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IN THE PAPER TODAY

OPINION

Working together: Western Wayne communities are among those applying for a voluntary stormwater permit for the Rouge River. We applaud this effort of working cooperatively. /A14

COMMUNITY LIFE

Consumer-oriented: In the 20 years since its founding, the Suburban West Community Center has developed programs that fit in with its notion of self-determination and making its consumers an active part of the treatment. /B1

AT HOME

Beautiful life: Interior designer Alexandra Stoddard, who will discuss design and her new book at Troy's Michigan Design Center, has an eye for practicality as well as for style. /D8

ENTERTAINMENT

Jazz: Abbey Lincoln, performing March 12 at Ann Arbor's Michigan Theatre, has just released a new CD, "Wholly Earth." /E1

Popular music: A reluctant Brian Wilson talks about his music. /E1

REAL ESTATE

Worth the effort: A tidy, fixed-up home will sell fastest and bring the most money. /F1

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Charter school loses key vote



After protests from area residents, the Canton Planning Commission Monday recommended denial for construction of a charter school on Beck Road at Hanford. The township board has the final vote on March 23.

BY LILLY A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

Royal Pointe residents don't believe the adage that you can't fight city hall. With preparation, research and strength in numbers they may have kept a charter school out of their back-

yards.

About 100 residents from Royal Pointe, Sunflower Village, Fox Run subdivisions and Beck Road attended

Monday's Canton planning commission meeting to persuade the commission to recommend denial of a special land use for the proposed National Heritage Charter School on the west side of Beck, north of Hanford.

The commission voted 4-0 against the school after almost 90 minutes of debate over the proposal. Concerned residents cited the 10-acre parcel as not suitable, traffic and also listed flooding concerns, safety and health issues relating to children.

Voting on the denial recommenda-

tion were Ron Lieberman, Carl Zarbo, Sue Dodson and Cathy Johnson. Vic Gustafson, commission chairman, didn't attend; Melissa McLaughlin abstained citing a request from National Heritage Academies to sit on the charter school board (she has declined); and Robert Wade abstained because he's a former employee of the company that conducted the traffic study for the school.

The Canton Board of Trustees will

Please see **CHARTER SCHOOL**, A2

No jail time for driver in fatality

BY SCOTT DANIEL
STAFF WRITER
sdaniel@oe.hometown.com

More than three months have passed since Tiffany Morante was killed crossing Ford Road in Canton.

A measure of closure came for the 21-year-old Plymouth woman's family Monday. James P. LaRoche, the man who hit her near Beck Road, pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor charge of operating while impaired at 35th District Court in Plymouth.

The 27-year-old Northville Township man will serve no jail time. Judge John E. MacDonald sentenced him to probation and community service at a pretrial hearing.

"Tiffany Morante was one of the most beautiful people you'd ever want to meet," mother Marcia Kenely told the judge before sentencing. "She had a smile that would light up a room."

Morante was killed shortly before 2 a.m. Thanksgiving Day last year crossing Ford Road just east of Beck in Canton Township. She was hit by LaRoche, who was driving westbound on Ford.

Canton police said that he tried to avoid Morante before hitting her. She was struck by the driver's side front fender of his car, however.

Morante was dead at the scene. LaRoche, who was alone in the vehicle, was uninjured.

Shortly before the accident, Canton police received several phone calls saying Morante was wandering down the middle of Ford Road. Kenely denied

Please see **FATALITY**, A4

Ready for action: John Prowse begins his daily rounds on Clampton Court after a light snowfall last Thursday.



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURSCHEMANN

Mail carrier delivers smiles all along his Canton route

EVERYDAY HEROES



BY LILLY A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night keeps John Prowse from delivering mail with a smile on his face and a

spring in his step.

Prowse has been a Canton mail carrier in Carriage Hills subdivision for 10 years and loves his job every day. And it doesn't go without notice. Observer reader Janet Hammons nominated Prowse for excellent cus-

tomers service recognition due to his disposition.

"It can be the worst weather; icy, snowy and the wind blowing and he is always smiling," Hammons said. "The world would be a better place if we had more people like him."

Prowse attests that he enjoys life and cares about people.

"If I am alive, I am happy," he said. "I like all the customers on my route and I want to do a good job for them," explained Prowse.

He says he takes special care in making sure his customers get checks and parcels in a timely manner.

"I do everything on my end to follow up if a customer asks me about a delivery they are expecting," Prowse said.

During the holiday season if he knows a customer is waiting for a gift, he personalizes his service by knocking on the door and wishing them a Merry Christmas as he makes the delivery.

If this sounds like your mail carrier, it may be if you live on Clampton Court, North or South Umberland, Montfort, LeeAnn, Regis streets or Tudor Court.

Please see **EVERYDAY HEROES**, A3

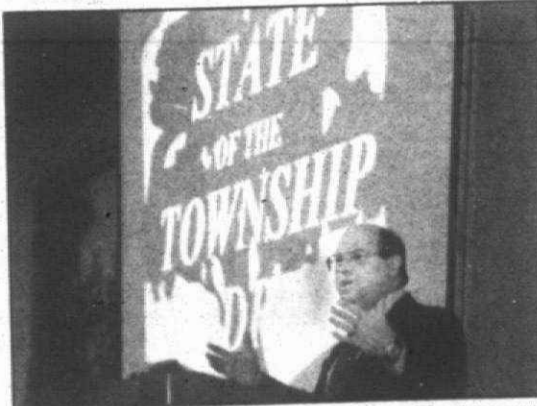
Yack offers look back, ahead in speech

BY SCOTT DANIEL
STAFF WRITER
sdaniel@oe.hometown.com

The leader of western Wayne County. That's how Supervisor Tom Yack sees Canton. In his annual State of the Township Address Wednesday at the Summit, he said Canton has moved from obscurity to front of the class in terms of leadership.

"Ten years ago," Yack told a crowd of about 300 at the monthly Canton Chamber of Commerce luncheon, "Canton was just a blip on the radar screen. Now, we look like an aircraft carrier."

It was Yack's 11th address. In just more than 50 minutes, he outlined Canton's economic health, the township's quest to expand recreation and efforts to improve the roads, among others.



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURSCHEMANN

Reaction to the informative, low-key speech was positive. Canton Chamber of Commerce Exec-

At the podium: Canton Supervisor Tom Yack talked about changes in Canton over the last 10 years - and what lies ahead in the new millennium - during Wednesday's annual State of the Township Address.

"The fact that there is a tremendous amount of growth and progress continuing in Canton is evidence," he commented.

Ambrozaitis said a solid relationship between the township and chamber has helped in that regard. He credited Yack's foresight as well.

"There's wonderful cooperation and teamwork in the community," Ambrozaitis said. "Tom is the person that's leading that vision."

Tom Gerou, a local chiropractor and Canton resident, said the speech offered a good vision for the future and an idea of where Canton stands in relation to other area communities. Much has changed in how Canton has developed in the past few years, according to Yack.

Please see **SPEECH**, A5

Project Health-O-Rama moves to new location

BY LILLY A. EVANS
STAFF WRITER

An all-volunteer staff of health professionals and area residents will provide the community with free and low-cost health screening 8 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 20, as Saint Joseph Mercy Canton Health Building hosts Project Health-O-Rama 1999.

The site for the third annual event in Canton has shifted from Summit on the Park, which drew about 200 people in each of the first two years.

Anyone over 18 years of age will be able to take advantage of one-stop preventive health screening that could

prevent major health problems from occurring.

Becky Williams, nurse and local site coordinator, encourages residents to partake in Health-O-Rama even if they're feeling healthy.

"If you find things before you have symptoms you are in a much better position for treating them," she said.

Although seniors and others without health insurance typically make up the bulk of attendees, the event is open to anyone, Williams explained.

The free tests will include blood pressure, hearing, vision, body composition, depression screening, massage therapy, podiatry screening, nutrition coun-

seling and health education.

The preventive lab procedures, which are provided by medical professionals for a nominal fee, will include a blood panel test of 23 profiles; screening for ulcers and gastritis; prostate specific antigen blood test for men; CA-125 reproductive problems test for women; colorectal screening take-home kits to detect ulcers, colitis and cancer; and bone density testing.

Williams encourages people to come in for the 23 profile blood panel because they may not receive such in-depth blood work from a doctor.

Please see **HEALTH-O-RAMA**, A5

For Your Health

■ **What:** Project Health-O-Rama, a day of free and low-cost health screening services

■ **When:** 8 a.m.-noon, Saturday, March 20

■ **Where:** St. Joseph Mercy Canton Health Building, 1600 S. Canton Center Road, Canton

■ **Needed:** Driver's license or other identification (participants must be 18 or older)

■ **Information:** Health-O-Rama Hotline (248) 424-8600 or St. Joseph Mercy (734) 712-5206

Fatality from page A1

that her daughter was trying to get hit. "Suicide was not an issue," she said, adding that LaRoche was culpable. "He made a conscious decision to get in the car after he was drinking."

Kenely asked MacDonald not to go lightly on LaRoche. "I hope that he will be punished to the fullest extent of the law," she said.

LaRoche was found to have a blood alcohol level of .08, meaning that he was legally impaired at the time of the accident. A level of .10 is considered legally drunk in Michigan.

Both Morante and LaRoche had been at Bailey's Pub, which is located about a mile away from the accident scene at Ford Road and Canton Center. Township police said they were not together.

LaRoche declined comment on the case. Detroit-based attorney Michael J. Kennitz said it was his client's first offense.

Morante, a 1995 Plymouth Salem graduate, was a senior at



Tiffany Morante

Michigan State University. She was studying merchandise management.

"She was a good student," Kenely told the Observer shortly after her daughter's death. "She was so full of energy."

Morante was the last of four pedestrians or bicyclists that were killed in Canton last year. No such deaths have been recorded thus far in 1999.

Sex assault court hearing delayed

BY SCOTT DANIEL
STAFF WRITER
sdaniel@homecomm.net

A preliminary examination for a 37-year-old Monroe man accused of raping a Livonia woman last December was adjourned Monday.

The court hearing for Mitchell Dean Sproessig, charged with four counts of first-degree criminal sexual conduct, will be held Friday at the 35th District Court in Plymouth.

Sproessig will be charged as a habitual offender. He's currently on parole from a 1985 Texas conviction on a similar charge.

If convicted, Sproessig will have to serve a minimum of five years on each new count.

An attorney for him asked District Court Judge John E. MacDonald for adjournment and discovery time on Monday. The measures were designed to help prepare a defense for Sproessig.

MacDonald granted both requests. He continued a

\$750,000 cash bond and rescheduled the exam for Friday at 10:30 a.m.

Sproessig, who came to court dressed in jeans, a brown button up shirt and sneakers, remains in the Wayne County Jail.

He was arrested without incident Feb. 17 at a Taylor apartment complex. Sproessig was then arraigned the following day at the district court.

The victim, a 23-year-old Livonia Realtor, was working in a model home in Canton when the incident occurred Dec. 23.

According to township police reports, Sproessig entered the model home and began questioning the woman. He then grabbed her and sexually assaulted her in a bedroom, police said.

She suffered minor injuries trying to get away from Sproessig.

Police departments from Livonia, Dearborn Heights and Taylor assisted Canton in apprehending him.



Defendant: Mitchell Dean Sproessig talks to the media at an earlier court appearance.

Trumpets among items stolen in arts conservatory break-in

BY SCOTT DANIEL
STAFF WRITER
sdaniel@homecomm.net

About \$6,000 worth of equipment was recently stolen from the Southeast Michigan Arts

Conservatory.

A compact disc player, a computer and a pair of trumpets were among the items taken either late Thursday night or early Friday morning. One of the

trumpets belonged to Conservatory Director Jeffrey Myers.

"I had it since I was 18 years old," he said. "It followed me everywhere. It was a significant loss."

It's the third time the conservatory has been broken into since opening last June.

A candy machine was broken into twice with change being stolen. Myers thinks each of the break-ins may have been done by the same person.

"I would suspect that it is," he added. "But it's hard to tell. We feel it's someone that has an idea of how the building is laid

out."

The conservatory is located on Canton Center Road just north of Ford. Myers said he and another employee left the building shortly before 10 p.m. Thursday. He returned Friday morning to find the door pried open.

Township police reports said trash had been spilled across the floor near the west entrance of the building. The CD player was removed from a table while the

computer and trumpets came from separate offices, according to reports.

"It's extremely frustrating," Myers said of the break-in. He plans on making it tougher to burglarize the arts conservatory.

A new front door will likely be installed, said Myers. Other doors will be chained at the end of the day.

Police have no suspects in the incident.

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS MARCH 11, 1999
Notice is hereby given that there will be a meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 1999 AT 7:30 P.M. The meeting will be held in the First Floor Meeting Room in the Township Administration Building located at 1150 S. CANTON CENTER ROAD.
The following Agenda will be discussed:
Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
Roll Call: Cisek, Demopoulos, Johnson, Redfern
Acceptance of Agenda
1. Claudio Rossi of 45380 West Ten Mile Road Novi, MI 48375 (248-349-0582) representing Huntington Place II, L.L.C. For 2976 Wakefield Ct. Canton, MI. They are appealing Article 26.02 Schedule of Regulation Requirements for Agricultural & Residential Districts. They are requesting a rear yard setback variance at the Southeast corner of the house in order to accommodate custom house plans for the homeowner.
Parcel # 71-111-03-0098-000 (Building)
2. Kermitt & Annette Coleman of 51262 Cherry Hill Road Canton, MI 48187 (482-0883) are appealing 26.02 and requesting a variance of 34 acres from the 40 acre minimum lot size in the RA District and a 170 ft. Variance for the 600 ft. Minimum lot width requirement in the RA district along the Napier Road right of way.
Parcel # 071-99-002-001 and 071-99-002-002 (Planning)
3. Edward and Dorothy Lough of 48485 Gyde Road in Canton, MI 48187 are appealing 26.02 (variance of 20' from the minimum 150' lot width and depth ratio for the easterly parcel.) and Section 2.10D (variance to the design requirements for a Class I Private Road to allow the current driveway to be used in lieu of construction of the gravel road)
Parcel # 71-019-99-0014-001 and 71-019-99-0014-002 (Planning)
4. Fox Run Development Corporation of 41400 Dequindre, Suite 105 Sterling Heights, MI 48314 (810-726-9850) are appealing Article 6 Section 6.03D Side Yard Setbacks in a R-2 Cluster Zone. For Fellows Creek Estates Sub Parcel # 031-99-002-002, 031-99-012-714 and 031-99-014-000. (Planning)
5. SSOE Inc. (Craig Midland) of 1050 Wilshire Dr. Suite 260 Troy, MI 48064 (248-643-6222) is representing Meier, Inc. (Tom Megovern) of 4411 Plainfield, NE Grand Rapids, MI 49505 (616-365-5155) for property located at 45001 Ford Road Canton MI 48187. They are appealing Article 29 Section 9, Item 9.1 of the Building Sign Ordinance.
Parcel #058-99-0003-710 (Building)
TERRY G. BENNETT, Clerk
Publish: March 4, 1999

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON PUBLIC NOTIFICATION
NOTICE THE CANTON PUBLIC SAFETY RECORDS BUREAU WILL BE CLOSED ON MARCH 9 & 10, 1999 AND REOPEN FOR BUSINESS ON MARCH 11, 1999 AT 1:00 PM. THE RECORDS BUREAU WILL RESUME NORMAL BUSINESS HOURS ON FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 1999, 8:30 AM UNTIL 5:00 PM. THE RECORDS BUREAU WILL HAVE SPECIAL HOURS ON SATURDAY, MARCH 13TH FROM 8:00 AM UNTIL 12:00 PM.
Publish: March 4 and 7, 1999

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON ACCESS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS
The Charter Township of Canton will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting/hearing upon two weeks notice to the Charter Township of Canton. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Charter Township of Canton by writing or calling the following:
David Medley
ADA Coordinator
Charter Township of Canton
1150 S. Canton Center Road
Canton, MI 48188
(734) 397-5435
Publish: March 4, 1999

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Man charged following I-275 police chase

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER
dclem@homecomm.net

A Westland bowling alley break-in early Tuesday escalated into high-speed chases, the attempted killing of a police officer and, finally, a two-vehicle crash that ended the dramatic ordeal, authorities said.

Incredibly, no one was reported seriously injured as innocent motorists slammed their brakes and swerved on major roads to avoid hitting suspects, who led Westland and Canton officers at

speeds up to 90 mph, police reports said.

A Taylor man faces six felony charges for the incident that started at 5:33 a.m. at Vision Lanes bowling alley, on Ford Road east of Hix in Westland.

Police arrested but later released a female companion and a Redford man who was initially believed to have been with the Taylor pair. Instead, he was in an area where police closed in on suspects.

"He just happened to be in the wrong place at the wrong time," Westland police Lt. Marc Stobbe

said Wednesday afternoon.

Only one suspect now faces charges for allegations of breaking into the bowling alley and stealing \$200 from a cash register. A custodian heard the break-in and fled the building, police reports said.

Alerted to the break-in, Westland officers began trailing a stolen, 1988 Plymouth Voyager that pulled from the bowling alley parking lot and headed west on Ford at a high rate of speed, swerving through traffic and turning north on I-275, the reports said.

Some I-275 motorists "slammed

to a sudden stop" to avoid hitting the van, which passed one semitruck on the left shoulder and - with headlights shut off - drove across a grassy median and headed south on the interstate, police said.

Briefly eluding police, the van was soon spotted by Canton officers at an I-275 rest stop near Palmer Road, where the Taylor pair got out of the vehicle, police reports said.

Using police dogs, Canton officers tracked suspects through a wooded area toward Lotz Road about the time that Westland Sgt.

Jeff Tryzinski was hot on their trail in a residential area along Blue Springs Court, police reports said.

Officers eventually arrested two people nearby, including the Redford man and the Taylor woman who now have been released, police said.

As Tryzinski was outside of his vehicle, however, the remaining suspect managed to get inside of the police Explorer and flee in it, authorities said.

"As the Westland officer was attempting to arrest one of the (initial) suspects, a second suspect

drove off in his patrol vehicle," a Canton press release said. "The suspect attempted to run over the Westland officer, who fired one shot at the suspect inside the vehicle."

In his own account, Tryzinski noted, "I was in fear in fear for my life as the vehicle was coming at a very dangerous rate (of speed) and I had no options to retreat..."

As Tryzinski fired the shot, the suspect swerved and began driving through back yards along Blue Springs Court until reaching Palmer, where he headed west, reports said.

Health-O-Rama from page A1

"It's unusual for the doctor to order a blood test with 23 profiles, it's very thorough and we only charge \$24 for a \$150 value," Williams said.

The lab tests can be paid by check, cash or money order. Health insurance and credit cards will not be accepted.

Many of the volunteer health professionals are from St. Joseph Hospital and Dr. Bharati Srivastava of geriatrics from the Canton building has volunteered to conduct depression screening, which is new this year.

Speech from page A1

It wasn't long ago when Ford Road was a distinct boundary in housing. Those that lived north had higher value.

"The aura of Plymouth was cast over the house," said Yack. "If that same house was somehow transported south of Ford, the value slipped away."

The supervisor said developments like Pheasant Run and Glenlary Village have changed that trend.

"Now people are wondering when we're going to do something in the north," Yack joked.

Canton's economic vitality is unmatched in western Wayne County, he said.

Since 1990, the township's state equalized value has jumped from \$500 million to \$2 billion. Low taxes have helped keep Canton's economic engine running strong.

Yack pointed out that just 12 percent of the community's mileage goes to operating government.

"Eighty percent is for police and fire," he said. "We do a lot on not much, really."

Recreational facilities and parkland set Canton apart from many of its neighbors, Yack told the audience.

Parkland acreage has jumped from 130 acres in 1988 to 380 acres currently. The number of parks have also doubled in that timeframe.

Facilities like Pheasant Run golf course and the Summit are the envy of other communities, Yack added.

"It has made us a leader in that area," he said. "We've got the best community center."

As for roads, there are more than 25 miles of new pavement.

Ramas in Canton. Canton joins 72 other sites for this year's Project Health-O-Rama. Other locations include sites in Detroit, Wayne, Macomb and Oakland counties. Canton residents are encouraged to go to any site if they can't make it to the local one on March 20. Most of the other sites have March dates and a few are in April. Schedules are available.

The statewide project is run by

United Health Organization, a segment of United Way. This is the 20th annual Health-O-Rama.

Local sponsors include The Observer Newspapers, Summit on the Park, Canton Chamber of Commerce and Saint Joseph Mercy Health System.

Volunteer Coordinator Kathleen Salla is seeking volunteers to greet, register and hand out literature. She said it is a great opportunity for people who need to fulfill community service credits for school or church.

For volunteer opportunities, call (734) 397-6450.

For more information about Health-O-Rama, call (734) 712-5206 or for information on other sites, call PROJECT HOTLINE, (248) 424-8600.

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Bidders on auction items boost scholarship funds

By Heather Needham
STAFF WRITER

How much are you willing to pay for a weekend getaway at the historic Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island? Dinner for 40? Madonna University is hoping to get people's competitive juices flowing at its 11th annual "Around the World Scholarship Dinner Auction" at 5:30 p.m. Friday, April 16 in Laurel Manor, 39000 Schoolcraft.

The highest bidders will get to take home retired Beanie Babies, tickets for vacations, autographed sports memorabilia and more. The proceeds help

provide scholarship funding for approximately 160 Madonna University students, according to Andrea Nodge, Madonna's director of marketing and public relations.

This year, part of the funding will go toward making the residence hall handicapped-accessible, she said.

One auction-goer will become the owner of a brand-new Cadillac Sedan DeVille. No more than 750 raffle tickets will be sold at \$200 each. If all 750 tickets are sold, \$150,000 will be generated from the raffle alone.

Nodge said people go to the fund-raising auction for a variety of reasons but end up coming

back for the entertainment.

"I think that when people come to a Madonna University auction it's for a higher purpose," Nodge said, referring to the fund-raising aspect. "But when they do come, they have some fun. It's a fun event with good camaraderie and a nice meal."

Proceeds from the auction will provide scholarship funding for Madonna University students and will support other projects, making higher education accessible to a diverse student body. The event will begin 5:30 p.m. with a silent auction followed by dinner and a live auction. The goal for this year's auction is

MADONNA UNIVERSITY

Auctioneer Dan Stall Jr. of Birmingham will field the bids. A sampling of the items up for bid include Northwest Airlines tickets to Hawaii and other destinations throughout the continental U.S., weekend getaways to the Stratford Festival in Ontario and the "Somewhere in Time Weekend" on Mackinac Island at the Grand Hotel; a weekend sailing trip on the award-winning "Charisma" from Mackinac Island to Beaver Island; a cruise aboard the new "Infinity" yacht and several Florida vacations.

Also auctioned will be dinner for 40 at Under the Eagle Restaurant, \$2,000 worth of advertising from the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, a 20-person suite with food and drinks for a Red Wings playoff game,

and signed sports memorabilia from Ted Lindsay, Alex Delvecchio, Adam Oates and John Salley, among others. The auction will also include a wide selection of retired Beanie Babies.

Laura Frances Welling of Livonia, the reigning 1998 Miss Michigan and Ladywood High School graduate, will attend the auction.

The official sponsors of the 1999 auction are Don Massey Cadillac Inc., Northwest Airlines, Kimcraft Printers Inc. and Al Long Ford Inc.

For tickets or more information, call (734) 432-5588 or (734) 432-5421.

Airport reorganization calls for parking oversight

By Ken Abramczyk
STAFF WRITER
kabrachy@ecce.com

David Katz, director of Detroit Wayne County Metropolitan Airport, has proposed an airport reorganization plan that will include a concessions and quality assurance division to oversee parking and food concessions.

He also has submitted a new airport parking contract to the county commission using the same operator whose practices were questioned in an audit released in December.

The new division is Katz's plan to resolve some of the problems with airport operations detailed in an audit released by Wayne County Auditor General Brendan Dunleavy.

Dunleavy said Wayne County should have

received \$1 million more in taxes for valet parking from 1992-97 from airport parking operator APCOA. Dunleavy also questioned the lack of competitive bidding or management approval of several expense items and the costs of lease agreements and parking machine maintenance. The audit report was approved Feb. 18 by county commissioners with an expected follow-up to be completed at a later date.

In an interview last week, Katz said the report brings up some "excellent" points and the airport

The new division is Katz's plan to resolve some of the problems with airport operations detailed in a recent audit.

is making "significant adjustments" since it was first released in December.

The report found certain practices in the airport parking operation could be reducing revenue to Wayne County's general fund.

Dunleavy said \$1.1 million in parking taxes for Wayne County was under-reported and \$300,000 for the city of Romulus due to airport parking operator APCOA's practice of deducting labor costs from the valet parking

receipts before calculating the parking tax.

Not only were parking taxes underreported, but interest revenue on parking tax receipts were not credited back to the airport and fees to parking operator APCOA were overpaid.

Under state law the parking operator is to collect a 30 percent airport parking tax on each vehicle using the service. "Our audit revealed that the operator was only paying taxes on about 25 percent of the total charge for valet parking," Dunleavy reported.

Airport officials told auditors they have begun to calculate the tax on the full charge of valet parking, but also want a formal determination from the Michigan Department of Treasury before committing

Please see AIRPORT, A12

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Friends of Rouge seek groups to help with promotion of rivers, environment

By Heather Needham
STAFF WRITER

The Friends of the Rouge want everyone to think about rivers on June 5.

The 14-year-old organization is looking for groups interested in initiating environment-oriented activities on that date, dubbed "Rouge River Day."

The Friends of the Rouge will sponsor its annual Rouge River cleanup, but this year that group and other volunteer organizations will expand the day's focus to include other Southeast Michigan rivers such as the Clinton, Detroit and Huron.

