortable doing more than one thing at once, men aren't. A lot of it has to do with vision.

"Men have target vision," said Becker. "They track things in space. Women have

Please see **CAVEMAN**, E2

Why do men have trouble finding their keys?

"Studies will show that men have an easy time targeting moving things. Women are better at separating fine visual details. They have to be, because they're gatherers and have to be able to scan the landscape to separate the berries to find which ones are the best. We don't separate fine details. If the keys were moving, we'd find them. That's the same reason why we can't find the milk when you say it's in the refrigerator."

Do men and women shop differently?

"Yes. Men are hunters. We track our prey, kill it and it's over. No hunt, no trail. When a man's shirt wears out, he hunts down a new shirt. The malls know this, that's why they put the men's stores at the entrances and exits. They know we won't wander, we'll go home."

"We don't understand why women get upset when they tell us to go to the store to buy bread, and we bring home only bread. 'What else did you get?' they'll

ask, we don't understand. 'Men go out and get what they want; women will shop around. The gatherer doesn't know what's out there. Like when I buy jeans. I know when I go to the store they'll always have my size. When I go shopping with my wife, they'll have the shirt she likes, but not her size. She's got to give up and move on to something else. I've learned a lot shopping with my wife. They have incomplete inventory in women's clothes, that's why they shop around. Women's clothing is like a Rubik's Cube. Like shopping for shoes. She'll say she wants formal shoes, then a handbag to go with them. But she doesn't want a formal handbag. She wants a bag that's sporty that she can do more things with. Gatherers have to wander to see what's in season, what's ripe. It's very similar. She might need a sporty handbag and not be able to find it.'

How do men dress?

"Men have two ways of dressing. It's either I dressed up for you, or I don't care."

Harlem Globetrotters aim to please their many fans

Harlem Globetrotters World Tour stops at the Palace of Auburn Hills, 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 30. Call (248) 645-6666 to charge tickets, or (248) 377-0100 for information.

BY KYLE WYONIK
STAFF WRITER
kwyonik@home.com.net

Half showmanship, half good

Blues from page E1

"There's variety. I ain't got no straight blues all the way through. I throw in a bit of some of the other things — jazz, blues. I really like jazz, but I can't leave the blues. I'm the queen of the blues in Detroit, Michigan."

Adams was born Roberta Louise Osborne in the early 1920s in Indianapolis. Six months after Adams' birth, her alcoholic mother put her on a doorstep believing that someone else could provide a better life for her baby.

"I was an orphan. I never seen my father. He could be in here now and I wouldn't know. Somebody called my auntie in Boston and she picked me up and brought me to Detroit when I was 3 years old. I lived with her until I was 10 then I left her and I went to live with another auntie."

"She had nine children. I got nothin' but the crumbs from the bread, the juice from the greens, no dessert. I went to school with no stockings on. I had a hard life. I raised myself. Sometimes I couldn't get a glass of water. Sometimes I had to lay in doorways. This is why I'm singing the blues. I'm nothing but the blues."

Adams first married when she was 17, but the relationship turned ugly after she gave birth to a child.

"I was 17 and he was 29 or 30."

basketball, Hubert "Geese" Ausbie knows all the Harlem Globetrotter moves. He spent 24 years playing on the team, coming to the Palace of Auburn Hills this Saturday, before becoming a coach. He was recently promoted to a new position — Vice President of Global Ambassadors.

"Most of our shows center around kids," he said. "Over half

of the kids come with their parents and grandparents. Our fans are 3 years old up to 90."

An outstanding athlete, Ausbie joined the team in 1961 after competing against more than 500 players from around the country. He even turned down a pro baseball contract with the Chicago Cubs to pursue a career with the Harlem Globetrotters.

money for her efforts. "My manager (and drummer) R.J. Spangler looked into it and finally found MCA had my records. Mr. Chess passed and then his son passed. MCA's got all the Chess Records. Eventually I'll be getting some of them royalties, some of that money."

Adams has performed with the "best." Her favorite aspect of show business is the people that she has been able to meet — Dinah Washington, Sarah Vaughan, Della Reese, B.B. King and Duke Ellington.

"Boy, I can name them. I've been around. I've been with the best."

Adams calls "Born with the Blues" her "miracle."

"I've got my own style. Nobody can copy my style. I got showmanship. You got to have showmanship to stay in show business. You can find singers a dime a dozen. But you have to have something to go with it. You got to get out there and get to the people," Adams said.

That she does. Adams uses Johnny Basset and the Blues Insurgents or the Blue Suit Blues Band as her backing musicians, and is occasionally joined by her drummer Rick Gould. (Her other son and daughter are doctors.)

Whoever Adams goes, she brings the crowd to their feet.

"I had this little costume on and I was singing. A ticket a basket, I lost my yellow basket. He (the manager) said, 'Get her off that stage. She was too young.' I was determined to be in show business and here I am."

Her talent led her to recording sessions with Chess Records, which released 45 rpm singles of her music. She received no

Ausbie relishes the role he chose. "It's like home now," he said. "It's something I love. I want to make kids happy."

Entertaining goes hand-in-hand with education. "We tell young kids to stay in school, stay away from drugs and alcohol. We go to schools when we're on tour, and tell kids they can survive and have fun without drugs."

are role models and try to be the best we can. We're using the talent God has given us."