"We want to increase the

number of opportunities to participate in activities on Rouge River Day," said Jim Graham, executive director of Friends of the Rouge. "Everything that might be remotely related to rivers or the environment is fair game."

Expanding the scope to include other watersheds was a positive step, he said.

"The fact that we're working together for the first time is very, very promising," Graham said. "There are ways we can share resources, not only on our own watershed."

Increased attention to the Rouge over the years has resulted in decreased fecal coliform

bacteria caused by raw sewage and increased oxygen levels.

"The most dramatic improvement is that it looks a lot better," Graham said.

Upgraded sewer systems have also improved the river's health by ensuring that less sewage goes into it, he added.

Other local river communities are invited to sponsor a local event anytime on that date. Local community groups, businesses, scout troops, church groups, school groups, environmental clubs and others can organize a variety of community events to focus attention on water resources.

Ideas include nature hikes, storm drain stenciling, school yard cleanups, water quality monitoring, canoe trips, fishing events, park cleanup, invasive plant removal and photo contests.

Friends of the Rouge can provide support by matching groups with potential volunteers, donated materials and supplies.

Organizational meetings are planned for 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 24, and 10 a.m. Wednesday, April 14, at Henry Ford Community College's Dearborn Heights campus, 22586 Ann Arbor Trail, between Outer Drive and Warren. For more information, call (313) 792-9900.

High school students eligible for exchange program

High school students in grades nine, 10 and 11 are invited to apply to a statewide student exchange program that would take them to Shiga, Japan, for two weeks this summer.

The program is the Michigan-Shiga Student Exchange Program, sponsored by the Michigan Department of Education. Twenty Michigan students are selected to participate each year, and then paired with 20 Japanese students with similar interests.

The Michigan students will live with host families and attend school with the Shiga exchange students from July 1-17. Then, Sept. 11-26, the Japanese students will come

here and spend two weeks with the Michigan families, attending school with their exchange students.

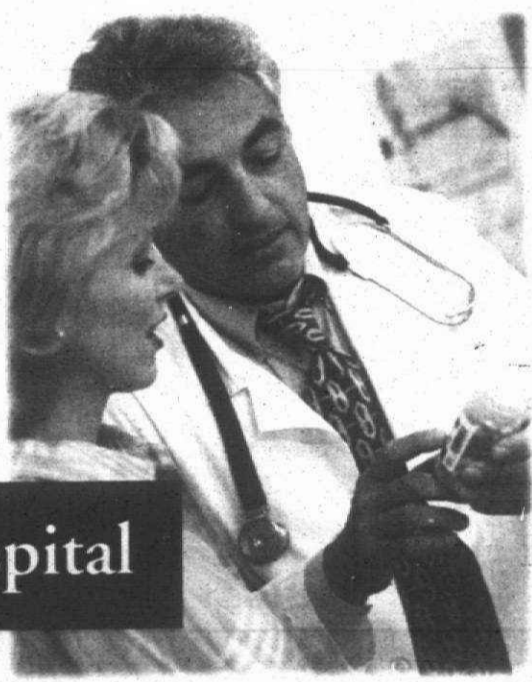
The cost of the program is approximately \$1,600, which is based mainly on the cost of the round-trip tickets. Any student who is adventurous, likes to meet new people and is open-minded qualifies for the program. Knowledge of Japanese students will come

but not necessary. There is an orientation in early May to acquaint students and parents with Japanese customs and basic language.

Students interested in applying can receive an application and descriptive brochure from their high school counselor. For more information, call John Chapman at (517) 373-1262 or Jan Ridenour at (517) 224-6831.

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Job fair is planned for March 26

Michigan employers are invited to take part in the 23rd Michigan Collegiate Job Fair 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, March 26, at Burton Manor, 27777 Schoolcraft in Livonia.

The fair is co-sponsored by Wayne State and Eastern Michigan universities and promoted by more than 70 other four-year and two-year institutions. ESJ, the Engineering Society, is a supporting sponsor.

The fair is expected to draw 1,000 to 1,200 seniors and recent alumni from colleges and universities throughout Michigan and surrounding states.

The employer registration fee is \$325. Included in that cost is floor space, table, parking, lunch and refreshments for up to four recruiters per firm.

Registration is first-come, first-served and should be submitted as soon as possible. For more information, call Nannette McCleary of Wayne State at (313) 577-9947 or Renee Elliott at (734) 487-4395 for information or contact local university or college placement offices or visit the Internet: www.sa.wayne.edu

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Farmers facing tough markets sell out to developers

BY TIM RICHARD
STAFF WRITER
trichard@oe.homecomm.net

They're usually optimists, but Michigan farmers may be facing a crisis due to low corn prices and suburban sprawl, a legislative committee was told.

"They're close to very, very difficult times," Ron Nelson of the Michigan Farm Bureau told the House Economic Development Committee March 2.

"Corn is selling at \$1.75 a bushel, and it costs \$2.50 to produce. Milk costs as much to pro-

duce as it sells for. It's going to be hard for farmers to pay interest on their loans," Nelson said.

He said "coffee house" chats indicate some are going out of business as pressure for development mounts, though they always expect this year will be good. "Assume farmland sells for \$1,000 an acre - that's reasonable. For development, it may bring \$10,000. Many farmers are deciding to cash out and try something else."

Committee chair Valde Garcia, R-St. Johns, raised the subject

when he said he had heard two-thirds of farmers aren't making a profit and that agribusiness is "a year away from crisis."

Rep. Patricia Lockwood, D-Fenton, said, "Urban sprawl is a thread going through many communities." Urban sprawl means the eating up of open land, particularly farmland, at rates faster than justified by population growth.

Nelson cited an unidentified farm of 160 acres that was a "cow-calf" beef operation, but now is the site of 700 manufac-

tured houses. "It won't be long before the rest (of surrounding farms) find it's too expensive to operate (as farms)," he said.

"For them, development makes perfect sense. It's two miles from the expressway. From the standpoint of agriculture, it makes no sense. Assessments will go up."

Proposal A of 1994 gives farmers some protection: Assessments can't rise faster than the rate of consumer price inflation. But if an aging farmer transfers the property to his children, they'll pay the higher assess-

ments dictated by the real estate market.

Nelson said the concept of governmental purchase of development rights (PDR) has potential for saving farmland, but "can we purchase PDR for the entire state? There's not enough money."

Grand Traverse and Leelanau counties have inaugurated PDR programs to save farms, but Washtenaw County voters last year rejected the idea.

Nelson was asked what the state Jobs Commission, succe-

ssor to the Department of Commerce, has done for farming. "The Jobs Commission is locked into new jobs," Nelson replied, but is doing less for in-state job transfers.

In other testimony before the House panel:

■ Kristi Clemens of the Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce said there's a shortage of skilled workers for a "technology-driven global marketplace," and a need for government to ease business expansion in "brownfields" of older cities.

2 seats open on SC board

Nominating petitions are available for two seats, each for six-year terms, on the Schoolcraft College Board of Trustees for the upcoming biennial election of trustees on June 14.

Candidates must live in the Schoolcraft College district, which includes the school districts of Clarenceville, Garden City, Livonia, Northville, Plymouth-Canton and part of Novi. They also must be registered voters.

Petitions are available in the office of Schoolcraft President Richard McDowell in the Grote Administration Center and must be returned to the secretary by 4 p.m. Monday, April 12. The office is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.

The signatures of not less than 50 nor more than 200 qualified voters are required for nominations. Candidates are asked to circulate petitions so that those signing any one petition are residents of a single school district. There is no charge for filing petitions.

The seats are currently held by Patricia Watson, who is board president and a Northville resident, and Greg Stempien, also of Northville and a Livonia attorney, who was appointed in January 1998 to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of John Walsh.

Trustees do not receive compensation.

Seminar to focus on study of Japan

Madonna University is one of eight U.S. colleges and universities chosen to participate in a yearlong seminar focused on Japan.

The seminar is offered through the Association of American Colleges and Universities to assist education centers in their efforts to become more global in their orientation and programs.

Twenty-four faculty members, three each from eight institutions, first attended a two-day orientation meeting in San Francisco in January.

Next, they will receive five months of on-campus study, followed by a three-week summer visit to Japan and a fall semester.

Madonna faculty participating are Kathleen O'Dowd, Ph.D., professor, literature; Denise St. Arnault, Ph.D., assistant professor, nursing; Dennis Bozyk, associate professor, history; Betty Jean Hebel, Ph.D., professor, marketing and chair, business graduate program, will serve as an alternate.

Each of the Madonna professors will concentrate on their particular discipline to learn how they can incorporate Japan-related content into the curriculum, O'Dowd said.

In July, when the faculty go to Japan, they will visit three or four major areas including Kyoto, Hiroshima and Tokyo and explore traditional, industrial, political-economic and regional aspects of Japan. They will also meet with a group with a variety of academic colleagues and other leaders in Japan.

By the end of 1999, each team will be expected to develop and share plans for the wider inclusion of Japan-related topics in curriculum. The work will be featured nationally through publications, web-site and conferences.

Others participating in the project are Baruch College-CUNY, Catholic University of America, Davidson College, Gustavus Adolphus College, Lincoln University, Swarthmore College and Wichita State University.

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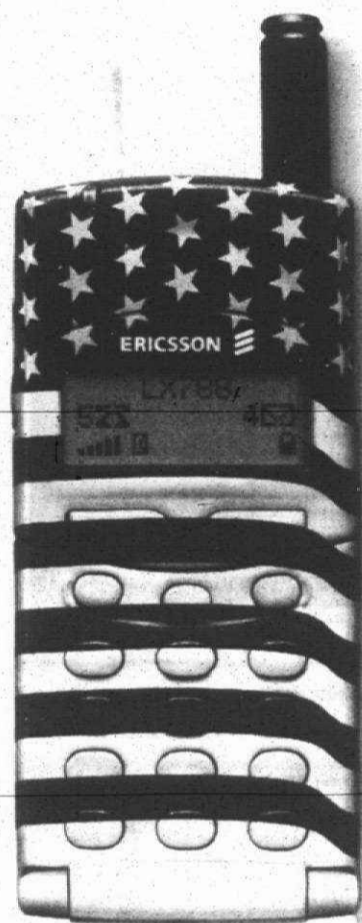
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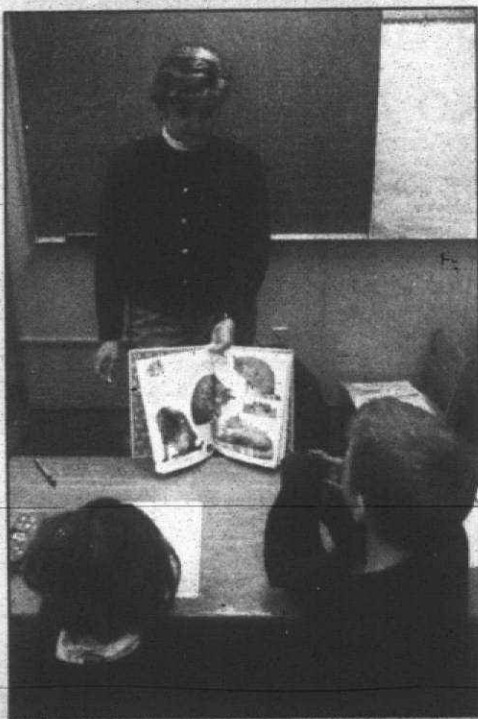
Discussion: Madlein Kabrossi (left), teacher at the Learning Center discusses a story with Caitlin Penny, 9, (center) of Redford and Andrew Easow, 9, of Livonia.

READING ENGAGES ACTIVE PARTNERS



Together: Teacher Marilyn Nagy reads a story with Heather Abbe, 12, of Garden City.

Reviewing: Teacher Kate Uberti at the Madonna University Learning Center goes over a story with Courtney McAdoo, 7, (left) of Canton and Eric Puschak, 7, of Livonia.



STAFF PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY

Fun, games make kids better readers

BY HEATHER NEEDHAM
STAFF WRITER

For nearly half a century, a Madonna University reading program has helped transform struggling young readers into accomplished ones. The Reading Engages Active Partners program, in its 49th year, takes struggling readers from elementary, middle and high schools from across metro Detroit and gives them one-on-one tutoring once a week. The classes are taught by Madonna faculty and by community volunteers.

Madlein Kabrossi of Livonia, a volunteer and Madonna graduate, said the program is effective for both students and tutors.

"I was just so impressed," she said. "(The program) is such a wonderful thing. The basic training that Madonna gave us

■ The students use games, such as 'Go Fish,' to learn words.

makes it so much easier."

A typical class consists of one-on-one or two-on-one tutoring, reading aloud, word games and discussion.

The students use games, such as "Go Fish," to learn words. In one recent lesson, Kabrossi had her two students ask each other if they had particular words, which were written on small squares of construction paper. Then they had to use the word in a sentence and spell it.

William Deuchere, a 9-year-old Hull Elementary student, was winning. Then Kabrossi learned why.

"You are going to be the

biggest cheater in poker," Kabrossi said scoldingly to Deuchere, who was able to read his partner's cards.

Kabrossi said she would rewrite the cards using lighter colored ink.

The games help make the sessions more enjoyable, Kabrossi said.

"They get the idea that reading is fun," she said. "They get involved in the story."

In the first five-10 minutes of each session, the students review the previous lesson. At the end, they review the day's lesson and listen to the tutor read. Kabrossi read portions of "The Secret Garden," by Frances Hodgson Burnett until the bell rang.

In the past, workbooks and "ditto" sheets were the norm in

Please see READERS, A12



Beaming: Madonna University Learning Center Director Sister Mary Duane Rydel is proud of the program.

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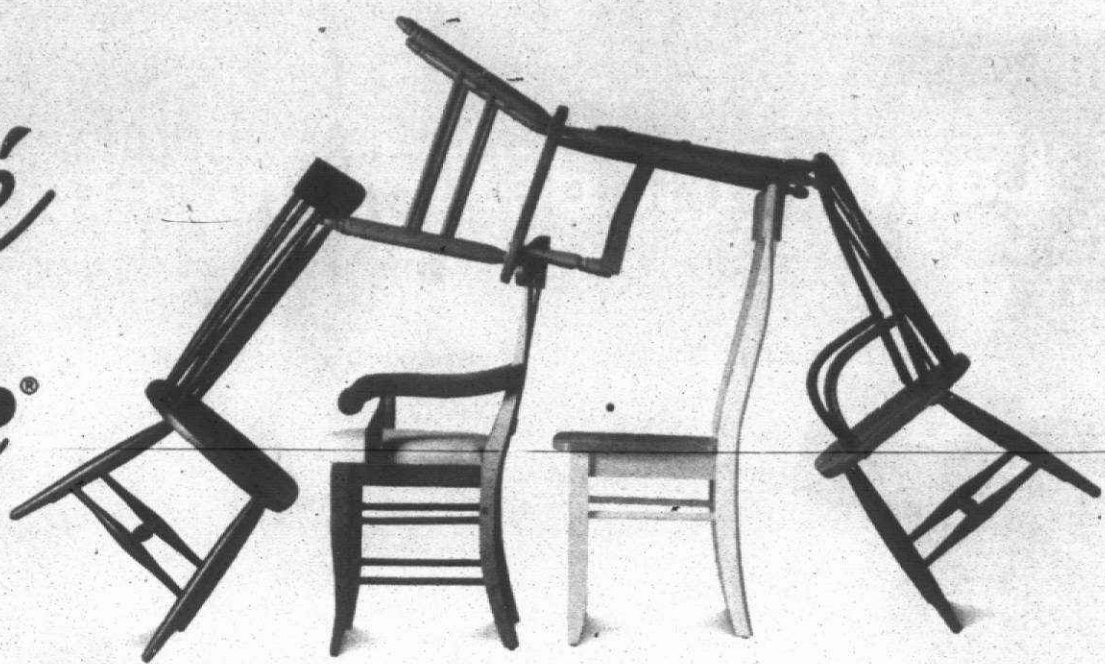
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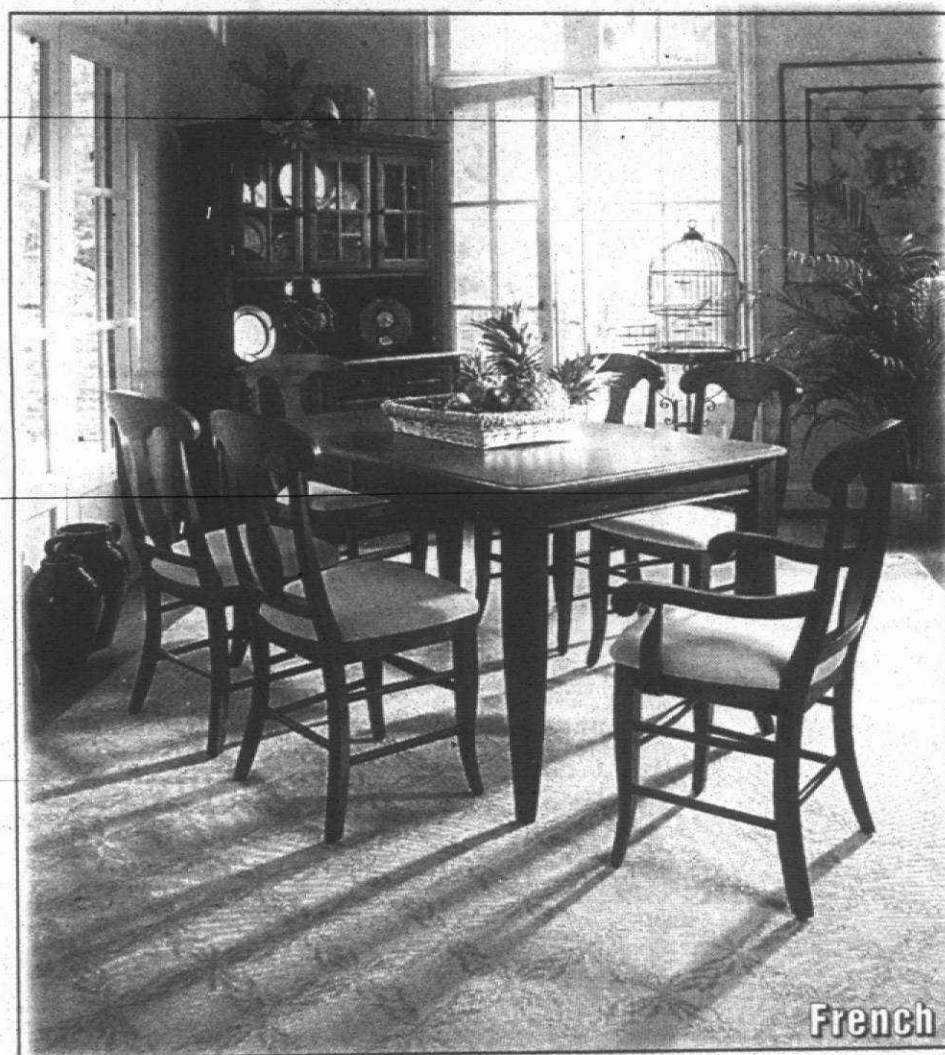
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Airport from page A7

ting to pay the underreported amount.

Katz said the state treasurer, county commissioners and governor agreed with the airport in 1987 to levy the parking tax at a lesser amount. "The airport did it because we wanted to minimize the impact to the citizens," Katz said.

"I'm not sure Brendan's right, he may be right. It depends on your interpretation of statute."

The money was collected for the parking tax, sent to Lansing and then sent to Wayne County.

Katz said APCOA acted properly with the tax.

"It's not some skulduggery. The money stayed here at the airport. The new (commission) wants us to tax the whole thing. The policy is to tax the whole \$20."

Agreement questioned

Dunleavy questioned APCOA's 18-month lease agreements for which the firm is reimbursed by the airport. These agreements cost an average of \$28,000 per vehicle, based on unlimited mileage. The auditor general's office discussed these leases with an independent dealer and

obtained a quote for similar vehicle leases for comparison purposes.

"Based on the quote, it appears the airport could have leased the majority of these vehicles for an average of about \$17,000 per vehicle. At this rate, the airport could be paying as much as \$400,000 too much to lease the 37 vehicles."

The dealer also said the majority of these vehicles could have been purchased outright for an average price of about \$21,000 each. Based on the auditor's work, the operator said they had begun replacing these leases for 16 of the 37 vehicles. New vehicle lease averages about \$13,500 over the term of the agreement.

Dunleavy said the operator could not provide evidence that the leases were competitively bid. Katz said he has sent a letter asking for competitive bids from the airport operators.

"We also sent some equipment guys to Ford Motor Company to give us their assessment," Katz said. "We asked them 'Were they priced reasonably?'"

The lease agreement was priced high because liability costs are so high and so many

miles are put on the vehicles, Katz said.

Practices conflict

During the audit, Dunleavy's staff identified several practices that conflict with county policies and ordinances.

"These practices include failure to employ sound business practices, including failure to obtain competitive bids and failure to adhere to the county's appropriations ordinance by extending an expired contract on a month-to-month basis over the last several years without notifying the commission."

Not obtaining competitive bids for significant purchases has several implications, Dunleavy said.

"We believe this contributed to the excessive cost reimbursed by the airport for airport parking operations, denied small and minority business owners an opportunity to compete for contracts and raises concern about the integrity of the contracting process employed by county vendors at the airport."

Katz said he recently issued a

directive stating that contractors are to comply with all county procurement policies. He also will reorganize his department to ensure those policies are followed.

Under the county charter, County Executive Edward McNamara must propose to the county commission a reorganization plan at the beginning of his term. Katz said McNamara agrees with Katz's reorganization proposal and will present it soon to the commission, which has 60 days to approve or reject it.

Katz said his office had the parking contract ready for bid "months and months ago."

"We held it back and waited until the audit was completed. We didn't want to jam it down their throats, and we wanted to wait, out of respect for the commission and the auditor general."

Once again, APCOA has submitted the lowest bid, at about one-third the price of the other bidders, Katz said. That bid has been submitted to the commissioners. "That shouldn't surprise anyone. They know the business."

Katz admitted he needs to be more timely with his contracts to the commission, and he also informed the contractors he wanted subcontracts competitively bid.

"When in doubt, bid it out."

There were a lot of contracts that expired (23 or 24) or are going to lapse. There's just a couple left."

High maintenance

Dunleavy's review of the separate maintenance agreement also revealed what appears to be excessive charges for the maintenance of four of the 18 machines used to collect parking fees from customers.

For those four machines, maintenance and repair costs are estimated to be at least \$168,000 annually, or \$42,000 for each machine. For \$40,000, a new machine can be purchased.

Katz said new machines were not purchased because officials were uncertain of the final location of the proposed South Access Road, which is being constructed as part of the airport expansion. One machine has been replaced; three others will be within 60 days.

Next week, Katz reviews his first year at the helm and expansion plans.

Mom, co-worker ready to walk for Abby

BY HEATHER NEEDHAM
STAFF WRITER

Compared to aggressive chemotherapy treatments, hair loss, kidney failure, strokes and numerous drug therapies, walking 26.2 miles is a cinch.

That's according to Gisele St. Louis-Woolsey, whose daughter Abby, 8, was diagnosed with leukemia in October 1997.

St. Louis-Woolsey is training about five days a week for the Leukemia Society of America Team in Training Marathon in May.

"I know this marathon will probably be the most physically challenging event of my lifetime and yet it seems so small a feat in comparison to the challenges that Abby has faced," St. Louis-Woolsey wrote in a fund-raising letter to friends and family.

After watching her daughter endure the numerous trials of leukemia, she decided the marathon was the thing to do. Though she has always been fitness-minded, preparing for the 26.2 mile walk was new territory.

"It's a real commitment," she said. "If you don't follow the

training schedule, you're not ready for it."

For the past four weeks, she has been gradually adding mileage to her walks with co-worker Diane Miller, who will walk the marathon with her. Their goal is to complete a 20-mile hike by the time they head out to San Diego.

Together they trek through Hines Park, Kensington Metropark near Millford and numerous spots in Livonia.

"It just makes you feel good," Miller said of the walks. "We've met a lot of new people."

At first the women dreaded taking outdoor walks in frigid winter conditions.

"Now we don't want to walk inside," St. Louis-Woolsey said. Leukemia Society trainers have been coaching the women about diet, clothing, footwear and the training.

Miller said she had to return one pair of shoes because they hurt her feet. Running Fit, a Northville Township store, was helpful in finding shoes to fit her hard to fit size-5 feet.

Miller and St. Louis-Woolsey



In remission: Abby, 8, was diagnosed with leukemia in October 1997. She currently has no leukemia symptoms.

Louis-Woolsey said. Her symptoms included aches and pains, which are both common flu symptoms.

But the doctor noticed her spleen and liver were enlarged, which caused them to rule out influenza. Several blood tests ruled out other diseases, such as mononucleosis.

"A CBC (complete blood count) test pretty much told them what they needed to know," she said.

St. Louis-Woolsey said Abby started receiving treatment at Beaumont Hospital the next day. Along the way she has experienced strokes, kidney failure, hair loss, side effects from chemotherapy and medication and more. She has already missed a whole year of school and still periodically misses days here and there.

Last week, she was sidelined by a day-long doctor's appointment.

But she is in good spirits and recently went sledding, skiing and snowboarding in Colorado. She attends St. Michael Catholic School in Livonia.

"She's a strong kid, very strong," St. Louis-Woolsey said.



Shoe shopping: Gisele St. Louis-Woolsey and Diane Miller look at walking shoes at Parisian in Laurel Park Place. The two women are training for the run/walk marathon in San Diego in April. They are raising money for the Leukemia Society of America.

Facts about leukemia

Leukemia is a chronic or acute disease characterized by the rapid growth of mutated white blood cells. The mutated cells crowd out red blood cells and disease-fighting white blood cells, causing anemia and frequent infection.