Paul "Showtime" Gaffney is the current reigning Clown Prince of Basketball. He and his team will face the New York Nationals when the 1999 "Memories, Always Different. Always Fun" World Tour visits the Palace.

Caveman from page E1

better peripheral vision, because they're gathering they need to scan the landscape to see where the ripe fruit is."

Women who talk and drive at the same time scare men. "We want to watch the road when we drive. We don't understand how women can turn to say something to someone. It's because they have better peripheral vision. Women get in far fewer accidents than men, yet we're the ones staring at the road."

Men and women often don't see eye to eye, and that's the reason Becker saw a need to start "Defending the Caveman."

He was motivated partly by his wife, Erin. As they were planning their wedding, Erin showed him envelopes in lots of different shades and asked which one he liked best. Becker gave the wrong answer — "You go and pick it."

Erin was offended and felt abandoned. Becker was confused. They still got married, and at home he began noticing that women's magazines had horrendous articles about men. Once he was even held captive at a party.

"I was with a group of women, and they were dissing men in a big way like I wasn't there," he said. "Then, someone said, 'He's a man, ask him.' I stood up for men, and they started laughing, and nodding."

It was the nodding part that got to him. He and Erin talked about it, and pretty soon Becker had a whole lot of material about the differences between men and women. "A lot of the anger start-

"The Harlem Globetrotters have always been about million-dollar smiles," said Gaffney. "You know there is nothing quite as thrilling and rewarding as the smile of a child who's enjoying a Harlem Globetrotter game. We're making memories for more than seven decades. That's what makes the Globetrotters experience so special."

melting away, and she started liking me more and more," said Becker about his wife.

First he wanted to explain men to women. Then he started explaining women to men. "I show how those differences affect our relationships, and cause misunderstandings," he said.

People really started laughing when Becker put himself into the situation. "When I said, 'I'll be honest, I hate to ask for directions,' the audience started roaring."

Becker has been doing stand-up comedy since 1981. He makes frequent guest appearances on national radio and TV shows.

He wrote "Defending the Caveman" over three years 1988-1991 as a one-man show to make people laugh.

"It's therapeutic in the sense that laughter is the best medicine," he said. The show, which originally opened in San Francisco, has been sold out in Dallas, Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, Chicago and on Broadway where it is the longest running solo show.

"My goal," he said "is for people to stop trying to change each other, and begin understanding each other. The more we explore our differences, the more we come together. If we would spend more time understanding each other and less time trying to change the other person, we would spend less time fighting, and more time laughing and enjoying each other's company."

It is hard to not be buffed by the lunacy in St. Dunstan Theatre Guild of Cranbrook's most recent comedy, Ken Ludwig's "Moon Over Buffalo."

A host of eight actors make the show an evening full of laughs. The (Act II, Scene II) cross between Cyrano de Bergerac and

Private Lives), was the highlight of the evening.

As the aging, formerly esteemed stage actor George Hay playing Cyrano — part of the time, Richard Hartle has a difficult time keeping something that looks more like a "carrot" than a nose on his nose. That is just the way things are in this story about an itinerant theater company doing "rep" in Buffalo.

Each matinee and evening performance features the same actors playing different parts in the various plays. This road show is featuring Noel Coward's "Private Lives" and Edmund Rostand's "Cyrano de Bergerac."

Rehearsals are going badly: a leading actress, Eileen (Elizabeth Robinson), is pregnant by philandering George; Richard

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fight when Eileen owns up to Charlotte (with a note on her Variety Magazine) that she's been fooling around with her hubby. George disappears to get drunk. Eileen leaves for a doctor's appointment, and Roz is left to fill in as Sibil in "Private Lives."

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Spend some time laughing at St. Dunstan's 'Moon Over Buffalo'

St. Dunstan's Theatre Guild of Cranbrook presents "Moon Over Buffalo" 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays through Jan. 30 with additional show 8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 28, at the theater, 400 Lone Pine Road, on the grounds of Cranbrook Educational Community, Bloomfield Hills. Tickets \$12 adults, \$10 students/seniors, call (248) 644-0527.

By MARY JANE DOERR
SPECIAL WRITER

It is hard to not be buffed by the lunacy in St. Dunstan Theatre Guild of Cranbrook's most recent comedy, Ken Ludwig's "Moon Over Buffalo."

A host of eight actors make the show an evening full of laughs. The (Act II, Scene II) cross between Cyrano de Bergerac and

Private Lives), was the highlight of the evening.

As the aging, formerly esteemed stage actor George Hay playing Cyrano — part of the time, Richard Hartle has a difficult time keeping something that looks more like a "carrot" than a nose on his nose. That is just the way things are in this story about an itinerant theater company doing "rep" in Buffalo.

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8 days a week

A Guide to entertainment in the Metro Detroit area

THEATER

CAPITOL THEATRE
Theater Grottesco's "The Angels' Cradle," a story of discovery set in a sunless world, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Jan. 29-30, at the theater and arts center, 121 University Ave., West, Windsor, \$20 center and \$17 wings and balcony (Canadian). (519) 253-8065

DETROIT REPERTORY THEATRE
"Camp Logan," Celeste Bedford Walker's play about the Houston riot and court martial of 1917, through Sunday, March 21, 8:30 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays, 3 p.m. Sundays, at the theater, 13103 Woodrow Wilson, Detroit. \$15. (313) 868-1347

FISHER THEATRE
"Rob Becker's Defending the Cavern," Tuesday-Sunday, Feb. 2-21, at the theater, in the Fisher Building, Detroit. 8 p.m. Tuesdays-Fridays, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturdays, and 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sundays. \$34.50, \$38.50 and \$44.50. (248) 645-6666/(313) 872-1000

MEADOW BROOK THEATRE
"Having Our Say," continues through Jan. 31, at the theater on the campus of Oakland University in Rochester. (248) 377-3300

PLANET ANT THEATRE
"Garage," a hilarious musical comedy written by and starring Detroit Second City mainstage alumni Joshua Funk and Nancy Hayden, chronicles three decades in the life of an ill-fated band formed in the 1970s in a Hamtramck garage, opens Thursday, Feb. 4, 8 p.m. and mid-night Thursdays, 8 p.m. Fridays-Saturday, and 7 p.m. Sundays through February, at the theater 2357 Caniff, Hamtramck. \$10. (313) 365-4948 or <http://www.planetant.com>

COLLEGE

WSU BONTEILLE THEATRE
"The Piano Lesson" by August Wilson, 8 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays Jan. 29-30 and Feb. 5-6, and 2 p.m. Sundays, Jan. 31 and Feb. 7, at the theater, 3424 Woodward, Detroit. (313) 577-2960

WSU HILBERY THEATRE
"Scapin," in rotating repertory to Feb. 3; Charles Dickens' "rings in a Tale of Two Cities," runs in rotating repertory to March 4, at the theater, 4743 Cass Ave., Detroit. \$10-\$17. (313) 577-2972

WSU STUDIO THEATRE
"Veronica's Room," Ira Levin's chilling story of deception and false identity, Thursday-Sunday, Jan. 28-31, in the lower level of the Hilberry Theatre, 4743 Cass Ave., Detroit. \$8, \$6 students/seniors. (313) 577-2972

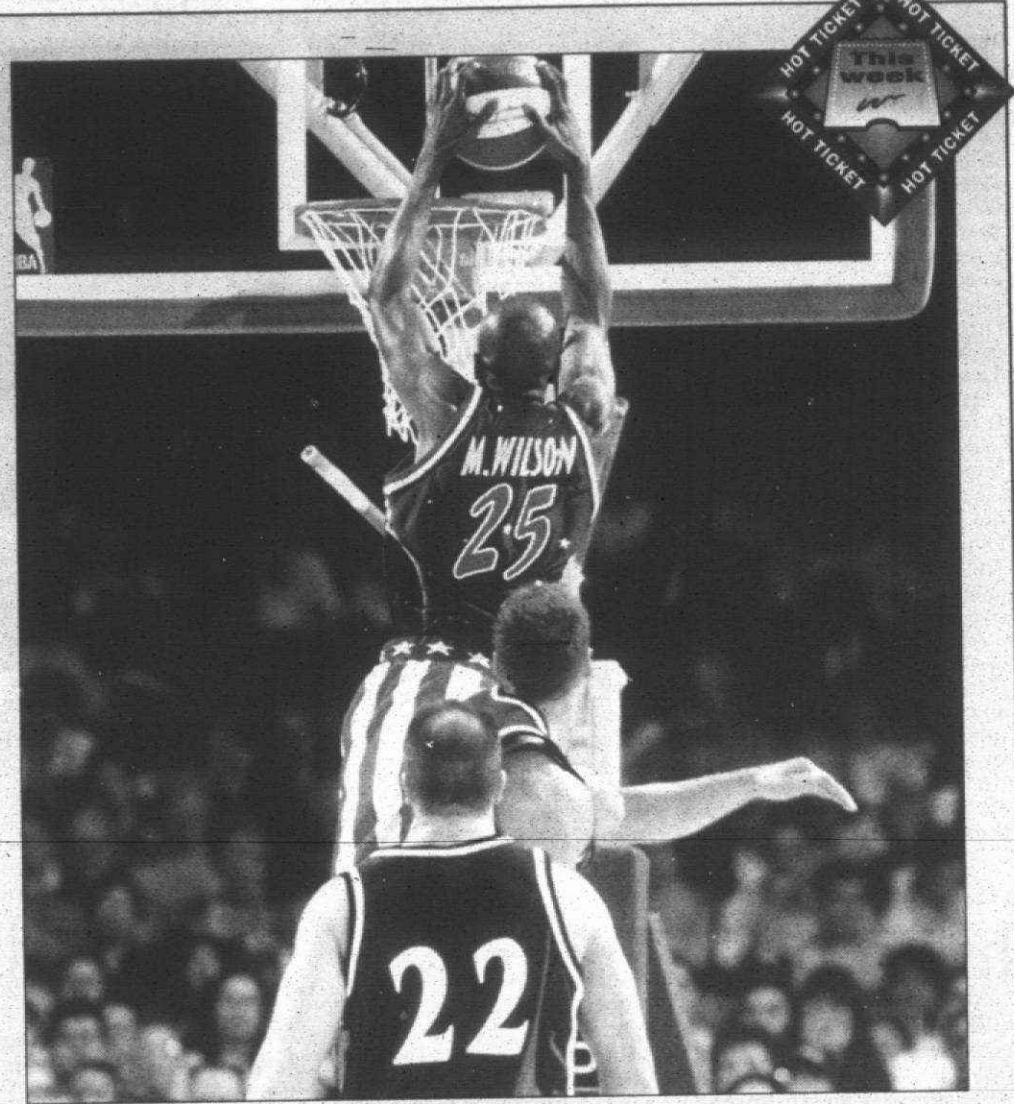
COMMUNITY THEATRE

ST. DUNSTON'S THEATRE GUILD
"Moon Over Buffalo" continues 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays through Jan. 30 with additional show 8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 28, at the theater, 400 Lone Pine Road, on the grounds of Cranbrook Educational Community, Bloomfield Hills. \$12 adults, \$10 students/seniors. (248) 644-0527