It strikes people of all ages, but acute lymphocytic leukemia most commonly strikes children. Some suspected factors in leukemia include benzene, which is used as a solvent and in making plastics, insecticides, detergents, paints and dyes; viruses, radiation and X-rays.

The main symptoms include anemia, weakness, chronic fatigue, high fever, bleeding without clotting, bruising easily, recurrent infection, joint aches and swollen lymph nodes, spleen and liver.

The main treatment for leukemia is chemotherapy and drugs. The main goal of treatment is to bring about complete remission, which means there is no evidence of the disease. A remission lasting five years or more after treatment is considered to indicate cure.

Another common treatment is a bone marrow transplant, where healthy bone marrow is injected into the bloodstream.

Other facts about leukemia:

- Five-year childhood leukemia survival rates have increased from 4 percent in 1963 to 80 percent in 1993.
- Childhood leukemia death rates have declined 57 percent over the past 20 years, but it still causes more U.S. deaths than any other disease in persons under 15.
- Approximately 1,000 new leukemia cases were diagnosed in 1998 in Michigan and an estimated 800 died.

Source: Leukemia Society of America

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Charter school Commission made right move

Royal Pointe residents and others angry over a charter school planned for their neighborhood have some legitimate concerns. Moreover, the controversy opens up debate on a larger issue, the relevancy of a state law which exempts public school facilities from municipal zoning, site plan and building code requirements.

Nearly 100 people opposed to the current plan attended Monday's meeting of the Canton Planning Commission. Commissioners voted 4-0 to send a denial recommendation for special land use to the township board of trustees. Under state law, the special land use request is the only township approval needed for construction of the school.

Residents met last week with representatives of National Heritage Academies, which plans to build the school on Beck Road, east of Hanford, and have it open for classes by August. Most have said they aren't opposed to the charter school in principle or its mission, which stresses education based on academic "basics" and moral development. In fact, some were enthusiastic attendees at earlier informational meetings to promote the new school.

But residents have labeled the planned post-frame building as "substandard" and something that doesn't fit in with the surrounding neighborhood. They would like to see a brick exterior instead of the planned masonry and siding. In addition, they list concerns about the traffic and the small, 10-acre size of the property for a 40,000 square-foot building, playground, ballfield and parking.

The planning commission has agreed with that assessment.

A representative of National Heritage Academies said upgrading the planned school was possible but that the bulk of the western Michigan-based organization's 13 school buildings were built with "efficiencies in building costs" as a strong consideration. Once approved, construction of the \$2.5 million building would be on a fast track with occupancy possible by Aug. 1, representatives have said.

At first glance, it would be easy to label the residents as a bunch of NIMBYs, seeking to wall off their high-end neighborhood from "outsiders." But it's not that simple. Many of the homes in Royal Pointe, a relatively new subdivision, have market values approaching \$400,000. Homeowners have vested — and proper — interest in maintaining the character and value of their property.

Any other private concern — for example, a residential or commercial developer — would be required to obtain a slew of township approvals before being allowed to put up a building on the site. Input from the planning

In Canton's case, a school building that doesn't match the standards of surrounding residential development could conceivably put a slight drag on resale value. And more than that, the state law doesn't seem to make sense when it's applied to a charter school.

commission, township board and public would be considered at every step in the process.

Charter schools are a strange educational amalgam, mixing public and private mandates. They receive a state foundation grant for each student, just like public schools. But National Heritage Academies is a for-profit enterprise which has said it hopes to have the Canton facility in the black within five to eight years.

Under state law, public schools and some other public facilities exempt from local property taxes don't need extensive approvals for the municipality where they're located. If they did, the argument goes, municipalities might never agree to their construction. We're not so sure. Market demand, after all, probably plays as much or more of a role in what a community looks like, or what amenities it offers.

The law was also passed at a time when schools in more rural regions couldn't afford the time or expense of waiting for county approvals.

The schools must still meet state codes and requirements.

The law is the subject of a current suit in Northville Township, where planners want more of a say in construction of a new high school. The township won its case at the circuit court level, but the school district has appealed.

The Observer isn't arguing that homes in Royal Pointe will plummet in value. Evidence shows that simply doesn't happen very often in the Midwest, even when a controversial facility such as a group home is built next door.

In Canton's case, a school building that doesn't match the standards of surrounding residential development could conceivably put a slight drag on resale value. And more than that, the law doesn't seem to make sense when it's applied to a charter school.

We urge the township board to follow the planning commission's direction and deny special land use for the school as it is currently proposed.

Work together to help Rouge

If western Wayne officials were to develop a slogan for the Rouge River, the motto should be "Let's work together."

Canton, Plymouth, Plymouth Township, Livonia, Westland, Garden City and Redford Township are among 41 of 48 Rouge basin communities that have applied to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality for a voluntary stormwater permit. If approved by the DEQ, the communities have agreed to work to control illicit sewer connections and encourage public participation and public education programs. Communities remain concerned about the threats of federal mandates, while Wayne County officials and some communities are concerned over who oversees the project, but overall the regulatory agencies, the federal court and local communities have all worked well together.

The permit process was developed from the "bottom up" — a voluntary process for communities to address the stormwater runoff in cleaning the Rouge. Those permits were outlined and examined locally last year with input from communities and subwatershed groups of representatives of these local communities. Of course, U.S. District Judge John Feikens has prodded the communities along through the process with his threat of an authority to oversee the process, but the permits have shown that the communities are serious about cleaning the Rouge. At this point, the EPA and DEQ have not raised any serious objections about the permit applications.

The subwatershed groups have a long way to go to clean the river, but if this local, yet regional, approach continues with the same seriousness shown during the subwatershed



meetings, then the stormwater runoff of road salt and chemicals that plague the Rouge can be controlled with enough time, effort and money.

The permit process is a great start to control the stormwater runoff and has helped snowball the local momentum behind the \$1.3 billion Rouge River Wet Weather Demonstration Project.

We hope it continues.

ARKIE HUDKINS



LETTERS

Praise overdue

Scott Daniel's column in the Feb. 11 edition praising one of Canton's unsung heroes, Ginie Hauck, was long overdue.

As a geriatric social worker, I have had the opportunity to work with senior housing managers all over southeastern Michigan. The industry standard for senior housing managers is that they be more than apartment managers; they need to be friends and supporters, as well. Sadly, the reality is that many do not meet that standard. As your column so vividly points out, Ginie more than exceeds the standard.

Ginie's work includes tireless advocacy through various township organizations for her residents and Canton seniors in general. But I would be remiss if I did not mention others who advocate for Canton's seniors, including Dianne Neihengen and her staff at the Canton Senior Center and the "first couple" of Canton's seniors, Ron and Dolly Lieberman. There are many others, who along with Ginie, Dianne and the Liebermans work unselfishly to improve the lives of Canton's seniors. The quality of life for the entire township is improved by the efforts of all of these dedicated people, on behalf of our seniors.

Jeff Smith
Canton

What about the perpetrators?

Tim Richard's article, "Counselors and parents should warn colleagues of dangers," managed to ruffle a few feminist feathers, especially his question, "Didn't anyone ever tell A.C. that it's dangerous, even foolish, to drink when you are underage and away from home with guys who were previously strangers?" Of course, parents warn their children to be careful! Most girls and women live in fear. They are told over and over again that they must lock their doors, not go out at night alone, not trust strangers, and so on. But all this fear that we pump into our young women and all the precautions they take will not end the violence that is done to them. Not until we stop blaming the victim and start putting the blame where it belongs — on the perpetrators of the crimes. They are the ones who need serious counseling. The question Mr. Richard should ask is, "Didn't anyone ever tell our young men that it's wrong to drug young women and rape them?"

Tracey Martin, president
Western Wayne County Chapter
National Organization for Women

Residents pay for misdeeds

Citizens of Plymouth-Canton, get ready to spend more money on out-of-court settle-

ments! Yes, the district just spent \$90,000 to settle a discrimination and harassment case out of court. According to Assistant Superintendent Errol Goldman, the district and its lawyers decided settling out of court was in their best interest. Goldman said, "To go through the trial would have been very costly." He said, "We believe we would have won, but wanted to save the district money."

NO! Mr. Goldman, it was not in the district's best interest, it was in yours! You took our money, which should have been spent to educate our young people, and spent it on settlement, because you do not treat people with dignity and respect. Let's not lose sight of the fact that if you were professional in your conduct on this job, and used common sense and decency in performing your duties, none of this would have been an issue in the first place. Yes, Mr. Goldman, you won because a court of law didn't get to hear the facts in this case.

The problem with Mrs. Burnette is not over yet, as district representatives will meet with an independent arbitrator to settle the more recent disputes. How much more education money will this cost the district? And, the district is heading into another one with the administrative assistant/labor relations director, Walter Bartnick. Mr. Bartnick is not working in the district now, but is still being paid by the district.

There are eight grievances being pursued at this time, four from last school year (1997-98) and four more for this year. How much more will it cost to settle these? This money comes directly out of the taxpayers' dollars. Again, proper handling of these issues initially by the administrator would have prevented these problems from developing in the first place.

I urge all the parents of the Plymouth-Canton community, as well as all taxpayers, to call or write the members of the Board of Education and express how you feel about Mr. Goldman's performance as assistant superintendent of employee relations and personnel. If not, open your wallets, because we will continue to pay, because it was in their best interest to settle.

Because of the major problems with a few administrators, the fact is often overlooked that there are many wonderful, kind, dedicated teachers and employees in the district. They, along with the citizens, should not be the ones to pay, both financially and emotionally, for the misdeeds of a few.

Kenneth Smith
Plymouth

Canton Observer

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— Philip Power

POINTS OF VIEW

Standards need to apply to all people in our society

Admittedly, today times have changed. How often we hear that phrase. Those words are supposed to explain all the various actions people engage in that might seem difficult to explain to a reasoning mind. We pick and choose at a moment's whim to justify a particular behavior.

One of the loudest cries consistently heard is this is a country with "Freedom of Speech." We guard this freedom unquestionably, and use its "guidelines" to allow an extreme broad and at times immoral interpretation of what constitutes art.

But then, we challenge a person's right to utter personal opinions when we choose to expand our own feelings of being put upon. In a recent case — well-publicized — a man was ticketed for shouting some explicit bad lan-

guage when he fell out of a canoe. It didn't matter that he was in the wide open spaces and had just experienced an embarrassing and at first instance a frightening accident.

He was judged violating the freedom of speech theory because a child was in the vicinity at the time. While this is judged immoral and unlawful due to an outdated, antiquated law still on the books, our television shows which are readily available for many young minds to see and accept, constantly use not only bad, offensive language, but expound immoral ideas, are allowed to broadcast on the basis of free speech.

We protect our freedom of speech and demand that that freedom must allow for anyone who chooses to say or defame our flag in any way they want, in the name of art or freedom,

GUEST COLUMNIST



SHIRLEY WELCH

and yet, there have been numerous incidents when sports figures have uttered words that were unpopular with various groups, which resulted with those celebrities being forced to vacate prestigious jobs or positions or having their reputations challenged and ruined because they had a slip of the tongue at an unguarded moment.

Our judges and prosecutors will uphold obsolete laws they personally choose to, while picking out the silliness and modern inappropriate meaning in other laws. In Michigan recently, while one judge was fining the man for his vulgar words in the open air, citing the old law, another judge throws out of court another old law that cited adultery as unlawful because of the modern attitude toward affairs of the heart.

Our politicians use their offices and standing to back their own party and back their own constituents just because they belong to a political group. We have recently seen that in our own country. Whatever the facts or interpretation of the wording, our Constitution was founded as a guide and principle for all to live by, and each situation should be judged on

the merits or weakness of the act, and not by whether a Whig, Democrat or Republican committed the act.

We see our state and national representatives challenging the wisdom and advisability of raising the minimum wages, on the basis that it might not be the feasible thing for the economy, but at the same time, they vote a substantial wage hike for themselves.

The time has come for there to be a uniform interpretation of matters for the common good. If language is wrong, it is wrong. If we are insisting to pursue and demand abiding to a law regarding speech that is on the books, we must also uphold other laws regarding extramarital affairs, and any other outdated law that still exists.

Shirley Welch is a Livonia resident.

Deceptive business practices good reason to slam Ameritech

My knuckles are still raw from the last beating inflicted on Ameritech Michigan, the unfriendly telephone company that loves to fire people and tie them up in court with interminable appeals.

Duty calls, however, because Ameritech is still at it, this time losing before the Michigan Public Service Commission and the state Court of Appeals. The court opinion is 10 pages of legalisms. In sum, the terms "misleading," "false," "deceptive" and "anticompetitive" pop up with frightening frequency.

The unanimous, bipartisan Feb. 12 opinion is signed by Stephen Markman and Robert Young Jr. (Engler appointees) and Helene White (Clinton's designee for a federal slot). It finds that "Ameritech sent a misleading and anti-competitive bill insert to its customers in violation of the Michigan Telecommunications Act." That's fascinating because insiders say Ameritech's lobbyists drafted the

act.

In December 1995, we all received an insert in our Ameritech bills headlined "DON'T GET SLAMMED."

Slamming is the practice of some long-distance providers of billing you for services you never ordered. The insert invited us to fill out a form to avoid slamming for "long-distance or other telecommunications services."

Here the plot thickens. The notice doesn't differentiate between inter-LATA (long distance) and intra-LATA (local area code calls for which we pay long-distance rates).

Sprint complained to the MPSC. It seems that on Jan. 1, 1996, competition was to be allowed for intra-LATA calls. The bill insert "does not remind customers that Ameritech Michigan was required to implement intra-LATA to dialing parity for 10 percent of its customers on Jan. 1, 1996, and that local service would soon be available from other providers," MPSC said.



TIM RICHARD

Here's the trick: If you signed the slammer protection notice, you couldn't authorize Sprint, MCI or AT&T to be your short long-distance provider. The competitors would be unable to inform Ameritech that you wanted a change. You would have to notify Ameritech yourself to make a change.

MPSC ruled that the competitors feared Ameritech "will delay requests from customers to change providers and that it will use the contact as an opportunity to try to dissuade the cus-

tomers from leaving Ameritech..." (There's ample evidence that Ameritech Michigan understood the bill insert to be anticompetitive and intended it to have that effect.)

MPSC ordered Ameritech to make remedies, including a corrective bill insert and easier changes in service providers. MPSC also sought to send the case file to the attorney general "for review of possible action under the Michigan Consumer Protection Act." (It will be fun to see if Attorney General Jennifer Granholm remembers her "I'll take your case" political speech and prosecutes Ameritech vigorously.)

Ameritech's lawyers threw up all sorts of arguments, every one of which was shot down by the Court of Appeals. One was Ameritech's customer survey purporting to show that customers correctly understood the insert. MPSC found the survey "self-serving and unrealistic," having "fundamental flaws due to the nature of

the questions, the tone of the interview and people excluded from the sample." The court agreed.

The court also rejected Ameritech's defense of "free speech," saying, "False, deceptive or misleading advertising is subject to restraint..."

Will Ameritech fold its tent like a good corporate citizen, stop the appeals, obey the MPSC order and take its punishment from the attorney general like a man? Its behavior in other cases suggests Ameritech will appeal forever.

If Ameritech appeals, then I propose the stockholders not be stuck with the legal bill. The lawyers' costs should come from President Bob Cooper's bonus and salary.

Misleading. Deceptive. False. Anticompetitive. Ameritech.

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

Comerica does Michigan proud as a first-rate corporate citizen

For those of us with long memories and sentimental hearts, the last quarter century has been a rough time for Michigan institutions.

Remember Vernors ginger ale? In my memory, Vernors was the essential ingredient for a proper ginger ale float. I still recall being driven by my parents to the big green and yellow plant on Woodward, while being instructed about just why Vernors was so much better than Canada Dry.

Sadly, Vernors has been gone for a long time. More recently, Stro's got sold to Heileman and Miller. My childhood memories of beer and Ernie Harwell announcing the ball games on the radio run from Goebel (also disappeared) to Stro's. I don't listen to baseball much any more, but I always bought Stro's for sentiment's sake and because Peter Stro's and his family were exemplars of what good, decent, locally responsible people ought to be.

And by now everybody who isn't taking intensive German lessons knows full well that what we used to know as Chrysler is now something called DaimlerChrysler.

The old names, very often associated with old families, aren't much with us any longer. Which is why it's nice to celebrate a business with a solid name that's intensely focused on Michigan, that looks like it'll be around for a while and that has helped countless local businesses. I'm referring to Comerica, the oldest and largest bank in Michigan, that will celebrate its 150th anniversary on Friday.

Originally chartered in 1849 as the Detroit Savings Fund Institute and then better known as the Detroit Bank & Trust, Comerica assumed its present name in 1982. In 1992, Comerica merged with Manufacturers National Corp. The merger was difficult. The "reds" (old Comerica employees) were interlarded with the "blues" (ex-Manufacturers staffers) in such a way as to perpetuate for years the competition between the two.

The stock price fell, and for a time Comerica looked as though it would be taken over and move out of Michigan in just the same way that the National Bank of Detroit got taken over and moved to Chicago by First Chicago-NBD Bank Corp.

But CEO Eugene Miller (a "red") and President Mike Monahan (a "blue") moved quickly. They eliminated poor risk loans, expanded branches throughout the region and redeployed their capital. The stock responded and has now



PHILIP POWER

■ The bank has been one of the most civic-minded corporations in the entire southeastern Michigan region, generous in its donations to charities and forthcoming in its willingness to assign top executives to worthwhile causes.

appreciated so much as to make Comerica nearly takeover-proof.

Having an independent, well-managed bank with a solid focus on providing banking services to Michigan businesses and households is vitally important to the future of our state. Though the folks at First Chicago-NBD will deny it till the cows come home, that bank has no more particular interest in Michigan than it has in any other state.

It's too bad. But that's life, and that's what happens when a big local company gets merged with a bigger nonlocal company and moves away.

But not (so far) at Comerica. The bank has been one of the most civic-minded corporations in the entire southeastern Michigan region, generous in its donations to charities and forthcoming in its willingness to assign top executives to worthwhile causes. Coupled with its excellent business performance, that's an outstanding record for any company, locally based or not.

Here's tall, cold one (a Stro's, of course) hoisted to Comerica's 150th. I hope they'll be a solid, Michigan-oriented company for many, many years to come.

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: ppower@online.com

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Griffith, SC dean, cited for leadership in continuing ed

Ronald Griffith, dean of educational services, will be honored by the National Council for Continuing Education and Training, receiving its Regional Leadership Award for the North Central Region. He will receive the award at the NCCET national conference in Milwaukee, Wis., in October.

Griffith will receive the award for his "contributions to continuing education in your region and because you exemplify the qualities of leadership that NCCET hopes to promote among continuing education professionals," wrote Ruth L. Prather, president of the NCCET Board of Directors.

"No one has done more to strengthen the bond between the colleges within a region and the Council than you have. Your ability to raise awareness of the value of continuing education professionals, their place in the community college organiza-

tion, and their contribution to their community in your region is appreciated."

Griffith, a Plymouth Township resident, came to Schoolcraft in 1971 as director of community services and was named dean of the department in 1975. He was named dean of continuing education and community services in 1977 and dean of educational services in 1984. In 1997-98, the student unduplicated head count for CES and the Business Development Center enrollment, all of which report to him, was more than 17,000. The programs serve students from infants through senior citizens.

The NCCET, the oldest affiliate of the American Association for Community Colleges, provides leadership for continuing education, workforce development and community services professionals within community, technical and junior colleges.

Former dean honored by S'craft board

Sirkka Gudan, former assistant dean for academic and assessment services at Schoolcraft College, received emeritus status from the Schoolcraft Board of Trustees.

A West Bloomfield resident, Gudan initiated, organized and developed the Learning Assistance/Assessment Center at Schoolcraft and has been a leader in the field of student assessment, publishing research and conducting presentations statewide and nationally.

The Learning Assistance Center offers academic support to students and community members through tutoring and study skills instruction. The Assessment Center offers comprehen-

sive testing for students, faculty, businesses, groups and individuals.

In the L A C, Gudan established collaborative programs among departments to support at-risk students, pairing reading and study courses with content courses such as English, biology and electronics, often using students who successfully completed a course to tutor students currently taking the



Gudan pioneered a homework assistance program between Livonia's Riley Middle School and Schoolcraft students interested in teaching.

course. Under her direction, Schoolcraft has become a model for other colleges.

Gudan implemented computerized assessment at Schoolcraft, looked at how students did and investigated exit exams. Gudan pioneered a homework assistance program between Livonia's Riley Middle School

and Schoolcraft students interested in teaching.

Gudan earned her doctorate from the University of Michigan in educational psychology. She joined Schoolcraft in 1980 as learning assistance coordinator and is a recipient of the Schoolcraft College Presidential Recognition Award.

Gudan has been president of the Schoolcraft College Association of Administrative and Professional Personnel, chairman of the Student Athlete Support System, chairman of the Civil Rights Onsite Review Committee, chairman of the Goals Assessment Committee, and a board member of the Michigan Community College Journal.

Attorneys to teach legal classes at Madonna

Several local attorneys are among the faculty teaching eight legal assistant courses for the spring/summer term, which begins May 10 at Madonna University in Livonia.

A workshop titled "Advanced Legal Research on the Internet" will focus on this emerging use of technology to conduct legal research and will be held over two weekends on May 14-15 and May 21-22. The course will be

taught by Mary Urisko, a Detroit attorney and co-author of West's Paralegal Today. She will also teach the course "Legal Assistant Orientation" on Tuesday evenings. Urisko, assistant director of the Legal Assistant program at Madonna, will lead the class, "Contractual and Commercial Relations" Wednesday evenings.

Plymouth attorney Richard Dimanin will teach "Medical

Legal Concepts" and "Medical Records" on Monday evenings and a weekend workshop, "Case Preparation and Trial," on July 9-10 and July 16-17.

Attorney Craig Tarpinian of Farmington Hills will teach "Probate Estates" on Thursday evenings as well as the workshop "Will and Trust Drafting" on two consecutive weekends, June 11-12 and June 18-19.

Jennifer Cote, director of

Madonna's Legal Assistant program and chair of the ABA Approval Commission, will teach "Legal Seminar and Practicum" on selected Tuesday evenings.

On-campus registration begins March 29 and continues through May 7. Classes begin May 10. For more information, call Urisko at (734) 432-5548 or Cote at (734) 432-5549.

Madonna University is located at Levan and I-96 in Livonia.

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JACK GLADDEN

It's about time to have a 'Get It Right' Day

What do Dr. Seuss, a recipe for rye bread, a Southfield man with a tattoo and the Texas state song have in common?

They all represent reasons why we need to observe something that I'd call "National Get It Right Day." Let me explain.

A couple of weeks ago, The Boss asked if I would write an editorial page piece on March being "National Reading Month."

"And could you tie it in with Dr. Seuss?" she asked. I gave her a funny look and said, "Uh, yeah, sure."

So I get on the Internet and do a search on "National Reading Month." I got a few hits, but most of them were from 1998 or earlier and they were mostly references on elementary school Web sites. I did find a press release on Michigan Gov. John Engler's Web site in which he proclaimed March 1998 to be "National Reading Month" in Michigan. But nothing for 1999.

"I can't find anything about March being 'National Reading Month,'" I told The Boss.

"Well, it is in Livonia," one editor said.

"And it is in Westland," said another.

The sources of this information turned out to be press releases from various elementary schools which made reference to Dr. Seuss and to March being "Reading Month." Nothing about it being "National" and no indication of who decided that March should get this designation.

Another press release from a local university made the Dr. Seuss connection. March 2 would have been his 95th birthday and the university had some events planned to commemorate that date in connection with the "America Reads Program."

So I got back on the Net. A little bit better luck this time. A search brought me to the National Education Association's home page, where I learned that the NEA was promoting Dr. Seuss celebrations on March 2 as part of its "Read Across America" program.

This must be it

This had to be what all those press releases were talking about, even though the one from the university had the name of the program wrong and the NEA site made no mention of March being "Reading Month," national or otherwise. But at least now I had something to work with.

I decided to do a bit more Internet research on Dr. Seuss to help with the piece I was supposed to write. It was fascinating.

According to the Associated Press' obituary, Dr. Seuss "wrote and illustrated" 47 books that were translated into 18 languages. The Grolier Encyclopedia Web site placed the number of books at 48 and the number of languages at 20. Another site hedged and just said that he wrote more than 45 children's books.

A frequently told anecdote is the one about Dr. Seuss' first book being rejected by numerous publishers before it was finally accepted. The number of publishers who rejected the book was either 28, 29 or 43, depending on whose information you accept. And he started writing children's books in either the 1930s, '40s

Please see GLADDEN, B2

Hospice has tickets for dinner-dance

Wearing of the green isn't mandatory for an evening of old-fashioned Irish fun at Community Hospice and Home Care Services Inc.'s seventh annual St. Patrick's dinner-dance Saturday, March 6, at St. Mary's Cultural Center, 18100 Merriman, Livonia.

The festivities get under way at 6:30 p.m. The deadline for ordering tickets to be picked up at the door is noon Friday, March 5. To order, call CHHCS at (734) 522-4244.

Gathering together



STAFF PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY

Come on in: Brenda Hoffman of Northville (center) meets Suburban West Community Center director Bill Hart and Alice Ming, director of rehabilitation services, at the front door of The Gathering Place Clubhouse in Livonia.

Mentally ill find 'community'

By SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER
smason@oe.homecomm.net

Like Judy Collins' 1968 hit song, Brenda Hoffman has looked at life from both sides now. Sitting in the Suburban West Community Center in Redford, she speaks openly about her life before and after being diagnosed with chronic depression.

The Northville resident had depressive tendencies when she was young, but shrugged them off as being a teenager. But she couldn't do that after having a baby. For more than a year, she stayed in her house, with the drapes closed, and didn't get dressed. On the verge of committing suicide, she was committed to a hospital.