STAGECRAFTERS
Musical comedy "Promises, Promises," by Neil Simon, based on the movie "The Apartment" by Billy Wilder and I.A.L. Diamond, music by Burt Bacharach and lyrics by Hal David, through Feb. 14, 2 p.m. Fridays, Feb. 7 and 14; 8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 28; 7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 31, at the historic Baldwin Theatre, 415 S. Lafayette, downtown Royal Oak. Tickets \$12-\$14, call (248) 541-6430

DINNER THEATRE

BACI ABBRACCI ITALIAN CHOPHOUSE
"Tony n' Tina's Wedding," an interactive theatre show with patrons having an Italian dinner, and dancing to a live band performing traditional Italian wedding songs, has an open-ended run, at the restaurant, 40 W. Pike St., Pontiac. 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays-Fridays, 2 p.m. and 7:30 Saturdays, and 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Sundays. \$50 Wednesdays-Thursdays and Sundays, \$55 Fridays-Saturdays, in advance at 8 W. Lawrence St., Pontiac. (248) 745-8668/(248) 645-6666



Family show: Known as the most popular, and most recognized, basketball team in the world, the Harlem Globetrotters bring their "Memories. Always Different. Always Fun." World Tour to The Palace of Auburn Hills 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 30. Tickets \$18, \$15, \$13 and \$11.50 reserved. Children 12 and under, and seniors 60 and over, will receive \$2 off \$18, \$15 and \$13 seats. Special VIP seating packages are also available. Call (248) 645-6666 to charge tickets, or (248) 377-0100 for more information. On the web, <http://www.palacenet.com>. (See related story on Page E2).

YOUTH PRODUCTIONS

AVON PLAYERS YOUTH THEATRE
"The Wizard of Oz," 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 29, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 30, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 31, at the playhouse, 1185 Tenken Road, east of Rochester Road, Rochester. \$7. (248) 608-9077

DETROIT PUPPET THEATRE
PuppetART presents "The Firebird" from an old Russian folk tale, noon and 2 p.m. Saturdays, Jan. 30 and Feb. 6, 13 and 20, at the theater, 26 E. Grand River, between Woodward Avenue and Farmer, Detroit. \$6.50, \$5 children, \$20 families of two adults/two children. Also workshops following 2 p.m. Saturday performances. (313) 961-7777/(248) 557-8599

WILD SWAN THEATRE
"Owl's Winter," a delightful collection of stories based on Arnold Lobel's "Owl at Home," 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Friday, Jan. 29, and 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 30, at Washtenaw Community College's Towles Auditorium. \$8, \$6 children. (734) 763-7KTS

YOUTH THEATRE
"Paul Robeson, All American," a biography about the actor/singer, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 6 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 7, at Music Hall Center, 350 Madison Ave., at Brush, Detroit. \$8, \$7 advance. (313) 963-2366

SPECIAL EVENTS

FINE ART AUCTION
In conjunction with Park West Gallery to benefit the Southfield Federation for the Arts, 7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Jan. 29-30 at the Where: Southfield Center for the Arts, 24350 Southfield Road (south of 10 Mile Road). No charge. For information, call (248) 424-9022

DSO OVERTURES

A mixer that includes dinner and live jazz, 6 p.m. Friday, Feb. 5, Meriv's Italian Ristorante, 4222 Second Ave., Detroit. A DSO concert, featuring Scottish percussionist Evelyn Glennie, and guest conductor Dennis Russell Davies, follows at 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 5, at Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$35. (313) 576-5130

BENEFITS

FINE ART AUCTION
Old and modern masters go on the auction block (from Park

West Gallery) to support the Southfield Federation for the Arts 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Jan. 29, preview begins at 7 p.m., at the Southfield Center for the Arts, 24350 Southfield Road, south of 10 Mile Road, Southfield. Free. (248) 424-9022

STEVE KRASS MEMORIAL BENEFIT
With Speedball, The Lucky Stiffs, Feisty Cadavers, Moloko Plus, Gutter Punk, Bumpin Ugles, Cold as Life, Elephant Ear and Joey Nobody Allstars, 7 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 30, at St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. \$7, 18 and older. Benefits memorial fund of Steve Krass, a former Redford resident and member of the band Feisty Cadavers, who was shot and killed at Harpo's nightclub in Detroit. (313) 961-MELT or <http://www.961melt.com>

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SWINGTIME '99

The Fanclub Presents for the Arts presents an evening of live entertainment, food from 28 restaurants, a silent auction, and art by local artists and students from Detroit Country Day School, to help fund cultural organizations in metro Detroit, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 30, in the lobby of the Fishing Building, Second Street and Grand Boulevard, west of Woodward Avenue, Detroit. \$50 advance, \$60 at door. (248) 584-4150