When she lost her insurance, she turned to Suburban West for help. The staff at its Canton office sent her to the "clubhouse." Hoffman admits she didn't like it at first, but today is an ardent supporter.

"I've seen a great change," she said. "That might be why when I first came to Suburban West I felt funny. After about two weeks, I realized it (the clubhouse) was a godsend."

"If it weren't for the caring calls, I might lay in bed until my husband takes me in or something happens. It's why I consider them my family."

Suburban West provides services to mentally ill people like Hoffman in Redford, Livonia, Plymouth, Canton and Northville as a contractual agency for the Detroit-Wayne County Mental Health Board. The Gathering Place Clubhouse is its psychosocial rehabilitation program and is modeled after Fountain House in New York.

The clubhouse offers it 85 members experiences that help them function in their communities and decrease the need for hospitalization. Members take an active role in its operation, cooking food for the coffee shop, doing clerical work, helping in the library or doing

maintenance.

Known as Robert J to his friends - clubhouse members only use an initial in lieu of their last name - Robert Johnson was "looking for a better opportunity" when he walked into the clubhouse. Six years later, the Plymouth resident is a leader in the drop-in center and like Hoffman sits on Suburban West's Board of Directors.

"I was looking to better myself," said Johnson, who also suffers from mental illness. "I try to take advantage of the opportunities presented to me and help my fellow members. As time has gone on, things have blossomed for me at the center."

Good things to hear

Bill Hart smiles when he hears what Hoffman and Johnson have to say. They are a testimonial to the 20 years of service Suburban West has been providing to its consumers.

"The clubhouse is one of our service

programs where the consumers and staff work together," said Hart, Suburban West's executive director. "Every member contributes to its continuing development and growth."

"When this program started, it was a very structured partial day program; the staff determined the program and they were the professionals," added Alice Ming, director of rehabilitation services. "Now it's staff- and member-run. The consumers have a part in every decision that is made. The staff and the consumers work together, even in hiring new staff."

"There are no closed meetings. The consumers are a part of everything."

Originally affiliated with Northville Psychiatric Hospital as an aftercare clinic, Suburban West currently has 621 consumers in its outpatient, Assertive Community Treatment, psychosocial rehabilitation and case management programs.

Please see SUBURBAN WEST, B2

Suburban West focuses on its consumers

Incorporated as a private nonprofit community mental health agency in 1978, Suburban West Community Center provides consumers living in the Redford, Livonia, Canton, Plymouth and Northville areas with:

■ Outpatient treatment of psychiatric disorders. Treatment is geared toward prevention of rehospitalization, elimination of symptoms, reduction of negative personal and social effects of hospitalization and enhancement of personal skills and growth.

■ Assertive Community Treatment - The program's primary goals are to prevent rehospitalization and to maximize the consumer's community adjustment while decreasing dependency. Services include around-the-clock crisis intervention, training in daily living skills, mental health edu-

cation, advocacy with landlords and other community resources, chemotherapy and individual counseling.

■ Case Management/Hospital Liaison Program - The program has two components. The hospital liaison program is designed to offer a more continuous flow of treatment to people being discharged to Suburban West from community and state hospitals.

The case management component is designed to facilitate access to community services like housing, medical services and vocational rehabilitation to help the consumer achieve a maximum level of independence while reducing the likelihood of rehospitalization.

■ Psychosocial Rehabilitation Program - The Gathering Place Clubhouse in Livonia is a psychosocial

rehabilitation program that provides experiences that help members function in their community and decrease the need for hospitalization. Members are encouraged assume productive roles in the program through the Clerical, Food Service and Member Services units.

■ Counseling Center West - The program provides services to adult consumers who have never been hospitalized and who aren't currently at risk for hospitalization. Individual, couples and family counseling are available for emotional, behavioral and stress-related problems.

■ Suburban Nights - A consumer-run drop-in center in Livonia, Suburban Nights is operated by a consumer advisory council and Suburban West. It's open 4:30-9 p.m. Monday-Friday and 12:30-9 p.m. Saturday at the



Getting ready: Robert Johnson checks to see if the desserts are ready for lunch.

clubhouse.

Suburban West Community Center has offices at 11677 Beech Daly Road, Redford, and 5800 N. Canton Center Road, Canton, and The Gathering Place Clubhouse at 27595 Schoolcraft, Livonia. For more information, call Suburban West at (313) 937-9500.

You can raise helpful, cooperative children

PARENTING AWARENESS MONTH



JANET TROST

For many parents, one of the most exciting victories in raising children is getting them to cooperate. On the flip side, one of the most frustrating experiences is when they don't. Most parents feel like "drill sergeants" at one time or another, simply barking orders and listening to children complain or resist helping. There is hope, however, if a few simple suggestions are followed.

■ Create a cooperative environment: Parents set the tone for behavior in every home. By showing children what is expected, cooperative behavior is easier to achieve.

When your child asks for help, be willing to provide the help with a positive attitude. It's very important

to demonstrate cooperation with your spouse or other adults in your home. This will be the example that children will follow. We all work harder for people who inspire the best in us.

■ Use humor whenever possible: Parents who are fun, who are caring and who show respect, motivate children. Joking around with your children to get their cooperation can create a lighter atmosphere, one more apt to yield a positive response.

Amidst chuckles, school-aged children to teens are more likely to acknowledge your cleverly worded and cleverly placed requests.

■ Understand normal development in children: All children go through various stages as they grow. At times children may appear to be uncooperative when, in fact, they are simply acting their age.

No one expects an infant to put his arms through the sleeves of a T-shirt because they are simply incapable of doing so. The same may be said of expecting a 2-year-old to follow a request that has multiple steps.

The challenge comes as children get older and we

know they are capable of following directions, but they choose not to. This is a common problem with 9- and 10-year-olds who don't want to brush their hair, let alone their teeth!

Teenagers may prefer to spend time alone in their room rather than politely visit with their grandparents. Although these behaviors don't have to be accepted by parents, it is helpful to know that they are normal and special consideration needs to occur to ensure cooperation.

Perhaps you'll shorten the visit to grandma's house by an hour so your teen can meet her friends at the movies. Talking to other parents with children of similar age or reading about child development helps to prepare parents for difficult stages.

■ Put it in writing: Many parents avoid the feeling of constantly pleading for help by putting their expectations in writing. Even small children can understand job lists or house rules, if they are illustrated with pictures as well as words. This will be even

Please see PARENTING, B2

Suburban West from page B1

agement programs. It has offices and facilities in Redford, Livonia and Canton and has earned a reputation in the mental health system as a provider of quality services, a distinction buoyed by an accreditation with commendation from the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Mental Health Organizations.

In its early years, Suburban West provided general outpatient treatment, primarily for people who had been in psychiatric hospitals in the past, and crisis intervention. In 1985, it added ACT, taking treatment to consumers in their homes and other settings.

In 1986, case management was added to link consumers who had been hospitalized more than once with needed services in their communities.

The partial day program started 12 years ago, when consumers were receiving more passive activities. Its evolution to the clubhouse started in 1987. Open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday, members like Hoffman and Johnson provide the talent to keep it running smoothly.

The drop-in center picks up after the clubhouse closes. Open 4-9 p.m. Monday-Friday and noon to 9 p.m. Saturday, it's staffed completely by the con-

sumers and clubhouse membership isn't a prerequisite for dropping in. "Some members are here from 8 in the morning to 9 at night," said Ming. "The old program couldn't operate without the staff, this one can't run without the consumers."

Suits their needs

While Johnson helps out in finances before switching over to a waiter at lunchtime, Kimberly B and Marty B, both Redford residents, are part of the kitchen staff on a regular basis. Kimberly has been a member for 5 1/2 years, Marty for 10. A bit on the shy side, both admit they like the program, with Marty adding that it suits his needs.

"It was a partial day program when I first came," he said. "I like this better."

Hart points out that a lot has changed in the 20 years Suburban West has been in business. Back then, it wasn't unusual for a hospital stay to span months or years. Now, it's evolved into a contract with private hospital for a stay of eight to 12 days.

And the change goes beyond the treatment. Twenty years ago, the mentally ill were called patients because of the hospital-based treatment. Then they

became clients and 10 years ago, they became consumers "when clients started speaking out to remove the stigma," Hart said.

"It reflects the consumer voice in the services," he added. "They are now consumers of mental health services."

Now, Suburban West is positioning itself for more changes in the mental health arena. The implementation of managed care and discussions about reducing the number of catchment (service) areas to keep costs under control may be viewed as threats by some, but Hart sees them as an opportunity.

The agency recently developed a semi-independent living program to offer apartments (16 in all) with support services to people leaving adult foster care or their parents' homes and making the transition to independent living.

Its Counseling Center West in Canton offers individual, couple and group therapy for people with less serious problems and the agency is looking for a partnership to provide a residential program.

"I like to think that we do it better than the others," Hart said. "The one thing about Suburban West is that it always has been very consumer-oriented and people-oriented."



What's for lunch? Kimberly B and Marty B, both of Redford, start mixing together the ingredients for the day's special - chicken and broccoli casserole - that will be served to the lunch crowd at The Gathering Place Clubhouse.

Gladden from page B1

or '50s.

Dr. Seuss was a pseudonym, of course. His real name was Theodor Seuss Geisel, except in "Carol Hurst's Children's Literature Newsletter," in which she devotes three pages to an essay on the man, yet misspells his first name as "Theodore," the common spelling, but not the way he spelled it.

There was much more misinformation out there, on sites

thrown together by fervent, if careless, Seuss fans to an official Random House site, not to mention that Grolier Online page.

Now you can click your tongue and blame it on the vagaries of the Internet, but that doesn't explain those errant press releases or the rye bread recipe.

That came out of the new edition of Bernard Clayton's "Complete Book of Breads." I was whipping up a batch of Old Mit-

wauke Rye, when I realized that yeast was not listed as an ingredient. I still had the original edition, with the stained pages and ripped cover, so I dug it out of the bookcase and checked the recipe there. Yep, it called for yeast. Somehow that ingredient got left out in the revision.

And the Texas state song? It's "Texas, Our Texas." But a booklet being sold by McDonald's restaurants to commemorate Black History Month incorrectly

states that the Texas state "anthem" is "The Yellow Rose of Texas." The booklet also contains other inaccurate information about the history of the state.

From press releases to booklets to books to Internet sites, it's getting more and more dangerous to believe what you read. People throw things together carelessly, without checking their facts, and absolutely without double- or triple-checking.

And all of this occurred to me as I was looking for information on

the man who has been picked to encourage kids to read.

So where does the tattooed man fit into this picture? The ex-Marine walked into a Roseville tattoo parlor to get the word "villain" tattooed on his forearm.

But since neither he nor the tattoo artist knew how to spell it, it came out "villian." When his friends saw it they laughed and started making fun of him. He wore long-sleeve shirts to cover up the artwork until he had plastic surgery to remove it alto-

gether. He's suing the tattoo parlor for \$25,000.

But there may be a lesson here. Those tattoo artists and all the other purveyors of misinformation should get tattoos on the backs of their hands, so that when they sit down at a keyboard or take up a tattoo needle, the message stares up at them: "Get It Right!"

Jack Gladden is a copy editor for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. He lives in Canton.

Parenting from page B1

more effective if the children help develop the list with their parents.

The key is to be consistent in enforcing rules and consequences. If a child violates a rule, parents can save the nagging and simply point to the rule list. Everyone will understand the message, and no one will have to listen to an unwanted lecture.

■ Allow natural and logical consequences: Allowing children to make their own choices helps them to learn from consequences. Some children need to learn from their mistakes. By the same token, they also learn from their successes.

Parents can help children by asking them to think through a choice and imagine what the outcome will be before they act.

They can also look for opportunities to point out how the choice to cooperate can have positive results.

For example, point out that the extra time the child saved you by helping you rake leaves means the two of you are free to do a fun activity that your child enjoys.

Encourage team play: Enrolling children in group activities, such as sports or scouting, will also reinforce the concept of working together for a common goal. They'll learn that cooperation is part of everyday life and not just an expectation found at home.

Teaching children to cooperate

is an important lesson. It helps children now and throughout their lives. Cooperation also helps make your home a happier, more loving place to live.

Janet Trost is the program manager for the After Baby Comes Program at Starfish Family Services. The program offers support and education to first-time parents delivering in the Oakwood Healthcare System. Volunteers assist in this effort. Interested, experienced parents should call (734) 425-7977, Ext. 117. For more information, or to arrange for presentation on parenting issues, call (734) 425-7977, Ext. 116.

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WESTERN TOWNSHIPS UTILITIES AUTHORITY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING SYNOPSIS
4:00 P.M., MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1999
 Regular meeting called to order at 4:03 p.m.
 Present: Thomas Yack, Karen Woodside, Ron Griffith
 Agenda - adopted as presented.
 Minutes of regular meeting of January 25, 1999 - approved.
 Schedule of operating expenses totaling \$790,605.80 - approved.
 Operations & Maintenance Report for January, 1999 - received and filed.
 Operations Manager's Report for February, 1999 - received and filed.
 Audit, Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 1999 - accepted.
 First Quarter Revenue/Expenditure Report (FY 99/99) - received and filed.
 Back-up Power Generation Draft Report - Receive and file for further review at next regular meeting.
 Request To Advertise for Bids for Application of Protective Coatings on Concrete Block in Pump Area and painting of the Enclosed Screw Pumps at Middle Rouge - approved to advertise.
 The regular meeting was adjourned at 4:39 p.m.
 THOMAS J. YACK
 Chairman
 This is a synopsis. A complete copy of the minutes may be reviewed at the WTUA offices located at 40900 Joy Road, Canton, MI 48187.
 Publish: March 4, 1999

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT PURSUANT TO STATE LAW 257.252, THE FOLLOWING VEHICLE(S) WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC SALE AT MAYFLOWER AUTO TRANSPORT, 1179 STARKWEATHER RD., PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN, ON THE DATE AND TIME LISTED BELOW:
 Monday, March 8, 1999 9:45 a.m.
 VEHICLE(S)
 YEAR/MAKE/STYLE/VEHICLE ID NUMBER CASE NUMBER
 1986 FORD 2D TURBO DIESEL 1FABP4636GH142711 98-17880
 1990 ACURA 2D INTEGRA JH4DA4621S018228 98-18854
 1992 FORD 4D ESCORT 1FAPF14J0N105229 98-9119
 INQUIRIES REGARDING THESE VEHICLES SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO OFFICER AL COX, CITY OF PLYMOUTH POLICE DEPARTMENT, AT 453-8600
 LINDA J. LANGMESSER, CMC
 City Clerk
 Publish: March 4, 1999

THROWING YOUR MONEY AWAY ON CUT-RATE CAR INSURANCE?
 Trust one of these State Farm agents with your car insurance:
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 Tom Lehnis 13131 W. Ann Arbor Rd. Canton, MI 48187 734-981-5710
 Frank McMurray 5773 Canton Cts. Rd. Canton, MI 48187 734-455-3200
PLYMOUTH
 Cindy Fletcher 9329 Haggerty Rd. Plymouth, MI 48170 734-459-2023
 Kelly Frakes 13131 W. Ann Arbor Rd. Plymouth, MI 48170 734-459-0100
 Michael Kovach 259 N. Main Plymouth, MI 48170 734-453-3640
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Garden City BPW benefit helps fund scholarships

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI
 SPECIAL WRITER

Wonder where the money raised at this year's sixth annual Garden City Business and Professional Women "Parade of Fashion" fashion show and luncheon goes?

Back into community causes like scholarships that are awarded to local people and the First Step shelter.

The \$30-a-ticket benefit will begin with registration at 12:15 p.m. Sunday, March 14, at the Plymouth Manor in Plymouth.

BPW members and their families will model fashions from Talbots of Laurel Park, Talbots Kids of Laurel Park Place and "I Do," Two! Consignment Bridal Salon in Plymouth.

Talbots carries a complete line of women's fashions in sizes ranging from petite to size 18. Talbots Kids carries children's clothing for infants and boys and girls up to size 14.

"I Do" Two! Consignment Bridal Salon carries a complete line of gently used bridal fashions. The store's inventory includes designer labels and gowns in petite to plus sizes, discounted 30-60 percent.

Orin Jewelers and Talbots will also have display tables. Money raised from a raffle at the fashion show also goes to the Rose Schilawski Scholarship, presented annually by the Garden City BPW to one woman who is returning to the work force or is furthering her education. Last year, Garden City resident Colleen Spano received \$500. Spano and her daughter will be modeling at the fashion show.

At 35, Spano has worked at Garden City Hospital for 18 years and is currently director of surgical services. She's working toward her bachelor's degree in health care administration at the Detroit College of Business.

Married and the mother of two children, Caitlyn, 9, and Michael, 11, Spano said the money helped defray the costs of going to college.

"My classes run, with books and all, usually around \$800 a class, so it did help quite a bit," said Spano who along with her husband, Joseph, was raised in Garden City. "I was fortunate to get it."

Raffle tickets cost \$1 each. Prizes include a day trip for two to Atlantic City, sponsored by Steve Kuhlman of Travel Desk in Garden City; a basic estate planning package, donated by attorney Sandra Larson; a \$100 gift certificate from Orin Jewelers; and a Waterford sweatshirt bowl, donated by Hudson's of Westland.

Door prizes include gift certificates to DeLuca's, New Peking and East Side Mario's restaurants, as well as gift baskets from Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe in Westland and Dearborn Florist.

The Garden City BPW is also supported by John Santeiu & Sons Funeral Home.

"We're hoping to raise enough money to fund our scholarships and the money we have left over is used to operate our budget," said Rebecca Viola, Garden City BPW fashion show chairwoman.

The professional women's organization also sponsors an honors scholarship that is

awarded to a high school senior from Garden City to help defray costs of attending a community college. Students must be recommended by school officials, have at least a 3.0 grade point average, leadership qualities and provide service to the student body and the community.

The BPW also supports the Garden City Library, First Step and Sea Camp, a program that sends school-aged children to Florida to study environmental issues.

"The fashion show will be nice and I'm sure the women will enjoy the afternoon," Spano said. "The organization supports a lot of local causes and please come out and support us."

To order tickets to the fashion show and lunch, featuring chicken kabobs and rice pilaf, call Beth Cicisila at (734) 458-4331 or (313) 277-7742. The deadline to buy tickets is Wednesday, March 10. No tickets will be sold at the door.

Representatives of the Michigan Parades into the 21st Century will be at the show, slated for Friday-Sunday, March 12-14, in East Lansing.



Ready for spring: Anne Schaeffer (left), president of the Garden City BPW, and Beth Cicisila, vice president, look over the latest spring fashions at Talbots at Laurel Park Place. The store is providing fashions for the club's annual fashion benefit Sunday, March 14, at Plymouth Manor.

Organizers recruit riders for parade

There will be some recruiting going on when horse lovers and enthusiasts converge on Michigan State University next month for the Michigan Horse Council's Horse Expo and 16th annual International Stallion and Trade Show.

Representatives of the Michigan Parades into the 21st Century will be at the show, slated for Friday-Sunday, March 12-14, in East Lansing.

Parade participants will staff a booth at the expo and show to answer questions about the parade, provide application forms and show videos from past parades. There also will be a mini Michigan parade at 9:45 a.m. March 13, featuring past parade participants.

This year's Michigan Parades into the 21st Century are scheduled for 11 a.m. Saturday, May 15, in Lansing. The parade

features more than 40 equine units as well as other animal units, bands and a Canine Hero Unit, featuring such groups as Leader Dogs for the Blind, Paws with a Cause and Canine Companions.

This year, each equine participant will receive a red, white and blue parade ribbon to wear during the parade and a new peppermint treat, provided by Buckeye Feeds, according to

Nancy Harm, who helps recruit equine units.

Members of the Canine Hero unit will have parade medals to wear and receive doggie treats, while human participants will receive lunch and an embroidered commemorative parade patch.

For more information about the event contact Harm at (248) 437-5672.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
PLYMOUTH CHARTER TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
 TO REZONE FROM: R-1 - SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT
 TO REZONE TO: R-2-A - MULTIPLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT
 DATE OF HEARING: MARCH 10, 1999
 TIME OF HEARING: 7:00 p.m.
 PLACE OF HEARING: Plymouth Township Hall, 45350 Ann Arbor Road
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Planning Commission of Plymouth Charter Township has received a petition to rezone the following described property from R-1 - SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL District, to R-2-A - MULTIPLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL. Containing 7.05 acres, more or less.
 Application #1568

LEGAL DESCRIPTION
 FOR PARCEL DESCRIPTION SEE TAX RECORDS
 BASED ON TAX I.D. NUMBERS
 PARCEL A: R78064990012000
 B: R78064990011000
 C: R78064990010000
 D: R78064990009000
 E: R78064990008000
 F: R78064990006000

ORDINANCE NO. G8
AMENDED ZONING MAP NO. 108
PLYMOUTH CHARTER TOWNSHIP
WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN
 ADOPTED BY THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES ON _____ EFFECTIVE DATE _____

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN THAT the proposed amendment to the map, as printed, may be examined at the Plymouth Township Department of Public Works Building, Community Development Department, during regular business hours, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Written comments will be received prior to the meeting. The address for application review and written comment is 46555 Port Street, Plymouth, Michigan 48170. Telephone No. 453-4372. The meeting will be held in the Meeting Room at Township Hall. The address for Township Hall is 42550 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, Michigan 48170. At the public hearing, the Planning Commission may recommend rezoning of the property to any use allowable under the provisions of the Plymouth Township Zoning Ordinance No. 63.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: The Charter Township of Plymouth will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at all Township Meetings, to individuals with disabilities at the meetings/hearings upon one week notice to the Charter Township of Plymouth by writing or calling the Supervisor's office, 42550 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, MI 48170. Phone number: (734) 453-3540 X 201. TDD users: 1-800-548-3777 (Michigan Relay Service)

MARCIA SAYLES, Secretary
 Planning Commission
 February 14, 1999
 Publish: March 4, 1999

WORKING WITH PHYSICIANS HEALTH EDUCATORS AND COMMUNITY OSTEOPATHIC UNITY DAY

MARCH 5, 1999

GARDEN CITY HOSPITAL
 AN OSTEOPATHIC HEALTHCARE FACILITY

The 1999 Home & Garden Collection

EVENTS OF MARCH 5 & 6

BOSE - Learn the new Bose technologies.
 Saturday, March 6, 3:00-5:30 p.m.

CALIFORNIA CLOSETS - Simplify your life with Organizing Your Closet workshop.
 Saturday, March 6, 1:00-1:30 p.m.

CHIASSO - See all of the new and unique kitchen items.
 Saturday, March 6, 1:00-1:30 p.m.

HUDSON'S - Join us in the "Alice in Wonderland Shop" Friday, March 5-Saturday, April 3 - All Day
 Visit Hudson's china department for a Belknap personalized event.
 Saturday, March 6, 1:00-4:00 p.m.

LOCITANE - Stop by LOCITANE for a complimentary hand treatment.
 All day each and every Saturday

POTTERY BARN - Learn how to group accessories.
 Saturday, March 6, 11:00-11:30 a.m.

SCANDIA DOWN - Antiques Trunk Show
 Friday, March 5, 8:00-9:00 p.m.
 Saturday, March 6, 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

WALDENBOOKS - Have all of your gardening questions answered by the experts from English Gardens Nursery.
 Friday, March 5, 2:00-3:00 p.m.

GARDEN EVENTS IN THE NORTH GRAND COURT
THE CAPITAL GRILLE - Learn to select the perfect wine.
 Friday, March 5, 1:30-2:00 p.m.

ENGLISH GARDENS - Create a colorful and beautiful garden.
 Saturday, March 6, 2:00-3:30 p.m.

CRABTREE & EVELYN - Learn how to create a floral topiary.
 Saturday, March 6, 3:00-3:30 p.m.

Camp Corner Directory

Every Summer thousands of children look forward to camp...
Give them the opportunity to experience yours with an advertisement in our 1999 Summer Camp Corner.

For more information contact Rich: 734-953-2069

New Morning School

Discovery Days
 July 7-25 • Ages 3-10
 Science & Math Camps
 July 12-August 13 • Ages 6-12
 734/420-3331

Northville Montessori Center Summer Day Camp

15700 Haggerty Road
 (Between 5 & 6 Mile)
 734-420-0924 • Preschool • Elementary
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Livonia Family YMCA

Day Camp
 10 Weeks
 June 14-August 20
 Ages 3-14
 (734) 261-2161 FUNI SAFE!