FAMILY EVENTS

"SESAME STREET LIVE"
"Elmo's Coloring Book," through Sunday, Jan. 31, Fox Theatre, 2111 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$9, \$12, \$16 and \$24.50. All ages. (313) 983-6611

STRING FIGURE FUN

Learn or make popular string figure with Marcia Gaylor, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 2, ages 8 and older, in the multi-purpose room at the Ann Arbor Main Library, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. (734) 327-8301

WALLED LAKE ICE FESTIVAL

Ice carving demonstrations, pancake breakfast, Polar Golf Outing, chili cook-off, nonprofit fair, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 6, and until 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 7, in the Walled Lake Community Education Building, 615 N. Pontiac Trail, south of Maple Road, Walled Lake. (248) 926-9004

CLASSICAL

ANN ARBOR SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
"Unfinished Masterpieces" concert featuring University Musical

FOU TS'ONG

The award-winning pianist performs Mozart piano concertos D minor, K. 466 and B flat major, K. 595 with the Michigan Chamber Symphony Orchestra, 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 6, at Temple Beth El, \$20, \$15 Steinway Society members, \$10 seniors/students. (248) 601-MCSO

CHRISTOPHER LAUGHLIN
The classical guitarist presents a solo recital, 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 29, at the Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave., Ann Arbor. \$12, \$8, \$5 students. (734) 769-2999 or [kch.net](http://www.kch.net)

PLYMOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Presents chamber concert with guest conductor Margery Deutsch, and Youth Artist Competition winners Faith Scholfield and Ross Huff, 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 30, in the Plymouth Canton Little Theatre, 8415 Canton Center Road, at Joy Road, Canton. \$12, \$10 seniors/college students, free for students through grade 12. (734) 451-2112

PRO MUSIC
Presents pianist Arnaldo Cohen performing Chopin, Liszt and Schumann, 8:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 29, in the Recital Hall at the Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward Ave. Followed by meet the artist and buffet in the Romanesque Hall and Kresge Court. \$25. (313) 886-7207

POPS/SWING

STARLIGHT DRIFTERS
10 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 3, Memphis Smoke, 100 S. Main St., Royal Oak. Free. 21 and older. (248) 543-4300 (western swing)

AUDITIONS

BEL CANTO CHORAL GROUP
Invites women who read music and enjoy singing to join the group. Founded 40 years ago, group members are women who enjoy rehearsing and performing a variety of music including light classical, show tunes and seasonal favorites. Rehearse Monday evenings February-June in Southfield. Jane Miller (248) 642-3216/Katie Parsons (313) 640-0123

MICHIGAN RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL
Auditions for performers for the 1999 resident company, minstrel, magicians, jugglers, acrobats, swordfighters, human chess cast, courtiers, peasants' militia, admiral, Mayor's councilor and mummies, by appointment only, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2-5 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 30, in Varner Hall at Oakland University, Rochester. (800) 601-4848

NOVI THEATRES

Auditions for actors ages 7-13 for the Children's Annex and Little People Players presentation of Beatrix Potter's "Tales of Peter Rabbit," 4 p.m. Friday, Jan. 29, at the Novi Civic Center Stage, 45175 W. 10 Mile, Novi. For performances April 16-18. All actors must pay a participation fee of \$125 once cast. (248) 347-0400

PLYMOUTH ORATORIO SOCIETY

Rehearsals 7:15 p.m. Mondays, First United Methodist Church, 45201 N. Territorial Road, Plymouth. "Mass in G" by Schubert, and "Chichester Psalms" by Bernstein will be performed. Scores may be purchased for \$7 and \$9, respectively. No auditions required. (734) 455-8353

ROSELDALE COMMUNITY PLAYERS

Auditions for three men and three women for an April production of "The Dining Room" by A.R. Gurney, 7:30 p.m. Monday-Tuesday, Feb. 8-9, at the Upstage Theatre, 21728 Grand River, east of Lahser, Detroit. (313) 881-0978

STAGECRAFTERS 2ND STAGE

Auditions for nine men and four women for John Weidman's "Assassins" with music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim 7 p.m. Monday-Tuesday, Feb. 8-9 (6:30 p.m. registration), at the Baldwin Theatre, 415 South Lafayette, Royal Oak. For performances April 16-18, 22-25 and 30, and May 1-2. (248) 541-4832

TINDERBOX PRODUCTIONS

Classes for students grades 1-12 in scene study, Broadway dance, hip hop, improvisation, private voice coaching, and participation in Tinderox ShowChoir and "The Ted Sullivan Show: A Variety Extravaganza for Actors, Singers

and Dancers," Saturdays Feb. 6 to May 15, in the Cathedral Theatre, Masonic Temple, 500 Temple, Detroit. Students give two performances Saturday, May 15 in Cathedral Theatre. (313) 535-8962

CHORAL

CHORISTERS GUILD MUSIC FESTIVAL
The choir, featuring the voices of 326 children performs sacred music, 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 30, at Ward Presbyterian Church, 17000 Farmington Road, Livonia. Free. (734) 455-9458/(313) 927-1255

JAZZ

DANNY CARTHANE AND COMPANY
9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Friday-Saturday, Jan. 29-30, at Ja-Da, 546 E. Larned between Beaubien and St. Antoine, Detroit. (313) 965-1700

CHICK COREA

The pianist performs as part of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra's Ameritech Jazz Series, 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 29, at Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$15-\$46. (313) 576-5111 or <http://www.detroit-symphony.com>

HEIDI HEPLER/MICHELE RAMO/TODD CURTIS

7:30-9:30 p.m. Sundays in January at the Coffee Studio, 600 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth. (734) 416-9288, \$3

DANCE

"A PERFORMANCE CLASS"
Christina Kammeueller presents her adult advanced/professional level students, 11 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 31, at Marygrove College, Detroit. Free. (248) 932-8699

VALENTINE'S DAY DANCES

ITALIAN AMERICAN BANQUET CENTER

With music by the Mike Wolverton Band, and a dinner of chicken piccata, oven-roasted potatoes, pasta marinara, pasta carbonara, peas and mushrooms, salad, rolls, coffee, tea and dessert, 6:11-30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 12, Italian American Banquet Center, 39200 Five Mile Road, Livonia. \$25. (313) 534-5924/(734) 422-3415

ST. BARBARA CHURCH

Music by Muzia-Mix, dinner, door prizes, 6 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 13, St. Barbara parish, 5277 Calhoun, Dearborn. Tickets \$20 per person, \$12 for teens ages 12-18, accompanied by an adult. Bring your wedding picture for the "My Valentine" display. Deadline for tickets is Monday, Feb. 8, call (313) 582-8383.

VFW POST 3323

Music by The Ladinos, sponsored by Silettoes, 7:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 13, VFW Post 3323, 1055 S. Wayne Road, Westland. Tickets \$22 per person, food, snacks, beverages, door prizes. You must be 21. Call (734) 722-7907. (313) 849-0233. (734) 397-5659, (734) 427-2169 or (248) 542-5997.

COMEDY

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB
Jim Hamm, John McDonnell and Rich Higginbottom, Thursday, Jan. 28; Joey Kola, Jim Hamm and Rich Higginbottom, Friday-Saturday, Jan. 29-30 (\$15); John Joseph with the music of Johnny B. and Rich Higginbottom, Thursday-Saturday, Feb. 4-6 (\$14), at the club above Pickers' All American Grill, 36071 All American Grill, Livonia. 8 p.m. Wednesdays-Thursdays, 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. Third level improv and new talent nights, 8 p.m. Sundays (\$5). (734) 261-0555

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB AT PAISANO'S

Kevin McPeck, 8:15 p.m. and 10:45 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Jan. 29-30 (\$10); Pam Stone, 8:15 p.m. and 10:45 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 5-6 (\$12); \$24.95 dinner show package), and 7 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 7 (\$10); \$22.95 dinner show package), at the club, 5070 Schaefer Road, Dearborn. (313) 584-8885

MAINSTREET COMEDY SHOWCASE

Cathy Ladin, 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 28 (\$10), 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 29

WORLD MUSIC

8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 2, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. \$16. All ages. (734) 761-1800 or <http://www.a2ark.com> (Irish)

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Continued from previous page

HUON-HUOT-TU

The Throat Singers of Tuva, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 4, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. \$15 in advance. All ages. (734) 761-1800 or <http://www.99music.com>

IMMUNITY

9 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 28, Memphis Smoke, 100 S. Main St., Royal Oak. Free. 21 and older. (248) 543-4300 (reggae)

FOLK/BLUEGRASS

TISH HINOJOSA AND SARA HICKMAN

8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 5, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. \$15. All ages. (734) 761-1800 or <http://www.a2ark.com>

THE LUDDITES

With The Layabouts, 9 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 30, Alvin's, 5756 Cass Ave., Detroit. \$5, 18 and older. (313) 832-2355 or <http://www.alvinsxtcom.com>

MICHAEL SMITH

With hosts Jim Bertin and George Garcia (aka George and Me), 8:10-30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 30, at the Off-the-Wall Acoustic Coffee House, at St. William Parish Hall, Walled Lake. \$10, \$20 family, \$7.50 student, refreshments included. (248) 624-1421.

MUSEUMS AND TOURS

CRANBROOK ART MUSEUM

"World Science: A Conflation of Art and Science," featuring four artists' projects representing an ongoing exploration of a specific area of science, some incorporate specimens from Cranbrook Institute of Science, an Eastern Box turtle, satellite broadcasting prototypes, and a chicken coop, through April 3, lectures by the artists opening weekend Jan. 30-31 Feb. 25, March 11, at the museum, 1221 North Woodward, Bloomfield Hills. Museum hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays-Sundays, until 9 p.m. Thursdays. \$5, \$3 students/children/seniors. (248) 645-3323 or www.cranbrook.edu/museum

DETROIT HISTORICAL MUSEUM

"Frontiers to Factories: Detroiters at Work 1701-1901," "The Fantasy World of Doll Houses," through Jan. 31; "Remembering Downtown Hudson's" exhibit, a nostalgic look at what made the Hudson's downtown Detroit store an icon of the city's prosperous era, at the museum, 5401 Woodward Ave. (at Kirby), Detroit. Museum hours are 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday. Free admission Wednesdays; \$3 for adults, \$1.50 seniors and children aged 12-18, free for children ages 11 and younger Thursdays-Sundays. (313) 833-1726 or <http://www.detroithistorical.org>