ARTSTART SUMMER CAMP

Creative Experiences for Children • Ages 3-9
 • Art • Music • Drama
 • Science • Outdoor Activities • Water Play
 • Computer • Special Visitors
 31195 W. 13 Mile • Farmington Hills •
 919-751-9520 / (810) 751-6020

ROCHESTER HILLS STABLES Summer Day Camp

• Two English riding lessons daily
 • Hands-on care of horses
 • Horse show on the last day of camp
 3 Two-Week Sessions
 4 Two-Day Sessions
 June-August 9:00-3:30 p.m.
 For more information & brochure
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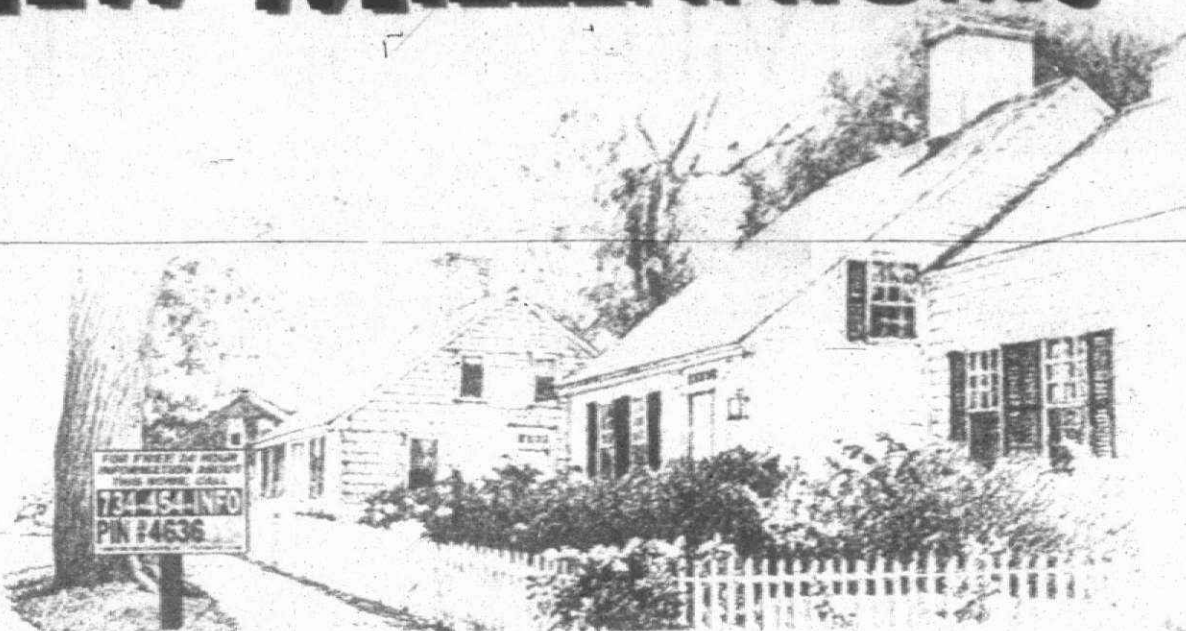
Who's Who In Michigan Business™

AN INFORMATION INNOVATION FOR THE NEW MILLENNIUM!



PIN

PROPERTY INFORMATION NETWORK, INC.



PIN PROVIDES PERSONALIZED SERVICE

PIN Inc., the brainchild of entrepreneur Jim Tanski, is the most revolutionary means of supplying "personalized" real estate information to the buying public since the invention of the telephone.

In today's fast-paced real estate business, most agents simply cannot spend enough time getting "back to" all those prospective buyers who need information immediately about a property they have seen. Studies have indicated that sales are often missed because prospective buyers where not able to obtain specific information at the peak or most vulnerable moment of their interest.

The PROPERTY INFORMATION NETWORK (PIN) has proven to be like having a full-time Real Estate Agent, namely YOU, "on call" 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to provide detailed information about a property that serious prospects will need...when they need it!

PIN, Inc. has ingeniously developed a system whereby Real Estate Agents can personally record a full two minute long detailed description of a property at their own convenience from wherever they choose and make it available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. An attractive yard sign along with an assigned PIN Number in front of the property allows the prospect to fully access your INFO BOX via a simple telephone call! It's like having a 24 hour open house!



John Dimora

Coldwell
Banker
Schweitzer
Real Estate
Western
Wayne &
Oakland Cty.

"The PIN Network is the best way to get information to prospects that I've seen yet. The system is user friendly and cost effective! When the system notifies me of a message, I know I'll have a great chance of having a more than qualified lead. The PIN Numbers can also be added to many of our other current forms of advertising. This system offers a lot of technology, for a really great price!"

Jim Tanski

President and Founder of PIN, Inc.

"The most innovative real estate information system since the invention of the telephone."

Using PIN Is Like Having A Real Estate Agent "On Call"...

- 24 Hours A Day
- 7 Days A Week

HOW PIN WORKS

This phone call lets the prospect listen to YOU describe the important details of this property and why it is perfect for them. After your description, the prospect may leave a voice mail for you, in which case the PIN Notification System will immediately call your cell phone, pager, or office to inform you of your message.

Additionally, the prospect may receive up to two pages of faxed information which the Agent supplies regarding that particular listing at no extra charge. Additional pages of fax may be added to your INFO BOX for a small additional fee. Fax information can also include other listings in the area or others in the same price range. They can even include a map showing the proximity of the property to churches, schools, shopping centers, or whatever you wish! You have complete control over what you want to include on your PIN Notification System.

FOR A REAL-TIME DEMONSTRATION OF HOW PIN CAN WORK FOR YOU:

DIAL: (734) 454-INFO
PIN #4636

GET THE WORD OUT

What's even more impressive about The PIN system is that it is not just limited to an attractive sign in front of a property. Wherever advertising space is money, you can utilize your PIN number to "GET THE WORD OUT" on what you have to sell! This includes newspapers, Home Buyers Guides, classifieds, Cable TV..... and the list goes on and on!

THE FACTS ABOUT PIN

- PIN provides up to 2 minutes for your personal description of the property
- PIN is accessible 24 hours a day - 7 days per week
- PIN provides 2 FREE pages of fax information to the prospect
- PIN allows prospect to leave a password protected voice mail message for the Agent
- PIN allows 24 hour message retrieval and provides FREE, immediate notification of all messages!

Best of all, the PIN system can cost as little as 32¢ per day!

PIN IS GOOD FOR REAL ESTATE AGENTS

- Real Estate Agents get MORE listings by explaining to sellers how this new technology helps sell homes
- PIN's 24 hour system is like having an assistant working for you
- PIN helps eliminate nuisance calls
- Agents receive more qualified leads

PIN IS GOOD FOR THE SELLER

- Provides a 24 hour "Open House"
- The Buyer can get all facts about real estate listings....While they are interested!
- The Buyer can listen to Real Estate information immediately
- The Buyer can also obtain a fax that contains specific information regarding the home or others in the area

Juliette
Bauman
RE/MAX
Classic Realty
Livonia, MI



"I find the PIN System to be an innovative service. Not only does it help disseminate information about my listings, but I can use it to provide better service to buyers as well. All you need to do is give a PIN Number to the seller or buyer to allow them to hear updated personal messages about the status of the service I provide them. PIN does the rest!"

PROPERTY INFORMATION NETWORK, INC.

CALL TODAY: (734) 454-9166

OBSERVER SPORTS SCENE

Girls hockey champs

Molly Leon and Alison Proodian, both Canton Township residents, helped propel the Michigan Capitals to an unbeaten season and the championship in the Michigan 12-and-under Girls Ice Hockey League. Proodian totaled 60 points and Leon had 33 for the 16-0 Capitals.

The Caps also traveled to Chicago for the Team Illinois Tournament, which they won. Next up: the National Championships in Washington, D.C. next month.

The Caps are coached by Dave Boik.

3rd at Nationals

Yvonne Lynn, a Plymouth Salem HS graduate now attending Oakland University, finished third in the 200-yard backstroke at the National Independent Conference Championships Feb. 27 at OU.

A sophomore, Lynn was clocked in 2:05.12. The Grizzlies placed third in the 11-team meet, scoring 458.5 points; Cincinnati was first with 649, followed by Northern Arizona with 469.

Hornets win

The Canton Hornets under-16 First Division Little Caesars soccer team won the 11-on-11 indoor under-17 championship at Total Soccer in Wixom.

Team members are P.J. Calandro, Derek Gismondi, Jeff Haar, Mike Harkins, Andrew Hathaway, Andrew Holmes, Sean Lanigan, Matthew Magers, Tommaso Mainella, Evan Malone, John McGlone, Mike Reoch, Keith Schenkel, James Steinert, Eric Sullivan, Sean Thompson, Nick Tochman and Mike Zemanski. The Hornets are coached by Mark Zemanski, Roscoe Nash and John Calandro.

MCCAA's top players

The Michigan Community College Athletic Association named its all-state and all-conference basketball teams for both men and women, and Schoolcraft College seemed strangely overlooked.

SC's men's team finished second in the MCCAA's Eastern Conference and won the state tournament, and yet the Ocelots had no representatives on the all-Region 12 and all-state first team. They had two players — sophomores DaShawn Williams and Derrick McKelvey — on the first team all-conference, but no one on the second team.

The same held for the women's team. SC was unbeaten in conference play, winning the title with a 16-0 record. But the Lady Ocelots did not have the player of the year, nor the coach of the year. Samantha Theisen and Stacy Cavin did get first team all-region/all-state honors.

Antone Watson was named to the all-conference second team, and Jackie Kocis was honorable mention all-conference.

Boosters to meet

The Canton Chiefs Football Booster Club will meet at 7 p.m. next Wednesday in Room 165 of Canton HS. Fund-raising goals will be the main topic of discussion.

All parents of Canton football players are asked to attend. Parents of freshmen football players-to-be are also encouraged to attend. For further information, call Dan Murphy at (734) 416-8117.

Baseball registration

The Canton Community Junior Baseball and Softball Association (aka CCJBSA) is accepting late registrations for its spring/summer baseball and softball programs. There will be a \$10 late fee.

"We won't shut kids out who want to play ball," CCJBSA President Harry Hill said. "We're here so kids can play. That's our policy."

"And we'd like to remind parents we're still serving the Canton, Plymouth and Plymouth Township communities."

Forms can be downloaded and printed out from the league's Website, www.ccjbsa.com, or picked up at the city or township offices.

Registration forms will also be available for pickup in person at the March CCJBSA meeting, 7-9 p.m. March 10 at the Plymouth District Library.

Vikings top Rocks in final



BY CHRIS MAYER
STAFF WRITER
cmayer@oe.homecomm.net

Walled Lake Central entered Saturday's Western Lakes Activities Association volleyball tournament on a roll. The Vikings left celebrating a championship.

Central continued its superior play,

Plymouth Salem and Walled Lake Central had battled through the regular season, each team gaining the upper hand at one time. At last Saturday's WLAA final, it was the Vikings' turn to be on top.

downing defending league champ Plymouth Salem in two games in the championship final at Northville High School, and now the focus shifts to the upcoming Class A state tournament where the Vikings seek an eighth straight district crown.

But coach Mike Lindstrom and his Vikings took the time to enjoy last weekend's accomplishments, punctuated by an impressive 15-6, 15-11 victory

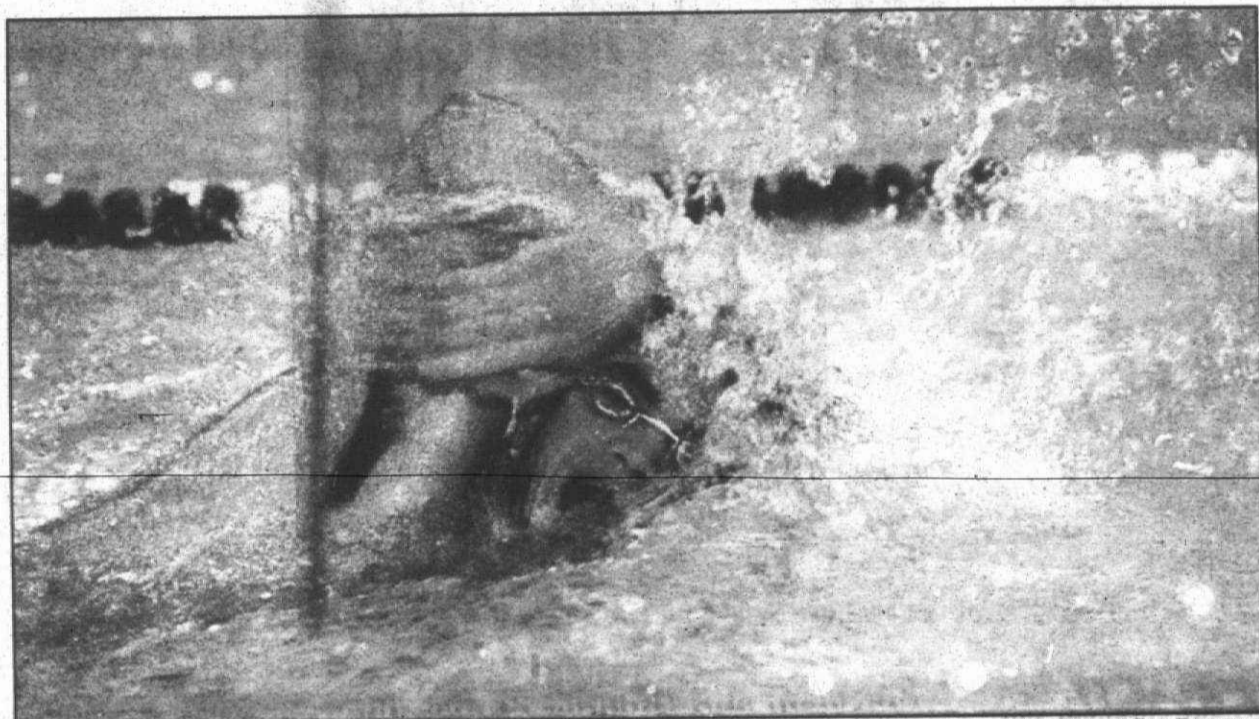
over Salem in the final. Central lost Leah Douglas to a broken ankle during last year's league tournament and wound up falling to Livonia Stevenson in the semifinals.

The Vikings and Rocks, arguably the conference's top two teams, staged an entertaining championship match. Salem, which defeated Central twice at the Temperance-Bedford Invitational in mid-February by scores of 15-11, 15-12 and 15-8, 15-11, came in ranked No. 6 in the Michigan High School Volleyball Coaches Class A poll and Central held down the No. 7 spot.

"That was our best volleyball of the

Please see VOLLEYBALL, C7

Still the best!



STAFF PHOTOS BY PAUL HURSCHELMANN

State qualifier: Senior Andrew Locke proved to be Plymouth Salem's top freestyler, finishing second in the 50-yard and third in the 100-yard.

Salem gains 7th-straight title

BY C.J. RISAK
SPORTS EDITOR
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And this was the year everything was going to be different.

"The king is dead! Long live the king!"

An old refrain, it's true — but one that certainly seemed suitable as the Western Lakes Activities Association Swim Championships approached. Long-time league kingpin Plymouth Salem was stumbling; the Rocks, who had relied on superior depth fueled by superior numbers to win six consecutive WLAA titles, had a smaller roster this season (only 36 swimmers).

A crack in the defending champions' once seemingly impregnable armor? That seemed to be the case when Salem lost a pair of WLAA dual meets, first to North Farmington and then to Livonia Stevenson.

Which meant there wasn't just one

legitimate challenger to Salem's supremacy, but two. And Plymouth Canton, which the Rocks had beaten early in the dual-meet season by a mere 13 points, wasn't far behind.

So there was more than a little trepidation for the Rocks and their coach, Chuck Olson. "We knew they were good," said Olson of the opposition. "Obviously, we were going to have to step it up."

Such challenges are not swept aside at Salem. Last Saturday, the Rocks proved just that by capturing yet another WLAA championship, beating runner-up Livonia Stevenson by 21 points (498 to 477). North Farmington placed third (411) and Canton was fourth (317). See statistical summary.

"Everything's right in the world," said Olson.

Despite its supposed lack of numbers — at least compared to its previous first-place teams — Salem won using

that tried-and-true formula: more depth. The Rocks had just one first-place finish, their 200-yard freestyle relay team of Dan Jones, Mike Johnson, Mark Witthoff and Matt Casillas (1:30.61). By comparison, Stevenson had four firsts and North got three.

But Salem finished in the top three in all three relays and had at least one individual in the top six in every event but the 100 breaststroke. Indeed, the Rocks averaged more than three scorers in each individual event.

Their best performances came in the four freestyle events. "You've got to swim to your strengths," said Olson. "We've got good freestylers. We out-freestyled everybody."

Indeed, the Rocks were outsourced in just one freestyle individual event (the 500, by Stevenson). They ended up scoring 208 points in the four individual free events, compared to North's 193

Please see WLAA SWIM, C4

North knocks Rocks out in WLAA semis

BY DAN O'MEARA
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On a night when neither team was prolific on offense, defense carried the day again for North Farmington in boys basketball Tuesday.

The Raiders used good defensive rebounding and solid team defense to defeat visiting Plymouth Salem in a Western Lakes Activities Association semifinal game, 45-42.

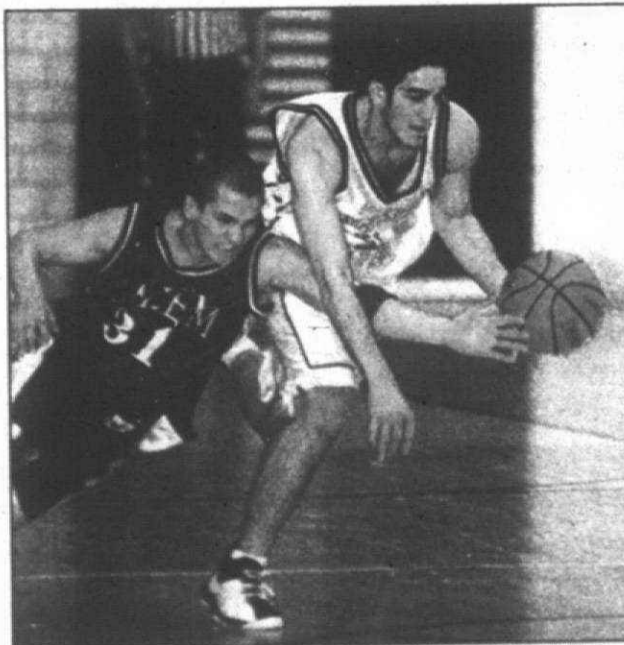
North (16-3) will make its first appearance since 1988 in the WLAA championship game Friday night when it plays Walled Lake Western at Livonia Franklin.

Eleven years ago, the Raiders finished last in the Lakes Division, upset undefeated Walled Lake Central on the final weekend of the round-robin season to qualify and won their next three games to finish first in the tournament.

"The league is so tough it's a great accomplishment for the kids to get where they are," North coach Tom Negoshian said. "Like the conference and division championships, I'm just really tickled for the kids."

Aaron Rypkowski scored a game-high 17 points for the Rocks (15-4) but was the only Salem player in double figures. Adam Wilson added seven, Tony Jancevski six and Matt McCaffrey five.

Emir Medunjanin led the Raiders with 13 points but had just two free throws in the second half as Salem got tough itself defensively.



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Steal attempt: The Rocks' Andy Kocoloski dives for a theft, but can't quite get it from North's Brian Shulman in Tuesday's WLAA semifinal.

"That was our purpose the whole game," Salem coach Bob Brodie said in regard to holding down Medunjanin. "We just didn't do a good job of it early."

"We threw a lot of bodies at them. We thought we could wear them down, but they withstood the pressure."

North's Adrian Bridges followed with 10 points, Albert Deljosevic nine and Brian Shulman seven. Bridges led the rebounding effort with 10; Medunjanin had eight. Deljosevic also had six assists.

In the absence of Phil Watha for disciplinary reasons, the Raiders also had five important points from Matt Kelmigian in the second half when points were at a premium.

"He was upset that he missed a couple free throws, but he played a great floor game," Negoshian said.

Salem narrowed North's lead to 34-31 after three quarters, and Andy Kocoloski's basket early in the fourth put the Rocks within a point.

Kelmigian ignited a 6-0 run by North with a three-point play. Bridges scored the next three as the Raiders went ahead 40-33 midway in the finale.

"The last time we were down 18 in this gym in the third quarter, so I felt pretty good about only being down seven," Brodie said.

An aggressive man-to-man defense got the

Please see SALEM HOOP, C5

COLLEGE HOOPS

Cincy State ends Ocelot tourney run

BY C.J. RISAK
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The finals seconds were ticking away, but Schoolcraft College was still battling, still fouling and hoping for a miracle of some sort.

It was not to come, not on this night.

Cincinnati State retained its championship composure, even when faced with relentless pressure, and ousted the Ocelots 90-74 in the NCJAA Region 12 men's basketball final Wednesday at Lansing Community College. Schoolcraft bows out at 26-5.

Cincinnati State, now 25-6, advances to the NCJAA Inter-Regional against the Region 13 champion, a game the Surge will host Sunday.

It was hardly a performance to be ashamed of for SC.

"We feel very fortunate," Cincinnati State coach John Hurley said. "After watching Schoolcraft last night we were concerned with their athleticism,

See REGION 12 TOURNEY, C5

Lady Ocelots topple Hawks

The Schoolcraft College women's basketball team broke open a close game during the final five minutes to gain an opening-round 76-60 victory Wednesday over Eastern Conference foe Henry Ford Community College in the 13-team NCJAA Division II Region 12 tournament at Sinclair CC in Dayton, Ohio.

The Lady Ocelots, seeded fourth, improved to 26-4 overall with the win. They will meet Lakeland, Ohio (19-8) today in the second round.

Henry Ford bows out at 17-13.

Samantha Theisen, one of five Lady Ocelots in double figures, led the way with 20 points. She also had seven rebounds and seven steals.

Other SC standouts included Antone Watson, 14 points and three assists; Jackie Kocis, 12 points and five rebounds; Stacy Cavin, 10 points, 10 rebounds, three blocks; Esther Ross, 10 points, four assists and three steals.

Zeinab Mroueh led Henry Ford with 20 points and 12 rebounds. Erika Rammler chipped in with 16, while Julie Wechter and Christine Marek had 11 and 10, respectively.

Schoolcraft led 31-30 at intermission and by only four, 58-54, with 5:32 remaining.

Semifinal action in Dayton continues at 5 and 7 p.m. Friday. The championship game is set for 3:30 p.m. Saturday.

3 Rocks reach state

When the Division I Individual State Wrestling Championships convene next Saturday (March 14) at Joe Louis Arena, Plymouth Salem will have three representatives — and two of them will be in the same weight division.

John Mervyn and Ron Thompson, both juniors, advanced in the 112-pound division at last Saturday's Division I individual regional at South Lyon. Mervyn, with a 41-5 record, wrestles Adam Cross (37-7), a senior from Rochester Adams, in the opening round in the field of 16.

Thompson, with a 44-14 record, goes against Scott Walker (43-1), a junior from Flushing, in the first round.

There will be some other familiar faces in the field, such as Walled Lake Central junior Dale Zarnick (17-13), Novi sophomore Ryan Churella (50-4) and Rochester sophomore Brian VanEman (35-6). Churella and VanEman face off in the first round.

WRESTLING

Top records in the division belong to Grand Haven senior Eric Gervais (43-0), Walker, Churella, Mervyn and Monroe junior Ryan Nowitzke (35-3). The Rocks' third qualifier is familiar to the state individual wrestling championships. Heavyweight Charlie Hamblin, now a senior, reached the state finals last year before losing to Redford Catholic Central's Casey Rogowski.

Both are back this season, Rogowski seeking another unbeaten season and a second state title. The CC senior (43-0) goes against Andy Iszler (32-12), a junior from Grand League.

Hamblin, 31-8 this season, faces Davison junior Nic LaFear (50-7) in the opening round.

Again, it won't be an unfamiliar field for Hamblin. There's Northville senior Ted Bowersox (35-3), Clarkston junior Jon Robinson (36-7), Adams senior

James Pack (40-7) and Temperance Bedford senior Art Snowberger (39-9).

Plymouth Canton sent two wrestlers to the regional, Kevin Stone at 152 and Rob Demick at 160, but neither were able to advance. Stone finished the season with a 32-6 record, raising his career match-win total to 78; Demick was 30-6, setting a varsity career win record at Canton with 101 victories.

"They have set the pace for wrestlers to come at Canton," said Chiefs' coach John Demick. "They have a lot to be proud of."

Other Observerland wrestlers to qualify are Livonia Stevenson's Josh Gunterman (35-10) and Joe Moreau (45-4) at 103. Dustin Obied (31-12) at 125, Imad Kharbush (38-14) at 135 and Brian Barker (35-8) at 160; CC's Sean Bell (16-13) at 140, Ryan Zajdel (37-16) at 145, Mitch Hancock at 152 and Broce Naysmith (41-3) at 215; and Livonia Churchill's Brandon LaPointe (34-6) at 152.

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Baseball clinic

The Plymouth Salem HS baseball team and coaching staff will sponsor their annual instructional clinics Saturday, March 27 and Sunday, April 4, at the Salem gym. Cost for each session is \$20, which includes a hot dog lunch.

The 11-15 year-old session will be 9 a.m.-noon each day; the 7-10 year-old session will be from 1-4 p.m. Lunch will be served from noon to 1 p.m. Mail your check (made payable to the Plymouth-Salem Dugout Club) to the Plymouth-Salem Dugout Club, 10782 Red Maple Drive, Plymouth, 48170.

For more information, call Bill Styles at (734) 453-1679.

Early Bird Classic

There's still snow on the ground, but it's not too soon to consider the softball season. With that in mind, the Canton Softball Center — located at 46555 W. Michigan in Canton — will host its annual Early Bird Classic Softball Tournament April 10-11 for men's B/C and D/E Division teams and all Women's Division teams.

Cost is \$125 per team, with a \$20 USSSA registration fee for those not registered. Entry deadline is April 5. Rain make-up dates are April 17-18; there is a three-game guarantee.

For more information, call Jeff Bradley at (734) 483-5600, Ext. 2 or 3.

Softball sign-up

The Canton Softball Center is now accepting registrations for its adult softball leagues, both day and evening leagues, Sunday through Friday.

The spring season runs April 12-July 12; the summer session is July 12-Sept. 12; the fall session is Sept. 13-Oct. 21. There are both resident and non-resident leagues. Divisions are Men's B-C-D, Women's C-D, Co-ed, and Masters 30, 40 and 50 and over. All games will be played at Canton Softball Center, located at 46555 Michigan in Canton.

There is a \$100 deposit to enter a team, with the balance due at the respective manager's meeting.

For more information, call Jeff Bradley at (734) 483-5600, ext. 2.

Adult softball

The city of Plymouth Recreation Division is running adult softball leagues this spring and summer in men's slow pitch, women's slow pitch, co-ed slow pitch and men's modified. Registration for returning teams begins March 1; new teams can register starting March 15. Play begins April 26.

For more information, call the Plymouth Recreation Division at (734) 455-6620.

Cannons tryout

The Plymouth-Canton Cannons, a 12-year-old boys travel baseball team, will conduct tryouts from 12:30-2:30 p.m. March 6 at the Upper Deck in Northville. All players must be 12 on or before July 31, 1999.

For further information, call Bill Stamm at (734) 451-9623.

Anyone interested in submitting items to Sports Scene or Sports Roundup may send them to sports editor C.J. Risk, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI, 48150, or may fax them to (734) 591-7279.

Canton clubs Northville; PCA loses a pair

It was pretty much a one-man show for Plymouth Canton — at least offensively — Tuesday against visiting Northville.

The Chiefs trailed their Western Lakes Activities Association foe 25-23 at halftime, but reversed that with a 15-8 third-quarter surge that set the table for a 52-45 triumph.

Canton improved to 11-8 overall.

Senior guard Joe Cortellini was the spark in the Chiefs' offense, pouring in 25 points.

Jason Waidmann chipped in with 10, Dan MacLean scored seven and Scott Samulski totaled six — which accounts for 48 of Canton's points.

The Mustangs were led by Marshall Knapp's 13 points. Aaron Redden was next best with eight.

Cortellini didn't limit his per-

BASKETBALL

formance to the offensive end. He limited Brett Allen, one of Northville's more formidable offensive weapons, to six points.

"This was a good win for us, against a good team," said Canton coach Dan Young. "It was a battle all the way."

The victory earned the Chiefs another home game. They host Farmington Harrison at 7 p.m. tonight.

Melvindale 80, PCA 76: Plymouth Christian Academy had a chance Tuesday at Class B Melvindale to get a victory. But the Cardinals rebounded from a five-point deficit after three quarters to overtake PCA with a 28-19 final-period surge, hand-

ing the Eagles their second-straight loss after going 17-1 and winning the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference championship in their first 18 games.

Melvindale is 9-10. Jordan Rose led PCA with 20 points. Mike Huntsman added 19 and Derric Iannese scored 15. The Cardinals got 24 points from Azriel Woodson and 18 from Anthony Gaorski.

The Eagles were up 18-17 after one quarter, then fell behind 37-36 at halftime. A strong third quarter, in which they outscored Melvindale 21-15, gave them a 57-52 advantage heading into the final period.

Greenhills 65, PCA 62: A furious, fourth-quarter comeback couldn't save Plymouth Christian Academy Monday at Ann Arbor Greenhills.

Greenhills, a Class C school, is 9-9.

The Gryphons jumped out to a quick lead, going up 18-8 by the end of the first quarter and maintaining a 36-27 lead at halftime. They extended that to 53-37 after three quarters.

PCA battled back, however, trimming the deficit to one point with 1:40 left. The Eagles were still within three and had the ball with seven seconds remaining, but couldn't convert the game-tying three-pointer.

Mike Huntsman topped PCA with 20 points and 11 rebounds. Dave Carty contributed 12 points and Derric Iannese had 11 points and nine boards.

Greenhills got 26 points, including six three-pointers, from Steve Cowen. Paul Krajcik added 11.

CC 72, Detroit City 45: Two different halves.

Redford Catholic Central and Detroit City, a PSL semifinalist despite its Class D status, battled evenly for a half Tuesday at CC, with the Shamrocks taking a 27-25 lead into the intermission. But CC took complete command in the second half with a 45-20 onslaught to improve to 14-5 overall.

The Bears are 16-3.

Four Shamrocks reached double figures in scoring, led by Dan Jess with 20 points. Rob Sparks added 17, Nick Moore scored 15 and Chuck Cass netted 12. Darius Hollis and Cecil Hood paced Detroit City with 13 points apiece.

Jess got CC going in the second half, scoring eight points in the third quarter. Moore kept the Shamrocks on track with six points in the fourth.

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Whalers solidify their position at No. 1 in OHL



Now the real fun begins. It's March Madness time, only in hockey.

Which means a lot of that "If the playoffs were to begin tomorrow" stuff is being banded about.

No other Ontario Hockey League team is in a better position than the Plymouth Whalers. They have six games left, and only two of those are on the road. Those road games, next Thursday and March 19, are against Windsor and Brampton.

The Spitfires currently reside in the West Division cellar; the Battalion hold the same position in the Midwest Division, and with 17 points are better than just one other team (the expansion Mississauga Ice Dogs) in the OHL.

Plymouth's two wins last weekend — 10-3 over Kitchener

Saturday and 3-2 over Windsor Sunday, both at Compuware Arena — boosted the Whalers to the No. 1 overall spot in the OHL with 97 points.

Of their four remaining home games (Kingston, Sault Ste. Marie, Guelph and Windsor), only Sault Ste. Marie and Guelph will finish their respective OHL seasons with a better than .500 record (Kingston, Friday's opponent at Compuware, owns the basement in the East Division).

It's all there for the taking. And the Whalers' performance last weekend indicates their hungry enough to gobble it up.

In Sunday's win over the Spitfires, Plymouth got first-period goals by Damian Surma and Randy Fitzgerald before Windsor battled back, knotting it at 2-2 on Joey Sewell's goal 3:28 into the second period.

Fitzgerald's second goal of the game, with five seconds left in

the second period, proved to be the game-winner. Robert Holsinger replaced Rob Zepp in goal for Plymouth after Sewell's goal and blanked the Spitfires the rest of the way, making 10 saves. Michael Leighton faced 49 shots, making 46 saves for Windsor.

Paul Mara assisted on both Fitzgerald goals.

On Saturday against Kitchener, the Whalers pulled away from a 2-2 tie after one period with a three-goal onslaught in the second. Five more goals in the third tied the triumph.

Adam Colagiaco led the offense with three goals and an assist. Harold Druken added two goals and three assists. Eric Goody totaled two goals and two assists. David Legwand netted a goal and two assists, Jason Ward had a goal and two assists, and Fitzgerald, Jared Newman and Nikos Tselios each had two

assists. Zepp made 16 saves in goal to earn the win for Plymouth. Reg Bourcier and Mark Aggio split time in goal for the Rangers.

Colagiaco and Druken remain among the OHL leaders in scoring. Colagiaco is fourth with 34 goals and 94 points, and Druken is sixth with a league-leading 52 goals and 92 points.

The Whalers also have the OHL's top defense, with Holsinger leading the league in goals-against average (2.14), save percentage (.917) and shutouts (four, tied with two others). Combined with Zepp (2.61, three shutouts), Plymouth boasts the OHL's best goaltending, averaging a league-low 2.34 goals-against average with a .910 save percentage and seven shutouts (tied for first).

Two wins in three road games last weekend helped the Compuware Ambassadors to increase their lead in the nine-team North American Hockey League to seven points.

They improved their record to 32-10-6 with a 2-1 win over the Danville Wings Sunday; Mark Mink's second-period goal was the game-winner. Phil

Lewandowski also scored for Compuware.

The Ambassadors lost 2-1 to Danville in a shootout Saturday, after beating the Grand Rapids BearCats 3-1 Friday.

Nick Schrader, Josh Bowers and Troy Milam netted goals for Compuware.

Ambassadors honored

Two Ambassadors were honored for their performances with a sweep of the NAHL player of the week honors. Team captain John Shounieya, the team's captain, assisted on five of the six goals scored over the weekend, helping solidify his position as the league's second-leading scorer with 22 goals and 49 assists (71 points in 48 games).

The Ambassadors' Craig Kowalski was the NAHL goalie

ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE STANDINGS				
East Division	W	L	T	Pts.
Ottawa 67's	45	11	4	94
Belleville Bulls	36	20	6	78
Peterborough Petes	35	23	2	72
Oshawa Generals	33	23	5	71
Kingston Frontenacs	19	39	3	41
Central Division	W	L	T	Pts.
Barrie Colts	45	11	5	95
Sudbury Wolves	21	33	8	50
North Bay Centennials	20	35	6	46
Toronto St. M. Majors	17	36	6	40
West. Ice Dogs	3	52	3	9
West Division	W	L	T	Pts.
Plymouth Whalers	47	11	3	97
Sarnia Sting	33	22	5	71
SSM Greyhounds	31	23	6	68
London Knights	29	29	3	61
Windsor Spitfires	19	35	6	44
Midwest Division	W	L	T	Pts.
Guelph Storm	39	19	2	80
Owen Sound Platers	35	22	5	75
Erie Otters	26	29	4	56
Kitchener Rangers	20	35	5	45
Brampton Battalion	7	52	3	17

of the week. He made 101 saves while allowing three goals in three games. Kowalski leads the league in wins with 29 and a 2.14 goals-against average.

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WLA swim

from page C1

and Stevenson's 154. "He's good," said Stevenson coach Doug Buckler of Olson. "He does a great job. And his boys worked hard. It probably sounds funny, but these two teams see so much of each other during the season (five times, including mutual invitationals) that, even though they're both very, very competitive and both want to win badly, they still cheer for each other and congratulate each other on good swims."

Considering the size of the meet, the final point spread wasn't large. "It was very small for a meet this size," agreed Buckler. "So could he have done anything different to change the outcome? I really don't think so," he answered. "I thought our boys swam real well."

Atop that list for Stevenson was Keith Falk, who successfully defended his WLA title in the 500 free (4:45.03) and added a first in the 200 free (1:44.71). The Spartans also got wins from Joe Bublitz in the 200 individual medley (1:59.22) and their 400

free relay team of Bublitz, Mike Malik, Brad Buckler and Falk (3:18.60). North actually beat Stevenson in the 400 free relay in what would have been a league record time, but the Raiders were disqualified when one of their swimmers jumped into the pool in celebration before the other relay teams had finished. The DQ did not alter the final standings, but it cost the North swimmers a place in the record book — and a medal.

The meet's only other double-winner in individual events was the Raiders' Matt Zald, who was first in both the 50 (21.81) and 100 (48.50) free. North's Jim Gabriel, Adam Farber, Mark Wachsberg and Zald combined to win the 200 medley relay (1:40.37). Walled Lake had two wins, by Chris Gawronski in diving (422.05 points) and Derek Zerber in the 100 backstroke (54.46). Other individual firsts went to Westland John Glenn's James McPartlin in the 100

butterfly (54.57) and Northville's Mark Kowalski in the 100 breast (1:01.46). All that remains now is the big show: the Class A state finals, March 12-13 at Oakland University in Rochester. Salem will send three relay teams, plus Andrew Locke in the 50 and 100 free, Matt Casillas in the 200 free and Brian Mertens in the 500 free.

Stevenson has its 200 medley relay and 400 free relay teams qualified, as well as Falk in the 100, 200 and 500 free, the 200 individual medley, the 100 fly and the 100 breast, and Bublitz in the 200 IM, 100 fly and 100 back.

Glenn will send McPartlin in the 100 fly and Canton has its 200 and 400 free relays qualified, as well as Kurtis Hornick in the 50 free and Aaron Reeder in the 100 back.

There will be a last-chance state qualifying meet Monday at Livonia Stevenson. The Class A state diving regional for all Observerland schools is 5 p.m. Tuesday at Grosse Pointe North HS.



Stylin': Hacking off hair to shave off time is an accepted practice in swimming. Canton teammates John Heiss (left) and Brad Nilson compare what's left.

Zebras 2nd in the Mega

Wayne Memorial pulled out a second-place finish in the Michigan Mega Conference White Division swim meet Friday, thanks to a seventh-place finish in the final event of the meet.

The Zebras were second going into the 400-yard relay, the last event, and took a seventh to garner 14 points.

Wayne finished with 183 points, behind Wyandotte's 240 but one point ahead of Dearborn Edsel Ford.

Garden City wound up fourth (178), followed by Trenton (175). Southgate (166), Redford Union (129) and Taylor Truman (56).

The only Zebra to win an event was Sonny Webber, who was first in the 200 individual medley (2:07.00). Adam Chasson, Webber, Justin Smoes and Greg Sarkoz took second in the 200 medley relay (1:47.09). Smoes, Webber, Sarkoz and Sam Raub combined for a 1:36.88 in the 200 freestyle, good for third.

WESTERN LAKES ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION SWIM FINALS

Saturday, Feb. 27 at Salem HS

Team standings

1. Plymouth Salem, 498; 2. Livonia Stevenson, 477; 3. North Farmington, 411; 4. Plymouth Canton, 317; 5. Northville, 264; 6. Walled Lake, 250; 7. Westland John Glenn, 194; 8. Farmington, 144; 9. Livonia Churchill, 124; 10. (tie) Farmington Harrison, Livonia Franklin, 123.

Event results

200-YARD MEDLEY RELAY — 1. North Farmington (Jim Gabriel, Adam Farber, Mark Wachsberg, Matt Zald), 1:40:37 (state cut); 2. Plymouth Salem (Eric Lynn, Andrew Locke, Paul Perez, Aaron Shelton), 1:41:33 (state cut); 3. Livonia Stevenson (Joe Bublitz, Mike Nemer, Keith Falk, Brad Buckler), 1:41:35 (state cut); 4. Plymouth Canton, 1:43:30; 5. Walled Lake, 1:44:21; 6. Northville, 1:44:54.

Consoles: 7. Farmington, 1:46:27; 8. Westland John Glenn, 1:46:55; 9. Livonia Franklin, 1:53:09; 10. Farmington Harrison, 1:56:54; 11. Livonia Churchill, 2:02:67.

200-YARD FREESTYLE — 1. Keith Falk (LS), 1:44:71 (state cut); 2. Brandon Digia (NF), 1:48:79 (state cut); 3. Matt Casillas (PS), 1:49:10 (state cut); 4. James McPartlin (AG), 1:52:62; 5. Jim Gabriel (NF), 1:53:37; 6. Don LeClair (PC), 1:53:98.

Consoles: 7. David Whitbeck (NV), 1:53:14; 8. Brian Mertens (PS), 1:53:25; 9. Danny Price (RH), 1:54:00; 10. Justin Ketterer (LS), 1:55:44; 11. Dan Jones (PS), 1:56:70; 12. Aaron Rycroft (NF), 1:57:85.

Bonus consoles: 13. Pat Rodemeyer (LS), 1:54:37; 14. Mark Wittthoff (PS), 1:55:14.

15. Matt Wisniewski (PC), 1:56:99; 16. James Ross (PS), 1:57:18; 17. Brandon Truscott (LS), 1:57:95; 18. Bill Stewart (PC), 1:58:46.

200-YARD INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY — 1. Joe Bublitz (LS), 1:59:22 (state cut); 2. Derek Zerber (NF), 1:59:54 (state cut); 3. Paul Perez (PS), 2:04:26; 4. Mike Malik (LS), 2:05:53; 5. Scott Whitbeck (NV), 2:06:59; 6. Aaron Reeder (PC), 2:06:75.

Consoles: 7. Eric Lynn (PS), 2:07:56; 8. Aaron Shelton (PS), 2:08:79; 9. Mike Nemer (LS), 2:09:14; 10. Brad Nilson (PC), 2:10:91; 11. Craig Paske (NF), 2:12:76; 12. Devin Hopper (PC), 2:14:63.

Bonus consoles: 13. Geoffrey Lowes (LS), 2:10:98; 14. John Kern (NF), 2:12:30; 15. Anthony Serge (NV), 2:13:82; 16. Kevin VanTiem (LS), 2:13:85; 17. Garrett Stone (JO), 2:15:11; 18. Eric Dabkowski (LS), 2:15:55.

50-YARD FREESTYLE — 1. Matt Zald (NF), 21.81 (state cut); 2. Andrew Locke (PS), 22.51 (state cut); 3. Kurtis Hornick (PC), 22.59 (state cut); 4. Mike Johnson (PS), 22:74; 5. Mark Wachsberg (NF), 23:07; 6. Brad Buckler (LS), 23:19.

Consoles: 7. Bill Randall (LC), 23:02; 8. Chris Supple (LF), 23:22; 9. Dan Zumbanis (JC), 23:22; 10. Jason Reberich (PS), 23:53; 11. Joe Pearlman (NF), 23:57; 12. Chad Williams (PC), 23:86.

Bonus consoles: 13. Dave Carson (PS), 23:87; 14. Chris Gawronski (WL), 23:99; 15. Chris Clayton (NF), 24:26; 16. Max Suttles (FH), 24:28; 17. Mike McCowan (LS), 24:35; 18. Kyle Grant (LC), 24:50.

DIVING — 1. Chris Gawronski (WL), 422.05 points; 2. Elliott Myers (WL), 372.00; 3. Chris McFarland (JC), 349.20; 4. Stephen Zerber (NF), 304.25; 5. Greg Kutskis (PS), 275.95; 6. Mike Baskin (LS), 269.20; 7. Ken Douglas (LF), 257.25; 8. Blake Brunner (PC), 256.30; 9. Scott Clark (JC), 249.15; 10. Ryan Henry (PC), 245.95; 11. Johnathan Chase (PS), 245.60; 12. Jason Zykowski (LS), 239.90; 13. Jared Goldman (NF), 231.70; 14. Bobby Kowunen (LC), 218.55; 15. Tony Matt (JC), 215.50; 16. Gerald Bennett (PC), 203.40; 17. Tom Moritzner (PC), 194.50; 18. Jordan Ford (LC), 180.00.

100-YARD BUTTERFLY — 1. James McPartlin (JC), 54.57 (state cut); 2. Paul Perez (PS), 55:64; 3. Kurtis Hornick (PC), 56:00; 4. Mark Wachsberg (NF), 57:29; 5. Adam Farber (NF), 57:50; 6. Scott Whitbeck (NV), 59.00.

Consoles: 7. Brandon Truscott (LS), 58:66; 8. Robert Cambridge (LS), 59:75; 9. Geoffrey Lowes (LS), 1:00:37; 10. Justin Allen (PC), 1:00:77; 11. Matt Wisniewski (PC), 1:00:81; 12. Kevin Crabb (PS), 1:01:02.

Bonus consoles: 13. William Givans (WL), 1:00:90; 14. Matt Schacht (NF), 1:02:08; 15. Pat Rodemeyer (LS), 1:02:11; 16. Eric Ryden (WL), 1:02:53; 17. Dave Carson (PS), 1:03:19; 18. Dan Fowler (JC), 1:04:24.

100-YARD FREESTYLE — 1. Matt Zald (NF), 48.50 (state cut); 2. Brandon Digia (NF), 48.85 (state cut); 3. Andrew Locke (PS), 49.34 (state cut); 4. Bill Randall (LC), 50:61; 5. Brad Buckler (LS), 51:88; 6. Don LeClair (PC), 51:92.

Consoles: 7. Dan Jones (PS), 51:09; 8. Mike Johnson (PS), 51:10; 9. Mark Wittthoff (PS), 51:72; 10. Joe Pearlman (NF), 51:91; 11. Chris Supple (LF), 52:89; 12. Max Suttles (FH), 54.99.

Bonus consoles: 13. Mark Kowalski (NV), 53:17; 14. Kevin Stuart (NV), 53:73; 15. Dan Bowman (NF), 54:13; 16. Chad Williams (PC), 54:22; 17. Rob Weber (WL), 54:23; 18. David Hartmann (F), 56:00.

500-YARD FREESTYLE — 1. Keith Falk (LS), 4:45:03 (state cut); 2. David Whitbeck (NV), 4:56:33 (state cut); 3. Brian Mertens (PS), 5:01:79; 4. Mike Malik (LS), 5:11:32; 5. Justin Ketterer (LS), 5:11:44; 6. Danny Price (FH), 5:14:75.

Consoles: 7. Matt Casillas (PS), 5:00:06; 8. Adam Melvin (NV), 5:14:69; 9. Craig Paske (NF), 5:17:12; 10. Brad Nilson (PC), 5:20:24; 11. Loch Rycroft (NF), 5:23:47; 12. Andy Kee (PC), 5:24:86.

Bonus consoles: 13. Robert Cambridge (LS), 5:19:62; 14. Aaron Rycroft (NF), 5:24:20; 15. James Ross (PS), 5:24:65; 16. David Bosman (LF), 5:28:15; 17. Sermet Alver (NF), 5:28:44; 18. Steve Rice (PC), 5:29:76.

200-YARD FREESTYLE RELAY — 1. Plymouth Salem (Dan Jones, Mike Johnson, Mark Wittthoff, Matt Casillas), 1:30:03 (state cut); 2. Walled Lake, 1:33:72; 3. Livonia Stevenson, 1:34:49; 4. North Farmington, 1:34:51; 5. Westland John Glenn, 1:35:00; 6. Farmington Harrison, 1:38:06.

Consoles: 7. Northville, 1:36:74; 8. Farmington, 1:37:55; 9. Livonia Churchill, 1:38:51; 10. Livonia Franklin, 1:52:56.

100-YARD BACKSTROKE — 1. Derek Zerber (WL), 54.46 (state cut); 2. Joe Bublitz (LS), 54.74 (state cut); 3. Devin Hopper (PC), 56:07 (state cut); 4. Aaron Reeder (PC), 56:35 (state cut); 5. Jim Gabriel (NF), 56:62; 6. Eric Lynn (PS), 58.10.

Consoles: 7. Aaron Shelton (PS), 57:33; 8. Justin Allen (PC), 1:00:08; 9. John

Kern (NF), 1:00:56; 10. Anthony Serge (NV), 1:01:09; 11. Scott Stone (JO), 1:01:19; 12. Kyle Grant (LC), 1:01:76.

Bonus consoles: 13. Mark Colombo (LF), 1:03:06; 14. Robbie Gundlach (F), 1:03:14; 15. Dan Bowman (NF), 1:03:38; 16. Brian Dorogi (PS), 1:03:96; 17. Andrew Kortnik (LS), 1:04:52; 18. Tony Palmeri (LS), 1:04:84.

100-YARD BREASTSTROKE — 1. Mark Kowalski (NV), 1:01:46 (state cut); 2. Adam Farber (NF), 1:03:34; 3. Mike Nemer (PS), 1:05:12; 4. Ryan Conroy (WL), 1:05:59; 5. Jon Zaid (NF), 1:05:82; 6. David Hartmann (F), 1:06:06.

Consoles: 7. Jason Reberich (PS), 1:06:76; 8. Kevin VanTiem (LS), 1:06:88; 9. Matt Schlanser (WL), 1:06:91; 10. John Bal-lou (NV), 1:07:45; 11. Dan Zumbanis (PS), 1:07:50; 12. John Heiss (PC), 1:07:68.

Bonus consoles: 13. Mike McCowan (LS), 1:06:15; 14. David Bosman (LF), 1:08:00; 15. Brett Johnson (NV), 1:08:96; 16. Brian McChaff (WL), 1:09:14; 17. Kevin Crabb (PS), 1:09:56; 18. Eddie Lindow (PC), 1:09:60.

400-YARD FREESTYLE RELAY — 1. Livonia Stevenson (Joe Bublitz, Mike Malik, Brad Buckler, Keith Falk), 3:18:60 (state cut); 2. Plymouth Canton (Kurtis Hornick, Don LeClair, Brad Nilson, Aaron Reeder), 3:20:57 (state cut); 3. Plymouth Salem (Dan Jones, Paul Perez, Mark Wittthoff, Andrew Locke), 3:20:73 (state cut); 4. Northville, 3:31:80; 5. Farmington, 3:34:70; 6. North Farmington, 3:49:79.

Consoles: 7. Livonia Churchill, 3:35:64; 8. Farmington Harrison, 3:36:61; 9. Walled Lake, 3:43:30; 10. John Glenn, 3:47:99; 11. Livonia Franklin, 3:49:79.

History is made! SC gains 1st state crown

Schoolcraft College avenged two regular-season losses to Eastern Conference champion Flint Mott to post a resounding 104-83 victory in the championship game of the Michigan Community College Athletic Association tournament Saturday at Kalamazoo Valley CC.

Second-year coach Carlos Briggs, the former SC All-American who has led an amazing turnaround in the school's fortunes in men's basketball, called it "probably the biggest in school history."

Longtime Schoolcraft administrator and ex-athletic director Marv Gans verified it was the first-ever state basketball title for the Livonia school.

"There wasn't a state tournament for awhile, but even when we had it we never even came close," Gans said.

STATE FINAL

This Schoolcraft team, which improved to 25-4 with the 21-point win, left little doubt who is playing the best basketball down the stretch among Michigan junior colleges.

After losing 78-75 and 81-70 to the Bears within a span of a week last month, SC led from start to finish.

Derek McKelvey, the 6-foot-3 sophomore guard from Adrian headed to Tennessee-Martin, continued his torrid late season shooting with a career-high 33 points, including nine of 14 from three-point range.

Point-guard Dave McGlown (Pontiac

Notre Dame Prep) added 17 points and seven assists. Lamar Bigby, the 6-5 forward from Detroit Northern who missed the second Mott game due to an eligibility issue, made his presence known with 16 points and 10 rebounds.

Dashawn Williams added a team-high 12 rebounds and 14 points, while Quentin Mitchell came off the bench to score 12 points.

Larry Patrick had 13 for Mott, which trailed 44-36 at intermission. Richard Bryant and Renardo Brown each added 10 for the Bears, who fell to 25-5 overall.

One of the keys to beating Mott was "It was our defensive intensity, we played well as a team," said Briggs, who

is 49-11 in two years and was named NJCAA Region 12 Coach of the Year. "This time we put a quicker guy, Dave McGlown, on Lawson."

"Before we had used Dashawn (Williams) on him, but it kept him away from the basket to rebound. The switch worked out well."

Schoolcraft made 57.4 percent of its shots from the floor (39 of 68) and 16 of 21 free throws. Mott was 29 of 72 from the field (40.3 percent) and 18 of 22 from the line.

The Ocelots also held a 39-35 edge in rebounds.

"The difference was our defensive rebounding and we knocked down shots," Briggs said.

Also giving Schoolcraft a boost was

the recent post-season awards handed out and voted upon in the Eastern Conference voted on by the coaches.