DETROIT SCIENCE CENTER

IMAX movies include "Tropical Rainforest" at 10 a.m. Mondays-Fridays, "Special Effects" at 1:10 p.m. Mondays-Fridays, and "Everest" multiple showings seven days a week at the center, 5020 John R. (at Warren), Detroit. Admission to Exhibit Hall is \$3 for adults, \$2 for children ages 3-15 and adults ages 60 and older, free for children ages 2 and younger. IMAX films are additional \$4. (313) 577-8400

MUSEUM/GREENFIELD VILLAGE

"Rhythm Rising: Exploring America's Musical Roots" celebrates the contributions of African-American to world music weekends in February, blues guitar and vocals by Robert Jones noon and 2 p.m. Feb. 6, 13-14, Will Davidson (spirituals) noon and 2 p.m. Feb. 7, 20, 21, 27-28, The Galt House (New Orleans jazz) 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Feb. 6-7, Taslimah's Ragtime Band 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Feb. 13-14, So Much Fun by Bob St. Thomas (jazz) 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Feb. 20-21 and Perfect Blend (freedom songs) 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Feb. 28 March 1, also cooking demonstrations, dramatic presentations of an African tale, historical photo exhibit, and hands-on activities to create traditional African quilts, paper beads, quilt squares, at the museum during regular hours 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, 20900 Oakwood Blvd., Dearborn. \$12.50, \$11.50 seniors, \$7.50

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DINING

Area restaurateurs predict dining trends

BY ELEANOR HEALD
SPECIAL WRITER

Millennium fever has brought a rash of predictions. Not to be left out, I interviewed area restaurant trendsetters for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.

Having opened or done conversions for eight restaurants in the last two years, Matt Prentice, president of the Unique Restaurant Corporation based in Beverly Hills, is the Detroit-metro area's prime mover and shaker.

Prentice was recognized among the top 50 "New Taste Makers," food service players shaping the tastes of tomorrow in the Jan. 25 issue of "Nation's Restaurant News," a weekly trade publication for the restaurant and food industry.

"The restaurant industry must appeal differently than it did 10 years ago," Prentice said. As an example, he pointed to Duet, his Detroit restaurant, where he has tried to embrace four elements: "look, food, entertainment and attitude." He described appearance as urban chic in feel, the food as creative, entertainment as an "anchovy can" in the bar on Friday and Saturday evenings around 10 p.m. and attitude as very comfortable and not at all stuffy.

"In the most popular restaurants across the country, there's a playful attitude with casual attire, but very serious food," he added.

As a viable trend, Prentice pointed to mashed potatoes. It began about two years ago, but it's really hot today. "We're serving a scoop of mashed potatoes in a martini glass and garnishing with rock shrimp, mango, lobster, chives or a chardonnay sauce over Yukon golds. We've even done sweet potatoes with duck cracklings."

In the cool, but going to hot category, Prentice cited pork. "It's too cheap to ignore," he said. "Pork Scallopini will be a popular menu item. Next is duck. Chefs are learning how to prepare it and in this market, we're getting it fresh from Indiana daily."

Prentice said waffles and cakes are not for breakfast or dessert anymore. Potato cakes and rice cakes will be part of

Where to locate area trend-setting restaurants mentioned:

- **Cafe Bon Homme** — 844 Penniman, Plymouth, (734) 453-6260.
- **Capital Grille** — in Somerset North, Troy (248) 649-5300.
- **Duet** — 3663 Woodward Ave. (at Mack), Detroit (313) 831-DUET.
- **Five Lakes Grill** — 424 North Main, Milford (248) 684-7455.
- **The Lark** — 6430 Farmington Road, West Bloomfield (248) 661-4466.
- **Morton's of Chicago** — 1 Towne Square, Southfield (248) 354-6006.
- **No.VI Chophouse** — 27790 Novi Road (in The Hotel Baronette), Novi (248) 305-5210.
- **Outback Steakhouse** — phone regional office (248) 539-0843 for locations.
- **P.F. Chang's** — in Somerset Collection South, Troy (248) 816-8000.
- **Ruth's Chris Steak House** — 755 W. Big Beaver, Troy (248) 269-8424.
- **Tribute** — 31425 W. 12 Mile Road., Farmington Hills (248) 848-1313.

appetizer preparations.

He predicts that in addition to P.F. Chang's and Wolfgang Puck's Cafe, more national upscale restaurant chains will come to the area. We'll see an upscale Asian restaurant with a talented chef in the mold of Executive Chef Takashi Yagihashi at Tribute. There'll also be upscale Middle Eastern and perhaps upscale vegetarian in a Kosher venue.

"There's demand for high quality at any price in dining," he continued. "It's as strong as I've ever seen it. And without doubt, there's a resurgence in prime beef. Steak houses are power dining scenes. The high-end market is controlled by Morton's, Capital Grille, No.VI Chophouse and Ruth's Chris. Mid-market is dominated by Outback Steakhouse."

Fine dining

Prentice believes restaurant prices will rise as the labor crisis in the area worsens. He also believes there will be a disappearance of bagel and coffee houses because there are too many.

"Fine dining as we've come to know it will disappear," he added. The Lark and Tribute are so good, they'll always have a niche. Old-fashioned fine dining with a piano player is out. For fine dining people will expect a top chef, exquisite wine cellar,

on-premise talented pastry chef and an experienced Maitre d'."