Mott had two players selected the first team (MVP Lawson and Patrick), while SC had two named the second team, McKelvey and Williams, along with Mott's Signified Hogde.

"We're the second place team and I think we deserved one or two spots on the first team," Briggs said. "They didn't really respect our players. That gave us some incentive."

And how about that first-ever state crown?

"It's a great accomplishment for our kids, because many of these guys haven't won any kind of a title before," Briggs said.

Region 12 tourney

from page C1

their quickness and intensity.

"We haven't played that many teams with that kind of intensity."

Cincinnati, which eliminated NJCAA power Vincennes a night earlier for the first time since 1981 in Region 12, proved to be more than Ocelots could handle.

Schoolcraft trailed 34-28 at halftime, and after a 10-2 surge run in the first three minutes of the second half, the Ocelots never got closer than nine.

Lonnie Berry, name Region 12 MVP, led Cincinnati State with 25 points. Point-guard Maurice Williams scored 19 of his 20 in the second half.

Schoolcraft got 18 points from Lamar Bigby, Dave McGlown and Dwayne Holmes chipped in with 16 and 10, respectively.

Dashawn Williams, who had 33 points the night before in an 103-95 win over host Lansing, was saddled with early foul trouble. He was limited to eight points. SC's top three-point shooting threat, Derek McKelvey, finished with six.

"They (Cincinnati State) earned it," SC coach Carlos Briggs said. "We just couldn't get into our offense. They played a good, hard, pressure man-to-man (defense)."

"They got up on us and we could never get back in it."

Although Schoolcraft shot a respectable 18 of 23 from the foul line. Meanwhile, Cincy State was

even better — 29 of 32.

SCHOOLCRAFT 103, LANSING CC 95: Dashawn Williams turned in a monster performance in Tuesday's semifinals with a career-high 33 points and 16 rebounds.

Schoolcraft overcame a 12-point deficit in the first half to lead 52-51 at intermission.

The Ocelots used a full-court press to get back in the game. "We were a little relaxed at the start, but then we stepped up our intensity and turned up our defense," Williams said. "It was our 'Black Press' where we trap underneath the basket."

Williams scored 19 second-half points, including a shot inside with 18 seconds left to seal the victory.

"Today they found me in the paint inside going to the basket," Williams said. "It was a do-dog throughout the game." Lamar Bigby added 23 points, including four triples, while point guard Dave McGlown played a superb floor game with 17 points. David Jarrett (Westland John Glenn) came off the bench to score 11.

Chris Colley snared three key rebounds down the stretch to help secure the win.

Lansing, which bowed out at 17-11 overall, got a team-high 28 points from 6-5 swingman Nile Watson.

Randy Burton contributed 20, while Eric Parsons had 13. Donald Otis, a 6-10 center who was averaging six blocks per game, got into first-half foul trouble and finished with 12 points along with Ben Spitzley.

Cincinnati State (24-6) took a 39-37 halftime lead and held off a late charge by Vincennes, Ind. (23-8) to earn a 78-72 win in the opening game.

Quentin Smith led the winners with 22 points, while Scott Clark led the Trail Blazers with 18.



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OUTDOORS CALENDAR

(To submit items for consideration in the Observer & Eccentric! 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.hometown.net)

SHOWS

OUTDOORAMA
Outdoorama '99 Sport and Travel Show runs through March 7 at the Novi Expo Center, (800) 777-6720. The show includes nearly 450 exhibits featuring the latest fishing, hunting and camping equipment; recreational vehicles; boats; conservation clubs; and travel and outfitting destinations throughout North America. There will also be a reptile and amphibian display, live animals, a trout fishing pond, musical and variety acts, an archery range, punks and fishing seminars, and much more. Show hours are 9-5 p.m. Thursday and Friday, March 4-5; 10 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Saturday, March 6; and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, March 7. Admission is \$6.50 adult, \$3 for children ages 6-12 and children 5 and under will be admitted free.

SPORTFISHING EXPO
The 10th Annual Greater Detroit Sportfishing and Travel Expo will be held Thursday through Sunday, March 4-7, at the Palace of Auburn Hills. The show will feature 45 non-stop seminars including a special appearance by national walleye angling champion Ted Takasaki at 5 p.m. Friday, March 5. Other speakers of national renown scheduled to speak include walleye pro Mike McClelland and Keith Kavajecz, bowhunting expert Chuck Adams, In-Fisherman Magazine editors Dave Casada and Matt Straw, and Michigan author Tom Huggler. There will be more than 300 exhibitors including retailers, factory outlets, outfitters, guides, charter boat captains and more. Show hours are 9-5 p.m. Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Saturday, and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$7.50 for adults, \$3.50 for children ages 6-12, and children 5 and under will be admitted free. Coupons for \$1 off admission are available at all Dunham's stores.

WILDLIFE ART
The 16th annual Michigan Wildlife Art Festival, Michigan's largest wildlife art exhibit and sale, will be held March 26-28 at the Southfield Pavilion. Sponsored by the Michigan Wildlife Habitat Foundation, the festival annually raises money for wildlife habitat improvement projects statewide.

FISHING TOURNAMENTS

SALMON STAKES
The 21st annual River Crab Salmon Stakes charity fishing tournament and raffle will be held Saturday April 24. Money raised through the sale of \$10 raffle/entry tickets will benefit the Blue Water mental Health Clinic and other programs that help troubled children, adults and their families statewide. Raffle prizes include a trip for two adults and two children to Mackinac Island, use of a private suite for a Detroit Tigers baseball game, a weekend for two in Chicago, \$500 in gift certificates to Chuck Muer restaurants, and a limousine ride and dinner for two at a Chuck Muer restaurant. Ticket stubs are also good for \$10 off dinner for two or Sunday brunch at participating Chuck Muer restaurants. There are also cash prizes for the anglers, boats and clubs who catch the biggest salmon and trout on tournament day. Tickets are available at Charley's Crab in Troy, Meriwethers in Southfield, Muer's Sea Food Tavern in West Bloomfield, Big Fish in Dearborn, Big Fish Too in Madison Heights, Gandy Dancer in Ann Arbor, or by calling the River Crab at (800) 468-3727.

CLASSES

BACKPACKING 101
The first of a two-part course designed to introduce people to the joys of backpacking begins at 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 10, at REI in Northville. Call (248) 347-2100 for more information.

BACKPACKING 102
Part two of a basic backpacking

class begins at 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 17, at REI in Northville. Call (248) 347-2100 for more information.

HUNTER EDUCATION
Wayne County Sportsman's Club is accepting registration for two upcoming hunter education classes. The two-day sessions will be held Saturday and Sunday, March 27 & 28, and April 17 & 18, at the WOSC clubhouse and grounds in Romulus. Cost is \$12 per student and includes text, equipment, range fees and lunch. Call (313) 532-0285 for more information and to register.

FLY TYING
Paint Creek Outfitters in Rochester offers a variety of fly tying classes for beginners and advanced tiers. Call (248) 650-0440 for more information or to make a reservation for an upcoming class.

CCW LEGISLATION
Michigan Big Game Hunter's Association will hold an informational seminar on legislation concerning concealed weapons permit (CCW) legislation, beginning at 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 17, at the Gander Mountain store in Taylor. State Rep. Raymond Basham (Taylor) will conduct the seminar. Call (313) 381-4735 for more information.

ACTIVITIES

SIERRA CLUB MIKE
Join members of the Southeast Michigan Group, Sierra Club on a six-mile hike through the Proulx Lake Recreation Area. Participants are asked to meet at 10 a.m. behind the Marathon Station at the southeast corner of Telegraph and 12 Mile Road. Call (313) 562-1873 for more information.

SKI/HIKE
Join members of the Southeast Michigan Group, Sierra Club on a ski tour or hike, depending on the weather, through Independence Oaks. Participants are asked to meet at 10 a.m. behind the Marathon Station at the southeast corner of Telegraph and 12 Mile Road. Call (248) 932-5370 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 Road, 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) 676-2865 for more information.

SEASON/DATES

CROW
The late crow season runs through March 31 in the Lower Peninsula.

COYOTE
Coyote season runs through April 15 statewide.

FREE FISHING
Michigan's annual Free Fishing Weekend will be held June 12-13.

RABBIT/HARE
Rabbit/hare season runs through March 31 statewide.

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 or (313) 835-2110 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.

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 Rd. Call (248) 666-1020 for more information.

ORTONVILLE RECREATION
Ortonville Recreation Area in Ortonville has rifle, pistol and shotgun shooting facilities. Range hours are 12-5 p.m. Thursday through Sunday. The Ortonville Recreation Area is located at 5779 Hadley Road. Call (248) 693-6767 for more information.

METROPARKS
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) 477-7558; Indian Springs, (800) 477-3192; Kensington, (800) 477-3178.

MAPLE'S SWEET STORY
Visit the sugarcash and see how maple trees are tapped and the sap collected, then stop by the sugarcash and watch as the sap is boiled into maple syrup during this program, which will be held noon to 3 p.m. weekends through the end of March at Kensington.

SPACE TRY-IT
All requirements for the space, brownies try-it badge will be completed during this program, which will be held throughout the day on Saturday, March 6, at Kensington.

BLUEBIRDS AND YOU
Learn about bluebirds and how you can help during a movie, discussion and a field trip, which begins at 1 p.m. Sunday at Kensington.

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 permit is \$18 (\$9 for senior citizens). Call (800) 47-PARKS for more information.

OAKLAND COUNTY PARKS
Advanced registration is required for all nature programs at Oakland County Parks. Call (810) 625-6473 to register or for more information.

MAPLE MAGIC
Learn how maple syrup is made during this hike/slide presentation, which begins at 10 a.m. and again at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, March 6, at Independence Oaks.

CLEAN WATER
Learn all the facts about drinking water during this program, which begins at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 13, at Independence Oaks.

STATE PARKS
State Park Requirements: Maybury State Park, Proulx 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.

SHOOTING RANGES
Bald Mountain Recreation Area in Lake Orion has shotgun (skeet & trap, sporting clays, 5-stand), rifle, pistol, and archery shooting facilities. Range hours 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 Greensfield Rd., 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 Rd. Call (248) 666-1020 for more information.

ORTONVILLE RECREATION
Ortonville Recreation Area in Ortonville has rifle, pistol and shotgun shooting facilities. Range hours are 12-5 p.m. Thursday through Sunday. The Ortonville Recreation Area is located at 5779 Hadley Road. Call (248) 693-6767 for more information.

METROPARKS
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MAPLE'S SWEET STORY
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Retail	Employee
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\$ 243.57	\$ 189.54
\$ 275.00	\$ 225.00
\$ 2,500.50	\$ 2,162.80
\$ 3,019.07	\$ 2,577.34

36 Month Red Carpet Lease Capitalized Cost
First Month's Payment
Refundable Security Deposit
Down Payment (net of incentives)
Cash Due at Signing
\$00.15/Mile Over 36,000 Miles

Retail	Employee
\$18,999.74	\$17,435.00
\$ 236.74	\$ 198.36
\$ 275.00	\$ 225.00
\$ 1,992.00	\$ 1,743.50
\$ 2,503.74	\$ 2,166.86

36 Month Red Carpet Lease Capitalized Cost
First Month's Payment
Refundable Security Deposit
Down Payment (net of incentives)
Cash Due at Signing
\$00.15/Mile Over 36,000 Miles

Retail	Employee
\$14,514.20	\$13,416.00
\$ 122.97	\$ 97.18
\$ 150.00	\$ 125.00
\$ 1,550.00	\$ 1,341.60
\$ 1,822.97	\$ 1,563.78

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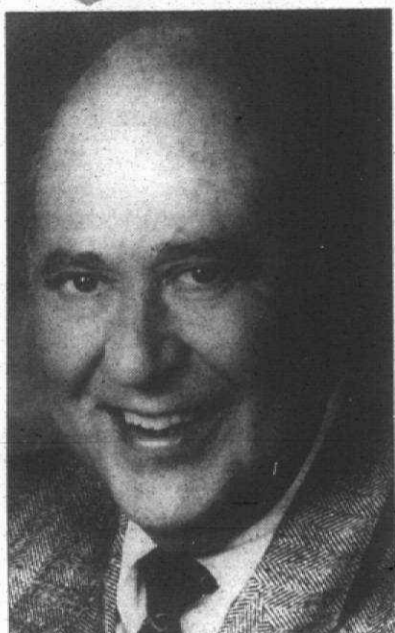
THE WEEKEND

FRIDAY



Pianist Howard Shelley performs with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, led by guest conductor Yan Pascal Tortelier, 8 p.m. at Orchestra Hall in Detroit. Tickets \$13-\$48, call (313) 576-5111.

SATURDAY



Spend an evening with Carl Reiner 8 p.m. at the West Bloomfield High School Auditorium. Tickets \$25 for members of the Jewish Community Center, and \$35 for non-members, call (248) 661-7649.

SUNDAY



Local Celtic favorites Blackthorn appear 3 p.m. at the Southfield Centre for the Arts, 24350 Southfield Road, Southfield. Tickets \$8 and include an opportunity to meet the artists following the performance. Call (248) 424-9041.

HOT TICKET



Disney on Ice presents "The Little Mermaid," featuring Ursula the Sea Witch and Ariel the mermaid, through Sunday, March 7 at Joe Louis Arena, Detroit. Tickets \$12.50-\$30, call, (248) 645-6666, or (313) 983-6606 for more information.

ABBIEY LINCOLN

Singer-songwriter:
At 68, she continues to be part of "the music."

A FORCE THAT'S 'WHOLLY EARTH'

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER
hgallagher@oe.homecomm.net

What's a 12-letter name for "50s-'90s jazz singer?" According to the Feb. 14 New York Times Magazine, the answer is Abbey Lincoln.

The 68-year-old diva laughed when asked if she had seen the puzzle.

"Yes, I was thrilled," she said in a voice slightly lighter than her famous, smokey-rich singing voice.

Lincoln, who will be performing March 12 at Ann Arbor's Michigan Theatre, has just released a new, provocative CD on Verve, "Wholly Earth," that continues a string of albums dating from the late-1980s that display Lincoln's talents as a singer and songwriter. But, as the puzzle notes, Lincoln has been a force in music since the 1950s.

"I met Louis Armstrong when I was 22, around 1952 and I saw Billie Holiday in Honolulu," Lincoln said. "I think people weren't so business oriented then. They weren't looking to be rich with more money. It was like a calling and you just did it, especially the men, they bring the music no matter what."

Lincoln sees herself in a long tradition of "the music."

"Now it's such a business. This is no time for art, no time for a Duke Ellington, Frank Sinatra, Billie Holiday. They didn't call it jazz. It was music. Rosemary Clooney, I sang her songs. Ella..." she said.

WHAT: Abbey Lincoln performs with her trio for the UMS concert series.

WHEN: 8 p.m. Friday, March 12

WHERE: Michigan Theatre, 603, E. Liberty, Ann Arbor.

TICKETS: \$20-\$32. Call (734) 764-2538.

In 1957, the Kalamazoo native met the great be-bop drummer Max Roach, who was her husband from 1962 to 1970, and started singing with small jazz groups and recording some of her own material. In 1961 she was featured on Roach's famous "Freedom Now Suite," which she said taught her how to use her voice freely as an instrument. She was also introduced to John Coltrane and Thelonious Monk.

It was Monk who encouraged Lincoln to become a composer after she put lyrics to his "Blue Monk."

"I never thought I was going to be a composer," she said. "It was Thelonious Monk who was quoted on the back of an album saying that Abbey Lincoln is not just a great singer but a great composer. I had written lyrics to 'Blue Monk' and he didn't object. ... He came over to the studio and did a little dance and whispered in my ear, 'Don't be so perfect.' I asked Max what he meant, and he said it means you can make a mistake."

That freed Lincoln to experi-

ment and write music that transcends easy categories. The new album displays a strong mystical, spiritual element both in her evocative lyrics and in the multi-textured music. The title tune gives a sense of her concerns: "Places where the folks inhabit have a geometric grace/Circled, squared, sometimes triangled/ruled with lines and space."

"I'm an older woman and I'm more spiritual," she says with a chuckle. "I don't sing about bad relationships or sex anymore. I'm too old for that, and I don't care about it."

Though usually a lyric comes first, sometimes it's the music.

"It depends, sometimes the music comes first. 'Look to the Stars,' the music came first, I was thinking of Jimmy Scott and the way he holds a note. But 'Conversation with a Baby' came altogether as a piece, music and lyrics," she said.

"Conversation" is an unusual, thought-provoking lullaby dedicated to a child named Gandhi.

"Gandhi is someone's little boy here in the apartment house where I live," she said. "It's for a happy baby."

Lincoln is also a powerful interpreter of songs by others. Her recording of Bob Dylan's "Mr. Tambourine Man" on her last album, "Who Used to Dance," received a lot of air play and rave reviews.

"I saw 'Mr. Tambourine Man' on a piano when I was with these

young people in San Francisco, I was sort of the Big Mama there," she said. "I saw the lyrics and I said, 'Yeah, this is what I want to say.' It took me 20 years to record it, but I finally did."

On the new album she performs the Mercer-Hampton-Burke standard "Midnight Sun," Benny Carter's "Another Time, Another Place" and, most notably, the Yip Harburg-Harold Arlen "If I Only Had a Brain" from "The Wizard of Oz." Her version plays with the songs timing and melody while retaining its irony and humor, typical of Lincoln's thoughtful approach.

The album's music is multi-textured. Though on stage she'll be accompanied by just her fine trio, on the album she is supported on vibes and marimba by Bobby Hutcherson, on trumpet by Nicholas Payton and on two songs on vocals by Maggie Brown, whose younger, lighter voice adds a nice contrast.

Lincoln said she'll be performing songs from the Grammy-winning "A Turtle's Dream," "Who Used to Dance" and her new album in Ann Arbor.

She said her long association with Jean-Phillipe Allard has been important in her re-emergence as a singer after quitting music briefly in the early '70s and then recording and performing sporadically.

Please see ABBEY, E2

JAZZ

POPULAR MUSIC

A reluctant Brian Wilson talks about his music

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO
STAFF WRITER
cfuoco@oe.homecomm.net

Arranging an interview with Brian Wilson is unlike any other. His publicist warns that Wilson is "not chatty." In order for the interview to work, Wilson needs to talk about his music, his album "Imagination" and maybe his favorite song on it. There can be no "yes or no" questions and if the conversation lulls, "it's over."

Sean Lennon, who interviewed Wilson for "Raygun" magazine, even wrote that Wilson's publicist told him, "Now don't be surprised if he gets up after five minutes." Wilson's conversation with Lennon was long and thoughtful.

But when Wilson called two weeks ago, it was short and to the point. He answers the question, "How are

WHO: Brian Wilson

WHEN: Performs at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 9. The show is expected to run two hours.

WHERE: Michigan Theatre, 603 E. Liberty St., Ann Arbor.

HOW: Tickets are \$35 and \$45. For more information, call (734) 668-8397, (248) 645-6666 or visit <http://www.99music.com>.

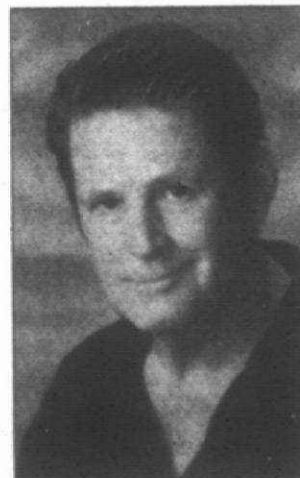
you?" with, "I'm good. Let's get the interview going, OK?"

One thing that excites Wilson is his tour to promote the album "Imagination," a very Beach Boys-sounding album which earned rave reviews from critics.

"It'll be the first major tour I've taken in my career. It's pretty exciting. To be able to perform my music in front of people is kind of a thrill for me."

In the song "South American" off "Imagination," Wilson sings "I've been around too long to care what anyone says." But that insecurity is what kept him out of the musical spotlight for 10 years.

"I was so hurt just by the fact that my first record didn't sell in 1988," Wilson said about the album



Rare appearance: Brian Wilson performs Tuesday at the Michigan Theatre in Ann Arbor. Last month he was up for the "Best Historical Album" Grammy for The Beach Boys' album "The Pet Sounds Sessions."

Please see WILSON, E2



'Music Madness': Trinket along with Babe the Blue Ox and The Interpreters perform Thursday, March 11, at the Magic Bag in Ferndale as part of the "RCA Music Madness Tour." Tickets for the show are \$6, and a portion of the proceeds will go to Rock the Vote and to Tom Amos' RAINN (Rape Abuse Incest National Network). Pictured is Athens, Ga.-based Trinket - Jeffrey Fisher (left), J. Christopher Arrison, Brian Youmans, Tommy Salmon and Derry De Lamar. The band's self-titled debut was produced by hometown friend Michael Stipe, otherwise known as the lead singer of R.E.M. The show is open to those 18 and older. For more information, call (248) 544-3030 or visit <http://www.themagicbag.com> or the RCA Records Web site: <http://www.bugjuice.com>

Wilson from page E1

"Brian Wilson." "I took some time off, 10 years off. Finally I was convinced that if I did it I would have a hit record. It wasn't a hit. It was a moderate hit."

Wilson wasn't completely away from music. Two albums of his music were released in 1995 - the soundtrack to the Don Was-produced documentary about Wilson's life, "I Just Wasn't Made for These Times," and "Orange Crate Art" with Beach Boys collaborator Van Dyke Parks.

He owes "Imagination" to his producer, Joe Thomas, who gave him the support he needed to create the album.

"At first it was (hard to get motivated) because I really wasn't up for all that work. But I got interested and I got into it. We nailed it pretty fast," he said.

Besides Thomas, Wilson collaborated with a slew of stars to make "Imagination." Songwriter Carole Bayer Sager and "Margaritaville" man Jimmy Buffett are included in that list.

"It was a thrill, a pretty big thrill for me," Wilson said of working with Buffett. "I met him through Joe Thomas. He did a lot for my album. He did lots for it."

"Cry" is a 4:56 weeper about a rare argument he had with his wife, Melinda. All Wilson will say about the song is, "That's a pretty good tune. I think it's a pretty good tune. I like it a lot."

According to published reports, Wilson met the former Melinda Ledbetter in 1986 while shopping for a car with his then-psychologist, the controversial Eugene Landy.

Landy was treating Wilson, who had a nervous breakdown in 1964 at age 22, for drug addiction and depression. Wilson's family accused Landy of keeping Wilson doped up on prescription drugs and controlling his life.

They sued Landy but, in 1991, before it reached the courtroom, a settlement required Landy to sever ties with the musician.

In the liner notes to "Imagination," Wilson thanks his new psychiatrist, Dr. Stephen Marmer, for giving him "support in my life."

Despite being called "eccentric," Wilson is regarded as one of the most influential bass players in rock history. Upon hearing that, Wilson is thrilled yet guarded.

"I'm honored that people think I can play bass that good. I used to pick. I've been practicing for my four-concert tour," said Wilson who lives in St. Charles, Ill., with his wife and two adopted daughters.

After seven minutes on the phone, Wilson is antsy. His answers become shorter indicating it's time to end the conversation.

"See me next month?" Wilson answers gruffly to the same question. When he is reminded that he is playing Ann Arbor on March 9, he responds, "Oh yeah. Bye babe."

WSU's Bonstelle presents 'Our Country's Good'

Wayne State University offers comedy or drama depending on your mood for its next two productions.

Timberlake Wertenbaker's "Our Country's Good" opens March 5 at WSU's Bonstelle Theatre, 3424 Woodward in Detroit. Show times are 8 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays through March 14.

Tickets prices are \$8-\$10, and available by calling (313) 577-2960.

This hilarious and harrowing play illustrates how theater has the potential to change people's lives when a colony of convicts attempt to do comedy. It does contain adult situations and language.

Australia 1798, a young lieutenant (played by Greg James) is directing rehearsals of the first play ever to be staged in that country. With only two copies of the text, a cast of illiterate convicts, and one leading lady who may be hanged (played by Teresa Ann LaFrance), conditions are hardly ideal for what will be this penal colony's premiere of George Farquhar's Restoration comedy, "The Recruiting Officer."

"Our Country's Good" is directed by Blair Vaughn Anderson, professor of theater at Wayne State University. Scenic design is by Charles Moser and costume design is by Kathleen Crosby of Rochester, both members of the Hilberry Theatre company. Lighting design is by theater faculty member Thomas H. Schraeder.

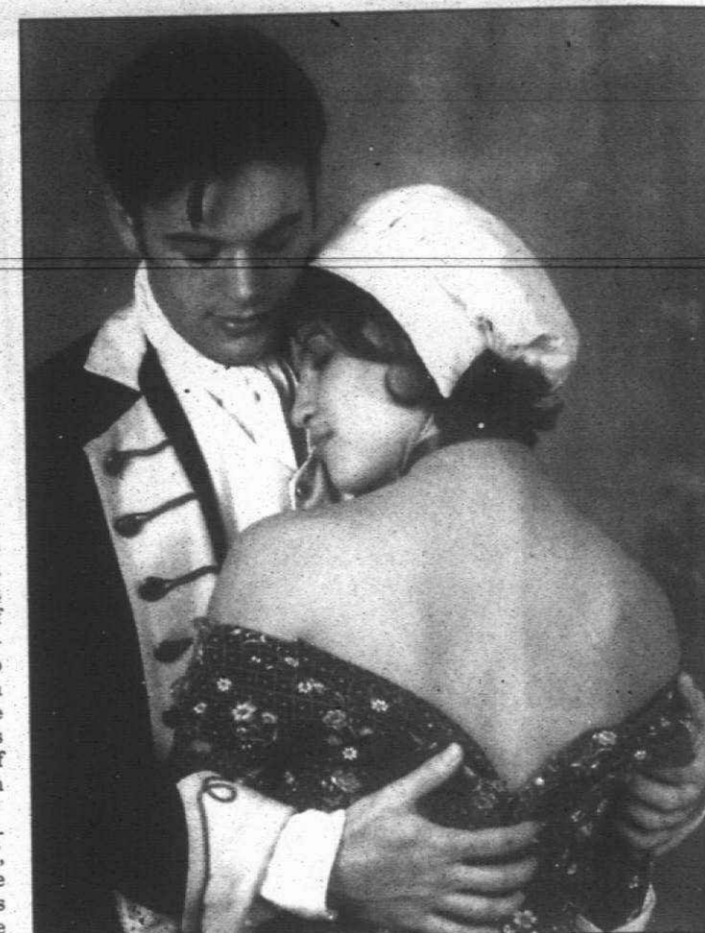
Ireland's finest literary drama, "The Playboy of the Western World," opens March 12 and continues in rotating repertory through May 8 at WSU's Hilberry Theatre, Cass and Hancock, in Detroit.

For tickets, call (313) 577-2972.

John Millington Synge's play is the poetic story of a young hooligan who wanders into a small village in a remote and primitive area of Ireland - the "western world" as it was called. Having claimed to have killed his father, the young lad quickly becomes the romantic hero of the local peasant people. When the supposedly dead father also shows up at the village, the townspeople find their hero not to be all he claimed. Filled with rich language which was traditionally spoken by the native people, "The Playboy of the Western World" is a true literary masterpiece.

Directed by faculty member Joseph A. Calarco, the play's characters include Matt Troyer as the playboy and Emily N. Miller as Pegeen Mike, his swooning peasant girlfriend.

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A colony of convicts: A young lieutenant (Greg James, left) begins rehearsals for Australia's first theatrical production with leading lady Teresa Ann LaFrance, who is about to be hanged.

primitive area of Ireland - the "western world" as it was called. Having claimed to have killed his father, the young lad quickly becomes the romantic hero of the local peasant people. When the supposedly dead father also shows up at the village, the townspeople find their hero not to be all he claimed. Filled with rich language which was traditionally spoken by the native people, "The Playboy of the Western World" is a true literary masterpiece.

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IMAX Theatre pre-show features DSO

PRNewswire — Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village, scheduled to open late November, 1999, will show a two to three-minute, multi-media presentation before every IMAX(R) film to introduce to the film-goers the large format experience.

The film short, produced by

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The film short, produced by

Abbey from page E1

cally. It was Allard who called her to sign with Polygram (parent company of Verve) and who has produced her string of fine albums.

"He never tells me what to do. I tell him who I want and he goes and gets them. ... I'm really fortunate and I know it. I'm part of the music, but I miss the elders," she said.

She mentioned the death last

year of Betty Carter. "I miss her a lot, if someone told me they played with Betty Carter, I knew they could play," she said.

As the interview was concluding, Lincoln said with a touch of pride, "Hey, you know I'm from Michigan?"

Her first "professional" singing was a \$5 a week job in the base-

ment of the A.M.E. Church in Jackson. She said the minister liked her voice, but she never sang in the choir.

"I was no choir singer," she said. Abbey Lincoln has always gone her own way and the music has benefited from her independence. But Monk was right, she didn't have to be this perfect!

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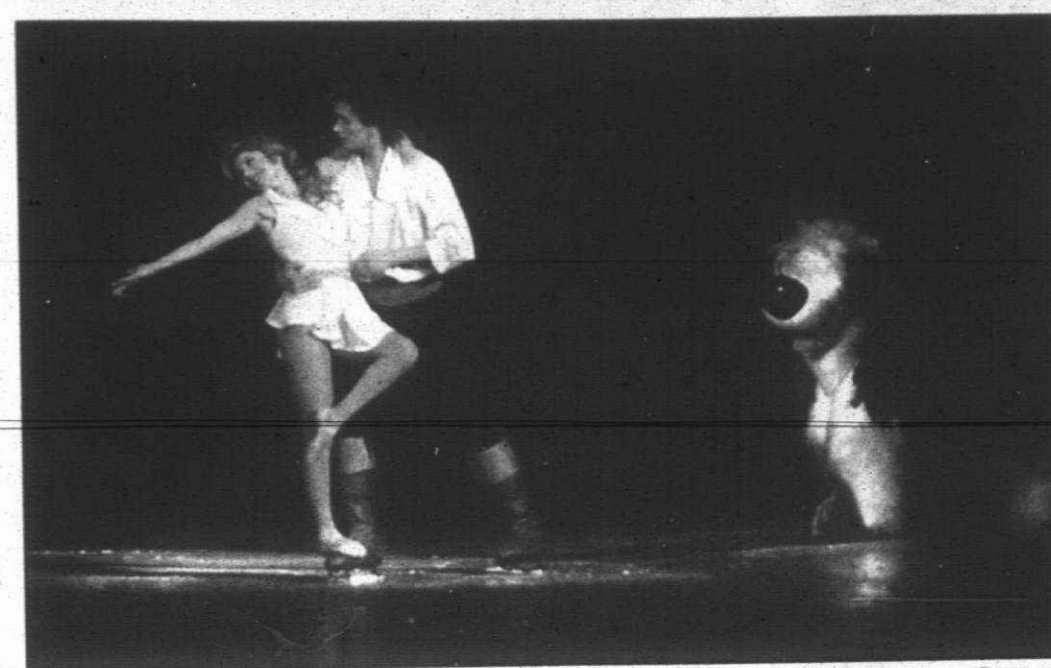
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Romance: Duet, Ariel, (Inna Volianskaia) and Prince Eric (Alexei Killakov) in a scene from "Disney on Ice - The Little Mermaid."

Disney on Ice producers alert to pleasing little 'story police'

Disney on Ice presents "The Little Mermaid," through Sunday, March 7 at Joe Louis Arena in Detroit. Call (248) 645-6666 or (313) 983-6606 for ticket information.

By KEELY WYGONIK
STAFF WRITER
kwygoni@homecomm.net

Ever conscious of the story police in their audience, Feld Entertainment brings the story of "The Little Mermaid" to life on ice through March 7 at Joe Louis Arena in Detroit.

"Young children know when we're not telling the story accurately," said Cindy Stuart, choreographer for "Disney on Ice presents 'The Little Mermaid,'" and director of skating for Feld Entertainment.

Bringing Disney's blockbuster film, "The Little Mermaid," which first debuted in 1989, to life on ice was not easy. Loosely based on the Hans Christian Andersen fairy-tale, "The Little Mermaid," is the story of Ariel, a fun-loving mermaid princess who longs for a life on land. Her father, King Triton, disapproves.

When Ariel falls in love with Prince Eric, Ariel makes a bad deal with Ursula, the diabolical diva of the deep, and loses her lovely voice. With help from friends, Ariel must win Eric's heart.

"We had to create the illusion of being undersea," said Stuart who choreographs the show with

Gia Guddat. "In the first act Ariel still has fins. Obviously Ariel couldn't move around the ice balanced on her tail. She had to be free to experience the adventure that awaited her."

Costume designer Scott Lane designed a costume that is divided into two fins that allow Ariel, played by Russian figure skating champion Inna Volianskaia, more mobility. Prince Eric is played by Alexei Killakov, who is also Russian.

When Ariel loses her mermaid fin and is transformed into a woman, she is wobbly on the ice, like someone learning to walk for the first time. "She has no skates in her on ice duet 'Kiss the Girl' with Eric," said Stuart. "The carries and whirls her."

Imaginative costumes take the audience to Ariel's world under the sea where there are dancing star fish, and sea horses.

"We really create the feeling of a lagoon," said Stuart. "It's three dimensional. Some of the skaters have puppets. I would call the show multi-media, we're creating an atmosphere. We tried to create the feeling of being underwater."

The 24-foot "puppet" fish are carried on pole units by skaters. "We wanted to have fish at all levels under the sea," said Lane. "You never know what is going to float by."

The fluidity of figure skating lends itself to the show. Ursula, the sea witch, who lost her beauty because she's evil, is portrayed

as the glamor-octopus of the deep. "Little Mermaid has everything," said Stuart. "The music from the movie is fun, and inspiring. A bi-level stage set separates land from sea."

"We wanted to clearly define for the audience the separation between land and sea, between Prince Eric's world and Ariel's world," said director John Dietrich.

On Wednesday, students from the Center for Creative Studies and Wayne State Universities met with show technicians and skaters who shared their theatrical secrets including an elevator in a clam shell, flying skaters, and giant Carmen Miranda fish with an exploding turban.

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Community theaters ready to put drama in your weekend

There's no excuse not to put some drama into your life this weekend. Not the kind that causes stress, but the kind that entertains you.

Local community theater groups have been busy rehearsing. Here's what's opening, and soon to open, on a stage near you.

Ridgedale Players

The Ridgedale Players are presenting "Beau Jest," by James Sherman, a warm comedy involving a young Jewish woman who hires an actor to pretend to be her Jewish doctor boyfriend in order to please her parents.

Show times are March 6-7, March 12-14, and March 19-21, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday at the playhouse, 205 W. Long Lake Road (between Crooks and Livernois) Troy. Tickets \$11, seniors and students \$10 on Sunday, includes a coffee-and-sandwich afterglow. Call (248) 988-7049 for tickets.

Because the Passover seder is featured in one scene, the cast and directors have decided to make a donation to Yad Ezra, a kosher food bank, for the purchase of Passover food for needy Jews.

Trinity House Theatre

Trinity House Theatre presents "Grace & Gloria" by Tom Ziegler. Friday, March 5 through Sunday, March 28 with a special preview Wednesday, March 3.

Curtain times 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, and 2 p.m. Sundays at the theater, 8840 W. Six Mile, (west of I-275), Livonia. Tickets \$10, \$8 for groups of 10 or more. Call (734) 464-6302.

"Grace & Gloria" tells the story of Gloria, a high-powered New York executive who, in an attempt to come to terms with a painful loss, leaves the big city to serve as a hospice worker. Grace is a feisty, independent woman who must face not only the end of her life, but the loss of her



A toast: Enjoying a toast at the Passover seder are Jack Abella of Southfield (left to right), Thom Griffin, Lyn Koch (Troy), Carl Jones (Rochester Hills), and Selma Cohen.

beloved family farm in the Virginia mountains of Appalachia to the creeping encroachment of development. Gloria cares for Grace in her last days, helping Grace die comfortably and with dignity.

Avon Players

Avon Players presents Lillian Hellman's adult drama, "The Children's House," opening 8 p.m. Friday, March 5 at the playhouse, 1185 Tienken Road, (1 1/4 miles east of Rochester Road), Rochester Hills. Tickets \$13, call (248) 608-9077.

Performances 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday, March 6-7; March 12-14, and March 18-20.

Birmingham Village Players

The Birmingham Village Players are whistling "Tradition" as they get ready for the March 12 opening of "Fiddler on the Roof," which plays March 12-14, March 19-21, and March 26-27 at their playhouse, 752 Chestnut, Birmingham. Performances 8 p.m.

Friday-Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$14, call (248) 644-2075.

First Theatre Guild

"First Theatre Guild" is presenting "Anne of Green Gables," March 12-14 and March 19-21 in Knox Auditorium at First Presbyterian Church, 1669 Maple (between Southfield and Cranbrook Roads) in Birmingham. Performances 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday. Saturday, March 13 is senior day, all senior citizens will be able to see the show for free. The cost for all other performances is \$7 adult, \$5 seniors and students. Call (248) 644-2087, Ext. 151.

SRO Productions

SRO Productions presents the first play of its 10th season, "Eating Your Heart Out," 8 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, 2 p.m. Sundays, March 12 through March 28 at the City of Southfield's historic park, "The Burgh," corner of Civic Center Dr. & Berg Road. Tickets \$8 general, \$7 seniors and children, call (248) 827-0701.

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THEATER

CAPITOL THEATRE

"Macbeth," performed by Montreal's Repertoire Theatre, 8 p.m. Saturday, March 6, in the Theatre's Pentastar Playhouse, 121 University Ave., W. Windsor. \$25 and \$22 (Canadian). (519) 253-7729 or <http://www.mntl.net/~capitol>

DETROIT OPERA HOUSE

Sunset Boulevard, Andrew Lloyd Webber's musical starring Petula Clark as Norma Desmond, continues through March 21, at the opera house, 1526 Broadway, Detroit. 8 p.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays, 7:30 p.m. Sundays, and 2 p.m. Saturdays-Sundays. \$32.50-\$65. (248) 645-6666

DETROIT REPERTORY THEATRE

"Camp Logan," Celeste Bedford Walker's play about the Houston riot and court martial of 1917, through Sunday, March 21, at the theater, 13103 Woodrow Wilson, Detroit. 8:30 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays, 3 p.m. Saturdays, and 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Sundays. \$15, (313) 868-1347

FOX THEATRE

"Cats," 8 p.m. Thursday, March 4, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, March 5-6, and 1 p.m. Sunday, March 7, at the theater, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Tickets at Ticketmaster. All ages. (248) 433-1515

JEWISH ENSEMBLE THEATRE

"Never the Sinner," John Logan's dramatization of the Leopold and Loeb story of the 1924 trial killing of 14-year-old Bobby Franks, through March 7, at the Aaron Doff Theatre, lower level of the Jewish Community Center, 6600 W. Maple Road at Drake, West Bloomfield. 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday, 8 p.m. Saturday, and 2 p.m. Sunday. Community forums follow Thursday evening and Sunday matinee performances. Featured speakers include Mort Crim, George Cantor, and Clementine Barfield of the Sad. \$25-\$23, discounts for seniors/students. (248) 788-2900

MEADOW BROOK THEATRE

"Scotland Road," Jeffrey Hatcher's thriller about a woman found floating in the Atlantic in 1998 claiming to be a Titanic survivor, through March 7, "A Gift of Glory: Edsel Ford and the Diego Rivera Murals at the Detroit Institute of Arts," Karim Alrawi's play about the relationship between Edsel Ford and the politically controversial artist Diego Rivera as the Detroit industry mural was being created at the Detroit Institute of Arts, runs March 10 to April 4, at the theater, Wilson Hall, Oakland University, Walton Boulevard and Adams Road, Rochester. \$24-\$35. (248) 377-3300

OPERA

DAVID DANIELS

Countertenor performs with pianist Martin Katz, 4 p.m. Thursday, March 4, at the theater, 911 N. Main St., Ann Arbor. \$20, \$35, (734) 764-2538/(800) 221-1229 or <http://www.ums.org>

COLLEGE

WSU BONSTELE

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STREET SCENE & MOVIES

STERLING CTR.	AMC WONDERLAND
WCASE ALBURN HILLS	SHOWCASE DEARBORN
WCASE STERLING HEIGHTS	SHOWCASE WESTLAND
ROCHESTER HILLS	STAR SOUTHFIELD
COMMERCE TWP.	NO PASSES OR COUPONS ACCEPTED
TIMES CALL 22 PILES	

DINING

Bailey's Pub & Grille offers 'serious fun' and more

BY KEELY WYGONIK
STAFF WRITER
kwygonik@oe.homecomm.net

Open since early November, Bailey's Pub & Grille in Canton offers customers "Serious Fun" and good food too. Bailey's, explained general manager Shawn Kelly, is a restaurant, sports bar, pool hall, upscale bar, and gathering place.

Bailey's has nine pool tables, a room with darts and video games, 35 TVs, including two video walls, and two big screens, and nine satellites. It also has a dynamite sound system.

"We like to take care of as many people as possible," said Kelly. "In the burgundy room we play blues and jazz. In the green room we play alternative music, and in the main dining room, oldies to current hits, mainstream music."

Decorated in light woods, open and airy, with forest green and burgundy accents, Bailey's is a sports bar that doesn't feel like one.

"It's a place you can come with your family or a date and have a nice dinner, or with your buddies to watch the game. We like to think we offer something for everyone," said Kelly.

For starters, Kelly recommends the signature *Spicy Chicken Billiard Sticks* — thin potato wraps filled with tender roasted chicken in a spicy ranchero sauce with Monterey Jack cheese served with ranch dressing. They're also available Italian style with pepperoni and hot marinara sauce for dipping.

The *Spinach Artichoke Dip* is made with fresh spinach and three cheeses (Parmesan, Romano and Mozzarella) and artichoke hearts blended in a creamy Alfredo sauce with a hint of roasted garlic and nutmeg.

Chicken wings are another popular appetizer. "They're huge," said Kelly. And you can have them anyway you like —

Bailey's Pub & Grille

Where: 1777 Canton Center, near Ford, Canton, (734) 844-1137

Open: 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. Monday-Sunday

Reservations: For parties of 10 or more Sunday-Thursday

Credit Cards: All majors accepted

Menu: Upscale pub-style food, appetizers, sandwiches, soups, dinner entrees, ribs.

Cost: Moderate, entrees \$6.99-\$13.99; sandwiches \$6-\$7

Banquets: Rooms available for private parties up to 100 people

mild, medium, or hot with barbecue, hot honey or Teriyaki sauce. All orders are served with celery sticks, ranch or bleu cheese dressing.

"We offer original sandwiches you won't find anywhere else," said Kelly. The *Smoke Stack*, smoked turkey, smoked bacon, smoked honey, ham, Monterey Jack and Cheddar cheeses, lettuce and tomato, stacked on a Portuguese roll with special hunt sauce is an example.

Black Forest — shaved smoked turkey, pepper bacon, Monterey Jack Cheese, lettuce and tomato on a giant Bavarian pretzel roll with special honey mustard is another specialty sandwich. *Teriyaki Steak Wrap* — tomato basil flour tortilla stuffed with teriyaki-mustard marinated thinly sliced beef, rice, mixed cheeses and scallions, served with a side salad and your choice of dressing is an often requested item.

Bailey's offers a great burger too — a half pound of ground sirloin topped with your choice of cheese. You can add mushrooms, jalapenos or bacon for a little bit extra. Check out the gourmet burger menu for more choices.

Bailey's tender baby back ribs, available in half or full rack, have won awards across the country. "We slow hickory bake them for four hours and then chargrill to order," said Kelly.

Consider your "Pastabilities"

including stuffed shells, the new popular vodka shrimp — ten large shrimp sautéed in garlic and red peppers tossed with mushrooms and onions in a spicy sauce, served over fettuccine, or the *Creamy Pasta Carbonara* — a mix of garlic, ham, bacon, onions and Parmesan cheese, blended in light cream sauce. Served over ziti pasta. Add chicken for a dollar more.

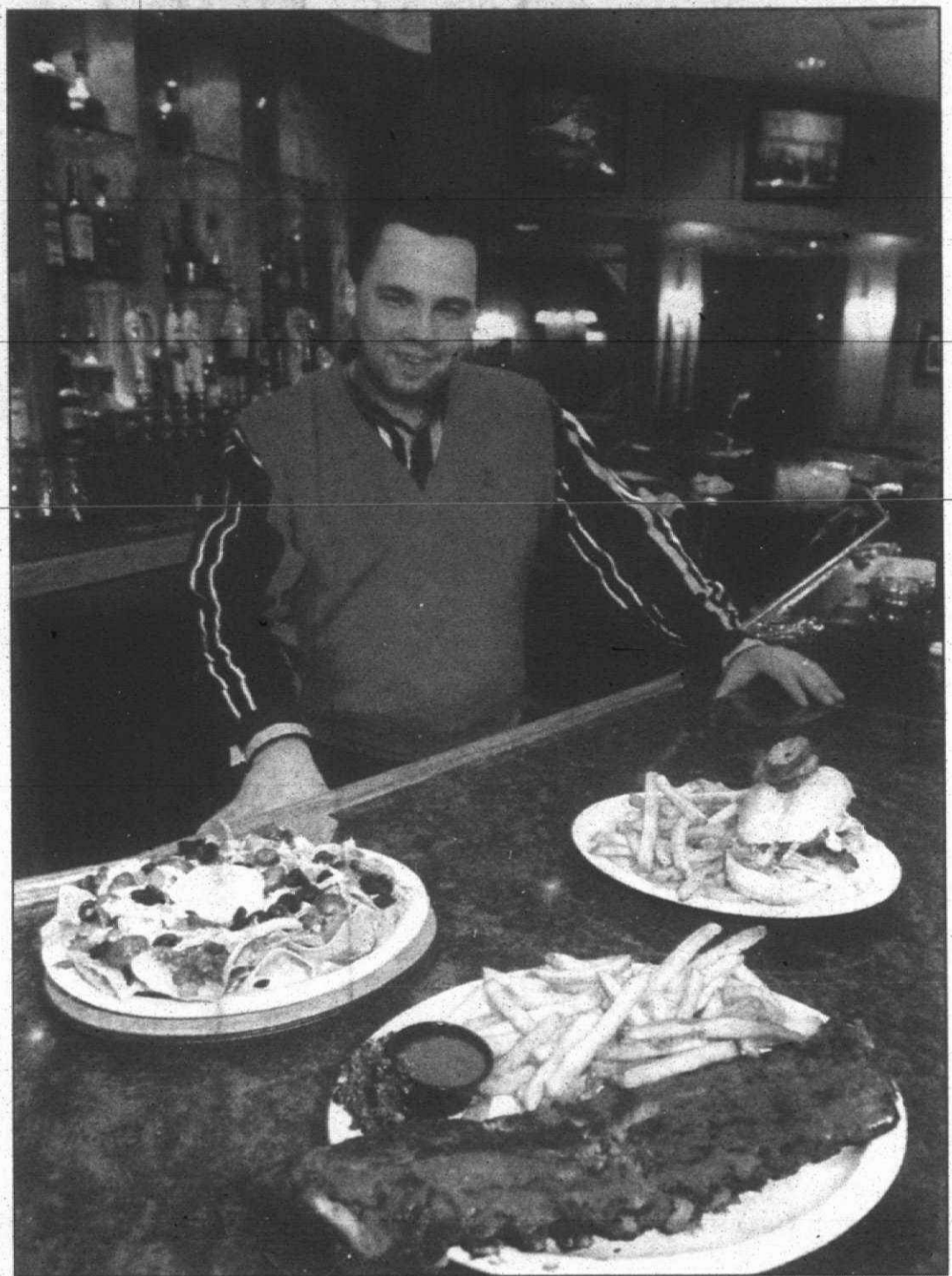
There's a decent seafood selection — fish & chips shrimp on a skewer and broiled or Cajun salmon. Ask about the daily specials.

"We offer options for the health conscious," said Kelly. "We serve a lot of broiled salmon and shrimp you can even get the fish and chips broiled."

What would a sports bar be without beer? Bailey's has 36 different beers on tap and 80 different bottled beers. They also offer an extensive variety of top shelf liquors including single barrels malts and Scotches, and specialty drinks.

Cigar smokers can enjoy a smoke in a climate controlled room. Bailey's has a humidor and offers a variety of cigars for sale.

Bailey's is operated by the Total Entertainment Restaurant Corp., which operates 35 restaurants in 13 states including Michigan. Kelly said they are looking for restaurant sites in Rochester Hills and Novi.



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HURSCHEMANN

More than a sports bar: General manager Shawn Kelly presents the *Smoke Stack*, *Ultimate Nachos*, and *Barbecue Baby Back Ribs*, some of the many items you'll find on the menu at Bailey's Pub & Grille.

WHAT'S COOKING

Send items for consideration in *What's Cooking* to Keely Wygonik, Entertainment Editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, Inc., 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150, fax (248) 591-7279, or e-mail kwygonik@oe.homecomm.net

EAST SIDE MARIO'S

All you can eat snow crab legs available Mondays and Tuesdays at all three East Side Mario locations including 31630 Plymouth Road (just west of Merriman) in Livonia, (734) 513-8803, and 29267 Southfield Road (between 12 and 13 Mile Roads) in the Southfield Commons Shopping Center (248) 569-9454. Crab leg special includes salad, bread and side of pasta for \$13.95 during lunch and dinner.

Dine Out Detroit

Over 100 metro Detroit restaurants from nearly 35 cities will participate in the fourth annual "Dine Out Detroit" benefit Friday, March 12. Local restaurants will donate 10 percent of that day's lunch and dinner sales to the Midwest AIDS prevention project, Michigan's largest non-profit AIDS education organization. Event highlights include a benefit kick-off concert at Detroit's Second City featuring the Crash Test Dummies on Thursday, March 11. Tickets are \$30 for Gold Circle seating and \$25 for general admission, available at the Second City box office or any Ticketmaster outlet. For more information, or a complete list of participating restaurants, call (248) 545-1435. Participating restaurants in your neighborhood include Astoria Restaurant, Bread Basket Deli, and Fonte D'Amore in Livonia, and

Hawthorne Valley Country Club in Westland.

OSCAR NIGHT AMERICA

Party Sunday, March 21 at The Second City and Risata Restaurant in Detroit's theater district. The gala fund-raiser is the only party in Michigan officially sanc-

tioned by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. Tickets are \$125 per person, call (313) 833-0247.

DON PABLOS

Through April 4 (Easter Sunday), Don Pablo's Mexican Kitchen is featuring four new

food items for customers to enjoy during the Lenten season — Shrimp Soup, Tacos Mazatlan (lightly-battered white fish wrapped in corn quesadillas with

roasted green chiles and Chipotle Cilantro dressing on Mexican rice with vegetables and charra beans), Baja Fish Fry, and Kid's Fish Fry.

Buddy's
RESTAURANT
PIZZERIA

We're Your PARTY PLACE
Call us now to reserve YOUR special date!

- Rehearsal Dinner • Shower
- Business Meeting • Birthday
- Graduation • Anniversary
- Road Rally • Kid's Party
- Sports Banquet • Holiday

ALL YOU CAN EAT PARTY PACKAGES...
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(734) 261-3550

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See Our Kitchen Monitor When You First Walk In

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Mr. Z's STEAK HOUSE 537-5600
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Friday, March 5th & Saturday, March 6th

ART OF FACT
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