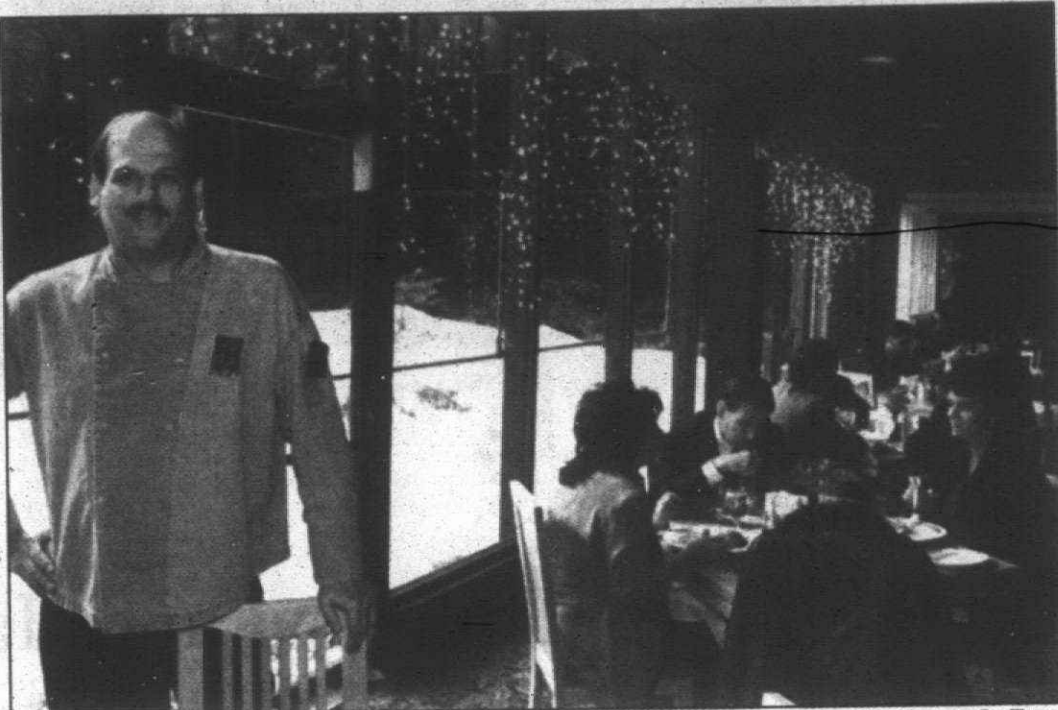
On that note, I talked to Mickey Bakst, Tribute's well-known Maitre d'. "Today's younger, affluent diners want to be recognized," he maintained. "They want a sense of friendliness and warmth in a restaurant. They also want to be visually stimulated by decor. Success of fine dining requires the human factor. It is a social event."

Bakst recognizes that service is a major part of the dining experience. "Finding people who will make serving a profession grows increasingly difficult in a tight labor market. It is a wait-person's job to instantly recognize needs of each diner. It's emotionally hard work, but a person can make a very good living if they regard the job as a profession. This is our biggest challenge: if we don't satisfy, with both great food and service, we don't deserve to succeed."

And that upscale Japanese restaurant Prentice mentioned? Bakst said he and Chef Takashi have talked about it. "In about two years," Bakst confirmed.

Quality

Bakst agrees with Prentice that the area will see more corporate (national chain) restaurants, but in the mid-price level with mass appeal. "As in all industries, the big are getting bigger and the small chef-owner



STAFF PHOTO BY GUY WARREN

New Taste Maker: Matt Prentice, president of the Unique Restaurant Corporation, at Morels, A Michigan Bistro, in Bingham Farms.

restaurant needs to be the highest quality to succeed."

On that sound byte, I interviewed two of the most successful, Brian Polcyn, chef/owner of Five Lakes Grill in Milford and Greg Goodman, chef/owner of Cafe Bon Homme in Plymouth. "Quality never goes out of style," noted Polcyn. "We must offer diners high quality, good service and perceived value."

Both Goodman's and Polcyn's cooking styles have evolved in response to what dining clientele like to eat. "Repeat diners trust the new ideas I present, but today, a daily vegetarian selection on the menu is a must," Polcyn said. It's not steamed vegetables, but five different selections cooked five different ways. People are eating more fish, which has become half of the menu."

Goodman views the "all you can eat concept" as dead. "I agree people will look for quality not quantity. Gen-Xers don't want to spend 2 1/2 hours eating. The over 45 set does not want to leave a restaurant groaning."

Our culture has been into excess, but that's over with dining. People want three or four courses at most. They want a 4-ounce fish and/or meat course.

"When diners see a higher price point, they have higher expectations. If they aren't delivered, the restaurant is history."

Travels around the world have impacted selections offered by Polcyn. "After returning from the Mediterranean, I noticed I went through that phase. Asian cuisine, as an international style, holds a lot of creative interest for me." Goodman noted that Asian-influenced food is becoming widely embraced by Gen-Xers.

Polcyn contended that his Maitre d' and wine steward Ron Edwards is an integral part of the dining experience at Five Lakes Grill. People expect to

have their taste preferences recognized.

Goodman concluded by predicting that the Detroit-metro area will be regarded as having some of the nation's best restaurants. "There's a huge economic base here, but since the area lacks convention and tourism enjoyed by Chicago, New York or San Francisco, we must attract and then retain clientele at the 80 percent level at least."

In agreement with Bakst, Polcyn commented that when James Beard was asked about which was his favorite restaurant, he responded "where they know me."

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